

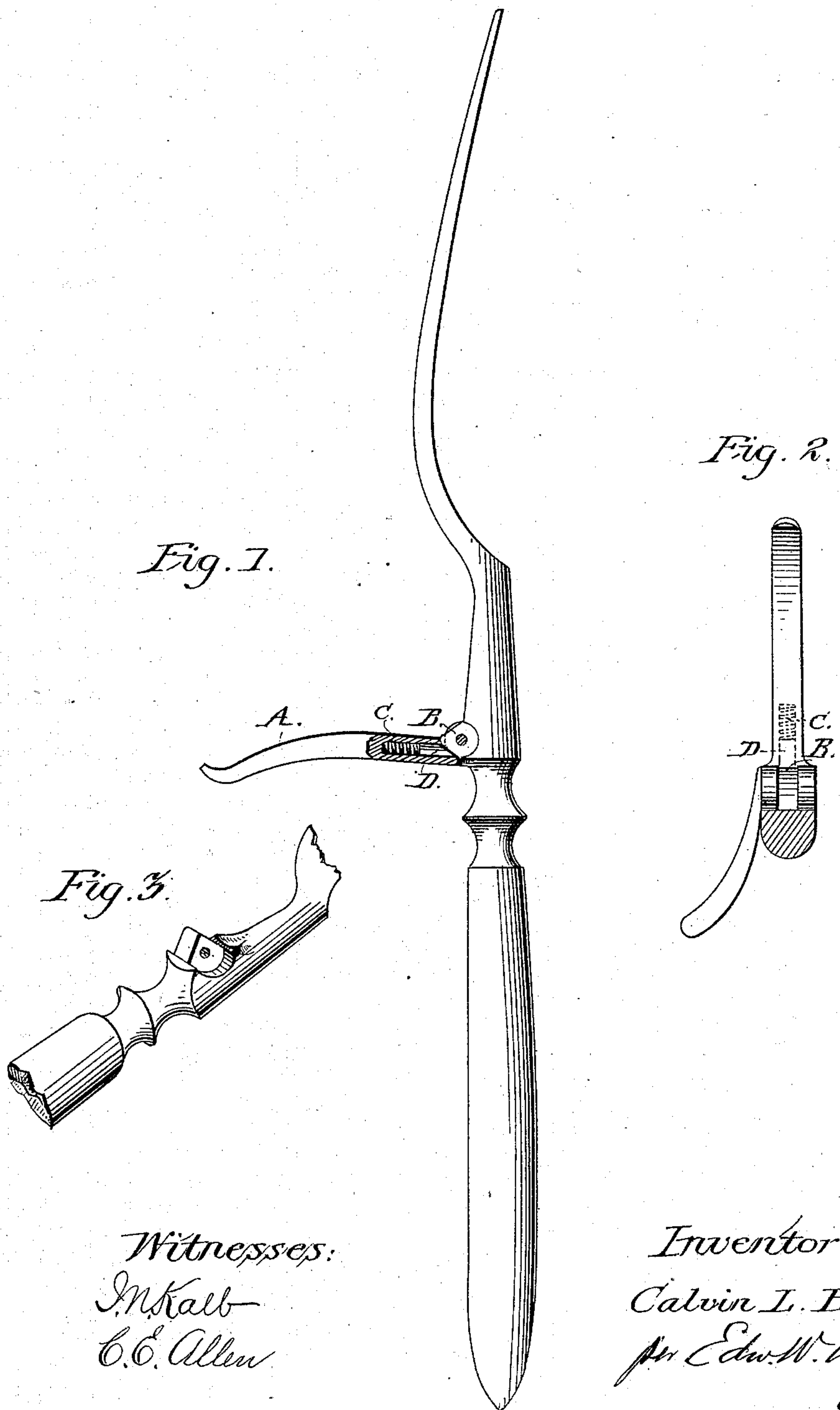
(No Model.)

C. L. BUTLER.

CARVING FORK.

No. 278,398.

Patented May 29, 1883.



Witnesses:  
J. N. Kalb  
C. C. Allen

Inventor:  
Calvin L. Butler.  
per Edw. W. Dunn  
Atty



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CALVIN L. BUTLER, OF GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

## CARVING-FORK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 278,398, dated May 29, 1883.

Application filed March 21, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CALVIN L. BUTLER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Greenfield, in the county of Franklin and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Carving-Forks, of which the following is a full and true specification.

My invention relates to that very important element in a carving-fork, the guard, its construction and the manner of its application on the fork.

Many carving-fork guards have been invented, some of which are handsome and useful, some not acting well, and almost all of them subject to the objection of having a slot or open joint, or a place where dirt and grease can get in and not easily cleaned. My invention is comparatively cheap, is practical, and not liable to this last objection.

The accompanying drawings illustrate my invention and form part of this specification, in which Figure 1 is a side elevation of fork with guard broken away. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of shank, showing V-shaped stud.

A represents the guard, which may be simply a guard fastened upon the shank of the fork, as hereinafter described; or it may be bifurcated, the lower projections serving as a rest. The lower end of the guard is cut out so as to leave a shoulder on each side, through which passes the pintle, which fastens it to the stud B on the shank of the fork, allowing it to turn up or down. The bottom end of the guard is also milled out to form a seat when it rests on the stud B, and on which it freely moves. A hole is drilled into the guard longitudinally from the lower end, about an eighth of an inch in diameter and about three-quarters of an inch in length, suitable to receive a small spiral spring, C, which is thrust into the upper end of the hole. D is a small steel follower, of a suitable diameter to fill this hole, and of length to fill it when the spring is compressed. The upper end of this follower D is square to bear against the spring. The lower end is so beveled that when it is in position with the beveled side faced toward the tines of the fork it shall bear constantly and evenly on the upper part of the stud B on the shank of the fork when at rest and

when being raised. This stud B is made with its sides sloping off to the diameter of the shank, if the guard is to be bifurcated from the shank down, for forming a rest. If for a guard merely, the sides are milled squarely down to receive the shoulders of the guard, which are rounded and turn in sockets made for them with a "rule-joint." The front and rear sides of the stud B form two sides of a right angle, while the top is slightly rounded to facilitate the action of the follower over it. When the guard is down the follower D lies with its thin end on the stud B, the back side of which toward the handle is inclined to exactly fit against the inclined end of the follower D, which maintains a uniform pressure against the top and rear of the stud. As the guard is raised the beveled side of the follower begins to bear on the inclined head of the stud B, and continues the pressure, compressing the spiral spring above it till the guard arrives at an upright position against a shoulder, where it is maintained by the spring. It will be seen that, the force of the spring being constantly exerted against the top and back side of the stud, the guard is kept in position whether it is resting down on the fork or upright, as when position for carving.

I claim—

1. A carving-fork having its shank formed with a stud of angular shape with opposite oblique bearing-surfaces provided for a cushioned follower, which latter is located in the fork-guard and is adapted to move therein longitudinally and bear alternately on one and the other of said surfaces, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The hinged guard provided in its longitudinal hollow space with a spring and follower, the latter of which bears upon the oblique surfaces of the V-shaped stud, which forms a part of the fork's shank, as specified.

3. A carving-fork having formed or fixed in its shank a V-shaped or angular stud, in combination with a hinged hollow guard provided with a spring-impelled follower adapted to bear upon the said stud, substantially as set forth.

CALVIN L. BUTLER.

Witnesses:

JAMES S. GRINNELL,  
F. M. THOMPSON.