

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. LE SEUR, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

INDEX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 585,389, dated June 29, 1897.

Application filed June 18, 1896. Serial No. 596,039. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. LE SEUR, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indexes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to indexes composed of leaves flexibly secured to a back piece which is adapted to be mounted upon a wall or other fixed support, the leaves being arranged so that they can be conveniently turned, their pages being readily accessible, without the necessity of lifting or supporting the index by the person who is consulting it.

The invention consists in an index of the character above specified, comprising a back or base, a series of full leaves hinged thereto, the hinged edges being separated, so that when the leaves are all turned in one direction the outer margins of all the outer pages will be exposed and narrower leaves interposed between the full leaves and arranged to be entirely covered by the full leaves when all are turned in one direction, the facing pages of two adjacent full leaves and all the pages of the intermediate narrower leaves constituting a section, and subindexes printed upon the exposed margins of the full leaves, each subindex relating to the section of which the page containing it forms a part, so that the user of the index can by consulting any sub-index readily find the desired section, all the subindexes being exposed to view on the exposed marginal portions of the pages of the full leaves under all adjustments or positions of the index.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a telephone-index embodying my invention, the leaves being all turned in one direction; and Fig. 2 represents a perspective view showing some of the leaves turned in one direction, some in the opposite direction. Fig. 3 represents a sectional view of the fastening device for attaching the index to a support.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the drawings, *a* represents the back or base of a telephone-index of the character above specified, the same being preferably a flat rigid piece provided with means, as shown

in Fig. 3, for attachment to a wall or other support.

b b b represent a series of leaves which are preferably comparatively stiff, cardboard being the preferred material, and are wider than the intermediate leaves *c*, hereinafter referred to. Owing to the difference between the width of the leaves *b* and *c*, I term the leaves *b* the "full" leaves and the leaves *c* the "narrower" leaves. The full leaves *b* are hinged at their inner edges to the back or base *a* in such manner that each leaf can be swung freely in either direction, the hinge connection of each leaf being preferably a strip or strips of muslin glued to the inner edge of the leaf and glued or otherwise firmly secured to the base or back *a*.

The hinged edge of each leaf *b* is separated from the hinged edge of the adjacent leaf *b* by a space of considerable width, so that when the leaves are all turned in one direction a portion of the outer margin of each of the outer pages each of the leaves *b* will be exposed beyond the edge of the leaf overlapping it, as indicated in Fig. 1, the result being the same whether the leaves are turned in one direction or in the other. In Fig. 1 I show all the leaves turned to the right, exposing the outer margins of the left-hand pages of said leaves. In Fig. 2 I show some of the leaves *b* turned to the left, exposing the outer margins of their right-hand pages. The leaves *b* are of uniform width, so that the exposed marginal portions of the pages are of substantially uniform width, as indicated in the drawings.

To the inner edge of each full leaf *b* are connected two of the narrower leaves *c*, one upon each side of the full leaf *b*, the full leaf and the two narrower leaves at opposite sides of it all practically swinging upon one hinge, so that when the said leaves are swung to one side or the other one of the narrower leaves will be entirely concealed by the full leaf, while the other lies upon it and, being narrower than the full leaf, exposes the marginal portion of the outer page of the full leaf. It will be seen, therefore, that in the completed book there are a series of full leaves and that between each full leaf and the next are interposed two narrower leaves, one hinged to one of the full leaves and the other to the other

full leaf, so that the two interposed narrower leaves swing from hinges that are separated from each other.

The facing pages of two adjacent full leaves and all the pages of the intermediate narrower leaves constitute what I term "one section" of the index, the matter contained on said pages being made accessible by opening the index between the two full leaves and by turning one or the other of the narrower leaves to bring into view the matter printed on the facing pages of the narrower leaves.

On the exposed marginal portions of the facing pages of the two full leaves *b b* of each section are printed subindexes which, as here shown, comprise the first two letters of the first name on the first page of the section and the first two letters of the last name on the last page of the section. As shown in Fig. 2, the first page of the section exposed by the opening of the index—namely, the outer page of the left-hand leaf *b*—has on its marginal portion as a subindex the letters "KI" to "PE." The last page of this section—namely, the facing page of the right-hand full leaf *b*—has the letters "ME" to "PE."

It will be seen that the subindexes of all the full leaves are at all times exposed to view, so that any section can be readily reached by consulting the subindexes of the full leaves and opening the index at the desired point. I prefer also to provide the marginal portions of the intermediate narrower leaves *c* with subindexes, each of which is or may be composed of the first three letters of the name opposite the said subindex upon that page. It will be seen that the two subindexes cooperate in guiding the user of the index, the subindexes of the sections printed on the margins of the full-leaf pages indicating the section in which the desired name is to be found, while the subindexes on the narrower leaves indicate whether the desired name is on one of those leaves or not.

The pages of the several leaves may be provided with spaces *t t* to receive advertising matter, said spaces being preferably at the top and bottom portions of the pages.

The back piece *a* is preferably attached to a wall or other fixed support by means of a dovetail rib *u*, affixed to the back piece, and a bracket *u'*, having a dovetail groove *u²* to receive said rib. The bracket has a shank in which is formed a hole to receive an attaching screw or bolt. An ordinary wood screw may be employed for attaching the bracket to a wooden support, but when the support is of brick, stone, or other like material an expansion-bolt may be employed, adapted to be spread or expanded in a hole formed in the support.

Each full leaf *b* and the two accompanying narrower leaves *c* constitute a group of leaves. Said groups are connected in pairs by couplings *g*, composed of strips of muslin or other fabric cemented to the inner edges of the groups. Said couplings are cemented to the back or base *a* and are additionally secured thereto by rivets or studs *s s*, Fig. 2.

I claim—

1. An index of the character specified, comprising a series of sections each including the pages of two full leaves and the pages of one or more narrower intermediate leaves on each side of each full leaf, all of the said full leaves being separated by spaces which cause the exposure or projection of the outer portion of each leaf beyond the others, and section-indexes on the outer margins of the facing pages of said full leaves.

2. An index of the character specified, comprising a series of sections, each including two full leaves each of which has one or more narrower leaves hinged to each face thereof, the said full leaves being arranged so that their marginal portions are exposed while the narrower leaves are arranged to be covered by the full leaves between which they are interposed, section-indexes on the outer margins of the said full leaves, and page-indexes on the outer margins of the narrower leaves.

3. An index of the character specified, comprising a series of sections each including two full leaves and one or more narrower intermediate leaves on each side of each full leaf, all of the said full leaves being separated by spaces which cause the exposure or projection of the outer portions of each leaf beyond the others, section-indexes on the outer margins of the full leaves, page-indexes on the margins of the narrower leaves, and advertising-spaces on some or all of the leaves.

4. In an index of the character specified, the combination of the back piece *a* having leaves hinged to the front side thereof and adapted to remain in open position when so placed, a dovetail rib affixed to the rear side of the back piece, and a bracket *u'* having a dovetail groove *u²* to receive said rib, and having a tubular shank adapted to receive a screw or bolt for attaching the bracket to a suitable support, said tubular shank serving to insure the leaving of a space between the back piece and the support.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 11th day of May, A. D. 1896.

WILLIAM W. LE SEUR.

Witnesses:

C. F. BROWN,
A. D. HARRISON.