

A. J. JONES.  
INDEX-TAG.

No. 176,005.

Patented April 11, 1876.

FIG. 1. FIG. 2. FIG. 3. FIG. 4. FIG. 5.

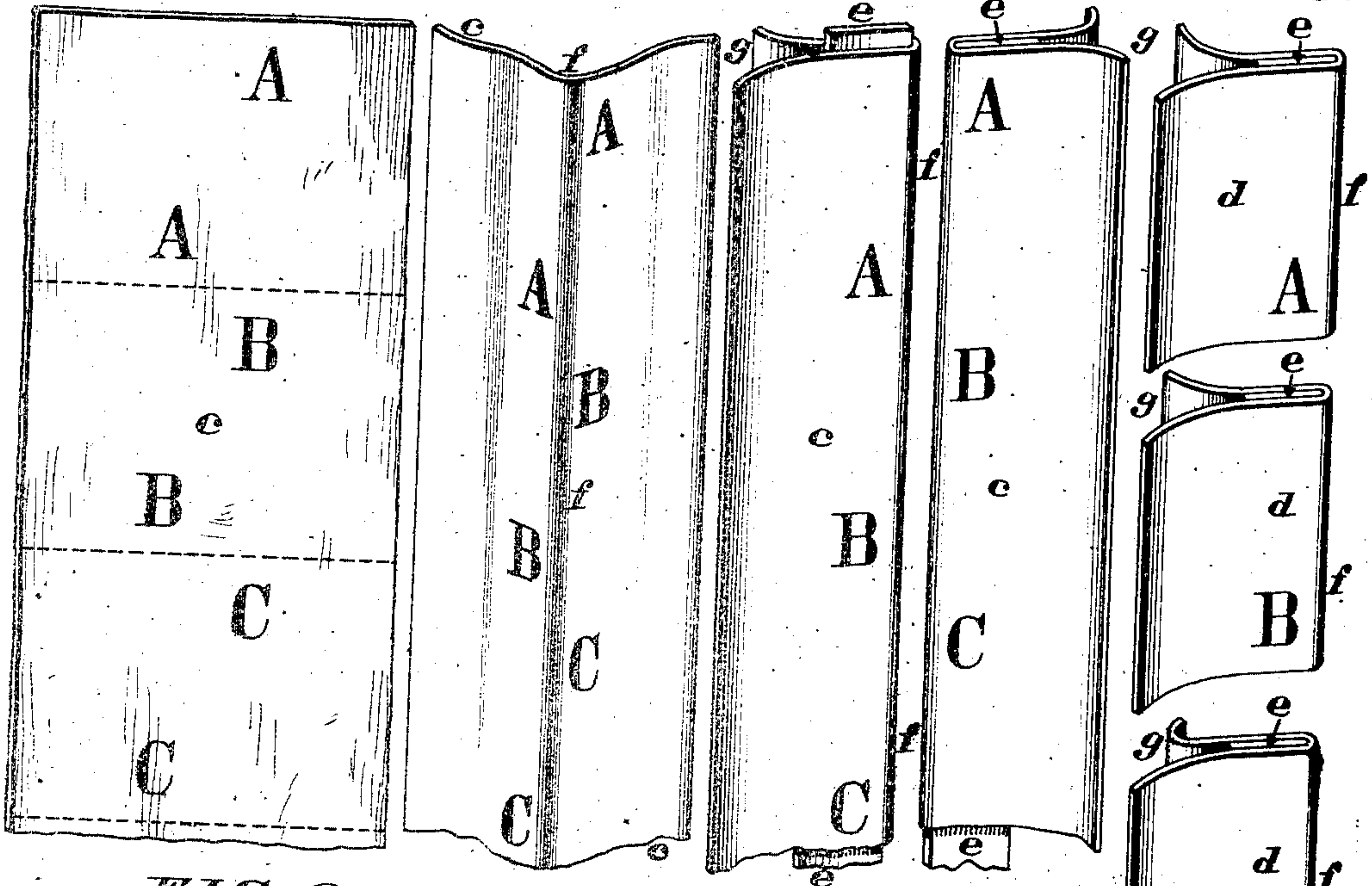


FIG. 6.

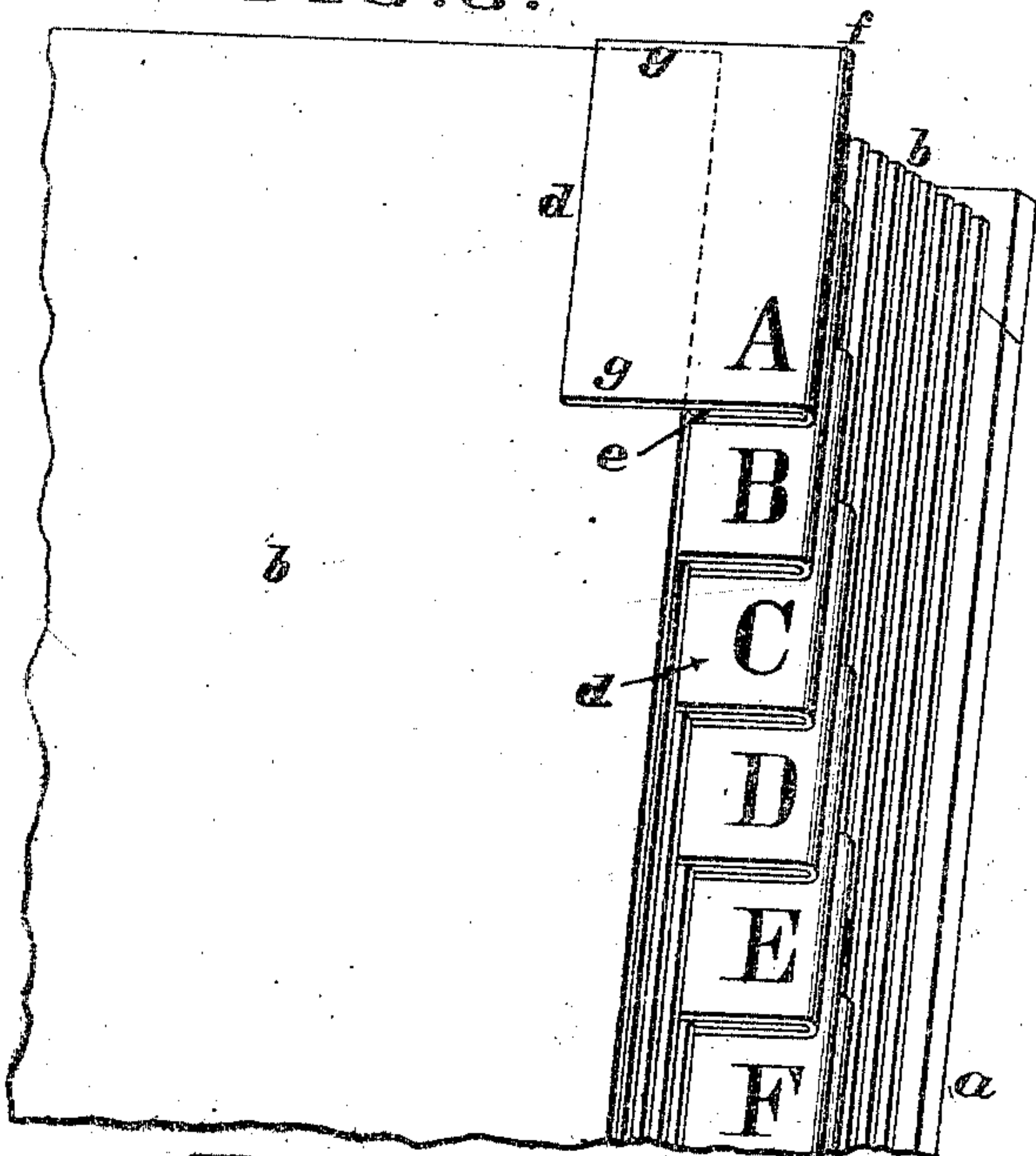
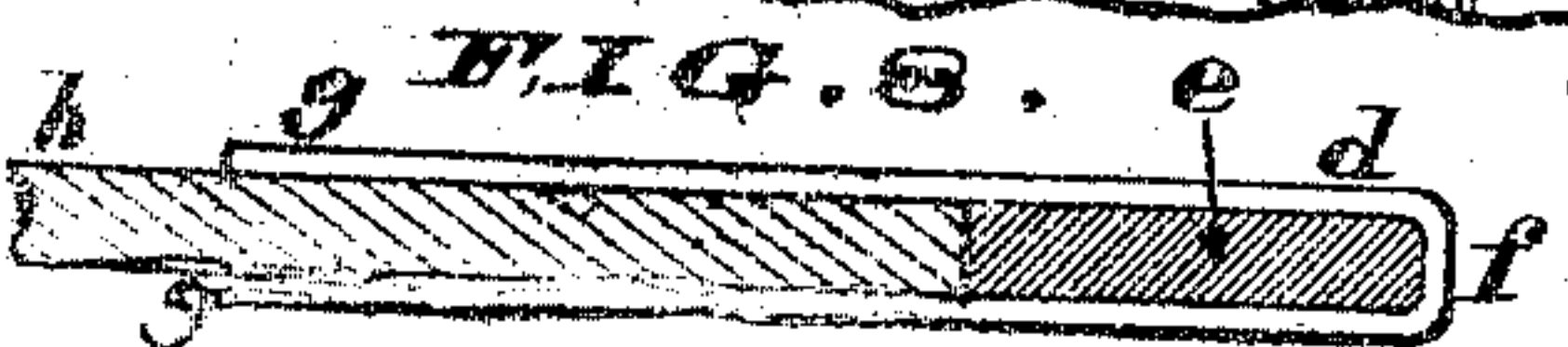
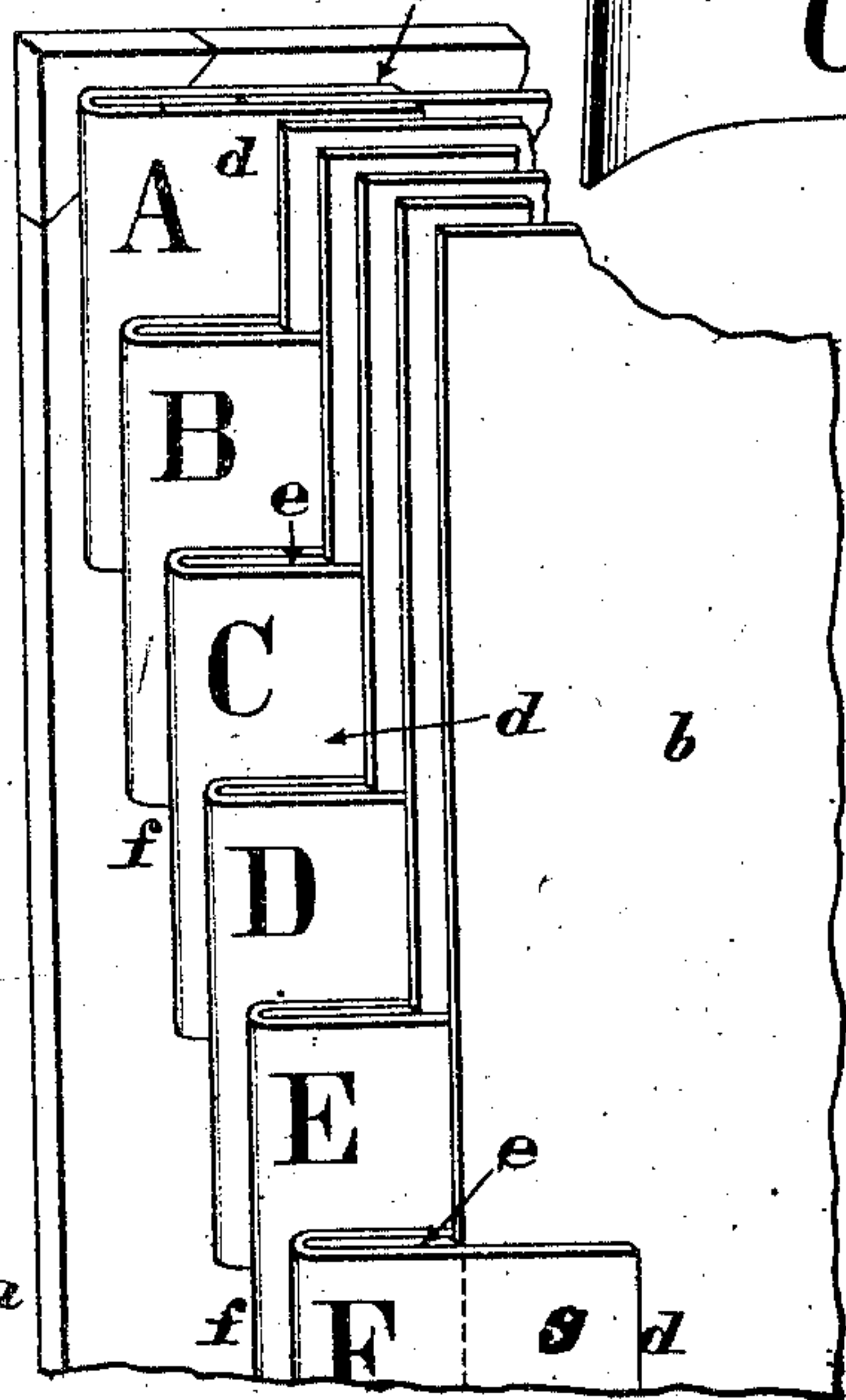


FIG. 7.



Attest.  
Chas. J. Booth

Andrew J. Jones  
By Knight Bros. Attys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. JONES, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS  
RIGHT TO HENRY H. TINKER, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INDEX-TAGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 176,005, dated April 11, 1876; application filed  
January 14, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. JONES, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Construction of Index-Tags for Blank Books, &c., of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to an improved construction and arrangement of the lettered tags or ears, which it is customary to attach to the edges of the index-leaves of the larger kinds of blank books, such as ledgers, record-books, and the like; whereby the liability to tear and mutilate the record by the use of such appendages is greatly lessened or wholly avoided. With this object in view, I so form the shape of the tags—the part by which they are attached to the leaf-edge—as to embrace considerably more of the said edge than the distance between the consecutive tags, so that the tags overlap one another, each tag having such upward or downward prolongation beyond its inscribed portion, as to extend respectively in front and rear of those immediately below and above it in the alphabetical or other series, and being, as before stated, thus made to grasp a much larger portion of the leaf-edge, so as to distribute the strain thereon, and to avoid the shearing and rending action upon the leaves incident to the use of the customary tags.

Furthermore, index-tags made on my plan, differ from the common obversely-lettered tags in that the characters, instead of being placed at mid-height of the projecting portion, are applied near the bottom of the tag on its front side, and near the top of the tag on its rear side.

In the preferred form of my improvement, that portion of each tag which projects beyond the leaf to which it is attached, incloses a filling strip or stiffener of card-board or other suitable material, firmly pasted or glued within it.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a front view of a printed blank for conversion into index-tags on my plan. Fig. 2 shows the same in its crimped condition. Figs. 3 and 4 are respectively front and rear views of such a

blank in its folded and stiffened condition. Fig. 5 shows the component tags produced by severing such blank transversely, at the dotted lines, Fig. 1. Fig. 6 and 7 are perspective views of a portion of a book furnished with my improved tags, and being opened from the front and rear respectively. Fig. 8 is an enlarged transverse section of one of my tags, and a portion of the attached leaf.

*a* may represent a portion of a blank book, having a customary set of index-leaves, *b*. *c* is a piece of leather or other suitable material, imprinted with a number of consecutive letters or other characters in the represented duplicate arrangement, the characters being so disposed as to be near the bottom edges of their respective tags on their front sides, and near the top edges of said tags on their rear sides. This arrangement of the lettering enables the overlapping of the consecutive tags, without obscuring one another's characters. This relation of the tags is shown in Figs. 6 and 7. *e* is a strip of card, stiff paper, or other tough and sufficiently rigid material, which being glued or pasted firmly within the crimped fold *f* of the blank, discharges the several useful functions of gaging the tags in their application to their respective leaves, of stiffening the projection portion *f*, and of causing such portion to be flush with the portion *g*, which is gummed or glued to the leaf.

Index-tags thus constructed may be manufactured as a specialty, and become an article of merchandise, both in the strip form (see Figs. 3 and 4) and in the separated or complete form, (see Fig. 5.)

The operation of manufacture is, preferably, to take strips of leather or other suitable material of double the width of the finished tag, and of length sufficient to receive the whole series of characters, or any fractional portion of them, and intervening unlettered spaces, substantially as represented.

The location of the characters is such that they occupy the lower front portions, and the upper rear portions of the finished tags, as seen in Figs. 3 to 7, inclusive.

Any desired number of strips being pre-



pared, as in Fig. 1, are folded, as in Fig. 2, and have their fillings glued fast in said fold, as in Figs. 3 and 4.

The inner surfaces of the wings *g* being then coated with mucilage, and the strips separated transversely at the dotted lines, Fig. 1, the tags are ready for attachment to their appropriate leaves at any time.

Large numbers of tags may be thus constructed, and be put away in packages as an article of merchandise. Also, strips, such as Fig. 3, may be prepared and sold to the trade and others.

I am aware that it has been customary to insert re-enforcing strips or stiffening pieces in index-tags; but such additions have, in the arrangements heretofore employed, only in-

creased or aggravated the shearing action of the consecutive tags upon the paper, instead of as in my arrangement contributing an additional protection against such action.

I claim as new and of my invention—

A series of index-tags, *d*, so formed, inscribed, and arranged upon the index-leaves of a book as to overlap, without obscuring, the characters upon the super and subjacent tags, substantially as set forth.

In testimony of which invention, I hereunto set my hand.

A. J. JONES.

Attest:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,  
HENRY H. TINKER.