

A CARPENTER'S PORTABLE BENCH

BY A.E.R.

THE perspective view (Fig. 1) shows a bench that can be quickly taken apart or erected, and being in three primary portions, it is more readily handled than a bench of the folding type.

The top is mortised to drop over tenons formed on the posts (Fig- 8), and is secured to the posts by wedges. It is made of three planks, the two outer ones being 11 in. by 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ in., and the centre one being 12 in. by 1 in. rebated to fit grooves on the outer planks. Stout battens are screwed to the under side, the end battens abutting against the outsides of the posts (see Fig. 3). The posts are a fixture in pairs, but are joined longitudinally by two rails, with half dovetailed bare-faced tenons secured by wedges. The rails and wedges should be numbered to their respective places, and a hole bored in each wedge, so that, if necessary, they may be corded together to prevent loss during transit. The front rail has a double chamfer worked on its top edge to retain the sliding rack. The top edge of the rack fits in a groove under the top of the bench as shown in section by Fig. 4.

Two forms of vices are shown; each constitutes a part of the particular section to which it is attached, and in no way interferes with the dismantling of the bench. Fig. 5 shows the back cheek of the vice with the carrying nut; it is secured to the post with two stout coach screws. The runner guide extends half-way along the lower rail, a strip 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. being attached to the rail, as the latter does not come flush with the post (see Fig. 6). The vice shown by Figs. 9 and 10 requires the addition of a side plank, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. by 6 in. or 7 in. deep, screwed to the top. It is secured at the back with blocks, more particularly near the vice, but of course kept clear of the screw and runner. A vice is sometimes fitted at the opposite diagonal. The wedges securing the top of the bench are shown projecting $\frac{1}{2}$ in. or more above, merely to indicate their position more clearly. They should be flush, excepting the one next to the vice, which may be used as a bench stop. The vice runners and wedges should be of some hard wood, such as beech, ash, or teak; the remainder of the bench can conveniently be constructed of deal.

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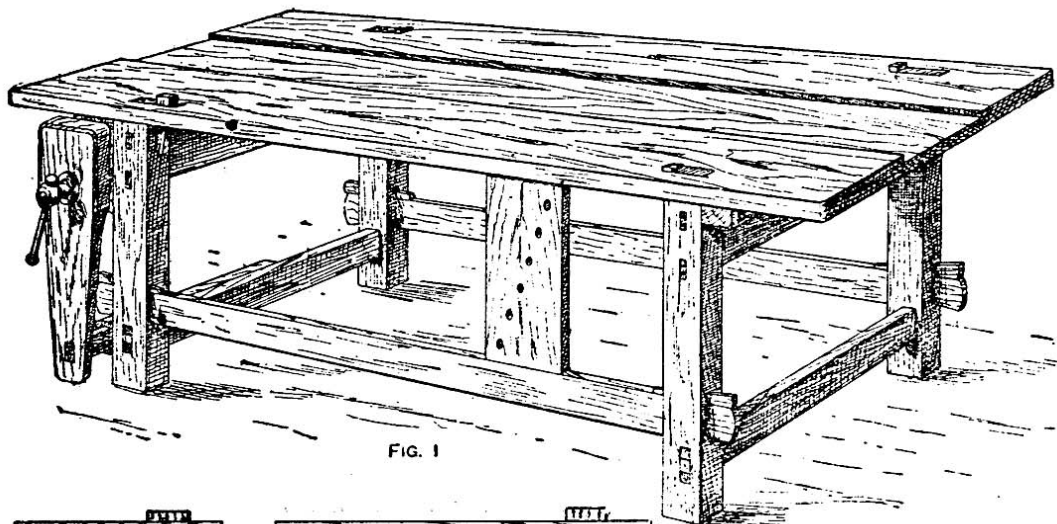


FIG. 1

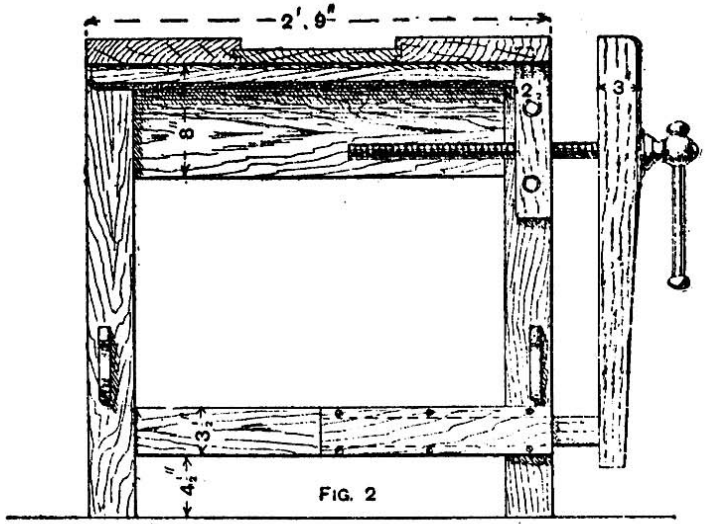


FIG. 2

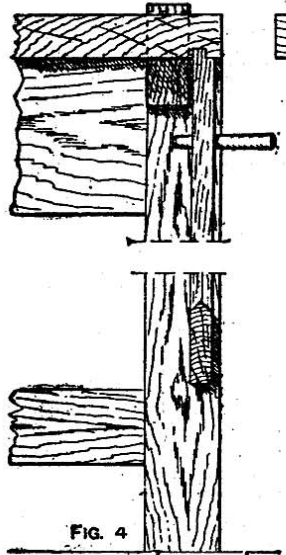


FIG. 4

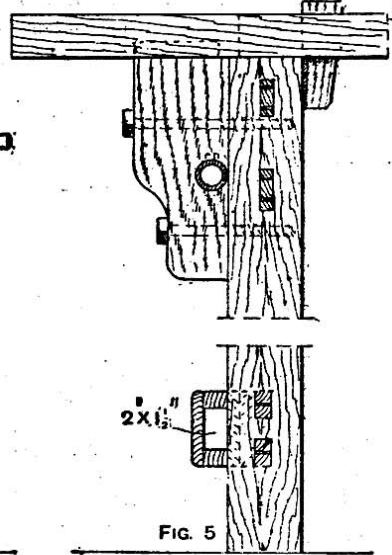


FIG. 5

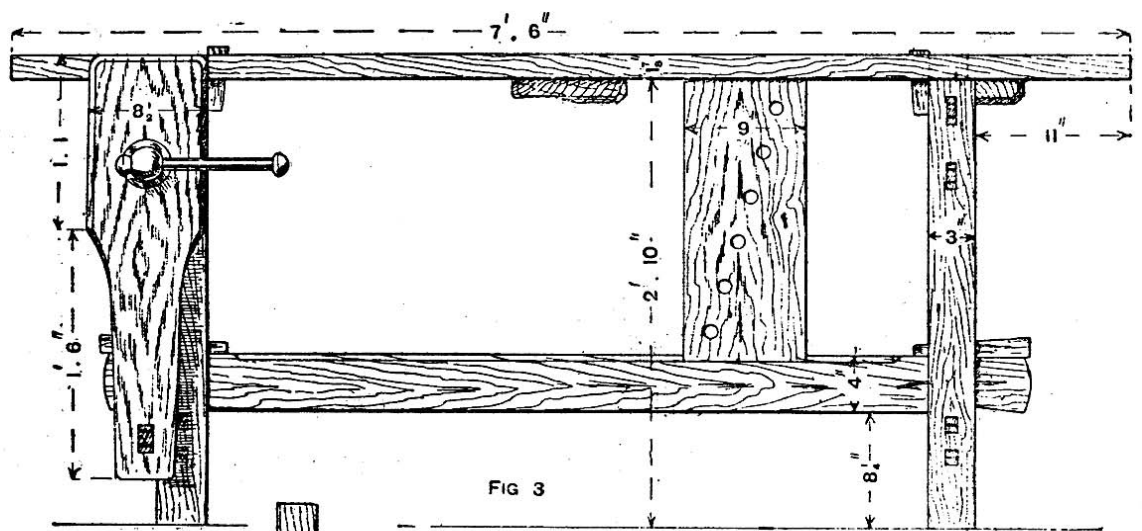


FIG. 3

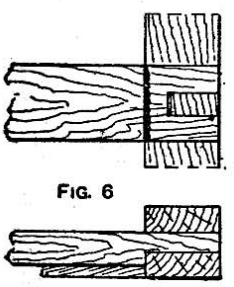


FIG. 6

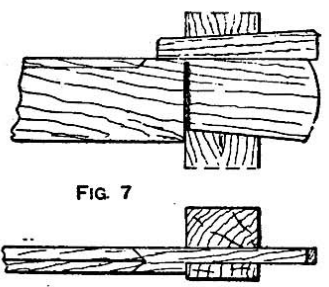


FIG. 7

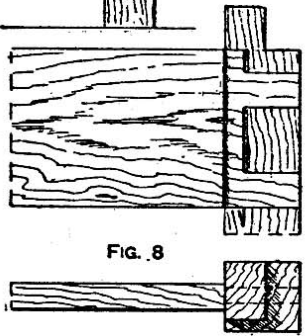


FIG. 8

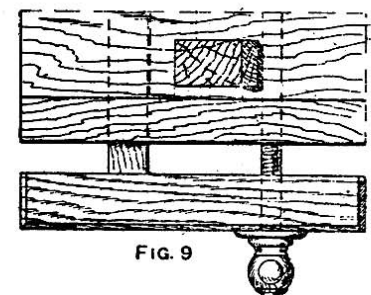


FIG. 9

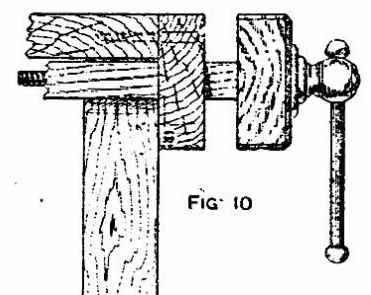


FIG. 10

A Carpenter's Portable Bench. Fig. 1.—Perspective View of Bench Complete. Fig. 2.—End Elevation. Fig. 3.—Front Elevation. Fig. 4.—Detail of Sliding Rack. Fig. 5.—Block for Nut and Runner Guide. Fig. 6.—Sections of Cross Rails. Fig. 7.—Longitudinal Rails. Fig. 8.—Joint of Top Cross Rails. Figs. 9 and 10.—Plan and End View of Alternative Form of Vice.