

Recently the Post Office authorities of the United States have purchased a number of them to be used in the collection of letters from street boxes in Washington, D.C., and a couple of weeks ago we saw one of the Toronto Electric Light Co.'s employees riding along one of our snow-covered streets, "trimming" the different electric lights on his route.

English exchanges are advising their readers not to be in too great a hurry to purchase new wheels, as there is no doubt that many improvements will be made, both in frame and tire construction, during the next season. At present all cyclists are turning their attention to the Stanley Show, which takes place during the latter part of the present month, and no doubt many ingenious devices will then be exhibited which will materially aid our English cousins in choosing their mounts for 1891. We, on this side of the water, can well afford, before making a selection, to wait until the voluminous reports of the show are published in the various wheeling papers.

#### Governor Hill, of New York, on Good Roads.

"The construction by the State, under the supervision and direction, for instance, of the State engineer, of two scientifically-built roads in each county, so that a person could start from New York or Buffalo or Albany or any other place and travel with speed and comfort through every county in the State without leaving the State roads, would be of incalculable benefit to the State at large as well as to separate localities.

"The State roads would serve as object lessons in each county, stimulating local authorities to the improvement of other highways by presenting examples of substantial construction, and by illustrating the material advantages which accompany ready and satisfactory means of communication. Except in the case of these two State roads, local control would be as complete as it is now.

"I commend this subject to your serious attention. A bill incorporating the executive's suggestion, and commonly known as the 'Richardson Bill,' was introduced in the Senate last year, but failed to receive the requisite number of votes for passage. It is hoped that the measure may receive closer scrutiny this year, and that the Legislature will not refuse to co-operate in securing for the people of the State the benefit of this great public improvement."

"The prospects seem to be now that the plan outlined in Governor's Hill's message will be carried out wholly or in part in New York State. If it is, then the great commonwealth will surely be entitled to the name, 'Empire State.' And when, in addition to all the natural advantages found within our boundaries, are added good country roads in every State, then, and not till then, may we call ourselves citizens of the empire nation."—*Ex.*

Written for CYCLING.

#### A Reverie.

"O for the days that are gone!  
The days that shall come once more."  
*With apologies to Tennyson.*

Alas, that any time should come  
When needs must end  
Our comradeship, my summer chum,  
My silent friend.

We two have shared such happy hours  
This summer past!  
Fit compeers of the season's flowers,  
Too fair to last.

We were so truly of one mind  
However bent,  
To all my moods your silence gave  
A full assent.

If I was tired or much depressed,  
Your languid speed  
A subtle sympathy expressed,  
My wiry steed.

And if my spirits overflowed  
Like new made wine,  
Your buoyancy of movement showed  
Your sense of mine.

But once—I know not what I'd done—  
You threw me though,  
And for the deed, my fiery one,  
I shook you so.

Perhaps it was my horsemanship  
You disapproved,  
You have not given me the slip,  
Since that improved.

Indeed I think that if you tried  
You'd find, *mon cher*,  
However much you kicked and shied,  
I'd still be there.

Oh! once again upon your back,  
To race the wind!  
All care upon our flying track  
Left far behind.

If trouble on my pathway hide  
I pray it wait  
Till on your back I can defy  
The harshest fate.

So take your rest until, old friend,  
Spring comes again!  
This winter time will have an end  
And then—*ah, then!*