

No. 881,156.

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

W. J. ROUSSEL.

INDEX.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 27, 1906.

*Fig. 1.*

A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F

G  
H  
I  
J  
K  
L  
M  
N  
O  
P  
Q  
R  
S  
T  
U  
V  
W  
X  
Y  
Z

*Fig. 2.*

[illegible]

Inventor

*Willis J. Roussel*

Witnesses

Louis R. Heinrichs  
D. W. Gould.

By

Victor J Evans

Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIS J. ROUSSEL, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

## INDEX.

No. 881,156.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed March 27, 1906. Serial No. 308,369.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIS J. ROUSSEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indexes, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to an index designed primarily for use with loose leaf books and serving to materially facilitate the locating of any particular data inscribed in the book.

The invention broadly stated comprehends a plurality of sub-indexes having particular relation to the main index and arranged to permit the ready location of the desired leaf of the book.

The invention will first be described in the following specification, reference being had particularly to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan showing the arrangement of my improved index in the form of a main and sub-index, Fig. 2 is a similar view showing an extension of the index by the provision of an auxiliary sub-index.

Referring to the drawings my improved index comprises primarily a plurality of index cards which are adapted to be bound in the book or inserted between the proper folios in the case of a loose leaf book. These index cards are divided into three distinct series, hereinafter termed the main index cards 1, the sub-index cards 2 and the auxiliary sub-index cards 3. The main index cards 1 are provided with tabs 4 bearing the initial letter of the index, the tabs of the respective series of cards 1 being arranged off-set in the usual manner to provide for readily disclosing all the letters of the main index when the book is closed, it being understood, of course, that the tabs 4 project beyond the side edges of the card 1.

The sub-index cards 2 are of less width than the main index cards and are provided with edge tabs 5, the free edges of the tabs terminating coincident with the edge of the main index card when the index is assembled. The auxiliary sub-index cards are still further reduced in width being provided with tabs 6 designed when the index is assembled to terminate in alinement with the edge of the main sub-index cards, it being understood, of course, that the tabs of these respective sub-index cards are arranged relatively off-set so as to provide for a ready in-

spection of all of the tabs of either the main or auxiliary indexes without interference.

The series of main sub-index cards are arranged to follow each of the main index cards, the main sub-index tabs bearing a sub-classification relative to the main index, by the indication on said tabs of the main index initial followed by the letter entering into ordinary combination with the initial letter of the main index, as for example in the case of the letter C the main sub-index tabs will bear respectively in successive order Ca, Ce, Ch, Ci, Cl, Co, Cu, and any other letter which in the ordinary classification for which the index is to be used would follow the initial letter, as Cr.

The auxiliary sub-index cards are arranged between the respective main sub-index cards, the tabs of such auxiliary cards bearing the ordinary combinations of the two letters indicated on the main sub-index card which they follow, and a third letter which in the intended use of the index would be used with the two letters of the main sub-index. In the case of the letter C shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the auxiliary sub-index card includes the combination of Ca with practically all of the letters of the alphabet.

It is to be understood, of course, that each main index card is followed by a series of main sub-index cards bearing upon their tabs the combination of the main letter with another letter ordinarily used therewith and presenting a sub-classification to the main index. Each of the main sub-index cards are to be followed by a series of auxiliary sub-indexes combining with the two letters of the main sub-index a third letter which provides a further sub-classification. As clearly shown in the drawings the record leaves of the book are interposed between the index cards; the leaf preceding each main index card extends only to the auxiliary sub-index, the next preceding leaf is wide enough to cover the auxiliary sub-index, and the next preceding leaf extends over the sub-index; the leaf preceding each sub-index card covers the auxiliary sub-index only and the leaves preceding this last mentioned leaf, and the leaves between the auxiliary sub-index cards only extend to the index of these cards.

In use it is to be understood that the main index alone is visible when the book is in closed position, so that the user, desiring to



find the leaf of the book devoted to Campbell will divide the index at the letter C, whereupon there is presented to his view the main sub-index and the auxiliary sub-index 5 illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawings. He will then divide the auxiliary sub-index cards at the tab Cam presenting to his view the leaf of the book it is desired to find. Should, however, he desire to find the name Cham- 10 pion he will after dividing the book at the main index card C and finding presented to his view the respective sub-indexes indicated will further divide the main sub-index at the tab Ch, whereupon there will be presented 15 to his view a series of auxiliary sub-index tabs bearing the combinations of Ch and the other possible letters of the alphabet. He may then readily divide the auxiliary sub-index at Cha, which will disclose the leaf of 20 the book desired.

In indexes of this character devoted to particular uses, as a ledger for example, whereupon the leaves are devoted to names it may be desirable to utilize the main sub- 25 index, or a portion thereof as indicating the entire name, sub-dividing the same according to the initial of the first name for example, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

In connection with the particular form of 30 index described it is to be noted that the index cards and leaves are so arranged as to provide for the gradual development of the sub-divisions in use, so that when the book is closed only the main index tabs are pre- 35 sented to view, and when initially opened at the main index letter only the main sub-indexes of that letter become visible, so that the cards and leaves are cut to provide against the sub-divisions appearing to view

except at the desired division, whereby all 40 confusion and complication is avoided.

It is to be further noted in connection with and as an initial part of the present index that the system throughout is duplicated on 45 each of the tabs of the index cards, so that the user may work backward through the book as well as forward.

It will be observed that the sub-indexes commence in alinement with the initial let- 50 ters, and by providing record leaves of different widths and extending the full length of the book, the sub-indexes of the lower initial letters will be effectively hidden while look- 55 ing for a name under the letters at the top of the book.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new, is:—

An indexed book, comprising an index embodying a series of main index cards, bearing in alinement properly spaced, an initial letter, 60 the combination of the initial letter and a second letter, and the combination of the initial letter, a second letter and a third letter, a series of sub-index cards bearing in alinement properly spaced the combination 65 of an initial letter and a second letter, and the combination of an initial letter, a second letter and a third letter, and a series of auxiliary, sub-index cards bearing a combination of the initial letter and a second and third 70 letter, and record leaves interposed between the index cards, said leaves varying in width.

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

WILLIS J. ROUSSEL.

Witnesses:

N. S. JARANORICH,  
GEO. F. SIEMANN.