Wheels That--Well, They Can't Talk.

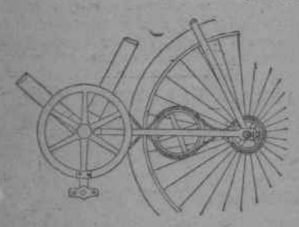
That's About All Some of the Bicycles Shown at the Paris Exposition Can't Do.

Multiplex and Simple Gears of Novel Pattern Produced by Foreign Inventors.

VARIOUS COLLAPSIBLE MACHINES.

One Progressive Mechanic Evolved a Tire in Which Springs Replace the Present Rubber Air Tube—An "Anti-Header" Fork.

That cycling has taken a hold upon Parisians not much less in its strength than in Greater New York is evidenced by the ct that more than 75,000 visitors inected the recent exhibit at the Palais de ndustrie during the fourteen days of its uration. The attendance at the coming show, under the auspices of the Cycle Board of Trade, at Madison Square Garden, will furnish a notable comparison of public in-



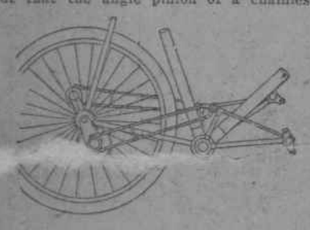
terest in the wheel between the two great cities.

The Paris bicycle exposition was the third which that city has enjoyed, and there, as here, interest centred in the ingenious gears and contrivances with which busy inventors had endeavored to meet the multiplex demands of touring and racing wheelmen and wheelwomen. In these is shown strikingly the wonderful progress in the development of the two-wheeled vehicle.

For some of the recent inventions is claimed a greater success than for the collapsible, portable "Bicyclette." The time, its promoters claim, is not far off when one of these ingeniously constructed machines will constitute as common a part of a man's or woman's outfit as a watch or a pocket-knife.

The competition between French and foreign constructors is growing more intense with the enormous demand for bicycles. This has caused the introduction of very desirable improvement during the past year in tubes, pedals, frames and in the perfection of the pneumatic tire.

Among the many inovations of 1896 at the Paris exposition worth studying is the "Acatene" bicycle. Mechanics will point out that the angle pinion of a chainless



gear causes considerable friction, but the Acatene is of solid built, and has been proven a success. It affords direct transmission of power from the large sprocket to the small pinion through a shaft, which is adjustable. The gears are protected by cases, which may be filled with any lubricant.

Another chainless wheel is the "Cyclet," invented by M. S. Jrzewlecki. The objectionable feature of the machine as shown is the awkward position of the pedals, which causes discomfort to the rider. This defect will undoubtedly be remedied by the inventor.

The "Dechainee" of Rouart Brothers, by which a multiplex gear is used on the axle of the rear wheel, is based almost on the same principle, but few people like these fragile and awkward-looking levers.

The "Charmeuse" has a multiplex gear on the sprocket, with the power carried by levers to the rear hub. In this there is too much friction, and consequently the gear is liable to be too frequently out of order.

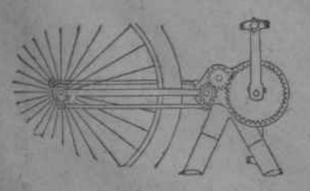
A curiosity is the "Funiculaire." Here is a rope and pulley gear, in which a tension wheel figures largely, placed in

he centre of the rear lower tube of the rame.

Among the machines which are constructed with the object of obtaining a change of speed, so much desired by bicyclers, in hilly and mountainous regions, it looks as if the "Cleveland" bicycle is the most practicable. The illustration herewith conveys practically the working of this mechanism.

The changeable movement of the "Metropole" is based absolutely on the same principle as the Cleveland. These two wheels only differ in the disposition of their parts and the manner in which they engage each other.

The "Gladiator" is also built with the object of a changeable movement. Here the four small gears are replaced by an eccentric, a little more complicated, but producing the same results. There is pos-



sible danger of the lever bending and breaking frequently.

A number of forms are shown which aim to protect the rider from breakage or serious accidents. The "Verdot" contrivance deserves special mention. It has an extra brace, connecting at the bearing and at the steering bar. If the fork itself breaks the extra "truss" is intended to save the bicyclist from a header. The "Normal" fork consists of two tubes without a bracing. It is solid, but bulky.

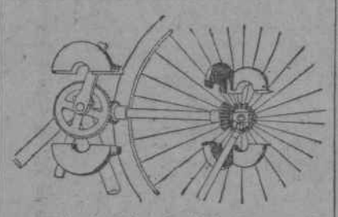
Several models of collapsible bicycles were exhibited in the Salon du Cycle. These wheels are thus far only desirable from a military point of view, as it is considered too laborious a task for ordinary ers to take them apart and put them er. Other wheels are arranged so ey can be transformed into tandems usting a middle piece, comprising ering bar and pedal.

ilitary inventor has produced a colbicycle with a straight-spoked le has equipped a company of his with them, and recent manoeuvres monstrated that a soldier can y easily with such a machine on his shoulders where it is impossible to ride and mounting it whenever the roads are cyclable.

This wheel, the "Gerard," is only an experiment, and its inventor expects encouragement from the War Department, but it is far from perfect, and in many of its parts needs immediate transformations. Its particular defect is its weight.

The "Simon" bicycle is collapsible and can be transformed into a tandem, but it is also somewhat heavy and bulky.

Among the numerous devices on exhibition which are intended to replace the



pneumatic tire the one that attracted the most interest was the Senechal wheel, which has not an inch of rubber, but is said to give much ease to the rider, as it is composed of two wheels connected by small wire springs.

HUMAN SALAMANDERS.

The Hottest Place in New York and the Men Who Work in It with Cracked Skin and Singed Hair.

There is a room in New York which is heated to so high a temperature that, though free from the smell of sulphur, it gives a very good illustration of the popular notion of Hades. The difference in temperature between this interior and the street, during the past few days, has been nearly 140 degrees—greater than that between the average temperature of the equator and the Arctic circle. This heat readily melts wax or paraffin, and would serve very well for many kinds of cooking. The heat is so intense that it would seem impossible for life to go on at such a temperature. The room is, however, crowded with men who do the severest kind of manual labor. The mortality among such workmen is probably greater than among those of any other class in the world. The building in which the hottest place in New York is to be found is constructed entirely of iron. The floors are covered with a thick coating of cement. The awful heat is developed by a line of furnaces ranged along one side. They are used to melt certain very stubborn kinds of bronze which liquefies only at a much higher temperature than most metals. This New York branch of the infernal region is situated on Sixteenth street, near the East River.

The heat here is always so intense that only the strongest and most robust men are selected to face it. Very stout men, or men of weak, delicate constitutions often have fainted on exposure to this heat. Indeed, it often happens that the most hardened workmen fall under the strain when they happen to be a trifle out of condition.

New men are permitted to stay near the raging furnaces for only a few moments at a time at first. The temperature, of course, varies in different parts of the room. In the corners furthest removed from the fire it is only about 100 degrees. The men face the mouth of the furnace, and then rush back to the corners to catch a few labored breaths, which they call resting. The men work in relays, so that one set may have a chance to cool off somewhat in the less torrid atmosphere every few minutes. A person unaccustomed to the strain would be almost suffocated in the coolest part in the room. On the hottest days in Summer these workmen spend their dinner hour in lying about where the sun beats down, and find this blistering heat cool and refreshing. It often happens that even on such exposure these poor fellows catch dreadful colds.

The men who live so much of their time in this intense heat have a life peculiar to themselves. They are obliged to live at all times at so high a temperature that many every day occupations are impossible to them, because it would take them into an atmosphere so cool that it would mean death to them. The intense heat of this imitation Hades renders the skin of the workmen so sensitive to cold that even in Summer time they must exercise great care to ward off pneumonia and similar diseases. In the Winter months their situation becomes even more complicated. The pleasures of sleigh-riding or skating, for instance, would be as severe a strain on these fellows as a voyage of polar exploration would be to most people. The effect of this intense heat on the skin is first to blister it and then to dry it up so that it is almost parched. Gradually, however, the skin becomes accustomed to the condition, and the pores are opened and the workmen perspire freely. This, of course, brings relief, and enables a man, if he has an iron constitution, to bear up under the strain for a few hours at a time. The perspiration comes so freely, when the workman faces the open mouth of the furnace that it gathers in little rivulets which run off his chin in a continuous stream. The dirt in the room settles down upon this greasy surface, and in a few moments converts the cleanest workman into a very good imitation of a negro.

Costumes during business hours are necessarily somewhat scanty. These the men change for clothing of the heaviest sort on leaving the place. The floor, which is covered with cinders and the scale which falls from the red-hot metal, is usually so hot that ordinary leather shoes would be shrivelled up in a few moments. The heat is so intense that ordinary clothes would catch fire. It is also impossible for any of these workmen to wear spectacles or eyeglasses while at work, since the heat which is encountered near the furnace would soon crack the thickest glass, and metal eyeglass frames would get so hot that they would burn the nose. Eyebrows and eyelashes also suffer so that most of the men have a very singed appearance. The furnace is kept at white heat day and night. Like its infernal counterpart, this frightful temperature never lets up for a moment on a single day in the year. The interior may be viewed with entire comfort from the street, so that it should serve as a very valuable object lesson to a considerable portion of the population of this wicked city.

Waiting for Light.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

A story is told of a parson who had had a call from a little country parish to a large and wealthy one in a big city. He asked time for prayer and consideration. He did not feel sure of his light. A month passed. Finally some one met his youngest son in the street. "How is it, Jestah?" said his neighbor. "Is your father going to B——?" "Well," answered the youngster, judiciously, "paw is still prayin' for light, but most of the things is packed."

No Partisanism There.

[Philadelphia Record.]

In naming three Republicans and two Democrats on the Commission to ascertain the rightful boundary line between British Guiana and Venezuela, President Cleveland has given evidence that there is no partisanship or merely political meaning in his practical assertion of the Monroe doctrine.

An Unhappy New Year.

[Chicago Record.]

It is a matter of regret that Uncle Sam is obliged to plunge deeper in debt at the very moment when most people are paying up and opening a new balance sheet.

Time to Reach.

[Chicago Inter-Ocean.]

This is the time above all others for the United States to reach out and control South American markets. Congress should see to that.

Mr. Carlisle and Noah.

[Jacksonville Times-Union.]

Secretary Carlisle doesn't like the greenback, and yet even old Noah was glad when the dove brought the green back.

Seen from a Distance.

[Detroit Free Press.]

It looks very much at this distance as though the criminals concentrated in New York are running that city, with the Police Department a poor second in the race.

Riding for a Fall.

[St. Louis Republic.]

A D[illegible] Convention cannot be held in New Y[illegible]

"LITTLE SUPPERS" FOR PRETTY ACTRESSES COME HIGH.

"A little supper after the show with a pretty actress" is the proper thing for the Johnnies to talk about. But the pretty actress's little supper costs a big price. Hence most of the Johnnies only talk about it. It will be observed from the following menus, prepared by the eight most popular of the pretty actresses now in New York, for instance, that their tastes are expensive as well as delicate. If a fortunate youth should buy a little supper for each one of these petted darlings, he would find when he went home after the eighth feast that there was a little hole in his bank account. It would take $70.95 to fill it up again. Carriages and flowers would cost extra. These prices, of course, include two covers. It is not to be expected that the Johnny would go hungry until the next day.

JULIA NEILSON'S WALDORF SUPPER.

OYSTERS.
Lind Haven 50
ENTREE.
Squab on Toast . $1.60
HORS D'OEUVRES.
Celery 60
Olives 25
COFFEE.
Small Black 30

Johannisberger (Cabinet), $4.00.
Tip, $1.00.

Miss Neilson Says: "I could not think to order anything without my husband, but it would be something like this"— and it would cost $8.25.

BESSIE BECCWOOD'S HOFFMAN ORDER.

OYSTERS.
Blue Points, of course.50
POISSON.
A nice little Fried Sole, with Fried Potatoes . . $1.60
ENTREES AND HORS D'OEUVRES.
And then any little things that were knocking about, like Celery, Olives, Cheese, Biscuits and Cress $1.20

Plenty of Bass's Ale (White Lebel), $1.40.
Tip, a Shilling.

Bonnie Bessie's Appetite Is Good, but Her Tastes Are Simple, and a Five-Dollar Bill Would Meet All the Expenses.

ADA DARE'S ST. JAMES SUGGESTION.

OYSTERS.
Blue Points on the deep shell 50
HORS D'OEUVRE.
Celery 40
ENTREE.
Asparagus, Sauce Hollandaise .60
ROTI.
Partridge . . . $1.60
SALAD.
Lettuce, French Dressing, .30
Camembert Cheese and Water Crackers . .50
Coffee, .50

Pérrier Jouet, $3.50. Tip, $1.00.

Ada Dare Thinks She Could Worry Along for a Little While with This Slight $8.90 Refreshment if the Company Was Pleasant.

YVETTE GUILBERT'S SAVOY FANCY.

OYSTERS.
Des Blue Points . .50
POTAGE.
Consomme en tasse . .50
ENTREE.
Pate de Foie Gras $1.00
Cold Meats of all kinds $1.00
SALAD.
Pommes de Terre aux Truffles, .75.

Compote de Tres Beaux Fruits, $2.00.
Veuve Clicquot, $7.50. Tip, $1.00.

"For me, of custom, I take one little egg. With Monsieur Van-dair-beelt, perhaps, I should ordair some very good supper—with, ah! lots and lots of champagne." Total, $14.25.

MARIE STUDHOLME'S WALDORF SPREAD.

FRUIT.
Melon 50
OYSTERS.
The smaller the better 50
POISSON.
Dressed Crab . . $1.00
ROTI.
Pheasant . . . $1.50
DESSERT.
Ices, .30. Peaches in season, .75.
Coffee, .30

Pomard, $3.00.
Tip, $1.00.

Marie Studholme Could Help Spend $8.85 for "a Good After-the-Theatre Supper Regardless of Expense."

OLGA NETHERSOLE'S SAVOY SIMPLICITY.

POTAGE.
Clam Broth 50
OYSTERS.
Blue Points preferred.50
ROTI.
Dry Toast 25

Johann Hoff's Malt Extract, .30
(Corkage for same), .50
Tip, .25

Miss Nethersole "Eats Only to Live," but Thinks She Could Live Sufficiently Well After the Theatre for $2.30 (Two Covers).

THERESA VAUGHN'S DELMONICO SUPPER.

POTAGE.
Chicken Bouillon . . .50
ENTREE.
Kidneys a la Diablo .50
ROTI.
Roast Partridge, with bread sauce.$1.50
SALAD.
Escarolles Chapon. .50

Camembert and Toasted Crackers . . .30.

CAFE NOIR, 30.

Ruinart Brut, $4.00. Tip, $1.00.

Miss Vaughn Would Enjoy This "Very Comfortable Little Supper," Which Would Only Cost $8.60 for a Small Party of Two.

BESSIE CLAYTON'S DELMONICO APPETITE.

OYSTERS.
Small Blue Points . .50
HORS D'OEUVRE.
Celery 40
POTAGE.
Bouillon en tasse . .50
ROTI.
Philadelphia Squab . . $1.60
Crackers and Neuchatel Cheese, .30
COFFEE.
Petit Verre de Cognac, .50

Clos de Vougeat, $5.00.
Dry Monopole, $4.00. Tip, $1.00.

Bessie Clayton Could Stave Off Starvation for an Hour or Two with This Little Supper for Two at $13.80.

A MODERN BLACK KNIGHT.

Samuel Lewis, of Sierra Leone, the First of His Color to Be Made a Baronet by the Queen.

London, Jan. 4.—Of all the unusual actions which have distinguished the long reign of Queen Victoria, none has attracted more attention than the bestowal of knighthood upon Samuel Lewis, of Sierra Leone. He is the first pure-blooded negro upon whom the grace of baronetcy has descended.

Lewis is the Chief Justice of Sierra Leone. He is as black as night. While his manner and language show him to have enjoyed educational advantages, his features are those of the typical negro, without the slightest trace of white blood. It is almost always said of the African who gains even moderate distinction that it is due to white ancestry, but this statement cannot be made of Lewis, for, as he says, "No base-born white blood courses in my veins."

This new baronet is over six feet in stature, and of prodigious strength. He is forty-seven years old, and the father of fifteen children, all of whom are alive. His early life was that of the ordinary man of his color, his father being a servant of one of the dignitaries of Sierra Leone. Association, as a servant, with men holding Government positions, and frequent attendance upon the courts, gave the naturally bright boy's mind a legal tendency. By the time he was fifteen years old he had managed to secure considerable knowledge, and in this accumulation was an astonishing amount of law. His employer one day surprised him deep in a volume of Chitty, and wonderingly asked what he was doing with a book like that. The boy answered, almost shamefacedly, that he hoped some day to be a lawyer.

Delighted by the quiet ambition, his employer talked encouragingly to him, induced him to tell his hopes and fears, and then took him in hand. He was, although continuing a servant, given every opportunity to increase his knowledge of the law, and by the time he was of sufficient age for admission to the bar he was possessed of more legal lore than three-fifths of the members who had been practising for years.

It is related that the first case of importance he had to try was that of an orphan who had been swindled by relatives. The orphan had no means, but Lewis, who was just then seeking reputation, took the case. The trial came on, the evidence was introduced, and the plaintiff's case did not seem strong. Finally, the evidence was all in and the arguments began. Lewis spoke strongly, pleadingly, feelingly, referring to his client as "one of that class of sorrow over whom the Bible declares the Lord keeps special watch and ward."

"Yes," sneeringly interrupted the opposing counsel, "but the Bible also says it was the enemies, not the emissaries, of the Lord who were in black."

"Your Honor," said Lewis, addressing the Court, "I would respectfully call the gentleman's attention to the fact that some of God Almighty's noblest deeds have been accomplished under the kindly protection of His dark-faced servant. Night, and that the individual who tempted the Saviour of mankind in the wilderness and the man whose only claim to fame is a frightful slaughter of children both had white faces."

The court room fairly rang with applause at the young lawyer's keen retort to the slur both upon his race and reputation. The jury found for his client without leaving the box. From that day his success dates, as well as the application of the nickname he will carry to his grave, of "Bible" Lewis.

The new baronet's ancestry is, instead of being a matter of reproach, one of pride to him. "My ancestors," he is fond of saying, "were kings. Just as great monarchs in their way as Caesar or Napoleon. To be sure, their empires were not so great, but they ruled with wisdom, extended their territory by conquest, were respected by the better class and feared by evildoers. Why should I not be proud of such a descent? No base-born white blood flows in my veins. I am of the African aristocracy—just as great in its way as that of England. To be sure, I was a servant, but of that I am not in the least ashamed. It is better to earn your living honestly as a menial than to pose as a gentleman at the expense of your friends."

By such utterances as these and the exercise of a keen sense of justice, Lewis has gained great popularity throughout Sierra Leone. His own race look upon him as a sort of demi-god. Whatever he asserts is considered an absolute fact. This trust he well keeps by never abusing it. To his white associates he is dignified and gentlemanly, always recognizing the fact of the ineffaceable racial distinction. His home is very pleasant, and bears every mark of the residence of persons of good taste and cultivation. The members of his family are as thoroughly African in appearance as himself, and each one bright and industrious.

Lewis visited London several years ago and made an excellent impression by his dignified demeanor and manifest keen intelligence.

Morton in the Saddle.

[Philadelphia Record.]

Governor Morton's message on the internal affairs of New York State goes out of its way to treat the Venezuelan question, but only to bestride it in a cautious and non-committal way—hardly the position to be taken by one whose aspiration at this time is to one day wear the sash and epaulets of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States.

A Duke in Rags and Tatters.

His Duchy Is York, Pa., but He Dwells in the Town of Reading.

An Imagination Dealing Exclusively in Fine Clothing of All Descriptions.

THERE'S METHOD IN HIS MADNESS.

He Accumulates Dollars in Various Ways and Is Said to Be Far from Being Poverty Stricken—His Description of Himself.

Reading, Pa., Jan. 11.—One of the quaint characters of Reading, who is a source of interest to both townsmen and strangers, is "Hon." Thomas J. Cremmings, "Duke of York, Pa.," as he styles himself. Every one knows this queer little chap, who peddles shoe laces and various other things. When he returns from a trip to York there is nearly as much ado as over the homecoming of the Prodigal Son.

While Thomas is both clever and keen, it is only the cunning of a lunatic, for a lunatic he certainly is considered. While apparently rational on every subject, the topic of clothes mentioned to him at once reveals his weakness. He is happy in the belief that he is the proud possessor of unlimited clothes—not six or even a dozen suits, but of a wardrobe that would make the most fastidious livid with envy. There are clothes, hats, shoes and even canes for every possible occasion.

In reality his wardrobe consists of one suit, and it can hardly be called that. It consists of a pair of trousers, an odd-looking little jacket, and a high white hat that has seen very much better days. While he is known to be insane, still no one fears him; in fact, every one is his friend. Among Thomas's other accomplishments is that of a stump speaker. For fifteen or twenty cents he will deliver a stirring speech on the issues of the day. Just at present he refers to Venezuela as one of the suburbs of the United States.

There are few business men who are more clever advertisers than this same Tommy Cummings. To the most prominent men he sends his photograph, with the following letter: "Of course, this is a sort of curiosity." Strangers who read this naturally look up the original. Wonderful stories he tells, too, and when one looks at him carefully he wonders if there is not method in his madness. His letters are misspelled and anything but grammatical. Perhaps no better illustration of his oddities and beliefs can be given than the following, written by himself for the Journal and which is given verbatim:

"This is A. discription of the Honorable Thomas J Cremmings of Reding Berk. County Penn. that is my self of my large extensive wardrobe of clothing I have in Reading, every person I Give a Picture or a Photograph of my self I give a letter writing of my self and all about my ward robe. I have in Reading 70 trunks, full; cost 2000 dollars of clothing. I have 47 Bran new Suits of clothing, 31 new over coats, 31 new hats, 12 new pair of shoes, a gold watch, A Silver Watch, 2 silver Watch Chains, 4 gold Watch Chains, 10 new neckties, 5 new Silk Hats, 5 new colors of Silk handkerchiefs, 5 new collors of silk handkerchiefs, 5 new collors of kid gloves 5 new kinds of canes 2 setts of dimond studs for fine shirts, 4 dimond necktie pins. I have A gold Saddle, cost 35 dollars new leather saddle, a blue saddle cloth fastened on top. A gold nob fast on top of the saddle, 2 rows of 1 inch and 1 half of gold Breade is trimed Clean Around the saddle cloth 1 half foot from each other, 2 gold stares Both Sides of the saddle cloth. 2 gold Eagles each side of the saddle, gold keystone mettais of dimonds, each side of the saddle I have a gold Bridle, 2 double rains on a long Bitt to it one rain goes through the lower part of the Bitt other rain goes through the middle bitt. 2 gold eagles on the Bridle, 1 Eagle on the left side of the Bridle along the left jaw other gold eagle on the other side of the Bridle on the right jaw. 2 gold Stares on the Bridle, one on the left side of the Bridle on the left side of the ear, other on the right side of the Bridle on the right side of the Ear. Same kind of stare. A keystone gold mettal on the Centre Maine temple on the middle top part of the head of the horse. I have a gold sword, a gold scabbard case to it, a gold handle to it, a solid Steel Blalde to it, a gold belt to it, A gold Carrying strap to hold up the shard. I have 7 collors of new stile uniforms. A dark Blue Broad Cloth, a light blue broad cloth uniform, A green broad cloth uniform, A yellow velvet uniform, A white velvet uniform, A lavender uniform, a red uniform and new overcoat to match."

With all his queer notions and performances, Tommy's business aptitude is such that popular belief makes him the possessor of considerable money. Any references to this, however, produces a vigorous denial. He is Reading's queerest character, and one which would be sadly missed.

Forty Suits of Clothes Are the Pride of the "Duke of York, Pa."
(From a photograph taken especially for the Journal.)