

MOTORCAR PROGRESS.

Standardization of the Parts and What That Means.

As any engineer who features of modern motorcar construction represents the greatest improvement and advancement in design, and he will say not the automatic engine starter, the six cylinder engine, but standardization.

That may be a word which means but little to the car owner, but he unconsciously derives untold benefit from it every day that he runs his automobile. By reason of it he has only to ask for a certain kind of spark plug and he knows it will fit the cylinder.

A vital part of the motor or running gear may be replaced by a blacksmith or local machine shop from the ordinary sizes of stock carried on hand, and the screw thread sizes as now used conform to a certain standard that renders replacements exceedingly simple.

LOST HIS BAROMETER.

Count Zeppelin Says General Butterfield Sneaked It Away.

Count Zeppelin, the inventor of the dirigible balloon, is not a stranger to the United States, for he saw service with the Union army in the war between the states. In his recently published reminiscences he tells this amusing story of General Butterfield, who was chief of staff to the Army of the Potomac.

In planning operations General Butterfield attached special significance to knowledge of the probable weather conditions, and for this reason he became especially fond of an excellent aneroid barometer that he had obtained from London and paid a lot of money for.

He saw this instrument in my tent, borrowed it from me, then found it impossible to give it up. He kept it a longer time each time he borrowed it until at last he failed to return it at all. When I was about to leave the army I asked him again and again to return it, and I finally became so pressing that he said he would go to his tent and fetch it out.

Building to Please Everybody. "Have you started to build your house yet?" "No. We haven't quite decided what we want."

Reading That Sticks. An old lady, says the editor of the Ladies Home Journal, was discussing the differences between the old and the new.

Of Course He Swore. While the judge was giving his charge to the jury in the burglary case one of the jurymen fainted.

How He Changed. Boreleigh (at 11:15 p. m.)—When I was a boy I used to ring doorbells and run away.

Easily Relieved. Mr. B.—This window open behind me makes a fearful draft. My teeth are chattering.

The Steamship Widow

By M. QUAD Copyright, 1914, by Associated Literary Press.

The pilot had not yet left the Moorish, bound from London to Sydney, when I was fairly well posted on the passenger list. There were twenty ladies in the cabin, and half the number had their husbands along. These were thirty-five men, and all but ten were free of bondage.

On the third day out, while in the proper time to begin a flirtation, provided the weather is all right, I found that the other twenty-four men were of my way of thinking.

It is easy enough to bring about an introduction on a shipboard. If you can't find a mutual acquaintance, then introduce yourself. When I got ready to fall in love with Mrs. Warner I walked up to her, handed her my card and a few compliments, and the thing was done.

Mrs. Warner was as well bred as she was handsome. She asked no questions about five or six children. She didn't express surprise that I had lived to the age of forty without having fallen in love before.

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Food for reflection is never very fatiguing. At least Vera Cruz has had its face washed.

WHISKER CULTURE.

A Critic Who Does Not Like the Hanging Garden Effect.

In the American Magazine James Montgomery Flagg, writing a piece on "Whiskerculture," contributes the following permit to cultivate hanging gardens on the face.

"This is to certify that the bearer hereof has permission to stand on the grass in any part of Central park, or other city parks, during May and June and pretend he is a spruce dandy.

"If by any chance he should begin to bear currants or marrows grapes he must allow the commissioner of parks first pickings.

"He is required also to permit any uniformed official of the Long Island railroad lost and found department to enter his beard at will, without a written order, and search for lost purses, umbrellas or packages of pressed beef or coins of any denomination.

"On the 2d of February he agrees to step out from his cocoon and, if he sees his own shadow, report it immediately to the board of health and crawling again.

"In going over his privet hedge in the fall, before putting it in camp, he must destroy all nests he comes across.

"On national and state holidays he is permitted to string Japanese lanterns in any part of the shrubbery above Forty-second street, but he is forbidden to set off any Roman candles or red light in it.

"During the open season for grouse or snipe he must have his entire beard adequately protected. He agrees to report to Washington if any careless tourists start fires in any portion of this tract, especially near any ranches.

"He agrees to see before retiring that no lighted cigar butts are left smoldering in the underbrush.

"If all these regulations are faithfully carried out his beard will be set aside as a national park in January of the following year."

THE HILL OF TARA.

Where in Ancient Times the Kings of Ireland Were Crowned.

In the county of Meath is supposed to have stood the hall of Tara, celebrated as being the palace of the ancient Irish kings. There seems to be no doubt that on the hill of Tara the national assemblies met once a year to consult on the affairs of the kingdom and to make laws.

The hill of Tara is also famous in Irish history as the spot on which the kings were crowned. The throne, or seat of inauguration, was a black stone, which was called Ica Fall, or the fatal stone, said to have been brought in the early ages from Spain, and it was therefore held in high veneration.

The New York bad man given a life sentence for stealing a watch will appreciate the significance of "doing time."

With the English militants burning churches, think of the risk people run who persist in sleeping through the sermon.

The problem in Mexico just now is not so much who shall own the land as who will be allowed to raise anything on it.

Guglielmo Marconi, experimenting on his new wireless telephone, talked 600 miles. The venerable "blue streak" is quite outstripped.

A Chicago man left home because his wife played irritating records on the phonograph. But perhaps his own record was none too good.

The boy scout that cheerfully rooks his meals in the woods is the same one that in private life always forgets to spill the kindling for the morning fire.

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