ABSTRACT

The present invention comprises:

image input means 1 for inputting characters, symbols, and graphics as image data;

storage means 2 for storing image data that has read in by the image input means 1, as image data without modification;

display means 3 for displaying the image data in a file format wherein one item of image data is displayed as one page;

range specification means 4 for specifying a range of a predetermined portion of image data displayed on the display means 3;

character recognition means 5 for converting into character data an array of pixels within a range specified by the range specification means 4; and

editing means 7 for editing as character data the character data that has been converted by the character recognition means 5.