

# MANY NEW THINGS IN BICYCLES.

## BRAKES BECOMING POPULAR.

Interest in the output of bicycles for 1898 does not begin and end with the new bevel gear that is attracting so much attention just at present. The new chainless comes as an experiment seeking popular favor, and the number that will be in use at the close of next season will be very small when compared to the number of chain wheels, although with a reduction in price and more perfected details the bevel gear is undoubtedly the coming wheel.

The bevel gear will not be the only

radically new contrivances for holding the seat post and handle bar stem in place.

To regulate the height of the handle bar it is only necessary to turn a collar, which action will leave the handle bar free to slide up or down. Reversing the operation secures the handle bar in place. The saddle adjustment is manipulated by pressing a small lever which projects from the side of the frame. This action will incline upward a tapered eccentric disk inside the seat post tube, freeing the post.

**Leaves Better Than Lightning Rods.**  
The green leaf is the best conductor of electricity—that most powerful and destructive of all the forces of the earth. To guard our homes and public buildings from its destructive action, we erect our lightning rods, whose sharp points quietly drain the clouds, or, failing to do this, receive the discharge and bear it harmlessly to the earth. But ages before Franklin pointed the first lightning rod to the storm, God has surrounded the dwellings of man with a protection far more effectual than this; for since the creation of organic life every pointed leaf and blade of grass has been silently disarming the clouds of their destructive weapons. A twig covered with leaves, sharpened by nature's exquisite workmanship, is said to be three times as effectual as the metallic points of the best constructed rod. And when we reflect how many thousands of these vegetable points every large tree directs to the sky and consider what must be the efficacy of a single forest with its innumerable leaves, or of a single meadow with its countless blades

## HELPS FOR HOUSEWIVES.

### Freezes in the Window.

An amateur recommends this method of growing freezies in the window: Plant an inch deep in rich soil. Put in the dark and in a cool place till they have sprouted, then bring to light and air. Keep the pots in deep saucers, fill them (the saucers) with hot water every morning. Warm the water used for watering them. See that the drainage is perfect. They require a great deal of water as do most bulbs grown indoors, but they cannot endure a stagnant soil.

### Preparing and Cooking Ducks.

Ducks, in point of quality, rank as follows: Canvasback, redhead, mallard and teal. The canvasback probably outranks everything in the way of game in the estimation of good fivers. No seasoning or spices are used in its cooking; none could add to its perfect flavor. Pluck, singe and draw the birds; wiping out the inside with a cloth wet in salt water, never washing; truss, dust lightly with salt (inside and outside), and bake twenty-five minutes in a hot oven. Baste often in melted butter and hot water—one part butter to three of water. If preferred rare (conceded the better way), cook only twenty minutes. In serving, pour over the liquor yielded in the cooking.—Woman's Home Companion.

### The Odor of Food.

The odor of food is always to be dreaded in the upper rooms of a home where sometimes there seems no preventing the penetration, no matter how far removed the kitchen, of certain highly-scented dishes. In the sick room it is peculiarly to be feared, as is the lingering odor of medicines and of food carried there, which often distresses the invalid. In such cases it is well to have laid aside, for the purpose, a number of sheets of brown wrapping-paper which have been soaked in saltpetre water and allowed to dry. On one of these pieces a handful of dried flowers of lavender—to be bought of any druggist—should be placed, and then the whole, laid in a fireproof utensil, as a coal-scuttle, should be set blazing. The refreshing scent will completely destroy any rival, and will not prove a remedy worse than the disease.

### Flower Stall for a Bazaar.

A flower stall is one of the most decorative of all booths for a bazaar. The stand should be covered with a framework of rustic wood in the form of light arches. Woodbine, bitter-sweet and clematis should be trained over this, and in each of the arches a hanging basket, filled with ferns, should be suspended. Fruit may be so effectively arranged with the foliage that this seems the best place to sell it. Grapes and their leaves, rosy apples, peaches and pears will be very attractive, and cut flowers, houstonias, growing plants, baskets, etc., should be sold. Novelties in the way of table ornamentation, filled with flowers, should sell well and help to trim up the stall. The entire decoration of a dinner table might be exhibited, as a centre of very pale mauve pongee wreathed in Virginia creeper with candlesticks with yellow shades and little vases of yellow glass filled with the creeper. Also a blue table centre, with imitation silver vases filled with scarlet blossoms. These ideas may, of course, be so arranged that intending purchasers can, if they desire it, take only a part of the whole scheme, or buy the centre, vases and all.—New York Post.

### Recipes.

**Ham a la Brabanconne**—Boil and mash six potatoes, adding salt, pepper and hot milk as for the table. Beat hard for five minutes, then stir into them three tablespoonfuls of finely-chopped lean ham, one tablespoonful of chopped parsley and one teaspoonful of onion juice; turn into a buttered dish, cover the top with buttered bread crumbs and bake twenty minutes in a hot oven.

**Lemon Cheese Cakes**—Boil a pint of rich milk. Beat the yolks of four eggs, add to the milk and let boil until a curd is formed. Drain off the whey. Put the curd into a deep dish and mix with quarter of a pound of butter. Let cool; add the beaten yolks of two eggs and half a small cup of powdered sugar. Flavor with a little nutmeg and the juice of a lemon. Bake in a rich crust with which you have lined party pans, then cool, dredge with sugar and serve.

**Baked Chocolate Custard**—Put three tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate in a saucepan and set over hot water until it melts. Add gradually one cupful of milk, stirring until smooth and set at the side of the stove. Beat together three tablespoonfuls of sugar and three eggs, add one cupful of cold milk, then the contents of the saucepan. Pour into cups, set in a deep pudding dish and pour around them sufficient hot water to reach a little more than half-way up the sides of the cups. Place in a slow oven and cook until firm in the centre; test by putting in the point of a knife blade; if done it should come out clean.

**Cream of Mushroom Soup**—Peel, rinse and cut fine one pound of mushrooms; put them into a porcelain-lined soup kettle, cover with one quart of good chicken or veal stock and cook until tender. Press through a sieve and return to the kettle; add four tablespoonfuls of sago and cook fifteen minutes longer; season with lumpy butter, half teaspoonful of salt and few shakes of white pepper; add a quart of milk, scalded, and simmer five minutes. Take out one cup of the soup and mix it with the beaten yolks of three eggs, pour slowly into the soup and take at once from the fire.

# THE REALM OF FASHION.

The accepted length for all winter garments, says May Manton, is slightly greater than that adopted for fall. The stylish jacket here shown meas-



DOUBLE-BREADED JACKET FOR WINTER.

ures twenty-six inches from the neck to the lower edge. The material is rough-faced cloth, which is bound with fur and trimmed with braid.

much modified in width according to the latest modes. The back is laid in fan plaits, two on each side, turning towards the centre and flaring towards the foot as the name indicates. The handsome trimming, applied in Van Dyke style, is supported by an under-facing of light-weight hair-cloth or canvas. The prominence given to braid for all kinds of trimming gives endless possibilities as to the manner of decorating such a toilette, individual taste deciding in nearly every instance. This gives variation even when designs are similar. Combinations that are always in order when a costume has to be remodeled, can be stylishly developed by making the full fronts and sleeves of a contrasting material, or the bolero fronts and epaulettes can be of velvet, heavy silk, plaid or plain-faced cloth in harmonizing shades.

### Misses' Blouse With Plastron Yoke.

No design is more youthful than the blouse with plastron yoke, and none lends itself more readily to the use of two materials. The model shown combines plaid in soft wool stuff with silk which matches the line of rich blue running through the design. The trimming consists of the popular black velvet ribbon and a quilting of the blue silk about the free edges. The belt is of black velvet and the collar of the silk banded with black. The foundation of the blouse is a fitted lining showing the usual number of



WAIST AND FOUR-GORED SKIRT WITH FAN BACK.

With it is worn a hat of long-haired beaver simply banded with ribbon. The coat proper consists of fronts, backs, side-backs and under-arm gores. The fitting is accomplished by means of the last and the shoulder-seams. The backs and under-arm pieces are adjusted to the figure, the backs being finished by regulation coat laps below the waist line, but the fronts are loose. The right side laps well over onto the left, where the closing is invisibly effected. Two pockets, finished with overlaps, are conveniently placed. The neck is finished with a straight band and high flaring collar. The sleeves are two-seamed and show a slight fullness at the shoulder. The coat is lined throughout with plaid taffeta silk.

To make this jacket for a lady in the medium size will require one and three-fourths yards of fifty-four-inch material.

### Ladies' Waist and Four-Gored Skirt.

In the double-column design ribbon, in one of the rich new shades of brown, is stylishly trimmed with mohair braid in a darker shade, olives decorating the cross strips that enhance the style of the rounded bolero fronts. The folded belt of bias velvet widens at the under-arm seam, a handsome gilt buckle concealing the closing in centre-front. The construction of the waist is exceedingly simple and very generally becoming. The full front, being only slightly bloused, makes it particularly well adapted for stout figures. Linings fitted with the usual seams and double darts serve as a foundation, on which the fulness of both back and fronts is deftly arranged. The bolero fronts are included in the shoulder and under-arm seams, and join the smart, close-fitting collar, which, with the full fronts, closes invisibly in centre. The close-fitting sleeve is shaped with an upper and under portion, the latter being narrow in the latest and most approved shape. A stylish ripple circular cap trimmed with braid finishes the top of sleeve. The skirt has front gores, being

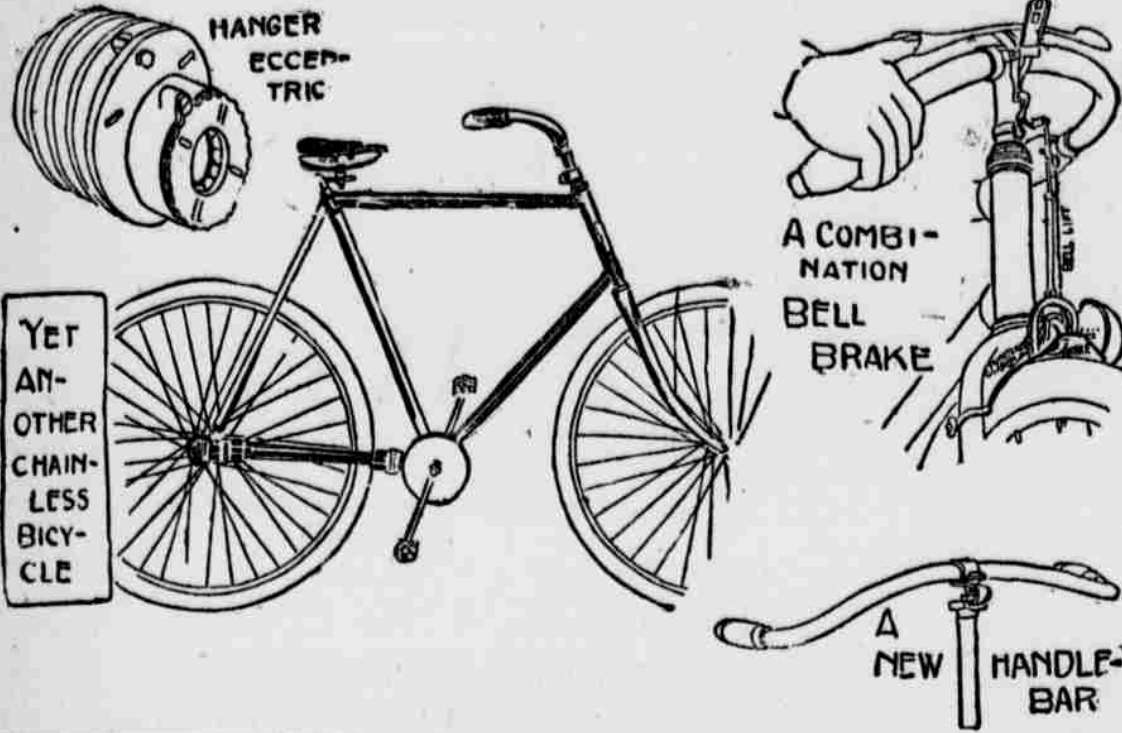
seams and pieces and which close at the centre-front. The back portion of the yoke is faced onto the lining, but the front is made separate and is seamed at the right shoulder and hooked over to the left. The blouse proper has short shoulder and under-arm seams only, the slashed basque portion being cut separate and seamed to the blouse at the waist line. The right front is stitched to the lining, but the left hooks into place beneath the trimmed edge. The sleeves are two-seamed and snug to the shoulder, where slight puffs support the stylish epaulettes. Cashmere and Henrietta,



MISSES' BLOUSE.

as well as novelty goods of all sorts, are peculiarly suitable and many effective combinations of plain dark color and plaid or striped yoke can be made, while shirred velvet and silk make ideal yokes for plain stuffs.

The hide of the hippopotamus, in some parts, is two inches thick.



YET ANOTHER CHAINLESS BICYCLE

new feature in bicycles for next year. Chain wheels are too popular, and too many of them are in practical use to be cast aside in an instant for the new high-priced affair. A year or two ago most of the cycling public was made up of people who could afford to pay the steep prices demanded by the manufacturers for their products. Since then times have changed, and keen competition has become rife, which has brought the cost of bicycles down to a level that makes it possible

When the lever is released the pressure on the saddle renders the adjustment firm. As both handle bar and seat post tubes are slotted to receive the internal adjustments, they cannot be inserted out of line with the frame.

And these are but a few of the good things that the manufacturers have in store for the riding public next year. There are to be gear cases galore. Up to this time few makers in this country have made any attempt to fit gear cases to their bicycles, chiefly because there has not been a very large demand for them.

The much-mooted question of power transmission will resolve itself in the minds of many riders, whose analysis of the subject does not comprehend its strictly mechanical phase, into a study of internal gearing solely a mitigation of the nuisance of mud clogged and stiffened chains, a reform which gear cases alone could accomplish without sacrificing the many points of superiority which the chain possesses over a combination of bevel gears. Unless some unexpected discoveries are made which will greatly improve the best of present chainless patterns, a chain-driven machine will be preferred as possessing fewer disadvantages, especially as the addition of a gear case will be an effectual remedy for one of the principal drawbacks which bevel gears are intended to overcome.

There are several new designs of handle bars on the market. One in particular has a device which will absorb the vibration before it enters the bar. The bar is rigid in steering and is also rigid in climbing a hill, as the pull tends to strengthen the spring by which it is fastened to the head.—New York Journal.

### The Locust Bean Tree.

On account of the high price of forage for horses in South Africa, and also of the small supply, an enquiry is being made as to whether the locust bean tree cannot be acclimated in

of grass, we see how abundant the protection from the storm is, and with what care Providence has guarded us from the destructive force.—London Echo.

### China's Great Wall.

The great wall of China was recently measured by Mr. Unthank, an American engineer. His measurements gave the height as eighteen feet. Every few hundred yards there is a tower twenty-five feet high. For 1300 miles the wall goes over plains and mountains, every foot of the foundation being solid granite and the rest of the structure solid masonry.

### Henry Varley, London's Butcher-Freacher



He left the cleaver for the pulpit, built a church in London, England, and is now preaching to large audiences in this country. He is considered one of England's foremost evangelists.

### Crime and Atmosphere.

Dr. W. L. Moore, chief of the weather bureau at Washington, who is both physician and meteorologist, states that during the months of January, February and March 1200 suicides were reported in the United States. In July, August and September there were 1600. There were 1700 murders and fifty persons lynched or hanged during the three cold months, and 2500 murders and 113 hanged or lynched during the three hot months. Investigations are being conducted in regard to the connection between crime and atmospheric conditions.

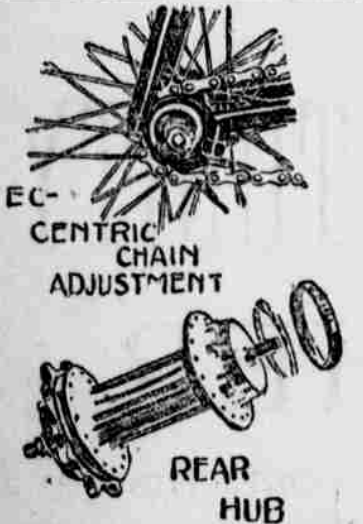
The waters of North America are stocked with 1800 different varieties of fish.

### A Thoughtful Woman.



First Farmer—"My ole woman is the most thoughtful and generous soul alive."

Second Farmer—"Dew tell?"  
First Farmer—"Why, when she goes through my overalls after market day, she jes' keeps out a quarter fer me ter give missionaries on Sunday."

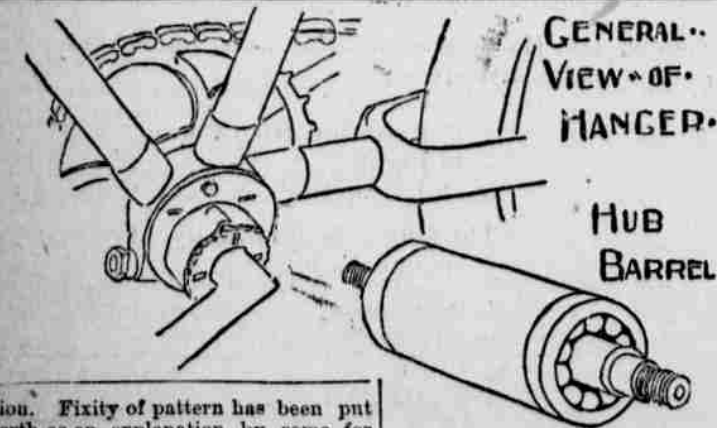


ECCENTRIC CHAIN ADJUSTMENT

REAR HUB

for almost anybody to buy them. And with increased numbers there is an increased demand for a cheaper price and better quality.

Outside of the chainless variety, bicycles, in all probability, will be cheaper next year than ever before, while details in construction will receive more attention than formerly, for many have learned from bitter experience that low prices, good quality and simplicity must be combined to insure successes in bicycle construction.



GENERAL VIEW OF HANGER.

HUB BARREL

tion. Fixity of pattern has been put forth as an explanation by some for the present chaotic condition of the cycle trade. And it is true that in the present type of bicycles manufacturers think they have attained that point when departures will be in the nature of retrogression rather than improvement.

A local maker has perfected an arrangement of a hollow axle containing an absorbent wick, doing away with the necessity of frequent oiling of the bearings; has devised an eccentric chain adjustment which regulates the chain's tension without disturbing the alignment of the rear wheel; has provided dust-proof buttonholes in the hubs, which permit of spokes being taken out and replaced immediately, and dispenses with the wrench for adjusting the handle bar or saddle by providing simple but at the same time

Cape Colony. The carob or locust bean bears a long pod, which makes excellent food for horses, and is at the same time more portable than forage, and it is for these qualities that it is desired to introduce it. The carob is a tree much resembling the apple tree and flourishes in the countries around the Mediterranean. The pods have been imported into England for horses. The Arabs and Moors use the sweet pulp for food very largely. The locust tree of America is quite distinct from this.

The Rev. Dr. George C. Baldwin, of Troy, N. Y., has been marrying couples for over fifty years, and his list is said to have reached a total of 8000.