

C. M. COTT.
INDEX.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1

ALL GRANTORS' FAMILY NAMES PHONETICALLY SIMILAR ARE ENTERED IN A SINGLE GROUP, AND THE GIVEN NAMES BELONGING THEREWITH OPPOSITE AND IN A COLUMN HEADED BY THE INITIAL LETTER.										109
GRANTORS										15
GRANTORS 16										14
YEAR OF RECORD	2	GRANTORS 16				GRANTEES 10	RECORDED IN		ADDITION OR SUBDIVISION	
		6	7	8	8		VOL	PAGE		
		1	3	4	5		11	13	13	
1881	Alcott		Orlando	Susan	Albert & Thomas Lister		5	225	Warranty	
1867	Alcott	Adam		Rose	William Mott		5	236		
1884	Alcott	Hannah		Thomas	Bell & Guthrie		7	15	Q.C.	
1896	"	Frank	Olive		Nimrod Shuman		7	57	Trust	
1898	Alcott		Nathan	Queenie	Rider, Robinson & Co.		7	78	Lease	
1900	Alcott			Xerxes	Ludwig Mesperlie		7	166	Warranty	
1903	"	George			S. Riggbach		7	268	"	
1904	"		John Julia		G. G. Sankell		7	324	Mortgage	
1847	Pfeiffer	Hans	Martha		John Henderson		9	260	Mortgage	
1854	"	Hans	John Martha	Susan	John W. Leab		9	303	"	
1869	Fifer	"		Violet	Board of Education Center Trp.		10	75	Warranty	
1871	Fiffer	Anna		Thomas	Nicholas Bondi		10	257	Q.C.	
1879	Pfeiffer		Ludwig		Andrew Thomas		11	401	Lease	
1890	"	Henry	Ludwig		John Debolt		12	483	"	
1900	Fifer	Andrew			Jos. A. Bland		15	296	Warranty	
1904	"	Andrew		William	Alemda Shuman		16	340	"	
					Jones					

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INDEX.

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Application filed December 31, 1904. Serial No. 239,197.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES MILTON COTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indexes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to indexes, and is more particularly adapted for use in indexing public records.

The object of my invention is to provide an index by the use of which the existence or non-existence of a recorded instrument may be readily ascertained and with a great degree of certainty.

A further object of my invention is to provide an index especially adapted for indexing a very large number of recorded instruments and which may be properly filled with the expenditure of a minimum amount of time by the indexer.

A further object of my invention is to provide an index by the use of which a name known to the searcher only by sound may be readily and conveniently found.

A further object of my invention is to provide an index wherein similar family names, even though differently spelled, are indexed in a single group.

A further object of my invention is to provide an index having a subindex wherein is placed the family name only, the said family name appearing in the subindex in but one place and with cross-references to different spellings, if any, of the same family name.

A further object of my invention is to provide a subindex wherein certain pages are designated to receive family names by a predetermined number of letters forming the beginning of said name and provided with columns within which is entered the letter in said family name next following the said page-designating letters.

As is well known, many family names for various reasons have come to be spelled differently, though retaining the same or similar pronunciation. A party searching an index often knows the name only by sound; and it is the principal object of my invention to place all such family names irrespective of

their spelling in a single group, so that the searcher having once located the group by the use of the subindex is certain to find therein indexed the desired name if such name appears of record.

With this and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of name-columns and other columns having identifying data, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Figure 1 shows a fragment of a page of my improved index arranged for the indexing of real-estate-transfer records. Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 are fragments of pages of the subindex forming a part of my improved index and necessary for use in connection with my main index represented in Fig. 1. The said figures represent similar fragments and are severally shown to illustrate more fully the use of the subindex, as will be explained hereinafter.

Like characters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

My main index consists of a page, a fragment of which is shown at Fig. 1 and which may be duplicated *ad libitum*. The separate pages are for convenience properly designated each by a separate number, as the number "109" appearing in the upper right-hand corner of Fig. 1. Adjacent the left-hand edge of the page a column 1 is formed with a heading 2 properly designating the said column to receive all family names of similar spelling or sound. Adjacent the column 1 are disposed a plurality of columns in any number desired, as the columns 3, 4, and 5, in which are placed the given names belonging with the family names entered in column 1. In the said columns 3, 4, and 5 are placed headings 6, 7, and 8, including a group of letters arranged in alphabetical sequence and proper designation to indicate that in the said columns are to be entered given names beginning with any of the said letters in said

group forming a part of said heading. The letters heading the said columns include all the letters of the alphabet, and the said headings are so arranged that the letters of each group follow the letters of the preceding group in alphabetical sequence.

In public records, there being two parties to each instrument, it is desirable to enter the names of both parties in the index to more properly identify the instrument, and for this purpose a column 9 is provided, following to the right of the columns 3, 4, and 5. As shown in Fig. 1, the indexed names appearing in column 1 are the grantors, and consequently the names appearing in column 9 would be the grantees, as indicated by the designation 10 in said column. To the right of column 9 is provided a column 11, properly designated for the entry therein of the number of the volume of records in which the indexed instrument is recorded, and a column 12 is also provided properly designated for the entry of the page-number of the said record-volume. To the right of column 12 may be provided any desired number of columns, as 13 and 14, which may be provided with any desired heading for the entry therein of any further information relative to the said instrument which it is desired to enter in the said index.

As shown in Fig. 1, the index is arranged for the indexing of the names of grantors, and a heading is supplied, as at 15, adjacent the top of the page, properly designating the said page for the receipt of all grantors' names phonetically similar and designating that the said similar names be entered therein in a single group, and that the given names belonging therewith be entered opposite and in a column headed by the initial letter. Supplemental to the heading 15 the word "Grantors" appears, as at 16, over the columns 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, to further indicate that the said columns are the columns referred to in the heading 15.

While I have shown the main index arranged for the indexing of grantors in real-estate transfers, it is obvious that the designations "Grantors" and "Grantees" may be reversed, the said index thereby becoming a grantee-index without other change being necessary. It is also obvious that the index is as fully adapted for indexing other records—as, for instance, the judgment-records of a court or the assignment-records of the Patent Office.

With the main index above described is necessarily used a subindex to locate the family-name group in said main index. The subindex consists of pages fragments of which are shown at Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 and which may, if desired, and as therein indicated, be bound in the same volume with the pages shown in Fig. 1 and constituting the main index. For ready reference the subindex is provided with tabs, as shown at 17, 18, 19, and 20, upon which are printed two letters constituting the first two letters of the recorded family name. At

the top of the said page is placed a proper designation 21 to indicate that the family name will be found below and that on the same line a reference to the index-page, upon which will be found in a single group all the recorded surnames phonetically similar, as fully explained in reference to Fig. 1. The said heading also contains a proper designation 22 to indicate that the third letter of the surname sought will be found to the left of the family-name column and in a column headed by that letter. To the left of the subindex-page are placed the said columns, which are numbered 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28. These columns may be of any desired number and each of them headed by a letter or a group of letters arranged in alphabetical sequence. The said columns are the columns referred to in designation 22 and contain as headings all the letters of the alphabet, each group following the preceding group in such order that the entire alphabet appears in unbroken alphabetical sequence. A column 29, as designated in designation 21, is properly headed to indicate that in the said column are entered on the same line all of the various spellings of the same family name. To the right of column 29 is provided a column 30, properly designated to receive the main index-page number, wherein is indexed in a single group all the recorded family names phonetically similar. A second column 31 is provided for the designation of a main index-volume where the subindex is not bound in the same volume with the main index or to designate a page on which a group has been continued, or one column may be used for "grantor" groups and another for "grantee" groups.

As comparatively little space is required for the subindexing, it is my preferred practice to provide two or more similar subindex-rulings upon a single page, and it will be understood that Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 are intended to represent but a portion of the page both laterally and longitudinally.

The operation of my improved index is as follows: As shown in Fig. 1, a warranty deed granted by Orlando and Susan Alcot is recorded in Vol. 5, page 225. Various instruments are granted by others of the same family name; but the said name is variously spelled, as shown in Fig. 1, as "Alcott," "Olcot" and "Olcott." A space on page 109 of the main index, as shown at Fig. 1, is assigned to the said family name as variously spelled. The said family name when spelled "Alcot" or "Alcott" begins with the letters "Al." Therefore on the page of the subindex designated by the letters "Al" will be placed the names "Alcott" and "Alcot." The third letter of said names being "c" will be placed in column 23, that being the column headed by the letter "c," as indicated in designation 22. Upon the same line will be a cross-reference, as "See Olcott, Olcot." Upon the

page of the subindex designated by the letters "Ol," as shown at Fig. 3, will be placed the names "Olcott," "Olcot," with the third letter "c" entered in column 23, as before described, and the cross-reference "See Alcott, Alcot," entered therein. It will be noted that the indexed group on page 109 is the same as the group indicated at Fig. 2, following the designation "Al." It will be noted that the page 109 is the page shown at Fig. 1 and that therein is indexed all the several names phonetically similar to "Alcot." Upon the same page or any other page, as desired, may be entered another group, as indicated also at Fig. 1—as, for instance, the family name variously spelled, as "Pfeiffer," "Fifer," "Fiffer," "Pfifer." In the subindex, as shown at Figs. 4 and 5, are entered under the letters "Pf" those spellings of the name beginning with the said two letters, with a cross-reference to the names spelled with "Fi." On the page so designated are entered the same family names which are spelled with "Fi," with a cross-reference to the "Pf" group, and the main-index page is indicated in each instance as 109, upon which page are recorded all the various spellings of the said name. A searcher wishes to find the record of an instrument granted by Hans and Martha Pfeiffer to John Henderson. He may know the name by sound, but not the exact spelling, and he may therefore refer to my subindex either under "Pf" or "Fi." Under those designations he will find that the family-name group is upon page 109 of the main index and that thereon is indexed all the instruments granted by any parties with the said family name, irrespective of the spelling. By tracing down the column 6, which is headed by the initial letters including the letter "H," the name "Hans" is found, and upon that line is indexed the fact that the instrument is a mortgage to John Henderson and is recorded in Vol. 9 on page 260. In the search for any other name or any other indexed instrument the same method is pursued.

While I have shown and described in reference to my main index and my subindex a certain number of columns for the receipt of initial letters and given names, it is obvious that any number of columns, either more or less than shown, may be substituted.

While I have shown and described approved and preferred designations for the pages and the several columns, it is obvious that the said headings may be transposed or the wording changed to conform to the requirements of the matter to be indexed and that other changes may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention or the scope of the claims.

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

1. An index divided into vertical columns

properly designated to receive therein, in a single group, all the recorded surnames of similar spelling.

2. An index divided into vertical columns properly designated to receive therein in a single group all the recorded surnames phonetically similar.

3. In an index, a page properly designated by a letter, a vertical column upon the page properly designated to receive in a group, surnames phonetically similar, other vertical columns adjacent and parallel thereto properly designated to receive a letter occupying a predetermined position in said surnames.

4. In an index, a page properly designated by a plurality of letters, a vertical column upon the page properly designated to receive in a group, surnames phonetically similar, other vertical columns adjacent thereto properly designated to receive a letter occupying a predetermined position in said surnames.

5. An index divided into vertical columns properly designated to receive therein, in a single group, all the recorded surnames of similar spelling, and other vertical columns adjacent thereto properly designated to receive given names on horizontal lines opposite the surnames to which they belong.

6. In an index, a page properly designated by a number, a vertical column upon said page properly designated to receive in a single group, all the recorded surnames of similar spelling, in combination with a page properly designated by a letter, a vertical column upon the page properly designated to receive in a single group surnames phonetically similar, other vertical columns adjacent thereto properly designated to receive a letter which shall occupy a predetermined position in the surnames, and another vertical column adjacent, properly designated to receive a numeral referring to the page designated by a number.

7. In an index, a page properly designated by a number, a vertical column upon said page properly designated to receive in a single group all the recorded surnames phonetically similar, in combination with a page properly designated by a letter, a vertical column upon the page properly designated to receive in a group surnames phonetically similar, other vertical columns adjacent thereto properly designated to receive a letter which shall occupy a predetermined position in the surnames, and another vertical column adjacent, properly designated to receive a numeral referring to the page designated by a number.

8. In an index, a page properly designated by a number, a vertical column upon the page properly designated to receive in a single group all the recorded surnames of similar spelling or sound, other vertical columns adjacent thereto properly designated to receive upon horizontal lines opposite the surname the given name belonging thereto, another ad-

5 adjacent vertical column properly designated to
receive numerals referring to the volume and
page where the record may be found, in com-
bination with a page properly designated by
a letter, a vertical column upon the page prop-
erly designated to receive in a group sur-
names phonetically similar, other vertical col-
umns adjacent thereto properly designated to
receive a letter which shall occupy a prede-
10 termined position in the surnames, and an-

other vertical column adjacent properly desig-
nated to receive a numeral referring to the
page designated by a number.

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

CHARLES MILTON COTT.

Witnesses:

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