J. IFFT. MONUMENT AND TOMBSTONE. APPLICATION FILED FEB. 12, 1910.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN IFFT, OF ZELIENOPLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

MONUMENT AND TOMBSTONE.

963,572.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, John Ifft, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Zelienople, in the county of Butler and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Monuments and Tombstones, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to monuments and tombstones, and the primary object of my invention is to provide an ornamental tombstone in which a record can be easily main-

tained for observation purposes.

Another object of this invention is to provide a tombstone with an ornamental compartment in which flowers, ornaments, mementos, relics, etc., can be placed and safely preserved.

I attain the above objects by providing a monument or tombstone with a compartment head-piece constructed whereby the interior of the compartment can be easily observed and decorated according to one's 25 esthetic taste.

The detail construction of the monument or tombstone will be hereinafter more fully considered and then claimed, and reference will now be had to the drawings forming part of this specification, wherein there are illustrated the preferred embodiments of the invention, but it is to be understood that the structural elements thereof can be varied or changed, as to the size, shape and manner

35 of assemblage without departing from the

spirit and scope of the invention. In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a front elevation of a monument or tombstone constructed in accordance with my invention, 40 Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the head-piece, Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view of the same, Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a modified form of head piece, Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same, as 45 designed for two graves, Fig. 6 is a cross Fig. 5, Fig. 7 is a vertical sectional view of

another modified form of the invention, and Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a detached 50 ceiling piece adapted to form part of the head piece.

In the accompanying drawings the reference numeral I denotes a base having a suitable ornamented pedestal 2 and the top of the pedestal is provided with a recess 3 adapted to receive a hexagon-shaped head-

piece 4 corresponding in width to the upper end of the pedestal 2. The base 1 and pedestal 2 can be cut from stone or made of concrete or other composition. The recess 3 60 is shaped to receive the three lower sides of the head-piece 4, and the head-piece 4 is preferably made of china, porcelain or a vitreous material and secured in the recess 3 by cement or other fastening means.

The head-piece 4 is preferably made of one piece having the bottom thereof provided with a large opening 5 and one end thereof with an opening 6. The opening 5 permits of a mirror or reflector 7 being 70 mounted against the rear wall 8 of the headpiece 4 and retained in position by putty or a suitable cement 9.

A transparent plate 10 is inserted in the head-piece and mounted against the flanges 75 11 at the forward end of the head-piece, the transparent plate 10 being retained in position by putty or cement 12.

A small name plate 13 is mounted against the plate 10 and upon the rear side of this 80 plate is printed the name of the occupant of the grave, and the name is reflected by the mirror or plate 7 whereby it can be easily observed through the transparent plate 10.

The lower sides of the head-piece 4 are 85 provided with mirrors or reflectors 14, two of these mirrors or reflectors being secured to the angular sides of the head-piece, while the other mirror or reflector is loosely mounted in the head-piece and is positioned 90 as indicated by the dotted lines 15 in Fig. 3 of the drawings, whereby after all the parts have been assembled in the head-piece, the head-piece can be moved to throw the mirror or reflector 14 upon the bottom of the 95 head-piece to cover the opening 5. The head-piece can then be secured in the recess 3 by cement or suitable fastening means.

Suitable ornamentations 16, as pendants, can be secured to the angular sides of the 100 ceiling of the head-piece 4, and the ceiling sectional view taken on the line X—X of | can be suitably decorated, covered with ornamental paper, inscribed with epitaphs, mottoes or other matter that can be read through the medium of the reflecting plates 14.

In Figs. 4, 5 and 6 of the drawings, I have illustrated a modification of the invention, wherein a cylindrical head-piece 17 is mounted in the recess 3, this cylindrical head-piece being designed for two graves. 110 The head-piece is provided with a central vertical partition 18 and mounted against

this partition are mirrors or reflector plates 19. The ends of the cylindrical head-piece are recessed, as at 20 to receive transparent plates 21 adapted to be held in position by 5 putty or cement 22. The name plate 23 can be used in connection with the headpiece, also suitable ornamentations 24.

A further modification of the invention is shown in Fig. 7, wherein the upper end of 10 the pedestal 2 is provided with a cavity 25 adapted to receive either a cylindrical or hexagonal shaped shell, comprising sections 26. Against the lower wall of the cavity 25 can be arranged a mirror or reflector plate 15 27 and secured in the front end of the cavity is a transparent plate 28 and a name plate 29. Suitable ornamentations 30 can be placed in the shell, and the inner sides of the shell can be suitably decorated or orna-20 mented.

I do not care to confine myself to the hexagonal or cylindrical shape of the headpieces or to the style of the monuments or tombstones in connection with which the 25 head pieces are used.

Having now described my invention what

I claim as new, is:

1. The combination with a monument or tombstone having a recess at the top, of a 30 head-piece mounted in the recess and having its rear end closed and its front end open, a vertically-disposed reflector plate mounted in the head-piece at the rear end thereof, a vertically-disposed transparent plate mount-35 ed at the open end of the head-piece, and a vertically-disposed name plate positioned against the lower portion of the inner face

of the transparent plate and adapted to have the name thereon reflected by said reflector plate.

2. The combination with a monument or tombstone having a recess at the top, of a head-piece mounted in the recess and having its rear end closed and its front end open, a vertically-disposed reflector plate mounted 45 in the head-piece at the rear end thereof, a vertically-disposed transparent plate mounted at the open end of the head-piece, and a vertically-disposed name plate positioned against the lower portion of the inner face 50 of the transparent plate and adapted to have the name thereon reflected by said reflector plate, said head-piece having its bottom provided with an opening to permit a positioning of the reflector plate therein at 55 the rear end thereof.

3. The combination with a monument or tombstone, of a head-piece mounted thereon and having its front end open, a verticallydisposed reflector plate arranged therein, a 60 vertically-disposed transparent plate mounted at the open end of the head-piece, means for securing the reflector plate and transparent plate in position, and a name plate arranged against the inner face of the trans- 65 parent plate at the lower end thereof and adapted to have the name thereon reflected

by said reflector plate.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN IFFT.

Witnesses:

P. C. FREDERICK, W. N. ZELMER.