(No Model.)

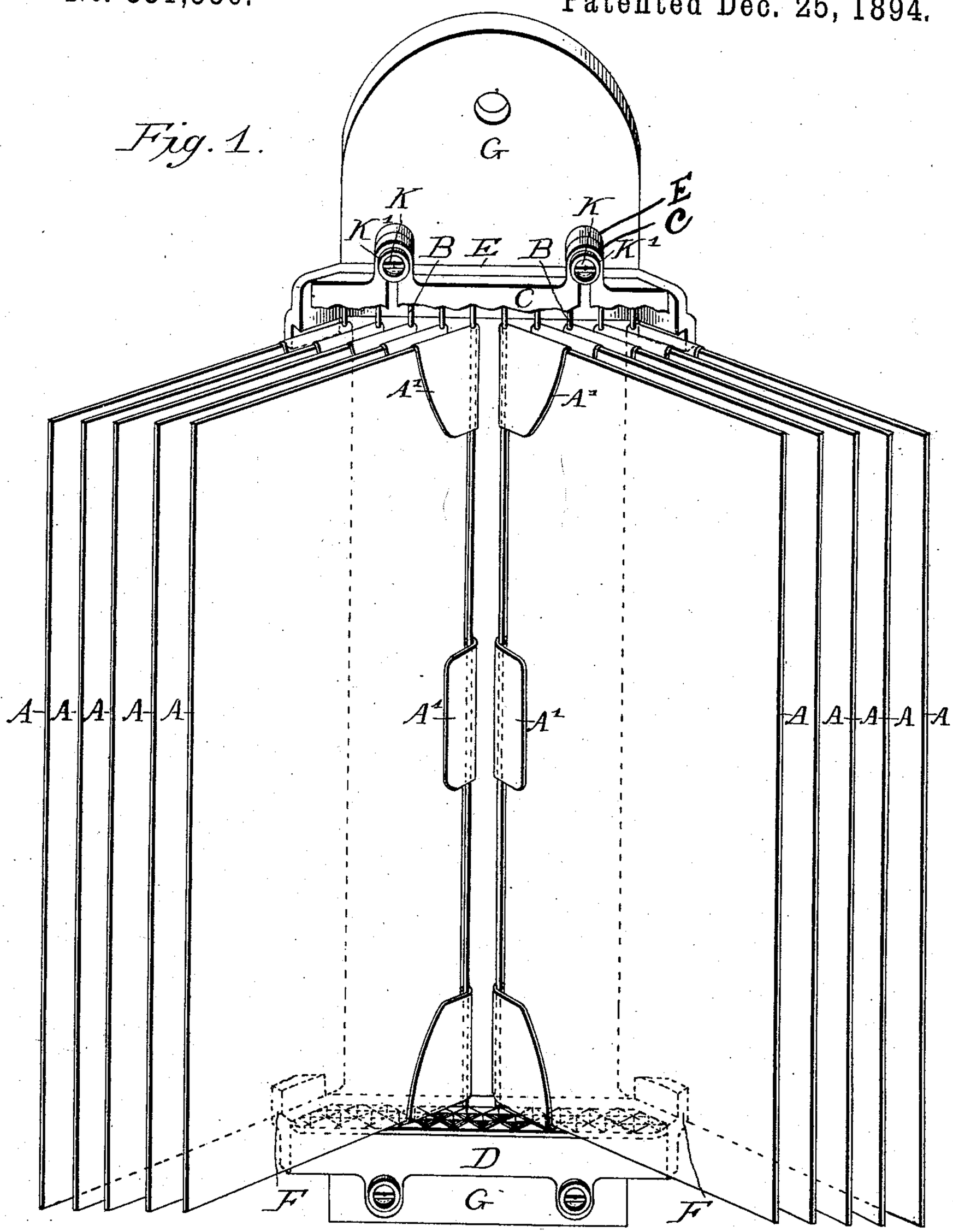
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. A. ORTH.

TELEPHONE INDEX.

No. 531,556. Patented Dec. 25, 1894.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses:
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William S. Mills

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by
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Attorney.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

C. A. ORTH.

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Fig. 2.

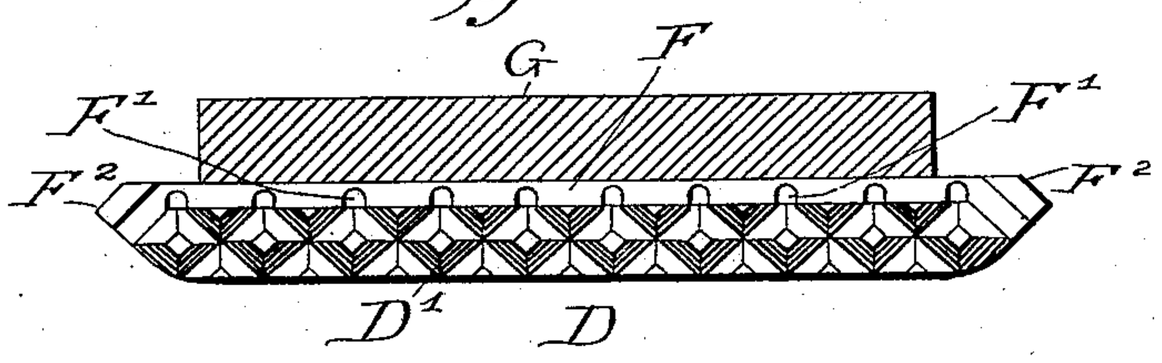


Fig. 5.

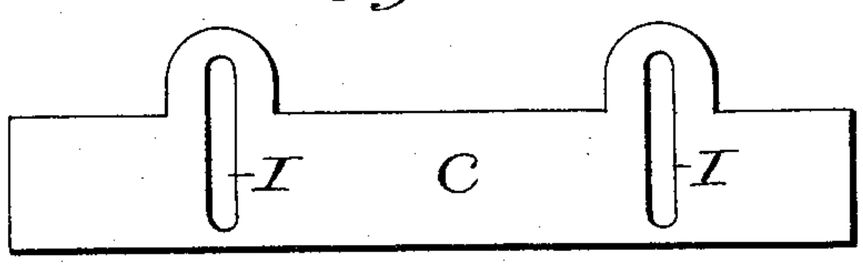


Fig. 3.

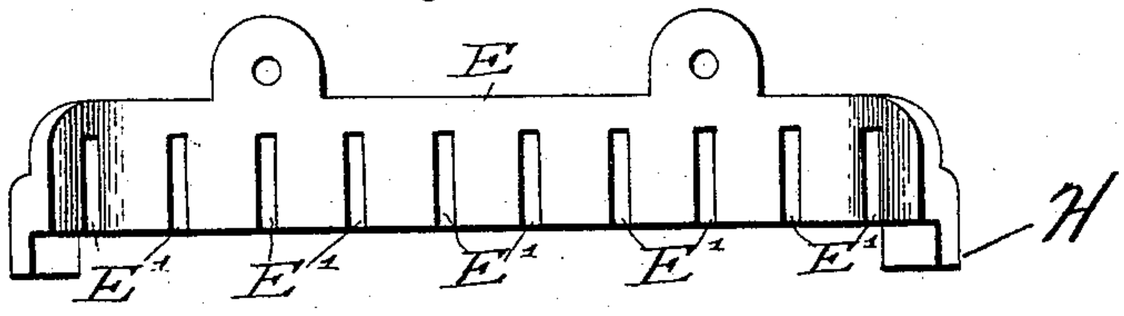
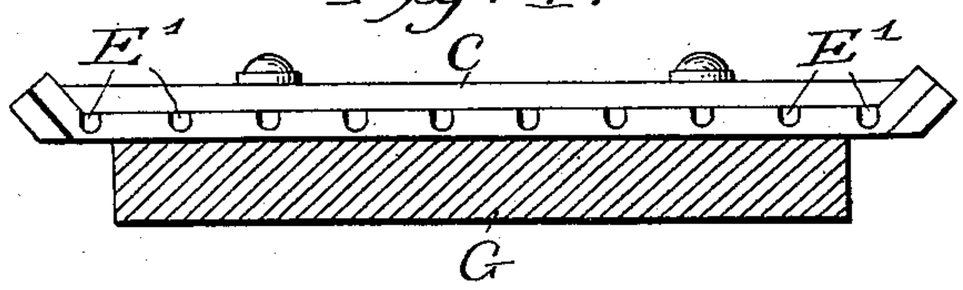


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. ORTH, OF TRENTON, NEW JERSEY.

TELEPHONE-INDEX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 531,556, dated December 25, 1894.

Application filed September 18, 1894. Serial No. 523,327. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. ORTH, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Trenton, in the county of Mercer and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone-Indexes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to that class of telephone indexes in which the names of the subscribers to the telephone are alphabetically arranged upon separate leaves, and such leaves are so arranged that they can be readily turned over to disclose the name of any subscriber, and after being so turned over will be automatically held in place. To accomplish this I employ the mechanism shown in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front view, but slightly in perspective, of my index. Fig. 2 is a top view of the lower retaining plate, and of the lower bed plate. Fig. 3 is a front view of the upper bed plate. Fig. 4 is a bottom view of the same, and of the upper retaining plate, and Fig. 5 is a front view of the upper retaining plate.

In the several drawings similar letters of reference indicate similar parts.

In Fig. 1, A. indicates the several leaves of the index. These leaves are clamped by metal pieces A′. to rods B. These rods pass behind the upper retaining plate C. and the lower retaining plate D. and rest in parallel grooves in the upper bed plate E. and lower bed plate F. These bed plates I show fastened by screws to a strip of board G. but the plates can be fastened directly where the wall or partition is of wood through such wall or partition, without the use of the strip G. Thus I form hinges upon which the leaves A. can turn freely.

In Fig. 2, is shown more clearly the means I employ to keep the leaves A. in any desired position. Into the top of the retaining plate D. I cut V shaped grooves diagonally across said top and intersecting at right angles. These grooves I have designated D′. In this view also are seen the tops of the parallel grooves F′. in the bed plate F. in which lie the lower ends of the rods B.

In Fig. 3, E. is the upper bed plate and E′ E′. are the grooves therein in which lie the upper ends of the rods B.

In Fig. 4, which is a bottom view of bed plate E. and upper retaining plate C., E′ E′. show the bottom ends of these grooves. As shown in this drawing, the ends of the bed plate E. curve slightly forward, and partially embrace the ends of the upper retaining plate C. and attached to these ends are lugs H. These lugs show more clearly in Fig. 3.

In Fig. 5, which is a front view, of the upper retaining plate, I. I. are slots which permit of the easy adjustment of the plate. These slots are shown also in Fig. 1. By the loosening of the screws K. K. shown in Fig. 1, the washers K′. cease to press upon plate C. and permit of the ready raising of that plate and the consequent release of the upper ends of the wires B. and the removal of the leaves A. or of any one of such leaves that may be desired. These screws K. pass through the washer K′., retaining plate C., upper bed plate E. and enter the strip G. and serve to keep them all in position. The lower bed plate F. is provided with lugs F″. and parallel grooves F′. similar in construction to the lugs and grooves of upper bed plate E.

The operation of my mechanism is readily understood. The names of subscribers having been properly entered upon the leaves A. these leaves are attached firmly by the metal pieces or clips A′. to the rods B. The ends of the rods being laid in the parallel grooves, the retaining plate C. is shoved down, the screws K. are tightened, and the leaves are thus held firmly in place. In using the index it is often desirable to retain a particular leaf in position to be readily referred to. The leaves being slightly shorter than the space between the two retaining plates, any leaf can be turned to the right or the left, the V shape of the grooves D′. permitting it to rise out of such groove, and its own gravity requiring it to fall to the bottom of the groove in which it is next placed, and such gravity retaining it automatically in such position. An examination of Fig. 2 will show that these diagonal grooves are so placed with relation to the wires B. that any leaf can be turned to either the right or left, and upon being so turned will drop into a groove or all the leaves may be turned together, either to the right or to

the left, and each leaf will drop automatically into its appropriate groove, and be held in place. In addition the lugs H. H. F''. F''. serve to prevent the leaves being thrown too far to the rear.

I am aware that other indexes have been constructed having several leaves, each movable upon its own axis, and I do not claim broadly such construction, but I am not aware of any index in which the leaves each automatically lock in the position where placed, either right or left.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a telephone index, the leaves A. hinged and having vertical play upon their axes in combination with diagonal series of grooves adapted to lock said leaves by means of their own gravity, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a telephone index, the leaves A. hinged and having vertical play upon their axes combined with a right hand diagonal series of grooves, and a left hand diagonal series of grooves, adapted to lock said leaves by means of the gravity of said leaves, either to the right or left, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a telephone index the leaf A. provided with clips A'. and axial rod B. in combination with bed plate F. retaining plate D. provided with diagonal series of grooves D'. bed plate E. and retaining plate C. provided with slots I. and screws K. substantially as shown and described.

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

CHARLES A. ORTH.

Witnesses:

EDWARD W. LEE,

JOHN RELLSTAB.