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# CYCLING

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

Vol. 1.

TORONTO, JANUARY 14, 1891.

No. 4.

## Dave Nasmith.

BY ANGLI.

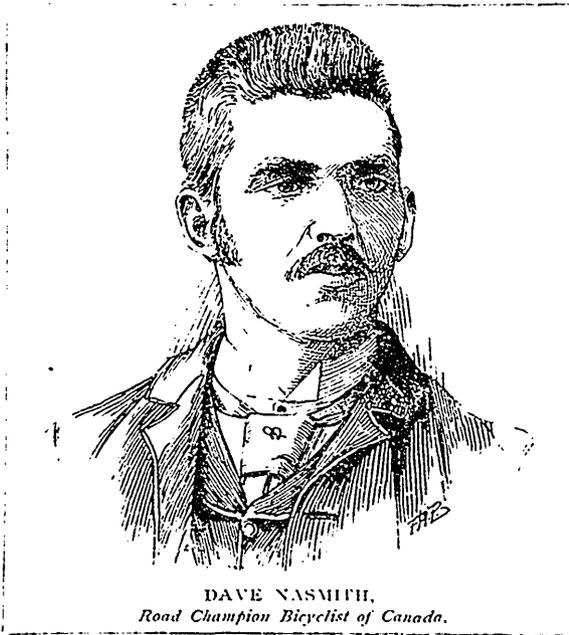
WE have pleasure in presenting our readers this issue with a descriptive sketch and portrait of Dave Nasmith, Road Champion of Canada. The first seen of this now famous wheelman was in March, 1887, when he joined the Wanderers' Bicycle Club, and immediately took to the road, where he

wakened up some of the old riders, and in July, at the C.W.A. meet at Brantford—without the slightest preparation in the shape of training—he won the second place in the two-mile green race, and covered himself with glory by winning the Tricycle Championship of Canada, having never ridden such a machine before this race. Following up these successes, he entered for the races in connection with the Toronto Bicycle Club tournament in August, and won three prizes, taking a place in every mount. This finished his track riding for that year, but he was one of the last to relinquish the pleasures of the road wheeling, as long as the season lasted. In the spring of 1888, the club did him the honor of electing him to the position of sub-captain, with Mr. Geo. H. Orr, captain, where he devoted

a great deal of his time in promoting the interests of the club, doing very little racing. He had the pleasure, however, of winning one event at Woodstock, on May 24th, Queen's Birthday, where the club spent the day.

When the idea of making a trip to Belleville was broached, he was one of its warmest supporters, and piloted a number of the boys in grey through by the Kingston Road.

On his return from the East, his time was so much occupied with other matters that he found it necessary to retire from the club and did not take up wheeling again until the fall of 1889, when, after some special training, he entered and took part in the races held under the auspices of the World's Bicycle Tournament, in the Mutual Street Rink, Toronto, winning the first



DAVE NASMITH,  
*Road Champion Cyclist of Canada.*

five and ten mile races against J. H. Gerrie, then road champion, and Doll, both of the W. B. C.; also making during same events the very remarkable time of one hour three minutes for twenty miles on a board track, finishing in splendid condition. He rode under the light and dark blue colors in these events to do honor to his old club. For his prowess in these races, the promoters of the scheme presented him with a splendid gold

watch, which he still proudly wears. In the spring of 1890 he purchased a "Rational," and immediately went on the road, determined to make this year a red letter one in his history. Joining himself to the Toronto Bicycle Club, he carried the cardinal and blue to victory at Hamilton on May 24th, winning second place in the five-mile open, against all the American flyers, including the N. Y. A. C. team; also beating Carmen and Rassicoe at same time.

His next appearance was in the first race (ten miles) of the T. B. C. series of road races, winning first after a hard race with some eighteen starters. After a good meal and a rub down he, in company with F. J. Whatmough and the editor of the *Pickering Journal*, repaired to the famous Highland Creek Hill, which he began climbing by way of exercise, and after doing so twice, being told to keep on, he succeeded in surprising himself and those present by doing the return trip eight times, and could have made it the dozen, but desisted when requested to stop, being satisfied with making in a day's riding two more records, which, as yet, no one has attempted to break, and he is anxiously waiting to see or hear of some one exceeding his record of hill climbing at this point.

Next came the C. W. A. meet at Ottawa, and at its first event, a twelve-mile road race, he finished in first place in forty eight minutes, which stands as the record for this race, and abundantly proved his speed as a road rider against such men as Lingham, of the W. B. C., who thought he had an easy thing of it, but found to his surprise the boys in blue had a better man than he. At the track races the day following, he won one first and one second. At races on July 12th, at Exhibition track, he also won a first and second prize. Shortly after came the second event in the handicap road series of the T. B. C., in which he again took first place, doing the twenty miles, against nine starters, in the splendid time of one hour seventeen and a half minutes. On Civic Holiday, in August, at the T. B. C. annual meet, he rode in several events on his roadster, and, although severely handicapped on this account, won the two-mile club championship, and took third place in the one-mile handicap and the one mile roadster handicap. September 6th was the last of the T. B. C. road races, thirty miles, in which he came in winner in two hours four minutes. September 27th was the date set for the long talked of Toronto vs. Wanderers team road race for championship of Canada, and Dave lost no time in putting himself in first-class shape, and had the pleasure of taking first place against the field, in two hours forty-

nine minutes for forty miles, the best previous time being three hours seventeen minutes, by Fred Foster.

In addition to the above, in July Mr. Nasmith made a record to Whitby from Toronto, which holds good to-day; time, two hours eleven minutes. Also, on Sept. 30, he rode in the 100-mile road race from Erie, Pa., to Buffalo, and took fourth place in eight hours and ten minutes. This race was the first Mr. Nasmith ever rode in of that description, and did as well as expected, having such men as Van Wagoner and Daniels to ride against. With the experience he gained we hope to see him finish better in the next.

Very little racing was looked for after this event, but he followed up this victory by issuing a challenge to any road rider in Canada, for any distance from twenty-five to one hundred and seventy-five miles, which still stands unaccepted, leaving him the undisputed title of Road Champion of Canada for 1890. Since then he has succeeded in reaching Whitby on his "Rational" several times, and is very proud of his wheel, which has carried him over four thousand miles, and is still in fine condition awaiting the pring thaw of 1891.

### How To Oil a Chain.

One of the greatest annoyances a safety-rider experiences is the liability of the chain to wear hard and clog with dust and consequent difficulty to get it to run smoothly. The following method of cleaning and keeping chain in order I have found to answer admirably: Take chain off bearings, wipe off dirt and dust with rag, then run it through spirits of turpentine, which will thoroughly clean out all the joints, wipe off chain again, then immerse it in tin vessel containing sufficient sperm oil to cover it, place vessel on stove and boil chain in the oil for a few minutes, again wipe off thoroughly and the result will surprise you next time you try your wheel. This process is a little trouble, I admit, but once tried, as the advertisement says, you will use no other. ANGLI.

MR. FRANK PEARD, so well known among us, and whose services have been always at the disposal of the T. B. C., has taken his departure for Chicago, and on Saturday, the 3rd inst., a few of his friends presented him with a very fine C. W. A. badge, as a memento. We are in hopes he will return to Toronto again before many moons have passed.

# Cycling

A MIRROR OF TORONTO BICYCLE CLUB EVENTS  
AND 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 Wednesdays of each month.*

*Subscription \$1.00 per annum; single copies 5 cents.*

During Mr. Peard's absence from the city Mr. Fred Bryers has very kindly consented to take charge of local matters connected with this paper. So, for the present, all communications, correspondence, etc., will be addressed to him at 26 Wellington St. East.

## Brotherly Love.

WE are certainly very much amused at the efforts put forth in the last number of the *Canadian Athlete* to arouse our fighting proclivities. No doubt our excellent friend, the editor of this highly embellished and widely read sheet, would like to draw us into a wordy warfare, but CYCLING will never enjoy a spasmodic boom as the result of an exhibition of buffoonery directed in a personal manner at any individual or corporation. As we note the pointed allusions to the "pamphlet," "mirror," "the rival god," we cannot but think of the lines which run: "Show me a man who has not an enemy, and I will show you a man who is a nonentity." We do not want to regard the *Athlete* in the light of a contemporary that differs from our views with antagonistic intent; but be that as it may, we will not devote our space to a controversy which, as far as it has already gone, savours but little of the elevating influence which even Canadian cyclists can absorb with profit. With regard to the pleasing reference made to the early necessity of our friends supplying a tombstone in remembrance of "the pamphlet," while we are naturally of a hopeful and sanguine disposition, we would warn the *Athlete* to look out that there is no boomerang following in the wake of its prognostication. We have said this much, and here it ends. If the *Athlete* will accept a word of serious advice from us, we would say that no non-partisan paper derives any good from

maligning any person. The editor certainly does not rise any higher in the esteem of his friends, and the paper is not read with any greater interest by the class of readers that is desirable for the paper's welfare.

The C. W. A.

WE have heard a good many remarks during the past week or ten days in regard to our brief note in the last issue with reference to the Association, and all seemed of the opinion that it was time the officers stirred themselves a little to let people know they were alive, if nothing more. We do not wish it to be understood that we are opposed to the Association, or that we think it a useless organization. There is no doubt that at present and for a long time past it has been in a dormant condition, and, as it is supposed to represent the sport of wheeling in Canada, that sport to an outsider must seem very tame.

The fact is, however, that we are thoroughly alive to the necessity of such an organization to protect and further the interests of wheelmen in Canada, and we hope that the day is not far distant when the officers of the Association will understand that they are not elected merely as ornaments, but that they are looked upon as the representatives in Canada of an active and living Association. We have already suggested a couple of subjects which might very profitably engage their attention, and when we find these being taken hold of and discussed by them we will mention a few more subjects which we think need their attention.

Athenæum—T. B. C.

ALL present felt and spoke as if the meeting of the T. B. C. on Monday evening last was the most important in its history. The question of affiliation with the Athenæum Club was the subject of discussion and there is no doubt that Dr. Doolittle's motion in favor of it would have carried, had not the fear of absorption by the Athenæum acted as an incentive to Vice President Cox, and several of the older members, who were able to place before the members a feasible plan for building a Club House of their own, and thus retain their independence, at the same time having every convenience of a good Club, so that in future we may expect to see the Torontos as lively and active in winter as in summer. In some ways we are sorry that the T. B. C. is not to join hands with the Athenæum, but most decidedly think, after considering everything, that it is for our best interests to remain an independent Club.

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

If the Secretary of the Snow Shoe Club finds Sherbourne Street a favorable locality for the sport.

If F. Spurton Robins has found the man he was looking for on the 3rd inst.

If the Club printer gets paid for the time the new by-laws have been standing in type, what will be the treasurer's balance at the end of the year.

If the Club's gas meter were locked up, would the small boy break the lock in his endeavor to work off a stale joke on the members.

If the 1st Lieut. Ordinaries has left town, or is merely hibernating.

If the incorporation scheme has dropped out of sight, or will it again float when Lawson gets his "second wind."

Where some of the principal members of the club were on Monday, the 5th inst.

If Harry English will lead the first quadrille at the conversazione.

If the large quantity of mud on the secretary's boots the other day was a sample of soil from the Oshawa farm.

If Joe West would like to go for a swim at the Kew now.

### "Comparisons are Odious."

MR. F. F. PEARD, of the Toronto B.C., who was over here this summer, and rode with the Anerley B.C. and others, and who should have been with the London party at Harrowgate, but was detained at the last moment, has just started in Toronto a new paper called "CYCLING," devoted to the interests of Canadian cycling. Mr. Peard made many friends over here who will wish his new venture every success.—*Bi. News, London, Eng.*

NOTWITHSTANDING these petty annoyances, coupled with the fact that an institution lately to be lamented has broken away from our loving embrace and has set up a rival god, at whose shrine it may bow down and worship, at whose feet it may pour oil and liniment, and later on tombstones, and through whose medium it seeks to usurp our throne in one branch of local favour—notwithstanding these petty annoyances, we have at the present moment a kindly feeling towards all mankind, a feeling of Christmas presents and brotherly love, and in this happy and unusual mood we reach out into darkness to welcome the infant CYCLING into what we fear will prove a troubled existence.—*Canadian Athlete, Toronto.*

"CYCLING" is the name of a new journal published at Toronto, and devoted to the interests of the Toronto Bicycle Club and to Canadian cycling in general. The first issue, dated November 26, is an interesting little sheet. The paper will be issued on the second and last Wednesday of each month. Its editor is Mr. F. F. Peard.—*The Wheel, New York.*

### Rochester Notes.

On the evening of December 17th, the Lake Views held a large party in Likeley's new building, supper being served by the celebrated caterer, Isaac Teale. On New Year's Eve they enjoyed a sleigh ride to one of our suburbs, where, after satisfying the inner man, they enjoyed a dance until morning.

The Crescents held a reception on New Year's Eve at their club house, No. 114 Savannah St.

The entertainments given by the West Ends have been so well patronized and enjoyed that it is the intention of the club to hold a series of four more parties.

A large number of the members of the Syracuse Cycling Club visited Rochester on New Year's Eve, remaining over the next day. They spent the forenoon at Power's art gallery and the evening with the Genesees, who kept open house.

The writer hopes to see either the Athenæum, or some equally good scheme, materialize for the Torontoes. CRANKSLINGER.

ROCHESTER, Jan. 6, 1891.

Eleven patents for new tires were taken out in England during one week.

There are about 1,500 wheelmen in Toronto, or more than the whole membership of the C.W.A.

Over a dozen bicycles were stolen in Rochester, N.Y., during the past year, only three of which were recovered.

### A Word by the Way.

THE issue of this number completes two months of pleasurable existence for CYCLING. The infant seems to be appreciated, and already has made many friends; and what are any of us without our friends? The youngster seems to be a sturdy little fellow, too, as some of the older members of the journalistic family appear to be commencing to realize that he is inhaling the same atmosphere as that from which their supply is drawn; but as is always the case, after the first pang of jealousy—occasioned by the momentary thought of a possible loss of prestige—passes away, the newcomer will be found to be an incentive to greater effort, and consequently better results will follow to the advantage of all concerned. CYCLING has endeavored to live up to the few promises it made, one of which at least it has kept to the letter—that of making its appearance on the advertised day of publication. As to the future, we can assure our readers that every effort will be put forth, in a very short time, to make CYCLING, if not the best Canadian wheeling journal, certainly second to none.

## Toronto Bicycle Club.

## A Moment With the Boys.

ORGANIZED



1881.

Club House—Cor. Church and Alexander Sts.

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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.

At the special meeting held Jan. 12th the Athenæum affiliation scheme was defeated, the meeting being unanimously in favor of the new Club House proposition.

A very efficient committee was appointed by the T. B. Club at their last regular meeting to arrange for a *Conversazione*, to take place in the Academy of Music on Tuesday evening, Feb. 3, and a choice programme is in preparation for it.

The members of the T.B.C. Clee Club and Orchestra are reminded that the usual weekly rehearsal is held every Saturday evening at 7.30 p.m. Owing to the near approach of the *Conversazione* it will be necessary for every member to attend all future practices.

## Does this Come Home to You?

EVERYBODY who reads this article has, no doubt, made at least one new resolve for the year upon which we are just entering, and it occurs to us that if you are a cyclist, you should embrace this opportunity, if not already a subscriber, to have your name in such prominence that the publishers of this paper will have occasion to see it twice every month during the fifty-two weeks of this year. If you are not a wheelman, you want the paper anyway, so that you may be able to converse intelligently with your best friend on the topics relating to his favorite recreation. We regret to say that our publishers cannot supply a gymnasium thrown in as an inducement to subscribe, nor yet do we think it necessary to give our paper away to all Canadian subscribers of American journals; but we will say this much: send in your subscription for a year, now, and it will be one of your ventures for the year that will prove a good thing.

The champion team have at last been successful in getting together to have the group photograph taken. Mr. Fraser Bryce is the artist, and he has certainly been successful in grouping the boys in such a manner as to make a very fine photograph of so large a number. We never noticed before, however, that Freddy Whatmough's right ear was so much larger than his left.

On Monday, the 5th inst., Messrs. Pearson, Nichol and McAigry, of the Athenæum, were present at the regular monthly meeting of the T. B. Club, and fully explained the proposed plans of the Athenæum for their new building. The provisions being made for bicyclists are elaborate and convenient, and should make that feature of the club at least a leading one.

When winter approaches, most of our city wheelmen put away their wheels until spring, but a few of the more enthusiastic have them always ready, and whenever the opportunity offers enjoy (?) a ride. T. B. C. members usually are enthusiastic in the sport, as was recently evidenced by the Christmas Day run, when some ten or twelve riders went as far as the Halfway House, and awaited the return from Highland Creek of two who were not satisfied with the shorter distance. Again, on Saturday last, Captain Chandler hustled around to try and get a crowd of the boys together for a run to Whitby. Dave Nasmith was the only member to be found willing to attempt the trip and the two left the Club House at 2.30 p.m., arriving in Whitby at 6 o'clock, making the earliest record for this run, and one which we think will stand for a number of years.

As a usual thing the members of the T. B. C. have made a success of everything they have taken hold of, which proves that they are capable of doing it again, if they try. One thing, however, is perfectly clear, and that is, unless the members make a stronger effort than they have lately they will have to report their *conversazione* next month a failure, as they cannot expect one or two members of the club to do all the work. It shows a rather selfish spirit, to say the least, in the majority of our members when, out of two hundred, only some twelve or fifteen are willing to work at all. It is surely not requiring too much of any member, who takes any interest at all in the club, to ask him to attend the glee club practice on each Saturday night.

*Concluded.*

## Felloes I've Wheeled With.

BY BRUCE.

"Veni, Vidi, Vici."

Seasons ago, when riders were fewer and visits to neighboring towns and cities on wheels of one's own pushing were much rarer than now, it was decided that one holiday morning in the spring time would find a goodly number of blue-coats mustered in an eastern town bent on pleasure and on sport. The morning came, and, marshalled under an old-time officer, the company made a gallant showing with some forty wheels in line. Drawing near to their destination, in the distance they beheld a little band of wheelmen riding rapidly to meet them, the leader of whom made a striking figure, riding as he did a 56-inch silver-plated Columbia—proud of his wheel and it of him—the boy, for he was only a boy then, looked a man. Catching sight of the glittering lines of the visitors as they wheeled four deep along the highway, the spirit of an Alexander rose within him, and he said: "Could I see myself leading a club like that 'twould be the height of my ambition." Years have gone by since then, and whether the boyish dreams of fame now fill the manhood's cup of happiness or no I trow not, yet proud has been that club since then to do the dreamer honor, and still follows his command when duty calls.

"The sun is setting and the hour is late."

'Tis nearly sundown on a bright Saturday afternoon in August, and, standing in the outskirts of an eastern town looking westward along the Kingston Road, we discern a solitary wheelman, wearing a well-known uniform and coming rapidly toward us, his back and shoulders curved forward almost upon the handle bar of his wheel so anxious is he to reach the goal of his hopes where waits a maid with sunny eyes and golden hair to bid him welcome back again to her he loves. Sweet is that hour in memory's store 'mid daily toil in busy mart and crowded city street; and even when competing 'gainst contending odds upon the cinder path, it lingers near, nerving to greater things the racer's stalwart form.

'Twas one of the racing days when blue 'gainst blue for honors strode right manfully and well. Athwart the heights of Norway have the racers met, and 'pon the word have sprung upon their steeds of glittering steel and sped away. Riding some miles beyond their starting point we spy a Safety-rider, who, by his gait, doth show no novice turns

those pedal cranks, and, coming nearer to our vantage ground, we see that he as usual when upon the road smoketh the briar-root, and from it seems to get new strength as each mile's past, till distance seems no barrier as he plods along the dusty road, thus, he informs us, he insures himself against fatigue as is his wont to do for others day by day against fire's flames.

The Saturday prior to the big meet at St. Kits, in '89, saw more than a score of wheelmen gathered within the dining-room of the Wesley Park hotel, among them being a reciter whose merry flow of joke and tale made him ever a welcome guest. Never shall we forget the effect of his recitals upon the genial landlady, whose ample proportions and merry he-he-he to his sallies reminded one of the line in "The Visit of St. Nicholas"—you all know it—finishes like this: "Which shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly." Wonder if our friend of the comic side is as much appreciated abroad as he was among us here.

In the gray dusk of early morning in summer-time a cyclist turns the corner of Church and — Streets, to arouse a companion who had faithfully promised the night before—as he would promise anything, 'tis said, for peace's sake—to arise bright and early and go out for a run amid the glories of a morning in the country. Clang goes the door-bell, pipe goes the whistle, minute after minute roll by and long after the sun has cleared away the mists from North Mutual Street, a head is shot out from an upstairs window and a sleepy voice says: "Whaz the matter, is the house afire?" Oh, yes, s'mother time he may go riding in the morning early, but not now.

What can I say more? for time will not permit me to speak of all the merry men, good and true, among which it has been my pleasure to mingle in club, on street or road, in busy life or daily toil, wheelmen everywhere I've found as jolly good felloes as any this old earth contains.

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