

The Automobile Trip a Success.

The going of two automobile parties to Los Angeles was noted last week.

They returned Monday evening and a CHRONICLE man enquired as to the result of the trip.

It was a success. The two machines were occupied respectively by Dr. Sloan and F. C. Stewart and wife. They had to travel a very circuitous route, by Saticoy, the Simi Valley and Santa Susanna pass, and the distance was 85 miles by actual measurement, they having roadometers on the vehicles, so they know. From the pass they went to Fernando and thence straight to Los Angeles. That part of the road was good and straight, and they could run it, down grade, 25 miles an hour. But in the mountains are grades as steep, Dr. Sloan thinks, as 30 per cent, which of course made slow time—not over six miles an hour; and in the Simi is sand and gravel so deep and loose that the machines buried their wheels to the hubs in it and they had to be lightened to pull out. They would revolve the wheels, all right, but could not climb out with their loads aboard. They made the whole distance in $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours running time.

Coming back they were joined by a tourist bound for San Luis Obispo, and he, being an amateur, desired their company, so as to be assisted in case of need. He got along without serious difficulty except at the river crossing, where is quicksand. Dr. Sloan and Mr Stewart, knowing the situation, drove through without hindrance, but the stranger, not being so skillful, got stuck and had to be pulled out.

Altogether, the gentlemen consider the trip a success and the auto the motor of the future.