

J. J. Montgomery,
College Inventor

PATENTS DEVICE TO CHARGE BATTERIES

Santa Clara Professor Perfects
Apparatus to Utilize Low
Voltage Currents

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

SAN JOSE, Aug 26.—Second only to Thomas Edison's promised storage battery for electric vehicles, which has not yet put in an appearance, is the invention of Prof. John J. Montgomery of Santa Clara, who has applied for a patent on a device by means of which storage batteries can be charged with the common low voltage currents used in residences.


The invention is more particularly useful for users of automobiles and power boats driven by electricity, but is almost a necessity for all users of storage batteries.

Owners of electric automobiles are at present forced to seek a garage which possesses a mercury rectifier, which costs something like \$200. It is, moreover, very delicate, and the expansion of the globe under the influence of its own heat often breaks the glass, rendering it useless. Hence, few garages have rectifiers.

Professor Montgomery's apparatus may be attached to an electric lighting wire anywhere at night, and in the morning the car will be ready for use. The charging current may be turned on whenever the car is not in use, insuring plenty of power for every emergency.

Professor Montgomery is instructor of electrical engineering at Santa Clara college and was experimenting with wireless telegraph and telephone apparatus in the college laboratories when he discovered the value of a portion of the instrument for recharging batteries.

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