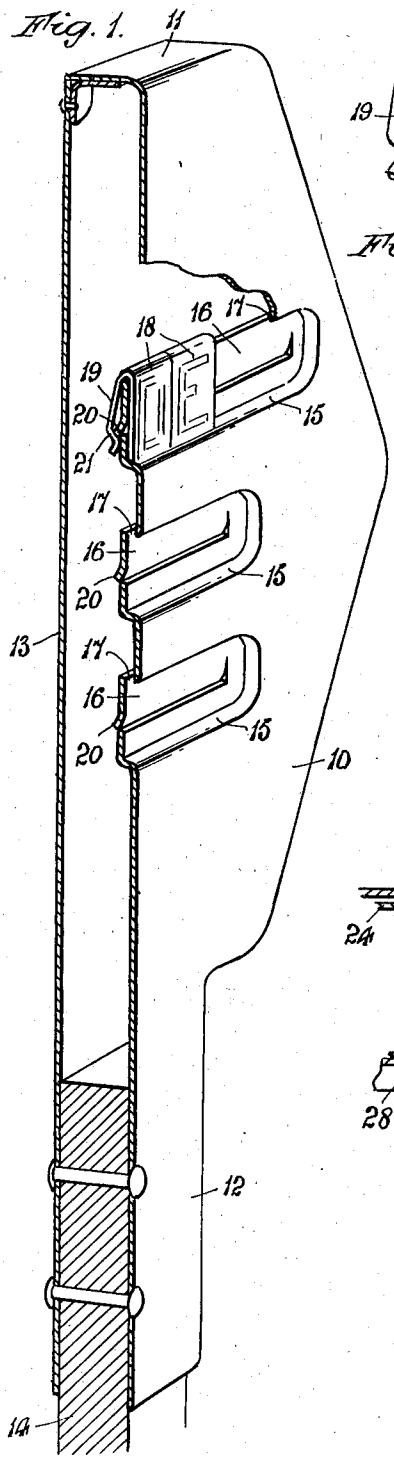
Nov. 11, 1941. W. J. JOHNSON 2,262,501

GRAVE MARKER

Filed March 22, 1940

Fig. 1.



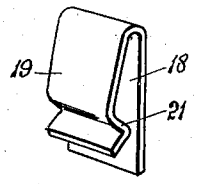


Fig. 2.

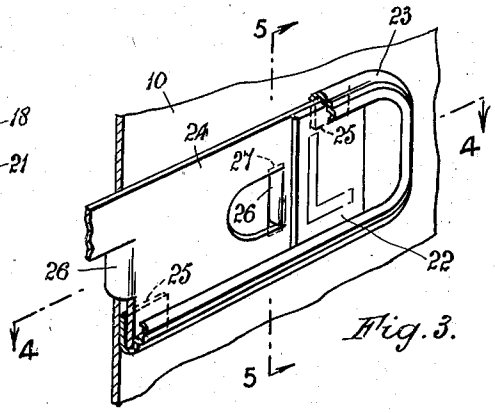


Fig. 3.

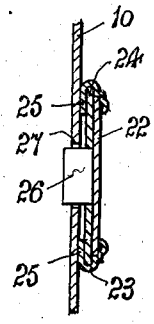


Fig. 5.

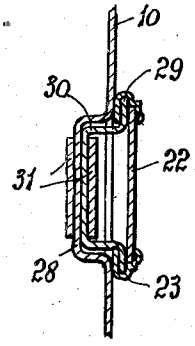


Fig. 6.

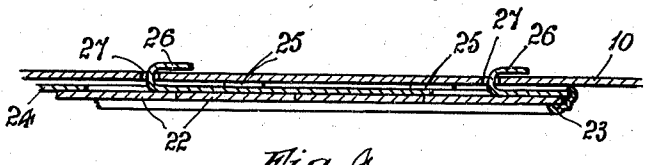


Fig. 4.

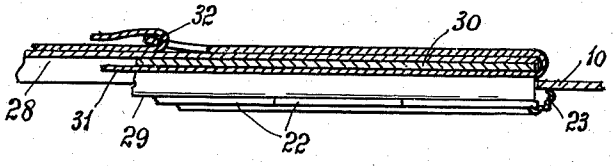


Fig. 7.

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Patented Nov. 11, 1941 2,262,501

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2,262,501

GRAVE MARKER

William J. Johnson, Detroit, Mich.

Application March 22, 1940, Serial No. 325,429

2 Claims. (Cl. 40—140)

This invention relates primarily to grave markers, although it lends itself to general advertising signs, and more especially to those intended for outdoor use, such as real estate signs; and has for its object to provide a simple device which may be constructed of sheet metal, which may be finished to simulate granite or stone, and which will be sturdy both in appearance and construction.

It is also an object to provide a device of the type referred to in which the lettering or display may be varied to suit the desires of the user, in which the method of applying the characters or symbols is very simple but practical, and in which the fastening means for the letters or symbols are effectively concealed both from view and from undue access of the elements as well as being protected against unauthorized tampering or interference therewith.

Still further objects or advantages subsidiary to the aforesaid objects, or resulting from the construction or operation as the invention may be carried into effect, will become apparent as the said invention is hereinafter further disclosed.

In carrying the said invention into effect, I may utilize the novel construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, by way of example, having reference to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a sectional perspective view of a grave marker embodying a simple form of the said invention;

Figure 2 is a rear perspective view of one of the individual character plates removed;

Figure 3 is a broken perspective detail view of part of the front plate of a marker, illustrating a modified arrangement of the parts;

Figure 4 is a horizontal section taken on a plane indicated by the line 4—4, in Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a vertical section of the same taken on a plane indicated by the line 5—5, in Figure 3;

Figure 6 is a similar section to Figure 5, illustrating a further modification of the arrangement, and;

Figure 7 is a similar section to Figure 4, illustrating the arrangement of Figure 6.

Similar characters of reference indicate similar parts in the several figures of the drawing.

10 indicates the front plate of a grave marker, or similar information-bearing device, which plate 10 is shown as having a rearwardly extending marginal flange 11 and also being provided with a downwardly extending shank portion 12, while 13 is a back plate spanning the rearwardly extending marginal flange of the front plate 10 and is suitably attached thereto in any convenient manner. 14 is a post suitably secured in the shank portion 12 of the device to enable the said device to be supported from the ground or other base as may be desired.

Referring first to the arrangement of Figures 1 and 2; the metal or material of the plate 10 is shown as being embossed inwardly at 15 to provide elongated recesses extending more or less across the said plate 10, which recesses are backed by the wall 16, the metal or material of the said front plate being severed or slotted at 17 so that lettered or character plates 18 may be passed through the said slot 17 into the recess from the rear of the plate 10, as will be obvious from the drawing.

It is desirable that these character plates be held in position against too ready displacement from their determined location, and for such reason I have shown the said plates 18 as provided with rearward downwardly depending clips 19 adapted to engage the back of the members 16; and to still further ensure the security of the character plates in position, I prefer to provide the said members 16 each with a rearwardly pressed or extruded rib 20, with which rib an offset or latch portion 21 provided on the clip 19 may engage, as the drawing clearly shows. It will be obvious that the rib 20 of the clip 19 may be positioned to merely engage beneath the lower limit of the recessed portion 15 of the front plate in which case the rib too may be eliminated.

In Figures 3, 4 and 5, I show the character plates 22 as being in the form of simple rectangular plates carried by a bezel 23 of a suitable section to provide for the accommodation of the said character plates 22 and for a back plate 24, which back plate is secured in the bezel by means of tabs 25 projecting from the rear edge of the bezel and adapted to be bent over behind the back plate after the said back plate has been inserted in the bezel, as clearly shown in Figures 3 and 5. The said back plate is provided with a plurality of rearwardly extending ears or tabs 26 adapted to be inserted through correspondingly provided openings 27 in the plate 10 of the marker or device and thereafter clinched over behind the said plate 10 to secure the assembly in position.

A somewhat similar arrangement is shown in Figures 6 and 7, except for the method of securing the assembly to the plate 10, and in this example the said plate 10 has a channel 28 pressed or formed therein, said channel 28 being open at

its ends, and the back plate 29 of the bezel assembly is also formed with a similar channel 30 nesting in the channel 28 of the plate 10 and of such depth that the open ends of the channel 30 are exposed behind the rear of the plate 10, whereby a ribbon or wire 31 may be threaded therethrough and suitably secured, as about the back of the channel 28, to lock the bezel assembly in position. The ends of this ribbon or wire 31 may be brought together behind the said channel 28 and mutually engaged, as at 32, by passing one end through a suitably provided opening in the other end of the member, or by simply twisting the ends together if so desired.

When the plate 13 is secured in position on the back of the device as a whole, tampering with the assembly is prevented and the said device is given both solid construction and appearance, the parts are readily assembled without calling for any great degree of experience, and the final assembled appearance of the device makes a very attractive unit.

This invention may be developed within the scope of the following claims without departing from the spirit of the said invention, and it is desired that the specification and drawing be read as being merely illustrative and not in a strictly limiting sense.

What I claim is:

1. In a device of the class described, a front plate having an elongated horizontal channel formed therein and open at its ends, a bezel about the opening in the plate formed by said channel, character plates carried by said bezel, a separable backing plate behind said character plates and also carried by said bezel, said backing plate being of channel formation nesting in said first mentioned channel, and means securing said channeled backing plate in said first mentioned channel.

2. In a device of the class described, a front plate having an elongated horizontal channel formed therein and open at its ends, a bezel about the opening in the plate formed by said channel, character plates carried by said bezel, a separable backing plate behind said character plates and also carried by said bezel, said backing plate being of channel formation nesting in said first mentioned channel, and a securing element extending through the channel of said backing plate and engaged behind said first mentioned channel.

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