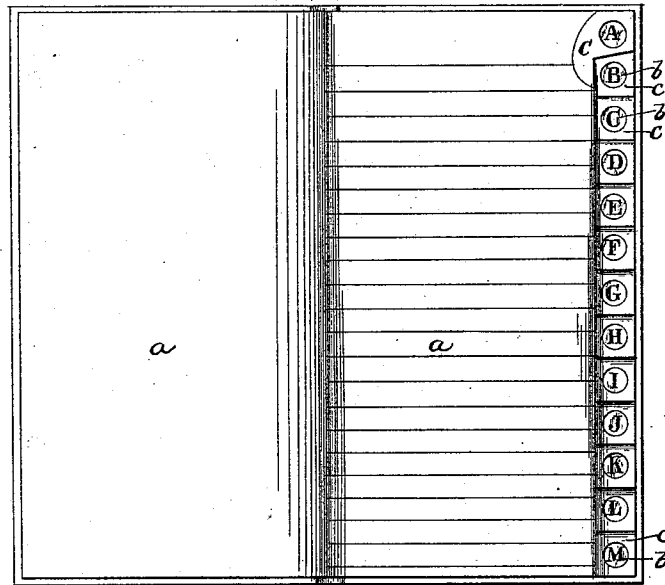


H. BEACH.  
Index.

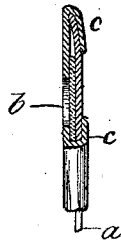
No. 208,143.

Patented Sept. 17, 1878.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Attest.*

*Horace Beach for  
Henry Weniger*

*Inventor.*

*Horace Beach*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HORACE BEACH, OF PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, WISCONSIN.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INDEXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **208,143**, dated September 17, 1878; application filed December 8, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HORACE BEACH, of the city of Prairie du Chien, in the county of Crawford and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Construction of Initial-Lettered Indexes of all Classes, and for similar purposes to which said improvement is applicable, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to improvements in the indexes of books or other volumes or documents; and consists, more particularly, in such construction and combination of the several parts as shall, while not obscuring, yet fully protect the initial letters or other indexial mark or token from being soiled or defaced by use, and in such improvements in the corners of the leaves at the top or about the index letter or mark of the book, volume, or document as shall insure protection as well as strength, all as will now be more fully set out and explained.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows my invention as applied to a record-book. Fig. 2 is a detail in section to show the method of securing the transparent cover and protection over the letter or indexial mark.

Heretofore such indexes have been made by printing the initials upon the margins of the several leaves, and leaving the letters without any covering to protect the letters from soiling or the turning up of the corners of the leaves. This method of construction is defective and objectionable, in consequence of the letters soon becoming dirtied or soiled, and the corners of the leaves where the initial letters are printed turned up and often worn off, or the letters becoming entirely defaced by constant handling.

The object of my invention is to protect the initial letters of indexes, so as to prevent them from soiling, also to stiffen the corners and make them elastic, so as to prevent them from turning over or rolling up, and to strengthen the leaves, so as to prevent the tearing at this point.

In the drawings, *a*, Fig. 1, denotes any ordinary record or other book or document to which an index or indexial mark is or can be usefully applied.

The invention consists in pasting thin sheets of mica, *b*, or any other suitable transparent substance, over each initial letter of such indexes with gum-tragacanth, or any other adhesive substance which will cause the plates to adhere properly to the paper, and, when dry, to paste over these plates of mica or other substance paper, leather, silk, muslin, or other suitable material, as now shown at *c*, with a perforation or hole in it of sufficient size to show the initial letter through the mica or other transparency; then pasting this paper, leather, silk, muslin, or other material used over the edge of the leaf, and attach it to the opposite side thereof, so as to protect the edge of the paper, and also prevent the mica or other transparent substance used from peeling off.

What I claim is—

1. The combination of a plate of thin mica or other transparent substance with the initial or indexial mark on the edge of the book or record leaf in such a manner as to show said initial or indexial mark, but at the same time to cover and protect the same, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In a record or like book, or volume, or document, the mica or like transparent plates *b*, combined with the edges of the leaves, and with the letters or indexial mark, and with a suitable protecting-cover, *c*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. In a record or like book or document, and in combination with the leaves, corners, or edges and the indexial mark, the transparent cover *b* and protection *c*, folded over the leaf-edges, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

HORACE BEACH.

Witnesses:

HORACE BEACH, Jr.,  
HENRY WENIGER.