

No. 646,755.

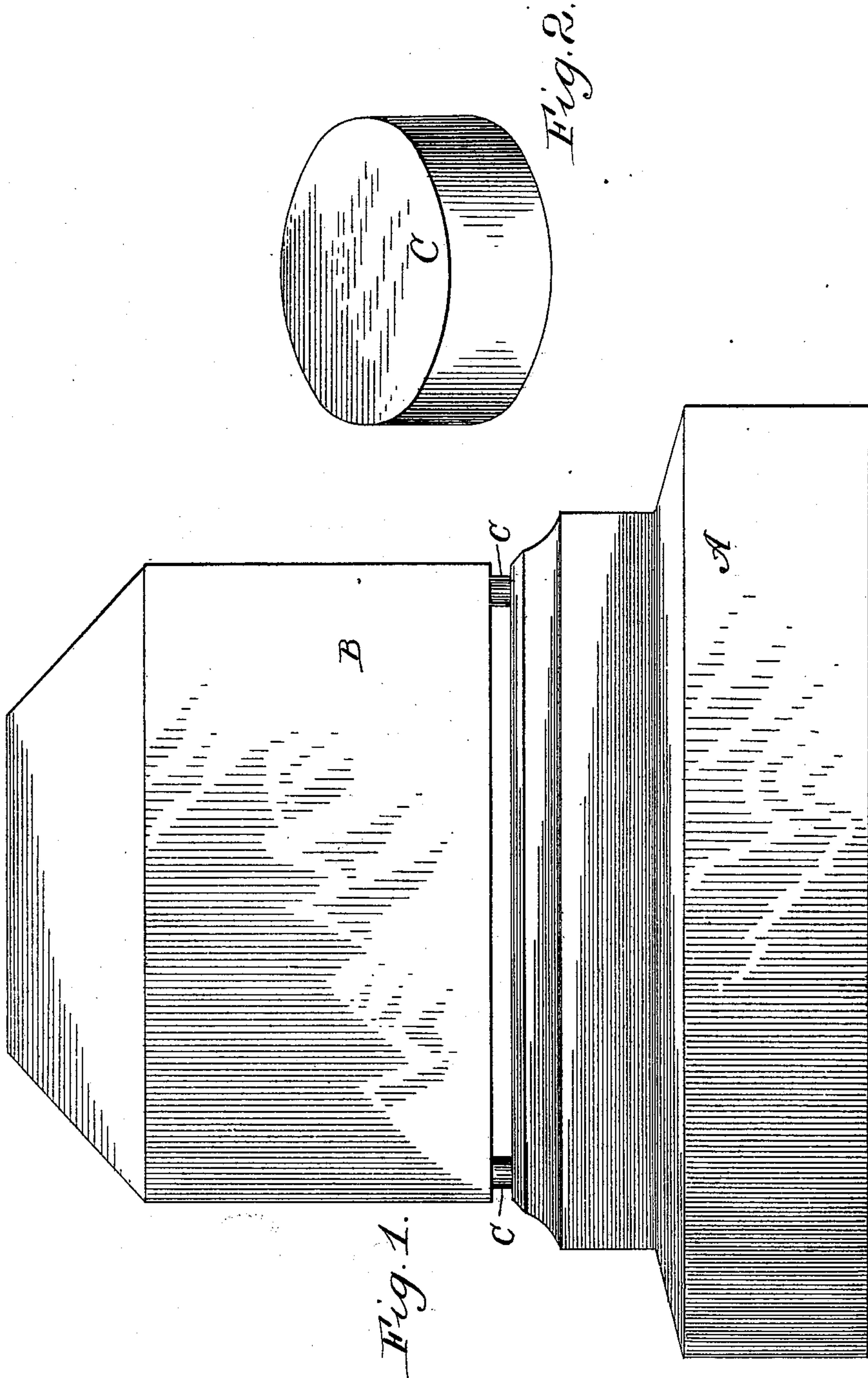
Patented Apr. 3, 1900.

J. O'CONNELL.

METHOD OF SETTING TOMBSTONES OR OTHER HEAVY OBJECTS.

(Application filed Aug. 3, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES O'CONNELL, OF BEDFORD, INDIANA.

METHOD OF SETTING TOMBSTONES OR OTHER HEAVY OBJECTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 646,755, dated April 3, 1900.

Application filed August 3, 1899. Serial No. 726,008. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES O'CONNELL, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Bedford, in the county of Lawrence, in the State of Indiana, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Methods of Setting Tombstones or other Heavy Objects, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates more particularly to a novel method of setting marble, granite, or other stones upon their bases, and has for its object the prevention of the damage to the stone, which is almost invariably done to a greater or less degree under the methods now practiced. In the completed work the "die" or stone proper rests upon a base. This die has a flat horizontal bottom and vertical or inwardly-inclined sides, producing sharp corners all the way around the bottom of the die, which are very easily chipped and injured. These dies are frequently very heavy, and under the method now practiced are (when derricks or other hoisting appliances are not available) lifted and set upon the base which is to support them by means of iron or steel bars, which are placed beneath them and which it is necessary to withdraw from between the die and its base in order to finally seat the die upon the base. In withdrawing these bars the sharp lower corners of the die before mentioned are almost sure to be more or less damaged even where great care is taken, and as the die is polished and entirely finished before being set upon its base such injury permanently mars its appearance.

I have overcome the above-described difficulty by providing soluble supporting-blocks for the die, which blocks I place upon the base, preferably at the four corners, and lower the die upon them in the exact vertical position it is to permanently occupy. These blocks support the die a slight distance above the base and permit the free withdrawal of the bars before mentioned, by which the die has been

lifted into position on the base, and I then dissolve these supporting-blocks with a suitable solvent and permit the die to gradually descend into place upon the base.

With the foregoing explanation my invention will be readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a tombstone or monument composed of a base and die, the die being shown as resting upon the soluble supporting-blocks before the latter are dissolved; and Fig. 2, a perspective view of one of said supporting-blocks, approximately full size.

The same letters of reference are used to designate corresponding parts in the views.

A represents the base, (which may be composed of one or more stones,) B the die, and C the soluble supporting-blocks. These blocks may be formed of any suitable material, but preferably of some cheap substance that may be readily dissolved with water. I have found blocks of calcium chlorid to answer the purpose, but any other suitable material may be used. These blocks may be formed separately, or where they are circular in cross-section, as shown, they may be formed in long sticks, from which blocks of any desired thickness may be cut as needed. In forming the blocks of calcium chlorid the latter is first dissolved in water, then heated until nearly all of the water is driven off, and the semiliquid mass then poured into molds and subjected to pressure while hot. After cooling and removal from the molds the blocks are covered with paper dipped in paraffin or sealed in air-tight boxes to protect them from the moisture of the atmosphere until used. Four or more of these blocks C are placed upon the upper surface of the base A at the four corners of the latter and elsewhere, if desired, and the die B then lifted into position over the base and lowered upon the blocks and carefully adjusted to the exact vertical position it is desired it shall occupy upon the base. The blocks C are then dissolved with water, and the die thereby gradually lowered until it rests directly upon

the upper surface of the base A. The joint between the die and base can then be finished with lead in the usual manner.

Having thus fully described my invention,
5 I claim—

The herein - described method of setting tombstones and other heavy objects, consisting in placing soluble supporting-blocks intermediate the stone and its base or support

and temporarily resting the stone upon said 10 blocks, and then dissolving said blocks with a suitable solvent to lower the stone upon its base or support, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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