

WHEELING.

CYCLING COMMENT.

Safety and Ordinary Wheels Contrasted—The Tandem Record of the Banker Brothers—Mr. Jessup's Candidacy for the L. A. W. Presidency—A Patent Decision—Local and General Mention.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 1.—The increased use of the rear-driving safety and the discarding of the ordinary by a large number of old riders has given rise to the question of superiority between these two types.

The safety is a better machine on hills, both up and down, and is hardly inferior in the matter of speed on level; that it is safer than the ordinary in all conditions but one is conceded. This one condition is wet weather; on a wet asphalt or Belgian block pavement the "safety" becomes absolutely dangerous and is ridden only with the greatest difficulty. The reasons for this are quite apparent; as the wheels are smaller than on the ordinary, the centre of gravity is nearer the ground and consequently the machine must be kept at a greater angle from the perpendicular in order to retain its balance.

Another reason is that the steering wheel when turned is at a considerable angle to the ground, and the motive force being applied through the rear wheel tends to skid the steering wheel forward.

Another bad feature of the safety is the frequency with which pedal pins are bent on stony roads.

The ramble made by Gormully & Jeffery Manufacturing Company has the pedals well up from the ground, and this last fault of the safety is noticeably absent; the liability to skid is also reduced, as the centre of gravity is, of course, correspondingly raised.

As to receiving harder usage than any other type of wheel, as they are forced through places where the rider of an ordinary or similar type of machine would be contented to dismount, and the construction should therefore be of the best. As the wheels, however, are small, they possess the accompanying virtue of strength, and while tangent spokes are now considered to be the strongest, their use is probably unnecessary in such short spans; still, the machines of '88, notably the New Rapid and Victor, that possess them have a record for durability and rigidity in those parts that should be best.

Another fault is another fault that has not received the attention it should from the manufacturers, though last year hardly anything else was talked about. About the only attempt made in this country to counteract it has been by the Overman people, in their spring fork, which has not been an unqualified success, however, as the rigidity of the steering to some extent is sacrificed. Next year the springs are to be stiffened and some changes made that will doubtless lead to improvement in this line.

A new saddle, that will be useful on safeties, has just been patented in England. It is entirely separated in the rear, so that all pressure on the perineum is operated on the weight of each hip is carried on a separate spring.

Last week I made some comments on the Banker brothers' mile in 2:38 on their tandem bicycle, and have received in reply the following letter:

Prattville, Nov. 29.—Editor, *The Life*, Dear Sir.—Enclosed please find the original proofs of our record. Accommodate me by looking up page 47 of the *American Athletic* for the 21st inst. article under heading, and read John A. Wells' opinion of the course. Communicate with Mr. Wells if possible. If you will take the trouble to send a special correspondent to our city we would be pleased to conduct his over the course and give him all the information weather permitting. I do not think we could equal the performance upon immediate notice, as we have about quit riding for the season, but in three days we can get up a chip on the 2:38 if you wish. I cannot ride the course on an ordinary but a very little under 2:50, even when I was in active training for Buffalo, and 2:50 or better was my practice mile several times a week and I can furnish proof of this.

They will not be at all surprised to see the enclosed to me, as was done by Mr. Priest of *The Wheel*, who has accepted the record, and I think they are authorized on cycling. I remain respectfully yours, A. C. Baxter.

The times' certificate is the same as was published in the *Wheel*, except that the time is 2:38 instead of 2:50, as misprinted in that journal.

The time was on the 21st inst. from the Pittsburg *Commercial-Gazette* of Nov. 20, which, after quoting the remarks of *The Sporting Life*, says:

"There is nothing at all queer in the Banker brothers' performance, which was straight as a string. The newspaper error referred to is simply a typographical error. So far as accuracy in timing is concerned, precautions were taken to insure an absolutely correct record. The timers—McClung and Merrill, who held their watches set exactly together to the cent of a second. After doing this Mr. Seidl was chosen as starter, and was instructed to start the riders at a certain time, the timers starting their watches at the same instant through this means. Mr. Seidl then rode to the finish, where the watches were again compared and found to be precisely alike. In this way a mile straightway time can be accurately taken. In regard to the danger to the riders, who could not possibly check up in time to prevent descending the slope at a terrific pace, with probably serious results. The first tandem mile over a hill was by the Banker brothers in 2:56 and was witnessed by Wilde, Critch, Brown and Wilson, at Newcastle in August. During that same week they rode three miles in 8:50 over the same course—a quarter-mile track—the Newcastle fall tournament they rode an exhibition half-mile in 1:20, doing the last quarter in 35s. At Buffalo they won every tandem bicycle race, doing the last half-mile of the two mile race, according to George Collier, of the racing board, in 1:20, which was the time to be phenomenal time on a track as poor as the one at Buffalo. The last day of the world's tournament they rode and won hands down in 2:47 from the 40ys. mark, and with this record back of them their record was held on the hill at 2:38, which was the time to be phenomenal time on a track as poor as the one at Buffalo. The last day of the world's tournament they rode and won hands down in 2:47 from the 40ys. mark, and with this record back of them their record was held on the hill at 2:38, which was the time to be phenomenal time on a track as poor as the one at Buffalo."

The two points with which I asked information were the course and the timing. From this testimony it appears that Forbes street is a little more up hill than the hill at Newcastle, and that the course was enough down grade to counteract the rise in the 600 yards. But the timing was done just as I supposed, by different watches at the two ends of the mile, in other words the watches that were held on the start were held on the finish. This is contrary to the usual practice in road racing and emphasizes the fact that road records should not be recognized or there should be some set of rules to go by and a governing body to pass upon the records.

As to the ability of the Banker brothers to do a mile in 2:38 I have no doubt, but if they wish to claim their ride as a record, publicity will do them no harm and they should be as anxious as I to see that the timing of the race was done in accordance with the rules in accordance with general practice.

Of course their ride is a record, but suppose some tandem team should make 2:35 down a hill on a road a little better than the average track and have done this under the best of conditions, would it not be better than the record of the Banker brothers, which has been held for several months?

The Wilmington Club's Annual Meet a Success and Well Attended. The annual meet of the Wilmington Wheel Club was held at Wilmington, Del., Thanksgiving Day, and was fairly well attended. A summary of the events follows:

One mile, over—B. F. McDaniel, Wilmington W. O. 1st; T. Jeffers, same club, 2d. Time, 4m. 20s.

Half-mile dash—W. M. Merrieh, Wilmington W. O. 1st; W. S. Taxis, Philadelphia, 2d. Time, 14m.

One mile, 3m. class—W. M. Merrieh, Wilmington W. O. 1st; B. F. McDaniel, 2d. Time, 2m. 53s.

Three mile championship of Delaware—B. F. McDaniel, Wilmington W. O. 1st; S. W. Merrieh, 2d. Time, 11m. 40s.

One mile, 3 1/2m. class—A. Jeffers, Wilmington W. O. 1st; C. A. Elliot, Wilmington W. O., 2d. Time, 4m. 10s.

Two mile handicap—W. M. Merrieh, Philadelphia, 1st; B. F. McDaniel, 2d. Time, 8m. 25s.

The track was very slow, but the time in some instances was fairly good.

Wheel Notes.
The Hudson County Wheelmen, of Jersey City, have decided to admit ladies to membership in their club.

The Denver Rammers have a mileage of the year of 50,000 miles. Some of the members have ridden every day this year.

By unanimous vote of the L. A. W. racing board, Mr. E. P. Burnham, of Newton, Mass., has been reinstated as a member of the city of New Bedford, Mass.

The championship of the city of New Bedford, Mass., was lately decided in a match race between H. E. Sison and F. Clark. The distance was about 1/2 mile, and the race was won by Sison in 10m. 50s; Clark was 10s. later.

Our candidates, Mr. Jessup, we present a gentleman of high social standing and integrity, whose span of life covers a wide experience of commercial and financial success. He will bring with him to the chair all the elements that make a good executive officer. He is certainly head and shoulders above the other candidates that have been named, and the role reason why he cannot receive the nomination from the powers that be is, as *The Wheel* suggests, because he is not in the club, but is the best of reasons why Pennsylvania cyclists should receive the support of every conscientious League member.

"The *Sporting Life* states that 'six hundred wheelmen, and among them six ladies,' etc. This is ridiculous. Now that lady riders are becoming more numerous, why not use the term 'cyclists' who referring to a body of wheelmen and wheelwomen?'—*Wheel*.

This is not ridiculous in any way. I used the word ladies because I wished to emphasize the fact that there were many ladies present, and could not have put any other word in place of ladies.

In any case, I should not have used the term cyclists, as I agree with Karl Kron that it is only frivolous in its import; base-ballist, skatist, etc., imply very plainly contempt. Cycling is the proper and more dignified word, though there are cases where the latter termination has to be used for the sake of euphony, such as billiardist.

By the way, that six hundred was only one hundred, according to *The Sporting Life*.

A CYCLIST CAUGHT AT A SMALL GAME.
"Ariel," of the *Bulletin*, in speaking of Mr. Collins having covered his connection with the *Press*, says that the *Times* cycling column is the most complete and accurate of any of the city papers. Besides commending a childish blunder in grammar "Ariel" has included in a rather small piece of self-education, for, as everyone knows, "Ariel" writes the cycling column of the *Times* himself.—*The Sporting Life*.—From *The Wheel*.

Yes, and worse still, he then comments in the *Times* that the *Bulletin*, the official organ of the L. A. W., etc. had paid a high compliment to the cycling column of the *Times* in its issue of the 10th inst. "You tickle me and I'll tickle you," business all told.

The Century Wheelmen will hold their first "smoker" of the season at their club house on the evening of Dec. 11.

The trade in this country is deeply interested in the news of the decision in the case of Wm. Bovis against Sanson, Teale & Co., before coming to trial the latter admitted the validity of the Down hall bearing patent and paid all costs, *cutting-out a license for the use of the patent*.

The interesting question arises will the courts in this country be influenced by this decision in any further litigation on the American patent of this invention and does the latter sentence in the above paragraph signify a compromise, the usual way of settling cycling patent suits heretofore.

A six-days race between females on bicycles is to be run or is now running in Pittsburg, and Philadelphia is threatened with a similar race. A certainly very recent decided cyclist in this city will give the exhibition a wide berth if it comes here, and do all he can to discourage it in every way. The various clubs should protest against the infusion, as I understand it is backed by a prominent League member.

The Century Wheelmen held the supper that was bet between certain of their members on the result of the election, and a very unique menu card was presented at each plate. It was handsomely printed, with a large gold scroll on the outside. A handsomely executed representation of large fat sorrowful looking cow adorned one of the pages. The following is a list of the good things:

Dinner reluctantly given to Fourteen Jubilant Republicans by Fourteen Unrepentant Democrats of the Century Wheelmen in remembrance of the cyclone of November 6. Dooner's Hotel, Tuesday evening, November 27, 1888.

MENU.
Gro vint sint hess.
Oysters on the half shell (Salt River Cove).
Schnapper—English (Sackville West's) hops.
Celery (Stops on March 4th). Chow-Chow (Chinese).
Olives (Third Ward Dagoes).
Salmon Trout (Caught by Grover). Lobster Sauce.
Potato Croquettes (New York).
Pile of Beef Larded with Mushrooms.
(Four Years Growth).
Parisian Potatoes a la Irish (Vote).
Chickon Croquettes (Watered Before Hatched).
Green Peas (In the tin).
Hoy-on Toast. Countess (Fallen Party).
Undressed Lettuce (Let Us Have Peace).
Fruits (Free List). Cheese (G. O. P.).
Cold Day (In the Evening).
Cigars (Internal Tax Removed).

The toast was responded to as follows:—"Our Next President," L. E. Deltler; "The Lost Cause," H. E. Carroll; "Future Issues," Frank S. Evans; "The Poetry of Politics," L. S. Knicker; "Young Republicans," F. S. Collins; "Young Democracy," Daniel Wiley; "The Feelings of the Man Who Wins," W. J. Walker; "The Campaign of '92," James Lukens.

There was quite an up-going, and Mr. Rossman's dramatic representation of the political situation, in which the two parties were represented by a couple of bottles, was especially well received.

The Latest Batch of English Wheeling Records Accepted.
The cycling records committee of England have accepted the following claims to path records:

BI-CYCLE.
F. J. Osmond, Brighton Ramblers B. C., at Crystal Palace on 12th September—Quarter-mile (flying start), 34.4-5s.; one mile, 2m. 31.4-5s.

TRI-CYCLE.
H. H. Sanson, Notts Castle C. C., at Long Eaton, on Sept. 23—Quarter-mile, 39.4-5s.; half-mile, 1m. 17.3-5s.
G. E. Taylor, Long Eaton C. C., at Long Eaton, on Sept. 19—Six miles, 17m. 25s.
J. B. King, L. A. O., at Coventry track, on June 13.
Miles. M. S. Miles. M. S. Miles. M. S.
12..... 31 04 4-5 19..... 42 23 2-3 19..... 54 10
13..... 32 04 4-5 17..... 45 37 2-5 20..... 56 02 2-5
14..... 36 02 4-5 17..... 48 23 2-5 21..... 59 48 4-5
14..... 39 49 18..... 51 25 1-5

Notes.
At Baltimore, Nov. 30, Pennsylvania beat Johns Hopkins 24 to 10.
The Princeton football team has selected full back Ames as captain for 1889.
On Saturday, Nov. 24, Lehigh beat Lafayette 16 to 0, and Toga was beaten by Ryeview 10 to 0.

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THE TRIGGER.
A live bird match between Bandle and Hikes was shot at Dayton, O., Nov. 29-30, for \$500. Bandle won by 91 to 87.
Three thousand people attended the opening of Elkwood Park, the new grounds of the Towler Athletic Association, Nov. 29. The attraction was a pigeon shooting match for a gold medal, between Miss Annie Oakley, of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, and Phil Daly, Jr., of the West and Gun Club. The match was shot under Monaco rules. Miss Oakley was to shoot at fifty birds and Mr. Daly at fifty-five. The birds were blue rocks, and proved to be strong fliers. Miss Annie Oakley missed eight birds out of the fifty. Mr. Daly shot the match, as he only missed seven out of fifty birds.

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JOHN WANAMAKER.

FOOTBALL.

THE COLLEGE CHAMPIONSHIP.
Yale Beats Princeton in the Decisive Game at New York.

The Yale-Princeton game at the Polo Grounds in New York, Nov. 24, resulted in a complete victory for Yale, Princeton being defeated by a score of 10 to 0. The game was a pretty one, with the usual accompaniment of roughness, in which both teams shared about equally, one man from each being disqualified for slugging. But the superiority of the Yale eleven over their opponents outside of the rush lines, where Princeton's heavy-weights more than held their own, was apparent almost from the start. They outplayed the wasters of the orange and black in general field work and dodging, the half and full back work of Graves, McClung and Bull being much more finished than that of Channing, Black and Ames. The Princeton men labored vainly and played a strong game.

Ames was singularly unfortunate from the start, and an incident which contributed in no small manner to Princeton's defeat was the disqualification of Captain Cowan. There was a disposition in some quarters to find fault with the referee and umpire, but one thing is certain—Had Ames kicked with as much skill and judgment as Bull, the verdict might have been different. The work of the Princeton eleven in the second half was superlative to the time of Cowan's disqualification.

In the course of a hot struggle in the centre of the field, the umpire disqualified Cowan for using unnecessary violence toward Rhodes. Reluctantly Cowan donned his sweater and left the field, his place being taken by Riggs. With their rally captain out of the game the rest of the Princeton men struggled bravely, but to no purpose, for from that moment Yale went at them with renewed confidence.

Yale—Wallace, Gill, Woodruff, Corbin, Rhoades, Heffner, Savage, rushers; Vurenburg, quarter back; McClung, Graves, half backs; Bull, full back.
Princeton—Hodge, Cook, Janeway, George, Irvine, Cowan, Rowland, rushers; H. R. Hodge, quarter back; Black, Channing, half backs; Ames, full back; Coffey, W. A. Brooks, Harvard; umpire, F. Fisk, Harvard.

Harvard having forfeited to Yale, the University of Pennsylvania eleven defeated the Wesleyan team on the Polo Grounds Thanksgiving Day by a score of 18 to 6. Both teams played a savage game. The day was not propitious for foot ball playing, the ground being wet and soggy, and for more than half the game a nasty, drizzling rain beat in the faces of the sturdy players, but these drawbacks only seemed to lend zest to the players, and they made up in muscle what they lacked in science. The teams were as follows:

University of Pennsylvania—Leavitt, quarterback; Bower, Savage, Dewey, Sypher, Wagenhurst and Cash; quarter backs, Church and Hulme; half back, Colledge; full back, Hill.
Wesleyan College—Rushers, Crane, Fray, Gibson, Eaton, Gardner, Heath and Glenn; quarter backs, Oydike and McDonald; half back, Manchester; full back, Slayback.

The Final Result.

Team	Y	P	U	W
Yale	10	0	0	0
Princeton	0	10	0	0
University of Pennsylvania	18	6	0	0
Wesleyan	0	0	18	6

CLUBS.

Club	Y	P	U	W
Yale	1	1	1	1
Princeton	0	1	1	1
University of Pennsylvania	1	1	1	1
Wesleyan	0	0	1	1

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