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### United States Patent Office.

ROBERT R. BARTON, OF CATLETTSBURG, KENTUCKY.

#### ACCOUNT-BOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 466,316, dated January 5, 1892.

Application filed June 22, 1891. Serial No. 397,071. (No model.)

to all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT R. BARTON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Catlettsburg, in the county of Boyd 5 and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Account-Books, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to an improvement in account-books; and its object is that by employing a chart or sheet or series of sheets on which the total transactions of each day are recorded under appropriate headings to 15 economize the time, space, and labor usually required in recording and journalizing and insure the accurate recording at the close of each month and also at the end of each year.

By means of my invention a complete syn-20 optical view or analysis of any business can be readily ascertained at a glance, and not only the general condition of the business, but also every branch thereof, including the amount of profit or loss, stock on hand, and 25 bills receivable and bills payable, as well as the cost or expense of the business.

The invention consists in an account-book. having the peculiar arrangement of columns and headings on various sets of sheets or 30 charts, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a diagrammatical view showing a portion of 35 the chart or one of the sheets. Fig. 2 is a similar view of another portion or sheet, both of said views being for a single month's transactions. Figs. 3 and 4 are similar views showing the charts or sheets for the sums total of 40 each month's transactions and also of the state or condition of business at the end of the year.

Referring to the drawings, A designates one of the sheets, which is provided with a series of parallel horizontal lines a, which are ex-45 tended entirely across the sheet, and on this sheet is also formed a series of parallel columns with separate spaces over their upper ends. The first column a is used for the "date," the second column a' for "cash sales," 50 the next column a<sup>2</sup> for "time sales," the column  $a^3$  for "interest and discount," the column  $a^4$  for "time purchases," the column  $a^5$  I former being the "Expense" column and the

for "sundries," the column a<sup>6</sup> for "balance," the column  $a^7$  for "remarks," the column  $a^8$ for "loss account." In the column a are 55 placed the dates of the days of the month, and beneath their proper headings are entered the sums total of the transactions thereunder for the respective dates. In the column  $a^6$  is indicated the balance of cash on 60 hand at the close of each day's business, and at the top thereof the balance on hand at the end of the last preceding month.

B designates what might be termed the "credit-sheet," and the same is divided off 65 into a series of parallel columns similar to sheet A. The column b is for the "date," the column b' for "sundries," the column  $b^2$  for "cash purchases," the column  $b^3$  for "interest" and discount," the column  $b^4$  for "stationery 70" and postage," the column  $b^5$  for "express and telegraphing," the column  $b^6$  for "wages," the column  $b^7$  for "light and fuel," the column  $b^8$ for "freight, wharfage, and drayage," the column  $b^9$  for "traveling expenses," and the col- 75 umn  $b^{10}$  for "taxes, insurance, and rents."

On Sheet A beneath the series of columns formed thereon are two columns C C' for recapitulation. In these columns are placed, first, the total receipts from cash sales for the 80 entire month, next interest and discount, and then sundries, all of which are added together, and to this sum total is added the balance carried over from the last preceding month. In the column C are also placed the sums total 85 of the cash sales and time sales, which, being added together, show the total sales of merchandise, and in this column is also placed the sums total of the merchandise purchased on time. Beneath these two recapitulating 90 columns are two shorter columns D D' for a summary of the total amount of merchandise sold on time and for cash, the separate amount of each being indicated after the words "Sold merchandise time" and "Cash," and also the 95 total amount of merchandise purchased both on time and for cash, the respective sums total being likewise indicated after the proper headings, while the difference between the total amount of merchandise sold and that 100 purchased is placed in the column D'.

On Sheet B, at the bottom thereof, are likewise placed or formed two columns E E', the

latter the "Merchandise" column. Adjacent the column E are the same headings as are placed over the series of columns from b' to  $b^{10}$ . The sums total of the "Sundries" and 5 "Merchandise purchased" columns are set forth in column E', and to their sum total is added the sum total of the expense paid, thus showing the total disbursements, to which is added the last entry in the balance-column to  $a^6$  of Sheet A, the sum total thereof showing the exact state of business at the close of the month.

F F'designate two sheets corresponding in every particular to Sheets A B, save that they 15 are designed for the entry of the total transactions of each month in the year, and also to further show the exact state or condition of business after an inventory has been taken at the close of such year. On Sheet F, in ad-20 dition to the series of columns f, corresponding to the columns of Sheet A, and the columns f', corresponding to those of Sheet B, are two columns  $f^2$  for recapitulation corresponding to the columns C C', while on Sheet 25 F' are columns f', corresponding to those of Sheet B. On Chart or Sheet F are two separate sections G G', the former being intended to show the "Total assets and net gain" and the latter the "Expense, loss, and gain." In 30 the section G are two parallel columns g g', in the former of which is entered the sum total of the bills receivable, cash on hand, and inventory. From the sum total of these items, which is placed in column g', is sub-35 tracted the sum total of the bills payable, thus showing the total assets. In the column g is also indicated the total assets at the close of business of the last preceding year. In the section G' is placed the sum total of 40 the sales for the entire year, and from this is subtracted the sum total of the purchases, the balance being thus ascertained. The sum total of the expense and loss is subtracted from this balance, and to the remain-45 der is added the inventory-balance, thus showing the net gains. This net gain is also

From what has been said it will be seen that by means of my improved account-book an exact analysis or synopsis of the business for each day in the month, as well as at the

indicated in column g of section G, and is

added to the total assets at the commencement

of business of the year just closed. The

the total assets at the close of the year indi-

50 sum total of these figures will correspond to

end of the month, can be ascertained at a glance, and also that the exact state or condition of the business at the close of the year is apparent from the entries in the recapitulating column or summaries, showing the complete transactions for the entire year. By means of my invention the entries under all appropriate and proper headings readily show all business transactions, and the except act condition of the business is readily ascertained without an extended examination or research.

It is my preference to arrange or bind the sheets A and B together in a series of twelve 7° or twenty-four, one for each month in a year, and to add to these sheets the sheets F F' for a summary of the transactions or sums total for each month, making a complete book for one, two, or more years.

75

I am aware that heretofore a "maturity-book" has been produced, the same being adapted to receive in condensed form the dates and other particulars when sums due to and from a person or firm are payable, and 80 hence my invention is not intended to comprehend a book of that character.

I claim as my invention—

The herein-described improved accountbook, comprising the sheet A, having a series 85 of parallel columns with headings thereover, such as "dates," "cash sales," "time sales," "interest and discount," "time purchases," "sundries," "balance," "remarks," and "loss account," the sheet B, having a series of par- 90 allel columns with headings thereover, such as "date," "sundries," "cash purchases," "interest and discount," "stationary and postage," "expressage and telegraphing," "wages," "light and fuel," "freight, wharf- 95 age, and drayage," "traveling expenses," "taxes, insurance, and rents," two sets of columns on said sheets for recapitulation of the entries under the above headings, and the sheets F F', with headings corresponding to roc sheets A B, and recapitulating-columns corresponding to the recapitulating-columns of said sheets A B, and two additional sections. divided off into columns for entry of a summary of the business at the end of the year, 105 substantially as set forth.

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

ROBERT R. BARTON.

Witnesses:

JAMES TRIMBLE,
T. J. DAVIS.