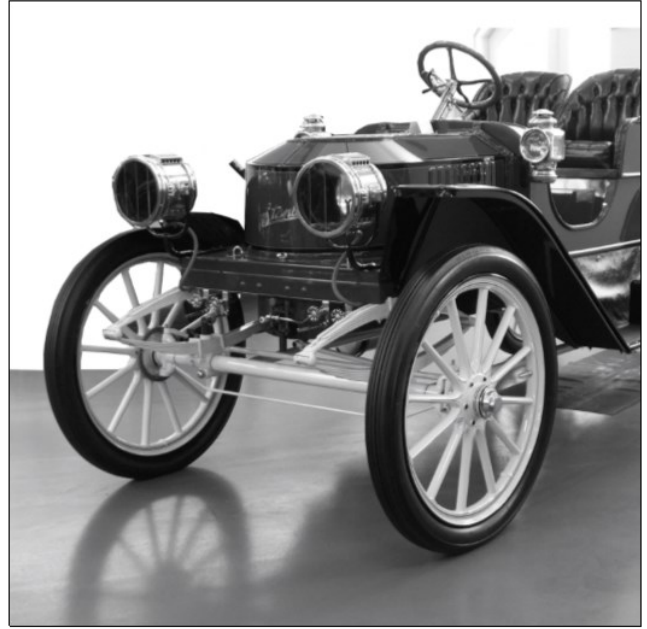


# Geniuses at Work

Born in 1849, twin brothers Francis and Freelan Stanley were geniuses! They started as school teachers, but their clever ideas soon took them far beyond the classroom.

The Stanley brothers started a company to make violins, invented a way to generate gas for home lighting, and created better photographic plates (used with cameras before film was invented). They sold their photo ideas to the Eastman Kodak company and turned their attention to making steam cars instead.

Although most cars today use gasoline, steam was very popular in the early years of automobiles. The tank was filled with 30 gallons of water from a faucet, river, or even a horse watering trough. You needed just a little bit of gasoline or kerosene to heat the water until it boiled and created steam. After that, the steam coming from the water provided amazing power. In 1906, a Stanley car set a speed record of 127 miles an hour!

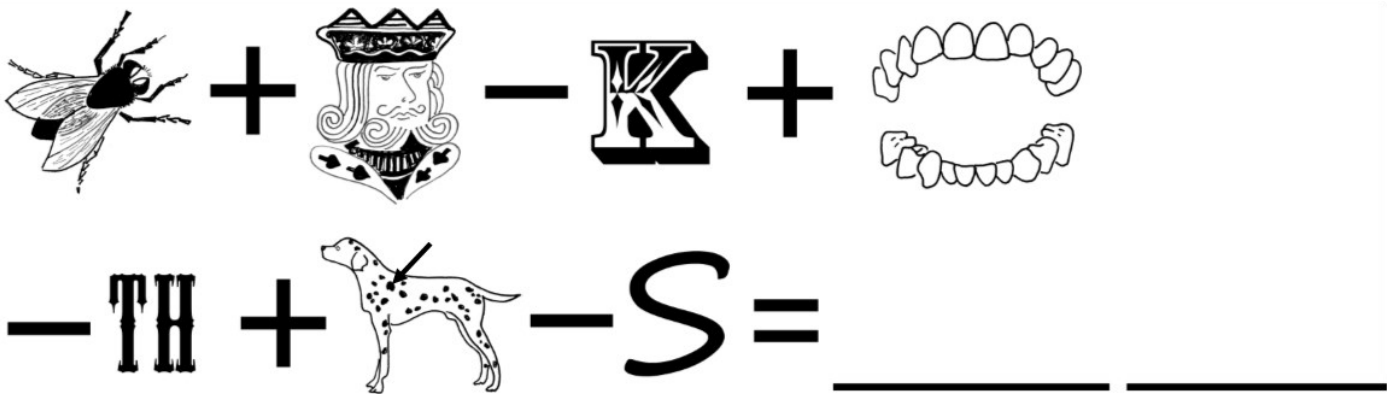


Stanley Motor Carriage Company, Newton, Massachusetts, *Stanley Steamer Model 60 Runabout*, 1910. Frick Art & Historical Center.

If they were so great, why aren't there steam cars today? Although speedy, they had problems. It took up to half an hour to get the steam going—not good if the owner was in a hurry. A gallon of water only lasted a few miles, and they were difficult to operate. Most people just wanted to hop in and drive without thinking so much. When Henry Ford started making thousands (and later millions) of cheaper and improved gas automobiles, the Stanleys and other steamers faded away.

Twins F. E. and F. O. stayed busy all their lives, even after they quit making cars—it's hard to stop good thinkers. We could use their creativity today as gasoline and other fuels become more expensive and scarce. Maybe *you* will be the next genius to design a better way for people to travel!

Solve the puzzle to learn a nickname for the Stanley Steamer car.



Flying Teapot