

TO BELINDA ON HER BIOYOLE.

I.

Yes, I love the dear girls, and I do not much care
 What fashions they follow, what dresses they wear,
 A waist like a wasp or one needing a bodice,
 That would fit, without squeezing, the armless Greek goddess,
 Sleeves big as balloons, skirts scanty or long;
 Let them wear what they will, they can never go wrong,
 But I own that my heart grows as cold as an icicle
 When I see my Belinda perched up on a bicycle.

II.

When I see her limbs move in the natural way
 As she skips on the tennis court, ready for play,
 I simply adore her. But when up and down,
 They work like twin piston rods under her gown,
 Then she's not so entrancing, and sometimes I feel
 That I wouldn't mind seeing her broke on the wheel;
 So angry it makes me to view her at work,
 As if on a treadmill, "one dem'd horrid jerk!"
 So I fear, my Belinda, we'll ne'er go to church
 Unless you consent to come off from your perch.

—N. Y. Sun.

USE OF EGYPTIAN COTTON.

The rapid increase in the consumption of Egyptian cotton in this country is a marked feature of the industry. Within the last five years the importation has increased from 18,790 bales to 50,000 bales. Most of this goes into the hosiery and underwear trade, where it is largely known as "Maco." Egyptian cotton is long in staple, approaching but not equalling Sea Island in that respect, as also in fineness. It is slightly tawny in color, but the better the quality the less color it possesses, some of it being of the most delicate creamy tint. It has a strong fibre and takes dyes with brilliance and permanence. For those reasons it is peculiarly valuable for warps for dress goods. It is combed rather than spun, and, next to Sea Island cotton, it is the favorite material for balbriggans.—Dry Goods Chronicle.

BRIEF TRADE NOTES.

White buttons for spring trade here continue large. Report comes of a fashion in the States for small gilts and silver used in trimming.

W. R. Brock & Co.'s ribbon department reports just to hand all leading widths in black and colored faille ribbons, their regular qualities; black and colored double-faced satin ribbons, baby and velvet ribbons, etc.

An advance of 10 per cent. in waterproof clothing is reported.

We are glad to notice that W. Montgomery, so long and favorably known as a commercial traveler in Eastern Ontario and the Ottawa Valley, and who was with Gordon, Mackay & Co. for some six years, having severed his connection with that firm last fall, has now joined the staff of John Muldrew & Co., wholesale woollens and tailors' supplies, and will travel on his old ground. We wish him every success.

A SPECIAL IN HAIRCLOTH.

Samson, Kennedy & Co. are making a specialty of a line of 24-inch haircloth at 20c. a yard.

LATEST TRADE NEWS.

ONTARIO.

A counter petition is being circulated among the Sarnia dry goods merchants by Frank Mitchell and W. B. Clark, jun., praying that the by-law regulating the hour for closing the stores be not interfered with by the Council.

Mr. Countryman, of the firm of Countryman & Muir, Wallaceburg, has disposed of his interest in the dry goods business to Mr. W. Yates, Toronto.

Mr. A. Munn, the pioneer dry goods merchant of Ripley, has just returned from an extended purchasing trip abroad.

Cameron, Murdoch & Co., Lucknow, have adopted the cash system, find it a success, and do business with greater satisfaction on that basis.

The Brussels dry goods merchants will close their stores every evening, except Saturday, at 7 o'clock.

Murray & Down, St. Thomas, who some time ago put in a stock of gents' furnishing, have sold out this department to make room for their winter goods. The firm, as previously, will confine themselves exclusively to merchant tailoring.

S. B. Lossing's woolen mill at Otterville was destroyed by incendiary fire October 17. No insurance; loss about \$4,000.

The sudden death of Mr. John Boles, of Ingersoll, has been a great shock to the locality. He was a pioneer merchant and highly respected. He was born in County Down, Ireland, 1830, came to Ingersoll in 1856 and began business, which he conducted up to his death.

Petrolea has awarded the contract for firemen's rubber coats to Mr. Belasco, of the Imperial Clothing House.

J. A. Dephour, dry goods, Cornwall, is going out of business.

Mrs. F. Carpenter, milliner, Cornwall, is opening a branch of her business at Williamstown, Glengarry.

Botsford & Mutchmore, dry goods, Galt, have dissolved, R. W. Mutchmore continuing the business.

J. McKim is closing up his business in Wallaceburg.

The Ottawa Board of Trade has expressed a strong opinion in favor of two aldermen for each ward instead of three.

TORONTO.

T. S. Lobb's new store at the corner of Power and King east, Toronto, is in full swing. The front is large and well suited to the requirements of a good dry goods display. He is continuing his other store on Queen street east.

The Ontario Legislature has granted incorporation as applied for by the Irving Umbrella Co., Ltd., of Toronto, with a paid-up capital of \$25,000. The directors are: R. Millichamp, G. T. Irving, A. F. Rodger and T. D. Bailey, of Toronto, and Ed. J. Coyle, of Montreal.

J. Frank Riepert, of Montreal, was here last week and reports a good opening trade for Oriental silks.

Henry J. Joseph, of the Montreal Silk Mills, was here last week looking after the interests of the firm.

John Green, of John Green & Co., London, was in Toronto last week and gave THE REVIEW a call.

J. Bland, merchant tailor, has been succeeded by his sons, W. J. and F. S., who continue the business under the same firm name.