

United States Patent Office.

R. H. FISHER, OF BEAVER FALLS, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO
BEAVER FALLS CUTLERY COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 87,767. dated March 16, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN HANDLES FOR TABLE-CUTLERY.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, R. H. FISHER, of Beaver Falls, in the county of Allegheny, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Handles for Knives and Forks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a table-knife, illustrative of my improvement, and

Figure 2 is a section thereof, through the line *x-x* of fig. 1.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in each.

The nature of my invention consists in making the metallic handles of knives, forks, and other like articles of table-cutlery, with the opposite faces, or sides concave, or hollowed out, so as to produce an ornamental and highly finished article, sufficiently large, and not too heavy for convenient use. I apply it chiefly to articles of cutlery in which both blade and handle are forged from a single piece of metal. In a knife, the blade, of course, is thin and light. The handle should be large enough to be conveniently manipulated, in which case, if made solid, it would, being of metal, be too heavy, and not be sufficiently ornamental to meet with the readiest sale. For these reasons, as well as to save metal, I make the opposite sides, or faces of the handle concave, or hollowed out, the concavity being of such shape as to add to the ornamental appearance of the knife or other article to which it may be applied.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same.

a and *b* represent the blade and handle of a table-knife, made from a single piece or bar of steel, or other suitable metal, by forging, grinding, &c., in any known way.

The handle, along its outer edge *c*, as well as in its maximum thickness, may be of any desirable shape or configuration, the size being such that it can be easily manipulated in use.

The opposite faces of the handle *b*, I make concave, as at *d*, the concavity on either side extending over so much of the handle, and to such depth, as may be desired to secure an ornamental and finished appearance, and lessen its otherwise too great weight.

A thin web, *e*, constitutes the bottom of each concavity.

The concavity, or hollow face, thus described and shown, is secured by forging, or other suitable known means of working metals.

The knife or other article being otherwise finished, is coated with silver or other non-oxidizable metal or metallic composition.

The surface of the handle may be made plain, as shown, or it may have some ornamental design engraved, forged, or worked thereon.

The sides and bottom of the concavity *d*, on either side, may be composed of plain or curved surfaces, or some may be plain and others curved, or each such concavity *d* may be divided by the body of the handle crossing it either way, so as to give two or more depressions, or concavities in each face of the handle, and such modifications I include in my invention.

I do not claim making table knives and their handles from a single piece of steel, as I am aware that has already been done; and I am also aware that a skeleton handle has been made along with the blade, and from the same piece of steel, by forging, stamping, grinding, &c., and hence I do not claim such a handle; but

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

Making the metallic handles of articles of table-cutlery with the opposite faces, or sides concave, or hollowed out, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I, the said R. H. FISHER, have hereunto set my hand.

R. H. FISHER.

Witnesses:

JOHN GLENN,
THOS. B. KERR.