

of *Induction of Flat Spirals*," which was read before this association at the Saratoga meeting in August, 1879.

*Practical Application.*

While brooding over the problem of the detection of the bullet in the body of President Garfield, these experiments made in England returned vividly to my mind. It seemed to me that if the overlapping area "2" of the two coils shown in Fig. 1 could be brought over the seat of the bullet without disturbing the relative positions of the coils, the telephone would probably announce the presence of the bullet by an audible sound.

A crude experiment was at once made to test the idea. A large, single-pole electro-magnet (the core of which was composed of a bundle of fine iron wires) was used in place of coil A (Fig. 1); and a small coil of fine wire taken from a hand telephone was arranged a little to one side of the pole to represent coil B. The small coil being connected with a telephone, a battery current was passed through the coil of the electro-magnet, and the battery circuit was made and broken by an assistant.

Under these circumstances a much better balance was obtained than could possibly have been anticipated. Upon now bringing a leaden bullet near the small coil, a distinct ticking sound could be heard from the telephone each time the battery circuit was made and broken.

Being absent from my laboratory, and without facilities for proper experiment, I communicated my ideas to Mr. Charles Williams, Jr., of Boston, manufacturer of electrical and telephonic apparatus, who kindly placed the resources of his large establishment at my service; and, at great personal inconvenience, delegated his best workmen to attend to my experiments.

Upon attempting to devise an appropriate form of apparatus for the special purpose in view I saw that there were great practical difficulties in the way of utilizing the arrangement shown in Fig. 1, and it occurred to me that the apparatus of Prof. Hughes might perhaps be employed with more advantage as the basis of my experiments. In the ordinary form of