

G. C. ROBINSON.  
Spoons, Forks, &c.

No. 135,590.

Patented Feb. 4, 1873.

Fig. 1

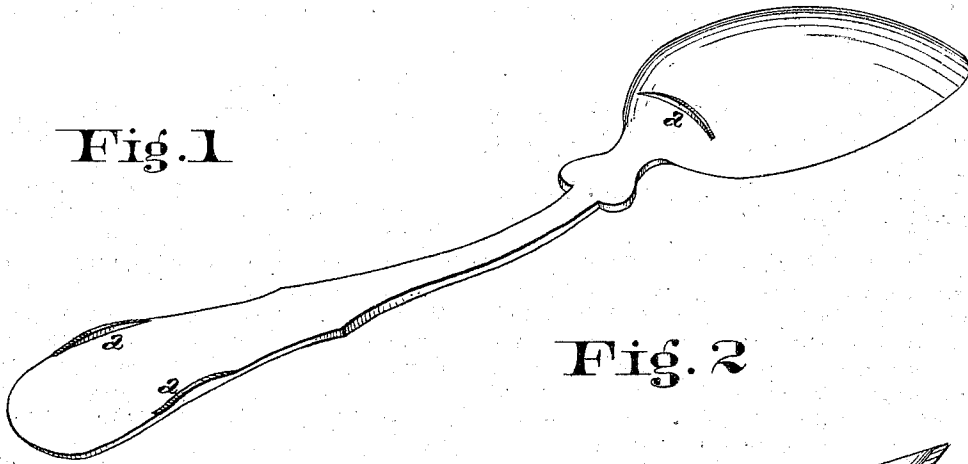


Fig. 2

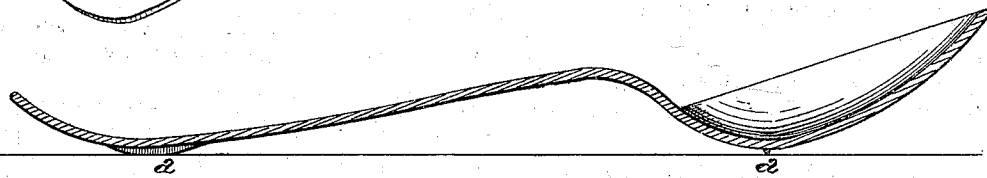


Fig. 3

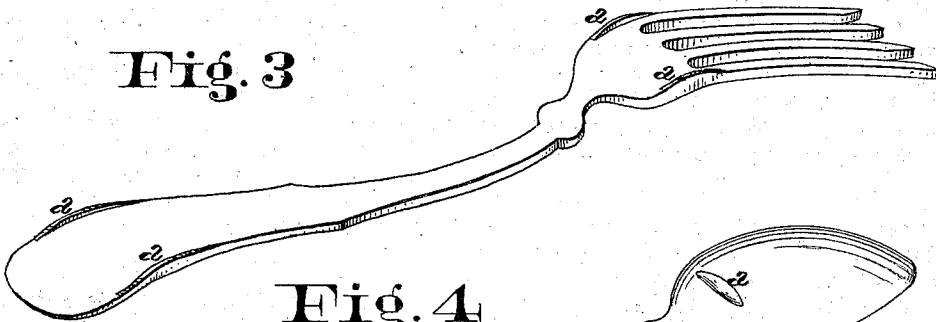
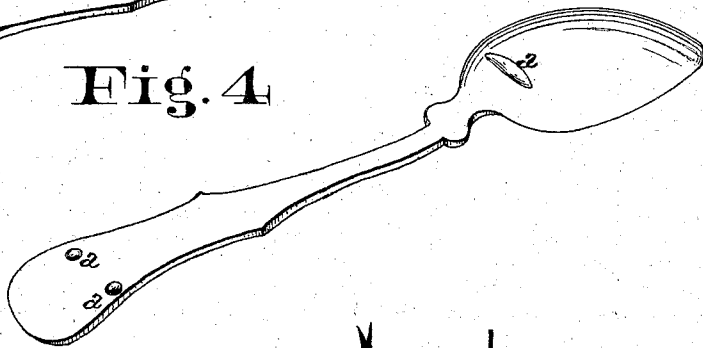


Fig. 4



Attest

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE C. ROBINSON, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SPOONS, FORKS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 135,590, dated February 4, 1873.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. ROBINSON, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Spoons, Forks, &c., of which the following is a specification:

### *Nature and Objects of Invention.*

My invention relates to devices for the protection of the plating of spoons and forks from unsightly wear at those portions of the article which rest upon the table; and consists in the construction of the spoon, fork, or similar article with visible well-defined ribs or projections of very limited superficial extent raised above the ordinary bearing-surfaces of such articles, for the purpose of receiving and definitely limiting the extent of the wear upon the usual bearing-surfaces of plated ware, such as herein specified.

### *Description of the Accompanying Drawing.*

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the under side of a spoon with my bearing-surface projections. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a fork with similar projections. Fig. 4 exhibits a spoon in perspective, having modified forms and constructions of the raised projections.

### *General Description.*

When a spoon of ordinary form of manufacture rests upon a table the convex side of the handle and the convex side of the bowl bear upon the surface of the table, and as it is moved about or taken up and laid down frequently, these points of bearing are subjected to excessive wear, which, in the case of plated ware, results in the wearing away of large patches of the plating, and the exposure of large spots of the baser metal of which the spoon is originally composed. To remedy this evil, and limit the wear at these points to such a degree that when the plating at the bearing-surfaces is worn off the baser metal exposed will be so limited in extent, and have so definite a form as not to appear unsightly, I project from these points thin ribs or projections *a*, which are raised so far above the usual surface of a spoon or fork as to receive all the wear at these points, no matter whether the article rests upon a smooth table or a rough uneven surface, and

confine this wear to a narrow and definitely-formed surface, so that when the projections are made of the same material as the spoon or fork, and the said projections are plated at the same time as the other parts of the spoon or fork, the projections will not look unsightly after the plating upon them is worn off; and when the said projections are formed of pure metal, such as silver, riveted or soldered to the spoon or fork, the superficial shape or contour of the projections and the number thereof can be varied to suit the fancy, and can be so formed as to be adapted for cheap manufacture for attachment to ware already plated.

Fig. 2 illustrates the manner in which a spoon or fork so constructed rests upon the table.

The projections *a*, when formed originally of the same metal as the body of the spoon or fork, may be "struck up" in dies to the form shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. When separately attached, they may be in the form of circular-headed rivets of silver, such as shown in the handle of Fig. 4, calculated, when badly worn, to still preserve a pure surface of pleasing circular form.

My improvement is specially designed for the manufacture of plated table-ware, or ware intended for plating; but it is also serviceable to prevent excessive local wear of light solid metal goods.

### *Claim.*

In the construction of spoons, forks, or other article of similar character, I claim the visible definitely-formed ribs or projections *a*, of any suitable material, raised above the ordinary bearing-surfaces of the spoon or fork, and attached thereto by soldering, riveting, or other suitable manner, or by forcing them up from the body of metal of which the article is composed, for the purpose of receiving and definitely limiting the extent of the wear upon the bearing-surfaces of such articles, substantially as set forth.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

GEORGE C. ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

FRANK MILLWARD,  
RICHARD A. ROBINSON.