

News from the Clubs.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—Please make your letters brief and newsy, and then we will not be obliged to crowd out other letters of equal importance.

SIMCOE.

Amid the broad and fertile fields of Norfolk, the garden of Canada, nestling beneath its circlet of grove-crowned hills, lies Simcoe, the Forest Town, the fairest among ten thousand, and if you don't believe it come and see for yourself.

In this aforesaid town of Simcoe, there is a bicycle club. Perhaps it is just as will I told you so for all I have ever seen of it in your columns. Mr. WHEELMAN it might as well have been established on Long Point, not that I blame you at all, oh worthy editor. The fault lies I think with our secretary, who apparently cannot find time to spare from the multifarious duties imposed upon him by his connection with the C.W.A., which duties are fast turning his locks of drab to gray—to write you a few lines each month about his own Club. Consequently, having long waited in vain to see the Simcoe Club show first in print before the 'cycling world, I myself rush in to fill the break.

Simcoe is a town of 3,000 inhabitants. It possesses the finest streets and sidewalks of any town in Western Ontario, and this assertion is no big brag either but a solid fact. Its bicycle club numbers about twenty men, all riders, but with only fourteen or fifteen machines. The Club's head quarters, the Battersby House, is noted all over Canada among the traveling public as one of the finest hotels in the west. The officers for the present year were elected some time ago and are as follows: Hon. Pres., G.W. Wells Esq.; Pres., W.S. Perry; Sec.-Treas., Hal B. Donly; Capt., W. G. Wallace; Lieut., D. Robb Tisdale.

Our favorite run is to Waterford over a very smooth gravel road, eight miles, that can be done by the poorest member of the Club in very little over forty minutes.

Scarcely an hour in the day but some member may be seen going about his usual duties mounted on the silent steed, while as the shades of evening turn Norfolk street into an ideal spot for bicycling, it is filled with votaries of the wheel, practising club drill or getting ready for a moonlight ride to Waterford or Pt. Dover.

Our Club championship handicap race for May was won by Lieut. D. R. Tisdale from the scratch. The June race will take place on Friday the 20th.

P. E. D'ALPIN.

The quarter mile cinder path of the new Toronto Athletic Grounds to be used for the races of the C.W.A., is one of the finest on the continent, and will be in the best possible condition on the day, and as some new aspirants for the honor of champion are expected to appear the championship events will be very interesting and the Canadian records no doubt considerably lowered.

WOODSTOCK.

To EDITOR OF THE WHEELMAN:

Thinking it may be of interest to your readers in this section, I send you a few notes of what our bicycle boys have been doing this season. Our Club is now a very strong one, numbering about fifty active members: a couple of months ago in connection with the lacrosse and base ball clubs, we formed an Amateur Athletic Association for the encouragement of purely amateur sports, and in connection therewith have rented for a term of years the northern portion of the driving park, and have built a quarter mile bicycle track on it. The shape of the latter is semi-circular, at the ends and the sides straight—it is twelve feet wide with the exception of the starting place which is twenty feet—the foundation consists of cinders, over which we have put a covering of asphalt, making without doubt one of the best tracks in the Province. The cost of laying same was about \$1,000. Inside of the asphalt track the ground is well laid out for base ball and lacrosse matches—there is also a large grand stand capable of holding several hundreds of people—band stand—dressing tent, &c.

On the 26th of May we celebrated the Queen's Birthday by opening our new grounds, with a programme of bicycle and other athletic sports. The attendance was large, about 7000 people being on the grounds and the best of order prevailing. The following were the different bicycle events, names of winners, prizes, &c., viz.—

THE RACES.

One mile race open to the Dominion, first prize gold medal, value \$40—C. F. Lavender, Toronto; time 1st heat 3 36; 2nd heat 3 33, final heat, 3 33; second prize silver medal, \$15—H. P. Davies, Toronto. The other entries were P. Doolittle, Toronto; E. Doyle, Fingal; Jno. Moodie, Hamilton; A. Pilkie, Woodstock; R. Tisdale, Simcoe; C. Fitch, L. Harris, and W. Patterson, Brantford.

Two mile race, open to all who never won a race, first prize gold medal, \$30—H. P. Davies, Toronto, time 7 35; second prize, silver medal \$10—M. F. Johnston, Toronto. Other entries, W. Patterson, Brantford; Fred. Luxford, Paris; and C. G. Finley, Simcoe.

Five mile race, open to the Dominion; first gold medal, \$85—C. F. Lavender, time 19 2; second prize silver medal, \$15—P. Doolittle.

The other entries were H. P. Davies, E. Doyle, J. Moodie, C. Fitch, W. Patterson, L. Harris, R. Tisdale and A. Pilkie.

For best fancy riding, King-of-the-Road Hub Lamp, \$6—P. Doolittle. Other entries, W. Patterson, Brantford.

Slow race, 50 yards, bell, \$4—J. Moodie, Hamilton. Other entries, C. Fitch, W. Patterson, L. Harris, Brantford; R. Tisdale, Simcoe; H. Williams, Woodstock.

Club, drill, not less than 8 riders in a club, and not less than 2 clubs, silver cup, value \$45—Brantford Bicycle Club. Other entries, Woodstock B. C.

Special prize by Andrew Pattullo, President of Woodstock Bicycle Club, to the win-

ner of a mile race, open to the members of the clubs who have not ridden previous to 1883, silver cup, value \$20—H. Clark, time 4 min. Other entries H. Blotts, Jas. Egan, and W. Martin.

Special prize by J. Codville, open to members of the clubs who have not before won prizes; 5 miles, pair of ball pedals, \$11.50—H. Clark. Other entries, Jas. Egan, W. Martin and H. Biette.

Boys' Tricycle race, silver cup \$4—Willie Walter McLay.

Judges, H. B. Donly, of Simcoe, and R. M. Ballantyne, of Stratford; Referee, W. A. Karn.

These were the first bicycle races ever held in Woodstock, and the people are quite enthusiastic over them.

The following places were represented in the bicycle parade at one o'clock: Stratford, Toronto, Simcoe, St. Thomas, Brantford, Berlin, Paris, Fingal, Hamilton and Woodstock.

The "boys of the wheel" have made a name for themselves, and given such an impetus to this the most popular of all outdoor sports, that it cannot help drawing many new recruits to its ranks in this section.

Thanking you for the insertion of above and apologizing for taking up so much of your valuable space, I remain

Yours truly,

M. DOUGLAS.

Secretary Woodstock Bicycle Club.

NEWCASTLE.

DEAR WHEELMAN:

As per promise I will give you an account of the 24th of May Tournament here:

On Friday evening about ten of the Wanderers of Toronto arrived per local train. They put up at the Windsor Hotel and were taken up to the Club rooms, and a very pleasant evening was spent; songs and speeches being the order of the day; at an early hour all was quiet for the night.

Early Saturday morning, (24th), the wheelmen were astir and riding up and down our streets. About 9:45 word came per telephone that the Toronto Club which had made Bowmanville, a place five miles west of here, its rendezvous, had started, and while they are on the way we will tell what we had forgotten before.

That part of the Torontos had arrived in Bowmanville on Friday, riding all the way, and the remainder had come down per train on Saturday a.m. to join their Club; also on the train on which the Torontos came down came about a dozen of the Wanderers right on to Newcastle, also other unattached wheelmen. Well we will suppose fifteen minutes have elapsed and our President, Mr. W. H. Chandler and one or two others of the Newcastles go up to meet the Toronto Club who soon appear in sight, and to watch them as they come down the long hill just west of the village; it is indeed a pretty sight. —Forty-five bicycles stretched out in single file coming down a steep, long hill.

Then comes the lunch provided at the Club Rooms by the kind lady friends of the