

CANADIAN NEWS.

Latest Bicycle Gossip from all Parts of the Country.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—Write your letters on one side of the paper only, and make them as trenchant as possible. All matter intended for this department should be addressed to the editor. No attention paid to communications unless accompanied by full name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

ST. THOMAS SHAVINGS.

MY DEAR BICYCLE:

All hail, latest and most welcome addition to our wheel literature, for are you not to be the exponent of Us—with a capital U?—the exponent I presume of our wide Dominion, but more particularly of Ontario, that highly favored Province, whose roads are considered perfection by some of our American 'Cycling consins, but methinks either distance must have lent enchantment, or—preserve me from the American roads. I don't know, however that we in St. Thomas have much cause to grumble for some of our roads are really excellent. Take the one from here to Aylmer for instance, as pretty a run of twelve miles as you could ask for, barrin' the hills, which are very well in day time, but at night—well shut your eyes, legs over and commence to pray for the repose of the soul of any unfortunate team that may be in the way. Then the London road is a very fair one, eighteen miles. These three places, London, St. Thomas and Aylmer are the three points of a triangle, each at easy riding distance from the others, and thus a spirit of comradeship has grown up among the three clubs. We were thinking of calling upon brother wheelmen to assist in forming an Ontario League at our first annual meet, on Sept. 22nd, (at which, by-the-way we hope to see the genial face of THE BICYCLE,) but learning that Toronto was taking similar action, we have deferred the matter pending the result of the meeting in that city on the 11th.

May every success, and no obstacles meet THE BICYCLE; may its paths lie in pleasant and smooth places; and may no cloud ever darkened the horizon to cause the shadow of its wheel to grow less.

CRANK.

SIMCOE SPOKES.

On the 1st of July, among the other attractions provided for our entertainment by the celebration committee, a bicycle race, or as the bills more pretensionously called it—"The Grand Bicycle Tournament," occupied a very prominent place. At that time there was not such a thing as a machine in town, and the greater part of our people knew nothing about a bicycle save by repute. Now we have eight passable riders, all equipped with good machines, and bidding fair to grow into a large and prosperous association.

A meeting will be held at an early date for the organization of a club. We have invitations to send delegates both to St. Thomas

and Toronto. A decision between the two places will be made.

If any of our riders are entitled to carry off the palm of being called best, the honor certainly belongs to Mr. H. A. Carter. He is mounted perhaps as well as any rider in Canada, on a full-metel Special Club machine. He has had one long ride of 121 miles, and has made several trips to neighboring villages. His uniform, lamp, bell and machine are all in harmony; the best to be had.

The honor of owning the first bicycle in the town belongs to Mr. Frank Marlatt, a lad of some seventeen years. He rides a 48-inch wheel in a highly creditable manner.

Another rider of note is Mr. W. Y. Wallace, who sits on top of a 52-inch Club machine. He handles it splendidly, and has already made good time, being strong, active, and well-fitted to put a machine through.

The Hercules of the corps is Bob. McKin, a short, thick-set, jolly good boy, with a leg the size of a barrel, pure muscle, tipping the scales at 175 lbs. In time I expect him to make a "crack."

In striking contrast to McKin comes Joe Rippon, slight, dandified, a regular lady-killer but a tip-top fellow, and one who will eventually make a good rider.

Mr. C. A. Austin, who, in days of yore, was a champion velocipidist, is another member. Having sold nearly all of the boys their machines, he concluded to purchase one for himself. He is progressing well as a rider.

Will Perry, or as he is more familiarly called "Large," must not be forgotten. Without him nothing in Simcoe would be complete. He is a small giant in stature, and a capital hand to lead in a "chorus." The happy-go-lucky manner in which he received the accidents incidental to learning to ride the "dod-gasted machine" drew from all the opinion that he would make a good rider, and these prognostications bid fair to be realized.

Last comes "Irish" Donly, correct name Hal. B. He bestrides a 52-inch wheel, and was making capital progress when his riding was cut short by the appearance of a brace of felons on his right hand. He was out again recently, however, for the first time in three weeks.

In addition to these we hope to be able in a short time to welcome others. One other at least will shortly be added to our list—Mr. Geo. A. Mills who has a machine coming from England.

GEO. DAVIDS.

Bicycling Brevities.

THE Ixion Club go to the Springfield races, taking their wheels with them.

THE WALKER HOUSE, of Toronto, will be an association hotel if Tibbs of Montreal, or Eager, of Hamilton have anything to say about it.

AT the Lurgan (Ireland) athletic sports, held August 19th, W. M. Woodside won the one-half and four-mile handicap races, from scratch.

W. F. SUTTON, of the London Scottish Bicycle Club, is credited with riding one hundred and ninety-three and a half miles, on the road, in 18h. 55m.

H. L. CORTIS, England's champion bicyclist, was entertained at a farewell dinner at the Holborn Restaurant, London, England, August 17th, by the Wanderer's Bicycle Club.

THERE is only one 56-inch wheel in the Hamilton Bicycle Club. This is owned by A. T. Duncan, who does some good riding on it. The rest of the machines run from fifty to fifty-four.

THE finest road around Hamilton for cycling purposes is the one leading to the Suspension Bridge. It is a stretch of some thirty-five miles, and members of the Club have gone over it to the Bridge several times.

THE HAMILTON CLUB has been disorganized, but is now all right again. Several of the members have been visiting Grimsby lately for several weeks. Must be some great attraction down there, eh, boys, how is it?

THE UNIFORM of the Montreal Bicycle Club is much admired in Toronto. The suit is a dark blue one braided with military braid, a polo cap with gold monogram adorns the head, and blue stockings and low shoes complete the striking attire.

A LARGE attendance of 'Cyclists at the championship races in St. Thomas on the 22nd cannot be too strongly urged. Reduced fares are obtainable over all railroads in consequence of the Southern Counties Fair being held at the same time. A correspondent writing in reference to this adds: "I'm afraid, however, that the man with the most check will get the cheapest rates for his wheel"

BICYCLING IN OHIO.—The League of Ohio Wheelmen, being the only State organization in the National Association, held their second annual meeting at Columbus, O., Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 28th and 29th. Two hundred and fifty members were present. On the last day the contest for prizes took place and resulted thus: Citizens' prize, half-mile dash, D. G. Porter, Dayton; announced time, 1m. 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ s. Gold badge, one mile dash, Robert Knight, Delaware; time, 3m. 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. Diamond badge, championship race, one mile, Frank Lankin, Norwalk. Columbia bicycle, five miles, Lewis Pease, Columbus; time, 19m. 22s.