

(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1

E. N. HEATH.

Index.

No. 240,825.

Patented May 3, 1881.

Fig. 1.

A					B					C				
A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U
1	4	10	11	14	ABC	15	32	38	41	52	ABC	59	74	77
1	4	10	11	14	DEF	15	32	38	42	52	DEF	60	74	77
1	4	10	12	14	GHI	17	32	39	43	53	GHI	62	74	77
1	4	11	12	14	JKL	18	33	39	43	53	JKL	63	74	77
1	5	11	12	14	MNO	19	34	39	44	54	MNO	67	75	77
1	9	11	12	14	PQR	21	35	40	50	56	PQR	69	75	77
2	9	11	13	14	STU	25	36	40	50	57	STU	70	76	77
4	9	11	14	14	VWY	29	37	41	51	58	VWY	71	76	77
D					E					F				
A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U
97	102	106	110	116	ABC	119	121	124	126	126	ABC	127	132	135
97	102	106	110	116	DEF	119	121	124	126	126	DEF	127	132	136
97	102	106	110	116	GHI	119	121	125	126	126	GHI	127	133	137
98	102	107	111	116	JKL	119	121	125	126	126	JKL	128	133	138
98	103	109	112	117	MNO	119	122	125	126	126	MNO	128	134	139
98	104	109	113	117	PQR	119	122	125	126	126	PQR	129	134	140
99	104	109	114	117	STU	120	123	125	126	126	STU	130	135	140
101	105	109	115	118	VWY	120	124	125	126	126	VWY	131	135	140
G					H					I				
A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U
145	150	154	157	161	ABC	163	174	178	181	189	ABC	193	195	194
145	150	154	158	161	DEF	163	174	178	182	190	DEF	193	195	194
145	150	154	159	161	GHI	164	174	178	185	190	GHI	193	195	194
145	150	154	159	161	JKL	165	174	178	185	190	JKL	193	195	194
146	151	155	159	162	MNO	167	175	179	186	191	MNO	193	195	194
147	152	156	160	162	PQR	169	175	179	188	191	PQR	193	195	194
148	152	157	160	162	STU	169	176	179	189	191	STU	193	195	194
149	153	157	160	162	VWY	172	177	180	189	192	VWY	193	195	194
J					K					L				
A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U	A	E	I	O	U
195	197	198	199	202	ABC	203	204	211	215	216	ABC	217	222	224
195	197	198	199	202	DEF	203	204	211	215	216	DEF	217	222	225
195	197	199	199	202	GHI	203	205	211	215	216	GHI	219	222	226
195	198	199	199	202	JKL	203	205	212	215	216	JKL	219	222	226
196	198	199	200	203	MNO	203	206	212	215	216	MNO	220	223	227
196	198	199	201	202	PQR	203	207	213	215	216	PQR	221	223	229
197	198	199	201	202	STU	203	207	213	215	216	STU	221	223	229
197	198	199	201	202	VWY	203	208	214	215	216	VWY	221	224	229

Witnesses:

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

**Patented May 3, 1881.**

[illegible]

*Witnesses:*

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1892

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## INDEX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 240,825, dated May 3, 1881.

Application filed March 21, 1881. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELROY N. HEATH, of Wakefield, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain  
5 new and useful Improvements in Indexes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to  
10 which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a transcript of a portion of the index-table, being that appertaining to the first  
15 twelve letters of the alphabet. Fig. 2 is a representation and transcript of two adjoining pages of the index-book, showing the division of the two pages into ten folios, and the numerical index on the right-hand edge of the  
20 book.

The object of the invention is to provide, for the use of accountants and others who require to refer frequently to a large number of names or other matters, a convenient combined index  
25 book and table, by means of which any name or subject may be found with the utmost rapidity, and the titles so evenly distributed will usually be filled in all parts nearly at the same time, and consequently last much longer than  
30 a book of the same size arranged in the ordinary manner.

The nature of my invention consists in the peculiar division of the pages into folios, and the mode of numbering them, in connection with  
35 the peculiar construction of the table for the ready use of guide-letters to indicate the folio in which the desired name or title is indexed, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

By reference to Fig. 1 it will be seen that in  
40 making the index-table I assign to each letter of the alphabet five vertical columns (indicated by the five vowels A E I O U) and eight horizontal columns, (marked by twenty-four letters of the alphabet, X and Z being omitted,) arranged in groups of three in regular order, as  
45 shown.

In Fig. 2 is seen my method of dividing the pages into folios, and numbering the folios and arranging a numerical index on the edge. The  
50 arrangement and numbering of the folios is decimal, there being ten folios on each two ad-

joining pages, the first two pages containing folios 0 to 9; the second, folios 10 to 19; the third, folios 20 to 29, and so on throughout the book. The units of the numbers marking the folios  
55 occupy the same locations on every page, the digits from 0 to 4 being placed in their order on the left-hand page, and those from 5 to 9 being placed in their order on the right-hand page, as shown in Fig. 2. This uniformity of location  
60 enables the user to find instantly the folio ending with any given digit on any page. Any folio, for example, whose number ends with the digit 0 will be found at the top of the left-hand page, while any folio whose number ends with 9 will  
65 be found at the bottom of the right-hand page. The numbering on the edge, in the present example, extends from 1 to 39, the book being intended to index four hundred names. The units, being unnecessary, are omitted in these  
70 edge-numbers, as 5 answers for folios 50 to 59, 6 for folios 60 to 69, and 39 for folios 390 to 399.

In the distribution of the space in the book between the different letters of the alphabet, I have been guided by the ratio established  
75 by general experience of the comparative frequency with which the several letters are apt to occur, as the initials of a large and miscellaneous collection of surnames, and the great  
80 subdivision which I make under letters of most frequent occurrence tends to equalize the number of names in the several folios throughout the book, and thus occupy the spaces allotted to the several letters with a near approach to  
85 uniformity, making the index last much longer in proportion to the number of name-lines it contains than books which are destitute of this feature.

Such being the construction of the table and the arrangement, ruling, and numbering of the  
90 book, the mode of using the index is as follows: I use as guide-letters the initial of the name, the first vowel following the initial and the terminal letter. To index the name of "Bronsons," for example, the guide-letters are B-o-s.  
95 Under letter B we find the vowel O, and follow down that column till we come to the letter S, where we find folio 50. Turning to the page marked by the edge-number 5, we find Bronsons entered in folio 50, which, from its  
100 terminal digit 0, we know to be the upper left-hand corner of the left-hand page. To find

the name "Canada" we use the guide-letters C-a-a. Under letter C we find vowel A, and the terminal a in the side column, where the number 59 appears. Turning to the edge-number 5, we find folio 59 at the bottom of the right-hand page, and the name "Canada" entered and indexed. Any other name is entered and indexed in the same way and found by the same method.

10 I claim as my invention—

In combination with an index-table having the vertical vowel-columns and horizontal terminal-letter columns and reference-numbers,

as described and shown, an index-book whose pages are divided into five folios each, numbered in a uniform manner, according to a decimal arrangement, and provided with a numerical side index, all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ELROY N. HEATH.

Witnesses:

L. C. YOUNG,  
CHAS. F. STANSBURY.