

## PITHY POINTERS FROM PETE

## THE RECENT ROAD RACE.

The fifty-mile road race, run on the 3rd of Sept., resulted in a victory for the Wanderers. I have been requested, however, by a member of the Toronto Bicycle Club to explain that the latter club were averse to the holding of the race on the above date on account of their three leading riders, Messrs. Davies, Brimer and Doolittle, being unable to take part—on account of illness in the case of the two first named. At a special meeting to discuss the matter it was decided to take part in the race in any event, although knowing they could not win for the reason above stated. It will likely be a yearly event, however, and it is to be hoped the Torontos will not be handicapped by the loss of their best men when the next race takes place.

## A BIG TRIP.

A party of University students, belonging, I believe, to Stratford, left here for England on the 12th of Sept., where they propose touring on bicycles for a year through England and the continent. I envy them their opportunity, as my recollections of the lovely turnpikes of England, the white chalk roads of France, and the hard, clean Italian routes, are ever reminding me of the glorious possibilities of such a trip by wheel.

## OUR RACERS.

Mr. Harry Davies, the Toronto Bicycle Club's leading racer, has completed a very successful season of bicycling racing. Commencing with the Toronto Athletic Club games, on June 18 last, when he won the one mile handicap from scratch, lowering the Canadian record of 2.58 (made by Davies when he defeated Clarke last fall) to 2.55, he has won eight races, the most important being the one mile Canadian championship at Brantford on Dominion Day. The others were the three mile handicap on June 18 (when the Canadian record was lowered by 27s.), the three mile lap race, half mile open race and one mile open race at the C.W.A. meet, and the half mile open race and two mile lap race at the championship meet of the Michigan Division of the L.A.W. at Detroit a few weeks ago, on which occasion he defeated Nicholson, the three mile League champion. Mr. Davies had entered for the recent Cleveland races, but was prevented from attending through a severe illness, which also kept him from entering the lists on the civic holiday, much to the regret of his friends. He was also unable to attend the great American fall meets at Hartford, Newark, Lynn (Mass.), and other racing centres. He has every reason, however, to be proud of his achievements prior to his illness, and an even more brilliant record is probably in store for him next season.

Fred Brimer had a worse shaking-up with his tumble at the Toronto Bicycle Club races than was thought. One of his knee-caps troubles him, and so long as that continues he will be unable to use his wheel. Foster is in fine mettle. His club—the Wanderers—did the handsome thing the other night by presenting him with a purse of \$75 as an acknowledgment of his success at the Cleveland meet.

## AN UNLUCKY WHEELMAN.

G. A. Caton, of Newburgh (a member of the Napanee B.C.), was in town the other day with

his American Safety. While talking to me he received a telegram that his place of business had been burned in the recent Newburgh fire. "That means a \$5,000 loss for me," he exclaimed, "as my insurance lapsed a month ago." A hard blow to a young man; but the enterprising wheelman is the one to get on his feet quickly after a header—in business, or in riding.

## A CHATHAM ENTHUSIAST.

I met J. D. Lamont at the Chatham station the other morning. He has his eye on the Detroit races shortly to be held, and is practicing for them. Mr. Lamont is an enthusiastic wheelman, and has communicated it to his fellow-Chathamites to such an extent that they have a flourishing club there. *Apropos* of the Detroit meet, the *Free Press* of that city, in a recent issue, advised their home club not to let the Canadians scoop them as they did at a former meet.

## FATHER AND SON.

A living evidence that cycling need not be confined to young men alone is seen in Mr. Lindsay, sr., of St. Catharines—a gentleman well up in years—his son, Albert, being one of the leading members of the St. Catharines Club. I was at Grimsby Park before the season closed, and was surprised to see Mr. Lindsay, sr., wheel into the grounds on his tricycle. "Where did you wheel from?" I asked. "Oh, from home," he replied. "We left there early this morning." The distance is about twenty miles, and the road not of the best, yet Mr. L. covered it in three or four hours. I complimented him on his achievement, considering his weight and age, but he answered that such a run was nothing unusual for him.

## THE T. B. C.

The Toronto Bicycle Club added nearly \$300 to their bank account as the net result of their recent races, and have a total of \$500 to their credit. They are about vacating their premises on Wilton Avenue, and a committee was appointed to arrange for the rental of a house farther up town. They will probably have the matter settled before this appears in print. A number of new members were proposed at the last club meeting, and its prospects were never more brighter or its success on a sounder foundation.

## BICYCLING IN PETERBORO'.

Mr. W. R. Greatrix, captain of the Peterboro' Bicycling Club, was in the city during the Exhibition. His town now boasts of twenty-five wheels, and the number will be largely increased, no doubt, next year, inasmuch as the captain is an enthusiast and an expert wheelman. He is agitating for the building of a track, in which case the C.W.A. will likely be invited to hold its annual meet there. Belleville has its eye on the big meet, too, by the way. Capt. Greatrix has a novel idea, viz., to hold a C.W.A. cycling camp after the pattern of the large English camps. The suggestion is a good one.

## A LONG TOUR.

He is the wise wheelman who does his touring in the early fall months when the air is bracing and full of ozone, and when the sunshine is welcomed in midday. Messrs. W. H. West, W. Robins, S. King and A. S. Bowers, of

the Toronto Bicycle Club, have returned from an extensive trip to a point several hundred miles below Quebec. They first wheeled to Kingston, then took the boat to Montreal and Quebec, and there mounted their wheels again for the run east. They had a jolly time, and are enthusiastic over their outing.

## SOME VISITORS.

Two or three members of the Williamsport, Pa., Bicycle Club did our town the other day, and were taken in hand by some of the Torontos, who showed them around the city, and otherwise dispensed Canadian hospitality.

Sept. 23, 1887.

PETE.

## IS THIS WORTHY OF AN AMATEUR?

The *Toronto Mail* says: "A peculiar case will come up at Ottawa at the next Assizes, the session of which will be of interest to the holders of championship prizes. The St. Andrew's Society of Ottawa have instructed their solicitors, Messrs. Scott, McCracken & McTavish, to enter an action against Mr. A. C. Campbell, of this city, for the recovery of a gold medal valued at \$200. The facts of the case are as follows: In 1885, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis Railroad Co. donated a gold medal to the St. Andrew's Society of Ottawa, to be presented at their annual games to the winner of a two mile bicycle race—the medal to be won two years in succession before it became the property of the winner. At the annual games of the society in 1885 the medal was won by Mr. Campbell, to whom it was given, with the understanding that it must be won again before it became his property. In 1886 the annual games of the society did not take place, as the day upon which they were advertised to come off was very wet. The committee, however, went to the grounds; in case some of the competitors turned up, but none did so, and the games were declared off that season. At the annual games this year, which came off a few weeks ago, the gold medal in question was won by Mr. R. Sproule, of Ottawa. The committee requested Mr. Campbell to give up the custody of the medal to Mr. Sproule, but he refused, stating that he had held the medal two years in succession, and that the society had forfeited the right to offer the medal again for competition in consequence of there being no annual games the year before."

It is always best to know who you are cussing before you allow the vials of wrath to be opened; *vide* a certain Morristown, Pa., cyclist while riding on a road near that place, overtook a party in a buggy who would not (or *did* not) give him room to pass. The cyclist took to the mud and sand on the side of the road, and as he ground past he let fly his choicest Billingsgate. After having expended his wrath in a final dash at all chuckle heads and road hogs, he turned to see the effect, and found he had been tirading his minister, Tableau, and total collapse of cyclist.

Ducker always did seem to have a faculty for getting into disturbances. No sooner is he landed in Buffalo than his printers strike on him.