

BRITISH SOLDIERS ON WHEELS.

Is the soldier cyclist a good killer? The men of the Twenty-sixth Cyclist corps can thrust their swords through a suspended lemon while riding at a rate of sixteen miles an hour.

The safety bicycles are fitted to carry the rifle at the side, which can be taken out in three seconds, a pouch carrying one hundred rounds of ball cartridges, signalling bags, etc., the whole weight of which is something under seventy pounds, including machine.

Not the least interesting weapon carried by the cyclists, says the *Strand Magazine*, and used for the first time at the Easter manoeuvres, is the Gatling gun. This particular gun used is capable of firing at the rate of six shots a second. It weighs ninety-seven pounds, the ammunition being carried in cases for the purpose. It is transported to and fro on a gun carriage composed of four safety machines coupled to one another and ridden by four men.

The bicycle zebra is for the purpose of resisting cavalry, and is formed by some twenty or thirty machines, which are stacked on to one another, the men getting behind the cycles and firing at the approaching enemy. So clever are they at forming these cycling squares, so to speak, that the whole thing can be accomplished in five or six seconds. Indeed, taken all round, the military cyclist is not only a very ingenious fellow, but a good way ahead of the ordinary infantryman; in fact, he is really an infantryman on temporary wheels.

CANADA'S LUMBER TRADE.

A Chicago lumber dealer, who is conversant with the eastern trade, estimates that the Canadians, this year, have captured the sale of 100,000,000 feet of the American trade through the operation of the new tariff and the favor that has been shown Canadian shippers by reduced rates on the Grand Trunk and its York state connections. This loss, he says, has been especially felt at Tonawanda and Buffalo and by the hemlock operators in Pennsylvania. The Canadian mills have accumulated a great surplus of coarse stock that could not successfully compete with lumber on this side under the old tariff. Since the reduction of \$1 a thousand in duty, lumber from the otherside has flowed in freely, the Grand Trunk, through rate regulation, greatly helping in the process. "The Canadians," he continues, "have thus been able to work of their accumulation doubtless to great satisfaction to themselves, but to the disgust of dealers and manufacturers at the east end of Lake Erie. In gathering stocks there, they necessarily accumulate a large percentage of low grade common lumber, and depend on the eastern state trade as a means of getting rid of it. It was, consequently, a serious matter for the Canadians to come in with their 100,000,000 feet as a competition. The hemlock interest of Pennsylvania has suffered in proportion to the territory affected. In this instance, the American operators know that the reduced tariff has cost them money. One concern estimates that its direct loss, this year, from the cause indicated, is \$15,000. The only way to even up the difference is to go to Canada for logs

and lumber, and that is being done to an increasing extent."—*Trade Review*.

HINTS TO COUNTRY MERCHANTS.

In the matter of circulars, one merchant can take a valuable hint from another. The circular is a common mode of advertising, and for this very reason it fails to attract, the novelty being worn off. Few merchants pay enough attention to the matter which is put in their circulars, and this is another cause why they are thrown aside. Short crisp sentences and telling points are what are wanted. One merchant advertises calicoes in an obscure manner, while another will, in three words about the same article, catch the eye.

It is a mistake to issue a circular as large as a sheet of foolscap; no one will read it. Have it short, but full of pith.

IRISH WIT.

Englishman—Pardon me, sir, but where do you come from?

Paddy—From County Cork.

Englishman—Then that accounts for your brogue.

Paddy—May I ax where you come from?

Englishman—From Worcester, sir. (proudly).

Paddy—Then that accounts for your sauce.

FINANCIAL.

The improved tone of reports from eastern financial centers is a matter of general congratulation throughout the country. The demoralization in finances and the attendant falling off in the activity and volume of the trade with the lighter volume of manufactures in this country had its inception, or rather first showed itself in eastern centers of trade. It is, perhaps, only natural that the first showing of an improving tendency should be made in the same quarter, but be that as it may, the improved condition is hailed with feelings of profound satisfaction. The movement of the crops naturally creates a certain amount of business and there is more or less business attendant upon the movement, which calls considerable money into circulation and eases up the tension all around. Money is beginning to come back from Europe and with improving tendencies noted in all directions, it is not unlikely that the end of the fall season will find the country working well out of the condition of depression and financial stringency which has prevailed for some time past.

On the Pacific Coast, there has been no departure from established conditions which have generally been of a very satisfactory character. Money has been plentiful all along, that is all for the ordinary requirements of merchandising or speculative trading and at easy rates. There is no large demand for money, but there are many avenues open to profitable employment of capital, and bankers need have no idle funds on hand. There are no special changes of any importance in local conditions.—*San Francisco Herald of Trade*.

There is a plague of locusts in some provinces of Buenos Ayres.

CANADIAN BANK STATEMENT.

| | LIABILITIES. | |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | July. | Aug. |
| Capital authorized..... | \$ 75,258,665 | \$ 75,258,665 |
| Capital paid up..... | 60,875,831 | 61,939,481 |
| Reserve funds..... | 23,068,181 | 23,155,988 |
| Notes in circulation.... | 30,579,968 | 32,012,196 |
| Balance due Dominion Government after deducting advances for credits, etc..... | 2,898,017 | 2,568,088 |
| Balance due to Provincial Governments..... | 2,857,015 | 4,321,172 |
| Public deposits on demand..... | 58,996,896 | 58,553,420 |
| Public deposits after notice..... | 84,568,962 | 85,531,299 |
| Loans from other banks in Canada secured.... | 189,000 | 185,000 |
| Deposits made by other banks in Canada..... | 2,516,157 | 2,591,026 |
| Due other banks in Canada..... | 531,034 | 399,590 |
| Due other banks in foreign countries..... | 222,360 | 81,88 |
| Due other banks in Great Britain..... | 2,912,774 | 2,227,946 |
| Other liabilities..... | 310,455 | 288,92 |
| Total liabilities..... | \$186,582,729 | \$188,764,213 |
| ASSETS. | | |
| Specie..... | \$ 6,321,846 | \$ 6,455,36 |
| Dominion notes .. | 10,805,960 | 10,742,885 |
| Deposits with Dominion Government for security of Note Circulation | 842,904 | 843,075 |
| Notes and cheques of other banks..... | 6,237,880 | 7,065,222 |
| Loans to other banks in Canada secured..... | 367,000 | 193,586 |
| Deposits made with other banks in Canada .. | 2,437,660 | 2,854,304 |
| Balances due from other banks in Canada .. | 1,757,464 | 507,255 |
| Due from other banks in foreign countries .. | 16,722,340 | 17,440,107 |
| Due from other banks in United Kingdom..... | 2,635,593 | 3,875,418 |
| Dominion Government Debentures or stock.. | 2,493,774 | 2,594,788 |
| Public and Municipal securities..... | 6,299,900 | 6,197,789 |
| Railway securities .. | 3,751,030 | 3,860,121 |
| Call loans on stock and bonds..... | 10,600,906 | 11,640,809 |
| Current loans..... | 184,568,971 | 184,106,324 |
| Loans to Dominion Government..... | 21,738 | |
| Loans to Provincial Governments..... | 1,806,368 | 1,564,866 |
| Overdue debts .. | 2,808,271 | 2,953,151 |
| Real estate, other than bank premises..... | 1,075,910 | 1,084,673 |
| Mortgages on real estate | 839,566 | 841,554 |
| Bank premises..... | 4,325,838 | 4,372,888 |
| Other assets..... | 1,482,202 | 1,874,409 |
| Total assets..... | \$368,361,328 | \$371,008,033 |
| Loans to directors or their firms..... | 5,943,968 | 5,602,191 |
| Average amt't of specie held during month.... | 6,391,322 | 6,330,690 |
| Average Dominion notes held during month.... | 10,548,041 | 10,687,367 |
| Greatest amount notes in circulation at any time during month | 32,050,696 | 32,566,029 |

WILLING TO TRY.

"Will you love, honor and obey This man?" the preacher said Unto a sweetly gushing bride Before the altar led.

She smiled and raised her drooping eyes, The bridegroom's face to scan, Then lowered them again and said: "I'll do the best I can."