

MARKER'S RECORD FOR LAUNDRYMEN, &c.

No. 598,520.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MARKER'S RECORD FOR LAUNDRYMEN, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 598,520, dated February 8, 1898.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES ROGERS JUDGE, of the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Markers' Records for Laundrymen, &c., of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof.

10 My invention relates to a marker's record for laundrymen; and it consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter shown, described, and claimed.

15 The drawing shows one plate or sheet of a marker's record for laundrymen made in accordance with my invention.

In making my improved marker's record for laundrymen I employ rectangular sheets 20 of paper approximately of the shape of the figure shown in the drawing. In the horizontal line 1 across the top of the page are printed thirty-five different characters, to wit: the letters of the alphabet, from "A" to "Z," inclusive, and the figures "1" to "9," inclusive, in consecutive order. The page is ruled vertically into thirty-six spaces, one space for each of the thirty-five characters and the extra space 2, between the letters "R" and "S" 30 or approximately at the center of the page, in which extra space the same characters are arranged vertically, beginning with "A" at the top of the page on a line below the line occupied by the horizontal line of characters 35 and ending with the figure "9" at the bottom of the page. Immediately above the line of characters 1 is a ruled line 3, extending the entire length of the line of characters.

Immediately below the line of characters 1 40 and extending from "A" to "R" is a light rule 4, and immediately below the line of characters 1 and extending from "S" to "9" is a light rule 5.

A series of horizontally-arranged parallel 45 rules similar to the rules 4 and 5 are arranged below said rules 4 and 5, one for each of the characters in the vertical line 2, said rules being parallel with the rules 4 and 5. At the bottom of the characters and near the bottom

of the page is a horizontal rule 6, which extends the entire length of the space occupied by the characters and in a line parallel with the rule 3. In the upper right-hand corner of the page and immediately above the end of the rule 3 is the plate-index 7, and said index 55 is also placed in the lower left-hand corner of the page and immediately below the left-hand end of the rule 6.

In the page shown in the drawing the index indicated by 7 is the letter "A." Each 60 page or plate of the record has a different index number or character from each other page of the record, and there are as many plates or pages in the record comprising a complete system as there are characters used. 65

The complete system of plates using the characters shown in the drawing will have one plate for the letter "A," another for "B," another for "C," and so on to "Z," and then a plate for figure 1, another for figure 2, and so 70 on to "9," making in all thirty-five different plates or pages.

A complete system having a full set of thirty-five plates and each plate using a full set of the thirty-five characters will contain 75 all the possible combinations that can be made out of those thirty-five characters using three characters at a time, and said combinations will be arranged in consecutive order, commencing with "aaa" at the top of the first column of the first page and ending with "999" at 80 the bottom of the last column of the last page. In the page having the index-letter "A" the initial character of each combination upon that page will be "a." The characters in the 85 vertical column 2 are indexes of the horizontal lines of characters in which they occur. For instance, the first character in the column 2 in the drawing is "A," and this indicates that all the combinations of characters 90 in the horizontal line, both at the right and left of this "A," terminate with "a."

The characters in the horizontal line 1 are indexes to show the middle character of the combinations under said indexes. For instance, the first character in the horizontal 95 line 1 is "A," and this indicates that "a" is the central character of each combination in

the vertical column in which "a" is found at the head, and in the column in which "B" is found at the head "b" will be the central character of each combination of that column, and so on throughout the series.

The plate having the index "A" begins with "aaa" in the top of its first column and ends with "a99" at the bottom of its last column. The plate having the index "B" begins with "baa" at the top of its first column and ends with "b99" at the bottom of its last column. The plate having the index "C" begins with "caa" at the top of its first column and ends with "c99" at the bottom of its last column, and so on throughout the entire series. The only difference between the different plates is the change of the initial character of the combinations. The plate "C" uses "c" for the initial character of each combination upon that plate and the plate "D" uses "d" for the initial character of each combination upon that plate, and so on throughout the entire series of plates. The plates are all alike with reference to the second and final characters of the combinations. Consequently the characters of the horizontal line 1 and the characters of the vertical line 2 always remain the same.

Assuming that each combination of three characters represents a number, then it is possible to write twelve hundred and twenty-five different numbers upon a page, each number consisting of three characters, and upon the thirty-five plates of the system may be written or printed forty-two thousand eight hundred and seventy-five different numbers, each consisting of three characters, while by the ordinary system of notation nine hundred and ninety-nine different numbers are all that can be written without using more than three characters.

This system of notation is especially designed for the convenience of the markers in laundries, and its operation is as follows: Each package of laundry which comes to a public laundry consists of numerous articles, each of which articles must be marked with a combination of characters that will make it possible to reassign the articles after they have been laundered. As the packages come in and are marked, the combination used is checked off on the book, and should a second bundle be taken in in which the garments are similarly marked it will immediately be discovered that the mark has already been used and that the mark on the garments must be changed in order to keep them from getting mixed with the garments of the other package. Thus it will be seen that by the use of this system of notation and the books constructed in accordance therewith, as hereinbefore described, forty-two thousand eight hundred and seventy-five different customers may have their goods marked with a combination

of three characters and still no two of the customers will be using the same mark.

The numbers are arranged in consecutive order in such a way that any desired number is easily found in the book. Suppose, for instance, that a package of laundry comes in and it is found that the garments are marked "xgt." The "x" indicates that the number will be found on plate "X" of the book. The "g" indicates that the number will be found in the vertical column of characters headed "G," and the "t" indicates that the number will be found in the horizontal line opposite the "T," which is found in the vertical column 2. Again, suppose that the number to be found is "2m7." The "2" indicates that the number will be found on plate 2. The "m" indicates that the number will be found in the vertical column headed "M," and the "7" indicates that the number will be found in the horizontal column opposite the "7" in the vertical column 2.

A different set of characters may be used, or the combinations and indexes may be differently arranged, or the ruling may be omitted without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim—

1. In a marker's record, a plate ruled vertically and horizontally, an index character indicating the initial letter of each combination of characters, an index character at the head of each vertical column to indicate the middle character of each combination in that column, an index character in line with each horizontal line of characters to indicate the final character of each combination in that horizontal line and combinations of characters arranged in consecutive order down said vertical columns, substantially as specified.

2. In a marker's record, a plate ruled vertically and horizontally, combinations of characters arranged consecutively in the spaces between said ruling, an index character indicating a character common to all the combinations on the plate, index characters indicating a character common to all the combinations of an indicated vertical column, index characters indicating a character common to all the combinations in an indicated horizontal line, substantially as specified.

3. In a marker's record, a plate, combinations of characters arranged consecutively in vertical and horizontal lines on said plate, an index character indicating a character common to all the combinations of characters on said plate, index characters indicating a character common to all the combinations of an indicated vertical column on said plate, index characters indicating a character common to all the combinations in an indicated horizontal line on said plate, substantially as specified.

4. A marker's record, comprising plates,

combinations of characters arranged consecutively in vertical and horizontal lines on said plates, index characters indicating a character common to all the combinations of an indicated plate, index characters indicating a character common to all the combinations of an indicated vertical column on said indicated plate, index characters indicating a character common to all the combinations in an indi-

cated horizontal line on said indicated plate, 10 substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES ROGERS JUDGE.

Witnesses:

EDWARD E. LONGAN,
MAUD GRIFFIN.