J. F. STALCUP. LUMBER CALCULATOR. APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1910.

990,603.

Patented Apr. 25, 1911.

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Witnesses M. J. Taylor

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J.F. Stalcup.
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attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. STALCUP, OF HOUSTON, TEXAS.

LUMBER-CALCULATOR.

990,603.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 25, 1911.

Application filed January 17, 1910. Serial No. 538,479.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, James F. Stalcup, a citizen of the United States, residing at Houston, in the county of Harris and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lumber-Calculators, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a method or means for indicating or calculating the amount of lumber in any given number of pieces of manufactured lumber, said pieces being of definite dimensions and lengths.

For a full understanding of the invention reference is to be had to the following detail description and the accompanying drawing, which represents a fragment of a device made in accordance with this invention.

In carrying out this invention it is contemplated that there will be provided as many charts as may be required to represent measurements for all the ordinary forms of lumber, such for instance as 1x4's, 2x4's, 2x6's, 1x6's, 1x8's, 2x8's, and so on. The part indicated at A is one designed to be used with reference to lumber of the dimension 2x6's, and the same is divided into main blocks indicated at a, each of said blocks being designated by a numeral to indicate the length of the lumber appertaining thereto, said indicating numerals being referred to by the letter b.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a means whereby at a glance the number of board feet in any given number of pieces of manufactured lumber or timber of known dimensions or length may be indicated without resorting to mathematical

Each of the main blocks a includes a main group of numerals or columns of numerals indicated at a', a plurality of vertical single columns at one side of the main group, and a horizontal series of numerals. The main group a' of numerals is preferably separated from the vertical columns and the horizontal series of numbers by distinguishing charac-

ter of line c and c', the same bling of some suitable color or in some other way made to guide the eye readily of the observer. At the lower left hand corner of the main group a' and preferably below the horizontal indicator line is a base numeral d. The base numeral represents the number of board feet in a piece of lumber of the length indicated

by the indicating numeral b and of the dimension indicated at e at the top of the

chart. One of the vertical columns f is made up of key numbers to be used in guiding the eve of the observer to the result desired. Another of said vertical columns, indicated 60 at g, represents multiples of tens of the base numeral, and at h is indicated the third vertical column of numbers representing multiples of hundreds of the base numeral. Each main group a' is made up of nine ver- 65 tical columns, each of which is headed at the top by a unit digit a'', and below the horizontal leader line c' at the right of the base numeral d the numerals represent the number of board feet of the character of lumber 70 indicated in as many pieces as are indicated by the unit digits a''. Starting from the base number d the number of board feet in a single piece may be considered as being directly beneath the unit digit 1 in set $a^{\prime\prime}$, or 75 upon the opposite side of the leader line c opposite the numeral 1 in the column of key numbers f. The number of board feet in any number of tens indicated by the other numbers of the key number column f will 80 be represented by the corresponding numbers in column g. The combination of any number of tens with any number of units will be represented by the number found in the main group a' opposite the proper num- 85 ber of tens in column f and directly beneath the proper unit digit in the main group a'. For instance, if it be desired to determine the number of board feet in sixty-seven pieces of 2x6's, 12 feet in length the observer would 90 run his eye down the chart to the main block α indicated by the indicating number 12 and beginning at 60 in column f would glance thence to the right as far as the column in the main group a' headed by the unit digit 95 7 where he would locate the number 804. The same process would be followed in determining the number of board feet in any other number of pieces of lumber of a certain size less than one hundred. For a num- 100 ber of pieces greater than one hundred column h will be observed and to the number of board feet found by the above method for. tens and units will be added the number in the column h opposite the required number 105 of hundreds. For instance, should it be desired to determine the number of board feet in seven hundred and sixty-three pieces of lumber 2x6's and 14 feet long the observer's eye would pass to the left of 70 in the key 110 number column f to the number 9800 thence to the right of the key number 60 as far as

882 in the main group a', which, by a simple mental process, added to 9800 gives 10,682,

the required number.

The terms vertical, horizontal, right and 5 left used above are to be understood as being merely relative, and that the arrangement might be altered so as to read from left to right or up and down as might be required by different individuals, without departing 10 from the spirit of the invention, and I do not desire to be limited to the exact form or arrangement of the device hereinbefore set forth.

I claim:—

A lumber calculating chart as described having dimension indicia at its top denoting the sectional area of pieces of lumber the board feet in which are to be computed, and said chart embodying a plurality of blocks 20 or groups of figures, each group of figures being associated with a numeral indicative of the linear feet of boards for which said group affords a computation, and including a series of base numerals denoting the num-

ber of board feet in one or more pieces of 25 lumber of the size prescribed by the dimension indicia, and each group embodying a vertical column of key numerals representing the numbers of pieces of lumber in tens, a horizontal column of numerals represent- 30 ing numbers of pieces of lumber in units, and other numerals in each group constituting multiples of the tens and unit numerals aforesaid and the numerals indicating the linear feet and associated with each group 35 of figures, the two last mentioned sets of numerals being located at one side of the key numerals, and a final set of numerals arranged on the opposite side of the key numerals and representing multiples of 40 hundreds of the base numeral.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature

in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES F. STALCUP.

Witnesses:

F. B. Dwyer, T. J. McDonald.