## Ex Ante



Gerson in the same place, displaying the back of the same shirt.

and this one. We also are inclined to think that Gerson has good taste in law-related knick-knacks.

## AN INDEX OF NOT MUCH

A ttention junior scholars. Preparing an index for a book-length work is a difficult and time-consuming exercise that will not earn you any extra academical glory, or money. The benefits of indexing will be visited entirely on people other than yourself — people who merely want to learn from your work, or at least make good use of it. Indeed, a well-made index

## Ex Ante

is a true blessing for the reader-researcher-explorer, and a true curse for the author-indexer-guide. Nevertheless, you should not attempt the maneuver described below until you have safely crossed over to tenured status:

Readers having recourse to this index should be alert to certain compromises that have been made between comprehensiveness in indexing and the publishing economies to be obtained through brevity. . . . [E]ven diligent use of an exhaustive index would not be a substitute for a careful reading of the book. For those readers unwilling to do so, . . . .

George Lee Haskins & Herbert A. Johnson, *About the Index*, in THE OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES DEVISE HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, VOLUME II: FOUNDATIONS OF POWER: JOHN MARSHALL, 1801-15, at 679 (1981) (introducing an index that is not much longer, or more useful, than the introduction to the index).