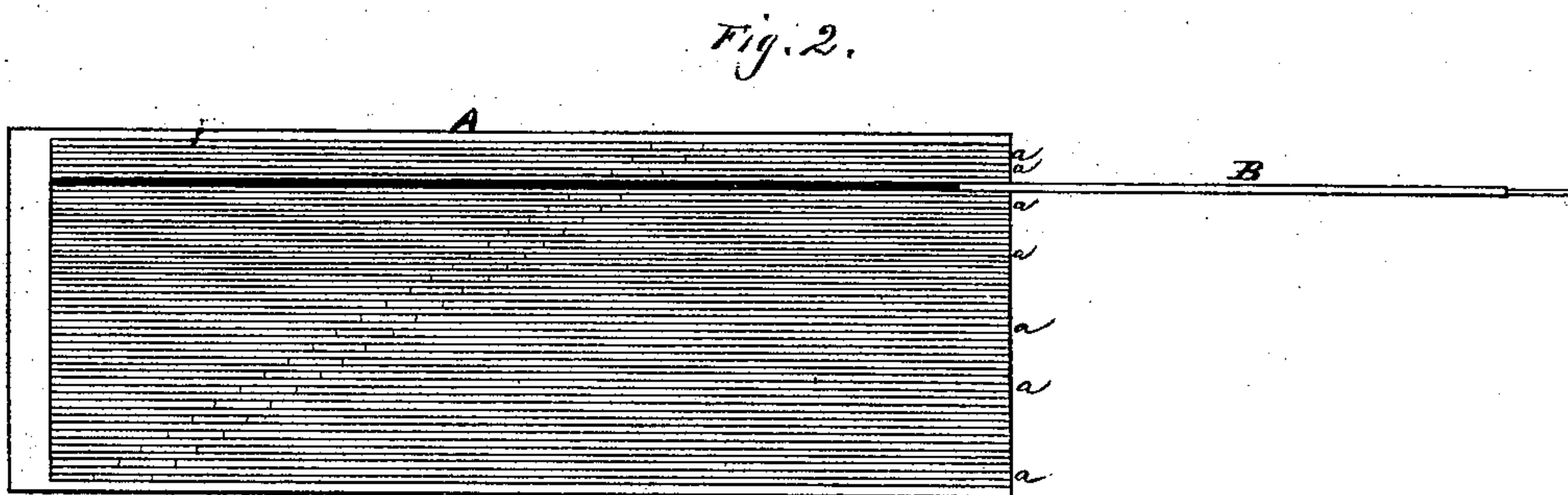
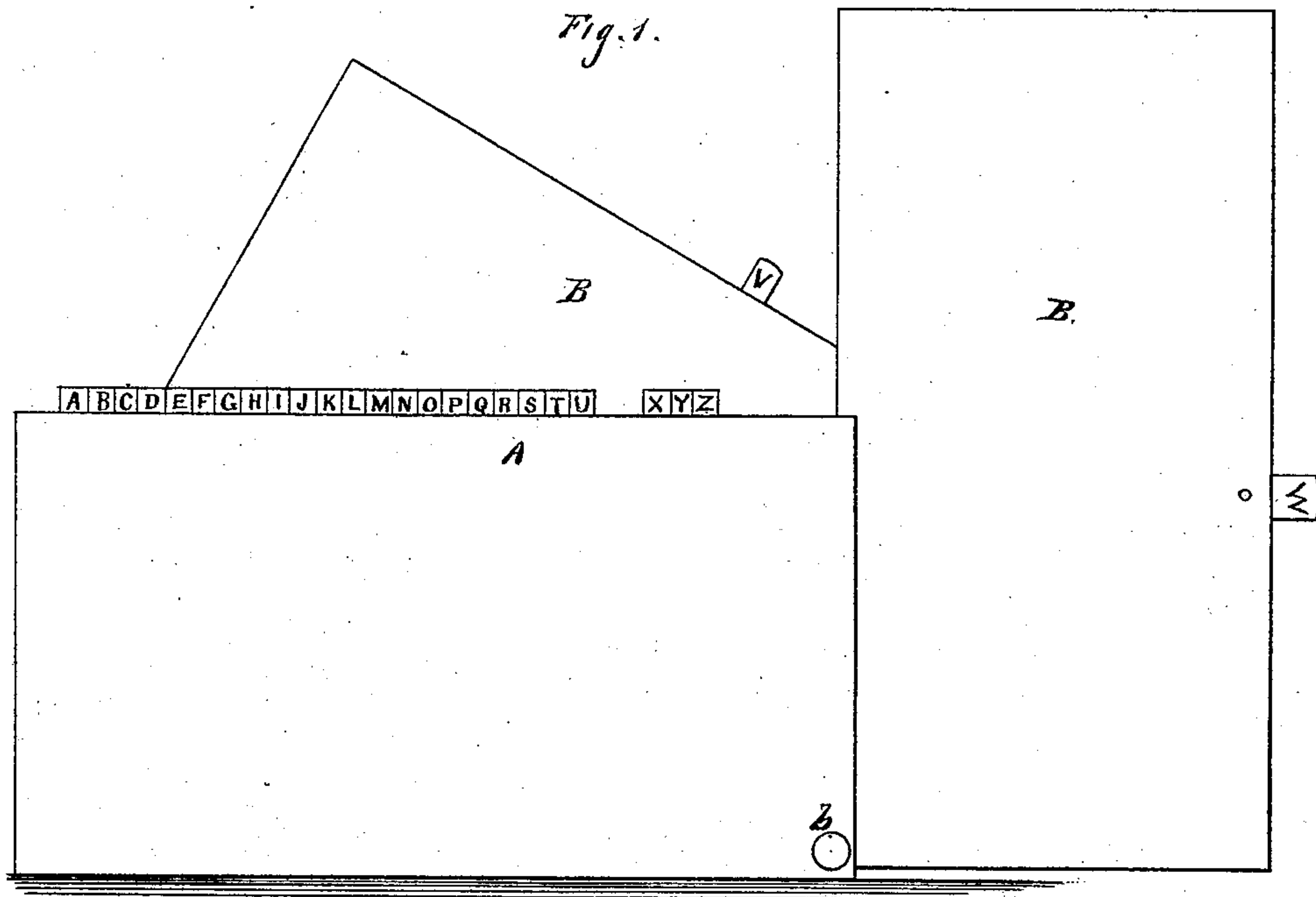


C.A. Fitch and W^m O. St. John, Ledger Index.

100994

PATENTED MAR 22 1870



Witnesses.
Geo. H. Strong
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United States Patent Office.

CHARLES A. FITCH, OF SAN FRANCISCO, AND WILLIAM O. ST. JOHN, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

Letters Patent No. 100,994, dated March 22, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN LEDGER-INDEXES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES A. FITCH, of San Francisco, county of San Francisco, and WILLIAM O. ST. JOHN, of Oakland, county of Alameda and State of California, have invented an Improved Ledger-Index; and we do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use our said invention or improvements without further invention or experiment.

The object of our invention is to provide a ready and convenient index-book, which is arranged with ruled pages, each sheet being sufficiently stiff to support itself, so that when it is raised it will stand vertically in front of the book-keeper or accountant in a convenient position to display the names written upon it.

In order to better illustrate our invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which—

A represents our index-book. This book consists of a number of sheets, B, made of card-board or other suitable paper, numbering at least as many as there are letters in the alphabet. Between each of these sheets may be placed an intermediate sheet or paste-board, *a*.

The intermediate sheets *a* are somewhat longer than the sheets B, and are placed in the book in such a position that the extra length of each will project altogether at one end, while the other end is flush with the ruled sheets.

The whole is then bound with a suitable cover, which protects the two sides, the back, and one end of the book, the extra length of the intermediate sheets being bound together at the end C.

A bolt, or rivet, *b*, passes through the lower corner of the unbound end of the book, passing also through the corner of each of the leaves or sheets B, thus leaving them simply held by the bolt.

Secured at some convenient point, and in the most

convenient order along the upper edge of the sheets A, are small metallic or other suitable tags, marked as in the drawings, with the letters of the alphabet from A to Z. By grasping either of these tags and drawing upward upon it the sheet to which it is attached is lifted and turned until it stands upon the pivoted end, bringing its entire length directly before the accountant.

The names of the persons having ledger accounts and the number of the pages upon which they occur are written upon the sheets B, being arranged upon the pages by letters according to the usual way of forming a ledger index, which can be done by taking out the bolt *b* and removing the sheets, and afterward returning them to their proper places.

The sheets B may be ruled or not, as most convenient.

By constructing an index-book in the above-described manner a great saving of time is obtained, while all danger of soiling the ledger itself by turning so frequently to the index, as is usual when the index is made a part of the ledger, is obviated.

The book presents a neat form, and can be readily opened and closed to any letter of the alphabet.

What we desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. An index-book having the sheets B pivoted as shown, and provided with the alphabetical tags, substantially as described.

2. The arrangement of the pivot *b* at the lower corner of the book, whereby the sheet raised stands upon and is kept in position by the surface of the desk or table, and the whole length of the sheet presented to view, substantially as described.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals.

CHARLES A. FITCH. [L. s.]
WILLIAM O. ST. JOHN. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

WM. GERLACH,
EUGENE FOLGER.