Principle of the Telephone.—Prof. Govi has contrived an experiment which he calls a demonstration of the principle of the telephone. He takes two tuning forks, which he puts in close proximity to two magnets, each of which is surrounded by a copper wire which serves to connect them together. On sounding one of the tuning forks with a bow, the vibrations are transmitted by the wire and are reproduced in the other fork.—*Les Mondes*, March 17, 1883. C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Committee on Publication.

In *Science* of January 25th last I find the following, in a communication by Professor Eddy, referring to the Second Law of Thermodynamics, as published in your JOURNAL: "In my reply in the same Journal for June, 1883, I showed the fallacy of his objection. So far as I know, Professor Wood has taken no notice of that reply, and now completely ignores it."

Having been called to an account in this public manner, I may be pardoned, at this late day, for saying that I intentionally ignored it, for it contained no reply to my argument.

Yours truly,

DE VOLSON WOOD.

To the Committee on Publication:

GENTLEMEN:—In the JOURNAL OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE for January, 1884, I have noticed a criticism by Mr. Hugo Bilgram, on my proposition, published in the December issue of 1883, page 471, and it seems to me that your correspondent, in quoting from Dr. Grasshof, that a level surface is such "that the resulting force of all attractions is in all points normal to the same," should have observed that this same force must necessarily act in a normal direction upon the contiguous level surface, for otherwise there would be a tangential component disturbing the supposed equilibrium of the liquid mass.

This justifies my tacit assumption that the inner surface of the uniform and exceedingly thin stratum of liquid which is in my demonstration supposed to become like a shell, is a surface of level, and consequently my conclusion is unavoidable.

L. D'AURIA.

Philadelphia, February 20, 1884.