### CYCLING.

R. Walthour, the crack American pace follower, who recently beat all comers in paced events on the Continent, has returned to America. Shortly after reaching Boston, Walthour was matched to meet Peander, Butler and Stinson in a 30 miles paced race, which he won by over three miles in the new world's record time of 33min 52 3-5sec, which is 21 2-5sec better than Hall's previous best. The fifteenth mile was ridden in the marvellous time of 1min 6 1-5sec, world's record. Out of the 30 miles ridden eight separate miles were recled off all under 67sec to the mile.

Fine progress is being made with the up-to-date cycling track that is being put down on the Brisbane Cricket Ground. The track is being made at a cost of £1200, of which £700 has been raised by the members of the League of Queensland Wheelmen, and Queensland Cycle Union by the issuing of debentures and life-members' tickets. The work on the track was started last March. The banking has been completed and is now ready for asphalting. When completed the track will be one of the finest in Australia, being built to carry a speed of between forty and fifty miles an hour. The track is about five hundred and thirty yards to the lap, being three laps one hundred and sixty-eight yards to the mile. It is expected that the track will be ready for racing in August, and it is probable that a big cycling carnival will be held to celebrate the opening of the new track in September next. Brisbane has always been handicapped as regards a suitable racing track, consequently cycle racing has been poorly catered for and patrolised there. This state of affairs being remedied, Queensland will no doubt take its proper status amongst the Commonwealth States in respect to cycle racing.

In a 50 kilometres motor-raced race decided in Paris recently, some very fine racing was witnessed. There were only three competitors—Hall, Brecy, and Contenet. Hall jumped and caught his motor first, but Brecy, coming along at a fearful pace, headed him off shortly after. Hall dropped back slightly, but livening up, challenged him, and for lap after lap they raced neck and neck at top speed. Thrice Hall tried to get the lead and failed, but in the fourth attempt Brecy was pressed so hard that he—lost his motor, which, after such a tough struggle, lost him the race. Hall won by five laps.

In the matter of cycle exports, Germany heads the list, with a value of £935,750; Great Britain is second, with £849,839; United States third, with £420,000; while France is fourth, her figures being only £159,000.

A recent American bicycle patent is what is termed a "rowing attachment." The saddle of the bicycle so fitted is mounted on trucks, which are adapted to run on two horizontal hars of the frame. The machine is driven by a reciprocating movement of the handle-bar, simulating that of rowing. A cord connects the handle-bar with the rear wheel, which is rotated by a pawl and spring mechanism. The handle lever is fulcrumed at its lower end in a universal joint, and on twisting the handle-bar in one or the other direction the front forks are, by means of cord and pulley connection, turned in the corresponding direction, thus affording a means for steering the machine. Two foot-rests, to serve the purpose of a stretcher, are provided on the front forks, and are so arranged that pressing down the toes a brake is applied to the rear wheel

#### **BOWLING.**

At the annual meeting of the Gisborne Bowling Club last week it was resolved to accept the Northern Bowling Association's offer to have the champion fours played at Gisborne, commencing on January 9. The Gisborne Club's grounds afford accommodation for thirty-two rinks, so that no difficulty whatever should be experienced in getting off the matches.

The decision of the Devonport Club to sever connection with the Northern Bowling Association will be generally regretted, and it is to be hoped that before the season commences other counsels will prevail and the resignation be withdrawn. The good of the game should be the chief consideration of all players, and any step which works in an opposite direction should be avoided at all hazards.

The annual meeting of the Devonport Bowling Club was held last week, when the committee reported a very successful season. The championship was won by Mr R. Gardner, who takes the champion trophy and gold medal presented by Mr Kohn. Mr R. Eagleton was runner-up for the championship. The handicap singles was carried pff by Mr Harty, who took the president's prize, the runner-up (Mr Broughton) annexing Mr Ewington's prize. The pairs match was won by Messrs Vaile and Miller, who received prizes presented by Messrs Stewart and Taylor. In the first year's match the winner turned up in Mr Davie, who secured Mr Crane's prize, Mr Mason, as runner-up, carrying off a prize presented by Mr W. T. Crosher. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr Mitchell vice-presidents, Messrs Ralic and Armstrong; hon. secretary, Mr R. Gardner: treasurer, Mr Entrican; committee, Messrs D. Harvey, T. Stewart, J. K. Harty, and E. Jones; ground superintendent, Mr Harrison. Messrs R. Mitchell and J. Miller were elected delegates to

the Association. It was decided that the club should sever its connection with the Northern Bowling Association.

The annual meeting of the Remuera Bowling Club was held on the club's last Thursday. Mr J. M. Lennox presided. The committee's report showed that the past season had been a very successful one. The year began with a debit balance of £39 18s 5d and finished with a credit of £12 17s 1d. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated members on the continued prosperity of the club, and drew special attention to the very satisfactory state of the finances, which, he said, showed that they had been very carefully administered. The report and balance-sheet were adopted. The presentation of trophies won during last season took place, and several members promised to donate trophies for the coming mised to donate trophies for the coming season. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr J. M. Laxon; vice-presidents, Messrs D. E. Clerk, A. Clark, and C. Ranson; secretary, Mr A. Hegman; treasurer, Mr D. Littlejohn; auditor, Mr C. Rhodes; committee, Messrs A. C. Stevenson, G. Court, T. Barstow, R. A. Bodle, D. R. Caldwell, and the Rev. Canon Beatty. It was moved, "That in future an entrance fee of 10s Rev. Canon Beatty. 10 was .... "That in future an entrance fee of 10s 6d be charged all new members joining, and after considerable discussion it was put and carried. It was decided that all bowls used in club matches must bear the official stamp, and members who have not forwarded their bowls to the Northern Bowling Association are requested to communicate with the hon, secretary before August 31.

### AQUATICS.

(By "The Reefer.")

THE SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD.

GEORGE TOWNS RETAINS THE

The sculling match tor the world's championship between George Towns, the holder of the title, and Richard Tresidder, took place on the Parramatta River on Saturday, the stakes being £500 a-side. Great interest was taken in the race, the banks of the river at each of the best vantage spots being crowded with spectators, while the water was alive with steamers and pleasure craft.

race, the banks of the river at each of the best vantage spots being crowded with spectators, while the water was alive with steamers and pleasure craft.

Tresidder, who scalled 12st 4lb to Towns' 11st, won the toss for positions, and selected the southern shore. The men got away well together. Towns striking 36 strokes to the minute, and Tresidder 35 strokes to the minute. Tresidder forged ahead, and before reaching Uhr's Point was leading by a length. Towns then gradually reduced the gap, and at the mile had drawn up level with his op-

ponent. At l'utney Towns had half-alength's lead, which he increased to a length and a-half by the time the gasworks was reached. Towns increased his advantage to six lengths at Gladesville, and eventually paddled past Scarle's Monument fully ten lengths ahead of his rival, who was rowed to a standstill. Towns' time of 21min 48 4-5sec is over a minute and a-quarter slower than in the last championship race, when he defeated Jake Gaudaur at Rat Portage, Canada, on September 6, 1901.

Messrs A. Alison, J. Alexander, F. Battley, W. C. Bruce, S. Hanna, and W. Somers have been appointed a committee to draft a programme for the next Anniversary Regatta.

Logan Bros. have the cruising yacht which they are constructing to the order of Mr Horton well advanced, and she could be finished off very much earlier than the commencement of the season if this was required. The new boat should prove a fine powerful fast cruiser, and is altogether a very desirable type of boat.

The same firm have finished a very nice little oil launch for Picton. She is fitted with an English engine and has a reversible propeller.

Bailey and Lowe have a lot of work in hand just now. The firm is making a name for the building of power launches.

The schooner Rebecca slipped quietly out of Port Jackson Heads a couple of months ago on an expedition which has many of the elements of romance. Captain Robinson, her commander, baving acquired knowledge of a singularly rich deposit of pearlshell, unknown to any other pearler, came to Sydney, floated a company, equipped the Rebecca, and has manned her, on wages and shaves, to seek the treasure. Her clearances were the Gilbert Islands as her objective, but she merely goes there to ship 'boys" to she merely goes there to ship 'boys" to dive in the shallow water and generally assist the operations. Gilbert Islands are not the ultimate goal. That is a secret locked in the minds lof the promoters. On the Rebecca are a crew of eight all told. They include James S. Clarke, the diver who went down to the Ovalau, and two assistants. Clarke will do all the deep-water diving, and expects to work in ten fathoms of water over the rich pocket of shell. The shell, the deposit of which is said to be extraordinarily rich. is worth about £150 per ton, and then there are the pearls, so that captain, diver, crew, and all concerned are hopeful of drawing large cheques. For provisions they carry tinned meat and vegetables, expect to get abundance of turtles and fish. The little vessel met with very heavy weather in the New Hebrides Group and was rather badly knocked about. She was repaired, however, and has sailed for her unknown destination.

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