

THE BICYCLING TIMES

AND TOURING GAZETTE.

An Independent Weekly Record of Bicycling Events, Topics, Inventions, Communications, and Subjects of Collateral Interest.

VOL. VI.—No. 19.

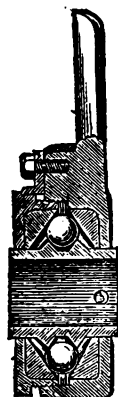
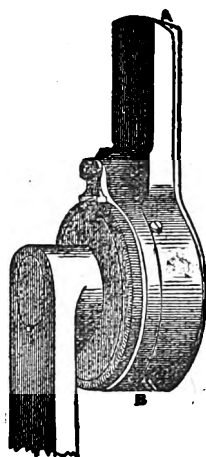
THURSDAY, 25TH MARCH, 1880.

[TWO PENCE.]

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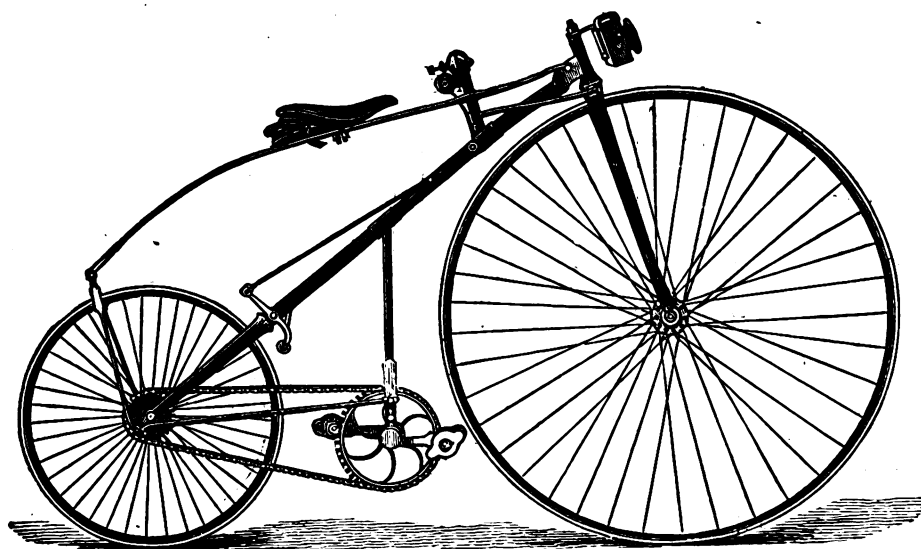
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"INTERCHANGEABLE" BICYCLE.

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VOL. VI.]

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1880.

[No. 19.]

Editorial.

WRITING on the Amateur question last week "Pendragon" says:—"If amateurs were as they profess to be, we should not have them refusing to enter at meetings unless the prizes are of a guaranteed value; nor should we find them travelling round the country and searching out every available hole and corner where success is certain, for the sake of obtaining pots if valuable, and if not any bets that may be picked up from unsuspecting yokels. An amateur ceases to be such directly he does anything that is mean and despicable for the purpose of obtaining value in return. There is just now a trade of amateurism, and during the season it is often a paying trade too. Taken altogether, it would be difficult to understand why the young gentlemen engaged in business should fear contamination from the young men employed in trade." Now there is nothing of the "pot hunting" idea in the best amateur of the year, under due restrictions, meeting the best professional of the year; nor can we see anything very heinous in running at so-called "Tradesmen's meetings." When, however, a race meeting is got up by a professional, and gate money is charged, for the avowed purpose of providing a prize for such amateurs as may, through the medium of the *Sporting Life*, have been led to enter, we must say amateurism is then steering as close to the wind as it can well go. It is, in fact, as near racing for "gate money" as can be. When a bicycle club gives a race meeting, it gives it presumably on the principle of encouraging sport; and, although gate money is taken, the prizes are purchased beforehand out of the club funds, and that body runs the risk of being at a loss on the transaction in the event of a wet day supervening. We think, however, that the case is entirely different when a professional gets up a race; and we cannot understand, we freely acknowledge, how the London Bicycle Club, for instance, refuses its sanction to its members racing at the Tottenham Ho use and Kildare Sports, and at the same time sanctions their running for a purely gate-money meeting elsewhere. We have the most liberal ideas as to racing in general; but we certainly

do consider that the object of every amateur club, should be consistency. Nor are the L. B. C. alone in their inconsistency; for while the Temple abstain from the Union ostensibly on the ground of their action on the amateur question, the spectacle is witnessed of one of their men running at a gate-club meeting. No doubt in the case to which we refer men may have acted unthinkingly, as we noticed amongst the absentees the name of one whose club has a direct rule against a member entering for this class of race, they arguing very justly, "how would the leading rowing club receive the offer of a pot from Messenger, to be rowed for past his island, to which the public would be admitted on payment to him of one shilling per head?" Either, we say, make it the general rule for amateurs to run at the Prince of Wales's Ground, Bow; at the Bat and Ball, Gravesend; at the Agricultural Hall; or at the Molineux Grounds, if such a course is deemed advisable; but do not adopt the principle of "What is sauce for the goose is not sauce for the gander!"

Club Doings.

News intended for this column should be sent on a post-card. This, besides saving secretaries expense, will spare us a vast amount of trouble.

ALCESTER.—The second 'Annual General Meeting of the above Club was held on Feb. 17th. Mr. J. Huxley resigned the Sub-Captaincy, and Mr. J. E. Wright was elected. The other officers were as follows:—Captain, S. F. Hunston (re-elected); Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, H. J. Wright (re-elected); members of Committee, Messrs. J. C. Wright, F. Hunston, H. Cook, J. Canning, and B. Hill.—H. J. Wright, Hon. Sec.

ALWYNE.—Saturday, 20th inst. Seven members started for an impromptu run to Barnet. Tea at King of Prussia, good and reasonable. Opening run is fixed for 10th April, by which time it is expected all members will have obtained their uniforms.—J. N. Burke, Hon. Sec.

ALERT.—March 20, 7 members to Chigwood. Tea at King's Head, in the usual well-known style. After tea the run was continued on to Abridge. Roads fair, rather loose in places. On Tuesday last, this Club held a Social at the Café, Graham-road, Hackney. Members of the Pickwick, Star and other clubs were present. Some excellent songs, "jolly well sung," were given by Messrs. Hicks, Kral, Copeland, Robinson, and others, while the piano was ably presided over by Mr. Wm. Paton, who favoured us with several admirable solos. "Auld Lang Syne," terminated a very pleasant evening at 11 30 p.m.—JOHN MAC M. SHAW, Hon. Sec.

ATALANTA.—Saturday March 20th. Four members for Chalfont, St. Peter's Road, via Willesden lanes, Ealing, Greenford, Northolt, and Hays, very variable. Tea at the George, good and moderate, viz.: eggs, watercress, &c. 1s. per head.—FRANK W. CLULOW, Hon. Sec.

BORDER CITY.—On the 13th inst. the members of this Club gave an amateur Christy minstrel entertainment in the Victoria Hall to a crowded audience, who frequently testified their approval of the performance by long and frequent bursts of applause. Some of the sallies were of a local and piquant character, and elicited great laughter. The songs as a whole were creditably given, those by T. Ritsen, R. Allsop, P. Richmond, and W. L. Tiffen, deserving of being particularised; whilst the instrumental part of the programme was generally good throughout. The entertainment closed with a farce, entitled "Wanted an Operatic Company," which yielded lots of fun.

BELGRAVE.—Saturday, March 20th. Hampton Court *via* Acton and Ealing Lanes, Hanwell, Norwood Green, across the Bath and Staines Roads. Teddington and Hampton roads very fair. 14 members sat down to tea at the King's Arms, after which a very pleasant evening was spent with the Civil Service and Croydon B.C.'s. The return journey was made about 9 p.m. in company with the C.S.B.C. *via* Kingston, Richmond, and Kew Bridge. It has been decided to give a dramatic entertainment and smoking concert at Headquarters shortly; further particulars will be announced. The Easter arrangements are as follows:—Good Friday, 10 a.m. for Addlestone; Saturday, 3.45 p.m. for Ripley, Guildford, and Godalming, returning on the Monday *via* Addlestone.—R. JOURDEN, Hon. Sec.

BELSIZE.—March 20. 5 members rode to Chiswick, to see the expected boat race. After waiting from 7.30 to 9 a.m., news of its postponement came to hand. In the afternoon, six members and two friends rode to Watford by the lanes, *via* Neasden, Kenton, and Harrow Weald. Roads, good but dusty. Excellent tea at the Essex Arms, at a very reasonable charge. Back by the main road. Next Saturday the proposed run is to Colney Heath. No Easter tour.—R. P. HAMPTON ROBERTS, Hon. Sec.

BRADFORD.—Having had unprecedentedly fine weather for the last few days, two moonlight runs have taken place, and on Saturday, 9 members mustered for the run to Cleveley via Kirkstall, distance 27 miles. Roads very good. The Easter tour will be to Newcastle for the North-Eastern meet, instead of to Derbyshire, as previously stated.—M. E. HOLDSWORTH, Hon. Sec.

BRIXTON.—Saturday, March 22nd. Three members to Ashstead Park. Tea at Spread Eagle, Epsom, good and reasonable.—J. M.C., Captain.

BEDFORD AMATEUR.—The adjourned Annual Meeting of the club was held on Wednesday, at No 5 St. Mary's, Bedford. The Captain, Mr. F. C. Taylor, was voted to the chair, and Mr. J. Barnard to the vice-chair. There was a very good attendance of members. The Secretary's report and balance sheet were read and approved, the latter shewing a small balance in hand. The report shewed an increase of 22 members over last year, and that good work had been done by the club during the year. The Bicycle Meet which was organised in connection with the Annual Races was quite a success, and it has been decided that the "Bedford Meet" shall be an annual affair, to take place on the August Bank Holiday. The election of officers for 1880 was then proceeded with, the following gentlemen were unanimously re-elected. President, Captain F. C. Polhill Turner, M.P.; Vice-President, Wm. Hillhouse, Esq. F.L.S.; Captain, Mr. F. C. Taylor, Treasurer, C. E. B. Gibbons, Esq. Secretary, Mr. James Roper. Mr. A. Rich was appointed Sub-Captain. The Committee consist of the following gentlemen, who were elected for; Messrs Lavender, F. J. Brimley, W. Spurgeon, G. E. Boutnam, C. Tansley, and C. Francis Messrs. Lavender, A. E. Palmer, and A. E. Hopewell, were elected Buglers. The rules were then revised, and ten new members elected. The weekly runs will commence early in April, due notice of which will be sent to each member as soon as the committee has made the necessary arrangements.—JAMES ROPER, Hon. Sec.

CIVIL SERVICE.—The opening ride of this Club took place on Saturday last to Hampton Court. Eighteen members and several friends attended. Tea at the "King's Arms."—STUART PERRING, Hon. Sec.

CLAPTON.—Saturday, 20th March. Six members had a most enjoyable ride to Waltham Cross. Tea at Ye Old Four Swans, which is highly recommended, both for good and reasonable fare, and also for good attendance. The roads generally were very rough.—H. HIGGS, Hon. Sec.

CHRISTCHURCH.—At a General Meeting of the riding members recently held, it was resolved to change the uniform from blue to brown. Our 4th Annual General Meeting takes place in the club-room, March 24th.—C. M. BOLLARD, Hon. Sec.

CROYDON.—Having unanimously decided to join the Bicycle Union, Mr. J. W. Sharpe was, at a General Meeting, held on Wednesday, 17th inst., elected as delegate. The Club races, 10 mile championship and 1 and 3 miles handicaps, will be held at the Crystal Palace, early in June. March 20th. Four members rode to see the boat race, and afterwards to Windsor, returning to Hampton

Court to meet the Club. The roads generally in the district of Richmond, Sunbury, Staines, and Windsor, are at present in a dreadful state with loose sand and stones. We shall start for the Easter tour (Chichester, Worthing, and Brighton) on Friday from Headquarters at 8.30 a.m.—J. W. SHARPE, Hon. Sec.

CLEVEDON.—On Saturday last five members and one friend ran to Mitcham. The roads were in good condition and the run was a very fast one, and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Members are informed that the run arranged for the holidays are—Good Friday, to Windsor and on Easter Monday to Ripley, starting from Headquarters at 9 a.m.—R. W. HOOKE, Hon. Sec.

CHISWICK.—Only four members attended the run to Stanmore on Saturday last. The roads *via* Kenton were found good, and the destination was reached with only one or two dismounts for stores. Tea, at the Abercorn Arms, was as usual good, and the charge reasonable. At 8.15 lamps were lit, and the return journey commenced *via* Harrow Station. Headquarters were not reached until 10.30 owing to the numerous patches of stones found on the road, which occasioned several stoppages and spills.—W. G. SPOONER, Hon. Sec.

CANONBURY.—March 20th. Opening run Barnet *via* Enfield. Twelve members and three friends. Tea at Salisbury Arms, good.—WM. PYE-ENGLISH, Hon. Sec.

CRICHTON.—Six members met for an impromptu run on Saturday last, 20th inst. Next Saturday week, April 3rd, being the opening run, members are requested to meet at Headquarters, 3.45 p.m. sharp.—Please attend if possible.—A. FRED M. BOLTON, Hon. Sec.

CRYSTAL PALACE DISTRICT.—The opening run on Saturday last was to Chislehurst, where a good Tea was provided by the proprietor of The Bull. After which, and a pleasant run home, a meeting was held at the Captain's House, when two new members were elected and other club matters settled. Roads fair.—H. HITCHCOCK, Hon. Sec.

CLARENCE.—Saturday March 20th. Five members and one Surrey United B.C. to Ridge Hill. Tea at the Waggon and Horses, a good house for small parties.—GEO. DUNFORD, Hon. Sec.

COMET.—Four members and a friend attended the run to Epsom, Tea at the Spread Eagle. Recommended. Strong head wind on return journey. Members are reminded that the Easter Run is to Brighton, start from Headquarters on Good Friday at 8 a.m. punctually.—S. T. BOND, Hon. Sec.

CHICHESTER AND DISTRICT.—Easter Monday Trip to Brighton. Members will meet in Eastgate Square, at 6.45 a.m. in readiness to start punctually at 7 o'clock. New uniform and Helmets to be worn.—V. V. VICK, Hon. Sec.

CITY OF LONDON.—Saturday last 13 members for Enfield Tea at Kings Head, eggs and cresses 1s. 3d. 7 members of the Tottenham House B.C. tea'd with us. An hour's music was indulged in (capital piano), after which saddles were resumed and home reached at 10 p.m. Roads fairly good. Easter tour with Arion B.C. Friday morning at 6 o'clock on Embankment. Next social April 1st. at 8 p.m. at Headquarters.—J. DANKS, Hon. Sec.

CANTERBURY.—The General Annual Meeting of this club was held at the Faistaff Hotel on Wednesday evening, the 10th inst. when there were present:—Messrs. G. H. De Lussaux (in the chair), Sankey, Collard, Prett, Mount, W. D. Young, F. R. Young, Gentry, Sanderson, Maton, Dodds, Lee, Hart, James, Beken, and Stidolph. The statement of accounts for the past year, and the report said, that in all there were 35 runs fixed during the 7 months, and the analysis shows that there were 10 days so wet as to make it totally unfit for riding, and in the 25 others the distance covered was 547 miles. The Committee also reported:—"Your Committee have but one other remark to make, and although the last, it is by no means the least. It is the removal from amongst us of one of its oldest and most energetic members. It is only for us to mention the name of William Gosens, and we are fully aware what regret is felt by the loss we have sustained. As a member, he was always ready to do anything in his power to further the interest of the Club, and as your captain he gave almost the whole of his leisure time to uphold that *locus standi* which the Club has since its formation deservedly maintained." The report having been unanimously adopted, the following officers were elected:—President—R. P. Laurie, Esq., M.P.; Vice-Presidents—The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Canterbury (J. Hemery, Esq.), The Hon. A.E. Guthrie-Harley, M.P., C. Edwards, Esq., H. A. Munro-Butler-Johnstone, Esq., Captain Lambert and H. G. Austin, Esq.; Captain—M. G. H. De Lussaux; Deputy captain—H. H. Mount; Sub-captain—H. S. Maton; Hon. sec.—W. D. Young. The committee consists of the officers and Messrs. W. H. Lee, T. W. Stidolph, H. Prett and P. M. Collard.—W. D. YOUNG, Hon. Sec.

DERBY.—March 13th, seven members to Wraycott, roads patchy March 20th, six members to Radborne, calling at Mitre, landlord out taking walking exercise, now happily convalescent; thence to Ashborne, where a light feed was had at that old coaching house, The Green Man, as usual excellent; afterwards returning in safety although rather dark,

after a most enlivening run to Derby. The opening run is on Good Friday, as usual, and will be extended as far as Bakewell.—W. W. BEMROSE, Hon. Sec.

FALKIRK.—At a meeting held in the Blue Bell Hotel, a new club was formed here, under the name of the East Stirlingshire Bicycle Club, Patron, John Ramsay, Esq., M.P.; President, Provost Cockburn; Vice-President, James Ross, Esq.; Captain, John Forrester; Vice-Captain, Robert Ewing; Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, R. L. Aitken, Schawfield Cottage, Falkirk, Bugler, A. Carmichael; Sub-Bugler, James Connachie Committee, W. Flannigan and J. Taylor. The opening run is to be held on the 27th inst. to Linlithgow. The Captain has promised to give a silver medal to the member who attends at most club runs during the season.—A. L. AITKEN, Hon. Sec.

FULHAM.—Headquarters, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-road. 6 members mustered for the opening run on Saturday last. The fixture was Cobham, *via* Kingston and Esher. Tea was obtained at the King's Arms, very good and exceedingly cheap; although only a small place we can strongly recommend it. The start for home was made at 8.30, the run being thoroughly enjoyed by all.—WM. EASY, Hon. Sec.

FOREST HILL.—Saturday 20th inst. 12 members to Ewell, roads between Sutton and Ewell covered with patches of stones, had very good tea at Glynn Arms, with Saturn and West London B. C.s, spent very enjoyable evening with them, pleasant run home, reaching Forest Hill about half past ten o'clock.—ARTHUR J. C. ARCH, Hon. Sec.

GUILDHALL.—On Saturday last eight members attended the opening run to Enfield. An excellent tea was provided at the Goat, to which we sat down in company with four visitors. After tea, several songs were sung by Messrs. Lacy, Howard, Alexander, Cavanagh, and Hale, (a cyclist from Hoddesdon.) A great deal of amusement was caused by Mr. Cavanagh singing a new song, composed by himself for the occasion, touching on various topics connected with the Club. A start for home was made at 9.30, and town reached about 11.45, ending the most enjoyable run the Club has had since its formation.—H. DUNKLEY, Hon. Sec.

HIGHGATE.—March 23th, nine members to Barnet, *via* Southgate. Tea at the Old Salisbury, good, as usual, after which joined the North London B.C. in their Social, starting for home in company with them at 9.30. Roads stony.—A. GARLAND, Hon. Sec.

HORNSEY.—Seven members attended the impromptu run on Saturday. The road to Essendon was chosen, and a good and moderate tea was provided at the Crest. The homeward journey was started about 8 o'clock, and Tally-ho corner reached about 10 o'clock. Members who are unable to take part in the Easter Tour are requested to start from Headquarters at 10.30, and Tally-ho Corner at 11 a.m. on Easter Monday, for Welwyn, where we shall dine, and ride back together afterwards.—ALGERNON PROUT, Hon. Sec.

IGHBURY.—March 20th. Ten members. Tea at the Blue Boar, Abridge (highly recommended) in company with the Golden Eagle B.C. After spending a pleasant evening rode home together. Met our second division at Woolford, they having abridged the run at the Castle. The Easter tour is to Cambridge and Dunstable. Start at 9 p.m. sharp on Good Friday.—F. W. PAUL, Hon. Sec.

IMPERIAL.—At a special General Meeting, held on Friday last, the uniform question was decided, and members can now procure the same from Waiter Whiffin, 146, Cheapside, London, E.C. The Hon. Sec. read letters from Sir C. H. Mills, M.P., Bart., T. W. Boord, Esq., M.P., and Baron Henry De Worms, and J. B. Saunders, Esq., the former gentlemen consenting to become patrons of the Club, and the latter gentleman an honorary member. The runs for April were fixed, and the meeting closed.—J. J. BRICH, Hon. Sec., Royal Hill, Greenwich.

KENT.—15 members to Corsholton *via* Croydon. Roads good.—G. H. LACEY, Captain.

KENT ARABS.—A Meeting of this Club was held at the Headquarters, Lord Herbert, Herbert Road, Shooter's Hill, on 16th March, when the following officers were elected for ensuing season:—J. H. Rauce, Captain; H. Maskell, Sub-Captain; H. Shaw, Hon. Sec.; H. Roberts, Treas.; A. Cobb, Bugler. The Club uniform was decided to be dark blue. Gentlemen wishing to join will please communicate with H. SHAW, junr., Hon. Sec., 10, Hanover Road, Brookhill Park, Plumstead.

KILDARE.—Saturday, March 20th. Five members and one visitor attended the run to Harrow. Roads in fair condition beyond Kental Green. Stones only necessitated one dismount. Good and cheap tea at the King's Head. Our opinion of this house contrasts considerably with last year, and would now specially recommend it to all cyclists visiting Harrow.—W. H. POOK, Captain.

KENNINGTON.—A meeting of bicycle riders was held at 18, Kennington Cross, to consider the advisability of starting a club in that locality, to be called the Kennington Bicycle Club. Mr. G. Hodge oc-

cupied the chair. The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs I. Strange, E. C. Hodges, E. F. Butter, W. Chisnell, G. F. Venn, G. Hodger, W. Scott, F. C. Robinson, &c. It was proposed that the entrance fee be 2s. 6d., and the annual subscription 10s. The business was concluded in a very satisfactory manner, and a vote of thanks was returned to the chairman for the able manner in which he had conducted the proceedings.—F. C. ROBINSON, Hon. Sec.

KINGSTON.—Although there was no Club run on Saturday, 6 members rode to Ripley. The opening run is to Godalming on Easter Monday, starting from the new Headquarters, the Kingston Hotel, at 9 o'clock sharp.—G. LAWRENCE, Hon. Sec.

LEE ROVERS.—On the 17th inst., Mr. A. F. Smith gave a lecture to the above club and friends, there being about forty ladies and gentlemen present, neighbouring clubs being represented. After the lecture Mr. W. Stredwick (captain) presented Mr. Smith with a handsome crest on behalf of the members, in honour of his wedding. After he had thanked the members, and a vote of thanks had been given for his very able lecture, the meeting closed at 10.30.—H. GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

LONDON SCOTTISH.—Mr. John Turnbull having accepted an appointment as bank manager in South Africa, has resigned his post as Hon. Sec., although he does not sever his connection with the Club. Mr. Thos. Murray has consented to act as Hon. Sec. in the meantime, and Mr. W. C. Grieve becomes a member of Committee. Gentlemen wishing to become members, can obtain full information on application to the Hon. Sec., THOS. MURRAY, 37, Nicholas Lane, E.C.

LOUTH (Lincolnshire).—The Annual Meeting of this Club was held on Friday evening, 19th inst., when the following officers were elected for the coming season:—Mr W. G. Smyth, Captain; Mr. H. T. Y. Wright, Deputy Captain; Mr. G. Holland, Bugler; Mr. A. Mawer, Deputy Bugler; and Mr. J. B. Dunn, Hon. Sec. The opening run to Mablethorpe takes place on Easter Monday.—J. B. DUNN, Hon. Sec.

LOMBARD.—The Quarterly General Meeting of the above Club was held on Monday, the 15th inst., at the City Café, Gresham Street, Mr. G. L. M. Kelham in the chair. Mr. Cork read the minutes of last meeting, which were passed. It was then proposed by Mr. Cork, seconded by Mr. Nix, that the club give a hearty vote of thanks to the Committee of the Private Banks Athletic Club, for lending their ground at Catford Bridge to the Club for their races in July. Carried unanimously. It was then decided, on the recommendation of the Committee, to offer a first class "Arab" bicycle, all bright, and with all latest improvements, as first prize for open event (1 mile Handicap) at Catford Bridge, on 24th July next. Mr. Kelham then announced that a lady friend of his had given a valuable cup to the Club, to be raced for in a five-mile handicap, to be run in May, anyone winning the same three times to become owner. Mr. W. Turner, of the Stanley B.C., will be handicapper for this race. A vote of thanks was then proposed and unanimously carried, to be given to the lady friend for so kindly giving the prize. It was decided that all further arrangements as to amount of prizes, etc., be left to Committee. The delegates to Bicycle Union were then elected, being Mr. Cork and Mr. Kelham, any further delegates being required to be elected by Committee. Six new members were elected. It was decided that all arrangements as to Championship race be left to Committee. The date of opening run was then altered from 24th April to 10th April. All divisions meet at Kingston Station 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m. A vote of thanks to the chair closed the proceedings.—GEO. STEVENSON, Assist. Hon. Sec.

LONDON SCOTTISH.—Three Members to Waltham Abbey *via* Chingford. Tea at New Inn, recommended. Returned by Waltham Cross and Main Road.—R. HARDING LESLIE, Captain.

LEEDS.—Five members and a friend ran to Howley Ruins by way of Birstall, Carlinghow, and Batley, returning home along the Dewsbury Road. Distance, 30 miles. Roads good.—W. H. ECCLES, Hon. Sec.

LEWISHAM.—On Saturday last 19 members and one visitor ran to Erith *via* Shooter's Hill against a strong head wind, which, although not tending to increase the pace, did a good deal towards improving the appetites. Tea was served at the Pier Hotel, which establishment is especially recommended, both for its complete arrangements and moderate charges, and after partaking of a little sea breeze by means of a walk on the pier, a start for Headquarters was made at 7.45. The road home was through Bexley and Eltham. Owing to a dislocation of the back wheel, J. Wood was obliged to return home by train.—A. E. ORAM, Hon. Sec.

NORBITON.—This club had their opening run of the season on Saturday last. The members met at Headquarters at 4 p.m., and started for Ockham, *via* Church Cobham. After leaving Esher, a capital run was made to Ockham, the Club having tea at the Hautboy and Fiddle. The start for home was made at 7.45, arriving at Norbiton at 9.15.

NORWOOD.—Eight members to Hampton Court. Tea at the Cardinal Wolsey, good. Roads stony in parts.—WM. GEO. TYLER, Hon. Sec.

NORTH LONDON.—Saturday, March 20th. Eleven members attended run to Barnet. Roads via Wood Green and Southgate very loose and stony. Soon after starting the Sub-Captain unfortunately broke his spring, but pluckily continued the journey and reached Barnet, where a Blacksmith righted matters temporarily. A good tea was had at the Old Salisbury, and being afterwards joined by the Highgate B. C. a very enjoyable evening was spent. The return journey was commenced at 9.30, and Headquarters safely reached.—**ARTHUR BENNETT**, Hon. Sec.

(W).—Saturday 20th, to Loughton. Tea at the Nag's Head, recommended. Roads bad. Friday 26th. Start from back of South Hackney Church, 8 a.m. for Brighton. Saturday 27th, from Brighton to Hastings, returning to Brighton on the 28th, and from Brighton to London on Monday 29th.—**FRED. A. MCCLUER**, Hon. Sec.

PELHAM.—Nine members on Saturday to Cudham. Route via Keston and Down, home through Farnborough and Bromley. Roads in fair condition.—**JAS. C. WATSON**, Hon. Sec.

RYE.—Five members to Sutton. Roads good, except a few places where stones had been freshly laid. Seven obtained tea at the Cock, two (awaiting arrival of new machines) having walked, doing it in 2½ hours each way.—**A MEMBER**.

REGENTS.—Four members turned up, and enjoyed a most agreeable run to Watford. The return journey was made through Harrow.—**A. TAYLOR LANGSFORD**, Hon. Sec.

SATURN.—Nine members sat down to tea at the Glynn Arms, Ewell. Roads pretty good. After tea a very pleasant hour was passed with the Tulse Hill and West London B. C.'s. The ride home was made with the West London. Will members please note, and let their friends know that our Social was postponed from the 24th March to the 31st, owing to the elections.—**R. F. W. HOBBS**, Hon. Sec.

SHAKESPEARE.—Three members turned up last Saturday for an impromptu run to Waltham Abbey, tea at Mr. Challier's (recommended). At a General Meeting, held at Headquarters on Monday, March 22nd, Mr. T. Bence, junior, was elected Hon. Sec. in the place of Mr. Vaughan, Hon. Sec. *pro tem*. All communications to be addressed to the Shakespeare Tavern, Shakespeare Road, Stoke Newington, N.—**T. BENCE, junior**, Hon. Sec.

ST. GEORGES.—Five members to the Stanmore, tea at the Crown Hotel (very reasonable). Roads fair. Headquarters reached about 9.45. Members are requested to muster strongly on Good Friday at Headquarters at 9 a.m. for Handcross.—**H. W. K. HOUSEMAN**, Hon. Sec.

ST. JAMES'S.—On Saturday last a very fair muster of members turned up for the run, which was to Ham Common, via Merston and Kingston. Roads fair, but being unable to procure tea, we were advised to ride on to Richmond, which we did, putting up at the Greyhound, moderate. On the return journey we came through Kew and Hammersmith, the roads being in an extremely bad condition.—**W. P. GILL**, Hon. Sec.

STANLEY.—The Vice-Captain will leave the Athenæum, Camden Road, on Friday next at 9 o'clock, with all members who like to attend for a circular run to finish at Barnet about 4 o'clock, where arrangements will be made for dinner at the Salisbury at that hour. Arrangements for Easter-Monday will be discussed on Friday after dinner.—**W. ALLAN THORNHILL**, Asst. Hon. Sec.

STAR.—Twenty-four members attended the run last Saturday, to Abridge. Members are requested to muster well for the Easter Tour. Handcross, Friday night.—**R. STARKEY**, Hon. Sec.

SURREY UNITED.—March 20th. Six members and one friend took part in the run to Ewell. Good and reasonable tea at the Cave. Reached home at 9 p.m. Roads loose in part, but on the whole excellent. One other member ran with the Clarence to Ridge Hill. 21 st., Two members ran to Brighton and back, accomplishing during the day 104 miles. Members are requested to turn up to-morrow at 9 a.m. sharp, for Easter Tour. **JAMES GOMER** Hon. Sec.

SHEPPY.—On Friday last, the Ball in connection with this Club took place at the Victoria Hall, when about a hundred of the ladies and gents of Sheppy assembled. The Hall was gaily decorated with flags of all nations, mottoes of different sorts, paper chains and garlands suspended from all the gas jets, and an exhibition of about 25 bicycles. At 8.30, The splendid band of the 13th. K. A. V., under the direction of Major Webb, struck up a polka, which was followed by Quadrilles of all sorts. At 12 o'clock the members and friends adjourned to the supper table which was well provided for by Messrs. Ride, Mc'Quie, and Borner. After the inner man had been satisfied, dancing was taken to again, and was kept till the small hours of the morning. Great credit is due to Messrs. Woolley and Anstey, for their untiring energies as M. C. At 4 a.m. God save the Queen was heard, which brought the ball to a successful close.

SHEPPY.—On Wednesday last the members of this club went for a run to Bapchild, when only ten started, about one o'clock for their destination; all enjoyed the ride immensely; but taking a different

road back they had to run over flints the greater part of the way which, together with half a gale of wind blowing direct in their faces made it very tiresome enjoyment. They arrived at their club-house, the Victoria Hotel, about half-past six, with an excellent appetite for the dinner which was awaiting them. Everything was laid out in good style by the hostess and her assistants, reflecting great credit on the staff engaged. About 30 gentlemen sat down to the good things provided, and after grace had been sung, the company proceeded to enliven the inner man, which they did with good grace and justice. When every one had been satisfied the company left the room whilst the tables were being cleared, each speaking highly of the good things provided. About 8.30 the company again met in the room when the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony. Mr. R. Newby (Captain of the Club) was chosen Chairman; and Mr. W. Ride (Sub-Captain) Vice-Chairman. The Chairman on rising toasted the Queen and Royal family, which was drank with musical honours, after which he called on Mr. Buckhurst's glee party, who sang "The Red Cross Knight," which was rendered in capital style, all the parts being especially good. Mr. Motton next sang "How you get served when you're old," which took very well. Mr. Burgess proposed "Success to the Sheppey Bicycle Club," which was responded to by Mr. Marsnew, the indefatigable Secretary. He said:—This is the second Annual Dinner, but the third year of the formation of this club. We started with seven members and our first run was to Doddington with six men. It affords me great pleasure to inform you that we muster 20 members in all, of which 14 are riding ones. Of the number of runs laid out for last year about two-thirds of them were accomplished with a fair average of members, and I trust that this year the whole of the runs will be carried out. I might also inform you that the club is open for any one to join, either as a member or an honorary member. He concluded by hoping that all would enjoy themselves, and called upon Mr. Buckhurst's glee party for another song. They then sang "Would I were a diamond bright." Mr. A. Borner followed by reciting "Paddy's misfortunes, or his trip to Dublin," which appeared to delight the company very much; Mr. Buckhurst played a selection on the harmonium, and gave great satisfaction. Mr. Anstey next sang "Paddy Carey's ball," which was followed by Mr. G. Hoad singing, in capital style, "Rouse, brothers rouse." Mr. Woolley then proposed "Success to Bicycling," trusting that there would be a few recruits to go to the grand meet at Maidstone next season. Mr. Buckhurst's glee party gave a song and chorus, entitled "Toll the bell," which was very well rendered. Mr. R. Carriak next sang "Little sweetheart come and kiss me," after which Mr. Harper sang "St. Patrick's ball," which "brought down the house." Mr. Borner sang "Be kind to your dog," followed by Mr. Buckhurst's glee party singing "The Æolian Lyre." Mr. Anstey then proposed "The iron steed," in suitable terms, followed with a song by Mr. Woolley, Mr. W. Newby congratulated the club on its success in getting such a good number of members and spoke in excellent terms of the good fellowship existing among them. Mr. R. Newby then sang "Uncle Ned," followed by Mr. W. Ride singing "Mary Grundy." Mr. Motton gave a comic song, "I shall never make a gentleman of you, John," which gained rounds of applause. Mr. Marsnew proposed "The absent members" in suitable terms, which was followed by Mr. Vine singing "The old Poplar tree." Mr. Borner recited "Poor Joe" very feelingly when Mr. W. Thwaites obliged with "Blue-eyed Nellie," followed by Mr. Harper singing "Paddy don't care," which was rapturously received. Mr. R. Quinn next proposed "Peace and plenty," and Mr. Taylor sang "Miriam," in good style. Mr. Marsnew proposed "The Press," in excellent style, which was responded to in suitable terms. Mr. G. Hoad gave "The turnpike gate," in capital style, after which the chairman proposed "The host and hostess," which was received with musical honours. Mr. W. Ride responded on behalf of his father, who was very ill; but hoped that at their next annual dinner he would be able to respond for himself. A very pleasant and happy evening was brought to a close at eleven o'clock by Mr. Buckhurst's glee party singing "Good night," the company all agreeing this that was one of the most enjoyable they had ever attended.

SYDENHAM.—Saturday, March 25th. 5 members to Down, via Hayes and Keston Common, home by Farnboro' and Bromley. Roads fair on the whole. Tea at the George Inn, good, as usual.—**ERNEST GIRLING**, Hon. Sec.

SOUTH HORNSEY.—Four members mustered for the run out to Lambourne End. Had tea. The Bee-Hive highly recommended. On the return journey met four of the members. Members please notice the run on Saturday next, March 27th, into Enfield Highway.—**J. C. BANGS**, Hon. Sec.

UPTON PARK.—Meet at Headquarters on Saturday, March, 20th. Run through Walthamstow and Chingford to the Castle at Woodford, thence to Snarebrook and the Eagle at Woodford and home. Members are requested to muster a little stronger at the runs.—**ARTHUR H. OUGH**, Hon. Sec.

WEST KENT.—On Saturday last twelve members ran *via* Farnborough to Down, where three stopped for tea, the remainder returning at once. Roads bad with stones. N.B.—The Kent roads cannot be recommended just now.—W. B. TANNER, Hon. Sec.

WOOD GREEN.—A Meeting was held on the 12th, inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, for the purpose of considering the advisability of forming a Bicycle Club in Wood Green. About twenty gentlemen interested in this sport attended, and, after the matter had been fully discussed, fourteen signified their intention of joining, and it was resolved, that a Club, to be called the Wood Green Bicycle Club, should be started, and the following gentlemen were elected on a provisional committee of the Club, viz.:—Messrs. W. Moffatt, T. Mummery, W. Rice, and J. Mears, and Mr. T. G. Surgey was appointed Hon. Sec. It was decided that the uniform of the Club should be dark blue, also that a light helmet should be worn. The Headquarters of the Club will be the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green; and it was resolved that the subscription should be 10s. 6d. per annum, payable within one month of joining. Gentlemen wishing to join should communicate, by letter, with the Hon. Sec., Mr. T. G. SURGEY, Newton House, Wood Green.

WEST LONDON.—Saturday March 20th. Five members to Ewell. Tea at the Glynn Arms, in company with the Saturn B. C. Runs have been arranged as follows:—Good Friday, Marble Arch at 10 o'clock, for Ockham. Easter Monday, Marble Arch at 10.30, for West Drayton. Mr. E. Collier, 34, Arundel-street, Strand, has been appointed Club 1 ailor.—R. W. ROYLANCER, Hon. Sec.

Club Fixtures.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH.

Albion.—Clapham Common, 3.30 p.m., for Sevenoaks.
Athenium.—Portsmouth, for Shanklin.
Bristol.—Portland Square, 3.30 p.m. for Thornby.
Camberwell.—For Oxford.
Centaur.—The Albion, Hyde Park, 3 p.m. for impromptu run.
Chiswick.—Easter Tour.
Civil Service.—Easter Tour.
Clifton.—Suspension Bridge, 3. p.m. for Wrington.
Clarence.—Oxford, for Cambridge.
Clevedon.—Crown and Sceptre, Holland Road, 3.45 p.m. for Ewell.
Concord.—Headquarters, 3.15 p.m. for Potters Bar.
Crystal Palace District.—Easter Tour.
Druids.—Easter Tour to Oxford and Cambridge.
Edinburgh University.—Morningside Toll, 2.30 p.m. for Carllops.
Edinburgh Rovers.—Haymarket Station, 3.15 p.m. for Broxburn.
Highbury.—Highbury New Park, 3.30 and 5.30 p.m., for Dunstable.
Highgate.—Northfield Hall, 5.15 p.m., for Potters Bar.
Hornsey.—Headquarters, 3.30 p.m. for Luton.
Huddersfield.—Zetland Hotel, 2 p.m. for Wortley.
Kent.—Easter Tour.
Kensington.—West Kensington Hotel, 3.30 p.m. for Ewell.
Kildare.—Easter Tour, Oxford to Cambridge.
Leeds.—Headquarters, 4 p.m. for Apperley Bridge.
Lewisham.—Headquarters, 2.30 p.m. for Brighton.
Fulham.—Headquarters, 4 p.m. for Sunbury.
North London.—Easter Tour.
Northumberland Amateurs.—Club House, Bath Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2 p.m. for Tynemouth.
Norwood.—Tulse Hill Station, 3.45 p.m. for Keston.
Old Trafford.—Club-room, 2.45 p.m., for Wilmslow.
Ormskirk.—Buck 'i th' Vine, Burscough, 3.30 p.m. for Lathom.
Owl.—Easter Tour.
Stanley.—Headquarters, 4 p.m., for Woodford.
St. George's.—Easter Tour.
St. James's.—Langham Hotel, 7.45 p.m. for Marlow.
Surrey.—Easter Tour.
Surrey United.—Easter Tour.
Sydenham.—Easter Tour.
Temple.—Easter Tour.
Wanderers.—Windmill, Clapham Common, 3 p.m. for East Molesey.
West Kent.—Easter Tour.

DINNERS, BALLS, &c.

Westbourne.—2nd April, 7 p.m., Annual Dinner, Holborn Restaurant.

RACES.

(OPEN AMATEUR EVENTS ONLY.)

Leicester.—27th March. 100 Miles Championship.
Carlisle.—29th March. Border City B. C. Four Open Amateur Events.

Gvdalming.—29th March. Three miles Handicap, at the Annual Sports at Broadwater.
Lewisham.—April 17th. Championship at Crystal Palace.
Surrey.—24th April. Spring Meeting at Kennington Oval.
Royal School of Mines.—24th April. One Mile Open Handicap at Stamford Bridge.
Coventry.—26th April. Druid's Sports, 3 bicycle handicaps.
London.—5th May. Evening Race Meeting at Stamford Bridge.
Coventry.—17th May (Whit Monday), Oddfellow's Sports: 2 bicycle handicaps.
Lacrosse.—22nd May. One Mile Open Handicap at Stamford Bridge.
Dewsbury.—5th June, at Dewsbury.
Pickwick.—5th June. Annual Race Meeting at Stamford Bridge.
Kingston.—12th June at Surbiton.
London.—19th June. Annual Race Meeting at Stamford Bridge.
Civil Service.—3rd. July. Stamford Bridge. Annual Race Meeting.
Belgrave.—10th July. 2nd Annual Race Meeting (1 mile, open to Amateurs) at Stamford Bridge Grounds.
Eastbourne.—21st July at Eastbourne.
Catford Bridge.—24th July. Lombard B. C. Annual Race Meeting.
Arion.—24th July. Open Race Meeting at Stamford Bridge.
I Zingari.—11th Sept. Stamford Bridge.
Surrey.—18th September. Autumn Race Meeting at Kennington Oval.

Wheel Chit-Chat.

A FRIEND who was present at the Stanley social entertainment, the other night, tells me that the remarks of one of the "darkies" anent the *Wandering* goose who turned out to be a *Mad-duck* who eventually attacked a harmless *Swan*, were received with uproarious merriment.

I AM sorry that the B. T. is to lose the services of my colleague, C. W. Nairn, who has now been connected with the paper, more or less, since November, 1877. He is for the future to devote his exclusive energies to the Coventry rag.

SOMEBODY has called my attention to a remark made last week in "Wheel Chit Chat" about the editor of the L. B. C. Gazette. I knew the first editor, and he was a gentleman. I inquired about the third, and was informed that he also was possessed of that proper regard for the feelings of others which constitute what is known as a gentleman. Of the second editor I know nothing, therefore nothing could have been implied in my remark.

THERE is an amount of mystery over Jack Keen's handicap at Surbiton last Saturday. One half the racing men seem never to have heard of it; only those who are training at Surbiton being apparently *au fait* to the fact that there was to be a race at all.

THE "Wheel World," in the shape of George Lacy Hillier and Harry Etherington, were out riding last week, and "George" got mysteriously lost. He was last seen, I am informed, taking a mole trap into Ching's paddock at Ockham, and has not since been heard of.

"Gin a body,
Meet a bobby?"

Well, they had better look out if they do, as bells and lamps are now compulsory, and the beaks mean enforcing the penalties. You can take this tip as "straight" from—

ONE WHO KNOWS.

CAUTION TO BUYERS OF LAMPS.—The original Salsbury Bicycle Lamp has the name stamped on the outside and the name and address on the burner inside; none others are genuine. The success of these lamps has prompted many makers to produce spurious imitations and much inferior in quality. The Salsbury Lamps can be obtained at all the principal Bicycle Makers and Agents in Town and Country, and at the Manufactory, 125 and 126, Long Acre, London, W.C. Established 1806. Also the new Supply Oil Bottle in Tin, to avoid breakage.—ADVT.

A NEW DISCOVERY.—The best article for fixing rubber tyres to Bicycles is S. PROUT'S ELASTIC GLUE.—Of all oilmen, leathersellers, Bicycle Agents, &c., or of the manufacturer, 22, Silver Street, Regent Street, London. £6 12s. per cwt. Terms, cash.—ADVT.]

Misquillanqa.

GREAT INTERNATIONAL SIX DAYS' BICYCLE RACE.

This great race for the long distance championship of the world and £300 in prizes as follows:—First: gold medal and £75 in money, with £50 added should record time (1404½ miles) be beaten. Second: Gold medal and £30 in money with £20 added provided the competitor finished within ten miles of the leading man, and an additional £20 if the leading man should not succeed in getting, at any time during the week, more than 30 miles ahead. Third: Silver medal and £15 in money, with £10 added provided the competitor finishes within 30 miles of the leading man, and an additional £10 if the leading man should not succeed in leading him by more than 50 miles at any time during the week. Fourth: Bronze medal and £10 in money, with £10 added provided the competitor finishes within 50 miles of the leading man, and an additional £10 should the leading man never put more than 100 miles between them at any time during the week. There were also four costume prizes for the best equipped rider during the week, viz., First: £8, Second: £4, Third: £3, Fourth: £2—commenced at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Monday, 15th March, and finished Saturday last, March 20th. The time of riding to be from six a.m. till midnight—18 hours per day, the track being 7½ laps to the mile. The arrangements were in the hands of Mr. Atkinson (*Sporting Times*), Mr. H. Etherington and Mr. C. J. Fox, jun., *Bycycling Times*. Out of 10 accepted entries one failed to put in an appearance, viz., H. Leeming, of Oldham, but the following faced the starter, Mr. H. Etherington, punctually at 6 o'clock on Monday morning:—C. Terront (Paris), C. Homey (Paris), J. Terront (Paris), W. Cann (Sheffield), A. Andrew (Birmingham), G. Edlin (Leicester), T. Palmer (Wokingham), W. Shakespeare (Romford) and H. Higham (Nottingham). Terront immediately on the word go rushed off with the lead which he kept throughout the whole of the race. Soon after the start Edlin had a fall which very badly sprained his right wrist and grazed one of his knees. Higham and Cann were both very unwell, and retired from the track for some time, which completely put them out of the race. Young Jules Terront and Homey raced very well, and it looked at one time as if all three first prizes would be taken by the French contingent. Andrews, on a machine fitted with Bown's æolus ball bearings, rode 222 miles 4 laps in the 18 hours without once getting out of the saddle.

There were between 5000 and 6000 people in the Hall during the evening to witness the race. C. Terront scored 100 miles at 12h. 28m. 43sec. Higham at 12h. 37m. 23s., Edlin at 12h. 41m. 42s., Homey at 12h. 59m. 50s., and J. Terront 1h. 14m. 34s. Shortly before 2 o'clock Palmer had a bad fall, after which he retired from the race altogether at midnight. The first day the Telegraph board indicated:—

	miles	laps
C. Terront...	262	4
Edlin ...	248	10
J. Terront...	232	3
Homey...	228	14
Andrews ...	222	4
Shakespeare ...	182	7
Higham (resting) ...	150	1
Cann (resting) ...	148	4
Palmer (retired) ...	74	10

On Tuesday morning, the second day, only 3 started at 6 o'clock a.m., viz., C. & J. Terront, and Edlin; 4 minutes later Homey came on the track, and Shakespeare at 6.30. Cann rode much better than yesterday, and rode 168 miles in the twelve hours. Higham did not ride at all during the day. At midnight the score was

	miles	laps
C. Terront ...	508	6
Edlin ...	452	7
J. Terront...	412	4
Homey ...	384	0
Cann ...	342	4
Andrews ...	324	13
Shakespeare ...	320	10
Higham ...	150	1

On Wednesday the following started at 6 o'clock:—C. Terront, Edlin, Andrews and Shakespeare; Jules Terront, Homey and Cann being a few minutes after them. The riders were off their machines several times during the day, especially Shakespeare and Homey. This allowed Cann to deprive Homey of fourth place at 4h. 14m. 52s. At midnight the score was as follows:—

	Miles.	Laps.
C. Terront ...	746	6
Edlin ...	654	0
J. Terront ...	578	14
Cann ...	560	7
Homey ...	506	9
Shakespeare ...	500	0
Andrews ...	470	0
Higham ...	150	1

Waller's record at this time was 744 miles 3 laps, so that C. Terront had beaten him by 2 miles 3 laps. On Thursday morning at 6 o'clock all the men with the exception of Andrews, were on the track ready for the starter. On the word "go," Higham (who had returned, after being away ill for two days), at once went off at a great pace, which he kept up the whole of the day. At 12 hours 25 m. 10 s. (or 6h. 25m. 10s. from starting in the morning), Higham had beaten the best time on record for 100 miles, he rode in grand style all day, having made up his mind to beat Andrews' performance of last Monday, which he eventually did, for at 10h. 59m. 30s., he had covered since 6 in the morning, the great distance of 230 miles 2 laps. Higham rode a 54in. machine by Smith of Nottingham, fitted with Bown's Æolus ball bearings. At midnight the Telegraph Board indicated:—

	Miles.	Laps.
C. Terront ...	955	3½
Edlin ...	850	0
Cann ...	760	0
Homey ...	709	3½
Shakespeare ...	678	1
J. Terront ...	650	0
Andrews ...	570	0
Higham ...	380	3

Waller at this time had scored 979 miles 6½ laps, and it will be seen that Terront had fallen behind 24 miles 3 laps. At 6 o'clock on Friday morning C. Terront, Edlin, Shakespeare and Cann were despatched, Homey following 15 minutes later. Terront went very badly during the day, his 1000th mile was scored at 9h. 41m. 31s., he at that time being nearly two hours behind record time. During the evening some capital racing took place. At midnight the scores were as follows:—

	Miles.	Laps.
C. Terront ...	1156	2
Edlin ...	1030	0
Cann ...	934	5
Homey ...	882	0
Shakespeare ...	836	0
Andrews ...	670	0
J. Terront ...	650	0

On Saturday morning at 6 o'clock, Shakespeare was the only competitor who faced the starter, but the others came on a few minutes later. Nothing of any importance occurred during the day, and no change took place in their positions, the race finished up on Saturday night, shortly after ten o'clock, when the following distances had been run:—

	Miles.	Laps.
C. Terront ...	1272	0
Edlin ...	1154	0
Cann ...	1076	0
Homey ...	1038	2
Shakespeare ...	966	0
Andrews ...	712	5
J. Terront ...	650	0
Higham ...	380	3
Palmer ...	74	10

MIDDLESEX B. C. DINNER.

THE Ninth Annual Dinner of this old club took place on Thursday, at the Holborn Restaurant. About thirty members and friends were present. The chair was taken by the Captain, Mr. A. B. Paynter, the vice-chair being occupied by the Vice-President, Mr. A. W. Bridges. The cloth having been removed, the Chairman proposed the "Health of the Queen and Royal Family," which was received with musical honours. Mr. Bonny proposed "Success to the Middlesex B. C., who expressed in very hearty terms the satisfaction he had in doing so; from his experience he could say that every member had the reputation of the club at heart. Song, "The Diver," by Mr. E. F. Buels. The chairman replied on behalf of the club, and thanked them most heartily for the cordial manner in which they had drunk to its success. Certainly we do not muster as strong as many clubs, or as we ought to,

considering its age, but one thing we have to be proud of, that is we have several of the oldest of bicyclists, amongst them Mr. Charles Leaver, our President, one of the four M. B. C. men who rode to John O'Groats in 1873. Last year we did not come to the front, still we had several good races and enjoyable runs. This season, gentlemen, we hope, with the perseverance of the officers and unity of all, to do more. In conclusion, I must again thank you for the manner in which you have received the toast. Song, "Daybreak," by Mr. Bonny. Mr. Ramsey proposed the health of the President, who said that the Captain had already told them about Mr. Leaver, which left him very little to do, but he was pleased to drink his health. Song, "Landlubbers," by Mr. Porter. Mr. Charles Leaver, who was enthusiastically received, thanked them for the kind manner in which they had drunk his health, and was sorry that circumstances over which he had no control prevented him from devoting the time to the club that he could wish, but should be pleased if a few of the members could arrange for a tour to John O'Groats this summer. Song, "Trial by Jury," by Mr. Bolt. Mr. L. Barrett proposed the health of the Vice-President, who said the club ought to congratulate itself for having such an able and persevering member. Song, "The Anchor's Weighed," by Mr. Paynter. Mr. Bridges, on rising, was received with cheers. He thanked them for the enthusiastic manner in which they had received the toast. It was the second time upon which he had the honour of responding in the capacity of Vice-President, but whether in or out of office he should always endeavour to do his utmost for the good and benefit of the club. Song, "Beautiful Isle of the Sea," by Mr. C. Kirke. Mr. T. Davies proposed the health of the Officers, which was suitably responded to by Mr. Ponting the Treasurer. Song, "Bubb's Party," by Mr. Bridges. The Committee by Mr. Fenner. Mr. Davies, in a few appropriate words responded. Song, "Mary of Argyll," by Mr. Leaver. Mr. Bridges said that the next toast was one he felt sure they would drink with as much enthusiasm as the preceding ones, namely, the "Visitors," coupling the name of Mr. Barrett, consul of the Bicycle Touring Club. Song, the "Midshipmite," Mr. Buels. In an amusing speech Mr. Barrett thanked them on behalf of the "Visitors." Song "The Message," by Mr. Bonney. Several more toasts were duly proposed. Songs, "My Quen," Mr. Porter; "Tar's Farewell," Mr. Weede; "Muzzling," Mr. Bridges; "Blue Alsatian Mountain," Mr. Bonny; "Far Away," Mr. Paynter. A vote of thanks to the Chairman, "God save the Queen," and "Auld Lang Syne," with hands across, brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.—W. H. BRYANT.

PORT OF PORTSMOUTH BICYCLE CLUB.

THE First Annual Meeting of this Club was held on the 12th inst., at the Star Assembly Rooms, Lake-road, Landport; H. W. Fisk, Esq. in the chair. The balance sheet was presented, showing the expenses to be thirty-four pounds, with a balance of three pounds, and the report of the Committee of Management having been read and approved, the following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—President H. W. Fisk, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Alderman Ford; W. J. Tuck, Esq., T. C., and W. J. Smith, Esq., (late Hon. Sec.); Medical Officer, Dr. V. Ford; Treasurer, G. Ash, Esq.; Captain, A. Ash; Sub-Captain, W. Padgen; Hon. Sec., H. Purvis, 138, High-street, Portsmouth; Bugler, R. Sansom (re-elected). Committee, Messrs. J. Tuck, R. Sansom (re-elected), A. Lowe, J. Harris (re-elected), A. Oakely, H. Eckerelescy, D. Hinton (re-elected). Several alterations in and to the rules were agreed to, the chief one being that the Secretary should have the power to immediately erase any member's name from the books who may, at any time, come under the Bicycle-Union definition of a professional. This opened up a discussion relative to the propriety of joining the Bicycle Union, but owing to the lateness of the hour, it was, with the election of Auditors, Dinner, and Handicap Committees, adjourned until immediately after the pending General Election.

THE TEMPLE B. C., SOCIAL MEETING.

THIS old Metropolitan Club held the last, and we think we may safely say their most successful social for the season, on Monday, at their Headquarters, the Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street. Mr. Woodhouse Braine, F.R.C.S., the Vice-President of the Club, occupied the Chair. Many of the performers were gentlemen whose names are well known in bicycling circles, and the greatest possible credit is due to all concerned for the way in which the varied programme was rendered. Mr. W. C. Flegg received well-merited applause for his lively "Tarantelle," etc. And, as usual, Mr. Montague was to the fore in the comic line. Mr. Tully's pianoforte recitation was greatly admired—indeed, such a highly-cultivated touch as this gentleman possesses is seldom met with amongst amateurs. Mr. W. Cunningham gave the "Vagabond" in very good style. Mr. Webb, of the I Zingari B. C., recited in a most feeling and telling manner, "Clarence's Dream," and that most pathetic of Poems, "The Bridge of

Sighs." Mr. Webb's voice is eminently suited to this style of recitation, and we should have been sorry indeed to have missed hearing either piece. Messrs. McWilliam and Moore performed in very creditable style the farce, "Number One Round the Corner," provoking roars of laughter, as the unhappy owners of the "spouted" boots and the coat. At the conclusion they were greeted with a storm of applause, all of which they richly deserved.

One of the treats of the evening was Mr. E. S. Gaisford's rendering of a portion of "Manfred." Unfortunately, the popular Temple Captain was suffering from a cold; but in spite of this his efforts were most successful. In many of the passages he seemed to enter so thoroughly into the piece as to be altogether carried away by his feelings. This was especially so during that portion of the poem which recounts the meeting of Count Manfred and the spirit of his dead love in the presence of the fiends. Songs by Messrs. Hebbethwaite and Allen, brought a most enjoyable evening to an early close.

THE EXHIBITION AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

IN our last issue, we gave a notice of all the exhibits which were in place up to the time of going to press, and we now proceed to notice several that were exhibited subsequently:—

MESSRS. LEWIS and Co., of Romford, showed two very graceful and well-finished machines, the first being an all-bright 52-in. H. F. Britannia, fitted with Bown's bearings, cones to the back wheel, and dust proof caps. A very serviceable-looking jigger. The second was a 52-in. H. F. Speedwell, with Bown's bearings to the front wheel, cones to back. This is beautifully finished, and looks like a plated machine—it is one of the gems of the show.

Mr. W. J. SPURRIER, of Birmingham, exhibited several samples of his Bicyclist's, "Take About." This is a most serviceable article, and cannot fail to be appreciated by those who have parcels to carry from place to place. It will adapt itself to any size, and hold with the same neatness any size parcel. The weight is only 10½ oz.

Mr. SPURRIER also exhibited a new Manifold Printing Apparatus, called the Typograph, which should, we think, recommend itself to club secretaries and others who have circulars to send out.

MESSRS. ARMITAGE showed their Bicycle Accelerator, which has been greatly improved since we saw it last, and strengthened.

KILDARE SOCIAL EVENING.

THE Social and Musical evening of this Club, commemorating St. Patrick's Day, passed off very successfully, between fifty and sixty friends were present, including members of the Clarence, Centaur, and Surrey B. C's. The programme as follows: Mr. Nelder, song, "The Four Jolly Smiths;" Mr. W. J. Harvey, "We will all go Cycling to-day;" Mr. Wheeler, "Pat of Mullingar;" Mr. W. S. Britten, "The Silver Cup;" Mr. Merton, recitation "The Dream of Eugene Aram;" Mr. Atkins, song, "Old Timber Toes;" Mr. Hayler, "One more glass before we part;" Mr. W. B. Taylor, recitation, "Tell to his native mountains;" Mr. Lockington, song, "Jack's Yarn;" Mr. Merton, Irish comic song (amidst great applause). Mr. E. Creed, "The Distinct Shore;" Mr. Kirkbright, recitation, "The Field of Waterloo;" Mr. Mikeisch, "Little Miss Moffat;" Mr. Valentine, "I don't mean to tell you her name;" Mr. Smith, "Serio Comic Chant;" Mr. Honeyfield, "Men of Merry England;" Mr. H. Creed, song. Mr. Fuller, "The Bell-ringer;" Mr. W. S. Britten acknowledged in suitable terms the toast for the Clubs present; Mr. Spyer, for the visitors. A special vote of thanks to the Chairman Mr. W. B. Taylor; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Mikeisch, and the pianists, Messrs. Atkins, Surrey B. C., and Winter, Clarence, B.C. brought the above enjoyable evening to a close at midnight.

IPSWICH BICYCLE CLUB.

THE Annual General Meeting of this Club was held in the Town Hall, on Thursday evening last (the 11th inst.), Mr. Franks in the chair. There was a good attendance.

The Secretary read his report and balance sheet for 1879. At the commencement of the season the club rules had been most thoroughly revised. A series of monthly club handicap races were held for a gold medal, to be won three times in succession before becoming the property of any competitor, but the winner each month to receive a silver medal.

An inter-county race between Norfolk and Suffolk had been arranged respectively by the Norwich and this Club, which came off on July 14th. A race meeting was held on Sept. 20th, on the cricket ground in the town, which turned out a thorough success in every way, not least so financially. The Club runs had not been so well attended as they might have been, but the unfavourable weather of last season would partially account for this.

The number of members had been increased last year, the efforts of

the committee having been chiefly directed to the object of getting the Club in thorough going order; but the secretary expressed a hope that this year the number might be doubled, and this wish secured in a fair way to fulfilment, for 11 new members were proposed at this meeting. In laying before the meeting the balance sheet, the secretary said he had a very pleasant task to perform, for it showed an amount in favour of the Club of £24 4s. 10½d. The balance brought forward from 1878 was £5 4s. 2d.; but though there was this exceptionally good balance in hand, the Club had not been sparing in its expenses. The balance was due to the great numbers of tickets sold for the September race meeting, the committee having taken care not to rely too much on the uncertain amount that might be taken in this way.

T. C. Cobbold, Esq., M.P., was re-elected President, and Messrs. J. M. Franks, J. M. Pollard, junr., and J. H. Davies, were respectively re-elected Captain, Sub-Captain, and Hon. Sec. Mr. Taylor was elected assistant secretary. The Committee for this year were also elected. The Club will change its Headquarters this year, but final arrangements were not then made. After votes of thanks to the officers of the past year, and to the Chairman, the meeting closed.

THE WEST OF SCOTLAND MEET.

At a meeting of the Committees of Clubs in the West of Scotland, held in Maclean's Hotel on 18th March, Mr. James Steel in the chair, it was unanimously resolved that the West of Scotland Meet should take place in Glasgow, on Saturday, the 8th May. Clubs and unattached to assemble in Blythswood Square at 3.45 p.m. Sir James Bain was elected President; Mr. C. B. Wilson, Vice-President; and Mr. A. W. B. Johnstone, 128, Hope Street, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

To facilitate the decision as to the order in which Clubs should ride, lots were drawn, with the following result, with the names of the committee:—Wanderers, L. Taylor; Dumbarton, Wm. Jardine; Renfrewshire, Alex. Smith, jun., and R. W. Drummond; Royal Scottish, R. Dennis; Victoria, John Gibson; Kilmarnock, D. A. McBurney; Lanarkshire, Jas. Steel, and P. W. Hendry; Paisley, Wm. Allison; Northern, Wm. Nichol; Greenock, H. S. Orr; Clydesdale.

ANTICIPATIONS.

Soon shall the dashing "Carver"
Dart fast along the road,
And hundreds too, of "D. H. F.'s."
Which now are all the mode.

Soon shall the gorgeous "Humber,"
Upon the road be seen;
Soon shall the pretty *springy* "Club,"
Compete with natty "Keen."

Soon shall the well-built Timberlake,
Be on the broad highway,
To prove that "go" and finish are
Compatible with "stay."

Soon shall the brave old "Stassen"
Go through the mud and slush;
For stony roads, heat, cold, or wet,
It doesn't care a rush!

Soon the Extraordinary,
Shall *rush* through droves of sheep,
O'er ditches, hedges, five-barred gates,
Right bravely it shall leap!

And now I'll to my "Uncle's,"
And get out my fifty-four,
For this year I mean to ride
Three thousand miles or more.

CAROLUS, Stanley B.C.

HAMPTON COURT MEET.

CIRCULARS have been issued to all Clubs, requesting particulars of date of members, colour of uniform, etc.

Invitations have been sent to the Provincial Club to attend the Meet. Should any Secretaries, Metropolitan or Provincial, not be in possession of either of these said Circulars, will they kindly communicate with me at once?

Those Clubs who have not yet forwarded their amount re H. C. M. expenses, are requested to do so as soon as possible. —LAMARTINE C. B. YEMAN, Hon. Sec., H. C. M.

WE are requested by the Secretary of the Athenæum B. C. to state that the Club does not belong to the Bicycle Union, as stated in the Bicycle Annual by accident.

Correspondence.

THE MIDLAND MEET, WHIT-MONDAY, 1880.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BICYCLING TIMES."

SIR,—Through the circulation of your paper, may I ask all Secretaries of Clubs who have not had notice of the above and intend being present, to communicate with me, when I will render all assistance in my power.—J. ANTHONY LOCKE, Vice President.

THE BICYCLE ANNUAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BICYCLING TIMES."

SIR,—Some poor Idiot who thinks he "has been had for a shilling," writes to the *News*, complaining (as far as I can make out of his almost unintelligible letter) of a certain "Standard and only work," probably the "Bicycle Annual." Poor fellow, if he thinks the "Bicycle Annual" is not worth a shilling let him send it to me, and I will remit him a shilling for it, although I already possess one. If he has no other topic to write upon, I should advise him to dry up.—Yours etc., ALEX. ANDERSON, 32, Essex-street, London, W.C. 23rd March, 1880.

THE BICYCLING UNION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BICYCLING TIMES."

SIR,—In my letter to you on the above subject, I refer to Mr. Smith as Chairman of the Union. I had not then seen Mr. Cobb's letter, in which he signed himself as Chairman. It appears that he still occupies that post, while Mr. Smith is Chairman of the Executive, and it is as such I should have spoken of him. Will you therefore favour me by giving publicity to this letter, in order that any erroneous inference which might be drawn from my previous letter may be removed.—R. P. HAMPTON ROBERTS, Belsize B. C.

C A D S.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE BICYCLING TIMES."

SIR,—In conversation to-day, a gentleman high in a public office, detailed how the day before (Sunday) some "howling cads" on bicycles disturbed the quietness, which is the charm of Sunday in the country, by blowing most discordant bugle sounds; they made as much noise as they could as they went along. My informant said he was by no means a religious man, but it certainly annoyed him, and no doubt the effect on the minds of all who heard the noise was pretty much the same, especially those in places of worship close by. Anyone who would do this must be a cad, a howling, or rather bugling cad, or he would never thus outrage the feelings of those living in the line of route, and my object in writing is not to endeavour to alter these people's course, as a cad never heeds advice, but to suggest whether on Sundays the bugle should not be left at home, and even the bell, by all riders who could carry a whistle to signal the approach when overtaking, as laid down in the Bye Laws. The cads in question disported themselves up Mason's Hill, and beyond, at Bromley, Kent, Yours,—DECORUM.

HANDICAPPING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BICYCLING TIMES."

SIR,—I have been highly amused with the strictures in your issue of March 11th by Mr. H. H. Griffin, and ask the favour of your issue to reply to this "Beau Brummel," on the subject of handicapping, for I have

"Learned to deride the critic's starch decree,
And break him on the wheel he meant for me,
And armed in proof, the gauntlet cast at once
To Hybernian marauder and Southern dance."

When mud is thrown cleverly enough, some of it is sure to stick, and Mr. Griffin may be gratified to think that he has perhaps caused some little annoyance to committee-men by his wanton slandering of them.

So he has "had painful experiences in the past of the results of committee work." Has he? Allow me to tell him that I see no reason why committee-men should not be permitted to carry on their business without being subject to grandmotherly legislation.

It is evidently a part of his programme to endeavour to be permitted to try his hand at handicapping; therefore, I presume, he is satisfied that he possesses the necessary credentials and qualification to form one of the only competent quartet extant. It is rather hot for the vast army of bicyclists to be told that only four are competent to undertake the duties of handicapper.

I would point out to Mr. Griffin that he, of all men in the athletic world, has but little cause to abuse committee-men, for I find that both

"by land and water" most lenient imposts have been awarded him. But to hark back, on one occasion, I allow, he was perhaps too heavily handicapped, but that was by a "ciber" at Lillie Bridge.

As a judge of bicycles Mr. Griffin may or may not be a masterpiece; but I much fear, that should he obtain office as a public handicapper, the interest evinced in racing would flag, and with that interest would vanish the magic spell which has given such a zest to bicycle meetings for some years.

I am sorry to find that Mr. Griffin's lot has been cast among such an unruly lot of bicyclists, and that he has "witnessed something very near a free fight over men's 'allowances.'" I will venture to say that there is hardly anything a bicyclist could do which would tend to bring him into such discredit with his fellows, as any breach of good manners such as the writer in question refers to; nay, I will go further, and say that he who uses such an argument in support of his case could not have enjoyed very long the privilege of mixing with bicyclists, or he would know that there is nothing that bicyclists are more jealous of than the opinion which the world entertains of their race meetings or of their behaviour when at a public resort.

In some instances I admit the handicapping has not been so consistent as it might, but when one bears in mind the difficulty experienced in arriving at the real form of many riders, it cannot be denied that on the whole it has been satisfactory.

Aspirants for the office of handicapper have of late become very numerous, but those who have watched closely the results of the efforts, should experience but little difficulty in making their choice.

Much has been, and doubtless will be written on this vexed question, but I affirm that frequently many theories advanced are governed by the personal interests of the writers.—A COMMITTEE MAN.

LAMPS AND INDICATORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BICYCLING TIMES."

SIR,—One reason why a great many bicyclists object to the existing bye-laws about carrying lamps immediately after sunset, I believe, is that they say they cannot carry a hub-lamp and a cyclometer at once, and that for several reasons they object to head-lamps.

By the following simple and inexpensive arrangement I have been able to carry a hub-lamp and a cyclometer together, and the same can be done on most modern bicycles:—

I ride a 54-inch machine, of last year's make, and fix my (Thompson's) cyclometer at the extreme right hand end of the hub, with the face as usual to the left, in the direction you ride, and fix to it a circular piece of tin plate. This plate, which is from 2½ to 3 inches in diameter, I cut out of a Huntley and Palmer biscuit-tin, make a hole of the size of the hub in the centre, and in order to get the plate on to the hub, I cut a slit down to the hole, slipped the plate on, and joined the slit by means of a piece of wire passing through a hole on each side of it. I fix this plate on to the cyclometer by means of another piece of wire passing through two holes in the plate, and round the part where the cyclometer proper joins the part by which it is screwed on to the hub. (Instead of cutting the centre piece entirely out of the plate, by leaving it attached at one side, bending it at a right angle, and jamming it in with the hub when fixing the cyclometer the plate can be more firmly attached). When this is done I put on my Salisbury lamp, making one of the arms rub against the middle of the plate. Care should be taken in bending the arm that it cannot rub against the wire that fixes the plate to the cyclometer or the wire that joins the two sides of the split together; the other arm, as usual, rubs against the side of the wheel. If the adjustment is closely and carefully made, I find that there is just enough room to keep the bottom of the lamp well clear of the spokes, and the hands of the cyclometer can be seen over the top of the plate, which turns round with it and the front heel.

I rode 15½ miles on Saturday last, 13th inst., and found this arrangement answer very well.—Yours obediently, E. HICKSON, Hon. Sec. Rob Roy B.C.

[In common with other riders we feel indebted to Mr. Hickson for his hints. We wish riders would more often communicate such items.]

AN AMALGAMATION OR NO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BICYCLING TIMES."

DEAR SIR,—It was much surprised to see inserted in your last issue a letter signed C. Cavanagh, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.* Guildhall B.C., and denying the fact of an amalgamation having taken place between the City and Guildhall B. Clubs.

This letter evidently appeared in error, for Mr. Dunkley is the Hon. Sec. according to club notices, and the 25th inst. refers to last month. The *News* published a copy of Mr. Cavanagh's letter on the 13th ult., and I sent a full statement of the facts (copy enclosed), which

appeared in their next issue and closed the correspondence. I have the minute book of the late B.C. in my possession and it fully endorses Messrs. Danell and Kershaw's letter.

Will you kindly, in your next issue, correct the impression that Mr. Cavanagh's letter conveys. I have pleasure in informing you that the Lord Mayor (Sir Francis Truscott) has accepted our presidency, and that our club now numbers nearly 50 members.—I remain, Yours, &c., J. DANKS, Hon. Sec.

(COPY.)

The Bank, 31, Whitecross Street, E.C.,

17th February, 1880.

To the Hon. Sec. of the City of London, B.C.

DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned, late Hon. Sec. and Captain, respectively, of the late Guildhall B.C. (now amalgamated with the City B.C. under the title of the City of London B.C.), beg to make the following statements in reference to a letter which appeared in the *Bicycling News* of the 13th inst. from Mr. Cavanagh, who ascribes himself "Hon. Sec. *pro tem.* Guildhall B.C." relating to the amalgamation of the above clubs.

In the first place, who made Mr. Cavanagh Hon. Sec. *pro tem.* is a mystery. A meeting was called by himself (merely a member) and at that meeting (if such it can be called), we suppose, he made himself Hon. Sec. Of course, from a legal point of view, all proceedings at such a meeting would be null and void. He states that "no amalgamation" has taken place between the above clubs. In contradiction to this, we now desire you to make known the following facts:—At a meeting of the Guildhall B.C. on the 19th ult. A motion was brought forward to amalgamate with the City B.C., which motion was lost by the chairman's casting vote. No contrary motion was put, and then the meeting closed without any resolution whatever being passed. Mr. Cavanagh's idea of rescinding a resolution never passed is ludicrous in the extreme.

At a late meeting on the 26th ult. a motion was again brought forward "That this Club amalgamate with the City B.C., under the title of the City of London B.C., and the assets be handed over to the amalgamated Club, which was proposed and seconded, and carried by a majority of seven to one, five declining to vote. Every member (excluding honorary) was present. Two of the members then present had sent in their resignations a short time since, but (as such resignations at the date of the meeting in question were unaccepted) had withdrawn them by a memorandum under their hands prior to this meeting of the 26th ult. Ergo these gentlemen were legally entitled to attend and vote. As it was on account of these two gentlemen being present and voting, that the five declined to vote, we feel sure they will now see the true state of the case. We are, sir, yours very truly,

(Signed)

CHARLES KERSHAW, C.L.B.C.,

(Late Hon. Sec. late G.B.C.)

G. DANELL, C.L.B.C.

(Late Captain late G.B.C.)

THE BICYCLE TOURING CLUB'S FIRST FALSE STEP.

SIR,—I beg to hand you for publication the following letters:—

Yours obediently, G. LACY HILLIER.

In reply to a letter from Mr. S. J. A. Cotterell, dated March, 5th, I sent the following, on March 8th:—

"The substance of my question was as follows:—'What is the connection between *Cycling* and the 'B. T. C. Album' as speculations and the Bicycling Touring Club. In the event of a satisfactory reply being given will the council take steps to communicate it to the rank and file of the club.'"

To this I received the following reply:—

COPY.

Bicycling Touring Club, 66, Grey-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

G. Lacy Hillier, Esq.

March 15th, 1880.

SIR,—I am requested by the council to write to you in answer to your questions re the connection of the "Photographic Album" and *Cycling* with the Bicycle Touring Club.

1. There is no connection between the "B. T. C. Album" and the club, except that the council readily and willingly accorded to Mr. Wellford its countenance and support.

2. The council deem the following copy of minute an answer, "That no consideration of the financial and other advantages derived by the club through its connection with the magazine *Cycling*, and also as the magnitude of the club warrants the council in having an official organ, that the arrangements now existing with regard to the monthly circular being placed as an appendix to *Cycling*, be and are hereby confirmed, and that the proprietor of that magazine be permitted and is authorised to announce his paper as "the official organ of the

B. T. C." I am further requested to state that the council cannot undertake to publish answers to questions from individuals, as it would make a precedent for all members to put questions, expecting like replies, and this would be impracticable. At the same time the council are of opinion that you can make any use you like of these answers.

I am, sir, yours obediently,
Signed, WALTER D. WELFORD, Sec.

THEATRICAL NOTES.

THE Philharmonic Theatre seldom since the days when the charming Emily Soldene reigned supreme as Queen of Opera Bouffe in this comfortable little house, has so good an entertainment as the present been placed before the patrons of this Theatre by the management. The programme lacks neither quality nor quantity. The female portion of the company excel in good looks and sprightliness, and the singing and dancing is of a high order of merit.

Chips.

How common it is to hear certain racing bicyclists say in reference to matters of habit and life, "it is of little importance," "it is only a trifle," "it cannot be of any consequence," and other current phrases of kindred import! I would remind such that *everything* is of consequence. For trifles lighter than straws are building up of character.

No one delights in music more than myself, and the advent of a band at race meetings is a source of pleasure. But I wish one could hear a little more of the "old tunes." I believe I could dance with the gout to "St. Patrick's Day," and sing with the tooth-ache, if "We won't go Home till Morning!" were chorused around me. As for "Roy's Wife," despite of her celebrity for jilting, I am ever ready to be off with her on the slightest whisper.

Most of us know the news-vendor's boy. He is by no means wanting in wit. One who has a "walk,"—"a paper walk"—(This may be a name of my own, but it is an old fact), in my road, recently delivered a *jeu d'esprit*, which I think worthy of a place amongst my "Chips." The other day a venerable and time-honoured friend, who having detained the paper as, with reverence I say it, old gentlemen too frequently will, long past "his hour," paying but small regard to Tim's many attempts at arresting his attention by the shouting of *pa-par*!—the boy's shouting became more vehement. Old B—, annoyed at his pertinacity, threw up the window and wrathfully ejaculated, "Don't make that noise, you rascal; who are you calling?" "Why you, o' course, my venerable parent; you're enuff to make your reglar hour holler wi' stretching it so big for a penny. Here a' I being singing out *pa-par* for this half hour, and you been taking no more notice than if I wor nobody, and my time of no more consequence than your own."

THE author of "Essays Written in the Intervals of Business" well observes that a great deal of discomfort arises from over-sensitiveness about what people may say of you or your actions. It is my opinion this requires to be blunted. Many unhappy persons seem to me to imagine that they are always in an amphitheatre with the assembled world as spectators, whereas all the while they are playing to empty benches. I fancy, too, they consider that they form the particular theme of every passer-by. If, however, they must listen to imaginary conversations about themselves, they ought, at any rate to defy the proverb, and insist upon hearing themselves well spoken of.

I HAVE a friend who fondly imagines himself gifted with the true poetic fire. He has, however, made a slight mistake—it is only an aptitude for juggling words together. The other evening he made one of half a dozen at a select evening party; on being requested to sing he commenced a very pathetic ditty, and proceeded fearlessly along until at the conclusion of these lines:—

"Rock and tree, and flowing water,
Bird and tree, and blossom taught he—"

his evil genius gave his memory a sudden jog, and, losing its balance, out stepped the next line, but he was not to be done so easily, and catching instantly at the rhyme sang "pleno ore."

"To know just what she hadn't oughter."

How quick your sharp rogue is at taking stock of his dupe! The fellow who palmed upon Moses the gross of green spectacles must have read on the spot the character enveloped in the fatal thunder-and-lightning great coat, and marked him for his own.

I OPINE that young Birmingham gentleman, who suffered himself, in his wisdom and experience, to be cheated out of his machine, must have been taken stock of in a like summary and successful manner.

No one can love music or singing more than myself, but I have a holy horror of some of the exhibitions at smoking concerts. Let a man fancy that he can sing, and the consequences are serious to the listeners, he will open his mouth, though it be only to proclaim himself something that the fable records as looking very grand in a lion's skin. "A brazen candlestick turned i' the wheel" is melodious, compared to much that one is obliged to applaud as "sweetly pretty."

IN extenuation of the habit of smoking, if I may not do more, I should say it is *healthy*, and add in regard to myself, "behold the sign;" but my readers may say that I am begging the question, as I might have had good health in "spite of it." I can only say that I have walked intact through two visitations of the Asiatic cholera, and some scores of influenzas nearly every other year, while most of those around me in my own family were sufferers.

I VIEW with disfavour the increase of clever young bicyclists. Cleverness may be dearly bought in the young especially so. The pearl is a serious matter for the oyster—its production being the result of a disease. And so cleverness in the young is very often achieved at the cost of their physical health.

THE present programme at the Princess's Theatre is admirably adapted to afford a most enjoyable evening. The "Streets of London" is supported by an immensely powerful caste, amongst whom I noticed are many of our leading actors and actresses. Mr. Charles Warner takes by far the most difficult part, viz., that of "Badger," one requiring all the *finesse* of which this talented artist is possessed. Most excellently does he acquit himself. I should lay myself open to a charge of ungallantry did I omit mention of the ladies. I, therefore, say that Miss Maggie Brennan and Miss Louisa Payne act their respective parts to the life. The scene representing the fire is one of the most striking tableaux of modern times. Have you seen Charles Warner in "The Streets of London?" "Oh, yes, and I like it so mu h." Will, I expect, form an oft recurring question and answer during the coming Easter holidays.

WOODCUTTER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SUBSCRIBER.—(1) It saves all jolting, the motion is even and pleasant over the roughest roads. (2.) It does not raise the rider more than the ordinary spring. (3.) It is nothing compared with the ordinary spring.

J. McSHAW, and a few other Secretaries, oblige us by writing your club news and fixtures on *separate* post cards.

G. SEYMOUR.—Your first letter not to hand.

P. DE VILLERS.—Thanks for your letter.

S. T. BOND, Hon. Sec Comet B.C.—Thank you for the way you sent your club news. We sent it to press as it came to hand without having to mark anything.

F. A. R.—The machine we believe is strongly built and serviceable. Of course, you cannot expect it to be as good as one you pay a high price for, but we have never heard them badly spoken of.

QUERY.

Wanted the name and address of the Secretary of the Westbourne Park B. C. by the Editor.

ITALY.—Will any one, who is sufficiently acquainted with Italy, say whether the roads in that country are generally—not only near the large towns—suitable for cycling.—F. T. B.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

VAGABOND A. B. C.—The best place to stop at Leighton Buzzard is the Plume of Feathers Hotel, but would advise you to go on to Dunstable and stay at the Sugar Loaf Hotel—every accommodation, and highly recommended by all who stay.—G. W. Frost.

CROWDED OUT.—"Warrington B. C. General Meeting," and "A Track for Bicyclists."

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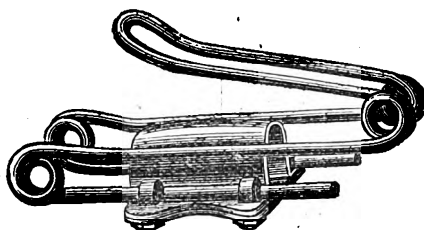
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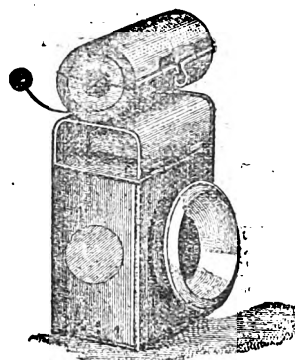
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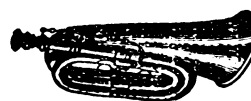
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5	50	do. do.	do.	All Bright.	12 10 0	9 10 0
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7	50	H F Britannia.	do.	Black and Yellow.	13 0 0	9 0 0
8	52	do. do.	do.	Black and Gold.	14 0 0	10 0 0
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B13	56	Challenge.	Cycle.	Black and Yellow.	15 10 0	9 0 0
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15	48	Speedwell.	Parallel.	Black and White.	8 5 0	6 5 0
16	50	do.	do.	Black and Yellow.	8 10 0	6 10 0
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Open Event, 3 miles Handicap. First prize, Gold Medal. 2nd prize, Silver Medal. Third prize, Silver Medal. Entrance fee, 2s 6d.

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Saturday, 19th June, 1880.
Open Event, 2 miles Handicap. First prize, value £10. Second prize, value £5. Third prize, value £3. Entrance Fee, 2s 6d.

Entry Forms to be obtained from, and Entries to be sent to H. R. Boyce, 35, Warrington Crescent, W.

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May 1.	Long-distance Championship of the World	Agricultural Hall	1172	Waller	53 D.H.F. Premier.
Sept. 1.	" "	" "	1405	" "	53 D.H.F. Premier.
Nov.	" "	Boston, United States	660	Terront	52 D.H.F. Premier.
Apr. 12.	100 Miles Championship	Leicester	100	W. Phillips	55 D.H.F. Premier. (without dismounting)
Nov. 3.	" "	Birmingham	100	J. J. Lees	53 D.H.F. Premier. (without dismounting)
Dec. 13	" "	Nottingham	100	W. Phillips	52 D.H.F. Premier.
Dec. 27.	14 hours Amateur	Hull	184	G. Scam	53 D.H.F. Premier.
Sept. 10.	50 Mls. Tricycle Road Race	From Kew to Blackwater and Back	50	Mr. Derkin	50 Flying Dutchman.

The fastest 100 miles on record 6hrs. 26mins. was accomplished by Phillips at Hull on Dec. 22nd. on a 53 D.H.F. Premier.

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