(No Model.)

A. W. COX.

TABLE KNIFE.

No. 298,829. Patented May 20, 1884.

Fig. 1.

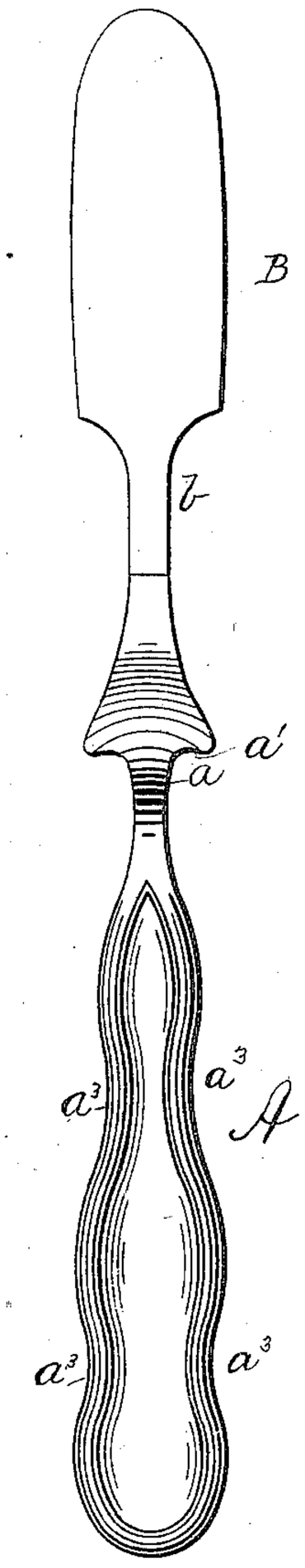


Fig. 3.

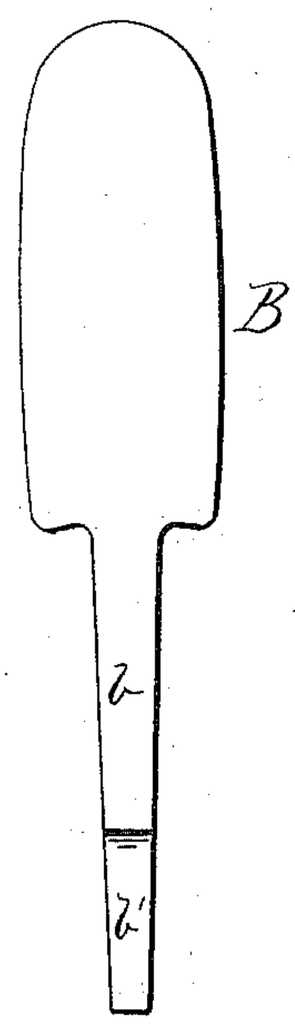
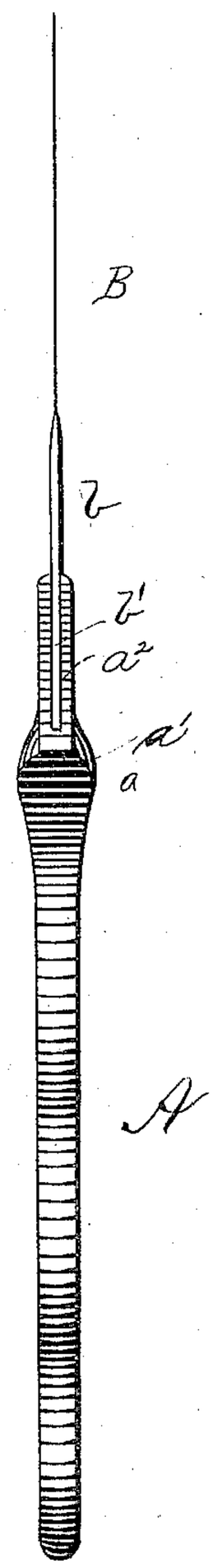


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR W. COX, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

TABLE-KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 298,829, dated May 20, 1884.

Application filed March 19, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR W. COX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Table-Knives; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention has relation to knives and forks; and it consists, essentially, in the peculiar form of the handle, and in other improvements, as will be described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side and Fig. 2 an edge view of my improved knife. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the blade.

The handle A may be made of any suitable material, and either cast, molded, or carved into the form shown, which will be described.

It is well known that the handles of table-knives in common use are ill-adapted to the uses of a handle, being too short, badly shaped, and in most cases unbalanced. In my improved handle I have aimed to attain symmetry of shape and a nice distribution of material, which gives the handle an even balance with the blade or other attached article. Near its forward end I reduce the width of the handle, and form the finger-rest *a* by widening the handle laterally. I continue these rests at their forward ends by the upwardly-curved projection a', as clearly shown. This rest, it will be seen, provides a construction whereby a forward force may be applied to the knife-blade without involving the tight grasp thereof, as in handles of ordinary construction. Good results will be had when the finger-rest described is formed only on one edge of the handle; but I prefer to form one on both edges, so that it may be used with a double-edged blade, as shown. The handle in advance of the finger-rest is gradually contracted, forming a neck, in or upon which I secure the tang of the blade, for which purpose I prefer to slot the contracted forward end at a^2, said slot being formed in a plane at right angles to the finger-rests, as clearly shown. It is manifest that instead of slotting the handle, as described, the tang of the blade may be slotted and opened in foot shape, and fitted over the contracted end of the handle. In either case it would be necessary to use rivets or other fastening devices, as will be appreciated.

The handle shown, it will be seen, is longer than the common handle, and is provided in its opposite edges with indentations a^3 a^3, into which fit the fingers passed under the handle in using same.

The blade B is made shorter than usual, and is preferably provided with two cutting-edges. My object in constructing this blade is to reduce it to the smallest amount of surface required for use at the table. Table-knives ordinarily have two or three times as much blade-surface as is required for use, and I aim to dispense with the superfluous portions, and thereby reduce the cost and labor of manufacturing blades, as will be appreciated; also, by bringing the cutting-surface near the hand of the user, a better control of the knife is secured. I provide this blade with a shank, *b*, on the end of which I form the tang b', fitted for attachment to the forward end of the handle, as before described.

It will be seen that by making the finger-rest wider laterally than the body of the handle I secure additional finger-bearing, and also provide means for holding the blade clear of the linen when laid on the table, as the handle will rest on its side and bear on the table at its finger-rest portions and its rear end, which position will throw the blade above the line of support.

In grasping the described handle, the hand of the user is always on the handle and never on the blade, while with the common table-knife the hand of the user is usually resting more or less on the blade.

This handle is preferably made with indentations on its outer edges, but may be made with other designs of outline.

It is intended, also, to make this form of knife in one single piece of metal, commonly called a "solid" knife. This is accomplished by the usual means for producing such work, such as dies, forges, &c. Such knives are invariably silver-plated.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A handle provided with a finger-rest extending laterally beyond the common thickness of the handle and continued forward in an upwardly-curved stop portion, and having its end in advance of said rest contracted, as described, forming a neck adapted to receive the blade, substantially as set forth.

2. As an article of manufacture, the herein-described handle, formed with indentations on its opposite edges, and laterally-extended finger-rests provided with upwardly-curved continuations or stops, and having its forward end in advance of such finger-rests contracted, as described, and adapted to support the blade, substantially as set forth.

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

ARTHUR W. COX.

Witnesses:

J. BANISTER, Jr.,

J. T. BULLIVANT.