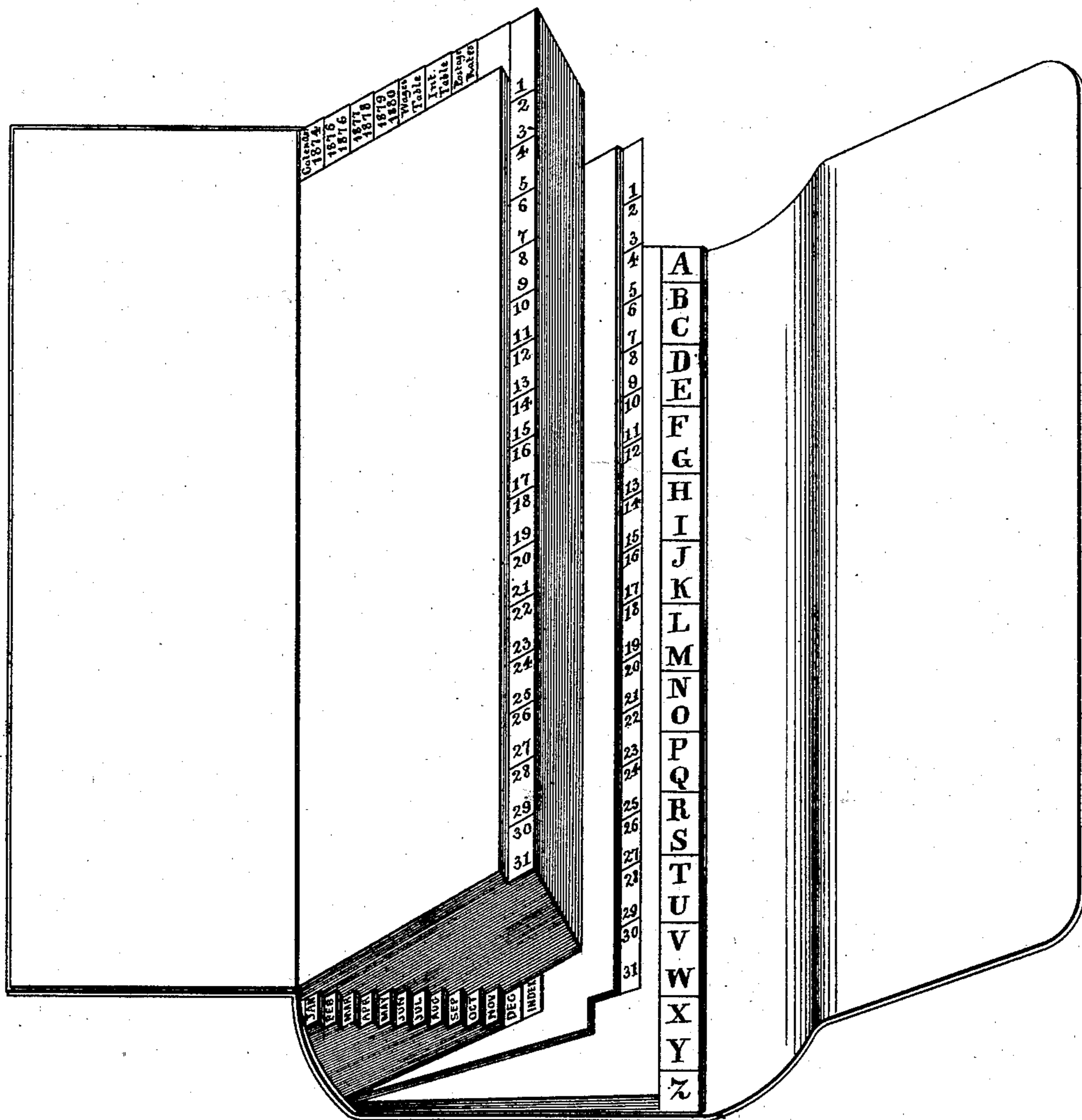


M. N. LOVELL.

Indexes.

No. 166,284.

Patented Aug. 3, 1875.



Witnesses.

John K. Hallock.

John L. Koppfe.

Inventor.

Melvin N. Lovell.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELVIN N. LOVELL, OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INDEXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **166,284**, dated August 3, 1875; application filed December 1, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MELVIN N. LOVELL, of Erie, in the county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Index, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists in constructing a book for daily entries, records, or references with such an arrangement of marginal indexes that the page or pages designated for any day of any month can be referred to at once; also, the combination of the above named with other indexes, which point out the headings of the various subjects-matter recorded or to be recorded or contained within the daily record; and, also, the combination of the monthly and diurnal indexes above named with a marginal index, which points out a yearly calendar or almanac, or a series of yearly calendars or a perpetual calendar, a table of memorable days, a table of church days, or similar subject-matter.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing by a single figure, which is a perspective view of a book constructed according to my invention.

The following is a full, clear, and exact description of my mode of constructing and arranging a book for the purposes designated; and while in my description I shall follow the plan of arrangement shown in the drawings, it should be stated that the arrangement of parts may be varied without changing the object aimed at by me.

My book is divided into three sections: First, is a section devoted to calendars, almanacs, tables of memorable days, church days, and like subject-matter, and also to miscellaneous matters, such as wages-tables, interest-tables, postage-tables, distance and difference of time, &c. All of these various subjects-matter are indicated by a marginal index, which I locate across the upper end of the pages.

The second section of my book is devoted to daily reference or record, and is divided into twelve sub-sections, to represent the twelve months of the year. Each of these sub-sections are divided into spaces of greater or less degree, as may be desired, to represent the several days of the month, and each of these spaces is represented by a numeral on the

margin, thus forming a numerical marginal index to the day-spaces. Each of the sub-sections or monthly sections is indicated by an abbreviation of the month it represents on the margin, thus forming a monthly index. I place the numerical daily index down the side of the page, and the monthly index across the bottom of the page. The daily pages or spaces are designated by the numeral on the margin, and by the name of the month printed across the top of the page. The day of the week is not mentioned.

The third section of my book is a common alphabetical index, in which it is intended to enter abstracts or headings of matters recorded in the daily record, and the dates of such entries.

The objects attained by my mode of construction are as follows:

By the use of the marginal monthly and diurnal indexes, the space devoted to any day in the year can be turned to at once. Thus, to find the space devoted to the 4th day of July, by means of the monthly index, open the book to "July," and then, by means of the numerical index, open the sub-section to the page with "4" on its margin.

By not printing the name of the day of the week on the daily spaces, and by the combination of the daily spaces with a series of calendars, or a perpetual calendar, the daily spaces may be used for any year, or for a series of years. This arrangement is especially useful where it is desirable to compare the subject-matter recorded on the same day of the year for a series of years, as, for example, weather reports or trade statistics or reports, &c.; and this arrangement is further useful in that the same book may be used year after year until full; and, further, in that by its use publishers or dealers in diaries or journals will never have an unsalable stock of goods on hand because of being out of date.

By the combination of the monthly and diurnal indexes with a common alphabetical index another useful feature is attained, for headings or abstracts of events recorded may thus be indexed, which adapts my book to varied uses, such as stock-books for merchants and manufacturers, bills payable, and receiv-

able book, &c. By showing its use as a stock-book it is easy to discover its utility in other matters. Supposing it to be used by a hardware merchant, in the alphabetical index he enter as headings the names of various stock, as knives in "K," screws in "S," wire in "W." Now suppose that on December 10 the merchant orders a quantity of screws, he will write out his order in the space designated December 10, and in the alphabetical index he will, under the heading "screws," enter the date "Dec. 10." Afterward, if he desires to ascertain when he ordered screws last, he will look at the heading "Screws," and he will find

his last entry "Dec. 10;" then, by turning to space "Dec. 10," he will find a full history.

What I claim is as follows:

A book for daily reference, divided into divisions, and provided with a series of marginal indexes, whereby the initial letter of the subject-matter, and the date, month, and year of any given entry can instantly be found, substantially as described, as and for the purposes specified.

MELVIN N. LOVELL.

Witnesses:

JNO. K. HALLOCK,  
JOHN L. RAPPLE.