

CYCLISTS FOR CAVALRY.—Stated in the briefest phrase, their duty is that of acting for an advancing army as "feelers," performing, indeed, to use a very humble illustration, for the army what the whiskers do for the cat in the dark—give warning of the approach of obstacles and dangers before they are seen. These duties as distinguished from the methods by which they are fulfilled, are mainly four: (1) To screen from observation the different columns of an army advancing behind them on parallel routes. (2) To break through the enemy's cavalry screen and discover the disposition of his troops in its rear. (3) To delay, harass and mislead the movements of the enemy. (4) To ascertain the condition of the roads, bridges and fords in front, and the nature and amount of supplies and accommodation procurable. Can cyclists fulfil these conditions? Mr. Charles Turner, in an interesting article in *Outing* for December, gives many reasons for believing they can. It is too early in the progressive life through which the military cycle will pass to need to detail its present position further, or to be able to forecast its future. One thing, however, may be safely prognosticated, in the words of England's most experienced general, Wolseley, "The day will come, and is coming, when large bodies of cyclists will be recognized and become integral parts of every army in the field."

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed, "Tender for the St. Lawrence Canals," will be received at this office, until the arrival of the eastern and western mails on Wednesday, the 3rd day of December next, for the construction of a lift lock, weirs, etc., at Morrisburg, and the deepening and enlargement of the Rapide Plat Canal. The work will be divided into three sections, each about a mile in length.

A map of the locality, together with plans and specifications of the respective works, can be seen on and after Wednesday, the 19th day of November next, at this office, and at the Resident Engineer's office, Morrisburg, where printed forms of tender can be obtained.

In the case of firms there must be attached to the tender, the actual signatures of the full name, the nature of the occupation and residence of each member of the same, and, further, an accepted cheque on a chartered bank in Canada for the sum of \$6,000, must accompany the tender for Section No. 1, and an accepted cheque on a chartered bank in Canada, for the sum of \$2,000 for each of the other sections.

The respective accepted cheques must be endorsed over to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and will be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted. The cheques thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
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Department of Railways and Canals,
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