According to Hamilton W. Mabie, WHEELS AND the "Scarlet Letter" and "Pembroke" are the best American novels.

Manchester, England, is about to erect an equestrian statue to Sir Uharles Halle, the musical conductor, who never mounted a horse in his life

William E. Gladstone is not a humorist, but he recently remarked with a smile that he would be out of the fashion entirely if he did not learn to ride a bicycle.

A curious fact in connection with the bicycling habit, noted by the New York Mail and Express, is that the wheel is always tired and the wheelman never is; yet they invariably cover the same distance.

Some of the agricultural papers are urging some persons in each neigh-borhood of farmers to purchase a good spraying outfit and then announce his willingness to sprav for his nonnee in winningness to spray for his neighbors at moderate rates. The suggestion is a good one, and the Bos-ton Cultivator believes such a person could build up a considerable trade.

The London Truth is making war on the "snowball" method of collecting money for charities. It seems to be the same system which in this country is known as the "chain letter," and has proved an intolerable nuisance. The particular "snowball" which arouses Truth's ire is one started by a Mrs. de Mesquita to raise funds for Guy's Hospital.

The narrow Baltic seas have a worse The narrow Battle seas have a worse record for wrecks than any other por-tion of the globe. The annual num-ber of such casualties exceeds one a day, ranging from 425 to 154, and in or below for these numbers. one-half of these cases all the crews were lost. In the four years from 1877 to 1881, no less than 700 lives were lost there.

There is a great future for the beef trade in the United States, maintains the Silver Knight. We know of the Silver Knight. We know of nothing faithfully and scientifically followed up that will bring in better all round results than raising beef eattle, really first-class animals. But they must be first-class. The day when Americans will put up with tough and stringy meat has gone by.

Walter Besant has been examining into the names of English women in the early centuries, and finds that the most popular were such as are most in use to-day. Alice, Agnes, Isabella, Sybil, Edith, Lucy, Beatrice, Matilda, Amy, Agatha, Anna, Mary, Eva, Felicia, Helen, Mabel, Muriel, Margaret, Ida, Katharine, Emma, Rose, Sarah, as well as some that have dropped out of common use.

Daniel Chester French has attained the distinguished honor of being the first American artist to whom permission has been granted to erect an outdoor statue in Europe. The statue will be of George Washington, and will cost \$20,000. A group of American women formed themselves into the Washington Memorial Association, and after raising the necessary funds secured the consent of the municipal authorities of Paris to crect a statue in the French capital on Rue Washington.

Says the Philadelphia Inquirer: Word comes from Nebraska that the reputed cures effected by Schlatter, the healer, through the laying on of hands, have turned out to be no cures at all. When anything was really the matter with the workings of the phy-sical machinery the distressing symptoms have returned, and it is even said that a number of persons who thought that they had been healed by Schlatter and whose wonderful restoration to health was announced all over the United States are now in their graves

Is the frightful drouth that has decimated Australia and much of the Southern Hemisphere the past six or sight months likely to be compensated for by a similar drouth in this part of the world this present summer? This question the American Agricul turist submitted to Professor Willis L. Moore, Chief United States Weather Bureau, who replics: "The most exhaustive examination of rain fall statistics that has been made in re cent years shows that a period of deficient rainfall in one section of the globe is not balanced by a period of excessive rainfall in some other por-On the contrtry, the evidence tends to the belief that years of deficient rainfall are general over the greater portion of the Northern Hemisphere, at least. Many more years of observation at points well distributed over the earth's surface are needed, however, before we can arrive at any definite conclusion respecting rainfall neriodicity."

fig. and while in this jacket holes are drilled into the tubing for the introduction of stay pins. Then the frame is ready for brazing, and for this is subjected to a blue green gas fame, intensely bot. The frames then pass into the sand-blast room, where the scales on the frames produced during the process of brazing are remov-ed by a stream of air and sand. The con-nected tubing is next filed, polished, enam-iced and baked, when it is ready for the assembly room. A large proportion of the wire works of the country make bicycle spokes. They are made of piano wire, and the right kind are tested to immense strains. A trouble which has been encountered is the crystallization and breaking of the steel where bent for attachment at the hub. In some wheels this trouble has been elim-inated by an ingenious device by virtue of which the spokes need not be bent, and yet are tangents. About every city of consequence has one or more cabinet works where wood rims may be obtained. A square piece of sea-soned wood, of requisite length and thick-need the spoke neurous for ming how the steel to the steel this trouble has been elim-inated by an ingenious device by virtue of which the spokes need not be bent, and yet are tangents. WHEELERS. VERY indication points to a revolu-tion in motion being brought about by the advent of the biey-cle. A cardinal fea-ture in the develop-ment of wheeling is the husbanding and effective utilization of every unit of power, and this has brought the value of ball bearings promi-menty and general-by to the attention to appliances for the control of mo-la optime the smaller wheeling VERY indication



those who make and use all mainer of timan applicances for the control of mo-n. People are beginning to realize what ey have been losing by friction, and the text to which the use of ball bearings being applied is wonderful. They will used in street cars, effect a saving thousands of dollars in power, and con-blute much to the ease of the car's ovement. One provided with ball bear-ges that was lately built could be pulled ith a string when on a level road, so arely devoid of friction had it been ade. Ball bearings will be used ex-nsively in machinery, and in many anits have already been introduced. They e coming to be used in fine carriages, a thet use in higher class road vehi-es will become general when the motor triage shall have become a familiar ject upon our highways. Steel balls that cannot be crushed with set that a trantor be crushed with set han 7,000 pounds pressure may be irchansed so cheaply that bicycle manu-cturers leave their production to special toriots. The making of these little sontials to rapid movement is not a mplex process, but it is an exact one, or the tiny spheres of hard metal must it yield to where or pressure. A long rod i special steel is fed into an automatic explained, from which the balls cop at the rate of eleven a minute. Then year hardened and placed in quanti-cs between large plates which by rero-tion polish them down to absolute uni-runing in actioned and plates which by rero-tion polish them down to absolute uni-tion polish them down to absolute uni-THE LATEST NOVELTY IN WHEELS, steam, and the ends dovetailed together. Then the rim is turned out, a special groove being cut on the outside over the joint. In that groove a strip, or rather three strips of wood are hid, and like the dovetail joint, are glued fast. The grain of the inner strip is at right an-gles to the upper and lower strip. These add strength to the joint. The holes for the spokes are drilled at the bicycle fac-tory. The very essential rubber tires are formed from flat material in a mold. This is true of the thin inner tubes as well as of the tough outer casing. It is declar-for the present season than for previous ones.

ot the tough outer casing. It is declar-ed that the use of single tubes is greater for the present senson than for previous ones. The only bicycle patents now in force are those covering specialties. Approxi-mately 1,000 "makes" of wheels are at present produced in the United States. Some, a very few of the great establish-ments, where nearly 100,000 mounts are placed on the market annually, them-selves manufacture nearly every part which goes into the construction of the machine. But the vast majority of fac-tories parchase nearly every part from some special source, machining the drop forgings, and fitting and finishing the partly prepared material. Ten thousand dollars, a machine dealer informed the writer, would equip such a factory, while a bicycle dealer stated that \$3,000 would suffice for a good start. One master me-chanic is needed. With the steady and tremendous de-making is showing its results in the mar-velous increase in the number of fac-tories, and in the capicity of those that are established. About 1,000,000 wheels will be placed upon the market and prob-ably sold this summer, representing an outup by wheelmen of over \$50,000,000. How soon the revolution in prices will some sized that it would not be inside of two years. The cost to the manufa-turer is believed by many, on grounds satisfactory to themselves, to be between \$10 and \$20. Those handsome catalogues and a vigorous policy in advertisement and quite an increment, and allowance must be made for the guarantee. The vholesale dealer-the houses representing the factory in different sections of the country-comes in far a good share, while the retail dealer makes only 25 to 35 per cent. grade of a wheel depends on the e grade of a wheel depends on the egrade of a wheel depends on the bearing fully as unch as upon the perfection to balks. All wheels are not alike in respect, for some of the dehaper ones only "cusse hardened," making the inite liable to give way to wear in a arraitvely short time. The material te best bearing parts is credible test, known also as "tool steel," and the nan of a factory visited declared that includ was of such a quality that it the heatted in a store, and after be-ropped into cold water be of hardness ient to cut glass. All factories which any something more than the mere and and a state of the state of

195

IAMP

Contraction of

AN ELECTRIC BICYCLE.

bling of parts turn out their own

sembling of parts turn out their own ps and other bearings, and many con-uct the machinery with which they p made. They also manufacture their n cranks, spiders, sp.cokets and hubs on drop forgings purchased from high-ss foundries, of which quite a number st in different parts of the country. The big "barrel hub" which is now in zue has been called merely a freak of shion, and an opportunity for the in-duction of "something new" in the kac-up of the new season's wheel pro-ct. But there was better cause than s for its use; one is that by the greater liable to bend under trying circum-neces, while another is that the balls up he in better alignment, which con-butes much to the easy-running powers a machine. The whole hub, including e rind, is turned down from a cylinder drop forgings, the work being done part by hand, and in part automatical-One turning machine will cut from lety-three to ninety-seven a day. All the to the decy-seven a day. All the induction dy screams of lard of the points streams of lard or the mething the cus buck \$2,50 lay. cent. Another effect of the bicycle's advent is



The machinists receive about \$2.50 y. very few only of the bicycle factories he country drax their own tubing, the establishments in which this car-l part of a machine's structure is pro-d are not numerou., though capital-are preparing to add to the number ty. Some of the best known are in sachusetts, Pennsylvania and Ohio, metal from which tubing is made is oroduced in America yet, for a quality ore of particular fitness, prepared especial skill, is essential. The is come nostly from Germany and den. UMBRELLA HOLDER.

Bicycle Flirtation. Scorching-I do not care for your so-

ts come nostly from Germany and den. he process of drawing is a wonderful . A hollow cylinder, about three ies thick and about three feet long, is tende between powerful tongs by ter mechanical force to a length of r 100 feet by repeated bisections and ther stret.hing. The billet is cold an clasped by the tongs, better results gobtained in this way than by heat. The interior orifice of the billet is to to remain the same as that of the shed tubing, while being drawn, by insertion of a mandrill. Until re-Turning first one way and then the ther-What are your intentions?

A wrecked wheel and a girl in tears— You have made a mash.—Judge. Riding straight ahead with confident air—This is my own wheel; I never rent. Determined effort to view the back of the neck—Is my hind wheel on straight?

Wheeling Etiquette.

cently the short cylinder was made by folling around a mandrill, but now the core is punched out by powerful machine register is considered by should ride abreast, the lady always out that here secret.
 When ready for the markst the tubing is heright side. When a narrow road makes this impossible, the lady should ashed himself furtously against surgestreet.
 When ready for the markst the tubing is heright side. When a narrow road makes this impossible, the lady should ashed himself furtously against surgestreet.
 When ready for the markst the tubing is heright side. When a narrow road makes this impossible, the lady should ashed himself furtously against surgestreet.
 When ready for the markst the tubing is heright side. When a narrow road makes the lady should first dismount, that her may for one should not be ashed as that her escent may know at once should never assist a lady to more. Such a thing would be very distight to exceed the handle bars; or flattening to make the forks.
 To facilitate the work of the framemaker and to insure absolute uniformity in the adjustment, the tubing and drop forging connections are joined in an irow
 Knie consument of the rest.

NOTICE TO CYCLISTS

KEEP TO THE RIGHT

In cycling, as in everything else, leep year entertainments have crept in. In tandem riding a lady always sits in front, but now faddists would have us reverse this order of things. That usage, of course, will be discontinued after leap year, when normal conditions will once more be in vogue.

Notes of the Wheel. Michael, the European champion, use wheel geare ito 112 inches. It is reported that ten tandems hav been sold in 1806 for every one sold in been 1895.

1895. A one-legged bicyclist in eastern Maine is riding fifty miles a day in a tour across

is riding fifty miles a day in a tour across the country. The value of the wheels stolen in Eng-land last year, as reported by the police, amounted to \$60,000. A bicycle thief in Australia was sen-tenced recently to three years at hard labor for stealing a wheel. Someone has invented a saddle, and a neumatic one at that, that is located in the seat of the kulckerbockers. A bicycle is a good deal like a baby. A man is opposed to it on general principles until he has one of his own. A crelist in Bedfordshire, England, has

A cyclist in Bedfordshire, England, hat had his machine shattered under him by lightning, while he escaped unhurt.

It is now a misdemeanor to throw upon any road in New York State glass,tacks or any sharp substance likely to injure bicycle tires.

bicycle tires. In the Circuit Court at Grand Rapids, Mich., Judge Adsit has decided that a bicycle is personal property and not sub-ject to execution. Canvas cloth, fine woven wire and tan-ned rawhile with the second statement of the second seco

Canvas cloth, ince woven wire and tan-ned rawhide, put together and vulcanized, constitute material for a new tire which has just been patented. Au Englishman named Jefferson has started on a 6,000-mile bicycle ride to Ir-kutsk, Siberia. His machine and bag-gage weigh sixty pounds. The San Francisco aldermen have en-acted an ordinance which prohibits chilfeet.

"'Now, you, will you dance?' he

said. "My temper had come up with the

acted an ordinance which prohibits chil dren under 6 years of age riding or being taken out on a bicycle by their parents. The wife of Senator-elect Foraker of Ohio and her three daughters are enthu

ALL .

siasts on the bicycle. They will take their wheels with them to Washington when the Senator's official term begins.

TOO FOND OF MONKEYS.

TOO FOND OF MONKEYS.
A Huge Python Swallows One that Was Attached to a Chain.
An animal store in Williamsburg, N. Y., was recently the scene of a tragic affair, the suicide of a huge python.
During the night the monster reptile broke out of his box and swallowed a frisky monkey that was chained in a cage set close to the celling.
The python, in common with the other great constricting snakes, has the peculiarity that he can swallow an object of great size, but cannot re-linquish anything. If he swallows a tin can he is obliged to keep it. The jaws are joined by very elastic carti-lage, which permits them to open to a great width, but the sharp teeth all point backward toward the throat, and nothing can pass out between them. The nython had caught the wholed

COLUMN .

A PYTHON THAT HANGED ITSELF.

the appearance of rubber tires on car-riages. The most important, of course, is the effective impulse given to the good road movement.

Nervous glance from corner of left eye Are my gaiters buttoned? Down hill with both feet off the pedals I am considered a little fast.

Long skirt concealing the feet-Yes hank you; the folks in Chicago are al yell.

Wheeling etiquette is not yet in a very dvanced stage, although a few rules nove been hid down. A gentleman should never mount until he lady with whom he is riding is sti-led in her snddle. Then he may mount und follow her.

South Haller - new rule 1/100.



by jerked up his hand and looked at his bleeding fingers. They were barked and torn by the shock and bul-let, but were all there. The follow was thoroughly cowed and in terror for his life. ""Now you dance,' said Billy, and the cowboy struck up a double shuft as if he were thankful for the chance to do so. 'Faster,' came the com-mand, and the crowd laughed and jeered the cowboy as his feet clattered like the roll of a drum. 'Pray,' was the sudden order, and down the follow went on his knees, and rolled out such a prayer as he could find words to say, but it was something he was unused to, and with the best intentions he tripped and swore.

to, and with the best intentions he tripped and swore. " 'Here, no blasphemy !' exclaimed Billy, and fired a shot close by his ear as a pious reminder. "He kept the bad man performing

account, though I wouldn't mind helping you out. 'Twas to einch old Chisum that hires him; I've a grudge against him, and everybody that works for him. ''Billy had served for Chisum, the great cattle man, in the Lincoln County wars, and ho claimed that the old man had not paid him as agreed. So it was understood that he was wait-ing to square accounts after his own fashion, and Chisum's life was not re-garded as a safe insurance risk while the young outlaw was alive.'' Threatened With Death by a Cowboy for Refusing to Dance, the Out law Comes to the Rescue. for Refusing to Dance, the Outlaw Comes to the Rescue. MOS PENDLETON, a South-western cattleman, once met Billy the kid, the notorions desperado, under peculiar circumstances. Says Mr. Pendleton in the New York Sun: "It was at Tuleross, then a half Moxican vilage, where ranchmen came for supplies. One of its features was a general merchandise store with a sa-loon attachment. As I was standing in the store, a cowboy, just drunk enough to be thoroughly mean, came in from the saloon, and after flourish-ing his pistol about and cursing things in general, selected me as his partien-lar viceim. He said some uncompli-mentary things to me and then or-dered me to dance. When I tried to explain to him my objections to danc-ing under compulsion, he pointed his pistol at my feet. " Dance,' he commanded, growling out his words between his teeth with a nasty, grating drawl. "Get yer feet ter goin' quick. D'ye hear?" "I was unarmed, and I saw that he ment to shoot if I refused, but I would not have moved at his bidding to save my life. He gave me one look, primed with his teeth shut together, and fired into the floor close to my leet. " Now, you, will you dance?' he

A Tree That Stings.

A Tree That Stings. There has lately been added to the collection of plants in the Botanio Gardens at Madras, India, a specimen of a strango tree. It is in size scarcely more than a bush, but other indi-vituals of its species are known to have attained in their habitat in the Himalayas, Burmah and the Malacen Peninsula, the dimensions of a largo tree, from fifty to seventy-five feet in height. The Madras specimen is sur-rounded by a strong railing, which bears the sign "Dangerous-all per-sons are forbidden to touch the leaves or branches of the tree." It is, therefore, a forbidden tree in the midst of the garden, but no ono is temptel to touch it, for it is known to be a "Journing tree." The name is a misnomer, for the tree stings rather than burns. Beneath the leaves aro stings comparable to those of nettles, which, when touched, pierce the skin and secret a fuid which certainly has a burning effect. The sting leaves no outward sign,

which, when touched, pierce the skin and secret a fluid which certainly has a burning effect. The sting leaves no outward sign, but the sensation of pain persists sometimes for months, and is especial-ly keen on damp days, or when the place which has been wounded is plunged in water. The natives in the part of Burmah where this tree grows are in such terror of it that they fly in haste when they perceive the pecu-liar odor which it exhales. If they happen to touch it they fall on the ground and roll over on the earth with shricks. Dogs touched by it yelp and run, biting and tearing the part of their bodies which has been touched. A horse which has come in contact with a "burning tree" ran like a mad thing, biting everything and every-body that it could reach. A mission-ary at Mandalay who unvestiggted a

feet. "'Now, you, will you dance?' he sind. "'Now, you, will you dance?' he readed of the sense that the sense of the sense the sen

Peculiar Island.

Peculiar Island. Nirrafon, the volcanic "ring" island recently described by Licutenant Somervile in the Journal of the Jon-don Geographical Society, is a lonely spot midway between Fiji and Samoa. It is about three miles in external dameter, and the entire coast line is formed of black lava rocks. The internal diameter—that is to say, the diameter of the "caldera"—is two miles, and the eliffs surrounding it are 200 or 300 feet high. It contains a deep, calm lake, on the castern side of which is a peninsula formed by the craters of the eruption of 1886. The view from the summit of the eliffs around the "caldera" is of romarkable beauty, and includes a great expanse of the Facilie Ocean rolling under the southeast trade, as well as the still deep lake within, the laxuriant foli-age of the outer alope, and the barren cinder cones of the recent outburst.— London Globe.

"I suppose when you were in the White Mountains last summer you en-joyed the echoes very much?" "No, I didn't. I went to hear them with Charlie Hillard, and when they repeat-ed what he said they really bored me very much."-Harper's Bazar.

as a pious reminder.
"He kopt the bad man performing antics for a half hour or so, until the fellow begged for mercy.
"You shot the heel from that gentleman's boot," said Billy, "Take of your own boots. Now git."
"The fellow in his stocking feet ranshed for the door where his horse was tied, jumped to his back and got, glad enough of the chance to do so; the crowle are about me and some of the men in their rough way congratulated me on what they called the sand if that abown, and on the punishment in that had come to my tormentor. Of course, I thanked Billy, who looked at me with a cold stare in which was a gleam of recognition.
"I've seen you before,' he said.
"Own in the Rossino. You needn't take the trouble to thank me." He smited sliptly, showing a gleam of recognition.
'I didn't call the fellow down on your Courtier—"Has your majors baan. Courtier—"Has your majorsty read the 'History of the Sixteenth Dynasty.' by the royal historian? It is a master-piece." The King of Egypt—"Truly it is, but he ought to boil it down. It is long enough to cover three pyramids, and he knows I can't spare him more than one."—Truth. than one."--Truth. Mrs. Wurrey (to police captain)--"Have you found any trace of my boy? He's been away all day, and I can't find out anything as to his where-abouts." Police Captain--"Rest ensy, madam. Describe the boy and we'll send a man down to the continuous per-formance theater at once and get him for you."--Roxbury Gazette.

• •



Heat expands and cold contracts; but there are exceptions. Coal and gas bills are larger in winter than in sum-mer.—Norristown Herald.

mer.—Norristown Herald. Dukane—I never believe the things I hear in a barber shop. Gaswell—Why not? Dukane—It is all halr-say.— Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph. "Louise, where does the intellectual exercise come in in playing whist?" "Oh, in getting other people to pay at-tention to the game."—Chleago Record. Wather=Ne Robby: monor descript

tention to the game."-Chlcago Record. Mother-No, Bobby; money doesn't make folks happy-but I'll tell you what does. Bobby-I know, ma; it's the stuff what you get with it.-Judge. "Don't you think that 'Charity' is a queer title for your new book?" "Not at all. Charity begins at home, you know."-Philadelphia North American. Mrs. Wickwire-Why don't you even

Mrs. Wickwire-Why don't you ever wash your face? Dismal Dawson-Don't want the sun to git a chance to spile me complexion .- Indianapolis

to spile me complexion.—Indianapolis Journal. "After all, man is a generous being." "Yes, he is; I never saw a husband yet who wouldn't let some other man teach his wife to ride a wheel."—Chi-cago Record. To Fit the Appetite.—"What do you charge for board?" "Do you ride a bicycle?" "Yes; what difference does that make?" "I'll be \$1 more a week!" -Chicago Record. Reporter.-Here's a bit of news that is a scoop. City Editor-What is it? Reporter.-Here's a bit of news that is a scoop. City Editor-What is it? Reporter.-The shovel manufacturers have formed a trust.—Philadelphia North American. Hipson-Layson is the laziest man I know. Juggles-Is that so? Hipson -Yes. Why, that man work even carry life insurance. —Philadelphia North American. "Doctor," said the anxious mother,

Carry Inte insurance. — Philadelphia North American. "Doctor," said the anxious mother, "William can hardly speak above a whisper." "Indeed? Has he taken cold, or did he go to the ball game?"— Washington Star. Generally That's the Hardest of Work.—"Uncle Tom, what is executive ability?" "It's knowing how to make other people work without doing any-thing yourself."—Chickāgo Record. It is not the proper thing to say that a man will make a good husband. It is the wife who makes the good hus-band. The bad ones only are the self-made article.—Boston Transcript. He-"You should not worry so much

made article.—Boston Transcript. He—"You should not worry so much about dress. Set your mind on higher things." She—'I had set my mind on higher things than you seem willing to buy for me."—Indianapolis Journal. He—"Oh, dear! I wish I could get hold of some good biscuits like mother used to make for me!" She—"And I wish I could get some good clothes like father used to buy for me."—Indianap-olis Journal. "The trees are leaving " remarked

olis Journal. "The trees are leaving," remarked Mrs. Snaggs. "Nevertheless, they are not packing their trunks," replied Mr. Snaggs, who objected to his wife's coined verb."--Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Telegraph. "It's terrible," he said, "to see the way one member of Congress after an-other gets unseated." "Well," his wife answered, "it serves them right for giving in to the bicycle craze."-Kansas City Star. Lieut. Peri—"I am afraid you couldn't stand the right of a borth order of the stand the right of the second the second the stand the right of the second the second the stand the right of the second the sec

stand the rigor of an Arctic expedi-tion. You never have been on one be-fore, have you?" Travole—"No, but I have spent a winter in an English hotel."—Life.

are spent a whiter in an English hotel."-Life.
"Marry that-that...." She hesitated.
No word seemed strong enough to adequately express her contemp?.
"Why, marry that-thing? Marry a man that rides a tricycle?"-Washington Evening Times.
"Bobble, you are perfectly awful to day; and just when grandma is visiting us, too?" "Well, ma, it's only to please you. You told me the other day that you thought I kept my good manners for visitors only."-Harper's Bazar. zar. zar. "But why did you refuse Prof. Grueb-ling, Miss Melanie? He is such an able and noted mathematician." "That's just the reason! He would always be mathematically demonstrating the errors of my milliner's bills."—Humor-istiche Blaetter.