

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY AUGUST HAUSINGER, OF GALVESTON, TEXAS.

INDEX.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY AUGUST HAUSINGER, of Galveston, in the county of Galveston and State of Texas, have invented a new and Improved Index, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to indexes, particularly to those adapted for use with ledgers and other business-books.

10 The object of my invention is to provide a simple and compact index in which the available space will be utilized as perfectly as possible. To accomplish this end, I have devised the improved index hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, which is a broken view of an index-sheet embodying my invention.

20 In carrying out my invention I employ a sheet divided by a network of intersecting lines *a* and *b* into a series of horizontal rows and of vertical columns. By a specially-prominent horizontal line *a'* the sheet is further divided into two distinct parts or sections.

25 Of the vertical columns the first, *c*, (and, if desired, also the last,) contains syllables indicating the beginning of words, and it will be observed that in the upper section *d* (above the line *a'*) such syllables or reference-marks consist of two letters only, ("Hwy" in the last

30 horizontal row meaning "Hw" and "Hy,") while in the lower section *d'* the syllables or reference-marks consist of three letters. The vertical columns *c'* to the right of the column

35 *c* contain, consecutively, the letters of the alphabet, as shown, each letter being in the upper portion of the corresponding square or space, and in most of these spaces the lower portion contains a printed number "e," indicating, for instance, a folio of the ledger, or

40 said space may be left blank for the insertion of the proper entry "e" by the bookkeeper. In some of the spaces of the upper section *d*, however, the lower half of the space, instead

45 of being left blank or filled with the number "e," contains a designating character, preferably a numeral, as at *f*, such character being generally produced in a distinguishing color—for instance, red—and to prevent confusion the numerals used as such designating

50 characters have been indicated in the drawing by double lines. There are as many of

these characters in the upper section *d* as there are horizontal rows in the lower section *d'* belonging to the same letter. Thus in the index-sheet for the letter "H," as partly shown in the drawing, the lower section *d'* is supposed to contain fourteen horizontal rows, only three of which are shown; but the arrangement of the entire sheet will be readily understood from the further description presently to be given.

In the lower section *d'* each of the designating characters "f" appears again in the same vertical column with the corresponding character of the upper section *d* and in that horizontal row which corresponds to the letter in that space of the upper section in which said character appears. This will be readily understood by reference to the examples shown in the drawing. Thus the first designating character "f," the numeral "1," appears in the "Ha" horizontal row of the upper section *d* under the initial "L." By following the same vertical column down to the lower section *d'* the designating character will be found in the "Hal" horizontal row of the lower section *d'*, said "Hal" row being the first from the top. The designating characters "2" "3" "4" are found, respectively, in the second, third, and fourth horizontal rows of the lower section and correspond to the reference-marks "Ham," "Han," and "Har," respectively. It will be readily understood that the fifth horizontal row of the lower section *d'* would be for "Has," the sixth for "Hay," the seventh for "Hei," and so on, as indicated by the arrangement of the designating characters "f" in the upper section *d*.

In making entries on my improved index (in case blank spaces are provided) those spaces of the upper section *d* in which there are designating characters "f" will not be filled, (a mistake is impossible, since there is no room for any entry in such spaces;) but all entries which would come into said spaces are made in the proper spaces of the lower section *d'*. I desire it to be understood, however, that I prefer to print the numbers "e" so that no entries need be made on the index, thus saving considerable time and labor. The numbers "e" will of course differ, according to the capacity of the ledger or other book.

The manner of looking up an entry by

means of my improved index will be obvious. Let us suppose it is desired to find an entry relating to "Haddan." First we find the "Ha" row in the upper section *d*, and then we follow said row to the space with the letter "D." In this space we find the entry "357," meaning that on page 357 of the ledger or other book there is recorded the particulars of the transaction or other matter relating to "Haddan." Now in case the name to be looked up is "Hall," upon following the "Ha" row to the letter "L" there is found the designating character "1," and then the book-keeper follows the vertical "L" column to below the line *a'*, where he will find the designating character "1" in the first horizontal row and in the "L" space of said row, where the entry "363" indicates that the matter relating to "Hall" is entered on page 363 of the ledger or other book. Similarly, if the name is "Hamilton," the designating character "2" is found in the "M" space of the "Ha" row, and continuing on the vertical "M" column to below the line *a'* the same designating character "2" is found in the second or "Ham" horizontal row, where, following to the left until the letter "I" is reached, the number "366" is found, indicating the page of the ledger or other book on which the matter concerning "Hamilton" is entered.

It will be seen that the index is extremely simple in construction and use and that by a thorough utilization of the available space I secure great compactness and save much labor.

While I have shown the reference characters "Ha," "He," &c., arranged in a vertical column and the initials arranged in longitudinal rows in an analogous manner to other indexes, it will be obvious that the arrangement may be reversed without departing from the nature of my invention, and I desire it to be understood that the claims are to be interpreted as covering such reversal.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. An index made in two sections having a series of parallel rows with a reference mark or syllable for each row, the reference-marks of one section being the same as some of those of the other section, but with the addition of a letter thereto at the end, and a series of columns crossing all the rows of both sections and containing letters in alphabetical succession and numbers corresponding to the paging of a ledger or other book.

2. An index made in two sections having a series of parallel rows with a reference mark or syllable for each row, the reference-marks of one section being the same as some of those of the other section, but with the addition of a letter thereto at the end, and a series of columns crossing all the rows of both sections and containing letters in alphabetical succession, the spaces formed by the intersection of the columns and rows being also adapted to contain numbers corresponding to the paging of a ledger or other book.

3. An index made in two sections having a series of parallel rows with a reference mark or syllable for each row, the reference-marks of one section being the same as some of those of the other section, but with the addition of a letter thereto, and a series of columns crossing all the rows of both sections and containing letters in alphabetical succession, sundry of the spaces or squares in the section having the shorter reference-marks, being provided with designating characters, and each designating character being repeated in that row of the other section (having the longer reference-marks) in which the additional or final letter of the reference-mark is identical with the letter of the alphabet which appears in the same space as said designating character in the section having the shorter reference-marks.

4. An index made in two sections having a series of parallel rows with a reference mark or syllable for each row, the reference-marks of one section being the same as some of those of the other section, but with the addition of a letter thereto, and a series of columns crossing all the rows of both sections and containing letters in alphabetical succession, sundry of the spaces or squares in the section having the shorter reference-marks, being provided with designating characters, and each designating character being repeated in that row of the other section (having the longer reference-marks) in which the additional or final letter of the reference-mark is identical with the letter of the alphabet which appears in the same space as said designating character in the section having the shorter reference-marks, each two corresponding designating characters appearing in the same column common to both sections.

HENRY AUGUST HAUSINGER.

Witnesses:

S. G. BURNETT,
H. C. HENCK.