

1,048,057.

Patented Dec. 24, 1912.

Fig. 1.

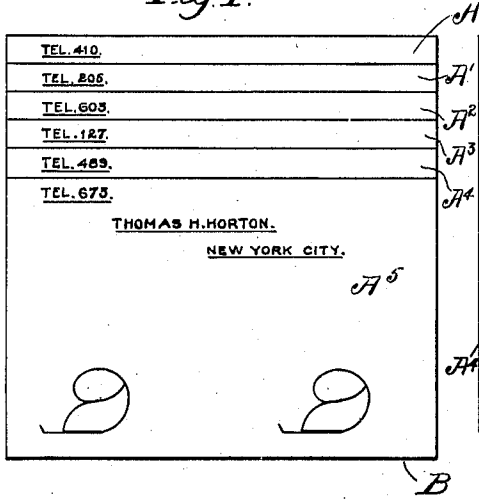


Fig. 2.

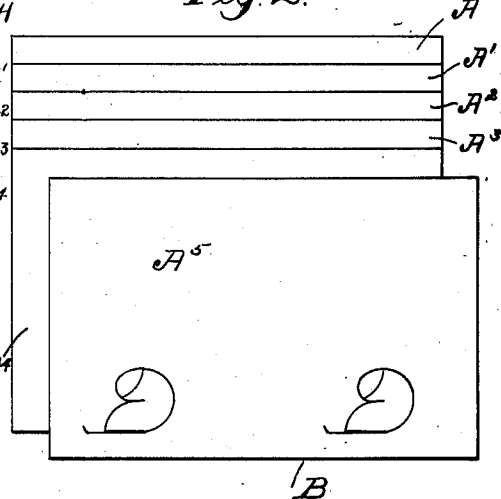


Fig. 5.

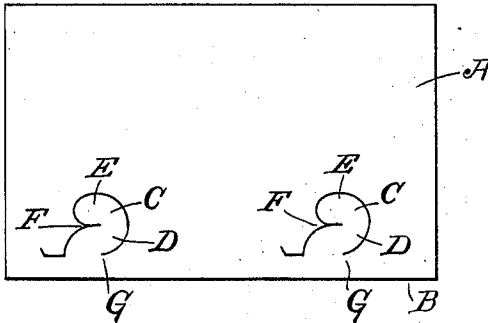


Fig. 4.

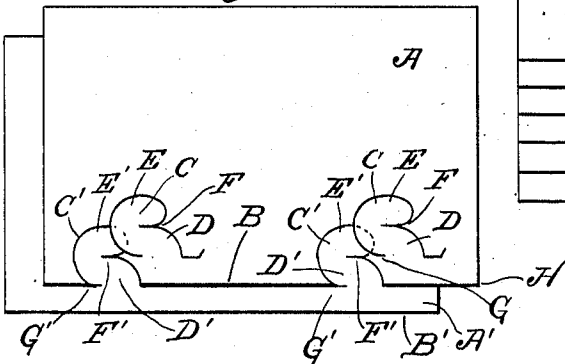
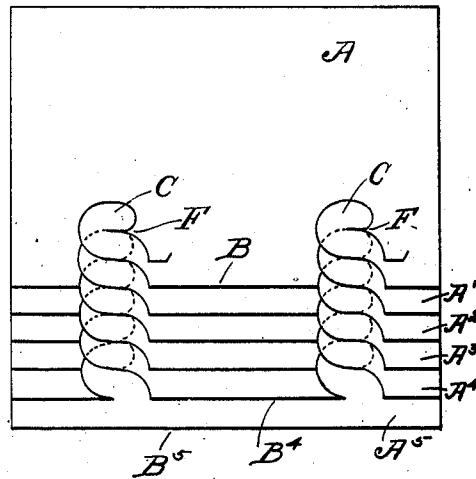


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

IRVING FISHER, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

INDEX OR FILE.

1,048,057.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 24, 1912.

Application filed January 26, 1909. Serial No. 474,257.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IRVING FISHER, of the city and county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented new and useful

5 Improvements in Indexes or Files, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

The invention relates to indexes or files, and more particularly to a card index or file in which the necessity of a separate support or engaging means for uniting the various members is dispensed with, and each member is provided with engaging means

15 for locking it with the next succeeding member, so that the members themselves will be retained in their connected position without any other agency.

The invention may be applied to cards or members in which each member when connected with the next succeeding member will overlap only a portion of the succeeding card, thus leaving a portion of the succeeding card exposed to view.

25 The means for engaging one card with the next succeeding card may be formed from the body of the card itself, and may be adapted to engage the succeeding card by a lateral movement of the card so that

30 longitudinal movement or tension will not displace or disengage the several cards. To these and other ends, the invention consists of the several improvements and combinations of parts set forth and claimed

35 hereinafter. Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of an index or file embodying the invention, and consisting of a series of cards or members shown connected together, Fig. 2, a similar view with one of the cards or members partially withdrawn, Fig. 3, a rear view of the cards or members as shown in Fig. 1, Fig. 4, a rear view of the lower cards or members, as

40 shown in Fig. 2, and Fig. 5, a detail view of one of the cards or members. In all figures, similar letters of reference represent like parts.

In the drawings, the parts designated by the letters A, A', A², A³, etc., represent cards or members of the index or file. Near the lower edge B of each card or member is an engaging tongue or tongues C formed with or partially cut from the body of the card or member A. The tongue or tongues C are formed so that the lower part D pro-

jects from the bottom laterally toward one side, such as the right-hand edge (Fig. 5), while the upper part E projects from the bottom in the reverse direction, and there is a slit or recess F between the two. In other words, the tongues C are formed so that one edge is substantially the arc of a circle, and on the other edge is a transverse horizontal slit F. The inner end of the slit F projects to a point substantially in a vertical line above the point G, one of the points of juncture between the tongue C and the card itself, so that when the cards are interlocked the lateral edges of the cards will be on the same vertical line.

When one card, such as A (Fig. 4) is placed so that its lower edge fits between the tongues C' of another card, such as A', and the card itself, and is moved laterally the upper end E' of the tongue C' of the card A' will engage between the lower portions D of the tongues C and the card A, the slit F' receiving the edge of the tongue C. When the two cards have been thus assembled either card will form a support for the other, because if the upper card is held the lower one is suspended on this card by means of the end E' of the tongue C' of the card A'. If the lower card A' is supported the upper card is held thereon because its lower edge H will rest on the points of junction of the tongue C' and the lower card A'. Any number of cards may be thus joined together, as shown more particularly in Figs. 2 and 3, and they may be separated again as desired by a lateral movement of one of the cards.

By this invention the cards themselves form the support for the series, and no additional support is required unless desired. A large number of cards when so joined may be laid in a flat position and will occupy a very small amount of room.

I do not claim herein the subject matter of my earlier application filed March 13, 1908, Serial No. 420,826.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. An index or file comprising a plurality of filing members having interlocking means operable to permit relative lateral movement of the members and to prevent vertical movement thereof, substantially as described.

2. An index or file, comprising a series of members each having means to interlock

it with its adjacent member and each separately detachable by lateral movement in the plane of the member, substantially as described.

- 5 3. An index or file, comprising a plurality of cards each having a laterally engaging tongue adapted to engage the next card in the plane of the card to support it, substantially as described.
- 10 4. An index or file comprising a plurality of cards each having a plurality of tongues adapted to engage another card laterally in the plane thereof to support it, substantially as described.
- 15 5. An index or file comprising a plurality of cards each having a tongue formed in the body of the card for engaging another card to support it, substantially as described.
- 20 6. An index or file comprising a plurality of cards having a plurality of tongues formed in the body of the card for engaging another card to support it, substantially as described.
- 25 7. An index or file comprising a plurality of cards each having a plurality of tongues formed in the body of the card to engage another card by lateral movement in the

plane thereof to support it, substantially as described.

8. An index or file comprising a plurality of cards each having an integral tongue extending in a plane substantially parallel with the plane of the card and operable in such position to engage another card to support it, substantially as described. 30 35

9. An index or file comprising a plurality of cards each having an upwardly extending tongue near the bottom thereof adapted to engage another card to support it, substantially as described. 40

10. A file or index comprising a plurality of record cards having near their lower edges integral tongues projecting upwardly from the body of the cards, and permitting the lateral engagement of the cards, and having hooked portions preventing vertical disengagement of the cards, substantially as described. 45

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand on the 14th day of January, 1909. 50
IRVING FISHER.

Witnesses:

JOHN W. BRISTOL,
M. OLIVE WILLIAMS.