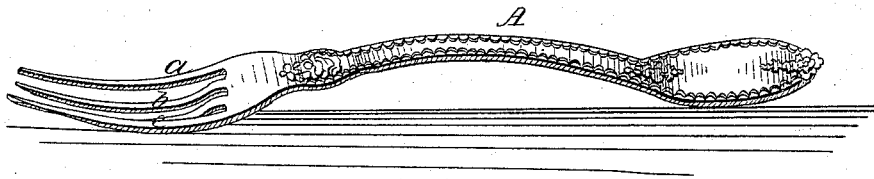


*C. A. Dungen,*  
*Table Fork.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 54,514.*

*Patented May 8, 1866.*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*J P Cranford*  
*Edward Osborn*

*Inventor:*

*Charles A Dungen*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. DURGIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TABLE-FORKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 54,514, dated May 8, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. DURGIN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Forks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, figures, and letters of reference thereon, making part of this specification.

Of the said drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 a longitudinal section.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in all the drawings.

In using a fork for eating various kinds of food, such as corn, beans, pease, and other articles similar to them, the particles will roll off from the flat surface of the fork-tines, to the great annoyance of the user.

My invention is designed to obviate this difficulty; and consists in depressing the middle tines or prongs a slight distance below the plane of the outside ones, so that the fork will be somewhat of a spoon shape, and thus readily hold the food.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe the construction and operation thereof.

I construct a fork, A, by depressing in proper dies the inside tines, *b*, at the point *c*, so that they shall be, say, one-sixteenth of an inch below the outside tines, *a*, and thus form the fork in the shape of a trough or spoon.

The depth of the depression may be varied to suit the taste of the purchaser.

With my improved fork the various kinds of food enumerated above may be eaten without the annoyance of their continually dropping off, while its form is greatly improved for general food.

I claim—

As a new and improved article of manufacture, a fork constructed as described and set forth.

CHARLES A. DURGIN.

Witnesses:

J. P. CRAWFORD,  
EDWARD OSBORN.