

Aug. 20, 1935.

J. B. FORBES
TOY BUILDING SET
Filed May 1, 1935

2,012,160

Fig. 1

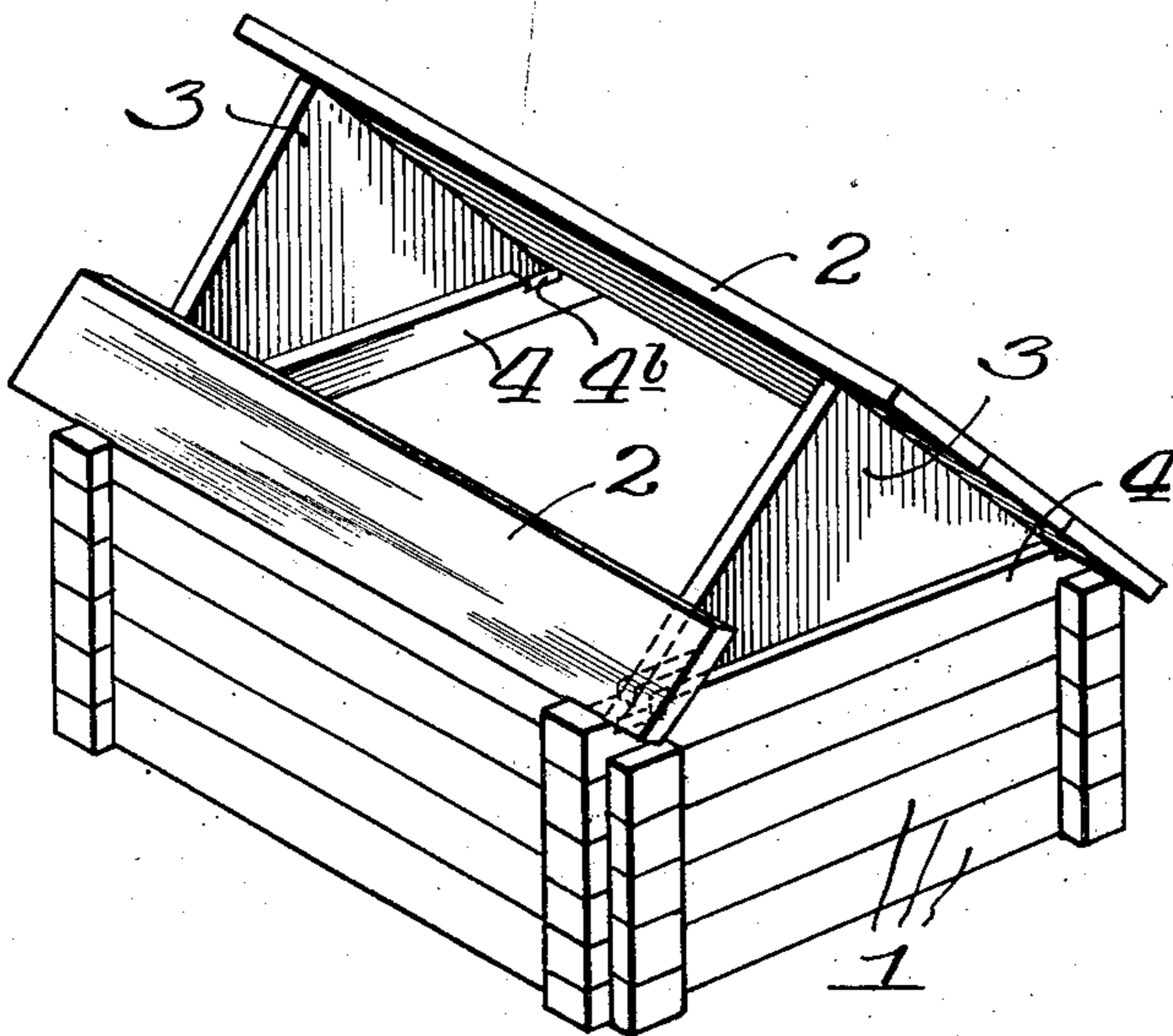


Fig. 2

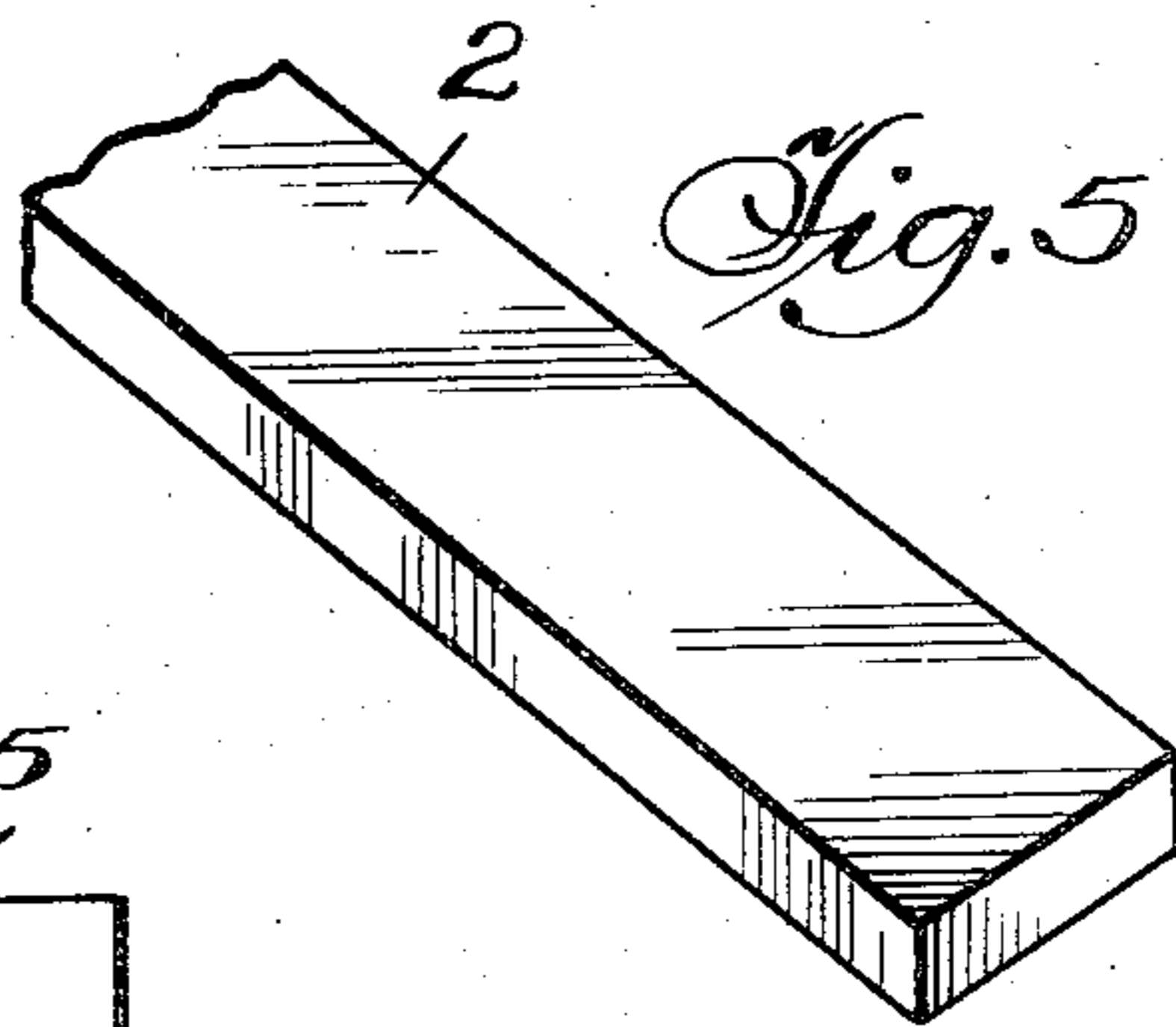
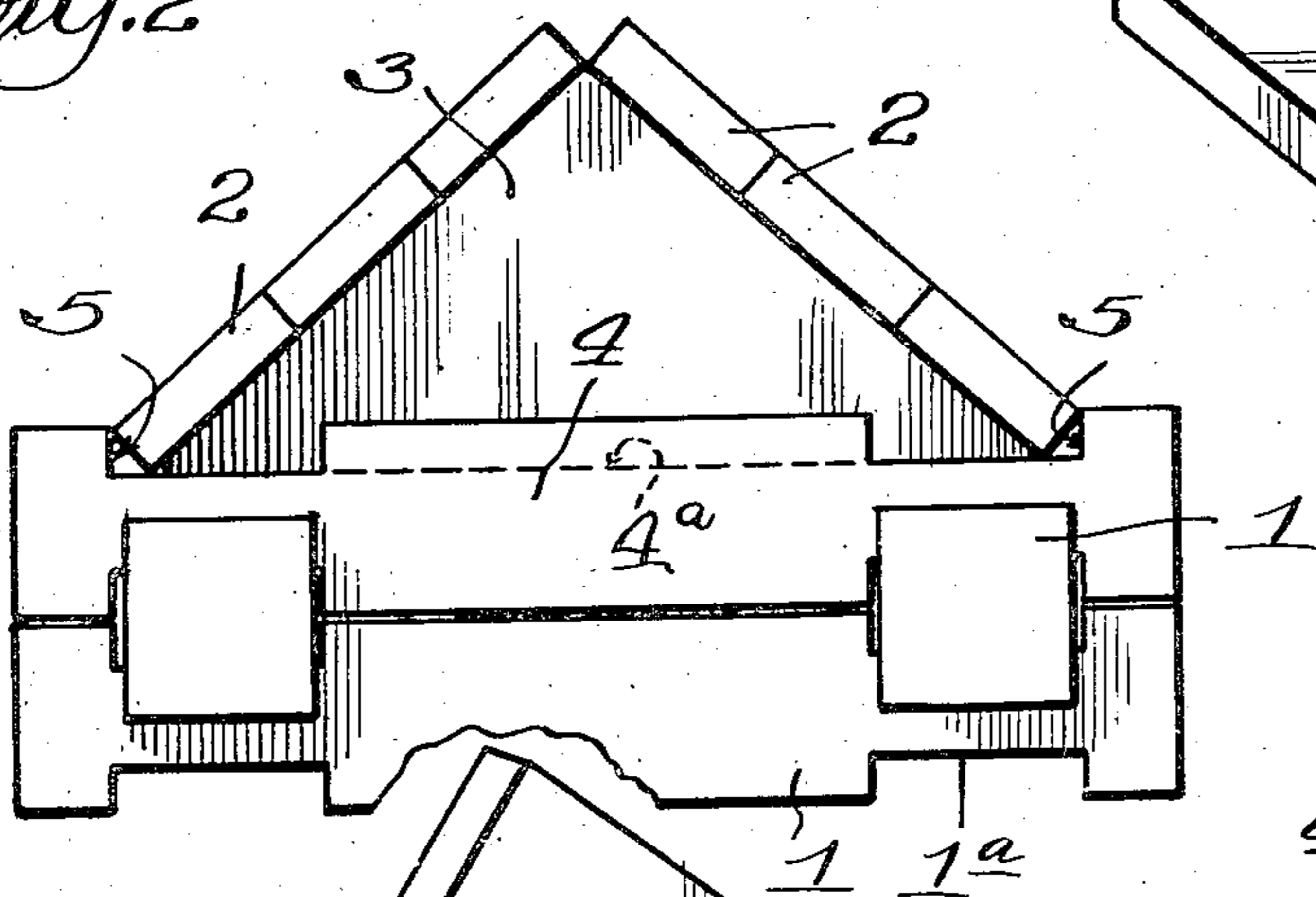


Fig. 5

Fig. 3

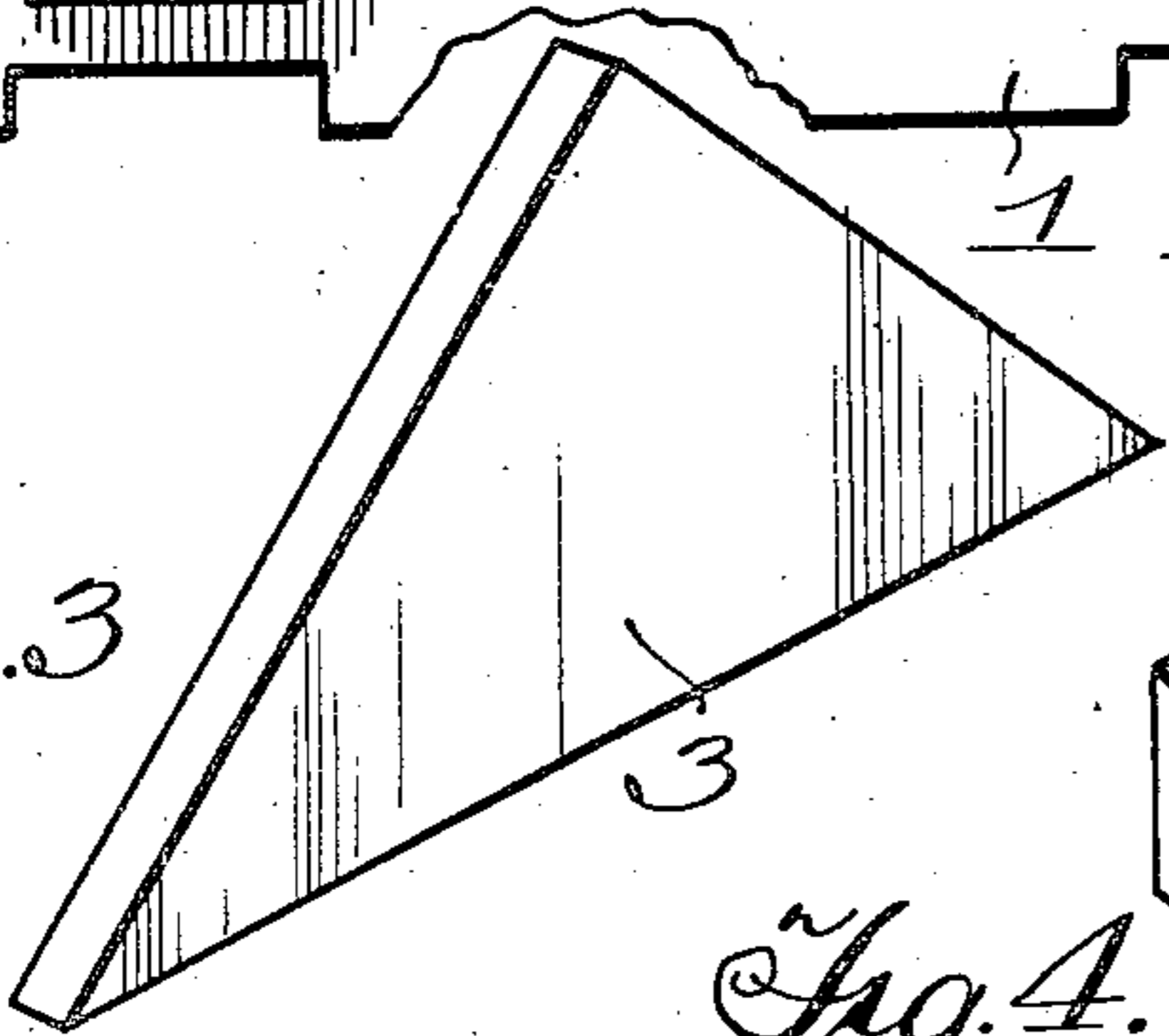
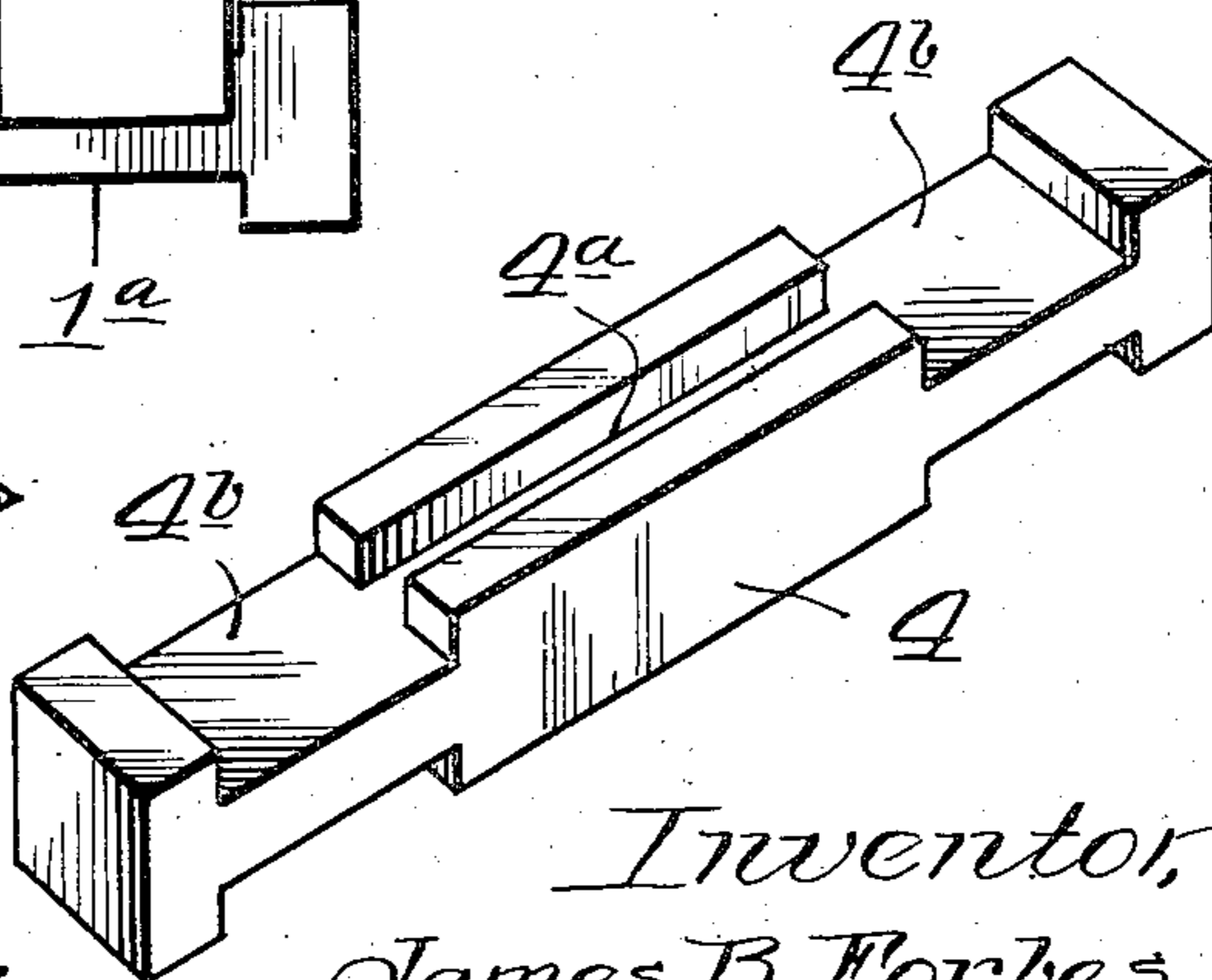


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,012,160

TOY BUILDING SET

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Application May 1, 1935. Serial No. 19,139

1 Claim. (Cl. 46—35)

This invention relates to improvements in toy building sets, and more particularly to building sets made up of several groups of interfitting structural members from which various types of structures may be erected.

The object of the invention is to provide a novel arrangement or combination of structural elements for constructing the gabled ends of structures having a peaked roof, that is to say, the triangular sections at each end of the structure which defines the roof line and supports the roof members.

A further object of the invention is to afford a somewhat simpler construction for the gable ends by reducing the number of parts required and at the same time permitting the introduction of a preferred type of roof member, namely, in the form of narrow planks in place of a pair of hinged-together boards heretofore commonly used for the roof, but of little use for any other purpose, whereas planks can be used for erecting other structures.

The advantages of the improved construction will be better apprehended from the following description in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a partially erected building showing the roof construction;

Figure 2 is an enlarged detail view in end elevation showing the assembly of the grooved timber piece, the gable piece, and the roof members;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one of the gable pieces;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of one of the grooved timber pieces for supporting the gable piece, and

Figure 5 is a perspective view of one of the plank members used for the roof.

For the purpose of this disclosure, it will not be necessary to describe each type and kind of member making up a set or the various styles of structures that can be erected therewith, if for no other reason than building sets of the general type herein disclosed have long been in use, namely, in which the so-called log cabin style of construction is simulated. The basis, therefore, of the so-called log cabin building set is a number of straight timber pieces 1 either square or circular in section having near each end pairs of notches 1^a facing in opposite directions, whereby walls may be erected by interlocking the pieces at their ends much in the same manner that primitive log cabins were erected.

For the roof, it is preferred to employ long, flat

pieces 2 having somewhat the proportions of planks, these being laid edge to edge lengthwise of the roof and supported at their ends on the sloping edges of triangular gable end pieces 3, 3, which in turn are supported on edge by the end walls of the structure. Moreover, it is necessary to hold at least the lowermost planks in place, since otherwise they would have no anchorage on the sloping edges of the end gables.

Now, it would be possible with the proper lengths of interlocking pieces to build up pointed gables at the ends of the building, but obviously a much simpler method is to provide triangular gable pieces 3, made of a thinner material than the timber pieces 1, and merely set them upright on the topmost pieces of the end walls to complete the gables and establish the roof line. But first it is necessary to provide a seat for these triangular gable pieces, and this is accomplished by providing special end pieces 4 for this purpose, these being the same as the regular pieces 1, except that on one of the notched faces is cut a longitudinal central groove 4^a (Figure 4) of the same depth as the transverse notches 4^b, 4^b and of a width to receive the bottom edges of the gable pieces 3 with a fairly snug fit.

And finally, in order to provide suitable abutments for holding the planks 2 in place on the sloping edges of the gable pieces, the latter are cut sufficiently shorter than the longitudinally grooved pieces 4 into which they are set, so that their ends terminate inwardly from the outer ends of the notches 4^b, 4^b at both ends of the piece, thereby leaving spaces between the ends of the gable piece and the outer ends of the notches, which serve as notches 5 to receive the bottom edges of the lower plank members 2 and thus hold all of the roof planks in place, as clearly shown in Figure 2.

In this manner it is possible to erect buildings with pointed gables and sloping roofs with a minimum number of pieces and without additional parts or fastening members for anchoring the roof planks in place such as would tend to increase the cost of manufacture. And in this connection it is to be observed that while the use of planks for the roof means a greater number of pieces in the set, it is a distinct advantage to do so, inasmuch as these planks can be used in the erection of other structures such as bridges, benches, tables, fences, and the like, whereas a single roof member is limited to that purpose only.

Having set forth a preferred embodiment of my invention,

I claim:

In a toy building set, the combination with timber pieces having pairs of transverse notches cut at each end and facing in opposite directions, 5 triangular gable pieces adapted to be supported in upright position at each end of the erected walls of the building to define the shape of the roof, a predetermined number of said timber pieces being provided with longitudinal grooves 10 extending between the transverse notches on one face thereof and adapted to receive the bottom

edge of said gable pieces with their ends terminating short of the outer ends of the transverse notches, and plank members extending lengthwise between said gable members and supported on the sloping edges thereof, the lowermost plank member engaging the inwardly facing abutments formed at the intersection of the sloping edges of said gable pieces and the outer ends of the transverse notches in said grooved timber pieces.

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