

### Canadian Flyers--11.

W. B. PARR.

MR. W. B. PARR, the subject of this sketch is very generally known among the members of the C.W.A., he having been a regular attendant at the annual meets during the past three years. It was in 1888 that he contracted the wheeling fever, and straight-way purchasing a wheel joined himself to the Ottawa Bicycle Club.

His first appearance on the track was in '89, at the meet held by the O.B.C. on the 24th of May of that year, when he took third place in the mile green and second in the two-mile handicap. In the same year, at the annual meet at St. Kitts, Parr captured the first place in the green race after a most brilliant struggle.

In 1890, at the C.W.A. meet at Ottawa on July 1st, Parr came in first in the run and ride race under circumstances that may have been amusing, but were decidedly unfavorable to successful racing.

In the Aylmer road race, held during this meet, Parr came in fourth, having as leaders such doughty riders as Nasmith, Lingham and Ivan (of Rochester, N.Y.).

In the same year at the Montreal meet we find him still at it, coming in third in the five-mile, with Lingham and VanWagner leading.

Immediately after the five mile, without having taken enough time to draw breath, he entered for the mile and made another good third.

In 1891, at the Hamilton meet, Parr's wheel was the first solid tyred and second high wheel to finish, which, considering that the wheel was a full roadster, weighing in the neighborhood of forty-five pounds, was a very creditable performance.

In the same year Parr captured the first prize in the Ottawa Bicycle Club's annual road race, beating all previous records on the Aylmer Road by making the distance in 21 ms. 36 secs., the previous record of 22 ms. and 47 secs. having been made by J. H. Gerrie, of the Wanderers.

Parr has done most of his work on a solid-tyred roadster, in many cases having to compete against racers, making up in strength and determination for what his wheel lacked in lightness. He is an ardent admirer of the high wheel, which was his first love, but lately has been coming to the inevitable conclusion that the future of cycling lies in the safety, and it would not be surprising to see

him next season mounted upon a pneumatic safety. Since his initiation Parr has been a faithful, hard-working and popular member of the O.B.C.: "one of the boys," using the expression in its better sense. He has the reputation of being one of the most sociable of our members, a staunch friend and, if necessary, a courteous opponent.

Parr has done very little training, and that after 6 p.m. In fact, it is characteristic of him to enter a race without paying the slightest attention to training and condition.

It is doubtful if there are many riders in Canada who could with as little training ride fast enough to see the dust from Parr's wheel. In view of this we expect great things when he stops impromptu racing and gets down to regular work, as is expected of him during the coming season. Parr has an iron constitution, unusual strength and unyielding determination, which, when coupled with careful training, we trust will not only enhance his present achievements, but place him in an enviable position, especially as a road rider, in the front rank of Canadian flyers.

M. G. McE.

OTTAWA, Jan. 18th, 1892.

### Rochester Letter.

EDITOR CYCLING.—There is not much doing among the clubs here now. The Lake Views, Genesee, Flower City and Rochester Athletic Clubs have united with some of the military companies in indoor games of baseball.

Thomas Stevens, of around the world fame, is to address us on Thursday night on the subject, "Across Asia on a Bicycle," under the management of the West End club.

Rochester is to have a bicycle show, and from all information at hand it will be a good one. The West End Club has it in hand, and they are pushing it for all that there is in it. Nearly all of the space is taken. The show will open on Monday night, March 29th, with a grand concert by the Mandolin Orchestra. On each afternoon and evening there will be athletic sports of every description suitable to be put on the stage. Both Barber and Canary will give exhibitions of trick riding.

CRANKSLINGER.

ROCHESTER, N.Y., Jan. 18th, 1892.

The subject of our next article on Canadian flyers will be W. G. Owens of London.