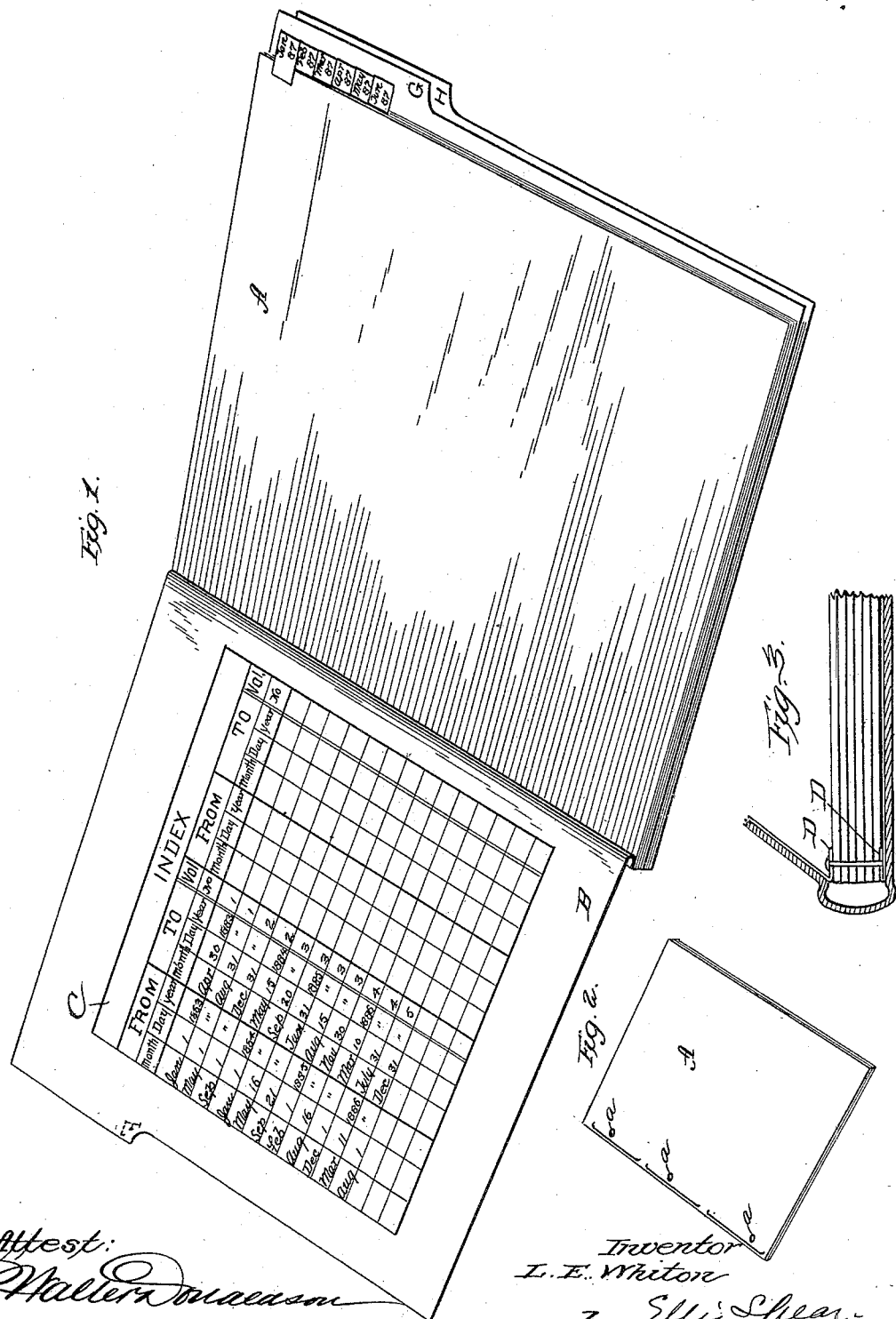


(No Model.)

L. E. WHITON.
PRESS COPYING BOOK.

No. 417,963.

Patented Dec. 24, 1889.



Attest:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LUCIUS E. WHITON, OF NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT.

PRESS-COPYING BOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 417,963, dated December 24, 1889.

Application filed May 13, 1887. Serial No. 238,036. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LUCIUS E. WHITON, of New London, in the county of New London and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Press-Copying Books; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to press-copying books, and includes and is an improvement upon the invention shown in Letters Patent granted to me on the 28th of December, 1886, No. 354,959.

In the press-copying book to which my invention appertains signatures or sections under any given letter or head are independently removable when they are filled and may be filed away, a blank section being substituted to the place of each one so removed and filed.

In my former invention I contemplated removing the filled signatures or sections, one being used for each index-letter, and these sections, composed of the divisional leaves and interposed press-copying sheets, were supplied to the trade as an article of stationery supply. The divisional leaves of these sections were provided with a full row of indexed letters and were adapted to be cut and fitted by the user to expose any desired index-letter required by the particular place in the book for which they were designed. In this plan and in the book above referred to no record was left in the book of the place of filing the signatures or sections removed and no means were provided for tracing the location of any given record or letter which may have been copied in a previously-used section after its removal from the book. Further, it is necessary to fit each signature to its place by cutting the divisional leaf to expose the proper index-letter.

The object of the present invention is to produce a signature or section which, while including all the advantages of my former invention, will be free from all the objections above enumerated.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the two signatures secured together containing my invention. Fig. 2 represents a complete signature ready for

binding. Fig. 3 is a section showing the signature bound together.

In the drawings, A represents a book or temporary binder filled with signatures or divisions of letter-press copying-paper capable of taking impressions from written or printed matter by the ordinary methods. These signatures are independent of each other and consist of a number of sheets of the press-copying paper stitched together, as shown, and provided also with a series of perforations independent of the stitching, by means of which they may be held in the temporary binder or other situation where they are to be used. Between each signature or section a divisional leaf B is placed, preferably of thicker paper, extending beyond the edge of the signatures and containing the index-letters, the first leaf A between the first and second signatures, the second B between the second and third, and so on, the appropriate letter of the alphabet being upon the leaf dividing successively the signatures or sections. As these dividing and indexing leaves are of comparatively stouter paper, in handling the book they may be grasped to turn over the different signatures, thus avoiding in a great measure the handling of the thin delicate leaves of the copying-paper.

As the book is used the letters copied therein are indexed in the copying—that is to say, letters are copied in the division which bears the initial letter of the party addressed.

In making up the book I may make the division in size or number of sheets corresponding to the frequency of occurrence of any given letter in names of individuals—that is to say, in the divisions marked A B H S more leaves are inserted than in divisions marked by initial letters of such infrequent use as X, Z, and the like. Experience indicates clearly the general rule governing the frequency of use of these initial letters; but it is not essential that this course should be pursued, as I have provided means by which the signatures may be readily removed as fast as filled and a fresh signature substituted therefor and a record kept of the place of filing of the independent sections.

As it is intended to remove the signatures as fast as they are filled and file them away

in a filing-case, it is desirable to keep a record in the book in use of these filled sections, so that their location can be readily traced. I have therefore, as shown in Fig. 1, placed upon the under side of each thick division-leaf an index C, consisting of horizontal and vertical lines forming columns of spaces for containing the record or memorandum of the number of the volume or filing-case in which any given signature which has been filled may be found. The first three columns, for example, have the day, month, and year over them, indicating that the space immediately below contains the record-dates, and over these three columns is the word "From." The next three columns have the same words over them, arranged in the same way, and over these three columns is the word "To." The next column indicates the number of volume and is so marked, as shown. In this last column is entered the number of the filing volume or case in which any given signature may have been placed after it has been filled. To illustrate the use of this, suppose, for example, I wish to find a copy of a paper sent to Grant in October, 1883. I find upon opening the book at the index-letter G a date-tab upon the first leaf of that section which shows that the earliest copy in the section was made in January, 1887; but as I wish to find where the copy of the letter has been placed which was made in October, 1883, I turn to the index which is on the page of the divisional leaf opposite and find that the signature containing the letters press-copied between September 1 and December 31, 1883, is in Volume 2 of the filing book or case, to which I can readily turn, it being understood that these volumes are properly marked and that the signatures are properly arranged therein between similarly-lettered division-leaves. It will be understood, therefore, that when any given signature of the book has been filled the signature may be taken out and filed away, leaving an entry on the tabular index showing the dates which limit its record and the volume in which it has been filed. A fresh signature is put in its place, and, as this signature, as has been described, is independently stitched—that is, the copying-leaves alone being stitched together without any divisional sheet—and perforated to register with the old perforations of the book, this signature may be inserted in the place of the signature taken

out, as described, while the divisional leaf and tabular index remain in the book. The copying-book itself thus becomes a permanent book, the same cover and the same index lasting for years, while the signatures may be changed whenever filled.

The divisional or first sheet of heavy paper in the book is for the tabular index only. The second will separate the first and second signatures and will contain on its first page the index or divisional letter, and on the second page the tabular index for the second signature, and so on until the end.

The signature may be held in the book by means of fasteners passing through eyelets in the flanges D and through in the independent holes *a* in the signatures and divisional leaves.

While I have shown these independently-stitched sections of copying-paper with perforations adapted for temporary binding, other means for fastening may be provided.

The stitched signature adapted to be bound between divisional or index leaves constitutes an article of stationery supply.

So far I have shown the divisions or signatures separated only by the leaves bearing the index-letters. The signatures may be further subdivided by separating them into twelve subdivisions indicated by date tabs or leaves bearing the names of the months in their proper order.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a letter-press copying-book, and in combination, a signature of ordinary copying-paper independently stitched or otherwise fastened together and adapted to be temporarily bound, and a separate divisional leaf for each signature, provided with an index-table and also adapted to be bound, substantially as described.

2. In a letter-press copying-book, and in combination, a signature of ordinary copying-paper, and a divisional leaf connected independently of the signature and provided with an index-letter and an index-table, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LUCIUS E. WHITON.

Witnesses:

D. E. WHITON,
E. L. WHITON.