

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMBINED TALLY-SHEET AND POLL-BOOK.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. KINNARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Tally-Sheets and Poll-Books, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in combined tally-sheets and poll-books for election purposes, and has for its object the production in a single compact binding of a combined tally-sheet and poll-book for the use of the officers of elections, wherein is contained in a readily accessible, accurate, and compact form the names of all the voters, the names of the candidates of all parties, and the number of votes cast for each candidate, and so arranged and displayed as that the total number of votes cast for each candidate may be accurately read off at a glance, and whereby, after the polls have been closed and the proper certificates have been made in said books by the clerks and judges of the election, the whole may be transmitted to the proper officer or officers in a precise and compact and not readily-alterable form. The novelty of my invention will be herein set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1, Sheet 1, is a perspective view of the book open at the certificate and index pages. Fig. 2, Sheet 1, is a partial view showing the first page of the tally-sheet open. Fig. 3, Sheet 1, is a corresponding view of the book opened at the first page of the poll-book. Fig. 4, Sheet 1, represents the certificate accompanying the poll-book at its end. Fig. 5, Sheet 2, is a perspective view of the book, representing a modification in its arrangement.

The same letters of reference are used to indicate identical parts in all the figures.

In Fig. 1, A A represent the backs of a book inclosing the edges of the leaves at A', where they are stitched together in the usual manner. The first leaf of the book, B B', is of double the width of the book, and creased down in the middle, the crease being protected with a guard, so that the half B' can be folded

over on the leaf B without breaking. When the half B' is folded onto the half B, this double leaf is inclosed within the backs of the book like any other leaf. On the inner face of the half B'—that is, the face shown in the drawings—are arranged proper columns and lines, as shown, for the names of the offices to be filled and of the candidates for each office, respectively. On the other half, B, is printed a blank certificate to be filled by the clerks or officers who conduct the election, with the number of votes cast for each candidate. This single sheet or double leaf therefore constitutes of itself a complete certificate, when filled out, of the entire election. It is, however, desirable, and in some states necessary, to have attached to this certificate the tally-sheet of the election.

On the second leaf of the book is begun the tally. The first page of this leaf contains merely its title, with blanks for the particular election to be indicated. In use this leaf C is turned over onto the first leaf, so as to cover the half B of the first leaf. On the second page of this leaf the page presented when it is turned over as described is arranged a novel form of ruling. (Shown in Fig. 2.) Double horizontal lines *c* are drawn to conform with the lines separating the names of the candidates on page B' and joining said lines when the second leaf is turned over as described. Midway between these lines is drawn a double horizontal line, *c'*, preferably in red ink, thus dividing the space opposite the name of each candidate into two parallel spaces. The page is further divided perpendicularly by lines, as shown in Fig. 2. The page being divided into any convenient number of parts, perpendicular lines are drawn inclosing spaces wide enough for a column of figures, and the space between each of such columns of figures is divided by perpendicular lines into five parts, thus leaving opposite each candidate's name ten small squares between each column of figures, said squares being in two horizontal rows of five each, one above the other. At the top of the page, in the spaces made by the horizontal lines at the head of each perpendicular row of squares, is printed a series of numbers beginning with 10 and continuing with each multiple of ten, as 20, 30, 40, and so on up to the space reserved for the perpendicular row

of figures. In this space, opposite the name of each candidate, is printed the number 50. This ruling and numbering is continued through as many pages as necessary.

- 5 The tally is kept by the clerk recording the votes by short marks or lines in each square—four parallel and one at an angle to the other four, making five, as shown at D in Fig. 2. This is done in each square across the page, so that the ten squares between each row of perpendicular figures contains space for the tally of fifty votes, and each perpendicular row of squares contains room for the tally of ten votes.
- 10
- 15 As each leaf is turned over, the horizontal rows of squares are brought opposite the names of the candidates, and the successive numbering of the columns shows, at a glance at the last square filled, the number of votes cast for each candidate, it being only necessary to count the votes or marks in the partially-filled squares and add them to the figure at the head of the column of the last filled square, and by having the page or half-leaf containing the names fold out, as shown, the name of each candidate is always near the line of squares where his votes are recorded, and mistakes are prevented, which are always liable to occur where a wide sheet is used.
- 20
- 25
- 30 Any number of pages are thus ruled and numbered, according to the number of votes to be recorded.

Where it is desired to keep the tally of votes for the different parties separate, the book may contain two sets of names and two such leaves, as B B', with tags attached to the edge of the leaf, as shown at K, Figs. 1 and 5, with the name of the party, and which serve as place or book marks. Unless, however, the number of candidates is large, or one party is likely to secure a much larger number of votes than the other, it is more convenient to have the names of all the candidates in a single column.

When a sufficient number of pages have been ruled and numbered for keeping the tally, the pages are then arranged as a poll-book, the first page containing the title, as shown in Fig. 3, followed by lines numbered from one up consecutively.

- 50 The name of each voter is recorded as his vote is taken, and the number opposite his name indicates the number of persons who have voted, as well as the order in which each vote was taken. Any number of the pages of the book are thus numbered as are found necessary, followed by a blank certificate to be filled by the proper officer of the election.

It is sometimes necessary to have the entire tally-sheet in one unbroken sheet of paper, instead of leaves bound together. In that case a wide sheet of paper is taken, divided into pages, and ruled and numbered only on one side. It is then creased between each page, and the crease guarded with a strip of linen or other flexible material, to prevent the paper from tearing or breaking. The sheet is then folded, as shown in Fig.

5. As the squares in each page are filled, the next leaf is turned, thus keeping the name always within two pages from the squares to be filled with the tally, instead of being removed across a wide sheet.

The whole tally-sheet and poll-book are thus kept in a compact and permanent form. The arrangement of the double page or leaf B B' secures great convenience and accuracy. The double lines, especially those in color, dividing the space opposite each name into two horizontal parallel parts, form a clear and distinct division, and prevent or tend to prevent the very frequent and troublesome confusion arising from running the tallies across into both squares.

The double horizontal and perpendicular rows of numbers greatly facilitate the work of counting the votes, and enable one desiring at any time to know the tally to learn at a glance the number of votes recorded for any candidate.

If necessary, the tally-sheet may be made separate from the poll-book—that is, not bound together—the backs of the book acting as a removable holder or portfolio, so that either the tally-sheet or poll-book may be used separate and then inclosed in the book.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim—

1. A combined tally-sheet and poll-book having its first sheet of a greater width than the back of the book, and creased so as to be folded upon itself when the book is closed, said sheet containing on its left-hand page the names of the respective offices in one column and the names of the respective candidates in an opposite column, and upon its right-hand page a certificate of the number of votes cast for each candidate, and tally-sheets folding over the right-hand page of said sheet, and provided with numbered spaces that are brought in line with the lines of offices and candidates, respectively, substantially as described.

2. A tally-sheet folded into leaves and provided with numbered squares for the tally, separated by double lines in color, in combination with a double leaf folding upon itself, and containing blanks for the names of the candidates, so arranged as to be next to each leaf of the tally-sheet as it is turned over for use, substantially as described.

3. A combined tally-sheet and poll-book containing double leaves folding upon themselves in the manner described, and pages divided into squares numbered by horizontal and perpendicular rows of figures, in combination with blank certificates, the whole being bound into a single book or volume, substantially as described.

WILLIAM M. KINNARD.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM C. KETTE,
WILLIAM H. YOUNG.