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# CYCLING

*A Mirror of Toronto Bicycle Club Events and Devoted to the Interests of Cyclists in General.*

Vol. 1.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 31, 1890.

No. 3.

*Continued from last issue.*

## Felloes I've Wheeled With.

BY BRUCE.

"Methinks a form more wondrous sweet and fair  
Was never seen on earth, in sea or air."—*J. M.*

THE melancholy days of late autumn had been a recognized element in the cyclists' program. With the paves and by-ways continuously moving his active soul to desperation as he footed it to business or gazed upon the wretchedness from out his chamber window, such had been the prospect for days and days, when a change came, and mud gave way to dust, and wheels which had lain away in garret or in closet, gathering mould and cobweb, see the light again, and joy is king. Lo, 'tis Saturday aft.; ledgers and yardsticks rest quietly in their respective niches, and at the corner of Church and Alexander Streets a little group of wheelmen are fixing girth and saddle preparatory to a ride toward the pole star. An hour later they are coursing swiftly along the sidewalks of a northern village, and encounter a bobby glittering in brass buttons, while a tin plate covering his massive bosom gave dignity to his office. "Get off that sidewalk" is his command, uttered in no small tones. Drilled to obey orders the riders do so, but follow the leader on again a few feet past the danger. This direct breach of law and order was soon to bring a just punishment. After reaching destination of run the turn was made citywards, and shortly after they were met by an ancient rustic, who warned the boys with tears in his voice not to return that way, as six stalwarts lay in waiting to avenge the insult to the force. Here was a nice kettle of fish, truly. What was to be done? already the grey dusk of the night is coming up from Hog's Hollow, and too soon 'twould be darker than dark. There was nothing to do but go west, and home another way. We shall follow the adventures of a trio, and relate a little experience which befell them in the way. Night had spread her mantle o'er the scene; the road it worse and worse grew, until at length one poor unfortunate, mistaking a beautiful hollow on the roadside for splendid paving, goes, with a somersault that

would have made Dan Rice envious, verplump into the mud and water, which seemed to him bottomless. How long he lay there I know not, but sounds like to beautiful music break upon his ear, and, turning in the direction thereof, he sees a lantern borne by a lady fair, who, in accents of sweet compassion, is saying to another maiden, "Oh, here is one of them down. Oh, mister, are you hurt; let me help you." Placing a wounded (?) arm on her plump shoulder he says not very much. "Lean on me, I'm strong. Jennie, get on other side." And one arm upheld by each he limps along, but is it by accident that his arms fall around their waists for better support? and thus upborne by two fair crutches he is found by his two chums, who, missing him, return in quest. Our hero soon grows well enough to venture with one supporter, to whose gentle caresses he yields a willing captive. One other cyclist goes in search of the damaged wheel, which, found, is soon made rideable. The lovely maidens are seen home by moonlight, fond farewells given and taken, and near midnight a love-sick trio put in an appearance at the club. The story was too good to keep, and though not woven into poet's song as yet 'tis sung of poet and fair maiden's charms.

## An Opportunity.

IF there is one thing more than another which is an absolute want of the T.B.C., it is a good club house, with gymnasium attached, and now when we most need it comes the offer of the Athenæum Club to give us accommodation in their new home. The Athenæum have purchased a site on Church Street, opposite the Metropolitan Church, 50 ft. by 110 ft., extending through to Dalhousie Street, where they propose erecting, as soon as the spring opens, a first-class modern club house to contain billiard rooms, chess, draught and reading rooms, bowling alleys, gymnasium, boxing and fencing rooms, with all necessary bath and dressing rooms; and last, but not least to our mind, large and complete bicycle stables.

An informal meeting between some of our prominent members and the directors of the Athenæum was held last week, and the pro-

ject discussed. Owing to its being Christmas week not many were able to attend, but those of our members who were present are very favorably impressed with the idea, which, instead of being as we had at first supposed—an absorption of the bicycle club by the Athenæum—is intended to be an affiliation of the two, the Toronto's still retaining their identity as a bicycle club, also become members, and enjoy to the fullest extent all the other privileges and features of the Athenæum. On the surface the advantages appear to be all on the side of the bicyclists, but there is no doubt that great benefit, direct and indirect, will also accrue to the Athenæum from the increase of membership and the admission at one time of so many members devoted to one branch of athletic sport. As to the present members of the Athenæum there is not one, so far as we know, who would not be acceptable as a member of the T.B.C.

The original object of the Athenæum, as stated in its prospectus, was to provide a place of amusement free from the objectionable features of gambling or intoxicating drinks. This principle we know has been rigidly adhered to from the beginning, and we have no doubt will continue to be a leading feature of the club in time to come.

If the Toronto's wish to join with the Athenæum, now is the time, before the plans for the new building have been fully decided upon, to have incorporated any accommodations required by our Club, and we believe the directors of the Athenæum are prepared to grant any small concessions which might be material to us and yet not interfere with others. Two or three of them have kindly consented to be present at our regular meeting on Monday evening next and fully explain their views to us. It, therefore, behooves every member of the Toronto Bicycle Club, new or old—especially the latter—whether in favor of or opposed to the plan, to be present and give the Club the benefit of his influence, opinion and vote on one side or the other.

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### A Moment With the Boys.

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DURING the next few days may be seen in Messrs. Matthews' window, at 95 Yonge Street, a well-executed portrait of our old friend and club-mate, the late E. T. Coates. Those who wish to see it should not delay, as we understand it is soon to be removed.

THE boys have organized a skating party to attend the Carnival in the Granite, on Friday, January 2, 1891. Already between twenty and thirty have decided to go, so put

on your uniform, bring your skates, and meet at the T. B. C. rooms at 7.30 p.m. sharp.

EVERY member of the Club who has a voice at all should assist Mr. Hall in trying to make the Glee Club a success. He very kindly places his time at the disposal of the Club every Saturday evening, and we certainly think that the least the members can do is to assist him to their utmost.

THE Snow Shoe Club have had several tramps without snow shoes, which have been well attended. The regular tramps are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7.30 p.m. and Saturday afternoons at 3 o'clock. Bring your snow shoes and join the special tramp called for New Year's Day, to start from the Club House at 3 p.m.

SOME kind friend has sent us a piece of poetry, which we will be very much pleased to publish if he will also favor us with his name "not for publication." In this connection it may be as well to state that we will at all times be pleased to receive communications of interest to bicyclists in general, or the T. B. C. in particular, but in all cases the name of the writer must accompany them.

THE last bicycle ride of 1890 in Canada is, we think, to be placed to the credit of the Torontos. Seven members of the Club, Messrs. Holtby, Scott, Fawcett, Macdonald, Parker, Nasmith and Hurdall, started from the Club House, at 9.30 on Christmas morning, the first five going as far as the Halfway, and there waiting until Nasmith and Hurdall went to the Creek and returned to join them on the run home. The cold wind was extremely hard on fingers and toes, but all managed to return without any frost bites.

THE first "At Home" given by the members of the T. B. C. was held on Tuesday, the 16th instant, and proved a very pleasant entertainment. Every one seemed to enjoy himself, and the committee are to be congratulated upon the success of their first venture. The programme consisted principally of songs and instrumental music, varied by a couple of good recitations. The choice of Mr. Bruce Brough as chairman was a happy one, and he materially aided in the success of the affair. By the way, would he make a good President of the T. B. C.? The committee have requested us to express their thanks to the friends who so kindly assisted us in passing such a pleasant evening.

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THE next issue of CYCLING will contain a sketch of the career of Dave Nasmith, the Canadian Road Champion.

# Cycling

A MIRROR OF TORONTO BICYCLE CLUB EVENTS  
AND DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF  
CYCLISTS IN GENERAL

F. F. PEARD, . . . . . EDITOR

Publishers:

WM. H. MILN . . . . . CHRIS. B. ROBINSON

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The Publishers and Editor of CYCLING wish its readers all the Compliments of the Season and a Happy New Year.

## At the Meet of '91.

A good suggestion is offered by a correspondent in this issue, to the effect that a Team Road Race, for the Club Championship of Canada, be one of the events at the next C. W. A. Meet. This idea, if properly looked after and worked up, would be one of the most attractive features on the programme of the Meet, and, to effect this, it will only require the exercise of a little energy in the right direction. We are too sleepy, too conservative, too well satisfied to allow matters to remain in the same old rut; we want just as many novelties and new ideas inoculated into our Annual Meet as can be judiciously introduced. All this work should not be left to the club under whose auspices the Meet is held, as it is to a great extent an experiment with them. Let the officers of the Association feel that they have a very great deal to do with the success or failure of the day, and we will have a combination of energy that will result in sending the different clubs back to their homes, wishing that the C. W. A. Meet was a monthly, rather than an annual event. We think we are right in assuming that a Road Race of this character would be very popular; it would be a race that every club could participate in, and would have the effect of giving a tremendous impetus to road riding. Let the matter be taken up by the powers that be, and we predict that, if the idea is developed, it will be the means of bringing to light racing material that is now unknown, and there is no reason in the world why Canada should not turn out as speedy cyclists as other countries: but the fact

must be admitted that we have few men, at the present time, who can compete successfully with our American cousins in this respect, and why so? Simply because there is more encouragement given to the road rider, the Meets made particularly attractive by road races, and consequently the fast man of the road, in the majority of cases, graduates into the track flyer. Then, after we derive experience from our Canadian Club Road Races, as a natural sequence a series of International races would result. This is what it will come to, and we cannot do too much to expedite the attainment of this desirable condition of things.

## The C. W. A.

WE expect our criticisms of this association will bring about our heads the anathemas of many of our friends, but, at the same time, we feel that it needs reviving. The writer has been a member of the Association for some little time but has as yet failed to see any good it is doing, unless the convening of the annual meet on Dominion Day and the monthly publication of *The Wheelman* are considered sufficient. There are many subjects which should be undertaken by the officers of the Association, the first to suggest itself being the compilation of a route-book for the use and benefit of tourists. The officers might also help on the art and pastime of cycling by making an appeal from the Association to the Dominion authorities to have bicycles, in the hands of riders, pass and repass the customs line free of duty, and without the harassing regulations at present existing. It is estimated that there are not less than 250,000 cyclists in the United States, and we have no doubt but that many of them would only be too glad to spend their summer holidays in our comparatively cooler climate, particularly as our roads average better wheeling than those on the other side of the line. It is unnecessary to add that we would only be too glad to entertain them, and try to persuade them, by kind attentions, to return on future vacations.

A NOVEL wedding-tour recently started from Chicago. The couple undertook to spend their honeymoon on a tandem tricycle, but the unrelentless rain created so much mud that the idea was abandoned, and the tour finished by train. We should imagine this would have as depressing an effect as a honeymoon spent on an ocean liner during seven days of continuous "blow."

### What the Boys Found in their Stockings on Christmas Morning.

Alf. H. Gregg: An invitation to the long-looked-for, and much anticipated, Club Dinner.

W. Geo. McClelland: One year's subscription to the *Athlete*, and the promise of the Road Championship in '93.

A. F. Webster: The Presidency of the Club for just as long as he will accept the office.

W. Hurndall: A gold medal to present to the most regular attendant at the weekly practices of the celebrated Drill Corps.

Capt. Chandler: The deed to a residence within a block of the Club House.

Musical Director Hall: The contract for the regular attendance of a pianist at the practices of the Glee Club.

R. H. McBride: The promise of three months' vacation, and a return ticket to Europe next summer.

E. E. Trent: A hundred pages of original poetry by ———.

Dave Nasmith: The refusal of the Road Championship of Canada for 1891.

Friend Macnamara: The near prospect of emulating Harry Davies' example.

Treasurer Bryant: A great big balance on the right side to hand the club at the end of his first year of office.

Secretary Lowes: The grant of an Oshawa farm, subject to settlers' conditions.

Geo. Holtby: A 2.23 gait on the track for next year.

Harry English: A new bicycle, presented by the expressmen of the city.

J. F. Lawson: The realization of his incorporation scheme.

### A Few Things the Editor Would Like to Know.

Which of the second basses sings first tenor.

If it is a fact that the Captain finished the road race only a day or two ago.

What was the difference between the respective sizes of your hat and head on the morning of the 26th.

If our slight reference thereto had anything to do with the disappearance of "Jimmy" Sinclair's whiskers.

If the "McKinley Bill" is responsible for the recent rise in pickles, or is it caused by one of the T. B. C. members laying in his winter supply.

Why the genial countenance of ex-President Blachford is seen so little at the Club House now.

How many bicycles will be ridden in Toronto when King, Queen and Yonge Streets are paved with asphalt.

### Rochester Notes.

THE many miles of asphalt which is being rapidly augmented, the privilege which riders have of using our sidewalks, except in a very limited district, the mutual good terms existing between wheelmen and pedestrians, make Rochester a veritable paradise for wheelmen, and wheelwomen, too, and, as a natural consequence, cycling booms. It is estimated that we have 5,000 riders, out of whom are formed eight clubs for gentlemen and one for ladies. The Crescents also admit ladies to full membership, while the Lake Views have a ladies' auxiliary. In the Spring there will be a ladies' West End Club, sharing the quarters of the West End Bicycle Club, but an independent organization.

The Ladies' National Club gave a reception a few evenings since to over 500 of their friends, at which was served a delicious lunch, and a more delicious musical programme.

The Lake Views are organizing a series of parties for the winter, and the West Ends are preparing the same treat for their friends. The latter are also to hold a reception on New Year's night, to which all their friends are invited.

Pool and billiard tournaments are in order; the clubs are all busy trying to have a good time.

Although this is not a season for touring, I cannot help but remember the delightful run that myself and friend enjoyed last season "around Lake Ontario," and the friends we made in Toronto. We felt that it was not right for your sealers to poach on our coasts, so we got even by catching your muskalonge. Everything went lovely, except the Canadian customs. By the way, can't your (and our) Association put some business ideas into the heads of the department, and show them that many thousands of dollars would be left in the country by visiting wheelmen, if the severe rules were modified, in imitation of American customs, which considers a wheel, when ridden by the owner, the same as a watch, or an overcoat, in fact as personal property not liable to duty.

CRANKSLINGER.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 22, 1890.

## Toronto Bicycle Club.

## London Letter.

ORGANIZED



1881.

Club House—Cor. Church and Alexander Sts.

## OFFICERS:

President ..	A. F. WEBSTER.
Vice-President ..	W. H. COX.
Secretary ..	C. J. W. LOWES.
Treasurer ..	ALF. BRYANT.

## ROAD OFFICERS:

Captain ..	W. H. CHANDLER.
1st Lieutenant Ordinaries ..	W. ROBINS.
1st " Safeties ..	F. B. ROBINS.
2nd " Ordinaries ..	JAS. MILN.
2nd " Safeties ..	F. BRYERS.
F. BRYERS ..	Club Reporter.

Matter appearing in this column is furnished and paid for by the Toronto Bicycle Club, consequently the proprietors of this journal do not hold themselves responsible for anything contained therein.

## CLUB NOTICES.

THE regular meeting of the Club will be held in the Club House on Monday evening next, the 5th instant.

Some of the important matters to be brought before this meeting are:—

The proposed affiliation with the Athenæum Club, in connection with their building a new club house.

The Club incorporation scheme.

The notice of motion left over from last meeting re the raising of fees.

The voting of estimates for the proposed January concert, and appointing committees, etc., for same.

A large attendance is particularly requested.

Some Club members who were not at the meeting at which the arrangements were made with the publishers of CYCLING, have sent to them the amount charged ordinary subscribers. For their benefit, and also of any others not informed, CYCLING is sent free to all active members of the T. B. C. in good standing. All notices of meetings, runs, etc., etc., will be published therein unless otherwise directed by Committee of Management.—Yours truly,

C. J. W. LOWES,  
Hon. Sec. T. B. C.

ANY Club member wishing good room, in pleasant family, can be put in communication with same by addressing publishers of this paper.

DEAR EDITOR,—Noticing in your last number that such small towns as Hamilton and Ottawa were accorded a space in your valuable paper, I thought it time that the "Metropolis of the West" should be represented, especially as we are the oldest club in the C. W. A.

Our new rooms, we claim, are second to none in Ontario, and we will be much pleased to see visitors from any other clubs, especially the Torontos.

We have given two smoking concerts this winter, both of which have been great successes, and are getting up a fancy drill on skates, which, like the Hamilton Clubs Minstrels, we intend inflicting on outside towns before producing in London.

The theme at present most discussed by "Nip" and other "society" members, is the Masonic Ball, in Delaware, on Friday 19th, to which the club are invited in a body. We don't know whether "Bob" will go unless there is something stronger than "tea" provided.

Our annual meeting and election of officers come off on Monday evening, January 12th, and are already being considerably discussed.

We have been doing considerable road-racing here this past summer, and would like to see a championship road race at the meet of 1891. Let it include a team race of say five from each club. The first man in wins the individual championship, while the team having the largest aggregate of points wins the team championship. We would like to hear the Toronto's opinion on this matter.

NICKEL IN THE SLOT.

London, Ont., Dec. 17, 1890.

## Buffalo Letter.

DEAR EDITOR,—Since joining the Ramblers of this city I have often thought how the Torontos are handicapped by not having a suitable Club House with gymnasium attached, for were it not for the latter I scarcely know how the Ramblers would put in the winter. The rooms are situated down town, convenient for most of the members, and, as a consequence, you will find every evening from twenty to thirty of them enjoying themselves in various ways, some on home trainers preparing for next season's battles, others exercising on the trapeze, and still others wrestling or boxing under the guidance of a capable instructor. Last Saturday we put the gymnasium to another use by holding an athletic exhibition, which was attended by not less than five hundred people, at twenty-five cents a head. The expense was light, and from \$60 to \$70 was added to the funds of the club. The performance consisted of boxing and wrestling, and some splendid work was shown in the latter sport. The amusing part of the exhibition was provided by two boys, about eleven or twelve years old, who gave a boxing exhibition with gloves previously supplied with a liberal coat of lamp black. You may judge of the appearance of the contestants at the close of the battle; if they were not black and blue they were certainly black and white (with the accent on the black).

The election of officers took place at the annual meeting of the club, on the 4th instant, and was largely attended, everything passing of satisfactorily. I could not help thinking of the T. B. C. meetings and contrasting the two, for there was a marked difference between this and many of the meetings I used to attend on Church Street. Let it be distinctly understood that the Ramblers are a lively crowd, and

when they go out for fun they have it, and when they make a noise, there is never any doubt as to who is doing it; but when they attend a business meeting, they are there to do business, every fellow taking an interest in it. As soon as the President strikes the table with his gavel, silence pervades the room, and "remains so" during the rest of the evening. When a motion is before the house, you will not find two or three in one corner, and as many in another, discussing the question, while, perhaps, a little group in another part of the room are conversing upon some subject entirely foreign to that before the meeting; but if any one has an opinion to express he gives the boys the benefit of it by addressing the President, while the others give him that attention which is his due.

Wheeling is not entirely over for the season in this city; in fact, I fancy, some, who are particularly enthusiastic will probably be found wheeling all winter. One day last week, when there was about three inches of snow on the ground and a drifting snow-storm blowing, a young fellow on a wheel went plowing his way up the street, trying to put a look on his face which would indicate that he was enjoying it. I hope he was. More anon,

CLUBUS LIARUS.

### Ottawa Letter.

DEAR EDITOR,—Winter is upon us, clad in all his white, cold, stern majesty—aye, even Christmas is almost here, for to-night is Christmas eve. Scattered abroad throughout our fine Dominion will be found joyous gatherings around bright, crackling fires, merry parties tripping lightly to the gay music of the dance, fathers wondering in happy quandary what to give to their children, and children peeping slyly around chimney corners and from beneath blankets in their vain endeavor to catch a glimpse of the real old Santa Claus. This and much more; nor can we forget that there are others whose store of enjoyment is less than it should be, and that we should not overlook an opportunity of making a fellow-being happy.

To wheelmen the festive season brings remembrances of friends, merry re-unions, remembrances of long runs, high hills and low headers; remembrances, comic and pathetic—comic, like the milk-shake adventure that befel the O.B.C.—pathetic, like the header that befel one of its members, whose endeavors to utilize his coat-tails as a pair of trousers reminded one of the drapery of the antique. This reminds me, as we say at Sandy Beach, that I have not told you of the greatest milk-shake on record. It came about in this wise:—

The O.B.C. boys were to have a photograph taken, and were drawn up in parade in front of the Cartier monument on Parliament Hill. Each face had that usual strained expression of cheerful gravity, and the camera was ready. Suddenly a milk-waggon, drawn by an ancient equine, rumbled around the library building and came towards us. The camera, a large one, was in the centre of the drive opposite the monument. The horse came within twenty feet of it, stopped and stood transfixed with terror. He was one of those racked, raw-boned, ancient and emaciated animals, probably one of the first pair, or the hero of the original Mazeppa. He evidently took the camera for an infernal machine, a feminine opera hat or a box of oats or something else that he had never before seen. He seemed in a state of collapse but his looks belied his condition. He eyed the thing a minute, then, like a flash of the artificial lightning in "Faust," wheeled around, upsetting the waggon, and, at the same time, bringing it into collision with a stone hitching-post. The awning was ripped off the waggon, the boy was coiled about the post like a piece of rope, but, owing

to the milk-cans, he was unharmed. Oh, those cans! They were twisted, bent, bulged, "busted," punched, some were torn in two, some into half a dozen pieces. Milk flowed like water. The milk boy arose in an instant, the O.B.C. collapsed, the boy was white-washed with milk, and had a chocolate icing of sand. In spite of his appearance he was no milksop, proving himself equal to the occasion by springing after the horse and stopping it just as it was about to plunge over the cliff into the Ottawa River below. This might have been serious as the fall is about one or two hundred feet. It was some time before the O.B.C. regained its photographic expression, at least not before the attempt had been frustrated several times by a spontaneous outburst on the part of excitable individuals. The captain would say, "For goodness sake (or some other like expression) will you fellows never shut up"; then the "fellows" would simulate the gravity of a judge. Then the image of that cow-juice covered boy would rise before the captain's imagination, and despite his late indignation at similar actions the result was inevitable. By this time the boys would be quiet, and resent the interruption, only to transgress again themselves in a few minutes. However, the photographer, being a wily fiend, eventually succeeded.

To this day, if anyone mention milk-shake to an O.B.C. member, he will immediately be seized with a cramp, which yields only to an invitation to "have something."

It must not be imagined that the O.B.C. took pleasure in the mishap, but only in the manner of it, anyway there is no use in crying over spilt milk.

The O.B.C. held a meeting last week, and decided to have a drive and two skating parties this winter. All should have heard the speeches at that meeting. There was a little difference of opinion—as there should be in a wide-awake organization—yet all was decorous and in order with the exceptions hereafter mentioned. There is not one member who would not rather relinquish a point than create dissension. Oratory flowed from silvery-tongued speakers; two prominent law students poured forth volumes of logic; a merchant's clerk rivalled Demosthenes, while another gentleman of undoubted Irish extraction kept the record for his nation by speaking out of order and as often as possible, eventually succeeding in getting in the last word. In all this there were none but the kindest feelings. The Irish member set up the cigars when he found that the vote was against him. Demosthenes shook hands all around, and the embryo lawyers bought the ginger ale. Two others, whose wrangling had rendered necessary a call to order, went out arm in arm to "see a man." We saw the man; he was in excellent health when we last saw him. Time's up. I see a patient afar off. Wishing all the boys a rousing holiday season without any of its complaints, I remain yours as ever,

ARTO.

Ottawa, Dec. 24, 1890.

WE notice in *The Wheel* that one "Noswith" took thirty points at our summer handicap races. We presume this is a new way of spelling our friend Dave's name.

### FOR SALE, WANTS, EXCHANGE.

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