UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARSHALL C. LEFFERTS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO THE CELLULOID MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

MANUFACTURE OF SPOONS AND FORKS FROM CELLULOID AND ANALOGOUS MATERIAL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 235,954, dated December 28, 1880.

Application filed November 22, 1880. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARSHALL C. LEFFERTS, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Manufacture of Spoons and Forks from Celluloid and Analogous Material, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in spoons and forks, and is intended to obviate numerous objections to certain classes of these articles now generally in use.

It is well known that all kinds of spoons and forks, especially those made of the most approved materials, are discolored by use in connection with acids, certain kinds of medicine, vinegar, mustard, &c., which is a very serious objection, that has not, as far as I am aware, been obviated by any known expedient. In the case of acids, if the spoon be metallic there is great danger of its being permanently injured, and unless the best material is used the acid is likely to be affected to a greater or less extent. To obviate these and other objections, and to provide a spoon or fork which is commercially new, and which is in many respects exceptionably desirable, is the object of my invention.

The novelty of the invention consists in forming the part or parts of the spoon or fork which are liable to be subjected to the acid or other substance of celluloid or analogous compound of pyroxyline. By this means I am enabled to provide a spoon or fork which resists the action of acids, vinegar, eggs, &c., without being injured, and which produces no perceptible effect upon the substances in connection with which it is used.

In the manufacture of the article I make it of a single piece of the material, or make it partly of the material and partly of some other substance or material which can conveniently be employed. Where preferred, the shank may be formed of iron, wood, or other appropriate material, and coated with celluloid or other compound of pyroxyline in any convenient way. If made in a single piece the article may be formed in a die or mold in any known manner, or otherwise treated, according to the circumstances of the case. If the shank or other part of the article is made or strengthened by employing a piece of metal or other material, the piece of metal or material may be incorporated with the article during the process of manufacture, or may be added afterward, as may be practicable.

It is obvious that the method of manufacture and the means of effectuating the objects of the invention are very numerous, and they will be understood without explanation by persons skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

I contemplate practicing the invention, especially in connection with the manufacture of medicine, egg, pickle, olive, mustard, salt, and salad spoons and forks, and in connection with other classes to which the invention is adapted.

I do not limit myself to any particular mode of manufacture, nor do I confine my claim to an article made wholly of celluloid or other compound of pyroxyline; but

What I claim as new is—

A spoon or fork the bowl or tines of which are made wholly or in part of celluloid or other compound of pyroxyline.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing improvement in manufactures of celluloid and analogous plastic material, as above described, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of November, 1880.

MARSHALL C. LEFFERTS.

Witnesses:
CHAS. C. GILL,
PARIS CHALMERS.