

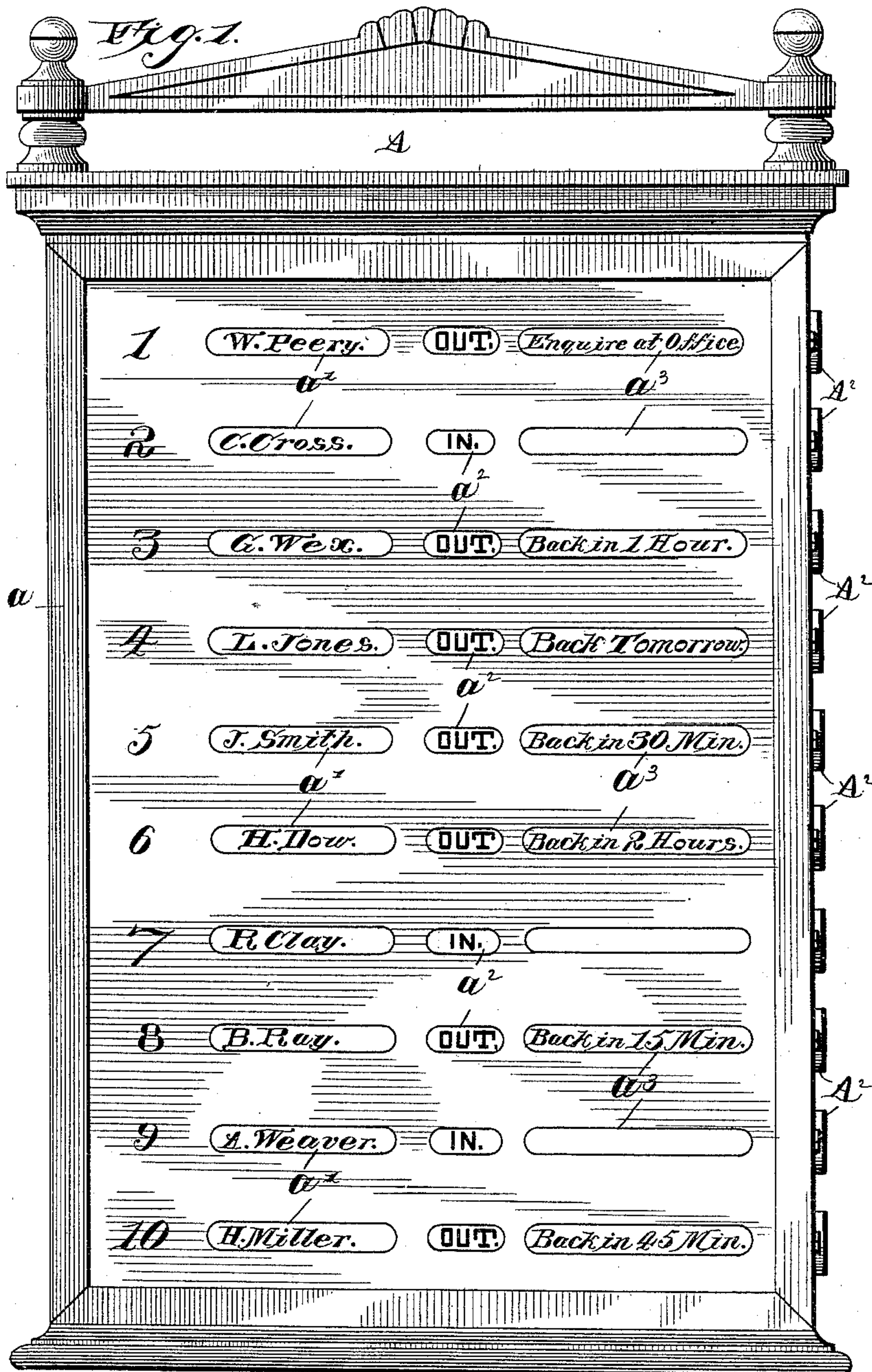
(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

R. E. KINGSFORD.
OFFICE INDICATOR.

No. 452,899.

Patented May 26, 1891.



Witnesses:

Henry S. Dieterich,
A. V. Weaver.

Inventor:

Rupert E. Kingsford,
per *[Signature]*
Atty's:

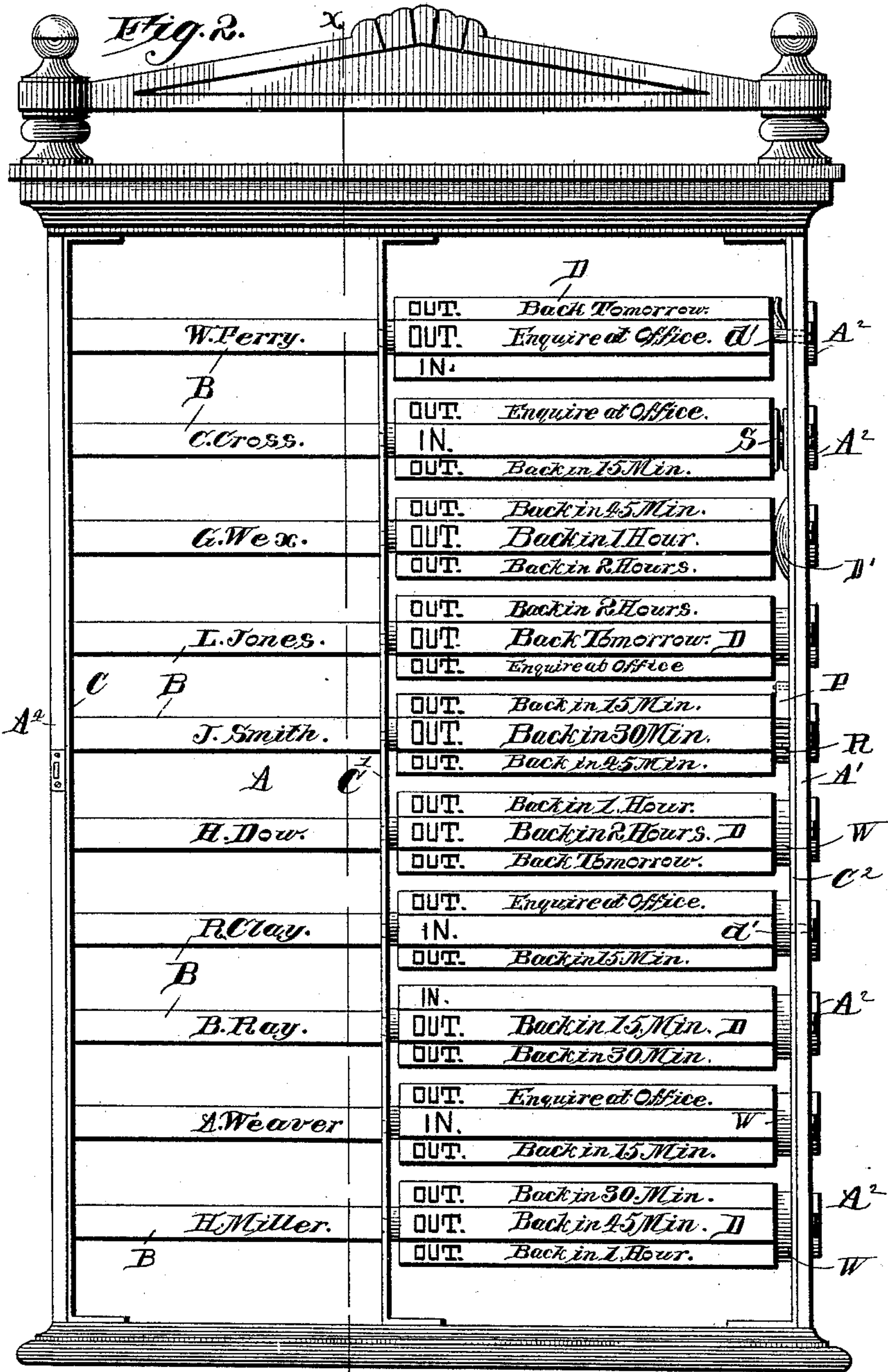
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Witnesses:

Henry G. Dieterich

A. V. Weaver.

Inventor:

Rupert E. Kingsford.

per Henry Oth

Atty's.

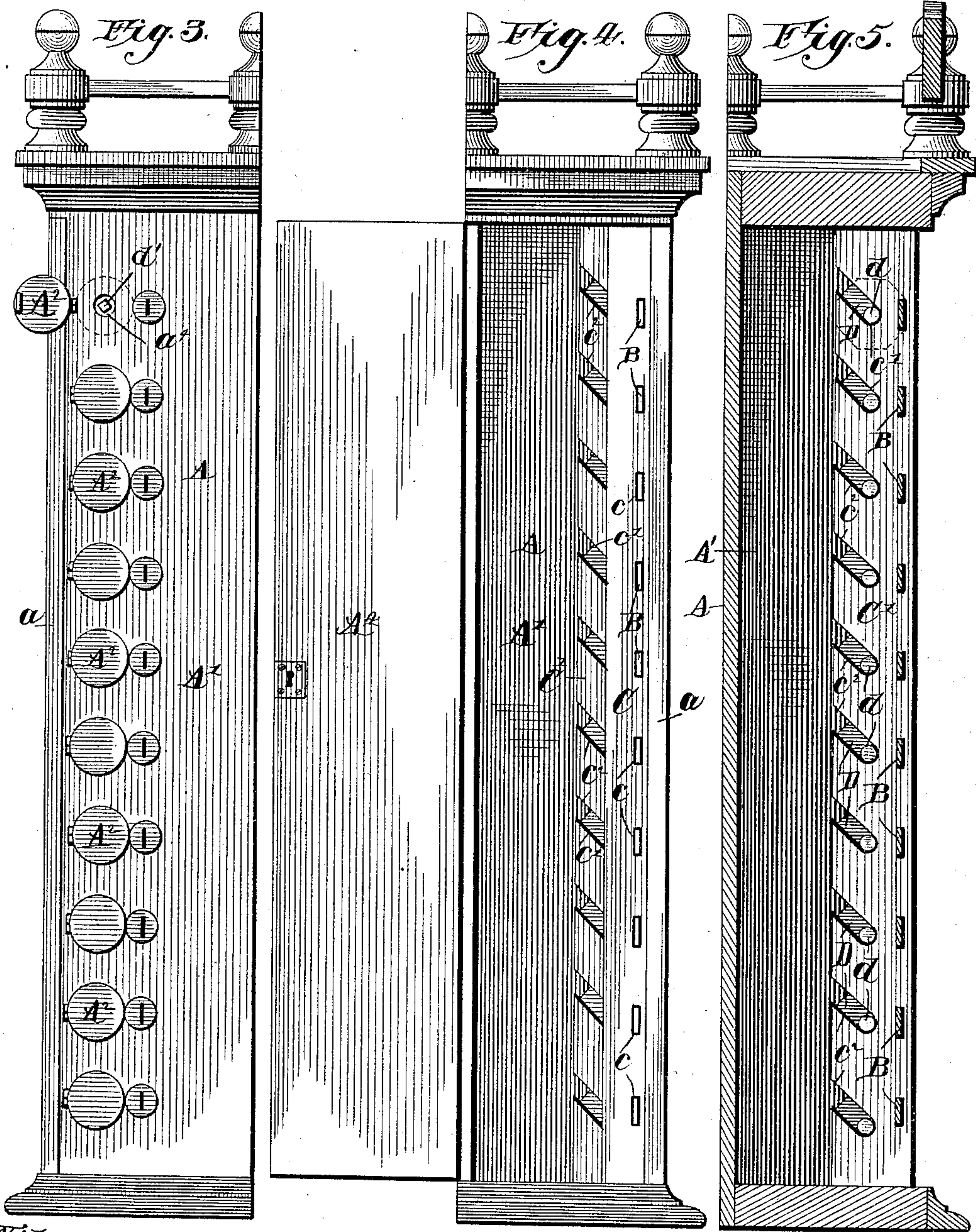
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No. 452,899.

Patented May 26, 1891.



Witnesses:

Henry J. Dieterich
A. V. Weaver

Inventor:

Rupert E. Kingsford,
per

Henry M. H.
Atty's:

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUPERT E. KINGSFORD, OF TORONTO, CANADA.

OFFICE-INDICATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 452,899, dated May 26, 1891.

Application filed January 4, 1890. Renewed October 24, 1890. Serial No. 369,184. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUPERT E. KINGSFORD, a subject of the Queen of England, residing at Toronto, in the Dominion of Canada, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Office-Indicators; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it ap-
10 pertains 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.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a
15 front view. Fig. 2 is a like view, the front plate of the cabinet being removed. Figs. 3 and 4 are opposite end views of the indicator, the door being shown open in Fig. 4; and Fig. 5 is a section taken on line xx of
20 Fig. 2.

The invention relates to indicators for public or other buildings, and has for its object to provide suitable means whereby certain information may be conveyed to the public,
25 thereby avoiding an unnecessary call at any particular room in such building.

The invention consists in the construction of the indicator and in the combination of certain parts, whereby the results aimed at
30 are attained in a simple manner.

The indicator consists of a case or cabinet A, provided with a front plate a of non-transparent material, preferably of glass rendered non-transparent by any suitable or preferred
35 means, except as to narrow oblong spaces, which are left transparent. There may be three or four such narrow transparent spaces in the same horizontal plane, the space a' for displaying the name of the occupant of a
40 given room, the space a^2 for displaying information as to whether the occupant is in or out, and the space a^3 for displaying general information, as hereinafter described.

In front or at the head of each line of
45 transparent spaces is placed a number indicating the room occupied by the party whose name is displayed in the first space a' of a line of such.

The name of the occupant of each of the
50 rooms indicated is displayed upon a removable plate B, that is adapted to slide in a

groove or in a slot c , formed in two uprights C and C', secured at bottom and top to the case or cabinet A, and so that the said plate B will lie immediately in rear of the space a' .
55 The upright C' is also provided with bearings c' for one of the journals d of a roller D, whose other journal d' has its bearings in the end wall A' of the casing, or preferably in a bearing-plate C², secured to the inner face
60 of said end wall. The journal d' projects into an aperture in the end wall A' and has its outer end squared for the application of a key. These apertures a^4 I preferably close
65 on the outside by means of a small door A², that can be locked, the occupants of the rooms having each a key for the lock that locks the door A², corresponding with his room, so that the rollers cannot be manipulated by unau-
70 thorized parties. The opposite end of the cabinet is closed by a door A⁴, the key of which is in the custody of the party having charge of the building, and by opening which he may have access to the name-plates B as
75 well as to the rollers D, for the purpose of making such changes in the indices thereon as may be required—as, for instance, the changing of the name of an occupant of a particular room whenever such room is va-
80 cated and occupied by some one else and the changing of the indices on the roller whenever this becomes necessary.

In order to facilitate the removal of the rollers D from their bearings and from the cabinet the said bearings are formed at the
85 end of inclined slots c^2 , as shown.

In practice I preferably give the rollers D a polygonal form in cross-section—as, for instance, octagonal—and so arrange the indices as to suit general conditions. To this end
90 one of the roller-faces bears at one end the word "In," while all the other faces bear at the same end the word "Out," which two words are arranged so as to be displayed at the transparent spaces a^2 . The face that bears
95 the word "In" has no other index thereon, so that when said face is turned to be viewed through spaces $a^2 a^3$ the latter space will show a blank on the roller for obvious reasons. The remaining seven faces of each roller that
100 bear at one end the word "Out" may have the following indices located for display at

the transparent space α^3 : "Inquire at office,"
 "Back to-morrow," "Back in 15 minutes,"
 "Back in 30 minutes," "Back in 45 minutes,"
 "Back in one hour," "Back in two hours,"

5 and these indices, it is thought, will meet the
 general requirements, so that the indices on
 the rollers need not be changed too frequently.

In order to hold the rollers D in the posi-
 10 tion to which they are set, any suitable fric-
 tion device may be applied and interposed
 between said rollers and one of the bearing-
 plates C' or C². For instance, a coiled spring
 S on one of the journals of the roller may be
 employed, or a leather or rubber washer W,
 15 or a concavo-convex friction-disk D', or a
 ratchet R, having eight teeth, may be se-
 cured to one of the roller-journals and a pawl
 P, pivoted to a fixed support—as, for in-
 stance, to one of the bearing-plates C' or C²—
 20 said pawl P engaging the ratchet and hold-
 ing the roller D against rotation when ad-
 justed.

Having described my invention, what I
 claim, and desire to secure by Letters Pat-
 25 ent, is—

1. An office-indicator comprising a cabinet,
 one end of which is closed by a single door
 adapted to be locked, and having in its oppo-
 site end a vertical row of apertures, each pro-
 30 vided with a door for closing the same, the
 said cabinet having vertical rows of trans-
 parent spaces in its front plate, each of said
 rows of spaces being headed by a number, in
 combination with removable name-plates and
 35 removable rollers having indices on their
 periphery, said name-plates and rollers being
 arranged to display the indices at the trans-
 parent spaces, substantially as and for the
 purpose specified.

40 2. In office-indicators as a means for fur-
 nishing an independent indicator for each oc-
 cupant of a building, the combination, with
 a suitable case or cabinet having room-indices
 45 thereof, of revoluble rollers provided with in-

dices on their periphery, adapted to be viewed
 through transparent portions opposite the re-
 spective numbers on said front plate, one of
 the journals of said rollers projecting into an
 aperture in the end wall of the cabinet, of a 50
 gate or door and a lock for locking the same,
 said locks having different bolt-operating
 mechanisms, so that the key of one lock will
 not operate the bolt mechanism of any of the
 other locks, as and for the purposes specified. 55

3. In office-indicators, the combination, with
 a casing provided on its front plate with num-
 bers arranged in a vertical row, a door for
 closing one end of the cabinet, a lock for lock-
 ing the same, an aperture for each number 60
 formed in the opposite end of the cabinet, a
 door for closing the same and a lock for lock-
 ing the door, and the bolt-operating mechan-
 ism of the locks differing from one another, of
 a removable plate and a removable roller ar- 65
 ranged in line with the numbers, said plates
 and rollers having indices adapted to be viewed
 through transparent portions of the front
 plate, substantially as and for the purposes
 specified. 70

4. The combination, with the cabinet A,
 having apertures α^4 in one end thereof adapted
 to be closed, and a door A⁴ at the opposite
 end of the cabinet, the slotted uprights C C'
 and the bearing-plate C², arranged in the cab- 75
 inet as described, said upright C' having
 bearings c' formed at the ends of slots c^2 , of
 the plates B, adapted to slide freely in the
 slots of uprights C C', and the rollers D,
 journaled in upright C' and bearing-plate C², 80
 one of the journals of said rollers extending
 into one of the apertures α^4 , substantially as
 and for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in
 presence of two witnesses.

RUPERT E. KINGSFORD.

Witnesses:

HENRY ORTH,

HENRY G. DIETERICH.