No. 843,817. PATENTED FEB. 12, 1907.

W. HOLT & J. A. SMITH.

FLOORING.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 4, 1906.

Fig. 1.

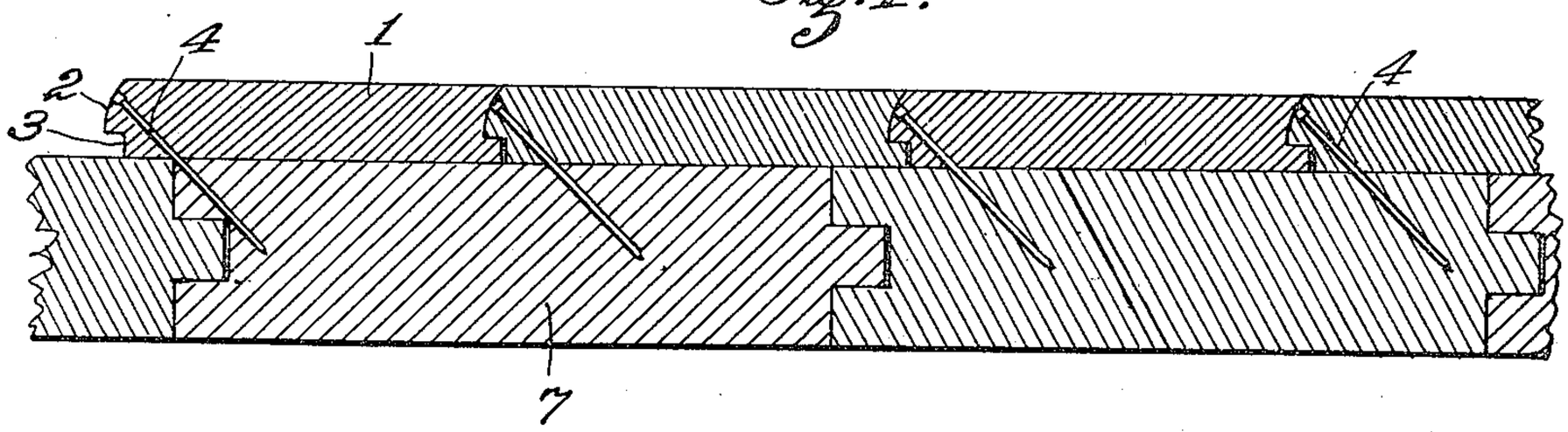


Fig. 2.

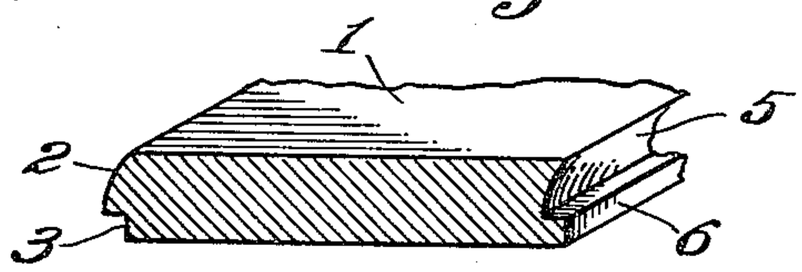
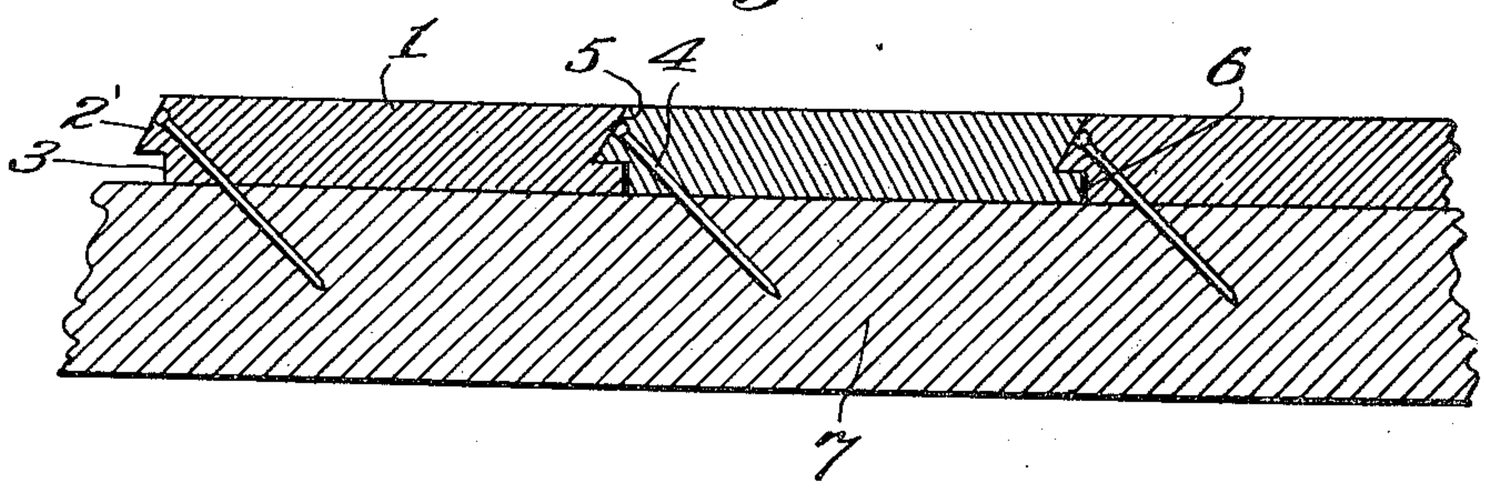


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM HOLT AND JOHN A. SMITH, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

FLOORING.

No. 843,817 Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 12, 1907.

Application filed September 4, 1906. Serial No. 333,259.

To all whom it may concern.

Be it known that we, WILLIAM HOLT, a citizen of Great Britain, and JOHN A. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, both residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Flooring, of which the following is a specification.

It is of the objects of this invention to provide an improved thin hard-wood flooring for covering subfloors, to so construct the same as to facilitate laying the same, to dispense with the necessity of handling a block for driving the boards together to avoid marring in the process of laying the floor, and to secure maximum wear without exposure of the fastenings which hold the boards in place.

This novel flooring is provided at its forward edge with a base-rabbet and with a rearwardly-sloping nailing and hammering face which can be hammered upon without danger of splitting the board or marring the same at any place where it will injure the appearance of the floor when laid.

A principle of the invention is that the base-rabbet on the forward edge and the base-lip at the rear edge to fit the rabbet of the adjoining board are narrow and that the sloping face extends above the base-rabbet as far toward the axis of the board as does the base-rabbet, so that a nail driven into the sloping nailing-face at an appropriate angle to enter the subfloor to draw the board back against the prior-laid board will escape the rabbet and may be driven home by direct blows of the hammer, which also impinges on the board and drives it against said prior-laid board to make a perfectly-tight joint without danger of splitting and without marring any part of the board that will not be covered when the floor is completely laid.

This invention includes a peculiar convex driving and nailing edge and also includes a modified form in which the driving and nailing edge has a flat inclined surface.

The upper portion of this flooring-board is double the thicknesss of the conventional joints used on thin flooring, thus giving more solidity and durability and doing away with breaking and warping of the thin lip of the conventional thin flooring.

The present invention has been designed particularly to overcome these disadvantages and to provide a board for thin flooring which will not be liable to curl up and necessitate relaying with new flooring, and, furthermore, to make a joint which is solid and to do away with the thin tongue and lip.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation through the sub-floor, showing our improved flooring applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective of a single flooring-board. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation of a modification.

As will be noted, the body portion 1 is provided with a convex edge 2, terminating abruptly on the lower side in a rabbet 3. The termination of the convexity of one side of said edge is on a line parallel with the vertical rabbet formed below.

When a nail 4 has been driven at an angle through the board 1, the amount of space left between the rabbet and the upper surface of the flooring is such that twice the amount of space occupied by the rabbet is left to be worn and used. This is of course a great distinction from the conventional tongue-and-groove joint, which can only be worn to about one-third of its thickness, when the flooring is of no further use and relaying is necessary.

The opposite side of the flooring-board is abruptly concaved, as seen at 5, the concavity terminating in a lip 6, projecting forward and on a line parallel with the beginning of the concave edge, the shape of this edge of the board conforming exactly with the adjoining board of the flooring.

In our invention the convexity of the edge admits of a nail being driven home into the subfloor (shown at 7) to the most defined delineation of the convex surface without the use of a nail-set and without damaging the surface of the rotund portion. Even though such portion should be dented by a blow from the hammer it would have no material effect on the adjoining interlocking floor-board, because of the concavity of the overlapping edge, which snugly fits the convex portion and forms practically a unit.

The results accomplished are practically the same as the results accomplished by two adjoining boards having square edges, the difference residing merely in the interlocking feature.

When a nail has been driven through the convex portion, it secures that board in position and allows two-thirds of the entire thickness of the board to be worn before it is necessary to renew the flooring. Furthermore, it allows the same to be planed down in case

it has become distigured, inasmuch as there is an ample amount of solid material above the rabbet.

What we claim is—

1. A flooring-board provided on its front edge with a base-rabbet and a driving and nailing edge extending rearwardly from the rabbet gradually to the surface of the board the termination of said edge being on a line vertical with that of the rabbet and extending over a greater area of the board edge than the rabbet, and a downwardly and inwardly sloping edge formed on the other side of said board, terminating in a lip at right angles to the body of the board, the extremity of the lip being on a line vertical with that of the sloping edge.

2. A flooring-board comprising a strip having on one edge a convex curve extending from the top surface of the strip forwardly thereof and downwardly at a gradually-increasing width to approximately two-thirds of the thickness thereof and terminating in a ledge at right angles to the vertical line of said strip and forming a rabbet, the other edge of said strip having a concave curve extending from the top surface of said strip rearwardly and downwardly and terminating at approximately two-thirds of the strip in a lip at right angles to the vertical line of said strip.

3. A flooring-board comprising a thin strip having on one edge a convex curve extending from the top surface of the strip forwardly thereof and downwardly to approximately two-thirds of its thickness at a gradually-increasing width, and then rearwardly to a depth equal to the width of said convex curve at the point of terminus thereof, the greatest depth of said convex curve being on a line vertical with the incipient point of said forwardly-extending curve and forming substantially a rabbet, the other edge of said strip having a concave curve extending from the top surface of the strip rearwardly thereof and downwardly at a gradually-increasing depth, and terminating in a lip.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands, at Los Angeles, California, this 23d day of August, 1906.

WILLIAM HOLT.
JOHN A. SMITH.

In presence of—
ANTON GLOETZNER,
JAMES R. TOWNSEND.