

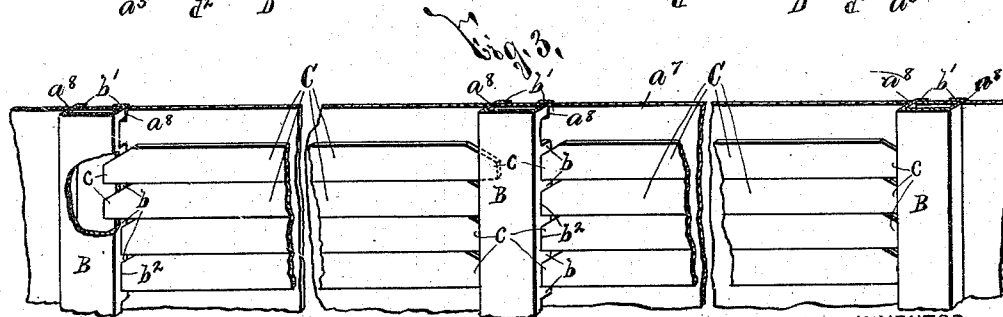
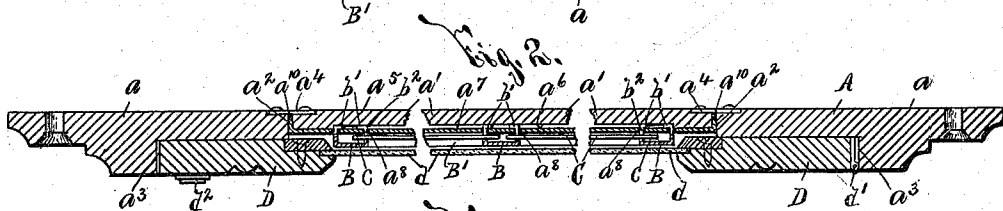
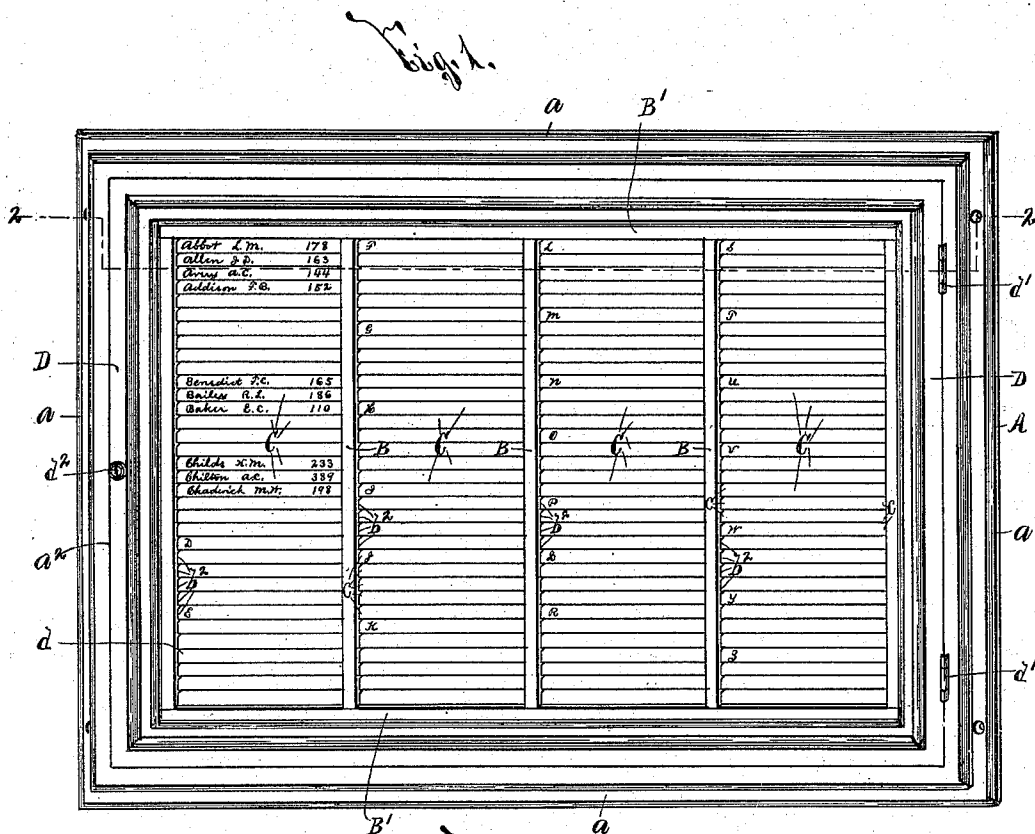
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. W. POWERS.
OFFICE DIRECTORY.

No. 573,354.

Patented Dec. 15, 1896.



WITNESSES:

H. C. Chase,
H. H. Thoburn.

INVENTOR

Walter H. Powers

BY

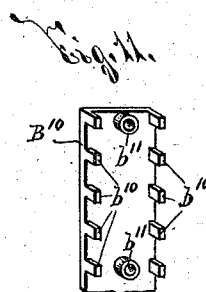
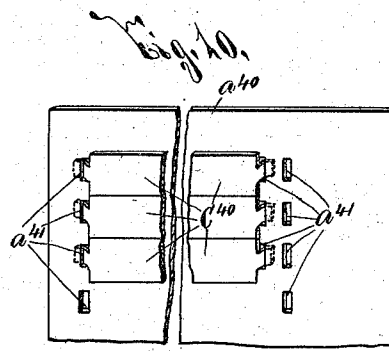
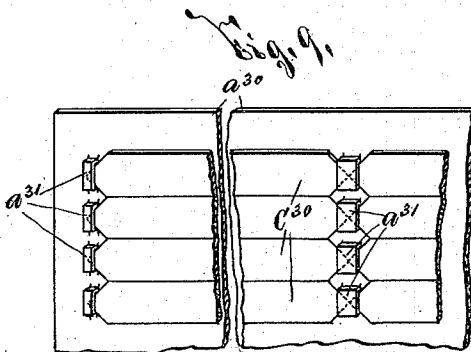
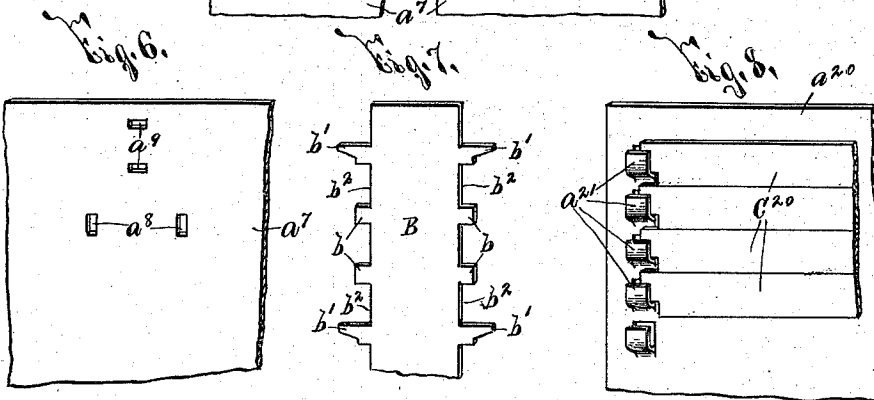
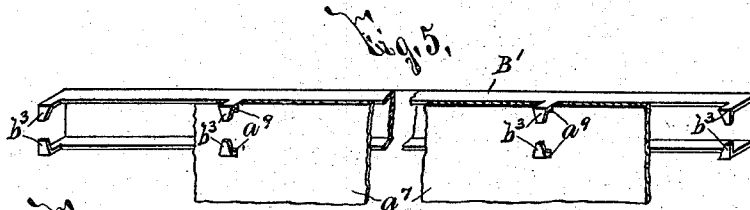
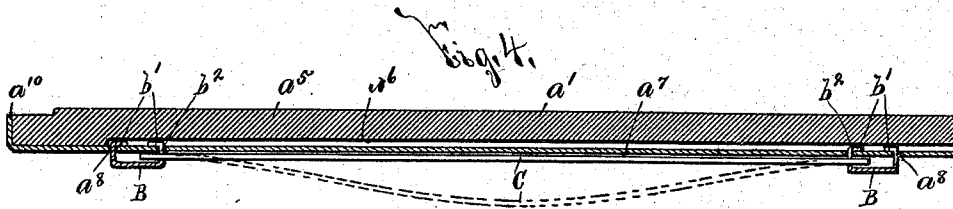
Key & Parsons

ATTORNEYS

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WITNESSES:

W. C. Chace
W. H. Thibault

INVENTOR

Walter H. Powers

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER W. POWERS, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

OFFICE-DIRECTORY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 573,354, dated December 15, 1896.

Application filed October 4, 1895. Serial No. 564,660. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER W. POWERS, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Office-Directories, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in indicators or directories particularly applicable for use in office-buildings and similar places, and has for its object the production of a simple and practical device which presents a pleasing appearance and permits of ready and economical change and rearrangement of its display matter; and to this end it consists in the general construction and arrangement of the component parts of an indicator or directory, all as hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In describing this invention reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which like letters indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a face view of my improved indicator or directory. Fig. 2 is a transverse section taken on line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an isometric view of a portion of the main body or support of the indicator or directory and a number of display-pieces operatively engaged therewith. Fig. 4 is an enlarged transverse section showing one of the display-pieces and the adjacent portion of the inner division of said body or support, the display-pieces being also indicated by dotted lines as disengaged from said division. Fig. 5 is an isometric view of a detached portion of the main body or support of the indicator or directory, illustrating particularly one of its transverse bars. Fig. 6 is a face view of a detached portion of the metallic plate secured to said body or support. Fig. 7 is a face view of a portion of the blank from which one of the vertical division-bars of said metallic plate is formed. Figs. 8, 9, and 10 are isometric views showing portions of modified constructions of main bodies or supports for my invention; and Fig. 11 is an isometric view of a portion of a modified construction of one of the vertical division-bars of my improved indicator or directory.

A represents a main body or support, which

may be of any desirable form, size, and construction, and is mounted in any suitable position. Said body or support preferably consists of an outer division a , provided with a central aperture a^2 and having its front face formed with rabbets or grooves a^3 , extending from the edges of the aperture a^2 , and an inner division a' , removably arranged in the aperture a^2 and secured in position by any suitable means, as movable fastening-pieces a^4 . The inner division a' preferably consists of a rear plate a^5 , formed with a recess a^6 in its front face, and a removable front plate a^7 , composed of metal or other similar material and provided with vertical and transverse series of perforations $a^8 a^9$, opening into the recess a^6 , suitable engaging shoulders, presently described, projecting laterally one above the other from its front face, and rearwardly-projecting edges a^{10} , lapped upon the edges of the plate a^7 .

The engaging shoulders of the plate a^7 are usually arranged in columns, and are preferably formed upon vertical division-bars B, projecting from the front face of said plate. The bars B are usually composed of metal and their opposite edges are provided with rearwardly-extending shoulders $b b'$ and interposed perforations or slots b^2 . The rear or end edges of the shoulders b are arranged in close proximity to the front face of the plate a^7 , and the rear ends of the shoulders b' , which are suitably elongated, are passed through the adjacent vertical series of perforations a^8 into the recess a^6 and are lapped upon the rear face of the plate a^7 .

The upper and lower ends of the vertical bars B are preferably connected by transverse bars B', provided with shoulders or arms b^3 , which are passed through the transverse series of perforations a^9 into the recess a^6 and are lapped upon the rear face of the plate a^7 .

C C are the display-pieces of my improved indicator or support, which may be of any desirable form, size, and construction, although they are preferably composed of flexible bars or strips formed of paper or other suitable material. Said display-pieces are formed with substantially parallel longitudinal edges preferably arranged in close proximity to each other, as clearly seen at Figs. 1 and 3, and their opposite ends c are reduced

in width and are inserted into the perforations or slots b^2 and engaged with the shoulders $b b'$. The display-pieces are thus positively and independently held in their designed position and, being formed of flexible material, may be readily bent, as indicated at Fig. 4, so as to facilitate their securement and removal. Suitable display matter is placed upon the pieces C, and any desired one may be readily removed and replaced by another without effecting disarrangement of the others.

A suitable cover D, formed with a central transparent portion d , is supported at the outside of the display-pieces C, and its edges are arranged in the rabbets or grooves a^3 . This cover greatly adds to the appearance of my invention and may be readily withdrawn from operative position for permitting removal or rearrangement of the display-pieces C. One of the edges of the cover is preferably provided with hinges d' and its opposite edge with a lock d^2 , the construction of which it is unnecessary to herein illustrate or describe.

The construction of the shoulders, previously described, for engaging the display-pieces may be considerably varied, and at Figs. 8, 9, and 10 I have shown plates $a^{20} a^{30} a^{40}$, provided, respectively, with integral shoulders a^{21} , outwardly-extending loops a^{31} , and perforations a^{41} , with which are engaged the ends of display-pieces $C^{20} C^{30} C^{40}$. I have also shown at Fig. 11 a modified construction of vertical rib B^{10} , having its opposite edges provided with shoulders b^{10} of uniform length and its central portion provided with rearwardly-projecting sleeves b^{11} , through which suitable fastening-screws (not illustrated) may be passed.

The operation of my invention will be readily understood upon reference to the foregoing description and the accompanying drawings, and it will be particularly noted that it presents a pleasing appearance, is economical in manufacture, and facilitates change or rearrangement of its display matter. It is obvious, however, that the exact detail construction and arrangement of the parts of my improved indicator or directory may be somewhat changed without departing from the spirit of my invention, and consequently I do not herein specifically limit myself to such exact detail construction and arrangement.

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

1. In an indicator or directory, the combination of a support provided with engaging shoulders projecting laterally one above the other from its front face, and flexible display-pieces independently supported by the engaging shoulders, said display-pieces being arranged one above the other with their longitudinal edges in close proximity and having their opposite ends formed of reduced

width and engaged with said shoulders, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. In an indicator or directory, the combination of a support, division-bars detachably secured to the front face of said support and provided with engaging shoulders projecting laterally one above the other from the front face of said support, and flexible display-pieces independently supported by the engaging shoulders, said display-pieces being arranged one above the other with their longitudinal edges in close proximity and having their opposite ends formed of reduced width and engaged with said shoulders, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In an indicator or directory, the combination of a support consisting of an outer division provided with a central aperture, an inner division removably supported in the aperture, division-bars secured to the front face of said support and provided with engaging shoulders projecting laterally one above the other from the front face of said support, and flexible display-pieces independently supported by the engaging shoulders, said display-pieces being arranged one above the other with their longitudinal edges in close proximity and having their opposite ends formed of reduced width and engaged with said shoulders, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In an indicator or directory, the combination of a support formed with a series of perforations, a division-bar provided with a series of separated shoulders, a number of said shoulders being formed with elongated ends arranged in the perforations, and display-pieces having corresponding ends engaged with the shoulders, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. In an indicator or directory, the combination of a support formed with transverse and vertical series of perforations $a^8 a^9$, vertical bars B having their opposite edges provided with lateral shoulders b arranged with their rear or end edges in close proximity to the adjacent face of the support, and lateral shoulders b' formed with elongated ends passed through the perforations a^8 , transverse bars B' provided with lateral shoulders or arms b^3 arranged in the perforations a^9 , and flexible display-pieces C arranged one above the other between the bars B B and having their ends c of reduced width and engaged with the shoulders $b b'$, substantially as set forth.

6. In an indicator or directory, the combination of a support formed with transverse and vertical series of perforations $a^8 a^9$, vertical bars B having their opposite edges provided with lateral shoulders b arranged with their rear or end edges in close proximity to the adjacent face of the support, and lateral shoulders b' formed with elongated ends passed through the perforations a^8 , transverse bars B' provided with lateral shoulders or arms b^3 arranged in the perforations a^9 , flexi-

ble display-pieces C arranged one above the
other between the bars B B and having their
ends *c* reduced in width and engaged with
the shoulders *b b'*, and a movable door D se-
5 cured to the main body or support and ar-
ranged in front of the display-pieces, sub-
stantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto

signed my name, in the presence of two attest-
ing witnesses, at Rochester, in the county of 10
Monroe, in the State of New York, this 4th
day of September, 1895.

WALTER W. POWERS.

Witnesses:

GEO. KING,
HAMPDEN HYDE.