

EVOLUTION OF THE BICYCLE.

Development from the First Buds—"Wheels" Made by a French Nobleman.

The first rudimentary bicycle was mounted by Baron von Drais, a Frenchman, living in Germany, who early in this century, invented a combination of two wheels, a seat, and handles, which he called "celerifere," to aid him in his work of overseeing large estates. The old cuts of this odd machine, called after the inventor, the "Draisine," show it to be in its general features the direct forerunner of the hobby-horse. "Draisines" were introduced into England in 1818, and a year later were seen in America, on the streets of New York.

In both countries they met with great favor, and one historian relates that in New York "people rode them up and down the bowery, and on the parks, a favorite place for speed being the down grade from Chatham street to the City Hall Park." Clumsy machines they seem to our eyes says the *St. Nicholas*—two heavy wheels connected by a cross-bar, to which was attached midway the cushioned seat for the rider. In front of the seat was a raised cushion, upon which, handles in hand, the rider rested his forearms, guiding the machine. He propelled it by pushing alternately with his feet on the ground until the speed was sufficient to maintain an equilibrium, when he would raise his feet and in the words of a rider today, "coast."

The rage for these "Draisines," and "pedestrian curricles," or "dand-horses," and "hobby-horses," as the latter "improved" machines were called, subsided rapidly because of the difficulty of making them practically useful, and because of the ridicule always excited by the riders.

This curious sport of riding two wheels, joined, and running in the same perpendicular plane, therefore languished in obscurity until after a lapse of more than forty years it again attracted public attention in a new form. It was in 1835 that a French mechanic, Pierre Lallement, conceived the notion of attaching foot-cranks to the front wheel of the old-fashioned hobby-horse. He made a machine embodying this idea, learned to ride it, and exhibited it at the Paris exposition in 1837.

The credit for this invention is also claimed in England for Edward Giffman, but the honor due Frenchman or Englishman, here, at all events, was the immediate inventor of the bicycle. It immediately became popular in England and America. A great many changes were necessary, of course, before the crude machine Lallement—the "velocipede" of thirty years ago—became the finished bicycle of to-day; but energetic business men in England, and later in this country, saw the possibilities and began the manufacture of the machines.

Improvement has followed improvement, until there is a little resemblance left to the old "velocipede," or "boneshaker," as it was flippantly called, and it is difficult to imagine in what way a modern bicycle may be improved.

THE JOKER'S BUDGET.

JESTS AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Not Quoted Correctly—Before and After—No Leisure—No Money to Lend—More Likely, Etc., Etc.

NOT QUOTED CORRECTLY.

Tom Noddy—Uncle Amos, I hear you said I was a fool the other day.
Uncle Amos—I never said you were a fool the other day. I said you had been a fool all the days of your life.—[Detroit Free Press.

BEFORE AND AFTER.

Before the maiden married him,
And got him in her power,
To sew a button on his coat
Would take her just one hour.
But things are very different now;
For when her aid he seeks
To sew that button on his coat,
It takes her several weeks.
—[Clothing and Furnisher.

NO LEISURE.

"I'll wait until you are at leisure," said a caller to the editor.
"I'm afraid I'll be no use to you when I'm dead," replied the editor.—[Epoch.

NO MONEY TO LEND.

"Hello, old ciappie! Been makin' money lately?"
"I should smile; got m' pockets full."
"Lend me a V, will yer?"
"Oh, I can't yer know; it's all in \$1 bills."—[Texas Siftings.

MALICE AFORETHOUGHT.

Witness—He came towards me and wanted ter kick me on de leg six times.
Judge—How do you know he had the intention of kicking you six times?
Witness—Bekase dat's jess de number ob black and blue spots I've got on my leg.—[Texas Siftings.

ANOTHER LIE SAID.

F. Parmenter Pyne, '91—This talk about college graduates not being able to cope with the stern realities of life is all bosh. Why, two of our men are street-car conductors, one is a waiter in a restaurant and one is a letter-carrier, and I could name lots of other cases, too.—[Life.

DIFFERENT KINDS OF POPULARITY.

Indignant Customer—Look here, you advertise popular prices, and yet you charge me 25 cents for a cup of coffee and a ham sandwich.
Proprietor—You'll find those prices very popular with caterers, sir.

MORE LIKELY.

Mrs. Snooper (reading)—The longest word in the Wimbago language is Shonklaterahizunhnikonkcinena. It means "I will give you a horse."
Snooper—It is more likely to give one the lockjaw.

INADEQUATE.

"No," she snapped, "I won't go to ride with Col. Jones."
"Why not, my dear? He is a perfect gentleman, and—"
"No man can manage a horse," broke in the lass, "and a girl, too, with one arm."—[Atlanta Constitution.

A MORAL MAXIM.

Whatever our purpose in life may be—
Whatever our earthly station,
We ought to try, thermometer-like,
To rise to the situation.
—[Philadelphia Times.

HALF RATIONS.

Tommy—I didn't eat half enough supper.
Bessie—What did you have for supper?
Tommy—Company.—[Puck.

RETIRED HIS BUSINESS.

Mrs. Dogood—Even if you are just out of prison, that does not prevent you from going to work.
Dusty Rhodes—It do, mum; they cut my hair, and my business is ruined.
Mrs. Dogood—What business were you in?
Dusty Rhodes—The Circassian beauty line, mum.

THEIR SON JACK.

Mr. Breezy—Our son Jack is getting altogether too large for a youngster.
Mrs. Breezy—Oh, well, the child is father to the man, you know!
Mr. Breezy—Very true, but Jack seems to consider himself father to the whole family.—[New York Herald.

GOOD LUCK UNAPPRECIATED.

Miss de Swell (angrily)—You told me this horseshoe lace pin would bring me good luck, and now Count de Moneyhunt has proposed to another girl, and my pin is dead.
Jeweler—Madame, what more could heart desire?—[Jeweler's Weekly.

FATE.

In her brown eyes her woman's soul
Shines radiant as the dawn,
If we but meet, my self-control
Is gone.
Her low, sweet brow, her soft, brown hair,
Her beauty make complete;
When she comes near the very air
Seems sweet.

She has a gentle, tender voice
That pleases every ear;
Whene'er she speaks, men's hearts rejoice
To hear.

And yet, her road to happiness
Is barred with iron doors,
Because her little brother says
She snores.
—[Somerville Journal.

SILENCING HEBERY.

Young Father (in the future)—Great Snakes! Can't you do something to quiet that baby? Its eternal squalling just drives me wild.

Young Mother (calmly to servant)—Marie, bring in my husband's mother's photograph and put in the cylinder marked "At Ten Months." I want him to hear how his voice sounded when he was young.—[New York Weekly.

A FORGETFUL SPOUSE.

Mrs. Bilkins—I never saw such a forgetful man in my life as you are. The clock has stopped again.

Mr. Bilkins—That's because you forgot to wind it.
Mrs. Bilkins—Huh! You knew very well, Mr. Bilkins, that I told you to remind me to wind it and you forgot about it.—[New York Weekly.

A CRUEL SON.

"I understand Jake Jimson struck his mother."
"Yes."
"The cruel scoundrel. What did he strike her for?"
"Ten dollars."

GOT WHAT SHE WANTED.

She—An unfortunate alliance, that of Miss Quickly's, wasn't it?
He—Maybe, but he was just her kind. You said, you know, that she wanted a husband, and she certainly got it.—[Yonkers Gazette.

A STRONG GUARANTEE.

Miss Flora Wall (to dealer)—You guarantee this cement to be good, do you?
Dealer—Yes, ma'am. You could mend a broken heart with that cement.
Miss Flora Wall—I'll take three bottles.—[Puck.

A SURE THING.

Daddy—If you are a good boy I'll take you to the circus.
Sonny—Suppose I ain't a good boy?
Daddy—Then you'll have a circus with me.—[Puck.

A SECRET.

She—How softly the breezes whisper over this field.
He—Yes, dear—but the corn is all ears, you know!—[Life.

NOTHING MEAN ABOUT HIM.

Father (reading it)—Ah, yes, the bill for you, and the girl's hats. Twenty dollars and ninety-five cents. Nearly \$21. No use being mean. I'll buy five cents' worth of black varnish to color my last year's straw and make the bill the full figure.—[Fliengende Blaetter.

IN A BAD FIX.

A—How is Brown coming out?
B—Very poorly. He can't eat.
"What's the matter with him?"
"There is nothing the matter with him, except lack of food. He is stopping at a fashionable boarding house."—[Texas Siftings.

DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT.

"Didn't they sing beautifully in unison?" he whispered at the opera.
"In unison?" re-echoed the Boston girl; "why I thought they were going to sing in Italian. No wonder I don't understand it."—[Philadelphia Times.

A BLUSHING SMILE.

She tripped going down to the beach and blushed prettily.
"You are like the leaves of the forest," whispered her escort.
"How so?" she asked.
"You turn red with the fall," was the reply.

HIS GREETING.

She waits each night till I get home,
And greets me at the door;
But it is not for my sake alone—
She wants to know the score.
—[Judge.

VERY TRUE.

Wife—I'm afraid I scolded the children rather severely while making preserves to-day.
Husband—You should have preserved your temper, too.
Wife—How could I when I lost it?

JACK PAID FOR IT.

Tom—Harry looks as if his supper didn't agree with him.
Jack—Well, it ought to have agreed with him; he didn't have to pay for it.—[Yankee Blade.

THE CHOICEST MORSEL.

Mrs. Pert—We had an elegant supper at the sewing society.
Mr. Pert—What did you relish most?
"Oh, we dissected a watermelon!"
"Is that all? I thought probably you had dissected at least a half dozen of the neighbors!"
"You're just too hateful!"—[Harrisburg Telegram.

A WORSE PREDICAMENT.

First Boy—Did you get squeezed in the crowd at the navy drill yesterday?
Second Boy—No, but I got caught in the jam at home, and that was worse.

BLACK SHEEP DWELL IN EVERY FOLD.

She—Oh, yes! I quite believe there's a simpleton in every family. Don't you?
He—Well—er—my opinion is rather biased. You see I'm the only member of our family.—[Boston Budget.

THEY DIDN'T SING IT.

"Let's go up to the Dime Museum and see the picnic party."
"What picnic party?"
"Why, don't you know? the picnic party that came home on a barge the other night and didn't sing on their way 'Home Again from a Foreign Shore.' They are on exhibition.—[Boston Courier.

How a Student Makes Money.

DEAR READERS—I am able to pay my board and tuition, wear good clothes, and have money in my pocket by spending my odd hours and vacations plating jewelry and tabware and selling plates. I have made \$20 per day; never less than \$4. I paid \$5 for my plate to H. K. Dehn & Co., Columbus, O. Any one can profit by my experience by writing there for circulars.
A STUDENT.

Miss Mary Schiller, a grand niece of the poet, has been chosen commissioner to South America by the World's Fair Committee. She was formerly a teacher.

LADIES needing a tonic, or children who want building up, should take Brown's Iron Bitters. It is pleasant to take, cures Malaria, Indigestion, Biliousness and Liver Complaints, makes the Blood rich and pure.

The Mexican government will accept the site allotted to it at the Chicago exposition, provided a bridge is built and the drainage approved.

FITS stopped free by DR. KLINE'S GREAT NERVE RESTORER. No fits after first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and \$2 trial bottle free. Dr. Kline, 631 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

California will occupy a \$100,000 building at the World's Exposition. A prize of \$500 was offered for the best plan some time ago.

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The Manhattan Yacht Club of New York has applied for space at the World's Fair for an exhibit illustrative of yacuting interests.

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One of the most interesting exhibits at the World's Columbian exposition will be that of fish and fisheries.

Pretty Certain.

A well-known Detroit millionaire was saying to his confidential clerk the other day: "Now I've arranged those papers for my wife and children all right so that if I die—"
"If you die," interrupted the secretary, "say when you die; there's no if about dying."



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