

**Athenæum Bicycle Club.**

**OFFICERS :**

I. P. EDWARDS ..... President.  
 W. C. MEREDITH ..... Vice President.  
 J. H. EDDIS ..... Sec-Treasurer.

**OFFICERS OF THE ROAD :**

J. P. LANGLEY ..... Captain.  
 A. BYRON ..... 1st Lieutenant.  
 A. ECKLEY ..... 2nd "  
 L. ROBERTSON ..... 3rd "

The regular monthly meeting of the club will be held at the club rooms, Public Library Building, on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m. sharp.

**CLUB NOTICE.**

The Athenæum Bicycle Club will hold their regular annual meeting for the election of officers this evening in the new Club House, 165 and 167 Church Street.

**Reminiscent.**

The Veteran Pitman called at our office the other day, and during the course of conversation the question came up as to who was the first rider of a bicycle in this country. Notwithstanding many claims, Pitman comes very near the head of the list. This subject led to that of the early racing days of the "Vet." "I am honored, at any rate," said Pitman, "by being the velocipede champion of the State of Maine, a distinction which has never been wrested from me since I won in the year of our Lord 1867. 'Twas in this wise," continued Pitman. "In 1867, when I was a lad, I was in the employ of my uncle at Bangor, Me. Just at this time the velocipede craze had struck deep into the popular fancy, and I among others was attacked with the fever. My machine was of the most primitive kind, even for those days, but I was very proud of my mount. In the fall of 1867 there was held a velocipede race meeting, one for boys and one for men—one mile championship of Maine. I had great faith in my prowess as a flyer even, and so I entered for both events. In the quarter mile boys' race I was hopelessly left behind, and so I was thoroughly discouraged, and decided not to start in the one mile men's race, especially as I felt I was handicapped by having a poor machine, while Mr. Brown, one of the competitors, had the latest thing in velocipedes. My! how I *did* envy Brown! Well, I was persuaded to try my luck, as

Mr. Brown very kindly offered me his machine to ride: and it was decided that each man should ride his mile alone, and the one doing the distance in the shortest time to win the championship.

"After practising on the loaned machine the first man started. The contestants were P. P. Brown, S. Baker, T. R. Burnham, J. Coville, and myself. I was the last to start, and I really felt I was going at railroad speed. In the distance I could hear the people cheering, and that gave me heart that I was going. As I turned into 'the straight' I saw the crowd waving hats and handkerchiefs, and the cheering became louder and louder. This inspired me and I rode for all I was worth, crossing the line amid the wildest excitement and winning the championship of Maine in the wonderful time of 5 min. 5 sec.! I was the proudest boy in Maine that day, and when I went back to the store and owned up to my uncle where I had been, and what I had done, he (instead of scolding as I expected) was as pleased as Punch. A funny incident in the affair," continued Pitman, "was that my uncle and his wife, who were driving past the race course as I was making my trial, hearing the racket they stopped, and my uncle remarked, 'Why, that looks like Will'; 'Nonsense,' answered my aunt, 'Will wouldn't be riding in velocipede races.' It was 'Will', however," concluded Pitman, "and thus it is spoken how I won my first wheel race and the velocipede championship of Maine, which, as I have stated above, is still my proud possession."—*Bicycling World*.

*The Sporting Goods Gazette* deprecates the introduction of long wheel bases on road machines, and says: "A base on a road wheel of such length as to give steady steering is enough rather than to lengthen it to such a degree that the frame is weakened and accidents thus invited."

**FOR SALE, WANTS, EXCHANGE.**

Two insertions ..... 25 cents.  
 Four " ..... 40 "

**F**OR SALE.—Rudge Safety, No. 1, spring forks, in good condition, almost new, will sell cheap for cash. Apply A. H. Forster, care of Conger Coal Co., 6 King Street East.

**N**O. 1 Rudge Safety, spring forks, spade handles, tangent spokes, only in use short time and good as new. H. English, 82 Front Street East. Evenings, 112 Maitland Street.

**N**O. 1 Comet Rational, in first class condition, for sale, cheap, cushion tires. Apply CYCLING office, 5 Jordan Street.

**F**OR SALE.—Rudge Safety, No. 1, Diamond frame, solid tire. Also complete Toronto Bicycle Club uniform. Apply Room of Canada Life Building.