

The handles of the knife and fork could be felt passing down through the ileum from the point of adhesion, and their extremities lodged in cæcum; the bowl of the spoon could be felt in the duodenum, concavity forward, and its tip had caused ulceration through the anterior wall of the duodenum, with a slit-like perforation into the peritoneal cavity, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the pylorus. The stomach and intestines were removed with as little disturbance of relations as possible, and photographs taken with the article swallowed, in the position in which they were found at the autopsy. The point of the knife was engaged in the mucous membrane of the stomach a little below the lesser curve on the anterior wall, and had caused some ulceration there. The points of the fork were free. The handle of the spoon lay across the front of the fork, forming with it an angle of about 45 degrees. The stomach showed marked chronic inflammation—all coats being considerably thickened; the mucosa was much pigmented with black pigment. The mucous membrane of the duodenum was greatly thickened, and showed deep ulceration where the edge of the bowl of the spoon had rested, as well as ulceration with perforation at the point where the tip pressed; the perforation was $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long; black pigmentation was extreme. No opening was found in the colon where it was adherent to the stomach and ileum. The mucous membrane of the cæcum was slightly thickened, and showed an ulcerated spot $\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{1}{2}$ inch, where the knife handle rested. The œsophagus showed superficial ulceration of the mucosa for about one inch above its cardiac orifice. The measurements of the knife, fork, and spoon were found to be as follows: knife, $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches long; fork, $7\frac{3}{8}$ inches; spoon, $5\frac{7}{8}$ inches. The knife-blade had been considerably eroded by the gastric juice, but the fork and spoon showed no damage beyond the loss of the silver-plating.

There was nothing else specially noteworthy in connection with the abdominal viscera, excepting the presence of a Meckel's diverticulum about two and a half feet from the ileo-cæcal valve.

During the whole period of the man's life after he had swallowed the knife, fork, and spoon, he only twice—and that for a short time—complained of pain; and the only sign of peritonitis was abdominal distension.

The finding of the piece of glass in the trachea was as great a surprise to the patient's medical attendants as to others. There had been nothing at all during life to cause them to suspect any foreign body or any irritation whatever in the respiratory tract.