(No Model.)

# J. WAYER.

## INDICATOR FOR MERCHANDISE.

No. 302,695. Patented July 29, 1884.

*Fig. 1.*

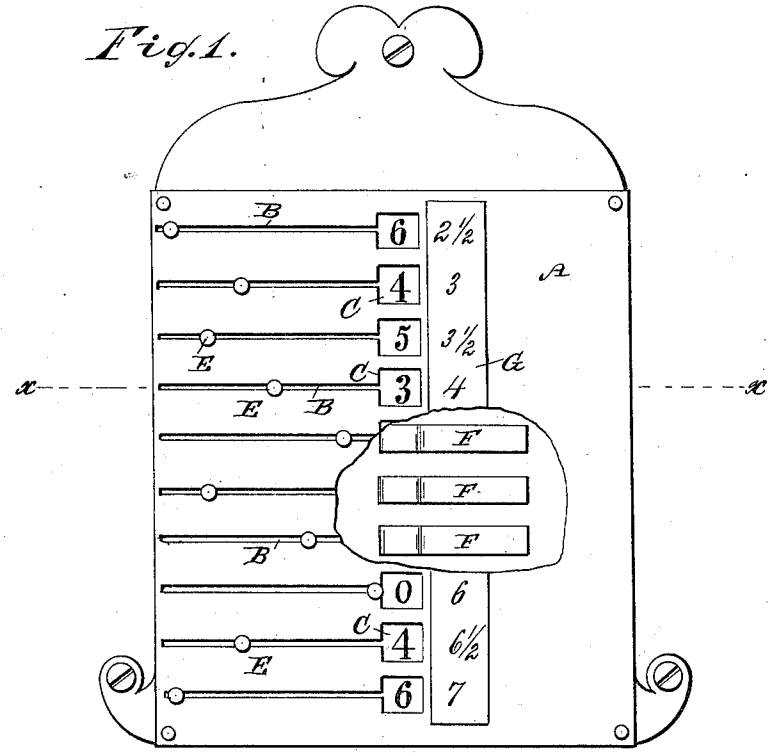



*Fig. 2.*

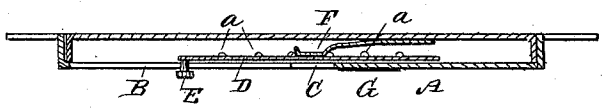



*Fig. 3.*

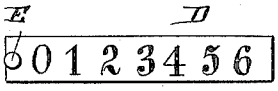
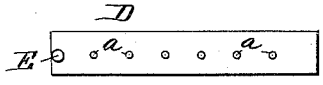



*Fig. 4.*




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN WAYER, OF SYRACUSE, INDIANA.

## INDICATOR FOR MERCHANDISE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,695, dated July 29, 1884.

Application filed September 12, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN WAYER, of Syracuse, in the county of Kosciusko and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Indicator for Merchandise, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved indicator for merchandise-receptacles, to indicate the number of articles of each different size or number contained in the receptacle, which indicator can be adjusted very easily and rapidly.

The invention consists in a casing having openings and containing slides carrying numbers, which slides are locked in place automatically by suitable springs. The casing is provided with a strip at right angles to the slides, which strip is provided with the sizes and grades of the articles in the receptacle to which the casing is attached.

The invention also consists in parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be fully set forth.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front view of my improved indicator, parts being broken out. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan view of the same on the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a front view of one of the slides. Fig. 4 is a rear view of the same.

A flat casing, A, made of metal or other suitable material, is provided in its front with a series of transverse slots, B, one above the other, and extending from the left-hand edge to about the middle of the front, and terminating at the inner ends in square or circular apertures C. Any desired number of slots can be provided, according to the different kinds or sizes of articles contained in the receptacle to which the indicator is to be fastened. Behind each slot B a slide, D, is held, which is provided at the outer end with a headed stud, E, which projects through the corresponding slot. On the front of each slide a strip of paper carrying numbers arranged in numerical order is pasted; or the numbers can be produced in any other suitable manner on the slides. On the rear side each slide is provided with a series of slight projections, *a*, which are arranged in such a manner that they will be between the numbers. A series of springs, F, are secured to the inner surface of the back of the casing, the free ends of which springs press against the rear surfaces of the slides. The free end of the springs are beveled or bent over, so that they cannot catch firmly on the projections *a*.

On the front of the casing A a vertical strip, G, is pasted adjoining the apertures C, on which strip the numbers, grades, or sizes of the articles in the receptacle are written, stamped, printed, or otherwise produced, and, if desired, the prices can be written on an additional strip. The index can be made any desired size and for any desired number of different sizes of articles. The casing is adapted to be secured to a box, basket, drawer, or other suitable receptacle for articles, such as boots, shoes, stockings, hats, clothes, toys, household utensils, &c. Each slide can be moved longitudinally to show any desired number in the corresponding aperture, C, according to the number of articles of the corresponding kind or size contained in the receptacle. The indicator can thus be adjusted very easily and rapidly, to show exactly the number of each kind of articles in the receptacle. Every time an article is removed from the receptacle the corresponding slide is moved one number to the right, and the spring F, catching on a projection, *a*, holds the slide in place.

I am aware that indicator-slides provided with numbers and working in slots in the apertured face-plate are not new, and that indicator-slides have been held in place by friction-springs bearing on them, and I do not desire to claim such as of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with a casing provided with a series of slots terminating in apertures, of slides carrying numbers, headed studs secured to the slides and projecting

through the slots, and mechanism for automatically locking the slides in place, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The combination, with a casing, A, provided with slots terminating in apertures, of slides D, carrying numbers on the front sides, and projections *a* on the rear sides, and of the springs F, secured to the back of the casing and resting against the slides, substantially as herein shown and described.

JOHN WAYER.

Witnesses:
C. KNORR,
J. R. KITSON.