

## THE CYCLE AND THE CAMERA.

are daily becoming more and more closely connected, as indeed they well may be, no two sources of amusement being so thoroughly complementary to each other. Most of the leading photographic societies and camera clubs, both here and in Europe, have already added cycle sections, and in London a journal, *Cycle and Camera*, has been established under the management of "a world's record breaker" and the most enthusiastic of hand-camera advocates to support the happy union. The subject most prominently before those sections at present, especially in England, is how best to carry the camera, which, trifling as to non-riders it may appear, is one of very considerable importance. Probably the first thought of every cyclist is to carry it on the wheel, but to that there are several objections. A well-made wheel is like, say, a well-made watch, which, although it includes many moving parts, is so exquisitely fitted and balanced as to be almost one solid whole, giving the well-known, bell-like ring when in a state of vibration, so characteristic of a perfect instrument. The strapping or suspending of even the smallest and lightest of the cycle cameras on any part of this beautifully balanced machine interferes with this balance; alters its tone, as it were, to an extent that to a sensitive rider at least is unpleasant.

Not less objectionable is this method on account of its effect on the camera and the sensitive plates. Plates cut by hand are sufficiently irregular to require in the holder a play of at least one-sixteenth of an inch, and with even the most absorbent of tires there is a considerable residuum of vibration, the result of

which is abrasion from the movement of the plate; dust, with all its drawbacks from within rather than, as generally supposed, from without.

The method next in order, and that most frequently adopted by those who have recognized the disadvantages of the other, is to sling the camera across one shoulder, field-glass fashion, but that too has its drawbacks. Even if we admit that 4x5 is large enough for direct work, the smallest 4x5 camera with three double plate-holders is too large to be carried comfortably under the arm; and if pulled round so as to hang on the back, and the strap in some way fastened so as to keep it there, it will avenge itself by a bumping that will seriously interfere with the comfort of the rider and endanger the plates, too.

There is a way, however, by which all these drawbacks may be overcome, and by which, as I know from experience, cameras of even comparatively large size may be carried comfortably enough, having in the early seventies, and on one of the first two bicycles that were made altogether of metal, carried and successfully used a 9x11 outfit. It is the knapsack. A 4x5 camera with three double plate-holders—quite enough for any one day's work, where *pictures* rather than mere photographs are the aim—may be wrapped in the focussing cloth and placed in a knapsack of leather or other suitable material of about 7x5x4, which, properly strapped and the straps crossed in front, could be carried not only without the slightest inconvenience, but almost without conscious knowledge of its presence.

DR. JOHN NICOL.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"ZEM-ZEM."—(1) You can cruise on the Hudson, the Housatonic, the Delaware or the Connecticut Rivers. (2) Advertise for a canoe, or go down to the N. Y. Canoe Club, Bensonhurst. (3) Anywhere from \$15 to \$100. Good second-hand one about \$50. (4) Folding boats.

P. T. W.—Records of boat-racing are not carefully kept, and are utterly without value on account of the varying conditions of tide, wind and water. The fastest performance by a senior eight-oared shell straightaway in still water is 7.36 1-2, Triton, B. C., on Saratoga Lake in 1894, and the fastest in running water is 7.46 3-4 by Columbia B. C., at Boston, Mass., in 1885; but the Wachussetts Boat Club's intermediate eight has a record of 7.33 1-2 at Saratoga in 1895, and the Dauntless Rowing Club's intermediate eight has a record of 7.39 in running water at Detroit, Mich., in 1893. The utter uselessness of these times for purposes of comparison is shown by the fact that in each of these cases the still-water record is faster than the running-water, and that also in each case the intermediate records are faster than the senior records.

"THE JUDGE"—OUTING for December, 1896, page 272, column 2, records that at the match between Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club and Olympic Athletic Club, June 27th, 1896, at Port-

land, Oregon, Kerrigan cleared 6ft. 2in., and Patterson cleared the same height. With these performances so fresh in memory 7 1-2 in. cannot be claimed as a record. There is little difference between indoor and outdoor records at high jumping. 6ft. 2in or more has been cleared a dozen times indoors, and to-day we have eight or ten athletes in the Eastern States who have cleared, and can clear, 6ft. without special training.

C. E. L., N. Y.—The rules of the Amateur Athletic Union make no restrictions on dress except that it shall be decent.

"MATE."—The three books noticed belong to Griffin & Co.'s Nautical Series, edited by Edward Blackmore. Either of them may be procured at the office of the OUTING Co.

B. B.—Eight teams entered, and started. There were no individual entries. The rules prescribed that each team might start ten men, but only the first five of each team should be scored. Fifty-seven men started and fifty finished. In scoring for the team prizes each man is credited with a number corresponding to his place at the finish; the scores of the first five men in each team are added together for the club score; the lowest score takes first prize, the next to lowest the second prize, etc.