



VETERAN-CYCLE CLUB Cycling History No 6

The Velocipede Three contemporary French texts

Translated by
Scotford Lawrence

The Velocipede. *Three Contemporary French Texts.*

These new translations give a unique opportunity to read works written in the late 1860s by prominent contemporary commentators on the velocipede, promoting the new machine and its use. You can read how it was seen by the public and the great future which was envisaged for it within the economy and development of day-to-day life in France.

Adamée Berruyer, a writer and publicist in Grenoble first wrote his *Caducétres ou Jambes Étrières pour Vélocipèdes* as a short description of his newly invented support or prop-stand. He then went on to produce a complete *Manuel du Véloceman* which describes the velocipede, its use and its future.

The other short work is by 'an enthusiast' who has been identified as Louis de la Bouglise who made the velocipede ride with the Olivier brothers from Paris to Avignon in 1865 and wrote this promotional work, *Note sur le Vélocipède à pédales et à frein de M. Michaux* in 1868. These translations of rare works open a window for us onto the very earliest years of the world of cycling.

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