

THE TORONTO MEET.

The fifth annual tournament and races of the T.B.C. were celebrated on Saturday, August 21. On the preceding evening a Chinese lantern parade was organized, open to the three city clubs, to visitors, and also to unattached riders. Probably well on to 100 riders participated, and numerous styles of machines were represented, from a \$200 Humber tandem and ordinary bicycles of all kinds and prices, crank and Star machines, to the \$10 tireless steed of the 12-year-old boy. The lanterns were for the most part tastefully and effectively attached, and the whole procession, extending in a long line of brilliant light, had a most imposing effect upon the crowds of spectators who lined the streets centre, west, north, east and south, through which the column wended its way. After about an hour and a half of riding, the wheelmen assembled in a social gathering for the close of the evening, the programme of which was, as usual, refreshments, speeches, recitations and songs from the representatives of the Toronto Clubs and visitors from Detroit and Rochester. The tournament itself was advertised to begin at 2.30 instead of 3 p.m., as originally intended, owing to the programme having been lengthened by an arrangement entered into for an exhibition lacrosse match between the Irish Gentlemen and a team of the Torontos, in addition to the bicycle races. The day opened bright and promising, but as the morning wore on the weather assumed an unpromising appearance, and just a few minutes before the advertised time for starting the rain began to fall, and it appeared as though the event would prove a financial failure. Such, however, was not the case, as, except for a short shower, the rain kept off during the races, and about 2,000 spectators assembled and heartily appreciated the entertainment provided for them. The officers of the day were:

Referee: Mr. J. B. Boustead. Judges: W. A. Karn, President C.W.A.; H. C. Kelly, Captain Irish Team; H. P. Dwight; R. H. McBride; Timekeepers: W. K. McNaught; Fred. Garvin; R. A. Punnett. Clerks of the Course: H. F. Wyatt; C. E. Lailley. Scorers: C. H. Riggs; J. Littlejohn. Starter: C. H. Biggar. Races Committee: F. J. Campbell, Chairman; A. F. Webster, Secretary; J. F. Lawson, Treasurer; R. T. Blachford; W. H. Cox; R. G. McLean; A. S. Bowers; H. Ryrice; W. H. West; A. J. Magurn; Chas. Langley.

The first event was the one mile 3.40 class race, open, and was run in three heats. Of the entries, there came to the scratch in the first heat F. J. Brimer, Toronto; W. Shephard, Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Oscar Brader, Woodstock, who completed the first quarter in the following order: Brader, Shephard, Brimer. For the remainder of the race, however, this was exactly reversed, the latter two getting right away, and then being sure of a place in the final heat, taking it easy and crossing the line in friendly companionship, to the amusement of the spectators, Brimer slightly ahead. Time, 3.20.

Messrs. W. H. West, Toronto; C. L. Macnab, Orillia, and W. H. Brown, Toronto, came up for the second heat and got away in this order: Macnab, West, Brown, which was maintained for two laps (half-a-mile), after which Brown retired, being too heavily handicapped by the hundred pounds avoirdupois of his Star machine; West then forged ahead, and kept his lead to the finish. Time, 3.27.

The next event was the two mile handicap, for which there were three prizes offered and eighteen entries, out of which only four came up to the contest, Messrs. Albert Schirck, Rochester; T. Fane, Toronto; M. F. Johnston, Toronto, and W. S. Campbell, of Niagara Falls, N.Y. The first mile was completed in 3.23, Johnston leading, and followed in order throughout the mile by Campbell, Fane and Schirck (on a Star). During the fifth lap the men got to work, Johnston still managing to keep in front, and Campbell and Fane crossing together. Campbell continued his effort and passed Johnston in the next lap, Fane doing the same in the last one. The winner was well in advance; second and third had an ex-

citing tussle and came in very close together. Time, 6.19.

The final heat of the one mile 3.40 class was then run off, the contestants being Shephard, Brimer, Macnab and West, which was the order maintained by the men for the first quarter; in the next West passed Macnab, and in the third Brimer went ahead of Shephard, after which no change was made to the finish, Brimer winning in 3.12.

The event of the day was the one mile open, for which a very handsome and valuable first prize was offered, a silver service of five pieces and salver, besides a useful second prize in the shape of a dressing-case. The participants were Messrs. H. P. Davies, Toronto; H. Clarke, Woodstock; S. L. Mackay, Woodstock, and Albert Schirck, of Rochester (Star). Davies went ahead in the first lap at a rattling pace, and with grim determination showed at once that he meant business, and in spite of Clarke's utmost efforts kept his lead right to the end and came in winner, well ahead, amidst vociferous cheering from the grand stand; the others came in in the order in which their names are given above. Time, 2.58 1-5.

A variation in the programme was then made by an exhibition of fancy riding by Wm. H. Barber, of Rochester, N.Y., who showed himself quite at home in the performance of the usual tricks, and added others quite new to the spectators.

The field was then cleared for the lacrosse match between the Irishmen and a team of the Torontos, the latter winning by three goals to two.

After the lacrosse interlude, the two mile club championship was contested by Messrs. F. J. Campbell and M. F. Johnston, the prize being trophy and medal; the other entrant, Mr. F. J. Brimer, did not compete. Campbell led for three laps, when his want of training appeared to be telling upon him, and he had to be content with second place for the remainder of the race, and finally retired in the seventh lap, leaving Johnston to win in good style in 6.38. Time of first mile, 3.28.

Wm. H. Barber, holder till recently of the world's unicycle mile record, then made an attempt to lower it again, but from the nature of the track found it impossible to do so. Times: 1st lap, 1.1; 2nd, 2.1; 3rd, 3.3; 4th, 4.6.

For the five mile open race—prizes, gold medal and cup for first and ornamental clock for second—the contestants were Messrs. Fane, Davies, Johnston and Campbell. This race resulted in a chapter of accidents. The above order was maintained for six laps, but in the seventh Johnston's tire coming off he had to retire, fortunately unhurt; the other three continued in the same order till, halfway through the tenth lap, Fane's backbone breaking, he was thrown to the ground, and Davies being just on his little wheel, also unfortunately came to grief, and had his machine badly damaged; Campbell, of Niagara Falls, being some distance in the rear, was able to pass the wreck without accident, and finished the 10th and 11th laps alone, when Johnston, who had run six laps before his accident, rushed on to the scene once more with the object of securing second prize; unfortunately for his purpose, however, the friends of Davies immediately set about getting him off on the same errand, as he had completed three more laps than Johnston before meeting with disaster; the latter again retired, after having run two laps. It was, of course, impossible for Davies to overtake Campbell now, and the latter won the race in 17.16 1-5. Times: 1st, 3.20; 2nd, 6.40; 3rd, 10.0; 4th, 13.34.

The concluding race was the half mile handicap club race, for which the contestants were Messrs. W. H. West, W. H. Brown (on a crank machine this time), F. J. Brimer, and M. F. Johnston (scratch). In the first lap, West passed Brown, and Brimer came in third; but in the final one both he and Johnston went ahead, West finishing third man, and Johnston just failing to overhaul Brimer, made a very exciting finish to the race. Time, 1.29.

This being the last event in the programme, Mr. H. C. Kelly, Captain of the Irish Lacrosse Team, was requested to present the prizes, which completed a very satisfactory afternoon's proceedings.

THE "BLUE NOSE" TOUR.

The Boston correspondent of the Chicago *Sporting and Theatrical Journal* has the following to say of the late "Blue Nose Tour." His remarks ought to be taken *cum grano salis*:

The Blue Nose tourists have completed their two weeks' outing. The trip was a very pleasant one, and for Down East tours is said to be the liveliest on record. In fact it was so lively that, so I am informed, Mr. Elwell, manager of the party, threatened to leave them at one time. They got to smashing things in a way that was far too rich for his blood. You see in past seasons Elwell has been accustomed to pilot a very sedate crowd of fellows, many such as you or I would term old maids, the sort of fellows who are satisfied to pass a day wheeling over twenty miles of beastly roads, and when reaching their destination at night be content to dispense with a bowl of bread and milk, or toast and tea, and straightway retire to their virtuous couches, to arise when the cock begins his diabolical serenade. The crowd he had with him this year was nothing of that kind. Half a dozen of them participated in the Big Four tour of last year, and as a school for devilment, that tour would certainly carry off the palm.

This year the Blue Nose tour was one continual circus from start to finish, and the inhabitants of some of those towns of way back must indeed have been painfully shocked at the doings of the merry gentlemen in knee breeches. When they arrived at a hotel they took entire possession of the building, and the landlord might just as well keep his mouth shut as to urge them to keep quiet. At the first hotel they struck in Canada they made things everlastingly hum. At dinner they sprung the old racket of yelling the chorus for whatever they wanted. This the landlord objected to, and angrily rushing into the room shouted that if they did not keep quiet they would not get any dinner, and he further explained that he was running that hotel. "No you're not," yelled in reply one of the tourists from Springfield, "I guess we are running this hotel, and we are going to run you too. Let her fly, boys." Instantly a rain of bread, beets, radishes, potatoes, and everything the wheelmen could lay their hands on was descending upon the unhappy host, who was glad to beat a hasty retreat. Manager Elwell objected to this decidedly, and said if they did not behave more like gentlemen in the future he would separate from them, and they could look after themselves as best they could. They promised to be real good, but the very next hotel they began cutting up, and the poor manager's heart was well nigh broken, but he forgave them yet again and again.

Your correspondent has talked with a number of the tourists, and they say that for the most part the roads were found to be very good, and for fifty miles of the road unexcelled by any about Boston. The hotel accommodations were, of course, not of the best, but they only had cause for serious complaint once or twice. There were but few accidents on the trip, and none which resulted in severe personal injury.

THE JOHN-O'-GROATS' RECORD.

This record is coming down to very small figures. Now we have the eight hundred and sixty-one miles traversed by G. P. Mills, of the Anfield Bicycle Club, in five days, one hour and forty-five minutes, beating the best previous record by one day, six hours and forty minutes. He rode an ordinary bicycle, 53-inch Humber, with ball bearing head. Mr. Mills started from Land's End at midnight, 11th July, and, helped on by pacemakers and fellow-clubmen, he reached Edinburgh in three days. After leaving Perth he encountered a heavy wind, which blew against him till the finish, reaching John-O'-Groats at 1.45 on Saturday morning. Mills is not satisfied with this record, and says that if it had not been for the wind, he would have made two hundred miles a day.