

# THE BICYCLE IDEA.

It is Growing Everywhere and Among All Classes.

In Chicago It Has Developed into Cyclomania—The Wheel in Military and Municipal Affairs—Its Mission as a Dress Reformer.

(Special Chicago Letter.)

Cyclomania is the name of the disease from which Chicago is suffering just at present. Hundreds who, even a year ago, turned up their hypercritical noses at the mere mention of bicycling are joining the great spring army of recruits. Marching in this latitude, came in like a lamb scattered the germs of cyclomania along the avenues and boulevards; in the houses of the well-to-do and the poor. Fortunately, the disease is not a dangerous one. After a few falls the victim either learns to enjoy the epidemic, and does his best to spread it, or he is completely cured. Chicago is an ideal city for cyclists. It has scores of miles of highly improved boulevards—as level almost as the floor of a dance hall. There is not even the suggestion of a hill anywhere within the limits of the city. Thus wheeling which, in some places, means hard work is reduced to a recreation pure and simple—a statement which is most conclusively proved by the fact that, with the exception of Paris, no other city in the world has so many lady riders as Chicago. American women are not partial to violent physical exercise, and the popularity of the wheel here, in Buffalo, N. Y., Washington and other points must be ascribed to the excellence of the streets more than to love of wholesome sport. But, whatever may be the cause, there is no man with a grain of sense who is not delighted to know that wheeling has developed into a favorite pastime with women of intelligence and good common sense.

### Signal-Service Cycling Corps.

But it is not only for purposes of pleasure that the wheel is used here in Chicago. A year or more ago an enthusiastic member of the First regiment, Illinois National Guard, conceived the idea of organizing a signal-service corps, mounted on bicycles. In France and Germany the wheel was given a place in army equipment six or seven years ago. Some time later the state of Connecticut organized a bicycle signal corps; but to-day Chicago lays claim to having the best drilled detachment of this kind in the United States. The corps consists of seventeen men, including a sergeant and two corporals. The men, when fully equipped for service, carry a 22-inch machete, a 38-caliber navy revolver and a copper canteen for oil for signal torches. On the head of their bicycles



SIGNAL-SERVICE CYCLIST.

they carry a haversack containing flags and a complete torch equipment; lengthwise along the frames is attached a twelve-foot signal staff, jointed in three-foot lengths; inside the frame is hung a pair of torches. During one of the state encampments at Springfield, Ill., the corps, under command of its organizer, Sergeant F. B. Hart, did excellent courier service and made a place for itself in military affairs. In the near future the command expects to be supplied with a uniform mount and complete heliograph outfit.

### Gallant Coppers on Steel Steeds.

What is good for soldiers ought to be good for policemen. So thought the commanding officer of one of Chicago's suburban police stations; and, acting on the spur of inspiration, he caused some of his fly coppers to be mounted on bicycles. Owing to the somewhat excessive avoidpoids of the average guardian of the peace, and consequent deliberation of movement, the experiment was not a howling success—except for the small boys who watched the rise and fall of the gallant boys in blue with more interest than was sometimes good for them. Other cities, notably Liverpool, have introduced a cycle patrol service which affords protection to outlying districts. The Pinkertons, too, have derived great profit from the use of the wheel, and keep a number of machines at each of their offices.

### The Wheel in the Mail Service.

Letter carriers mounted on wheels are a familiar sight in most of our large cities; especially in the suburban districts where houses are few and far between. Uncle Sam does not pay the carriers enough salary to justify them in keeping a horse. Hence when the bicycle made its advent this class of hard-working public servants was the first to recognize the commercial value of the machine. In many places the letter carriers were the originators of cycling, and for this bit of missionary work they deserve the thanks of the public. At the last session of congress a bill was introduced having for its object the extension of the free delivery system to country districts. Unfortunately the measure did not become a law. Had it passed, it would have solved the road problem, besides giving the farmers of every state direct daily communication with their county towns. A carrier, mounted on a

bicycle, could serve the people of a district comprising thirty miles of good road every day in the year.

### Used for Business Purposes.

At the world's fair there was exhibited a wheel for firemen. It was supplied with a hand extinguisher, grenades and other paraphernalia for the extinction of small fires. No one will deny that such service would prove of incalculable benefit, and it is surprising that Chicago has not yet organized a bicycle fire brigade. Some of the companies employing messenger boys recognized the business qualities of the wheel years ago, and since the introduction of the mounted service have given excellent satisfaction to their customers. Electric light repairers and linemen have taken to the wheel with enthusiasm, as it enables them to cover considerable territory in a comparatively short time. Salesmen for whole-



FOR HEALTH AND PLEASURE.

sale houses, whose trade lies in different portions of the city, have long ago discarded street cars and horses. They carry their sample cases at the head of their bicycles and defy slow urban transportation.

### No Longer a Mere Plaything.

The bicycle, to sum the thing up, is no longer a plaything or a luxury. It has become a necessity. Where the roads are good it assures rapid transportation at a minimum outlay of physical exertion. It is easier to propel a wheel than to govern a spirited horse—to say nothing of the healthfulness of the exercise. Is it any wonder, therefore, that young and old, men and women, take kindly to the sport? I know one lively gentleman of sixty, who, whenever the weather permits, rides from his suburban home to his office in the morning and rides back in the evening—nearly twenty miles a day. Of course he is an exception; but his remarkable vim and energy show what a person imbued with the bicycle fever can and will do. The exercise has not only benefited his health, but is giving him real enjoyment which robs routine duty of some of its wearisome features.

### The Wheel as a Dress Reformer.

Most women riders of the wheel are dress reformers. They have learned from practical experience that the clothing affected by society women is making the sex one of chronic invalids. The free and easy motion of pedaling demands a common-sense costume. Once get a woman in the habit of wearing a really comfortable gown and she will not return to the disease-breeding garments of conventional life. All of the leading dress reformers of Boston are wheelwomen. They have evolved a number of costumes, based on their bicycle suits. The Syrian frock and the divided skirt are with us to stay, and when the history of dress reform is written it will be found that the bicycle has had much to do with the emancipation of woman from the thrall of fashion. And this spirit of advance thought is not confined to this country; for at a recent soiree of the Lady Cyclists' association at London several prominent ladies appeared in striking and convenient suits of their own design. One worn by Mrs. Albert Bonsor attracted particular attention. It does away with the skirt altogether, and substitutes prettily made trousers of generous proportions.

### The Future of the Bicycle.

Ten years from now the man or woman who walks will be the exception. When manufacturers build



MRS. DONSON'S REFORM COSTUME.

wheels for one-legged persons, rig out family cycles on which papa, mamma and the children can take a spin, construct tandems and quadruplets, and put together regular bicycle carriages, it is time to admit that the wheel has come to stay, just like the typewriter, the electric light and the telephone. If you are not already one of the cranks, you had better join the procession now. Take a few falls and a lifetime's enjoyment.

G. W. WEIFFERT.

### Feed the Powder.

"Miss Ansiente is just like a loaded gun."  
"Why?"  
"She's made up to kill."—Hullo.

## The Southern Baptist Convention

Will be held at Dallas, Texas, May 11 to 15. Large numbers of Baptists in all parts of the South, are interested in the question how to reach Dallas, and what it will cost. The Queen & Crescent Route takes pleasure in announcing a low rate of One Fare for the Round Trip from points on its line. This route is the direct line from the southeast. Through sleeping cars daily from Atlanta, Birmingham, Meridian, Jackson & Vicksburg, with direct connection at Shreveport for through trains to Dallas. Solid Vestibuled Trains every day in the year, from Cincinnati, Lexington and Chattanooga, connect at Birmingham and Meridian with through cars to Shreveport. Trains from Louisville make close connection at Lexington with through service. On May 10th, through cars will be run from Meridian, Jackson and Vicksburg through to Dallas without change, to accommodate delegates and visitors from these and intermediate points. Let us have your name. We will take pleasure in writing you full information as to the rate, schedules, selling dates, etc. from your point.

Chas. W. Zell, D. P. A., Cincinnati, O. J. S. Leith, T. P. A., Lexington, Ky. A. Whedon, P. A., Louisville, Ky. E. T. Charlton, D. P. A., Chattanooga, Tenn. S. C. Ray, T. P. A., Birmingham, Ala. Jack W. Johnson, Tkt. Agt., Birmingham, Ala. J. J. Gray, Tkt. Agt., Meridian, Miss. I. Hardy, A. G. P. A., Vicksburg, Miss. R. A. Garratt, A. G. P. A., New Orleans, La. W. C. Rinearsen, G. P. A., Cincinnati, O.

### Confederate Veterans.

In view of the coming re-union at Birmingham, Ala., April 25th and 26th, Gen'l J. B. Gordon, general commanding, asks that the press of the country give its aid to the patriotic and benevolent objects of the organization by publishing the date of the re-union, etc. Business of the greatest importance will be transacted at this meeting, looking to the preservation of historic records; the care of disabled and needy veterans who once wore the gray; the care of the graves of the Confederate dead, and other matters of moment. Let no veteran and no friend of the veterans fail to lend his presence at Birmingham. The Queen & Crescent Route is assisting to make this occasion a successful one by putting in a low rate of one fare for the round trip. This, when linked with the magnificent equipment and train service for which the road is noted, makes it the most desirable line to Birmingham. It is the shortest, the quickest, and has the finest trains from New Orleans, Shreveport, Vicksburg, Jackson and Meridian, and from Cincinnati, Lexington and Chattanooga. Write to the undersigned or ask agents for full particulars. W. C. Rinearsen, G. P. A., Cincinnati, O.

### How Much Rain Will Fall?

The Weekly Courier-Journal has struck a popular note in its weather guessing contests. A wonderful amount of interest was taken in the offer of \$1,000 for the closest guesses to the coldest day and temperature during February, at Louisville, and much valuable information was gathered by subscribers on the subject. This contest has just been decided, there being 28 lucky guessers. The Weekly Courier-Journal now makes another offer on the same line. For the closest guesses to the amount of rain that will fall at Louisville during the month of May, the Weekly Courier-Journal will give \$1,000. This money will be divided into 19 presents—one of \$500, two of \$100 each, two of \$50 each, four of \$25 each, and 10 of \$10 each. Each guess must be accompanied by \$1, to pay for one year's subscription to the Weekly Courier-Journal, the best democrat paper published. The rain fall is scientifically measured, to the hundredth part of an inch. The heaviest rain-fall in May during the past 20 years was seven inches and forty-six hundredths of an inch. The lightest was one inch even. The measurements are made by the Government officials of the Weather Bureau at Louisville. Sample copies of the paper with full particulars of the contest, will be sent free to any address. Write at once, as under no circumstances will any guesses be received after April 30th. Address Weekly Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky.

Buy a Cooley Creamer at Farris & Hardin's.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.  
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.  
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.  
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Those who never read the advertisements in their newspapers miss more than they presume. Jonathan Kenison, of Bolan, Worth county, Iowa, who had been troubled with rheumatism in his back, arms and shoulders, read an item in his paper about how a prominent German citizen of Ft. Madison had been cured. He procured the same medicine, and to use his own words: "It cured me, and I cured my wife. A neighbor and his right up." He also says: "A neighbor and his wife were both sick in bed with rheumatism. Their boy was over to my house and said they were so bad he had to do the cooking. I told him he got a bottle and it cured them in a week. 50 cent bottles for sale by Dr. S. G. Hocker, Druggist, Stanford."

Our better halves say they could not keep house without Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is used in more than half the homes in Leeds, Sims Bros., Leeds, Iowa. This shows the esteem in which that remedy is held where it has been sold for years and is well known. Mothers have learned of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and how it cured their children, and that it is pleasant and safe for children, and that it is 50 cent bottles for sale by Dr. S. G. Hocker, Druggist, Stanford.

## WHY SUFFER

From that old complaint which you can be permanently cured by an

## Electropoise

Others have been cured, why not you?

Disease Cured Without Medicine

Not an electric belt or battery, but a simple home treatment which causes the entire body of the patient to absorb

## OXYGEN.

Ask your neighbor about it; if he can not tell you, write to us for one of our books—sent free. Nothing has ever received so many testimonials from trustworthy persons, many of whom are known to us.—Western Recorder, Louisville.

The Electropoise is a mystery to me; almost a miracle.—Elder John I. Rooters.  
In one night the Electropoise relieved me of congestion of the brain and vertigo.—Rev. Geo. H. Meas, Covington, Ky.  
A friend of mine was entirely cured of the opium habit with Electropoise.—Rev. W. W. Bruce, Hustonville, Ky.  
The Electropoise is a wonderful instrument and is more wonderful as to how it does its work, yet it does it.—T. E. C. Brinley, (Flows) Louisville, Ky.  
Address DuBois & Webb, 509 Fourth st., Louisville, Ky.

## Orchard, Lawn, Garden.

Full stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Grape Vines, Asparagus, Small Fruits, Shrubs, and everything usually found in a nursery establishment. We sell direct to the planter and have no agents. Catalogues on application.  
H. F. HILLENMEYER,  
Lexington, Ky.

## Nice Turnout For Sale.

A good Horse, Harness and a single Surrey, as good as new for sale for the low price of Ten Dollars. Call at Joe Rout's, to see it, or on Judge T. L. Shelton if you want to buy.  
L. A. FARRIS,  
Lexington, Ky.

## READ THIS!

I will on April 1st commence to sell my stock of general Merchandise at

## CITY COST FOR THE CASH

or Country Produce so that I can get cash out of such as Bacon, Lard, Eggs and Chickens, &c. So come right along and we will swap dollars while, if we can do nothing else these hard times. Thanking my patrons for past favors I ask a liberal trade in this sale.  
Respectfully,  
J. H. HILTON,  
Rowland, Ky.

## A MISTAKE.

By some means or other the report became circulated that I was going to leave Stanford. Such is not the case and I take pleasure in emphatically denying the report. I am yet and will still be found at my old stand on Main street, selling good goods at the lowest possible prices. When you need anything in our line, don't fail to call.

## R. ZIMMER.

Stanford, Ky.

## W. W. WITHERS,

Dealer in

Furniture Mouldings, Window Shades,

MATRESSES, &c.

Stanford, : : Kentucky.

## The NEW FURNITURE STORE

Spring time is here, and the wave of prosperity about to sweep over the country is evidenced by the increased activity manifested in every branch of trade.

The prospects for money is growing better daily, and soon the war of competition will break out with renewed vigor, and with all the fierce but pleasing energy born of a state of inaction of many months' duration. The old adage, "In time of peace prepare for war," finds no time more favorable for application than the present. Preparations are now in order to meet the increased demand of a convalescent trade. In view of these pleasant anticipations, I have introduced some elaborate reforms into every branch of my large line of goods, changes have been made in price which almost equal a revolution.

Old styles have superseded by new; the new have been replaced by the latest, and the latest have been pruned until the residue aptly illustrates, "the survival of the fittest," odd shapes and finishes have been especially sought after to please the irrepressible craving for novelty; while only such but these have taken advantage of whose selling price is thoroughly in harmony with the spirit of the times and trade.

A glance through my stock will satisfy you that my selection is grand and my prices will thoroughly convince you that I am head quarters for the most important lines of furniture and they constitute a line of goods which, for beauty design, variety, style and price, is superlative in an eminent degree, and which represent to perfection the high standard achieved under the influence of necessity, the mother of invention. In order to stimulate a sluggish and indifferent demand, I place before you the cream of all that is new. Strictly cash, this will be to your interest.

W. W. WITHERS.

## Ky. Midland R'y, Onward - Messenger.

Standard. Bred by Charles Dunn.

Sired by ONWARD CHIEF 4495.

By Onward 1241, second a 25 1/2, size of 49 in the

2 1/2 list, also 17 producing sons, and 16 producing

daughters.

1st dam Lady Messenger, by Hutch-nose's Chief

2240.

2nd dam Eliza Jane, the dam of Maud Messenger,

2 1/2, 20, 27, by Gentle Breeze 2476, sire of Pearl,

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