Nov. 3, 1942. M. R. HOWARD 2,300,671

ARTICLE OF TABLEWARE

Filed Aug. 14, 1941.

Fig. 1

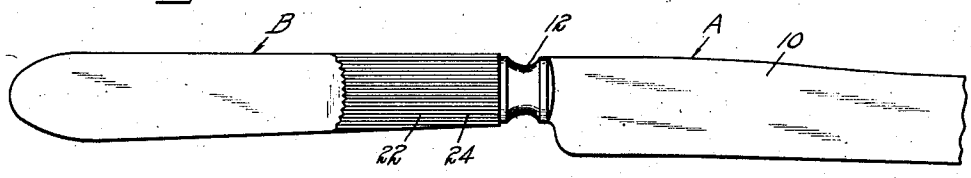


Fig. 2

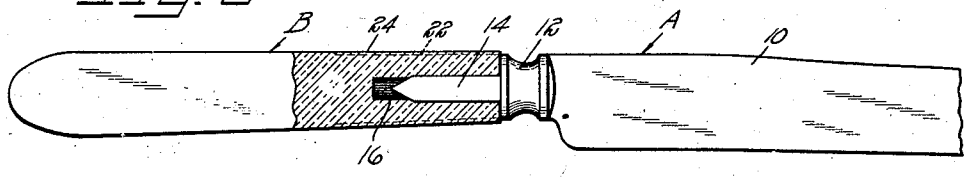


Fig. 3

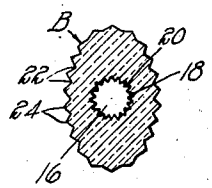


Fig. 4

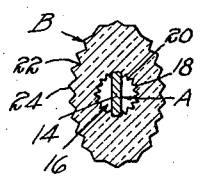
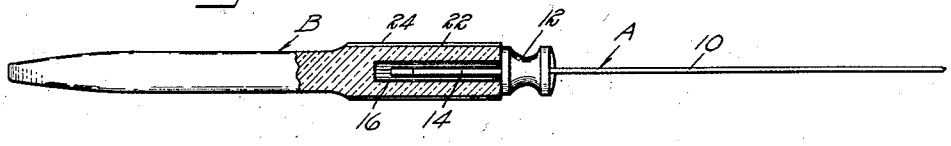


Fig. 5



Inventor

MARSHALL R. HOWARD

By Lindsey & Pallard

Attorneys

Patented Nov. 3, 1942 2,300,671

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,300,671

ARTICLE OF TABLEWARE

Marshall R. Howard, New Britain, Conn., assignor to Landers, Frary & Clark, New Britain, Conn., a corporation of Connecticut

Application August 14, 1941, Serial No. 406,750

4 Claims. (Cl. 30—342)

The present invention relates to articles of tableware and more particularly to cutlery utilizing handles of composition material.

As is well known in the manufacture of such cutlery, the metal portion of the article includes a tang which is seated within a bore formed in the handle. This type of cutlery has met with general public acceptance except when the handle is made of a transparent material. In such instances, the tang remains visible and contrasts so sharply with the handle that the resultant article is unattractive in appearance and non-acceptable to the purchasing public.

The object of the present invention is to provide cutlery having transparent handles and wherein the handle is so constructed as to effectively and substantially conceal the tang. This is accomplished by so shaping the handle as to cause a refraction or bending of the light before it strikes the tang, thus effectively concealing same.

Other objects will be in part obvious and in part pointed out more in detail hereinafter.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combination of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereafter set forth and the scope of the application of which will be indicated in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a view of a knife embodying the invention herein;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 with the handle partially in cross section;

Fig. 3 is an end view of the handle prior to the insertion of the tang;

Fig. 4 is an end view after the insertion of the tang; and

Fig. 5 is an edge view of the knife with the handle partly in cross section to show details of construction.

Referring to the drawing, the invention is shown as embodied in a knife although it is apparent it could be incorporated in any other article of tableware. The knife comprises a metal part A having a blade 10, a bolster 12, and tang 14, and a handle B of colorless, transparent acetate or other like material. The handle B is provided at one end with a circular bore 16 in which the tang is seated. As best seen in Fig. 4, the width of the tang 14 is slightly greater than the diameter of the bore 16, and to permit the assembly of the parts, the handle is heated to expand and open the bore sufficiently to permit the insertion of the tang therein. Thereafter when the handle contracts, it grips the side of the tang, rigidly securing the parts together.

As previously stated, when the handles of the tableware are of colorless acetate or other transparent material, the tang will be visible through the handle unless means are utilized for concealing it. In the present instance, effective and substantial concealment of the tang is accomplished by so constructing the handle that light beams which would normally fall onto the tang are bent or refracted prior to reaching the tang. To accomplish this, the bore 16 is provided with longitudinally extending flutes 18 to define in effect a plurality of circumferential, closely spaced prisms 20. In the embodiment shown, the flutes are V-shaped, resulting in V-shaped prisms, although it is quite apparent that any suitable shape which would tend to bend the light away from the tang could be used. With this arrangement, when the tang is secured within the handle, the light will initially strike the prisms and be bent away from the tang, and thus substantially no light strikes the tang and reflection therefrom will not occur. As a result, the tang is substantially concealed and does not detract from the appearance of the implement.

In addition to the fluted bore 16, the outer surface of the handle may also be provided with like flutes 22 to define an outer peripheral wall of closely spaced prisms 24. As best seen in Figs. 1 and 5, these flutes and prisms are coextensive in length with bore 16, resulting in a further bending or diffusion of the light, further aiding in concealing the tang and in no way detracting from the outward appearance of the handle.

As is evident from the foregoing, tableware made in accordance with this invention may be inexpensively produced as the only additional operation is that of fluting the handle. This, of course, will be done during the making of the handle and does not require the necessity of any special skill or machinery.

As many changes could be made in the above construction and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the language used in the following claims is intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described and all statements of

the scope of the invention which, as a matter of language, might be said to fall therebetween.

I claim as my invention:

1. An article of tableware of the character described having a metal portion provided at one end with a tang, a handle of transparent material provided at one end with a bore in which said tang is seated, the inner surface of said bore being fluted to refract or bend the light prior to its reaching the tang and thereby effectively concealing the tang.

2. An article of tableware of the character described having a metal portion provided at one end with a tang, a handle of transparent material provided at one end with a bore in which said tang is seated, the inner surface of said bore and the outer surface of said handle being fluted to bend the light prior to its reaching the tang and thereby effectively concealing the tang.

3. An article of tableware of the character described comprising a metal part having a tang, a transparent handle provided at one end with a bore in which said tang is seated, said bore being provided with longitudinally extending V-shaped flutes to define a circumferential wall of V-shaped prisms to refract or bend the light prior to its reaching the tang and thereby effectively concealing the tang.

4. In an article of tableware of the character described, a metal part provided with a tang, a handle of transparent material provided at one end with a bore in which said tang is seated, said handle having a fluted area adjacent the tang to refract or bend the light prior to its reaching the tang to thereby effectively conceal the tang.

MARSHALL R. HOWARD.