

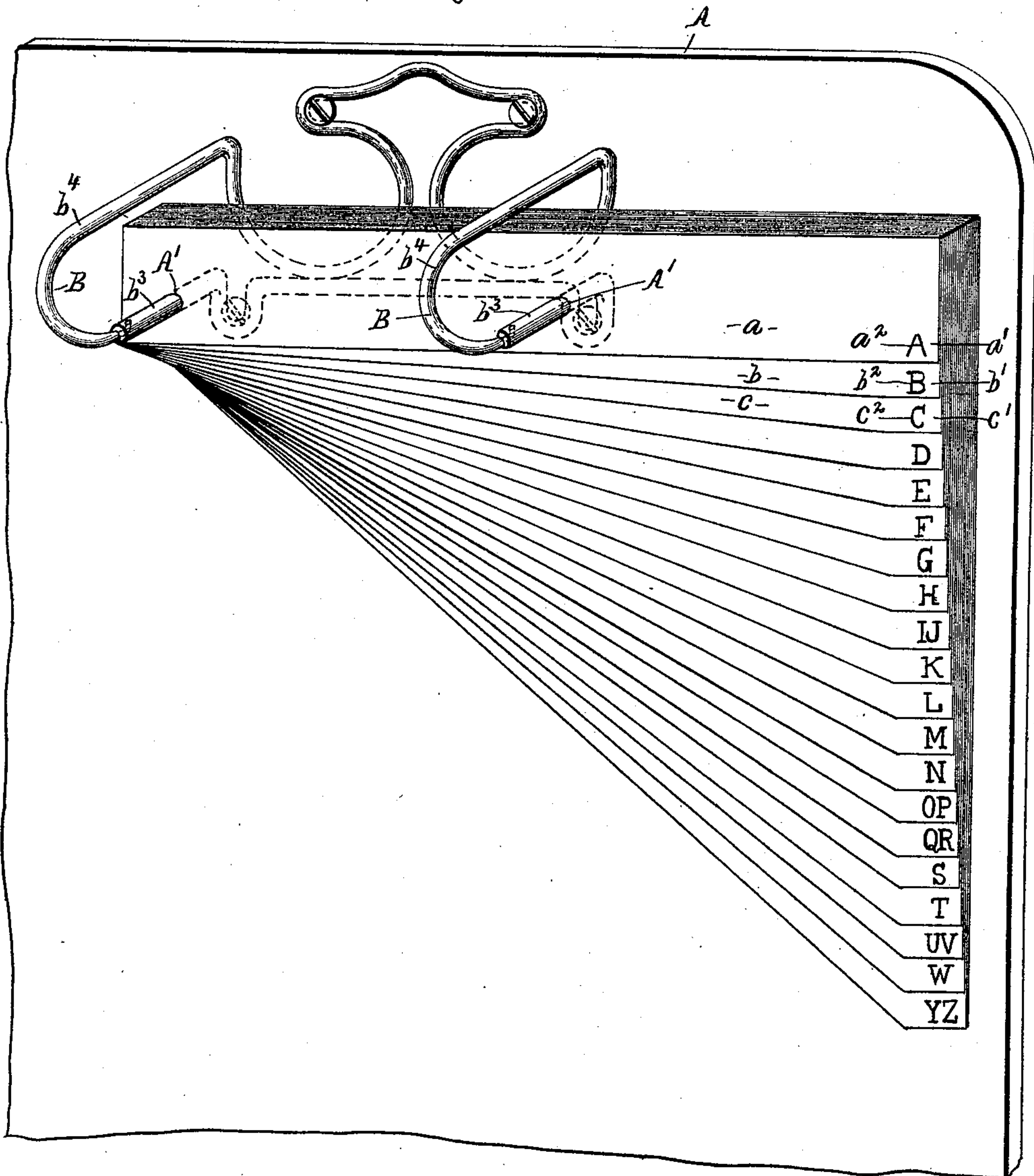
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. L. BREWER.
FILE INDEX.

No. 539,116.

Patented May 14, 1895.



WITNESSES:

H. C. Chase
M. D. Lewis

INVENTOR

W. L. Brewer

BY

H. C. Wilkinson & Co.
ATTORNEYS,

(No Model.)

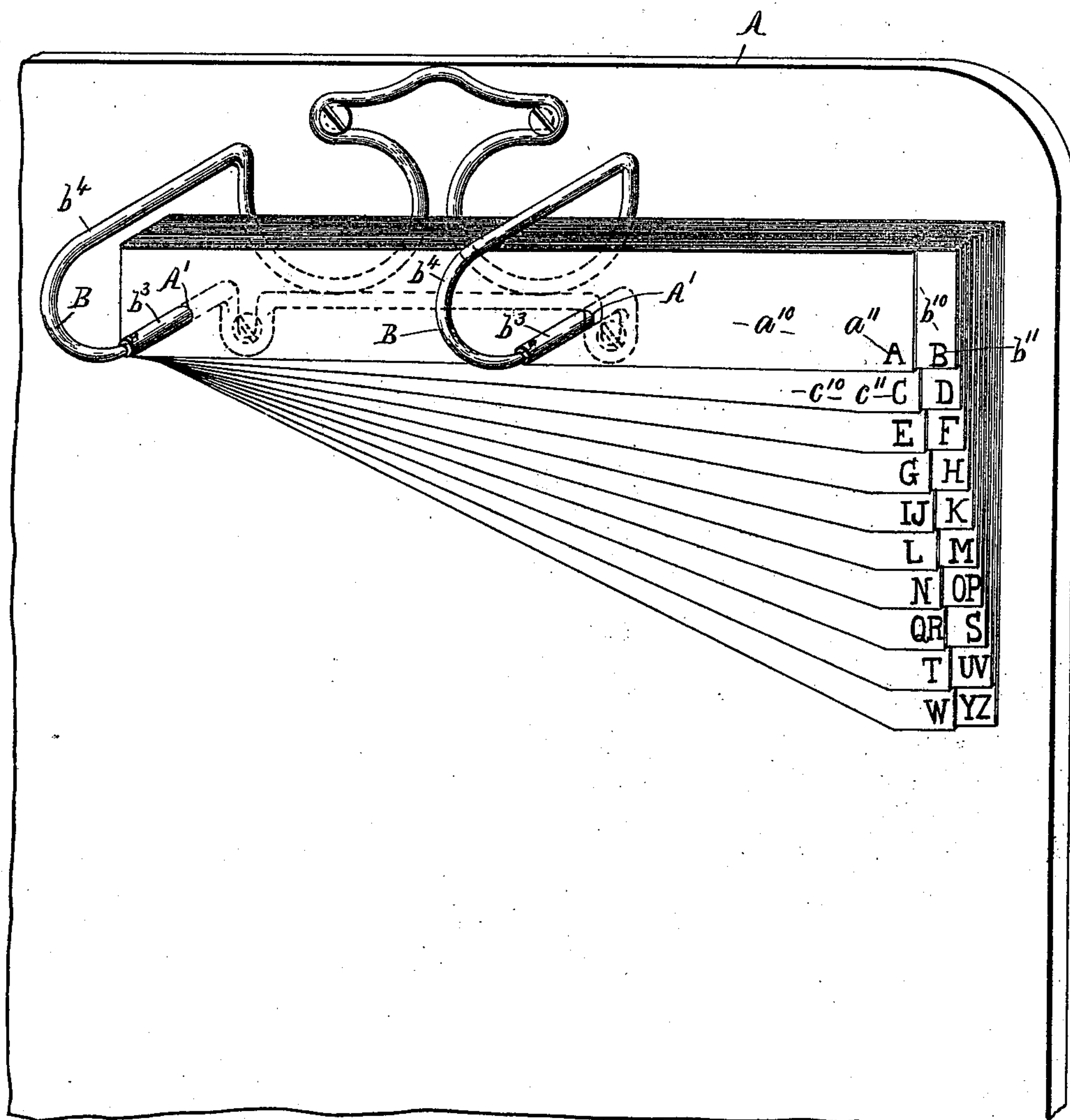
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Patented May 14, 1895.

Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

H. C. Chace,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WELLS L. BREWER, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

FILE-INDEX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 539,116, dated May 14, 1895.

Application filed May 7, 1894. Serial No. 510,320. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WELLS L. BREWER, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in File-Indexes, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in file-indexes, and particularly those adapted to receive and separate letters, papers, documents, &c., and to permit of ready and convenient access thereto, and has for its object the production of a simple device, which is produced at a minimum expense, and is extremely practical and efficient in operation; and to this end it consists, essentially, in separable sections or strips arranged one above the other and each having its opposite extremities formed of unequal width. It also consists in sections or strips of this construction provided with index characters arranged in proximity to the inclined edges of their extremities of greatest width.

In describing this invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which like letters indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is an isometric view of my invention shown as operatively mounted on a filing-support, and Fig. 2 is a similar view of a slightly-modified form of my invention.

My improved file-index is preferably mounted upon a suitable filing support A formed of material possessing comparative rigidity, as wood, sheet metal, &c., and provided with retaining loops B B of such construction that they readily enter perforations A' formed in the upper edges of the letters, papers, documents, &c., arranged within the file-index. These loops B B may consist, if desired, of stationary sections $b^3 b^3$ and movable sections $b^4 b^4$ having their adjacent ends lapped and interlocked with each other or otherwise connected together, so that both sections normally form continuations of each other.

My improved file-index consists of a series of sections or strips a, b, c , &c., having their upper edges arranged one beneath the other in substantially the same upright plane and their opposite extremities provided with per-

forations A' in proximity to said edges through which the retaining loops B B are passed. The strips or sections a, b, c , &c., are thereby held in their designed position. It is evident, however, that if my file-index is not used with a filing support A and retaining loops B B, that suitable fastening means may be passed through the perforations A' for securing together the sections or strips a, b, c , &c. The opposite extremities of each section or strip a, b, c , &c., are preferably formed of unequal width, and said sections or strips are arranged with their extremities of greatest width one above the other and in proximity to the outer edge of the filing support A. The lower edges of the sections or strips a, b, c , &c., project one beyond the other, and incline from the outer extremities thereof to a point in proximity to the opposite extremity of the upper section a , and consequently the inclination of these edges is ununiform, and they substantially converge to a common point. As shown, the lower edges of the sections or strips a, b, c , &c., are disposed in oblique planes, but they may obviously be slightly curved. The outer extremities $a' b' c'$, &c., of the lower edges of the greater portion of the sections or strips a, b, c , &c., are preferably formed substantially parallel with their upper edges in order to add to the appearance and practicability of the file.

Ready access to the letters, papers, documents, &c., arranged between the sections or strips a, b, c , &c., is facilitated by index characters $a^2 b^2 c^2$, &c., arranged at the outer edges of the sections or strips a, b, c , in proximity to the lower inclined edges thereof, so that the index character of each of said strips is arranged directly beneath the corresponding portion of the lower edge of the next adjacent section or strip, thereby permitting instant inspection of all of the index characters.

At Fig. 2 the sections or strips $a^{10} b^{10} c^{10}$, &c., are arranged in pairs, the opposite extremities of the sections or strips of each pair being formed of unequal length and their lower edges being inclined toward a point in proximity to the opposite extremities of the lower edges of the upper pair of sections or strips. The uppermost section or strip of each pair is formed of less length than the other section or strip thereof, and the index

characters a^{11} b^{11} c^{11} , &c., of the sections or strips of each pair are arranged side by side in proximity to their outer edges.

The operation of my invention will be readily perceived upon reference to the foregoing description and the accompanying drawings, and it will be particularly noted that a minimum amount of stock or material is required in the production of my improved file-index, owing to the peculiar shape of its sections or strips, thereby reducing its cost of manufacture, and that it is practical and efficient in operation, and facilitates ready and convenient access to the letters, papers, documents, &c., arranged therein.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A file index consisting of separable sections or strips arranged one above the other and formed of unequal width and having their lower edges extended one beyond the other and inclined from corresponding extremities to a point in proximity to the opposite extremity of the upper section or strip, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A file-index consisting of separable sections or strips arranged one above the other and formed of unequal width and having their upper edges arranged in substantially the same upright plane and their lower edges extended one beyond the other and inclined from corresponding extremities to a point in proximity to the opposite extremity of the upper section or strip, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. A file-index consisting of separable sections or strips arranged one above the other and formed of unequal width and having their upper edges arranged in substantially the same upright plane and their lower edges extended one beyond the other and inclined from corresponding extremities to a point in proximity to the opposite extremity of the upper section or strip, a portion of the inclined edge of one section or strip being arranged substantially parallel with its opposite side, substantially as specified.

4. A file index consisting of separable sections or strips arranged one above the other and formed of unequal width and having their lower edges extended one beyond the other and inclined from corresponding extremities to a point in proximity to the opposite extremity of the upper section or strip, said sections or strips having their extremities of greatest width provided with index characters arranged in proximity to their inclined edges beneath the corresponding portion of the edge of the next adjacent section or strip, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. A file-index consisting of separable sections or strips arranged one above the other and formed of unequal width and having their upper edges arranged in substantially the same upright plane and their lower edges extended one beyond the other and inclined from corresponding extremities to a point in proximity to the opposite extremity of the upper section or strip, said sections or strips having their extremities of greatest width provided with index characters arranged in proximity to their inclined edges beneath the corresponding portion of the edge of the next adjacent section or strip, substantially as and for the purpose described.

6. The combination with retaining loops; of a file index consisting of separable sections or strips arranged one above the other and formed of unequal width and having their upper portions provided with perforations through which the retaining loops are passed and having their lower edges extended one beyond the other and inclined from corresponding extremities to a point in proximity to the opposite extremity of the upper section or strip, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, at Rochester, in the county of Monroe, in the State of New York, this 16th day of April, 1894.

WELLS L. BREWER.

Witnesses:

E. A. WEISBURG,
K. H. THEOBALD.