

pronouncing of a benediction.

THE PEDESTRIAN FETE,

Which has now become an annual event, took place, as usual, in the Central Cricket and Recreation Ground, where a large concourse of spectators assembled to witness the running. The entries were numerous, and some of the races were of a most exciting character. One of the chief features of the programme was the bicycle race, which was watched with great interest, and which fully justified the anticipations of the spectators that it would afford good sport. The weather could not possibly have been finer, and everything passed off most successfully. During the afternoon the band of the Hastings Rifle Volunteers was in attendance, and performed an excellent programme of music. Mr. G. F. Finn was handicapper, as usual, with Mr. F. W. Nichols as starter, and Mr. H. Cheal as referee. The general arrangements were ably carried out by Mr. S. Watling. The following were the results of the various races:—

150 YARDS HANDICAP RACE—1st prize, £7; 2nd, £7; 3rd, £1; and 10s. for winning a heat and not gaining a prize. There were thirteen heats, from three to six starting in each heat. The following were the winners of these heats:—J. Batts, Ashford (82 yards); W. Parks, Charlton (77 yards); C. Bridger, Deptford (50½ yards); James Law, Wye (70 yards); J. Morris, Hastings (70½ yards); G. Foster, London (77½ yards); H. Bevis, Hastings (80½ yards); A. Winger, Hastings (77½ yards); W. Mack, Deptford (72 yards); and J. Filmer, Lynsted (80 yards), dead heat; H. Nedley, Hastings (79½ yards); W. Thomas, Woodwich (74 yards); and R. Phillips, Deptford (77 yards), dead heat; C. James, Bournemouth (72 yards); W. Gardiner, Hastings (70 yards). The first four winners of each heat then ran, the winners being—W. Parks, J. Morris, H. Bevis, W. Mack and H. Nedley (dead heat), and W. Gardiner. The final heat resulted as follows:—1st, W. Gardiner (Hastings); 2nd, J. Morris (Hastings); 3rd, W. Parks (Charlton).

ONE MILE HANDICAP RACE—1st prize, £5; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s.; 4th, 5s. Thirty-four entered, and eighteen started. Five times round the course. Two gave up at the first round, two the next, and two or three later on. H. Steadman, of Lenham, the scratch man, who overhauled many of his opponents, gave up, to the surprise of all, during the race. C. Price, Kennington, who is a little fellow (10 yards start), was first; W. Steadman, Lenham (10 yards), second; J. Filmer, Lynsted (12½ yards), third; and E. Steadman, Lenham (20 yards), fourth. Time, five minutes.

250 YARDS HANDICAP RACE—1st prize, £3; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s.; and 5s. for each one winning a heat and not gaining a prize. Forty-six entries. Run in heats, the winners of which were as follows:—C. James, Bournemouth (71 yards start); A. Winger, Hastings (70 yards); H. Nedley, Hastings (50 yards); D. Noel, London (75 yards); W. Barton, London (71 yards); and C. Bridger, Deptford (50 yards). The final heat was decided as follows:—1st, D. Noel; 2nd, C. Bridger; 3rd, W. Barton.

TWO MILES HANDICAP AMATEUR BOYCLE RACE—1st prize, a silver cup, value seven guineas; 2nd, a silver cup, value three guineas; 3rd, a silver medal with gold centre; 4th, a silver medal; in two heats; ten times round the course. Five started in the first heat. 1st, C. Fitzgerald, Ashford (200 yards); 2nd, C. W. Nicholas, Brighton Bicycle Club (100 yards). Second heat: five started. A most exciting race for first position took place between G. Kent, Tunbridge Wells (200 yards), and F. East, Surrey Bicycle Club (150 yards), each taking alternate positions amidst the greatest excitement, the former winning by about three feet. H. Hart, of Eastbourne Bicycle Club, who rode well, was a good third. The first two in the heats competed in the final, which was a very close contested race. Kent, who came in first in the last heat, soon dropped to the rear, virtually leaving the race to the other three, who kept close together during the last few laps. East was the favourite, but at the last he was obliged to give way a little to his two opponents, who put it on in gallant style. All three came in at the last very close together, amidst tremendous shouts of applause, and the greatest excitement and enthusiasm, as follows:—C. Fitzgerald (Ashford), 1st; C. W. Nicholas (Pickwick Bicycle Club), 2nd; F. East (Surrey), 3rd, and G. Kent 4th.