

**MONUMENTAL
MEMORIALS: BEING
DESIGNS FOR HEADSTONES
AND MURAL MONUMENTS**

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Monumental memorials: Being Designs for headstones and mural monuments by J. W. Hallam

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MONUMENTAL MEMORIALS :

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DESIGNS

FOR

Headstones and Floral Monuments.

PART I.

BY

J. W. HALLAM, ARCHITECT.

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TO

JAMES PEARSE ST. AUBYN, Esq.,

AS AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MANY FAVOURS RECEIVED

WHILE HIS PUPIL,

AND IN APPRECIATION OF HIS SKILL AND TASTE IN ARCHITECTURE,

THIS WORK

IS WITH MUCH RESPECT DEDICATED BY

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

THE object of the present work is to follow up those previously published on the subject, its chief aim being to increase and vary the designs as suggested in the Rev. F. E. Paget's excellent and well known "Tract upon Tombstones." In that little work so many obvious reasons are given why those who are about to erect memorials should not follow the then usual unsightly style of monuments, that it would be useless here to offer further arguments in favour of the amendment he proposes; and it must be a source of gratification to Mr. Paget and others who have striven to bring about a reform, to see so many acting upon their suggestions, and erecting memorials which, while possessing beauty in appearance, are Christian in design, and fill the mind with reverential thoughts.

No more fitting emblem can mark the Christian's grave than that of the Cross on which his SAVIOUR died, and in Whom he now rests until the last trumpet shall sound when through that Cross he looks for a joyful resurrection. No boasting words should tell how faultless was the character of him who lies beneath, but rather should his earthly course be finished with an humble prayer for mercy and forgiveness, leaving alone the past and looking only to God. If he were kind, affectionate, charitable, what need to record it o'er his grave? they are Christian virtues, without them what would he have been?

Were he clever, talented, gifted above his neighbours, God gave him those gifts to use to His glory, and not only will he be required to account for them, but also for their improvement and increase. Humility alone should ever forbid anything like self-praise, or an epitaph which extols the person commemorated, multiplying his good qualities; but it has been shown that numbers of such exist, and who in reading them can doubt that the poet's words were true?—

“When all is done, upon the grave is seen
Not what he was, but what he should have been.”

It is intended to divide this work into two parts, of which this is the first, treating principally of Headstones, with a few memorial designs for insertion in the walls of churches, to supersede those slabs and monuments whose general ugliness and heathen symbolism render them so inappropriate and offensive a decoration for the walls of a Christian edifice.

Much has been done of late years to revive the architecture of the middle ages, and with good success: and especially as regards church building, Christian architecture has been gradually gaining ground, and with it the frequency of heathen emblems has in proportion diminished. For this revival of Church architecture we are in great measure indebted to the energy and zeal of those men who, though not members of the profession, have taken great interest in these matters, and have formed themselves into societies for the purpose of discussing and investigating the principles of the builders of former ages, of whose skill and taste we have so many valuable relics, and these examples it has been the aim of those societies to collect and adapt to the requirements of modern times.

Perhaps the most successful and that which takes the widest

range is the Ecclesiological Society, in whose former publications will be found excellent specimens of the sepulchral monuments of past generations : these remaining examples we shall do well to imitate, and they have suggested both their own designs and those contained in this work.

In the case of a new church, where it is desired to place a memorial, the architect will be the proper person to design a monument in accordance with the style of the building, and if possible, to arrange for it to form part of the design, so as not to mar, but add to the effect. Suppose for instance, that the walls of the church are of brick, uniform in colour, not plastered ; a good effect might be obtained at a trifling cost by arranging in the bond of the brickwork for bricks of a different colour, to form an ornamental cross, inserting a block of stone at the foot on which to carve the inscription, the letters of which should be painted and gilded. Such an arrangement must of course be considered before the wall is built, so as not to interfere with any objects which may surround it.

Another mode is by the insertion of a painted window, of all memorials the most beautiful, because, while commemorating a departed Christian, it is dedicated to God's service, and forms part of His holy temple.

As a scale and description is given to each design, it will be unnecessary to add to the length of a preface by further detail as regards the drawings.

In conclusion it is hoped that these designs may be of service, and help to strengthen the revival of Christian Art, which, in all its branches, is so rapidly increasing.

J. W. H.

6, CHARTERHOUSE SQUARE,
August 9, 1856.