Transcontinental Bicycle Relay and Automobile Races Contrasted



MONTY ROBERTS PUSHING THE AMERICAN CAR THROUGH THE CROWDED STREETS ON WEDNESDAY.



M. B. Hatch
H. E. Fredrickson.
THOMAS FLYER IN THT NEW YORK TO PARIS RACE AS IT LOOKED ON ITS ARRIVAL IN OMAHA.

Frank Miller.
George Scheuster.

STUDEBAKER "ARMY" MACHINE RECEIVED BY THRONGS ON SUNDAY.



however, depend on the subtle force of ered by single riders in less than thirexploding gasoline vapor to move their teen days years ago. sent when the League of American New York City and the bicycle race with height then and the race against time of them came through Omaha. was a fitting climax to the popular wave Not only these three contests, either. In in favor of the two-wheeled craft.

served as a test for the first time of the foot, carry their luggage or wheeling it, in served as a test for the true conditions barrows in front of them, have crossed the trumphal conclusion. How the weather where relays could be established and continent on their way to all parts of the god came to grief in his contest with plucky speed was essential. After that race had world. And practically all of them came young American wheelmen is well known been run, with popular demonstrations through Omaha. all along the course, the public was ready A gateway for the commercial traffic makes a short but thrilling story of ad-

the continent differs in many respects tains and plains. After leaving here the herakied for days in advance by the newsthe entire course. In the bicycle contest Omaha. rage. Both are alike, however, in that on its way westward. they were the longest tests made at the The racing automobiles courted the worst way without a hitch. time they were run. In the bloycle race kind of weather conditions when they left Some of those who had watched the plans the black bag reached its destination New York for a transcontinental trip al- of the cyclists predicted failure as the rethirty-seven hours ahead of schedule time, most in the middle of winter. The wheel- sult of the attempt. Up to that time the while in the present contest of auto cars men chose their time in the middle of Au- relay race on as elaborate a scale as this the first car is several days late already, gust with a full moon and prospects for had never been attempted. There were a This can be satisfactorily explained by the best of weather. The prophecy of good thousand ways in which it might have the exceedingly bad weather encountered weather came true during the greater part come to a sudden and abrupt finish. At by the autoists, who can also point to the of the race, but when the black bag reached least the maintaining of a schedule over

men were favored.

HEN the crewds on Farnam and reached Omaha March 1, covered a street raised their voices to course about 100 miles longer than the cheer the American car in the wheelmen did in a little more than New York-Paris automobile twelve days, while the wheelmen made the race as it chugged its way to distance in a few hours more than four the garage they were uncon-days. Allowing for the fact that the sciously paying a tribute to a band of en- wheelmen rode day and night, there are thusiasis that fourteen years ago inaugu- still several days in their favor when rated the cross-country relay race as a time alone is considered. But the wheelpastime and as a test of endurance and man who still has the old fever in his blood will still insist that the distance The original band of cranks did not, from New York to Omaha has been cov-

"kicked" their machines along the flowing pleasure and pride by the loyal Omahan. road from Washington to Denver. The They all come through Omaha. Could any occasion of this first test of wheeled better proof be offered that nature in-Thurber, private secretary to President west? The army car starting from Gov-Cleveland, to Governor Waits of Colorado, ernor's Island, the Paris cars, which left navy building in Washington and swirled car, headed for Fort Leavenworth, Kan, it across the country more than 3,000 the Paris cars are on their way to San miles to Denver were members of the Francisco and the wheelmen in 1891 had league. The bicycle "craze" was at its Denver as their objective point, but ail

the last decade or two, hundreds of globe It was more than this, however; it trotters on bicycles, in automobiles, on

to crown the bicycle king of wheeled of the west, Omaha is recognized far and venture in which Harry Mulhall and Ed wide even by the "freak" travelers as the Cox, two Omaha printers, are the heroes. The present race of the auto cars across crossing place into the region of moun- The great relay bicycle race had been

very good weather with which the wheel- North Platts the favorable conditions all kinds of roads, under all conditions changed and the weather god poured out through night and day for an estimated

enachines more than half way across the One thing in common in practically all continent. They themselves furnished of these across-continent and around the the motive power and they literally world races will be noted with considerable vehicles was a message from Henry T. tended Omaha to be the Gate City of the Wheelmen was holding its annual oon- Washington as its starting point, all i.ea.ed vention in Denver. The enthusiasts who directly for Omaha, though all of them had took the message at the state, war and different terminals in the west. The army

ruary 18, bound for Fort Leavenworth, fallure just as it was about to come to a A hitch at one of the thirty-three division pated in it, might easily cause a delay Cumberland valley. The riders fairly flew trackless prairie. Before they had gone far 'western Nebraska.



HOW THE ARMY MACHINE LOOKED JUST BEFORE LEAVING OMAHA FOR LINCOLN SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

to blevelists of the old school, and it

from the bleycle race in the summer of paths of the travelers may diverge some papers all over the country and the atten-1894. In the latter race the machines going southwest, some due west and others tion not only of wheelmen, but of all other which left New York will try to make northwest, but all of them lead out of class of men, women and children who delight in feats of strength, agility or speed against time the course was divided into. These travelers do not come to Omaha was concentrated on the plucky riders. relays of five miles each wherever possi- because they like the city, although the For days in advance relay riders each to ble, and the black bag containing the hospitality of the people is a matter of cover a distance of about five miles had presidential message was the only object fame. In these contests speed, or what been selected all along the course from which traveled the entire distance. The amounts to the same thing, a short course, Washington to Denver. Bicycle organizapresent race also comes at a later period is the main consideration. They come tions in each of the principal cities along in the automobile 'craze" than the Wash- through Omaha because it is the way the way made everything else secondary ington-Denver contest did in the bloycle nature made for the traffic of the estate to the big event and elaborate and detailed plans were made to cover every inch of the



CAPTAIN HANSEN. American Car. With the

military car which left New York Feb- parently in an effort to make the race a derighing full of possibilities of failure, thirty or more organizations that partici-

that would defeat the entire purpose of the race. The fallure of one of the several hundred relay riders to do his part as it tired rider at the end of his division by the west knew and consequently the Jules- delay. tire 2,000 miles of the course everything was up to the Nebraska enthusiasts to get his post, every man did his duty. The asm of the young men who did the actual against. They had been told there was a

were on the black time ball on the State, conditions they found.

through Cumberland early in the morning they had fallen into three sand draws and of the following day, more than an hour an irrigation ditch. Fishing themselves and ahead of the schedule; through the moun- their wheels out of the latter, with the few tainous d'airict of West Virginia, on into threads of clothing they had managed to Ohio through Indianapolis, Crawfordsville, keep dry from the rain, drenched, and after Jacksonvi le, Ill., Bur ington, Ia., and across discovering that they had been riding in a the broad fields of the Hawkeye state, circle a part of the time, they left the trackover the Douglas street bridge, through less prairie and took to the railroad. They Omaha, over the level road that skirts the made a path in the darkness a part of Platte river to Juleaburg, and then by as the way along the side of the track and straight a course as could be found into then dismounted and walked the ties. They the city of Denver, and up to the capitol, walked through Brule and on to Big Springs

been done.

Omaha riders have a right to claim an to the hoof tracks again. important part in the race. When George "The coyotes bothered us some, too. to J. L. Livesey, who carried it to Benson them or not." in twenty-six minutes and delivered it to Finally, at 5:10 in the morning the two

the new rider and whisked away without burg cyclists refused to come across the a delay of a second. Throughout the en- state line for the message and insisted it worked like a clock. Every man was at the message across the line into Colorado. When the call was made for volunteers secret of it all was the marvelous organ. Mulhall and Cox offered their services, not ization of the wheelmen and the enthusi- knowing exactly what they were up well defined road between the two cities Figuratively speaking, millions of eyes and were hardly prepared for the actual

War and Navy building in Washington Even in the best of weather and in daywhen it droped just at noon on August light their task would not have been a very 6, 1894. Chief Consul George B. French and inviting one, but to make matters worse, C. Ronsaville of the League of American it began to rain and blow just before the Wheelmen caught up the black bag and riders reached Ogaliala at 11:30 Saturday in five hours and forty minutes. flashed out of sight, followed by the cheers night. The storm increased and when the Battling with snow drifts in Indiana may of the crowd and the big race was started, two Omahans started out on their trip over not be joy to an auto driver, but these At the end of their division they tossed the the prairies it was to enter pitchy darkness two men will testify there are hardships It is also interesting to note that the all his reserve store of wind and rain apperiod of eight days seemed like an un- points, the failure of a single one of the bag to the next pair of riders and before with nothing to guide them. Instead of a just as severe to be encountered in the

where George M. McCarthy, the last of the on the tracks and then tried to ride again,

relay, covering the last five miles of the "To be drenched with rain, to go sprawltrip in less than twenty minutes, delivered ing into the mud and water time after time, the black bag into the hands of a represent- to have your trousers and shoes backed to ative of the governor, six days ten hours pieces by missing the pedals in the darkness and thirty-seven minutes after it had left was bad enough," said Mulhall, discussing Washington, beating the schedule time by the trip, "but these were not the worst thirty-seven hours and twenty-three features by any means. The very worst discomfort we suffered was the lack of Wheelmen who were in Denver when the drinking water. From the time we left message arrived remember its enthusi- Ogaliala until we got to Big Springs we had astle reception, even though it was 10:30 none except what we lapped up from hoof o'clock at night. Governor Waite made a tracks in the sand. This was clean and of speech and the city was thrown open to a good quality, but it was hard to get. the riders, who had followed the message We had to lie on our faces to drink it, on trains after their part of the work had. At Big Springs we got a drink, but during the remainder of the trip we had to resort

Williamson of Council Bluffs scorched There seemed to be a pack following us. across the Douglas street bridge at 8:12 We shot at them several times, but in the o'clock Friday evening he threw the hag darkness we could not tell whether we hit

the next rider, who whisked it on its way covered from head to feet with mud, their to Fremont. Then it was twenty-seven trousers torn off from the knees down, hours ahead of time, showing that even arrived in Julesburg. In the darkness they with the disadvantage of the worst stretch almost missed the place and it was by achad been mapped out for him might mean of road on the course and the only bad cident Mulhull happened to ask a young a serious stoppage of the whole affair, weather the Nebraska and Colorado riders fellow who walked leisurely toward them, But no such hitch occurred. From the min- gained ten hours between here and Denver, what town it was. "Julesburg," he replied, ute the black bag was delivered to the first. Two Omaha riders, Harry Mulhall and Then they realized the young man was the rider in Washington until it was safe in Ed Cox also came to the rescue to prevent next relay rider and he was to relieve the hands of Governor Waite of Colorado, the only serious hitch between Washington them. Mulhall threw the black bag at him its progress was not stayed for more than and Denver. The worst stretch of road and as he mounted his wheel the two a few minutes at any point and usually between the two cities was reputed to lie emptied their six shoster. It is needless to it was caught up from the hands of the between Ogallain and Julesburg. Riders in say the rider got out of sight without much

> Mulhall and Cox were so thoroughly encrusted with mud the hotel keeper in Julesburg refused to allow them to enter the They were shivering outside the building when a friendly brakeman from Denver called the bluff of the hotel man and secured lodging for them. After cleaning up they went on to Denver and were there when the black bag came in.

> In addition to being the hardest of the relays between Washington and Denver, the Ogallala-Julesburg section was also the longest. The two men covered the thirty-seven miles between the two towns

Unique Collection of Whims and Fancies of People in Various Moods

may divide the first pages of three stanzas read: a year's papers between themselves—but that is not the A substitute for man is the latest hit—whole story of the news. All this Just keep a dog to growl and a cat to spit, may be the important gist of the A parrot, too, (for he can jaw and swear) a monkey to dispute and pull your hair. daily harvest, may influence history or Don't think you need a man to strike even daily harvest, may influence history or affect the greatest number of people, but there is another side to the subject. This Talmage said matches in heaven are made, is the "human interest" sort of thing, the trifling happening, which yet tells as does nothing else of man's credulity, joys and

sorrows-of his daily life itself.

(it was on November 11) that "Go to hall!" is not profanity. An Ohio tribunal has adjudicated Mr. Beattey's whiskers (Wellston growth) to be worth \$16L a gas company having to pay that sum for their destruction in an explosion. The newsdealer in the Albany (N. Y.) depot has offered a New York Central Railroad timetable as the funniest book on his stand.

The French capital has done even better than these things. The Paris chief of police, having sent out to the neighboring communes photographs of an escaped criminal, in each case submitting six in as many poses of the man, received the following dispatch from a southern district: "Five of the criminals whose photographs you sent already arrested; we are un the track of the sixth."

Divorce Court Whims.

In the divorce courts the twelvementh has shown us that, in Lawrence, Mass. at least, a wife may not with impunity go through the pockets of her worser one third; David Walker's marriage tie was legally cut on just this ground. Wilmington. Del., has offered the sight of mother and married daughter defendents in two divorce suits brought in the same court; but Ferugia, Italy, beats all of these. Signora Balliori asked to be set free from her husband, claiming he had another wife. Balliori calmly admitted this but added that he had two hearts-why not two wives? Physicians bore out this statement, and the court (with unanawerable logic) decided that two house holds were perfectly right, under the cir-

cumstances. Mrs. John Wade of Sloux City, Ia., asked

nothing else of man's credulity, joys and Columbus, O., and Sayville, N. Y., raced Nineteen seven's 365 days have been each other in feather wonders. In March feathers.

treaties and court-martials, but- tion in verse. "A Matrimonial Idyl," ran to Alum Creek," was the Marion county hand: tie, murder and sudden death, the heading, and a couple of the eighty- judgment-but the speakers were none of judgment—but the speakers were none of them corn planters. Sayville made reply in November, F. S. Jones the month previous bought a jet black bantam rooster; Mr. Loughman advised that the depart- April. J. B. Bundren, at 101, and Miss Rosp been pronounced dead, only to revive and in four weeks it had turned snowy white!

> New York egg crop. Neighboring Binghamton reported a hen that had adopted two tiny pigs, after the

Romantie Frenks.

The year's quaint happenings at the score years. Nineteen seven's 365 days have been each other in feather wonders. In March feathers.

age, Herts, after more than a half century's and Miss Esther Crawford, aged 50, were lowering the coffin into the trench a voice rich in such news. The supreme court the Buckeye capital turned cut a white Secretary Loughman of New York's Censeparation, sailed for Australia to marry married in Lowell after a two weeks' ac- from it directed: "Let me down easy." of Mississippi, for instance, has declared crow, which, quite naturally, led a flock tral park, received last March the follow- there a lover of her youth, and this is quaintance; and when Bridgeport an- Upon which it was dropped-and later a

been widowed will not matter, as the sweet- ner, who is \$2, with a maid of only 60, placed practical joke.

A parallel story came from St Louis in has this year, and for the second time. ment was temporarily out of white boy McGuire, admitting an even 100, were interrupt the funeral. Mrs. Fred Hatzell And Sayville wants to know if Luther babies, but had filed the application for wedded at last. The final two words seem of Huntingdon, W. Va., did the same thing, has been accepted as full explanation of

Francois Leclue of Angouleme, France.

Burbank has been tampering with the attention when the next lot should come in. proper under the circumstances. The two though it was her initial appearance in had been parted in youth by stern parents, the uncanny role. When she rose in her but love and faith discounted even four- coffin there was more than a panic among the gathered and mournful friends. Dunloss of her own broad of chicks, and was other end of life's ladder include an Eng- New England contributed its share to ton, Md., thought (June) it had just such keeping them warm under her maternal lish romance. Mrs. Ellen Briggs of Steven- such events when H. C. Wilder, aged 36, another case, for when the boarers were mill's text. "Lean not on weak founda-

RONATIONS and conventions, for release from Mr. W., and filed her peti- of the usual hue. "He'll bring good luck ing letter, written, of course, in a childish her little year. That she has three times nounced the elopement of Edward Skin- ventraloquist was arrested for a sadly mis-

Surely, speaking of funerals, one may record the playfulness of a Sag Harbor shark, who in August mistook a torpedo for a fish. And also the finding in a Mexican postoffice of a packet of letters written back in the mid-seventies. This last why at least some of the letters she longed

Text Fitted to the Events. Sayville was enlivened one April Sunday by the odd aptness of Rev. J. B. Hamtions," he announced, and at the same in-

stant the pulpit desk collapsed. Quite as fitting was the decoration conferred upon Prince Henry of the Netherlands by England's Edward, Queen Wilhelmina's consort had saved a score of lives at the time of the wreck of the Berlin, nearly drowning himself in the attempts. Now he has been made a companion of the Order of the Bath.

New York has produced a non-sinkable German-too fat to commit suicide in Atlantic basin, though he tried his Teutonest; but Indiana university has surpassed all the other attempts of 1907 to illustrate the irony of fate. Colonel Bryan offered an essay prize there, and now it has been won by a genius who wrote opposing the gov-

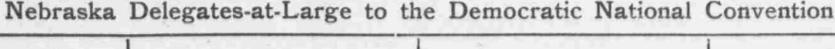
Guatemala made its bid for first place when (in April) President Cabrera Issued warrants for the arrest of Francisco Rafas, an editor. He was a criminal in that he had dared to print the presidential message on the back page of his sheet. Paris added to her escaped prisoner epi-

ernment ewnership of railroads.

sode a characteristic item when, last April, it began to perfume its subway lines with the scents of Araby the blest.

And dear old Lunnon sent in no less than three good "trys" for head of the hat, In the year's second month it reported a gentleman, Thompson by name, who had been In had since 1877; he is perfectly healthy, just lazy? This was followed up, in May, with a cubic squib of the arrest of half a dozen little girls who had been caught throwing dice for a Bible. August saw Lord Waisingham out shooting wasps on the wing with a rifle.

Henri Nassant, a member of the French Legion of Honor, and Stefan Maguley, of New York City, bequeathed specified sums for the cost of joilifications at their funerals.-New Ovicans Times.









F. W. BROWN, Lancaster County

