No. 797,640. PATENTED AUG. 22, 1905.

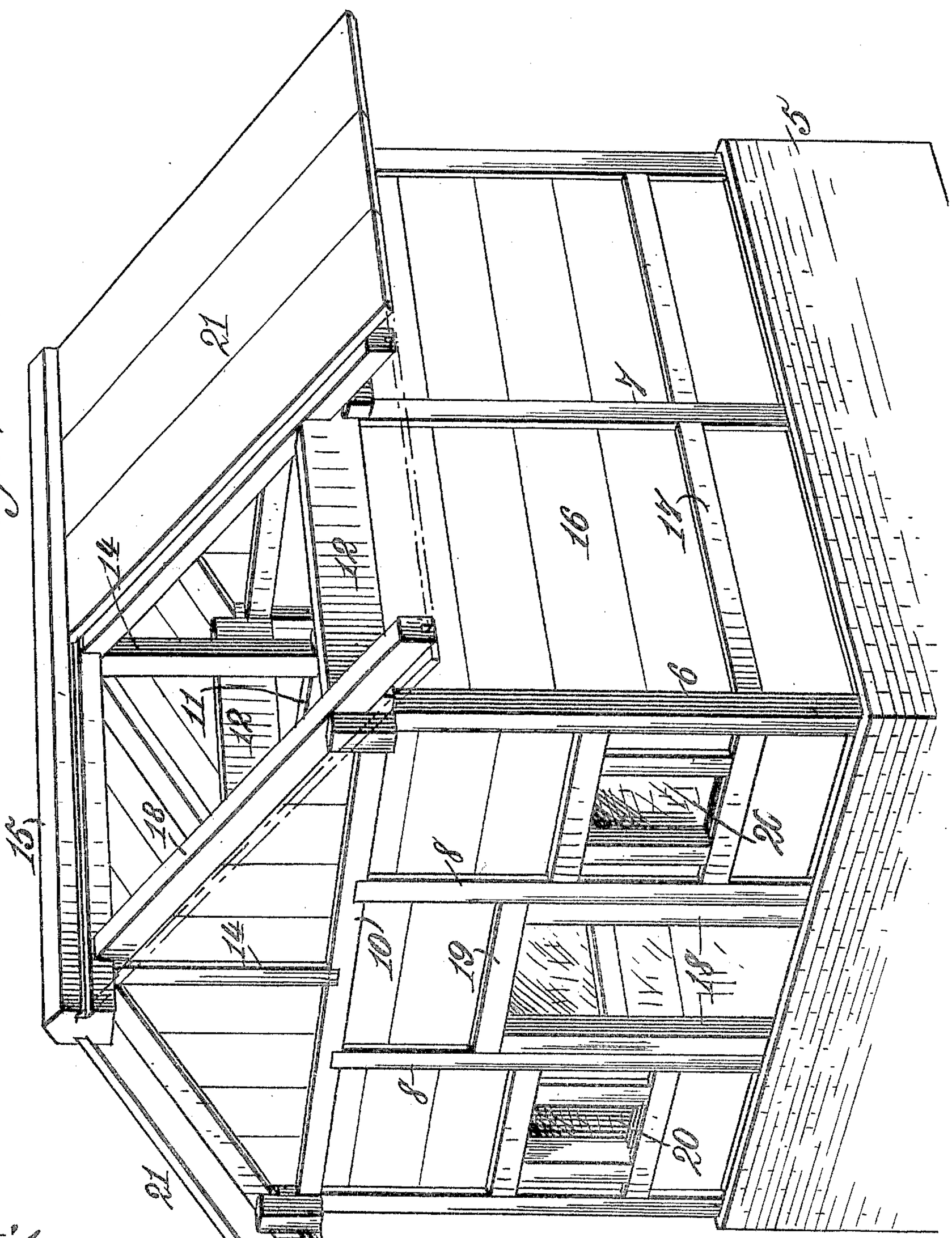
J. MacN. THOMPSON.

TOY HOUSE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 13, 1905.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



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James L. Norris.

Inventor:
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

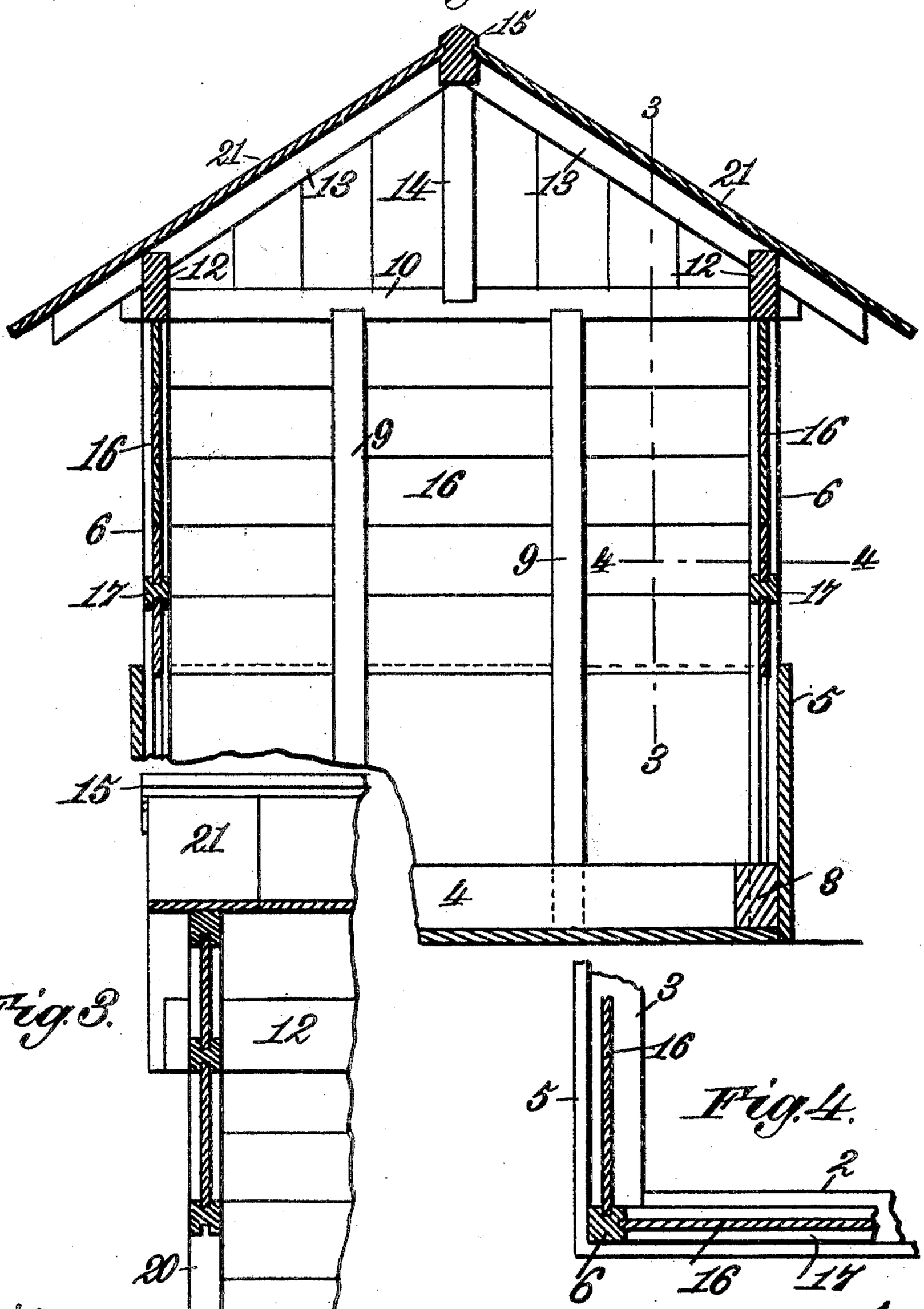

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 5.

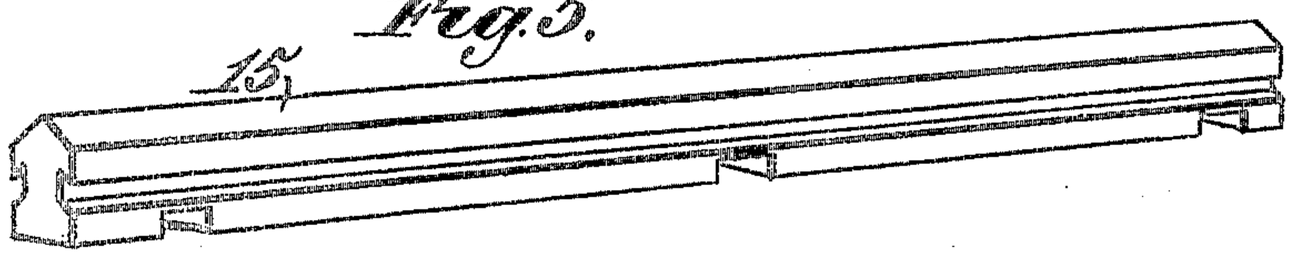


Fig. 7.

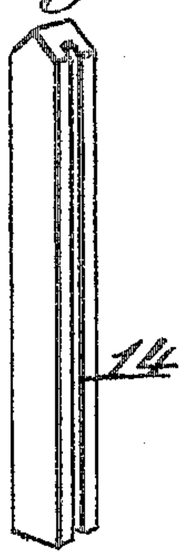


Fig. 6.

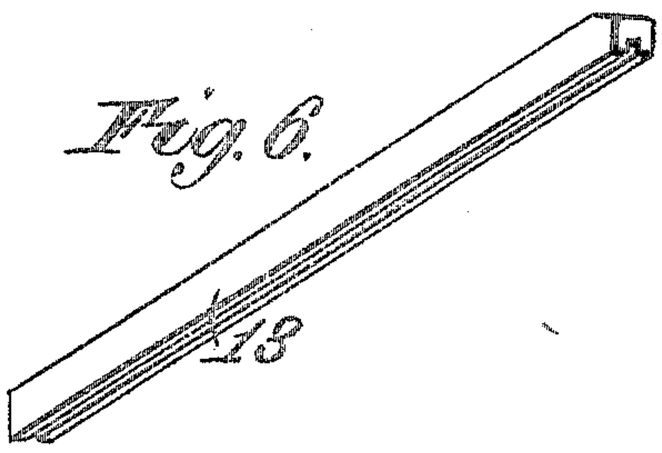


Fig. 10.

Fig. 11.

Fig. 8.

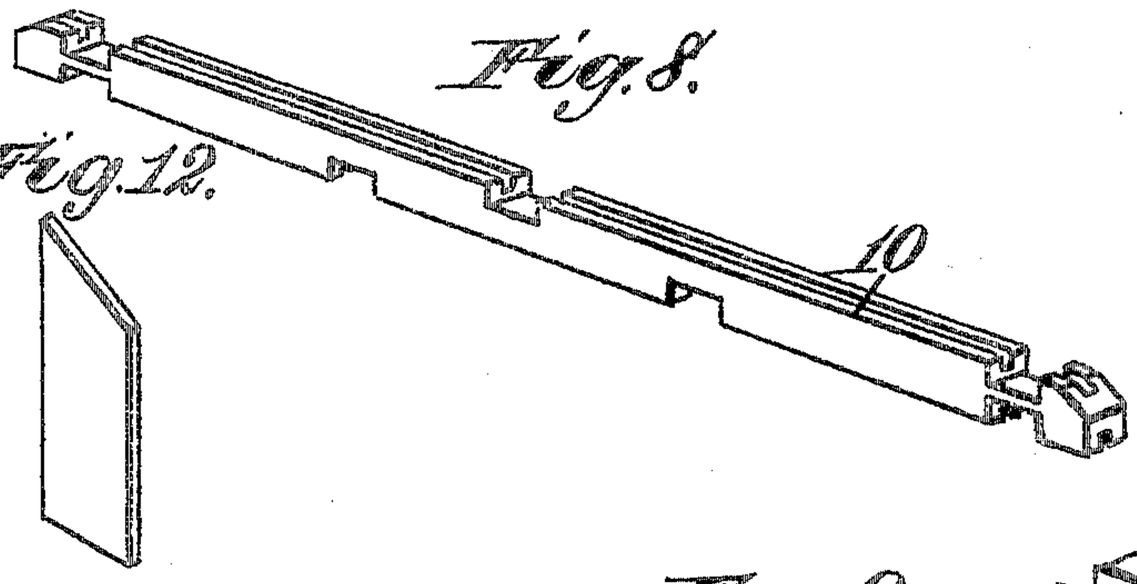


Fig. 12.

Fig. 13.

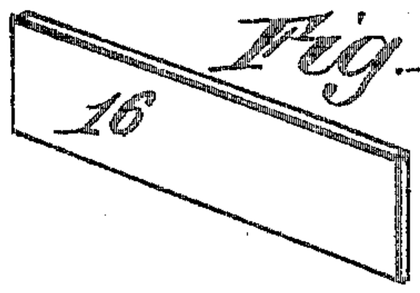


Fig. 9.

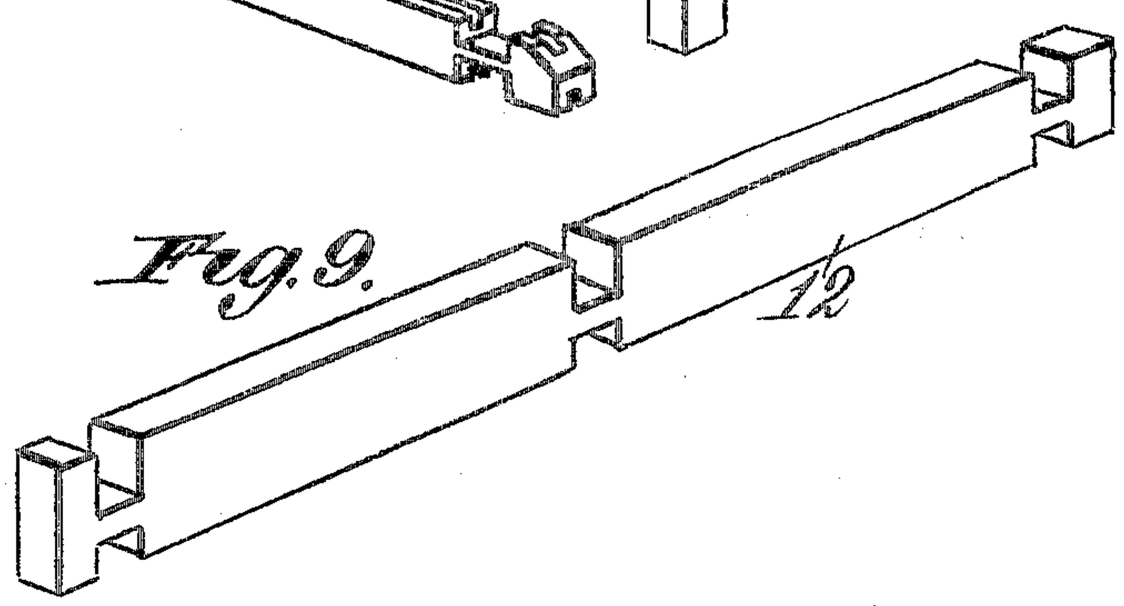


Fig. 14.

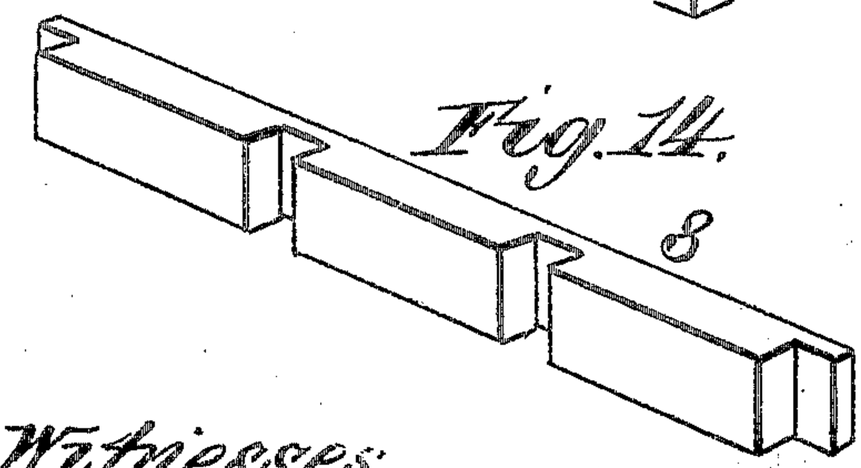
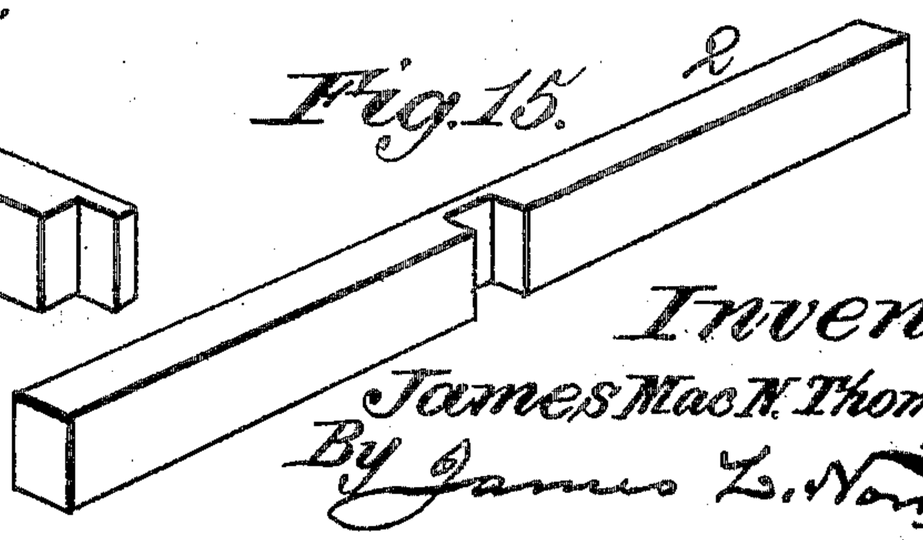


Fig. 15.



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By James L. Norris
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES MacN. THOMPSON, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE EMBOSSING COMPANY, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

TOY HOUSE.

No. 797,640. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 22, 1905.

Application filed May 13, 1905. Serial No. 260,309.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES MacN. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Albany, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Toy Houses, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to toy houses, the object of the invention being to provide an article of this character composed of easily-made sections or blocks adapted to be assembled together to form a miniature building of an attractive character. The sections or blocks can be made to occupy but a small compass for easy handling and shipment, while some skill will be required by and considerable amusement will be afforded to children in putting the sections or blocks together to form the house. The sections or blocks can be inexpensively made and when in proper relation produce a house that is comparatively stable. The sections or blocks can be painted or colored in any desirable way to produce different appearances or effects.

I have illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, a simple form of embodiment of the invention, this being done to indicate the nature and advantages of the invention.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and practice the invention, I will set forth in detail the structure represented, and what is novel will be involved in the claims succeeding said description.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a toy-house including my invention with several of the roofing-strips removed. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional elevation. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation, the section being on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view, the section being on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Figs. 5 to 15 are detail views in perspective of certain of the parts of the house separated, Fig. 5 being the ridge-pole, Fig. 6 a rafter, Fig. 7 a crown-post, Fig. 8 a front beam, Fig. 9 a side beam, Figs. 10 and 11 vertical posts, Figs. 12 and 13 filling-pieces, and Figs. 14 and 15 two sills.

Like characters refer to like parts throughout the different views.

The base of the house is represented as consisting of sills, four of them being shown in the present instance, and comprising two side sills 2 and front and rear sills 3 and 4, respectively. These sills may be inexpensively made from wood, and they are shown when in operative relation as taking a substantially rectangular form, the two side sills fitting between and their opposite ends abutting against the front and rear sills. To prevent the base, composed of the sills, from being displaced, I provide holding means, represented as a frame 5, of continuous and rectangular form. The four sills of the building are adapted to fit within the surrounding frame 5. The latter may be of wood, and when the sills are fitted thereinto they are prevented from being moved outward, so that the rest of the structure can be readily built up from the base.

Four corner-posts are illustrated, each of them being denoted by 6, the butts of said posts being fitted in rabbets formed in the ends of the front and rear sills. Two faces of each corner-post will therefore fit against the two walls of a complemental rabbet, while the other two faces thereof will be in contact with the inclosing or surrounding frame 5 at the corners, said surrounding frame aiding the front and rear sills in maintaining the corner-posts in verticalism. In addition to the corner-posts two side posts 7 are shown, while there are two front posts 8 and two rear posts 9 illustrated. The butts of these side, front, and rear posts fit in tenon recesses or notches formed in the several sills 2, 3, and 4 between the ends thereof. The outer faces of the said side, front, and rear posts fit against the surrounding frame 5, or substantially so, it being evident that the tenon recesses or notches which receive the same are open upon their outer sides, by virtue of which the surrounding or inclosing frame will hold said side, front, and rear posts in proper vertical position in connection with the sills, as has been described with respect to the corner-posts. The surrounding frame therefore serves a double purpose. Said surrounding frame and sills are made sufficiently deep, of course, to prevent the posts from tipping over when set up.

In the formation of the building the base, made up of the sills, is first laid, after which the surrounding frame is placed about said base, following which the posts are set up. At the front and rear of the building are tie-pieces 10, having square notches or tenon-re-

cesses in their under sides to receive the corner-posts 6 and the front and rear posts 8 and 9, respectively. This is a ready way of associating the said tie-pieces with the posts at the front and rear of the building, for endwise movement of the said tie-pieces is prevented in this way. The means for preventing lateral motion of these tie-pieces will be hereinafter described.

In addition to the front and rear tie-pieces 10 there is an intermediate tie-piece 11, having on its under side square recesses or tenon-notches to receive the tops of the side posts 7.

The top of the body of the house is formed by the tie-pieces 10 and 11 and two side or stringer-pieces 12, somewhat deeper than the tie-pieces. The under sides of these side pieces 12 have square recesses or notches to receive the several tie-pieces 10 and 11 near the opposite ends thereof, so that when the side pieces 12 are properly limited as to endwise movement they act to prevent lateral movement of the three tie-pieces. The side pieces are deeper than the tie-pieces, as indicated, as they are intended not only to receive the tie-pieces, but to also receive the rafters, (each denoted by 13.) There are three rafters upon each side of the building, and the side pieces 12 have deep recesses in their upper sides, and the rafters lie in these recesses. The inner ends of the front and rear rafters 13 rest upon the oppositely-inclined faces at the top of the king-posts 14, said faces being at such an angle as to assure that the rafters will be at the proper pitch. In addition to fitting on top of or being supported by the king-posts 14 at their inner ends the rafters also fit at said inner ends in notches or recesses in the under side of the ridge-pole 15. The bases of the king-posts fit in notches or tenon-recesses in the upper sides of the tie-pieces 10 and 11.

A frame constructed as described can be put together with facility and rapidity, and when put together the parts are prevented from being disjointed by ordinary jars, although they can be easily taken apart by manipulation. They are held together in a simple manner, in that no complicated devices, like dowel-pins or their equivalents, are provided for the purpose.

The front, rear, and sides of the building are composed of sheathing pieces or strips, each of which I will denote by 16. The body-sheathing pieces 16 have their ends removably fitted in longitudinal grooves in the several posts 6, 7, 8, and 9. The roof-sheathing pieces can have their ends fitted in longitudinal grooves in the front and rear tie-pieces 10 and the front and rear rafters 13.

In the sides of the building, to produce an artistic effect or the effect of a stone building, I may interpose between certain of the sheathing-pieces filling-blocks, as 17. In the front of the building I show a door and two windows. These may of course be provided in the sides or any other place in the building, as desired, the structure being the same. The door is composed of jambs 18 and a lintel 19, resting upon the tops of the jambs, the latter having tongues longitudinally along their outer sides to fit grooves in the adjacent front posts 8. The windows (each denoted in a general way by 20) each consist of a sill, two jambs, and a lintel. The sills rest upon sheathing-pieces 16 at the front of the house and in turn support the jambs, which in turn are surmounted by the lintels of the windows.

In putting the house together the base, composed of the several sills 2, 3, and 4, may be first laid, being afterward surrounded by the inclosing frame 5. After this the several posts 6, 7, 8, and 9 will be set up to permit the introduction of the body-sheathing pieces 16. When the body-sheathing pieces are in place, the door and windows having, of course, been put in, the tie-pieces 10 and 11 are mounted upon the posts, after which the side pieces 12 are put in position. When this is done, the roof-sheathing pieces, the king-posts, rafters, and ridge-pole can be associated together. Then the roof-strips 21 can be laid on, the inner ends of the said roof-strips being fitted in longitudinal channels formed in the side faces of the ridge-pole 15.

The inclosing frame 5 may, as indicated in Fig. 2, consist of the box itself in which the pieces or blocks of the house are packed when knocked down or in condition for shipment. Said box or frame 5 may be externally painted to represent a stone, brick, or other foundation for the house.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is—

1. A toy house involving four base-sills, two of which fit between two other sills, said sills having recesses, a continuous frame surrounding said sills to hold them in position, and corner and side posts fitted in said recesses and held in position by the sills and frame.

2. A toy house involving four base-sills, two of which fit between two other sills, said sills having recesses, a continuous frame surrounding said sills to hold them in position, corner and side posts fitted in said recesses and held in position by the sills and frame, sheathing-pieces, said posts having longitudinal grooves to receive said sheathing-pieces, and a roof structure, composed of separable parts, removably supported by the posts.

3. A toy house involving a base, posts separably associated with said base and rising therefrom, tie-pieces having recesses in their under sides to receive the tops of the posts, side pieces having recesses in their under sides to receive said tie-pieces and also having recesses in their upper sides, rafters fitted between their ends in the recesses in the upper sides of said side pieces, and a ridge-pole having recesses in its under side to receive the

rafters and also having longitudinal channels in its sides above said recesses, to receive the inner ends of roofing pieces or strips.

4. A toy house involving a base, posts rising from the base, tie-pieces notched or recessed in their under sides to receive the tops of said posts, side pieces deeper than the said tie-pieces, recessed in their under sides to receive said tie-pieces, king-posts resting upon said tie-pieces, a ridge-pole having recesses in its under side and longitudinal channels in its sides above the recesses, rafters fitting in the recesses in the under side of the ridge-pole and resting upon the king-posts, the latter having angular faces to support the rafters, and the upper sides of the side pieces having recesses to receive the outer portions of the rafters.

5. A toy house involving a base, posts rising from the base, tie-pieces notched or recessed in their under sides to receive the tops of said posts, side pieces deeper than the said tie-pieces, recessed in their under sides to receive said tie-pieces, king-posts resting upon said tie-pieces, a ridge-pole having recesses in its under side and longitudinal channels in its sides above the recesses, rafters fitting in the recesses in the under side of the ridge-pole and resting upon the king-posts, the latter having angular faces to support the rafters, and the upper sides of the side pieces having recesses to receive the outer portions of the rafters, and sheathing-pieces, said posts being longitudinally grooved to receive said sheathing-pieces, a door, composed of jambs and a lintel supported upon the jambs, the jambs having tongues to fit longitudinal grooves in two adjacent posts, and windows, the sills of which support the jambs and the jambs of which support the lintels thereof.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES MacN. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:
HENRY W. ALLEN,
GEORGE H. WILLIAMS.