

D. A. ROBERTS.  
INDEXING.

No. 191,885.

Patented June 12, 1877.

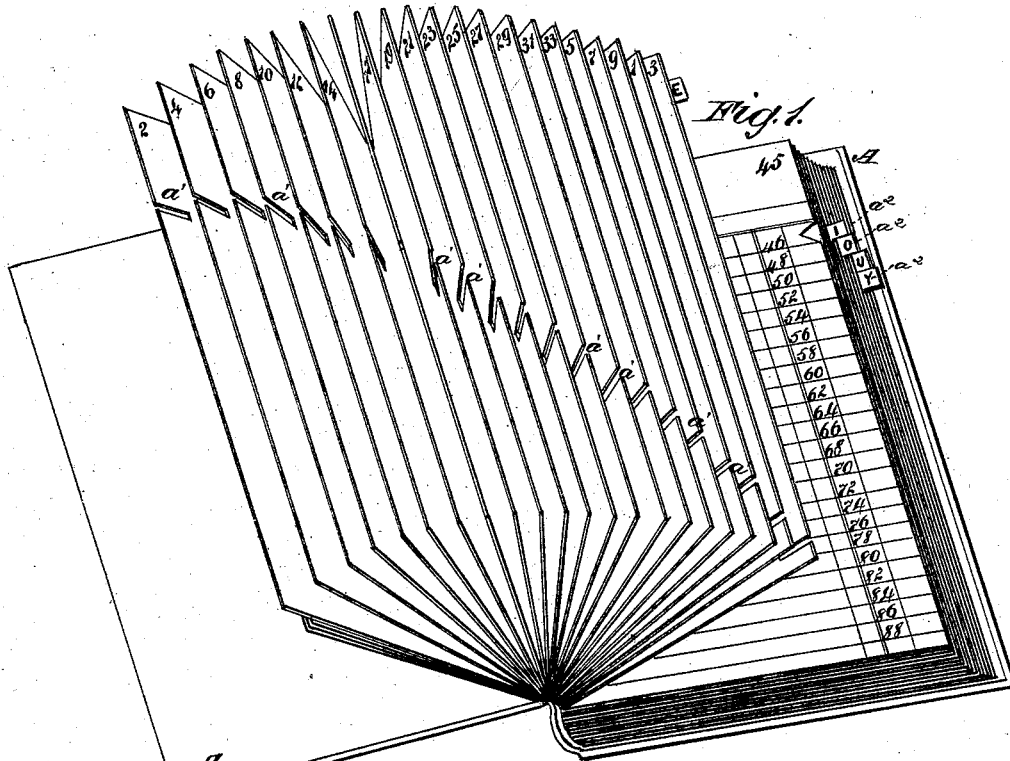


Fig. 2.

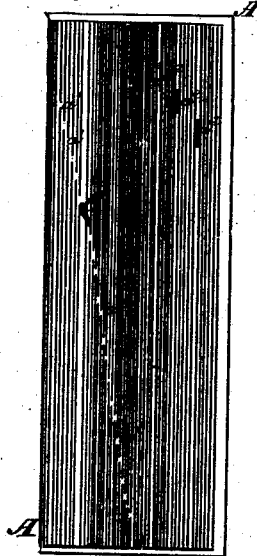


Fig. 3.

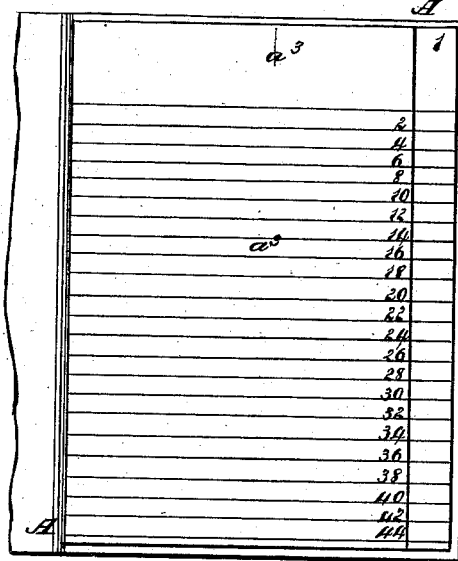


Fig. 4.

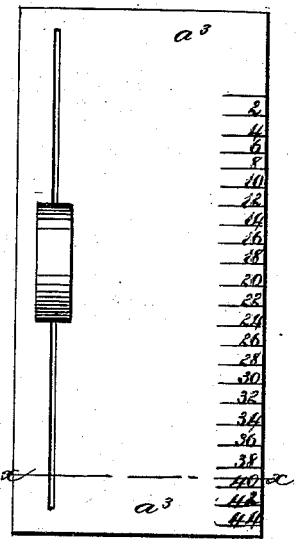


Fig. 5.

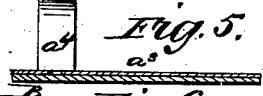


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES:

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DAVID A. ROBERTS, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INDEXING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 191,885, dated June 12, 1877; application filed April 23, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, DAVID ARTHUR ROBERTS, of Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ledger-Index, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a book to which my improvement has been applied, part of the leaves being shown spread. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the book. Fig. 3 represents the index-page. Fig. 4 represents a detached index-page. Fig. 5 is a cross-section of the same taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 4. Fig. 6 represents the blade or key.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved mode of indexing ledgers and other books, to enable them to be readily opened at any desired page.

The invention will first be described in connection with the drawing, and then pointed out in the claim.

A represents a book, in the edges of the leaves of which are formed slits or notches, *a*<sup>1</sup>, beginning at the head or foot, or at either corner, and each succeeding slit or notch *a*<sup>1</sup> being cut a little lower down than the notch of the preceding leaf.

In the case of thick books two or more sets of slits or notches may be used, the place of beginning of each set being indicated by a protruding tag, *a*<sup>2</sup>, or other suitable means.

At the beginning of each set of notches *a*<sup>1</sup> is an index-page, *a*<sup>3</sup>, along the outer edge of which are entered numbers corresponding in position with the notches or slits in the pages, the index-pages having spaces opposite the said numbers, to receive the names. Or the index page or pages may be made separate, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

The said detached index-page is provided with numbers corresponding with the notches in the edges of the leaves. The detached index-page may be provided with a thumb-loop, *a*<sup>4</sup>, for convenience in handling it, and may also have spaces to receive the names of the parties with whom the accounts are kept.

The detached index-page may have a blotting-pad, B, attached to its lower side.

C is a blade formed upon or attached to a pen-holder or other suitable handle, and which should be made with a shoulder to rest against the edges of the books. The blade C may be attached to a ring or other device to be worn upon the hand.

In using the device the blade C is placed upon the first page of the set, and is moved downward, passing through the notches *a*<sup>1</sup> until it is opposite the name of the party whose account is looked for and the number of the page upon which that account is kept, and the blade C is then raised, opening the book.

In this way the book A can be opened quickly at the desired place, and without its being necessary to touch the leaves with the hand.

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

A book having one slit in each leaf, each succeeding slit being cut a little lower down than the preceding one, as shown and described, to adapt a book to be posted in the manner described.

D. A. ROBERTS.

Witnesses :

C. REASONER,  
JOHN J. EVANS.