

the best shape of coil. For this purpose Mr. Tainter constructed the instruments shown in Fig. 8. Circular grooves were turned in two boards, one of which is shown in perspective at A and the other in section at D. An insulated copper wire could be pressed into any of these grooves so as to give the wire an exactly circular shape of known diameter, and the two ends were passed through an orifice in the back of the board, making connection with a similar ring of wire in the other instrument as shown. A small secondary coil ($\frac{1}{2}$ of fine wire, which could be moved with moderate friction upon the horizontal rod, was connected to another similar coil, (E,) and to a telephone; and a small brass ring, (C,) which could also be moved along the horizontal rod, was used instead of a bullet to disturb the balance.

In making an experiment with this apparatus the secondary coil (B) was first placed within the primary ring and in the same plane with it, and the balancing coil E was adjusted to produce silence. The brass ring C was then moved along the horizontal rod until the balance was sensibly disturbed and the relative distances of the coils and the brass ring were noted.

Continuing the experiment the coil B was moved a determined distance beyond the plane of A, and the balancing coils again adjusted to silence. The brass ring C was once more caused to disturb the balance, and the new hearing distance was noted. The following are the tabulated results of a series of experiments made on the 19th of July, 1881. The battery employed consisted of six bichromate cells connected in series.