

B. F. W. URBAN.

INDEX.

No. 172,061.

Patented Jan. 11, 1876.

J.B.

Y	U	R	O	L	I	E	A	NAME.	
		r						<i>Brown, John</i>	
						a		<i>Bailey, James A.</i>	
				l				<i>Bloomer, J. K.</i>	
						e		<i>Beaty, Jacob.</i>	
		u						<i>Busser, Julius</i>	
			o					<i>Bones, Jared.</i>	
								<i>Specimen/ page of</i>	
								<i>Marginal Index.</i>	

AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ
BA	BB	BC	BD	BE	BF	BG	BH	BI	BJ
CA	CB	CC	CD	CE	CF	CG	CH	CI	CJ
DA	DB	DC	DD	DE	DF	DG	DH	DI	DJ
EA	EB	EC	ED	EE	EF	EG	EH	EI	EJ
FA	FB	FC	FD	FE	FF	FG	FH	FI	FJ
GA	GB	GC	GD	GE	GF	GG	GH	GI	GJ
HA	HB	HC	HD	HE	HF	HG	HH	HI	HJ
IA	IB	IC	ID	IE	IF	IG	IH	II	IJ

Witnesses.

Specimen/ part of Key to Double and Marginal Index.

Inventor.

W. B. Miley
Jacob Stauffer

B. F. W. Urban

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. W. URBAN, OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN INDEXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **172,061**, dated January 11, 1876; application filed September 16, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. W. URBAN, of the city and county of Lancaster, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in a System or Combined Double Index and Key Arrangement, of which the following is a specification:

This improvement consists of a peculiar key of a single sheet, ruled off in squares. Each square contains two letters of the alphabet, each pair of separate color, uniform throughout, arranged in regular series, horizontally and vertically, in such a manner that each letter of the alphabet will be combined with itself and every other letter in the alphabet. Each combination or square has the number also referring to and in combination with an initial and marginal index to each page containing the group of all such persons whose initials of the surname and Christian name correspond to those of the key. The marginal index to such page has as many vertical columns as there are second letters that will combine with the first initial of the surname, as herein more fully set forth.

The key to the index proper will be complete in a single sheet on the first page of the book, no sight letters being used. The sheet forming the key is laid off into twenty-six horizontal squares or divisions, and in like number of vertical squares or divisions. Each of these squares contains two letters, printed in bold or clear type, the front or left-hand letter with black ink, for the initial of the surname or generic name, and the other letter associated with it in red ink, to designate the initial of the Christian or specific name, allowing a blank space under each combination to insert the number of the page of the group of names having such initials. This latter constitutes my initial and marginal index combined, and, with the key, constitutes my improved system of indexing.

The arrangement of the key is very simple. Commencing in the upper left-hand square, which contains the letters A A, one printed black and the other red, a series of the alphabet is printed, in red letters, across or horizontally in each column, from top to bottom,

and a like series of the alphabet is printed, in black letters, vertically in each column.

By this simple arrangement of the duplicated alphabet, printed in two colors, it follows that each letter of the alphabet is brought into combination with itself and with every other letter in the alphabet, thus providing for every possible combination of initials in surnames and Christian names, or generic and specific names, of things grouped together, with a number or page designated by such combined initials to correspond with that of the initial index. This initial index, so readily found by a glance at the key and page, is also provided with a marginal index, composed of as many columns, ruled alternately with blue and red ink, to facilitate the search, as there are second letters that can possibly be combined with the initial of the surname. A blank column may be left for a very rare combination. The letters (in capitals) are inserted, from right to left, at the top of each column, and the name or group having such second letter to the initial of the surname may be inserted by a lower-case or small letter opposite such name or group in their respective vertical column, by which simple arrangement the eye will at once discover the name or lesser group having such second letter without loss of time or fatiguing search, however extensive the list of names may be.

In a serial index, or where separate books are used for each letter, the key is on the same principle, and is placed horizontally upon the first page of the book.

To explain the application, I may say, briefly, suppose the name of "John Brown" is to be found. I find where the black letter "B" is combined with the red letter "J." This is found at a single glance, and under this combination I find the number "18," which designates the page on which the names of all appear having this combination "J. B." In the marginal index on said page I look down the "R" column for the second letter "r" in the name of "Brown," and on a line with said letter "r" will be found the name sought, or its corresponding sub-group.

I am aware that various systems of index-

ing have been devised and patented; but I am not aware that a key, arranged with duplicate letters and page numbers, in combination with an initial and marginal index, as herein set forth, was ever known or used prior to my invention; therefore,

What I claim as my invention is—

The combination of the key, arranged with

duplicate letters of different color and page numbers, with the initial and marginal index, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

BENJ. F. W. URBAN.

Witnesses :

W. B. WILEY,
JACOB STAUFFER.