To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN LLOYD WRIGHT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy-Cabin Construction, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in toys and more particularly to educational toys calculated to develop a child's constructive inclinations.

The object of the invention is to produce a novel toy in the form of a multitude of members or parts in the form of logs, so shaped and treated as to provide the material for the building of diminutive log cabins and other like structures. A further feature of the invention resides in the arrangement or method of assembling the various parts, so as to produce a stable and realistic structure, permitting the reproduction of the true external appearances without carrying out the more practical features of construction, such as would be employed in the erection of a human habitation, as for instance, the rafters, roof supports, and other structural members necessary in the construction of a full-sized building.

The features of my invention are hereinafter fully set forth, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a completed structure embodying the features of the invention,

Fig. 2 is a view in front elevation of the structure with a portion of the roof removed,

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3, 3 of Fig. 2,

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the assembled structure, and

Fig. 5 is a detail view showing the manner in which the members interlock.

I have illustrated one form or type of building, ordinarily known as a log cabin, which may be erected by the assembling of parts made in accordance with my invention. The complete cabin is constructed of cylindrical shaped members in the representation of logs, these members being varied in length and formation, depending on the particular location the member is to occupy in the assembled structure. By formation of the members is meant the length and the position, arrangement, and number of notches or mortises formed in the members and by the interlocking engagement of these notches, the members are joined together. A cabin or like structure comprises a front wall, a rear wall, a side wall, and a roof, there being preferably formed in the front wall a central door-way, and windows and a rear wall a single window.

Referring to the "logs", (which term will be hereinafter employed to designate the members representing the rough logs of which a cabin is built) the same comprise, in the main, four varieties, namely, a plurality of long logs 8 such as would form the front and rear walls of the cabin, and extend throughout the length thereof, a plurality of shorter logs 9 and 10, say of about two-thirds the length of the long logs 8, the logs being such as would form the end walls of the cabin, and the logs 10, slightly shorter, being suitable for forming the portions of the front or rear wall, on either side of a door-way, and lastly a plurality of very short logs 11 which would be employed for several purposes, and especially for connecting the free ends of parallel logs at points where they terminate, as for instance, along the sides of windows and doorways, or in the construction of the roof-gables, as will be hereinafter described. These members 11 may be termed connecting-members. In addition to the main classes of members mentioned it is preferred to employ specially formed members adapted to form a definite part of the building, and not interchangeable to the same extent as other members. Members of this kind are the semi-circular members or "half logs" 12 that form the lowermost members of the front and rear walls, and rest with the flat side down upon the table or floor, thus affording a stable foundation for erecting the building.

It may be stated generally that all of the members are provided at their ends with transversely formed notches 13 located a short distance inwardly from the ends thereof, said notches being arranged in pairs disposed on opposite sides of the log so that the bottom surfaces are parallel to each other. The notches are preferably cut rectangular in shape to provide ample bearing surfaces, as clearly shown in Fig. 5. The short connecting-members 11 are provided with a single pair of similarly arranged notches 13.
10 located midway between their ends. Other
notches are provided intermediate the ends
of some of the members to permit the inter-
locking of said members with others for
5 forming doorways, windows and other fea-
tures.

In erecting the vertical front and side
walls, two end wall logs 9 are laid trans-
versely between the ends of the half-logs 12,
12 and the corresponding notches inter-
locked at the corners of the structure. As-
suming a door-way is to be provided in the
front wall, short members 10 would be em-
ployed immediately above the log 19 in the
front wall, and long logs 8 in the rear wall.
On either side of the door-way 5 the inner
ends of the logs 10 are connected together
by means of the short connecting members
11. The side and front walls are erected
20 in this manner until the level of the win-
dows 6 and 7 is reached. Throughout the
height of the window intermediate the door-
way and the window, a plurality of the con-
necting-members 11 are placed one above
25 the other in alternately longitudinal and
transverse positions, and similarly between
the end walls and the windows the connect-
ning-members 11 extend longitudinally and
interlock with the end wall members 9. The
window in the rear wall is similarly formed,
short logs 11 being employed through the
height thereof and transversely arranged
connecting members 11 on either side of the
window space and act to connect the inner
30 ends of the longitudinal and parallel logs 10.

Immediately above the door-way and win-
dows the long logs 8 are employed, the lower
log having preferably single notches inter-
mediate its ends and facing downwardly to
35 engage the uppermost short members 11
flanking the windows.

The side, front and rear walls may be
continued upwardly by repeating the ar-
40 range of members until the roof is
reached. At this point the log construc-
tion is reproduced only so far as the end
walls are concerned, the roof being applied
after the log structure is completed.

Referring to the formation of the end
walls to provide the tapered gable, it is
50 preferable to employ special logs 14, 15 and
16 (Fig. 3) uniformly decreasing in length
so that each succeeding log terminates short
of the log below. These logs are provided
55 with a downwardly facing notch adjacent
each end and upwardly facing notches
spaced a greater distance inwardly from the
end, these notches being engaged by a plu-
arity of the connecting-members 11 extend-
60 ing transversely in the form of an inverted
v. At the apex of the gable a long log ex-
tends longitudinally between the end walls
and forms a ridge-pole 17, the ends of the
ridge-pole being surmounted by a connect-
ing-member 11. The roof 4 preferably con-
65 sists of two rectangular sheets or boards
hinged together and placed upon the top of
the structure, the same extending down on
either side of the ridge-pole and forming
eaves projecting over the side, front and
rear walls.

Although I have described one form of
structure, it is manifest that with a suitable
number of logs of varying lengths and notch
formations, different sizes and shapes of
buildings may be built, all bearing a true
resemblance to a full-sized structure, at least
to the extent of the exterior features. By
the extensive variety of members, differing
in length and arrangement of notches, per-
mitting the formation of windows, doors
and even chimneys, if desired, may be car-
ried out in considerable detail. The func-
tion of the end gables, of the interfitting lon-
gitudinal members with the transverse con-
necting members and a single "log" ridge-
pole, provides a simple yet stable construc-
tion which eliminates the employment of
rafters and other roof lateral supports.
This mode of construction is such that its
use may be extended to the actual construc-
tion of log structures.

The features of my invention manifestly
afford considerable latitude in their appli-
cation and therefore I do not wish to be lim-
ited except in so far as the invention is spe-
cifically set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:
1. A toy structure in the representation of
a log cabin or the like comprising a plural-
ity of notched members resembling logs
adapted to be assembled one above the other
to form the walls of a structure, the members
each wall having interlocking engagement
with each other at the corners of the struc-
ture, and means for forming end wall gables
comprising a series of members of uni-
formly decreasing length placed one upon
the other, a plurality of transverse connect-
ing members interposed between and inter-
locking the ends of said last mentioned
members, and a member positioned at the
apex of said end gable extending between
the same to form a ridge-pole.

2. A toy structure in the representation of
a log cabin or the like comprising a plural-
ity of notched members resembling logs
adapted to be assembled one above the other
to form the walls of the structure, said mem-
bers being provided with notches adjacent
to their ends interlocking the wall members
together at the corners of the structure, ap-
ertures formed in the walls embracing trans-
verse connecting members joining the ends
of the wall members flanking said apertures,
and end gables comprising series of mem-
bers uniformly decreasing in length, trans-
verse connecting members joining the ends
of said gable forming members, a single
transverse member extending between the
apexes of said gable ends, and a roof comprising hinged together members adapted to be placed on said end gables.

3. A toy structure in the representation of a log cabin or the like comprising wall portions of cylindric members resembling logs, the same having interlocking connection at their ends, and gables extending above the wall portions consisting of a series of like members uniformly decreasing in length toward the apex of the bale, and a series of short cross-members having interlocking connection with the ends of said gable forming members.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 29th day of November, A. D. 1919.

JOHN LLOYD WRIGHT.