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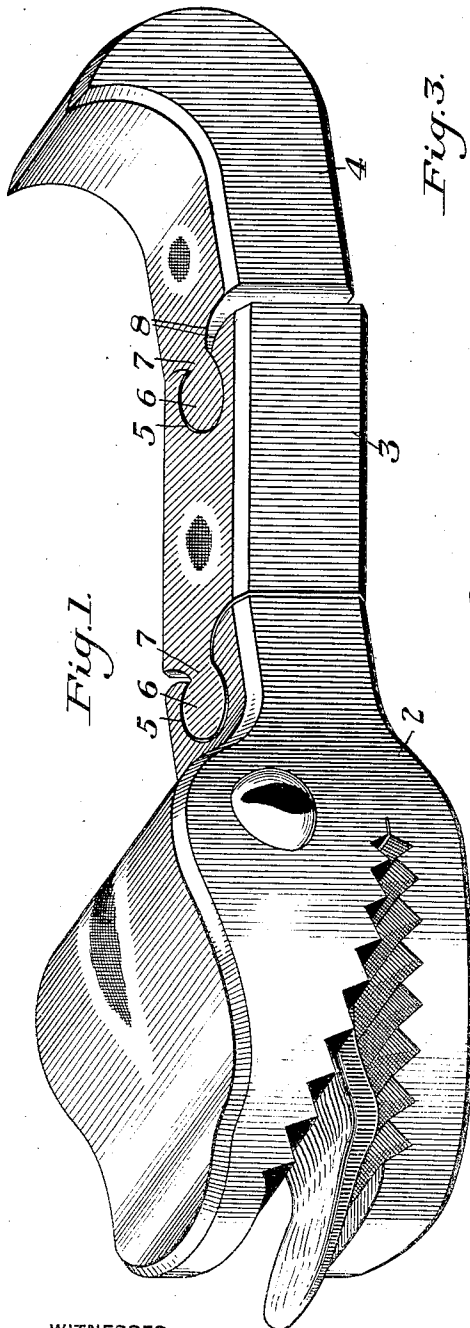


Fig. 1.

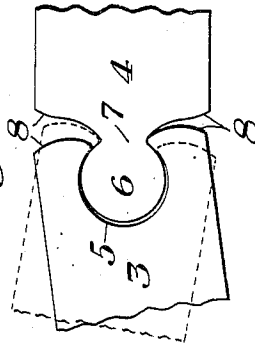


Fig. 3.

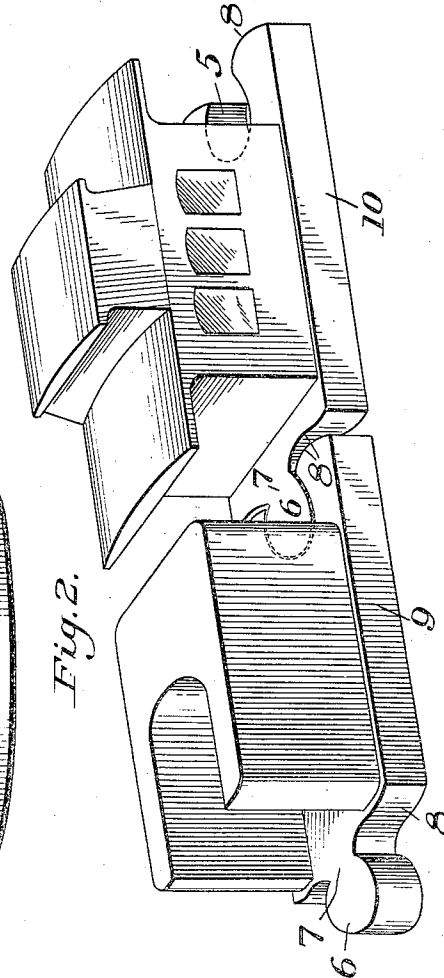


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

R. A. Balderson
Es. R. Bohning

INVENTOR

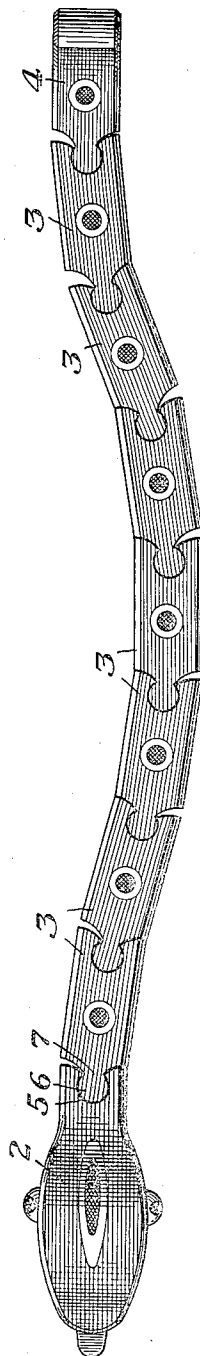
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Att'y

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E. R. DOUGLASS.
TOY BLOCKS.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 17, 1917.

Patented July 31, 1917.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

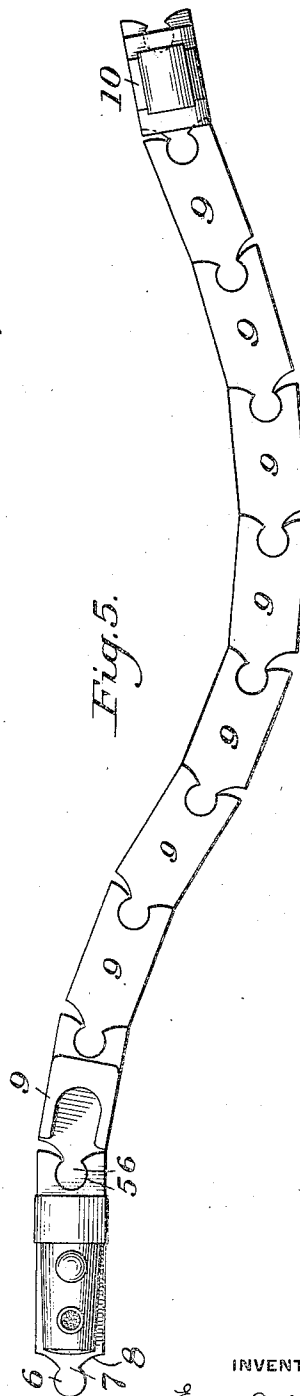
Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOY BLOCKS.

1,234,883.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 31, 1917.

Application filed March 17, 1917. Serial No. 155,431.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ESTHER R. DOUGLASS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Altoona, Blair county, Pennsylvania, have

invented a new improvement in Toy Blocks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing one embodiment of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing another embodiment.

Fig. 3 is a detail plan view illustrating the connection between two of the blocks.

Fig. 4 is a plan view showing a toy of the general form of Fig. 1, but made up of a larger number of blocks, and

Fig. 5 is a similar view of the form of toy shown in Fig. 2.

My invention has relation to toy blocks, and is designed to provide a set of blocks having means whereby they may be flexibly and detachably connected with each other to form objects of various kinds.

The nature of my invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which I have shown two different embodiments thereof, and which will now be described, it being premised, however, that these are illustrative only, and that the particular form of the blocks may be widely varied without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention as defined in the appended claims.

Referring first to that form of my invention shown in Fig. 1, the numerals 2, 3 and 4 designate three blocks which are flexibly connected to form an object representing a sea serpent. The block 2 which forms the head of the serpent is provided at its rear end with a vertical socket 5 of approximately cylindrical form, adapted to loosely receive therein the cylindrical coupling head 6 on the adjacent end of the block 3. The socket 5 is partially open at its rear side to receive the neck portion 7 of the coupling head 6. The rear end of the block 3 is provided with a similar socket adapted to receive a similar head on the block 4.

The adjacent ends of the blocks are cut

away and curved in the manner indicated at 8, so as to permit considerable freedom of lateral movement of the blocks with respect to each other. The connections are also preferably sufficiently loose to permit of some vertical flexibility. The blocks can be readily connected and disconnected by bringing the cylindrical head portions into vertical alinement with the sockets, but cannot be connected or disconnected by direct endwise movement with respect to each other.

In the form of my invention shown in Fig. 2, the blocks 9 and 10 are made to represent approximately different cars of a freight train, the connections between these blocks being made in the same way as with those shown in Fig. 1.

By reference to Figs. 4 and 5, the effect of the lateral flexibility in producing a complete toy will be more apparent.

It will be understood that my invention is wholly independent of the particular form of the blocks themselves, but that it consists in the means provided for flexibly connecting and disconnecting the blocks. It will be further understood that any desired number of the blocks may be provided to be connected with each other in the manner described.

My invention provides a set of toy blocks which is having a large commercial sale and which forms a cheap and effective toy for the amusement of children. The invention is capable of embodiment in blocks having a wide range of form and design.

I claim:

1. A set of toy blocks, each of the main blocks of the set having a cylindrical socket in the end portion thereof, said socket being partially open at the end, and each of the blocks having at the other end portion a projecting cylindrical head adapted to fit the said socket of another block, the end surfaces of the blocks being shaped to permit of relative lateral movement of the blocks when engaged with each other, the set also comprising end blocks, each having one end portion only adapted for engagement with one of the main blocks, substantially as described.

2. A set of toy blocks, said blocks having
portions provided with cylindrical sockets,
and other portions provided with cylindrical
heads, adapted to loosely engage said sockets,
5 and the end portions of the blocks adjacent
to the heads and sockets being cut away and
shaped to permit relative lateral movement
of the blocks when the head of one block is

engaged with the socket of another block,
substantially as described. 1

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand.

ESTHER R. DOUGLASS.

Witnesses:

H. C. BRODE,

MATTHEW M. MORROW.