

Cycling

A MIRROR OF WHEELING EVENTS—DEVOTED
TO THE INTERESTS OF CYCLISTS
IN GENERAL

EDITORS:

F. F. PEARD, - - F. BRYERS.

PUBLISHERS:

WM. H. MILN CHRIS. B. ROBINSON

*All communications intended for publication must be addressed to Fred Bryers, 26 Wellington St. E.
Address all communications of a business character to CYCLING, 5 Jordan St., Toronto.
CYCLING is issued on the second and last Thursdays of each month.
Subscription \$1.00 per annum; single copies 5 cents.*

JANUARY 14, 1892.

Cash Prizes.

The "cash prize" fad seems to have taken a strong hold on the English and American cycling press during the past winter, the various papers taking one side or the other. It seems to us that the abuse of the "amateur" idea in permitting the big athletic clubs to gobble up the best riders in the country, paying all their expenses and keeping them in constant training, is directly responsible for the present state of affairs, though no doubt the increased and unwarranted advance in the values of prizes has materially assisted. The cash prize system in some form or other will be the outcome of the present agitation, though the coming season will hardly realize it. When it does come we may as well bid adieu to real amateur sport, in cycling events, and look forward to the annual influx of a number of Irish Americans, similar to the professional baseball teams who have had the run of the country for the last few years.

Century Road Club of Canada.

The suggestion a few weeks ago by our Chicago correspondent of having a Canadian Century Club seems to meet with the approval of Canadian wheelmen generally, so much so, in fact, that the sporting editor of one of our city dailies, with his usual modesty, claims to have originated the idea. However, if it does him good it will not injure us, and may tend to further the idea of the new club. Will not some of our riders who have a knack for organizing, and who have completed the century within the allotted sixteen hours, sacrifice a little of their

time and leisure in order to get the club formed and in good working order before the 1892 season opens, otherwise our flyers may affiliate with the C. R. C. of America, which is open to them, and when we wake up it will be too late to form the club this year.

Chicago Letter.

The new year has now got fairly started, and the beginning was certainly auspicious enough, that is from a "bicycular" point of view, to assure the inhabitants of the wheeling world of a great season for their pet sport. As far as the weather was concerned, it was anything but bright when the "dark horse," 1892, spurred past that well-remembered old-timer, 1891, and beat him on the home stretch without any trouble. In Chicago the new comer was welcomed with a salutation from steam whistles, church bells, guns and a volley of good wishes. At 11.40 p.m., New Year's eve, about a dozen enthusiastic riders mounted their wheels in front of the Lincoln club house amidst a rain storm that reminded me of a little shower that broke up a pretty parade of dignified wheelmen at St. Kits in '88, and sent them record-breaking on the sidewalk in search of shelter; but I am "tramping" away from my subject. After pacing old '91 until the speed got too hot for him, the aforesaid dozen spurred the "dark horse" on, but the little fellow didn't need any spurring, for when they returned to the club house they found that he had "got there just the same." After partaking of refreshments, the Midnight Wheelmen was organized with those riders who had participated in the initial run of the year as charter members. The following officers were elected: Jos. Guinea, President; F. Ed. Spooner, Chief Owl; J. M. Erwin, Recording Owl; A. H. Radell, 1st Vice-Chief Owl; F. L. Chase, 2nd Vice-Chief Owl; Wm. Herrick, Chief Hooter. The object of the club will be to promote night riding, and it's a good one, for when is there a finer time for a spin than on a moonlight night? and under the guidance of the Chief Hooter every member can depend on having a great big "a la Morphy" time. There will not be any dues or fees, membership in the "owly" being obtainable only by initiation, the ceremony being duly solemnized by the charter members. The badge of the club will consist of an owl mounted on the lower point of a crescent-shaped moon.

On the same night the Cook County wheelmen gave a euchre and watch-night party to members and lady friends. At the approach