

beyond wetting his new No. 12 shoes. St. Thomas reached, some made for the home train, others stopping over Sunday, while the President and Secretary took train to Melbourne, to spend Sunday, intending to ride to Strathroy on Monday and catch the early train. When seven miles from S the "worthy P." concluded he would take a "dangle over" for the benefit of the occupants of a buggy in the rear, and managed to successfully run over the bank and collide with the snake fence, giving him a little trapeze act of his own, to the height of about four feet, alighting on the back wheel with force enough to make it trail about a foot and a-half to the right of the big one. After duly considering the case, he made a contract with the buggy people to sit behind them and trail his machine (wheelbarrow fashion) to Strathroy, but soon found unless chained on he couldn't stick there. Finally a shawl strap was brought to the rescue, and the longest seven miles on record completed.

Our run to Strathroy, three weeks later, was the most romantic of all. It was threatening rain all morning, and only four turned out, viz: Keenleyside, Lamb, Lilley, and Begg. We, thinking we would be a little smart and score one run more than the rest of the members, decided to go anyway. All went well till within six miles of Strathroy, when it started to pour. We dismounted at a vacant house intending to go in and wait. After standing just long enough to get our saddles wet, we decided to push through. We had been riding without coats and bare headed and didn't look a bit pretty when we got into Strathroy. Dismounting at the nearest hotel, (the Queen's) ordered rooms and towels for four, despatched a boy for cheap underclothing which he procured for sixty cents a suit retail, (fit no object) sent our clothes down to dry, and while waiting went through a series of athletic games in our newly acquired uniforms. Our worthy V. P. arrayed in one garment could hardly be kept from going down stairs after his watch which he had forgotten to unchain from his pistol pocket. Our clothes dry, we dressed again, got supper and came home by train arriving here "somewhat shrunk but still happy." The Strathroy Club called on us at the hotel.

Our moonlight run to Hyde Park was accomplished without an accident, although just before leaving Hyde Park our standard bearer who had been smoking a ten cent cigar, (ten cents per box, twelve in a box) was noticed to have some difficulty in breathing, which he attributed to the gas from the cream soda. We found, however, by removing his belt and unlacing his shirt he could ride quite comfortably.

Luck seems to have been against us these last four weeks as it has rained every Saturday.

We have now secured the rooms formerly occupied by the "Liberal Conservative Association," and expect to have them nicely furnished in a week or two, when we extend a cordial invitation to you and all other wheelmen, whether local or visiting to give us a call. Till then, adieu. AMEL.

Spokes from the Wanderers.

DEAR EDITOR:

I did not see anything about the Wanderers in your last issue, and thinking that perhaps the readers of the WHEELMAN would be interested in bicycling affairs in Toronto, I send you the following notes:

The Club has now attained a paid up membership of over seventy-five members, over sixty of whom are at present mounted. Considering that the Club was formed only a year ago, I think there is no other club in Ontario that has had such an increase.

The second concert given by the Club in the Granite Rink, on the 17th, was an immense success. Over 1,500 people were present, and the net receipts were considerably over \$200. Some excellent drill was exhibited by thirty of the members in uniform, and the fancy drill of Messrs. Hurst, Fitzgerald, Orr and Brunell, especially, receiving round after round of applause. The horizontal bar exhibition by Mr. Wm. Hurst was probably the best ever witnessed in Toronto. Mr. Hurst is at present the champion of Canada and is a member of the Wanderers.

Talking about champions, I guess our Club has got its share. Besides the champion gymnast, we have two out of the Toronto Rowing Club, four more champions of Canada, also the champion single sculler of Toronto, Mr. Thompson; the champion skater of Canada, Mr. Robinson; perhaps, the champion fancy rider, Mr. Brunell; and also a champion "slugger" and "ballet-dancer," whose name we will not divulge.

Our new club room is now complete and is second to none in the city as an athletic club room. It is situated on the corner of King and James streets, which is centrally located. Our first venture in the room line was on Yonge street. After climbing up three pairs of stairs, the visitor, after a few minutes search, was rewarded by finding a room about thirty feet square, furnished with a table and a few chairs. Now we have an extra large, airy room on the first floor of a large building, handsomely furnished and equipped with a piano and all the necessities for making a racket. Visitors are cordially welcome and are always sure to find some members there on any evening. The Club holds "at homes" there every Thursday evening.

A handsome gold medal was presented to Mr. H. Gemmel, who is leaving for the Northwest. Harry is well known among bicyclists throughout the country. He is one of the five Wanderers who accompanied the Chicago contingent on part of their tour.

An illuminated address is also to be forwarded Mr. O. Brunell, the well-known fancy rider, who has left rather suddenly for New York. The Club sincerely regret the loss of such riders as Messrs. Brunell and Gemmel, and it will be a long time before they will be forgotten, as they have been untiring in advancing the interests of the Club.

Our President, Col. Otter, is expected home next Monday, from England, after an absence of six months.

Three hours and forty-five minutes is the fastest time yet recorded between Toronto and Oshawa on a bicycle, and this time was made by Messrs. McKeo and Foster on a recent trip. This seems to be a favorite trip with Toronto wheelmen, as several trips have been made there this season.

Yours etc.

"WANDER OR."

LONDON.

DEAR WHEELMAN:

Now that the season for wheeling is coming near to a close, the members of the Forest City Bicycle Club have had their spacious Club rooms on Dundas street fitted up in first-class style for the winter season, where the members can spend their winter evenings in instruction and amusement. There is a fine piano and plenty of music; and as our bugler and about six or seven other members of our Club all play musical instruments of some kind or other, we anticipate having very many pleasant evenings together. It has also been proposed to get up some entertainments during the winter.

We have also gymnastics of all kinds in our rooms, such as Indian clubs, dumbbells, boxing gloves, &c., and we would be most happy to entertain any visiting wheelmen who should be so fortunate as to drop in to this little city of wheels. Our captain, myself and three other members had one of the finest rides on our wheels, about four weeks ago, that any of us ever had the pleasure of joining in. The trip was to Birr, a distance of about twelve miles. I had never seen the roads in better condition than they were then. If you want to enjoy good sport in wheeling take a good spin when the nights are moonlight and the roads good. I have just been to see how Secretary Maclean is progressing and found him gradually improving. I sincerely hope that he will soon be among us again.

In your first issue "Backbone" made a slight mistake when he said the F. C. Bicycle Club had to call a meeting twice before enough members were present to form a quorum. Such was not the case, and I hope never will be as long as we have so many live members as we have at present. I am sure the members of the F. C. Bicycle Club should feel proud of having such a spicy little bicycle paper published by two of their most energetic members, and I am sure they all agree with me in wishing them a hearty success in their venture. I also feel certain that it will soon become one of the leading bicycle journals in America, and should have the support of every rider in Canada and the United States. Send in your contributions and subscriptions, boys, and help to support them. So says

Yours, silently,

MACHINE.