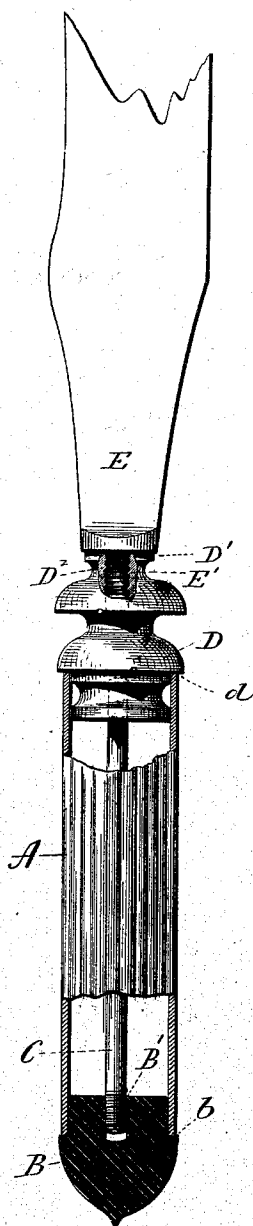


(No Model.)

J. OEFINGER.
KNIFE.

No. 504,889.

Patented Sept. 12, 1893.



Witnesses.
J. H. Shumway.
C. P. Kellogg.

Jacob Oefinger
Inventor.
By atty.
Earle Seymour

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB OEFINGER, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT.

KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 504,889, dated September 12, 1893.

Application filed March 7, 1893. Serial No. 465,006. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB OEFINGER, of Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Handles for Knives, Forks, and Kindred Articles; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawing constitutes part of this specification, and represents a view partly in elevation and partly in section of a knife provided with a handle constructed in accordance with my invention.

My invention relates to an improvement in handles for knives, forks, and kindred articles, the object being to produce a cheap and durable construction, of ornamental appearance.

With these ends in view, my invention consists in a handle having certain details of construction and combinations of parts as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In carrying out my invention I employ a tube A, of suitable length, and made either plain or ornamental, as desired. As herein shown, it is longitudinally corrugated, giving it a pleasing appearance, and adapting it to be very firmly grasped by the hand. Into one end of this tube I insert a solid plug B, having a shoulder *b*, against which the edge of the tube abuts, the exterior conformation of this plug adapting it to form a suitable termination for the outer end of the handle. By preference it is secured in place by providing its inner end with a central longitudinally threaded socket B', which receives the threaded outer end of a coupling-rod C, the inner end of which is permanently attached to the inner end of a solid imperforate plug D, adapted to be inserted into the opposite end of the tube, having a shoulder *d*, against which the tube abuts, and adapted in its exterior conformation to form the bolster of the handle. In its external conformation, the plug D, may of course vary, and this is also true of the plug B. At its outer end the plug D, is provided with a bearing D', against which the butt end of the knife-blade E, is seated. The said plug D, is also furnished in its outer end with a central threaded longitudinal bore D², receiving the

threaded shank E' of the knife-blade. Under the construction herein shown, the handle is very readily assembled after its respective parts have been made and finished, the rotation of one of the plugs in the right direction operating through the coupling-rod C, to draw their shoulders very firmly against the respective ends of the tube. The knife-blade is applied with equal ease to the plug D, before or after the parts of the handle have been assembled, as found most convenient, but preferably the handle will be assembled first, and the knife-blade attached to it afterward. Of course the knife-blade E, may be replaced by the corresponding part of a fork, or a steel, or other kindred construction applicable for use with such a handle. It will be noticed that if it is ever desired to refinish the handle, it may be readily separated from the knife-blade for that purpose, or, if the knife-blade is broken, it may be removed and replaced without disfiguring the handle.

Preferably I shall secure the plugs in place by means of a coupling-rod as shown, but if preferred, the inner ends of the plug might be threaded to take into corresponding threads formed in the ends of the tube. As herein shown, I have attached the coupling-rod to the plug D, and provided for screwing the plug B, upon its free end, but if preferred, this arrangement may be reversed. I would therefore have it understood that I do not limit myself to the exact construction herein shown and described, but hold myself at liberty to make such changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

I am aware that it is old to form a knife-handle of a hollow tube, two plugs located in the respective ends thereof, and a rod for uniting the same, and I do not therefore, claim that construction broadly.

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

1. A handle for knives, forks and kindred articles, consisting of a tube, a solid plug located in one end thereof, adapted in its exterior conformation to form the outer end of the handle, and constructed with a shoulder against which the tube abuts; and an imperforate plug located in the opposite end of the tube, adapted in its exterior conformation to

form the bolster of the handle, having a shoulder against which the tube abuts, and constructed to have an independently formed knife-blade or other part fastened to its outer
5 end, substantially as described.

2. A handle for knives, forks and kindred articles, consisting of a tube, a solid plug located in one end thereof, adapted in its exterior conformation to form the end of the handle, having a shoulder against which the tube
10 abuts, and constructed with a threaded socket; a solid plug located in the opposite end of the tube, adapted in its exterior conformation to form the bolster of the handle, having a shoulder
15 against which the tube abuts, and con-

structed with a screw-threaded bore to receive an independently formed knife-blade or other part, and a coupling-rod permanently attached to the plug last mentioned, and having its opposite end threaded to enter the threaded
20 socket in the plug, forming the end of the handle, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JACOB OEFINGER.

Witnesses:

HENRY T. DOWNS,
FRED W. TTERICK.