T. R. ARDEN.

TOY FORT.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1918.

1,282,358.

Patented Oct. 22, 1918.

Fig. 1.

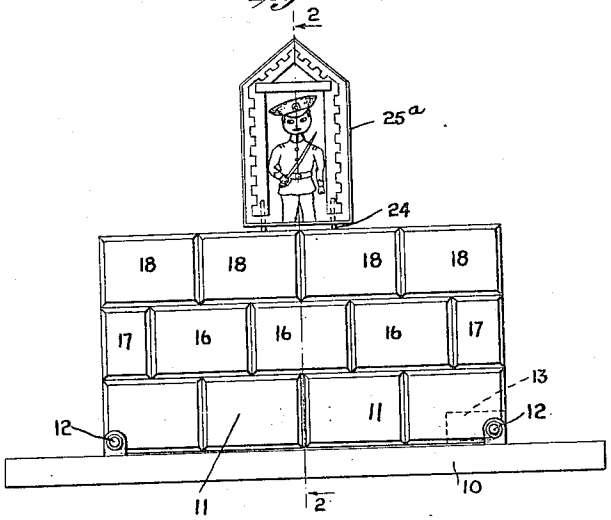


Fig. 2.

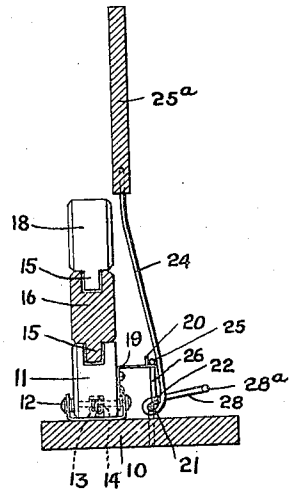


Fig. 3.

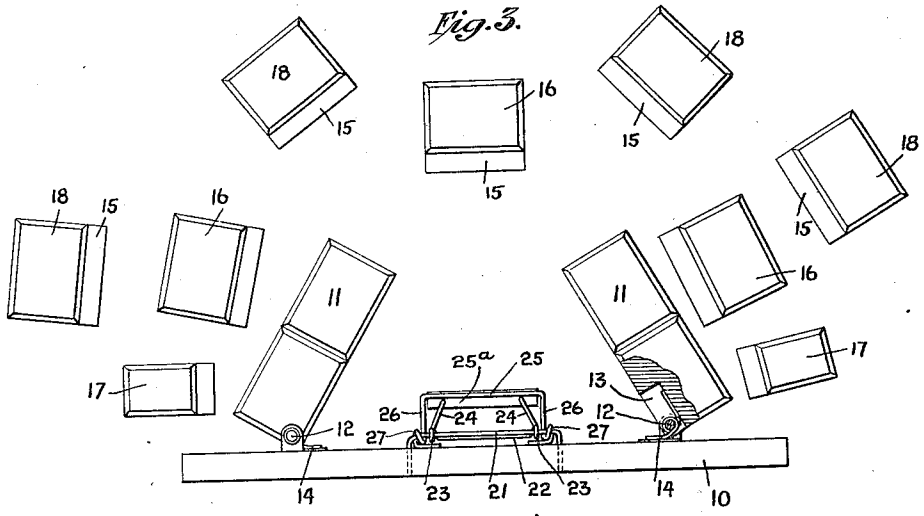
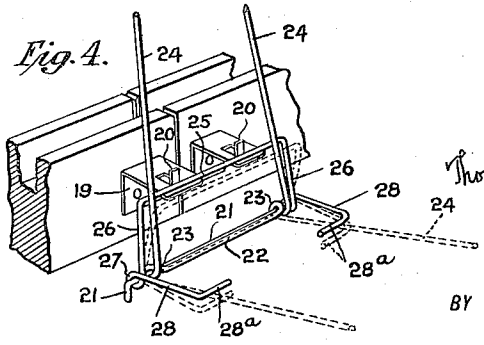


Fig. 4.



WITNESS

Thomas Raymond Arden

INVENTOR

BY

ATTORNEY

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS RAYMOND ARDEN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO ARDEN MANUFACTURING CORPORATION, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

TOY FORT.

1,282,358. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 22, 1918.

Application filed May 31, 1918. Serial No. 237,398.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS RAYMOND ARDEN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Forts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a novel toy in the form of a fort, designed to be disrupted when the guardian of the fort is hit, as by a projectile.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of the device;

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view thereof on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view illustrating the position of the parts during disruption of the fort; and

Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view of the mechanism at the rear of the fort causing the disruption, or separation of the blocks when the guardian of the fort is hit.

The fort is constructed of blocks, and at the rear of and projecting upwardly beyond the fort is what I have termed the guardian, mounted pivotally in such manner that when the guardian is hit as by a projectile it will swing rearwardly actuating mechanism which will cause the blocks of the fort to separate and fly about very much as though the fort itself had been struck.

Referring to the drawing, 10 denotes the base upon which are pivotally mounted two similar foundation blocks 11, each of these latter being in effect double blocks. The pivotal points of the blocks 11 are indicated by the numeral 12 and are suitably spaced apart. Each block is hollowed out at its outer end at 13 to provide room for the pivot 12 and for a spring 14 which is coiled about the pivot 12, one end of the spring resting against the interior of the cavity 13, and the opposite end of the spring resting against the upper face of the base 10. The construction is such that when the blocks 11 are not positively held to the base the springs 14 will tend normally to violently move these blocks away from each other in an upward direction.

The upper edges of the blocks 11 are grooved or mortised throughout their length to receive the tenons 15 formed at the lower edges of the intermediate row of blocks 16 and 17. The blocks 16 and 17 break joints with the foundation blocks 11 and also with the uppermost row of blocks 18 which are like the blocks 16 in appearance. The blocks 17 are precisely like the blocks 16 except that they are narrower, while the blocks 18 have their upper edges plane and their lower edges provided with tenons 15 which engage the mortises formed in the upper edges of the blocks 16 and 17.

The inner face of each block 11 near its inner vertical edge is provided with a substantially rectangular bracket 19 having an upstanding stop 20 formed in the horizontal arm of the bracket. When the blocks 11 rest upon the base 10 as shown in Fig. 1, the brackets 19 are parallel and fairly closely juxtaposed.

Secured to the base 10 in the rear of the blocks 11 is a yoke 21, preferably of wire and mounted pivotally on this yoke so as to be capable of swinging freely thereon is a wire frame which includes a horizontal strand 22, the oppositely disposed eyes 23 embracing the yoke 21 and the upright arms 24 to the upper ends of which is suitably secured in any desired manner the board or plate 25^a carrying the picture of the guardian of the fort.

Also pivotally mounted about the yoke 21 is what may be termed a keeper frame, preferably of wire, and consisting of the bar 25, the lateral arms 26, the eyes 27 which embrace the yoke outside of the eyes 23 and the rearwardly extending bent arms 28. The structure is such that the bar 25 rests upon the brackets 19 and is normally interposed between the stops 20 and the upwardly extending arms 24 of the frame which supports the plate 25^a.

The fort in assembled condition appears as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, with the plate 25^a held slightly above the uppermost row of blocks 18, and the bar 25 resting upon the brackets 19 against the stops 20. If the plate 25^a be struck, even though fairly lightly, it will fall rearwardly as a result of which the arms 24 will strike the slightly upturned ends 28^a of the arms 28, whereby the keeper frame will be moved about the yoke 21 and the bar 25 will be moved out of engagement with the brackets 19. The release of the bar from the brackets 19 will enable the action of the springs 14 to become

effective, so that these springs will move the blocks 11 upward rather violently and the blocks 16, 17 and 18 will then spring or jump out of engagement with their companion blocks giving the appearance as though the fort were disrupted, somewhat as shown in Fig. 3. It is quite obvious how the fort may again be built up by replacing the blocks 16, 17 and 18 on the blocks 11 after the latter have been turned down upon the base 10. When the blocks 11 have been turned down upon the base 10, and before the blocks 16, 17 and 18 are built up, the keeper frame is moved about the yoke 21 so that the bar 25 again engages the brackets 19.

The plate 25[a] may be moved rearwardly by the hand or, what is more frequently the case, by means of a ball thrown against it or a projectile shot against it from a toy cannon.

What I claim is:—

1. A toy fort, comprising a base, foundation blocks movably attached thereto, additional blocks loosely mounted on the foundation blocks, means for locking the foundation blocks to the base, and means for releasing said foundation blocks to permit of their movement relatively to the base whereby the blocks forming said fort are scattered.

2. A toy fort, comprising a base, a pair of blocks pivoted thereto, means for locking said blocks to the base, additional blocks loosely mounted on said first named blocks, and means for releasing said locking means whereby the blocks forming said fort are scattered.

3. A toy fort, comprising a base, a pair of blocks pivoted to said base, means for locking said blocks to said base, and means for releasing said locking means including a member projecting beyond the plane of said blocks.

4. A toy fort, comprising a base, a pair of blocks pivotally attached to said base, additional blocks loosely mounted upon said first named blocks, means for locking said first named blocks to the base, and pivotally mounted means having a portion thereof projecting beyond the plane of the uppermost blocks for releasing said locking means to permit separation of said blocks.

5. A toy fort, comprising a base, a pair of blocks pivoted thereon, a keeper adapted to engage said blocks, additional blocks adapted to be loosely superposed on said first named blocks, and pivotally mounted means adapted to strike said keeper and move the same out of engagement with the first named blocks to permit separation of the several blocks constituting the fort.

6. A toy fort, comprising a pair of foundation blocks pivotally supported at their opposite ends, means having a normal tendency to move said blocks about their pivots upwardly and away from each other, additional blocks loosely superimposed on said foundation blocks, and means for locking said foundation blocks in a position parallel and adjacent to each other.

7. A toy fort, comprising a base, a pair of foundation blocks, pivots at the opposite ends of saidfoundation blocks connecting the same to said base, additional blocks loosely superimposed on said foundation blocks, a keeper frame for holding said foundation blocks to said base, an additional frame having a portion thereof projecting upwardly beyond the uppermost row of such additional blocks, and springs about said pivots, adapted when said second named frame is moved rearwardly and said keeper frame is released from said foundation blocks, to move the latter violently upward and outward and disrupt said fort.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS RAYMOND ARDEN.

Witnesses:
OTTO MUNK,
CLARICE FRANCK.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."