

W. H. THOMPSON.
TELEPHONE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 18, 1909.

Patented Apr. 26, 1910.

955,923.

Fig. 1.

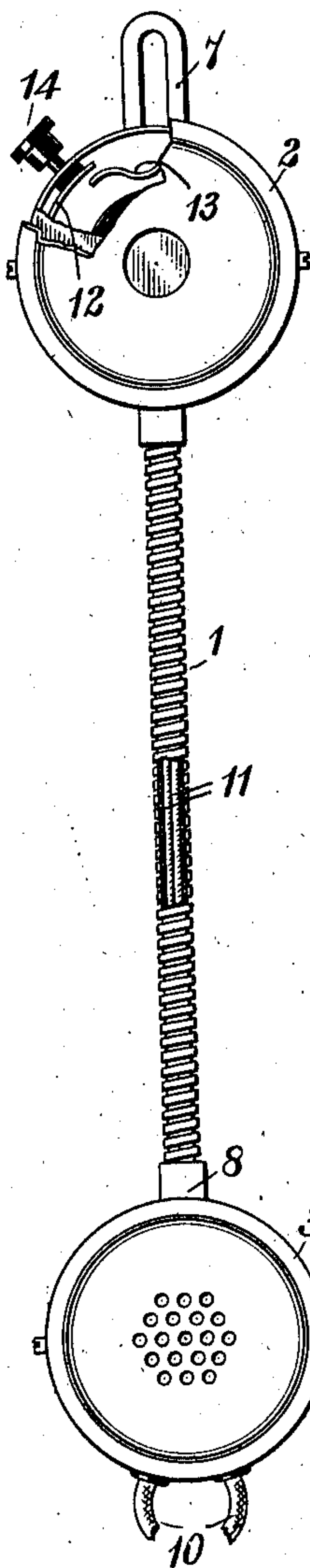


Fig. 2.

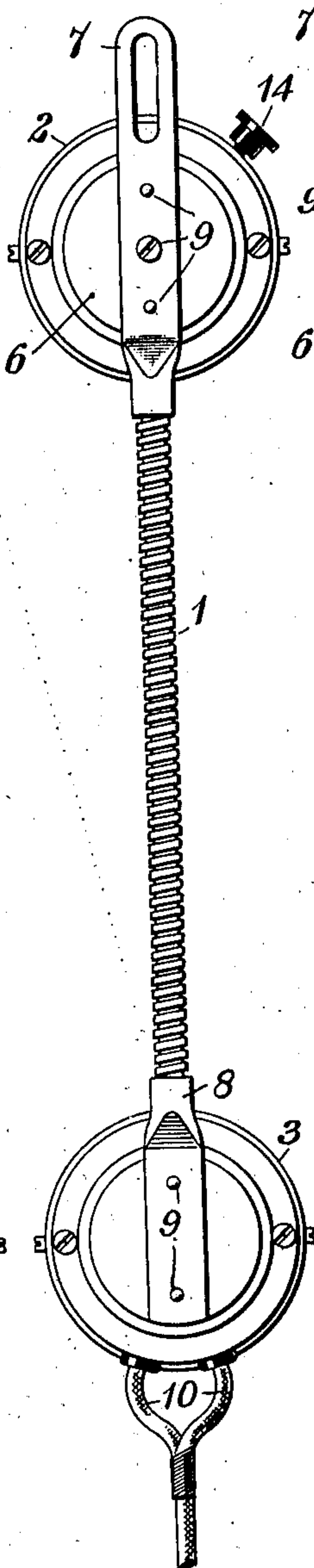


Fig. 3.

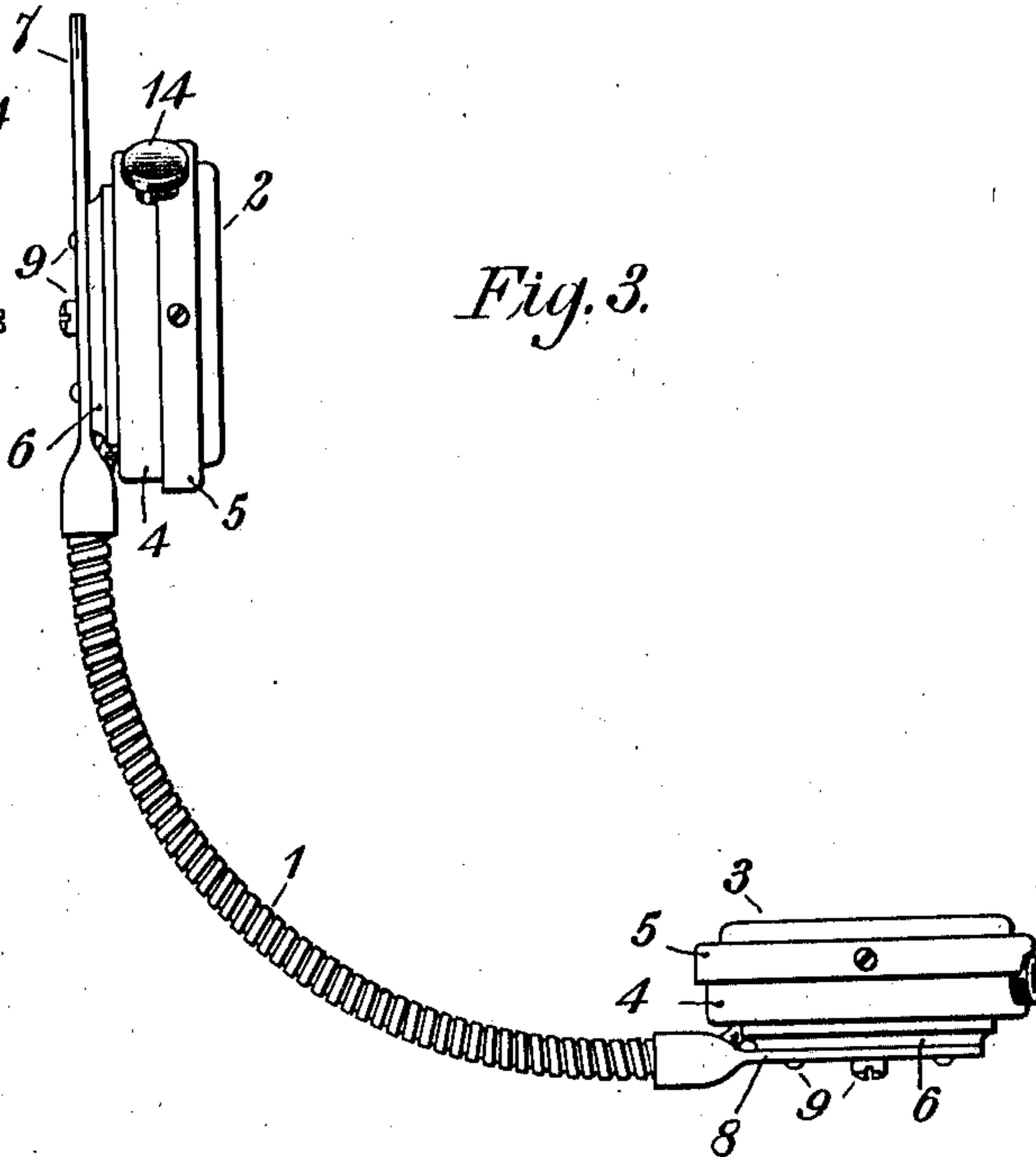


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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WILBUR H. THOMPSON, OF WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA.

TELEPHONE.

955,923.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 26, 1910.

Application filed March 18, 1909. Serial No. 484,233.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILBUR H. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wheeling, in the county of Ohio and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephones, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to telephones of the class in which the receiver and transmitter are mounted upon opposite ends of a handle, and in such a manner that they may be applied simultaneously to the ear and mouth with the use of but one hand.

The object of my invention is to provide a device of the character indicated that will be more convenient to use, and more simple, compact and inexpensive in construction than others heretofore provided.

The specific feature which renders the telephone especially convenient in use is a handle that is capable of being bent into, and of thereafter remaining in, any one of a variety of forms, and that, therefore, permits the adjustment of the receiver and transmitter to any useful positions relative to each other.

The device is rendered simple, compact and inexpensive in construction by certain other structural features that will be hereinafter more fully pointed out.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 of which is a front face view of a telephone constructed in accordance therewith, some of the parts being broken away for the sake of clearness of illustration. Fig. 2 is a back face view of the device, Fig. 3 is a side view thereof with the receiver and transmitter adjusted to one of the most commonly useful relative positions, and Fig. 4 is a sectional view of a modification of the handle of the telephone.

Mounted upon opposite ends of a handle 1 are a receiver 2 and a transmitter 3, the operating parts of which are of any usual or desired construction, and are inclosed within shells or casings, each comprising two parts 4 and 5 that are telescoped and suitably secured together, the back shell parts 4 being provided with flat circular bases 6. The handle 1 comprises a main intermediate portion that is capable of being bent into, and of thereafter remaining in, any one of a variety of forms, and to this end it may conveniently consist of pliable tubing, like that illustrated, and such as is often used for

pipng gas, or it may consist of any other suitable material. To the ends of the pliable portion of the handle are secured two tubular members 7 and 8 that are partially or almost wholly flattened, the flattened portions forming seats for, and being respectively secured by means of rivets and screws 9, or otherwise, to the flat base portion of the receiver and transmitter. The end member 7 is extended somewhat beyond the receiver 2 and is slotted to permit of hanging the telephone upon a hook or a hook switch. The telephone is connected to the line by means of conductors 10, and the receiver and transmitter are connected together by conductors 11, that project through holes in the parts 4 and in the unflattened portions of the end member 7 and 8 of the handle, and that extend through the handle which sheathes and protects them. In some instances it may be desirable to utilize the handle as one of the conductors connecting the receiver and transmitter, and in that event there will be but one other conductor inclosed by the handle, as shown in Fig. 4.

The telephone may be used in connection with an ordinary hook switch, but I prefer to render it independent of a hook switch, and accordingly mount members 12 and 13 within the receiver casing, and provide a button 14 that projects through the casing and is adapted, when pressed inwardly, to effect engagement of the switch members and completion of the ringing and talking circuit.

In the use of the telephone the operator may adjust the receiver and transmitter to any desired or convenient positions relative to each other by simply bending the handle, which thereafter maintains the said parts in the relation to which they have been adjusted. In order to call the central office and to talk to a distant party, it is only necessary to press the button 14 with the thumb or finger of the hand used for holding the telephone in proximity to the ear and the mouth.

The pliability of the handle, which permits each operator to adjust the positions of the receiver and transmitter to his own convenience, is regarded as a novel and specially useful feature, while the provision of casings for the receiver and transmitter having flat or plane base portions that are seated against, and secured to, the flattened portions of the tubular end members of the

handle, is also regarded as an important and valuable improvement, since it renders the telephone light, compact and inexpensive in construction.

5 I claim as my invention:

1. In a hand telephone, the combination with a receiver and a transmitter, of a handle therefor composed of tubing and comprising a pliable central member and solid
10 end members secured thereto that are partially compressed to provide flattened portions to which the receiver and transmitter are respectively secured.

2. In a hand telephone, the combination
15 with a receiver and a transmitter, of a handle therefor composed of tubing and com-

prising a pliable central member and solid end members secured thereto that are partially compressed to provide flattened portions to which the receiver and transmitter
20 are respectively secured, and an insulated conductor extending through the handle and electrically connecting the receiver and transmitter.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto
25 subscribed my name this eleventh day of March, 1909.

WILBUR H. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

H. R. STUART,
E. O. KIZER.