

(No Model.)

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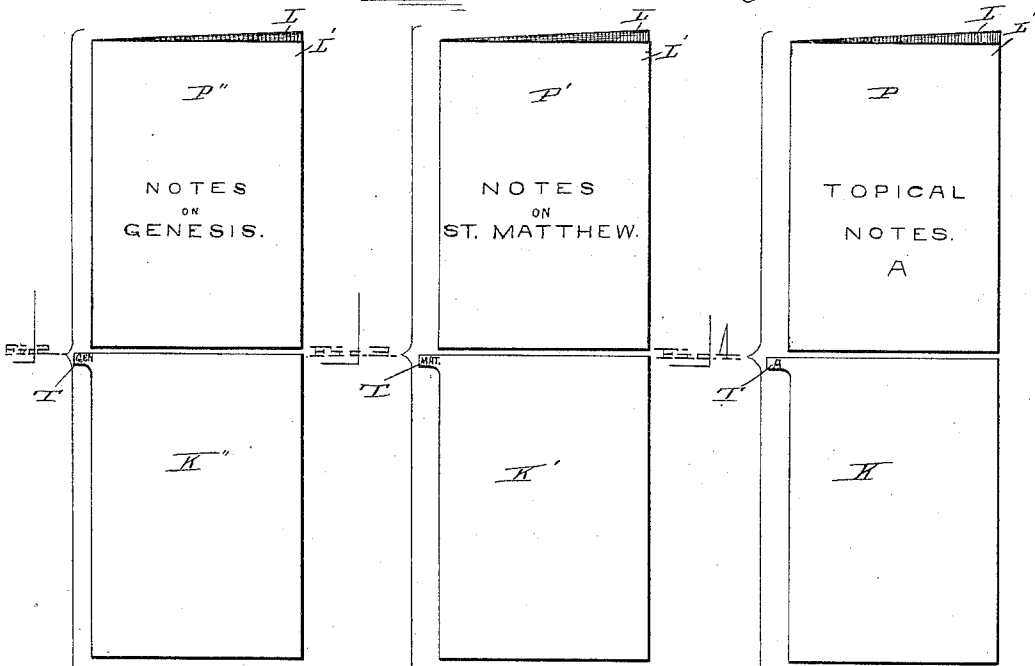
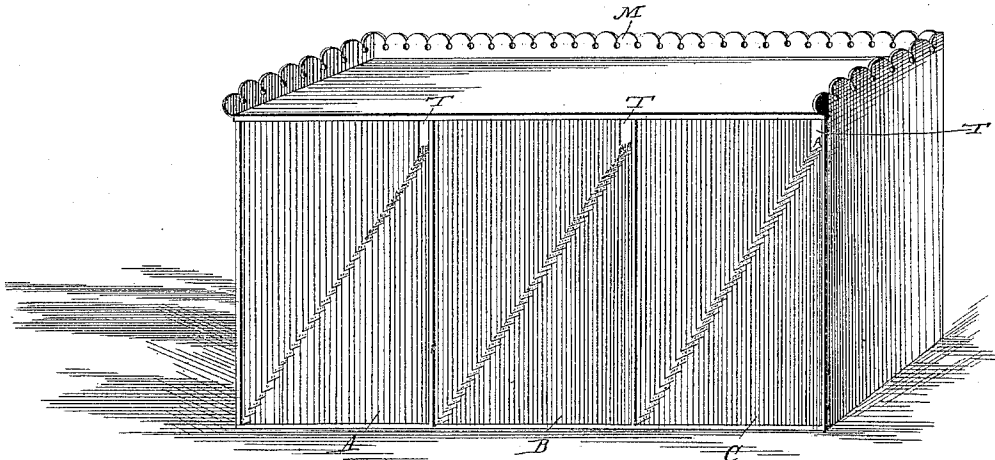
R. D. RICHARDSON & C. A. SADLEIR.

INDEXED FILE.

No. 444,853.

Patented Jan. 20, 1891.

Fig. 1



WITNESSES

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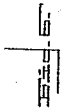
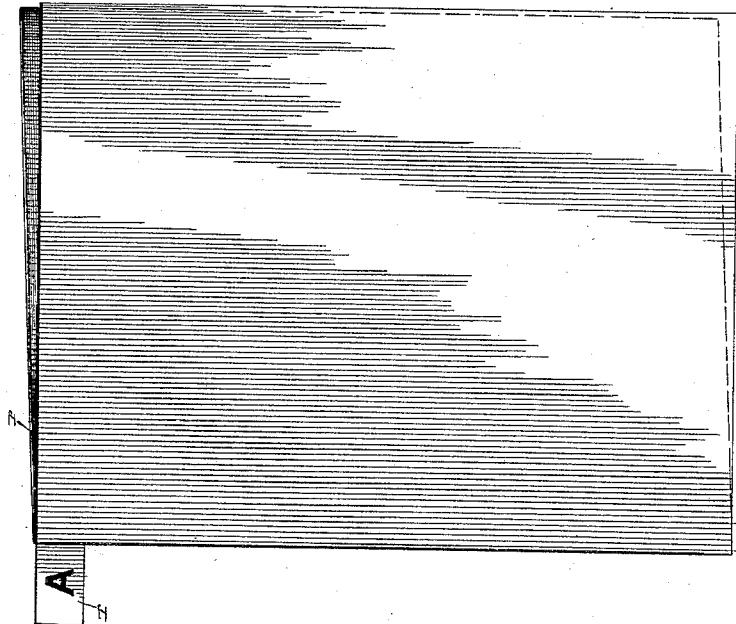
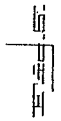
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT DENNIS RICHARDSON, OF WINNIPEG, AND CHARLES ALDBOROUGH
SADLEIR, OF TORONTO, CANADA.

INDEXED FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 444,853, dated January 20, 1891.

Application filed March 8, 1890. Serial No. 343,127. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ROBERT DENNIS RICHARDSON, residing at Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, and CHARLES ALDBOROUGH SADLEIR, residing at Toronto, Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, subjects of the Queen of Great Britain, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indexed Files; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention consists of the improved form of indexed file for notes and papers, hereinafter to be described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a complete case, with several compartments filled with the notes and papers properly filed. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 are perspective views of portfolios and corresponding blanks designed to be used in different compartments of the case. Fig. 5 is a modification. Fig. 6 is a tabular index.

Throughout the drawings like reference letters refer to like parts.

It is extremely desirable for clergymen and other professional men who are continually dealing with a particular range of subjects to have a convenient file in which stray notes and memoranda of all sorts may be readily placed and to which subsequent reference may readily and accurately be made. Such a file should be simple in construction, convenient to handle, and detachable in its parts, so that the portion needed at any particular time may be removed without necessitating the handling of the entire bulk of accumulated matter. To accomplish these results we have designed the improved file illustrated, in which—

M represents any convenient form of case containing one, two, or any number of compartments A B C, each of which compartments would be dedicated to a general class of subjects. Thus if the file is to be used by a clergyman compartment A might be dedicated to notes on the Old Testament, compartment B to notes on the New Testament, compartment C to topical notes, &c. We

then provide a set of portfolios P P' P'' and a set of blanks K K' K'' of equal size, which shall fit neatly into the compartments of the case M, as shown in Fig. 1.

Each portfolio consists simply of two leaves L L', as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, and has printed on its face a general descriptive title of its contents corresponding to the title of the compartment in which it is to be placed, such as "Notes," "Topical Notes," &c., and also a title, character, or abbreviation referring to the specific sub-class which that particular portfolio contains.

Each of the blanks K K' K'' has attached to it, preferably in the upper left-hand corner, a projection or tag, or each of the blanks K K' K'' may be so shaped as to have a part of the blank projecting, on which is printed an abbreviation or character corresponding to the abbreviation or character marked on the face of the portfolio to which that blank corresponds, indicating its particular sub-class of contents. Thus each of the blanks corresponding to a portfolio to be used in the compartment of topical notes would have on this projection or tag a mark such as A, B, or C if the contents of that compartment were to be indexed alphabetically, or 1, 2, or 3 if the contents were to be indexed numerically. In the same way the blanks corresponding to the portfolios to be used in the New Testament compartment would have the abbreviations "Mat.," "Mark," and so on, to indicate the different books of the New Testament to which the corresponding portfolios were devoted. These projections or tags are so arranged that when the blanks and portfolios composing one set are assembled these projections or tags will not obscure one another, but will be so graduated that all the marks contained thereon will be visible to the eye of the observer, as clearly indicated in Fig. 1.

The advantages of our improved file are obvious. It is simple in construction, and any worn or destroyed parts can be readily replaced. Notes and memoranda of any shape can be readily placed in the portfolios with or without folding. The operator can refer instantly to any particular sub-class, and can withdraw the portfolio containing

the same without disturbing the other portions of the file, and when any particular sub-class has been so withdrawn the contents can be quickly examined and replaced with little danger of getting them into the wrong pocket, as is frequently the case in ordinary forms of indexed files.

In using our invention the blanks bearing the projections or tags are sandwiched in between the portfolios, being arranged in their regular order. Thus in arranging the topical notes the blank marked A would be first placed on the table face down. On this would be placed the portfolio marked A. Next the blank marked B, on this the portfolio marked B, and so on. The whole set would then be placed in the compartment provided for them. Whenever the operator wishes to look up his notes on any particular topic, such as "Palestine," he can readily find the portfolio marked P, which will be next to the blank whose tag has that mark. The portfolio may then be easily removed, its contents examined, added to, or subtracted from, and the portfolio replaced without disturbing the rest of the file or by any possibility mixing up its contents.

The blanks K K' K'' may be dispensed with in the construction and use of our invention by placing the projections or tags upon the portfolios P P' P'', as shown in Fig. 5; but the use of the blanks K K' K'' is preferred.

Other means of associating the tags with their corresponding portfolios may be employed, and we do not limit ourselves to any particular method so long as the tags are definitely associated with their corresponding portfolios.

Another feature of our invention consists in a tabular index for each portfolio, printed on or attached to the back thereof. Taking any book, as Genesis, this table has vertical lines for chapters and horizontal lines for verses. Between successive lines and the intersecting cross-lines are blank spaces in which the operator may write a number or other character referring to the position which the notes relating to the chapter and verse belonging to the lines which intersect at that point occupies relatively to the other contents of the portfolio. Thus if the first notes or sermon which the operator put in the portfolio related to the seventh verse of the ninth chapter of Genesis he would mark those notes "1" and put a corresponding numeral at the point shown in Fig. 6. If the next sermon were on the fourth verse of the eighteenth chapter, the figure 2 would be written on it and at the point in the table indicated in Fig. 6, and so on, so that when the portfolio becomes filled with a hundred or more sermons any one can be immediately located by looking in the tabular index. Knowing the text of the desired sermon, its number is instantly given by said tabular index,

and as the contents of the portfolio are kept in numerical order the operator can turn to it at once.

Having therefore described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to protect by Letters Patent, is—

1. An indexed file which consists of the combination of a number of portfolios of uniform size, each bearing on its face a general descriptive title of its contents and a particular character or abbreviation referring to the special sub-class contained therein, together with a corresponding number of blanks of the same size as the portfolios, each of said blanks having a tag or projection which bears the same character or abbreviation as the portfolio to which that blank corresponds, said tags being so placed that when the complete set of blanks are assembled the tags will not obscure one another, but will all be visible to the observer, substantially as described.

2. An indexed file which consists of the combination of a case having any number of separate compartments for general classes of matter, and in each compartment a number of portfolios of uniform size, each bearing on its face a general descriptive title of its contents and a particular character or abbreviation referring to the special sub-class contained therein, together with a corresponding number of blanks of the same size as the portfolios, each of said blanks having a tag or projection which bears the same character or abbreviation as the portfolio to which that blank corresponds and next to which it is placed, said tags being so placed that when the complete set of blanks is assembled the tags will not obscure one another; but will all be visible to the observer, substantially as described.

3. An indexed file which consists of the combination of a number of portfolios of uniform size, each bearing on its face a general descriptive title of its contents and a particular character or abbreviation referring to the special sub-class contained therein, and each of said portfolios having a tag or projection associated therewith which bears the same character or abbreviation as the portfolio bears upon its face, said tags projecting beyond the backs of the folios, being so placed that when the complete set of portfolios are assembled the tags will not obscure one another, but will all be visible to the observer, substantially as described.

4. An indexed file which consists of the combination of a case having any number of separate compartments for general classes of matter, and in each compartment a number of portfolios of uniform size, each bearing on its face a general descriptive title of its contents and a particular character or abbreviation referring to the special sub-class contained therein, and each of said portfolios having a tag or projection associated there-

with which bears the same character or abbreviation as the portfolio bears upon its face, said tags projecting beyond the backs of the folios, being so placed that where the complete set of portfolios are assembled the tags will not obscure one another, but will all be visible to the observer, substantially as described.

5. A set of portfolios for biblical notes, each portfolio being devoted to one book of the Bible and provided with an indexing-table which has vertical lines for chapters and horizontal lines for verses, with blank spaces at the intersection of said lines in which a character may be written referring to the portfolio which that portion of the contents of the

portfolio which relates to that chapter and verse occupies relative to the rest of the contents of the portfolio, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of witnesses.

ROBERT DENNIS RICHARDSON.
CHARLES ALDBOROUGH SADLEIR.

Witnesses for Robert Dennis Richardson:

FRANCIS S. HALLAM,
W. A. BISHOP.

Witnesses for Charles Aldborough Sadleir:

A. C. MACDOWELL,
Barrister.

E. C. TYRRELL,
Book-keeper.