

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

No. 556,842.

Patented Mar. 24, 1896.

Fig. 1.

[illegible]

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

WITNESSES:
Jos. A. Ryan
Amos M. Hart

[illegible]

INVENTOR :

John D. Browning

BY *Munn & Co*

ATTORNEYS

(No Model.)

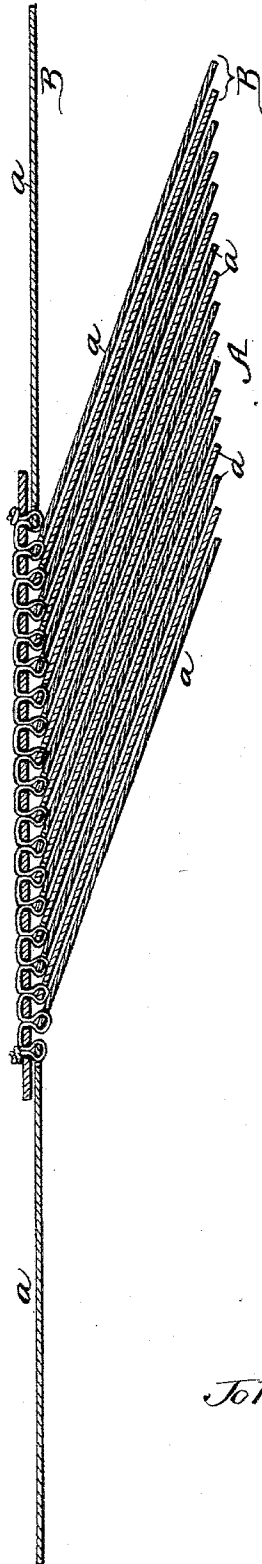
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. D. BROWNING.
BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

No. 556,842.

Patented Mar. 24, 1896.

Fig. 3



WITNESSES:

W. D. Bloude
Amos W. Hark

INVENTOR

John D. Browning.

BY *Munn & Co.*

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. BROWNING, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

BUSINESS-DIRECTORY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 556,842, dated March 24, 1896.

Application filed July 12, 1895. Serial No. 555,794. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. BROWNING, of Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and Improved Business-Directory, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in business-directories in general, but is more particularly an improved telephone-list and business-directory combined.

The invention consists in the arrangement, on the sheets or boards constituting the body of the directory and carrying the names of subscribers arranged in alphabetical order, of the names and addresses of other parties having various occupations, while on the margin of such sheets or cards are printed the titles which indicate such occupations and whose initials are the same as those of the subscribers' names on the same sheet or page thereof. Thus the directory affords a convenient and ready reference to parties carrying on different kinds of business—such as architects, builders, caterers, druggists, &c.—and all arranged in the same alphabetical order as the names of subscribers, so that no separate marginal index is required.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a face view of my improved directory represented open, and thus exhibiting the first and second pages. Fig. 2 is a face view of a portion of one of the pages on which the names of subscribers are arranged in numerical instead of alphabetical order. Fig. 3, Sheet 2, is a cross-section of the directory.

The sheets or cards *a* composing the body of the directory are bound loosely to a backing or board adapted to be suspended from a nail or screw set in a wall, as shown in Fig. 1. The cards *a* are made of thin pasteboard and will remain flat and lie in any position desired, and may also be turned one way or the other with great facility.

The directory is composed of two parts or divisions, the main part, A, having the subscribers' names arranged alphabetically, while in the smaller part, B, they are arranged numerically. I will first describe part A. On the margin of the cards *a* are printed alphabetical indices "A, B, C," &c., corresponding to the alphabetical order of the subscribers' names printed on said cards in the usual way.

Each page of the directory bears, in addition to such ordinary alphabetical name-list of subscribers, the names of several individuals, firms or corporations and a statement of their business, all properly spaced and visually quickly distinguishable. These are arranged by classes in alphabetical order, as illustrated in Fig. 1. Thus on the pages bearing the subscribers' surnames beginning with a particular letter I print in addition thereto other names of business men, firms, or corporations the names of whose business, occupation, or function also begin with the same letter as the subscribers' names. For example, on the first page, bearing names of subscribers having the initial "A," I print also in separate places or spaces the names *a'* of three parties the initials of the names of whose occupations also begin with said letter "A." Thus the first of such parties is the firm of "Alsup & Johnson," who are architects. The second is "Doe Bros.," who manufacture tents, awnings, &c., and the third party is "Richard Roe," an attorney-at-law. The addresses of these several parties are given with the names. On the margin of the sheet or board, directly opposite the respective names of the said parties, are printed the titles "Architects," "Awnings," and "Attorney-at-Law."

Again, for further illustration, on the opposite page, bearing subscribers' names having the initial "B," appear also the names of three parties the names of whose occupations have the same initial "B." Thus the title "Brick-yard" appears in the margin opposite the name of "John Cube," a brick manufacturer, and the title "Builders" opposite the name of "Pritchard Bros., carpenters and contractors," and the title "Bottling Works" opposite the name of "Bluff City Bottling Co." These several titles indicate the respective occupations of the said parties opposite which they are printed.

Thus throughout the directory on each page appear several—say three—names of parties whose business occupations have the same initial letters as the subscribers' names on the same page, and on the margin are the titles of such businesses or occupations directly opposite the names of said parties. The names and titles are preferably printed

in a color (say red) different and distinguished from the color (say black) in which the subscribers' names appear, so that they are readily distinguished and no confusion can arise. Besides this the subscribers' names are printed in letters of a different size, and a horizontal division-line appears between them and the names of the parties whose business is indicated by marginal titles.

The marginal titles have the same initials as the indices "A, B, C" of subscribers' names, so that reference to the titles is easily and quickly made by the same means as to the subscribers' names. Thus any one wishing to find the address of an attorney-at-law refers first to the page bearing the alphabetical index "A," and then to the marginal business indication—to wit, "Attorney-at-Law"—and opposite the latter he finds the desired reference, or supposing one desires to find the address of a dentist he opens the directory at the letter "D" and then refers to the title "Dentist" in the margin.

In connection with the list of telephone-subscribers' names alphabetically arranged, as before described, I employ a numerical list B. In this (see Fig. 2) the numbers appropriated to the different subscribers are printed in columns, in regular order, on successive pages from "1" upward opposite the respective names, and on the margin of each page are printed the two numbers between which the

subscribers' numbers on said page are included. Thus on page 6, Fig. 2 shows names whose numbers range numerically from "415" to "626." Thus one may quickly find the name of any subscriber whose number is known; or if a subscriber be called on the telephone during his absence from home or place of business and told to call up a certain number on his return he may, if he desires, ascertain who called him by reference to the number in the numerical directory B.

What I claim is—

The improved telephone index or directory composed of a series of sheets, or cards, bound together and having printed thereon subscribers' names arranged in alphabetical order, and also the names and addresses of parties having various occupations, and on their margins a series of letters indicating the alphabetical order of the subscribers' names as ordinarily printed in a directory, and also a series of business titles or names of business occupations whose initials are the same as the aforesaid letters, the said titles being arranged directly opposite the aforesaid names and addresses of the parties whose occupations correspond to the titles, as shown and described.

JOHN D. BROWNING.

Witnesses:

AMOS W. HART,

JAS. A. RYAN.