

(No Model.)

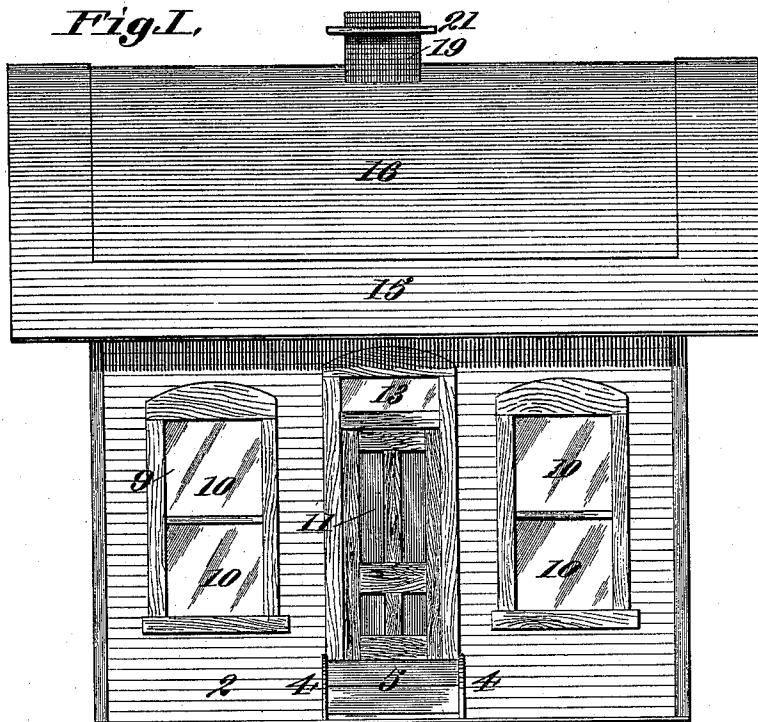
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. H. FERGUSON.  
TOY HOUSE.

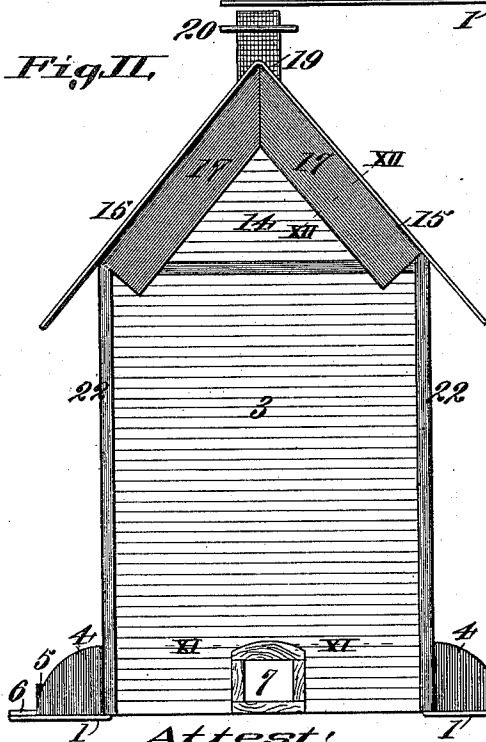
No. 579,225.

Patented Mar. 23, 1897.

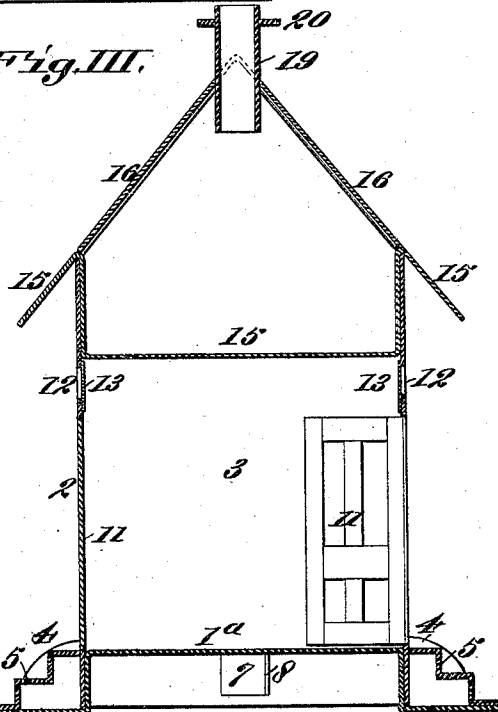
*Fig. I.*



*Fig. II.*



*Fig. III.*



Attest;

*E. K. Mason*  
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Inventor;

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By *Wm H. Porter* atty's

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

W. H. FERGUSON.  
TOY HOUSE.

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Fig. IV.

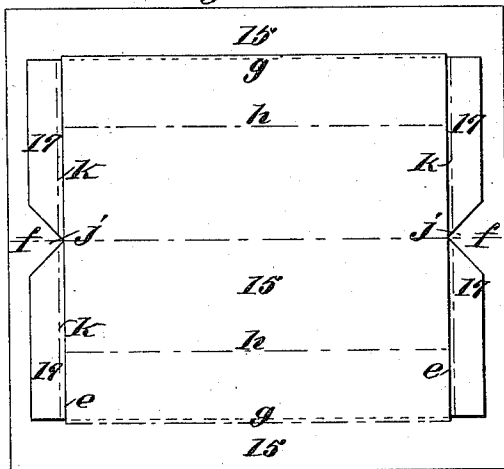


Fig. V.

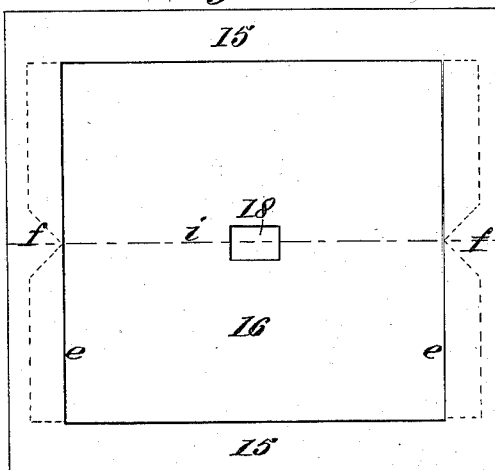


Fig. VI.

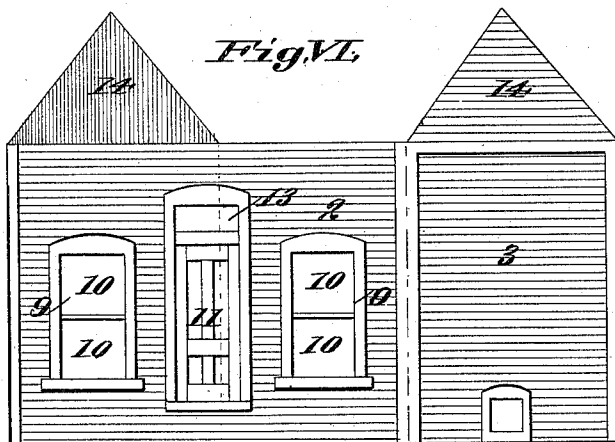


Fig. IX.

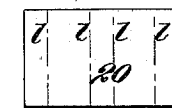


Fig. XI.

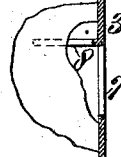


Fig. X.

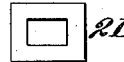


Fig. XII.

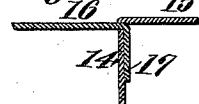


Fig. VII.

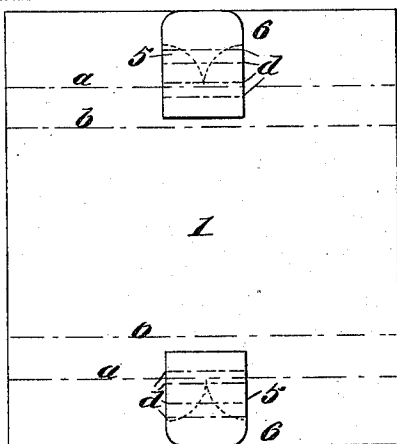
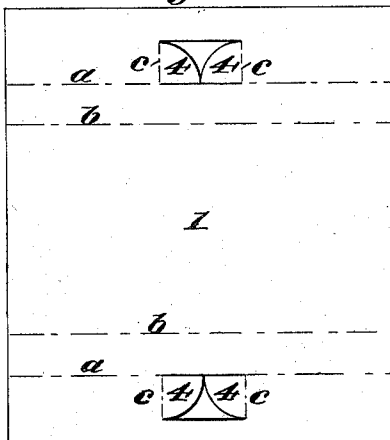


Fig. VIII.



Attest:

*E. H. Stoner*  
Stanley Stoner

Inventor:  
W<sup>m</sup> H. Ferguson

By *Thos. H. B. D.* atty's

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## TOY HOUSE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 579,225, dated March 23, 1897.

Application filed July 25, 1896. Serial No. 600,470. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. FERGUSON, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Toy Houses, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to a toy house constructed of pliable material of such nature that it may be readily bent and formed into the desired configurations and which is capable of being folded, thus rendering the house a toy of knockdown nature, and when knocked down the toy is capable of being packed for shipment and sale in a very compact form. I prefer the employment of paper as the material from which the house is constructed, but any other suitable pliable material might be employed.

My invention consists in features of novelty hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure I is a front elevation of my improved toy house. Fig. II is an end elevation. Fig. III illustrates a vertical cross-section taken through the central portion of the toy. Fig. IV shows a bottom view of the roof and ceiling portion of the toy in knocked-down and folded condition. Fig. V shows a top view of the roof and ceiling portion in knocked-down and folded condition. Fig. VI shows the main body portion of the toy folded. Figs. VII and VIII are respectively top and bottom views of the base of the toy in folded condition. Fig. IX is a view showing the chimney knocked down. Fig. X is a view of the chimney-keeper. Fig. XI illustrates a section taken on line XI XI, Fig. II. Fig. XII illustrates a section taken on line XII XII, Fig. II.

In the drawings, 1 designates the base of the toy house, 2 the side or front and rear walls, and 3 the end walls. The base 1 is formed of a blank that is scored upon the lines *a b*, (see Figs. VII and VIII,) thereby rendering the blank capable of being bent into the form shown in Fig. III, and the central portion of the base-blank being introduced within the lower ends of the walls 2

and 3 there forms the floor 1<sup>a</sup> of the house. The base-blank has cut from it at each side a pair of flaps 4, which are adapted to be bent into vertical position on scored lines *c*, and located adjacent to the flaps 4 is a strip 5, secured at the end 6 to the base 1. This strip 5 is scored on lines *d* for the purpose of rendering it capable of being bent into the shape of steps, as is illustrated in Figs. I and III. The flaps 4 form the side walls of the steps.

In the end walls of the house I form openings 7 by cutting flaps 8 out of the material of the wall, and by bending these flaps inward they form retainers to hold the base within the walls 2 and 3. The walls may be provided with any desirable number of windows 9, that receive sheets 10 of a suitable transparent material.

11 represents doors which are bent upon scored lines at their attached sides and are adapted to be moved inward or closed, as is illustrated in the two side walls of Fig. III. Above the doors are openings 12, covered by transparent sheets 13, that form transoms.

The end walls of the house are provided with gables 14. The roof of the house is formed of sheets 15 and 16. The sheet 15 is slit upon the lines *e*, to receive the sheet 16, and it is scored on the central line *f* and also scored on line *g* and *h*, thereby rendering it capable of being bent into the shape shown in Fig. III, where the main body of the sheet extending down between the walls 2 and 3 forms the ceiling of the house. The sheet 16 is scored on the line *i*, thereby rendering it capable of being bent into the shape shown in Fig. III to form the main body of the roof. The central portion of the ends of the sheet 16 are notched at *j* and scored on the lines *k*, producing flaps 17, that are bent inward against the gables 14 and form the cornice of the house.

In the central portion of the sheet 16 I provide an opening 18, that receives a chimney 19. This chimney is formed from a sheet 20, scored on lines *l* and arranged to be folded on these lines to form a square tube adapted to be inserted in the opening 18. The sheet 20 when folded is retained in folded position by a keeper 21.

I have shown binding-strips 22 at the corners of the walls of the house, but such strips

are not material and may be dispensed with, if desirable.

The entire structure may be suitably lined or painted, as illustrated in the drawings, in order to produce an artistic effect, or such lining or painting may be dispensed with.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a toy house, the combination of a body portion forming the walls, a base arranged to be folded to partially enter within said body portion, and a roof portion arranged to be folded to partially enter within said body portion, the different parts being capable of separation and being collapsible, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a toy house, the combination of a body portion forming the walls, a base arranged to be folded to partially enter within said body portion, two or more flaps carried by said body portion arranged to engage beneath said base, and a roof portion arranged to be folded to partially enter within said body portion, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a toy house formed of pliable material, the combination of a body portion, a base arranged to be folded to partially enter within said body portion, and a roof portion composed of a sheet provided with slits and a second sheet arranged to have each of its ends enter said slits, the central portion of said first-mentioned sheet being arranged to enter within said body portion and be held therein, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a toy house formed of pliable material, the combination of a body portion, a roof portion, and a base portion; said base portion being provided with flaps cut therefrom, and a strip located adjacent to said flaps and adapted to be folded into the form of steps, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON.

In presence of—

B. L. FREDERICK,

E. S. KNIGHT.