G. L. HART & H. FISHER.
Table-Cutlery.

No. 209,679. Patented Nov. 5, 1878.

Fig. 1

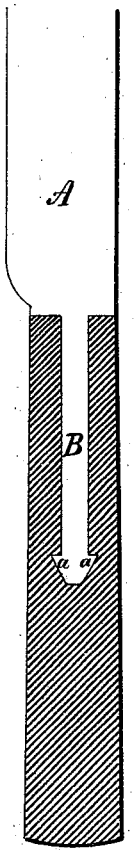
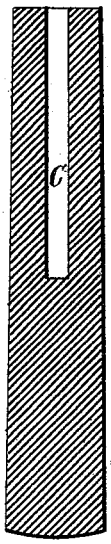


fig. 2



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. HART AND HENRY FISHER, OF BRIDGEPORT, ASSIGNORS TO JAMES D. FRARY, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN TABLE-CUTLERY.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **209,679**, dated November 5, 1878; application filed October 12, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEO. L. HART and HENRY FISHER, of Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Table-Cutlery; and we do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, longitudinal section; Fig. 2, the handle as prepared to receive the tang.

This invention relates to an improvement in securing the handles of table-cutlery, but particularly to that class in which the handles are made from wood.

A great difficulty is experienced in securing the handles so that washing or heating will not loosen the blade in the handle.

The object of this invention is to overcome this difficulty; and it consists in constructing the tang with a barb or enlargement, and then softening the handle, as by steaming, and forcing the enlarged or barbed end into the hole bored in the handle for the purpose, the barb forcing an expansion of the soft wood, and then the wood, drying, contracts upon the barb, and so as to secure the handle and blade together.

The blade A, whether it be knife or fork, is constructed with a tang, B, and at some point on the tang, preferably near the end, a barb or enlargement, *a*, is made, and so that the tang at that point is considerably larger than that portion nearer the blade. This may be made by simply cutting the barb on the tang, the blade and tang both cut from a sheet of steel.

The handle is made from wood of the class commonly called "solid handles," and is bored at its bolster end, as at C, to receive the tang of the blade, and in substantially the usual manner. The handle is softened by steaming or soaking, and then the tang is forced into place, as seen in Fig. 1, the softened wood readily yielding for the barb or enlargement *a* to enter the hole; then, drying the handle, the wood contracts upon the tang, so as to completely lock over the barb or enlargement and inseparably secure the blade and handle together.

I am aware that handles have been secured to table-cutlery by a tang or roughness on the handle, as in the use of rubber, and also that barbed tangs have been secured by filling in around the tang with sulphur or other material, and therefore do not broadly claim securing cutlery to handles by means of a barb formed on the tang.

We claim—

The herein-described process for securing tanged cutlery to solid wood handles, consisting in forcing the barbed or enlarged tang into the softened wood handle, so that the wood in drying contracts upon the said barb or enlargement, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:
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