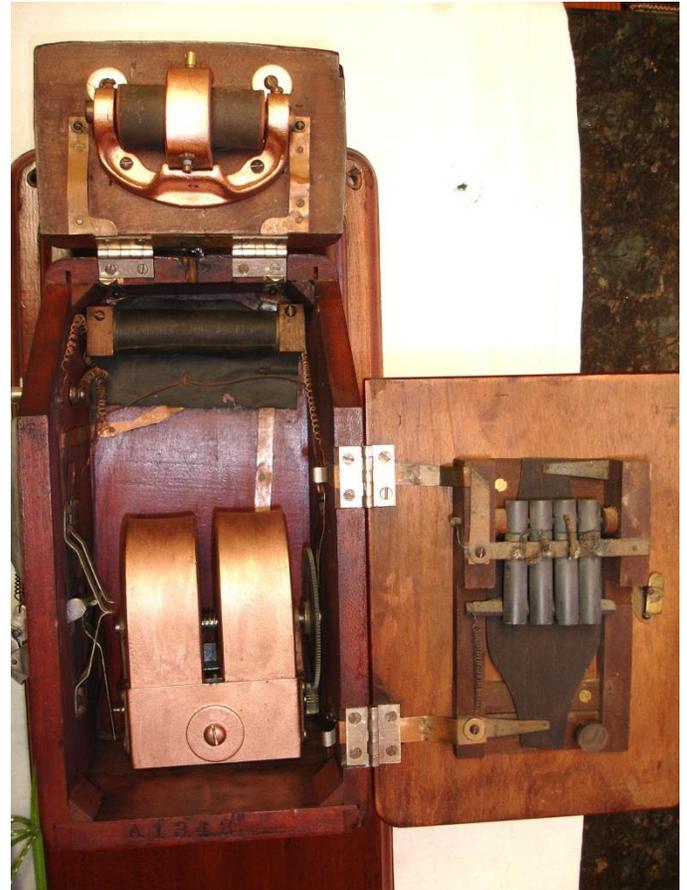


**Harrison International Telephone Company
A Long and Short Distance Telephone
Combined Into One.
By Tom Adams ATCA #213**

the sole owners of US Letters Patents No. 476,200, dated May 31,1892; No.499,108, dated June 6,1893; and No. 435,295, dated August 26, 1890. The first two relate to electric carbon telephones, transmitters, receivers, and various electrical devices connected with the telephone proper, which were inventions of Dr. Edward M. Harrison, a well-known electrician of the time.



The Harrison carbon pencil transmitter was first used in 1888 by the Arkansas Telephone Company in Fort Smith. Suit was brought against the Company by The Bell Telephone Company for infringement of its patents on January 14, 1889 and a temporary injunction was requested. The injunction was denied by Judge Parker of the US District Court of Arkansas. Bell upon hearing the oral opinion given on November 17, 1889 that its injunction request was going to be denied, requested the suit be dropped prior to the opinion becoming public record. The request was granted on December 17th and Bell was ordered to pay all cost of litigation.

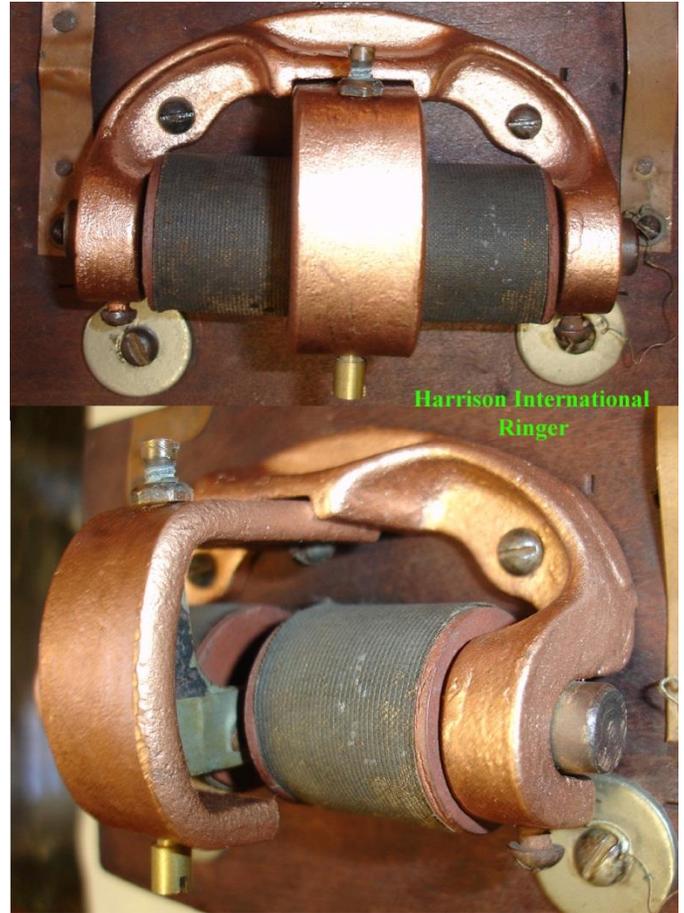
The Harrison International Telephone Co. organized in 1894 under the laws of the state of Illinois with a capital stock of \$80,000 for purposes of exploiting the telephone. They had offices in Chicago & New York City. They were

The transmitter used in this manual phone is one of the very first invented by Harrison, while the transmitter remained practically the same, the frame was changed from wood to metal.



1889 Harrison International Telephone Transmitter
 US Patent filed 8-9-1890 & issued 5-31-1892

The ringer looks near identical to a Viaduct, the difference being the curved magnet which supports the clapper pivot adjustment screw.



Harrison International Ringer



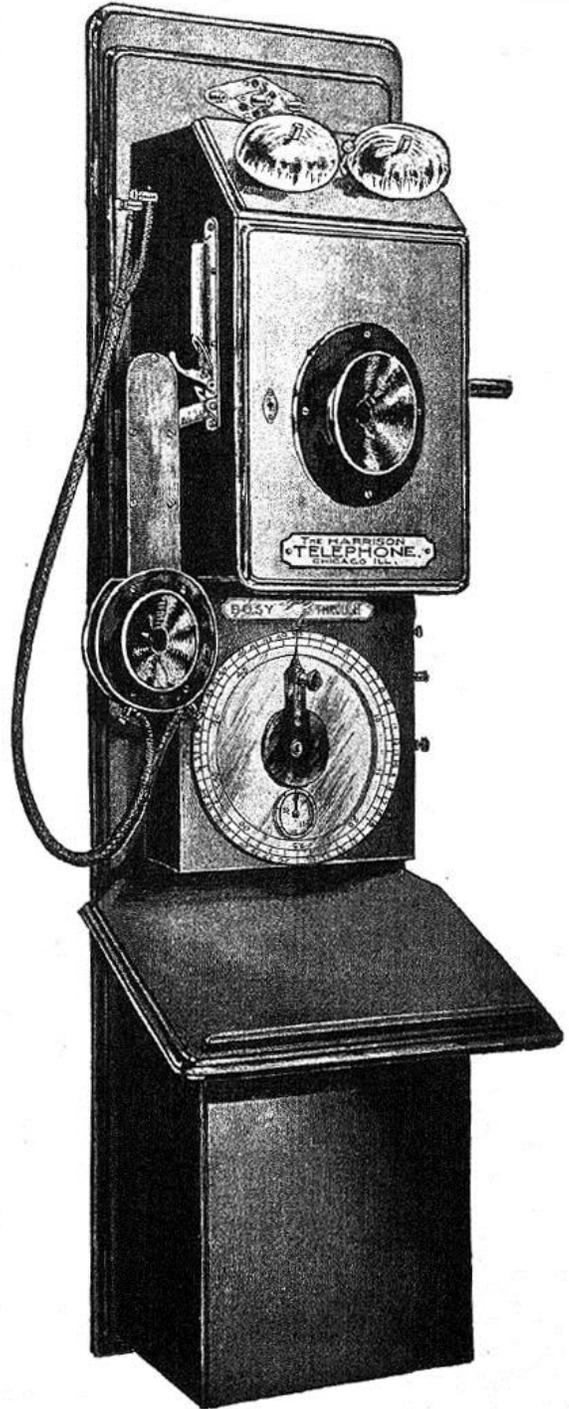
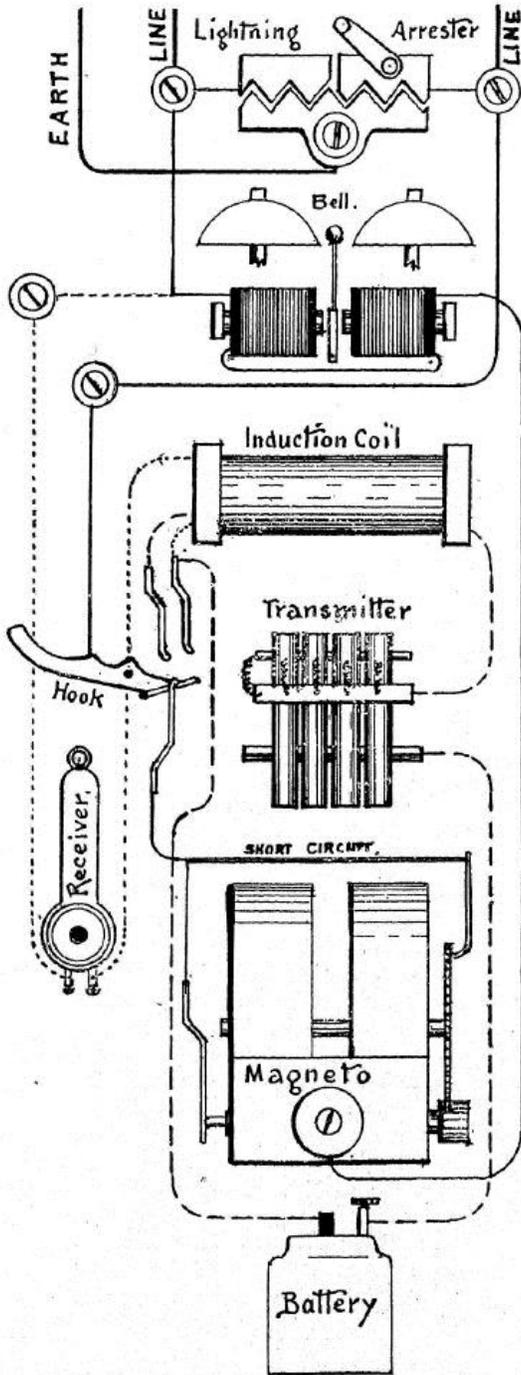
Harrison transmitter using a metal frame



A sticker found inside some Harrison phones



The third patent No. 435,295 relates to an Automatic telephone to which they claimed was the newest and most improved and practical form of Automatic Telephone Service invented by Dr. William H. Ford of St. Louis



The switch hook assembly in this phone is covered by Patent No. 571,162, dated November 10, 1896. The patent was filed on November 1, 1894. It is rather unusual and was to be manually operated by hand. The receiver hook itself serves no purpose other than a place to hang the receiver and lock the switch in place when in the talk position.

Receiver on Hook

Harrison Telephone Switch Patent US 571162 11/10/1896

Talk Position



“These three patents cover all the devices and mechanism used in a complete telephone system, whether long or short distance.

Doctor Harrison’s carbon electric telephone is not a mere copy of former models, now discarded or obsolete, but is the product of years of patient research and experiment, carried on with the intention of obviating defects in apparatus now in use, and extending the telephone business. Neither must it be confounded with cheap magneto phones which may be useful for some purposes, and over a limited area, but are incapable of long-continued or extended service.” Ref: The Harrison International Telephone, a Long and Short Distance Telephone Combined in One, published 1894.

26 April 1905 UNITED STATES INVESTOR : Harrison International Telephone Co., 15213 Elkhart IN. This company was organized about 10 or 12 years ago for the purpose of engaging in the telephone business in the city of Chicago but owing to financial and other difficulties no progress was made and the stock is considered worthless. We are unable to learn of any assets belonging to the company.

Success Magazine April 1906: These exchanges were a rank failure from the start for the reason that as one of the promoters subsequently confessed you could not hear a cannon through the Harrison telephone Mr. Elkins and his associates withdrew from the whole enterprise within a year after it was started but another crowd was induced to come in and carried the enterprise along for twelve months more when the bubble finally burst The Bell Telephone Company bought what was left of the exchange apparatus and consigned it to the junk heap The Bell got full value for its money however because of the capital it was able to make out of the failure of this thirty million dollar opposition company. Naturally the people who had been induced to put their money into the enterprise were thoroughly sore and disgusted and the unfortunate towns on which the Harrison Company had experimented were up in arms against competitive telephony.