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Dear Yehuda Elkana.

I was put onto this engaging book of Porter's by the article in Technology and Culture, by Otto Mayr, Oct. 1975

I suppose a practical engineer would be expected to exhibit a 30+ year cultural lag from his contemporary physics (in the 1850's); but his comment leads me to wonder whether the intellectual history of "centrifugal force" is worth recounting. [together with some tracing of the diffusion of sophistication to the practical arts]. I suspect its integration was as arcane in 1850 as relativity was in 1910.

Have you or any of your colleagues already dealt with it?

Josh.