

VERMONT HISTORY

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- ❖ The Very Ambitious Mellen Chamberlain Joe Sherman
- ❖ Of Wheelmen, the New Woman, and Good Roads: Historical Perspectives on Vermont's (First) Bicycle Craze Luis A. Vivanco
- ❖ From Pails to Pipelines: The Origins and Early Adoption of Plastic Tubing in the Maple Syrup Industry Matthew M. Thomas

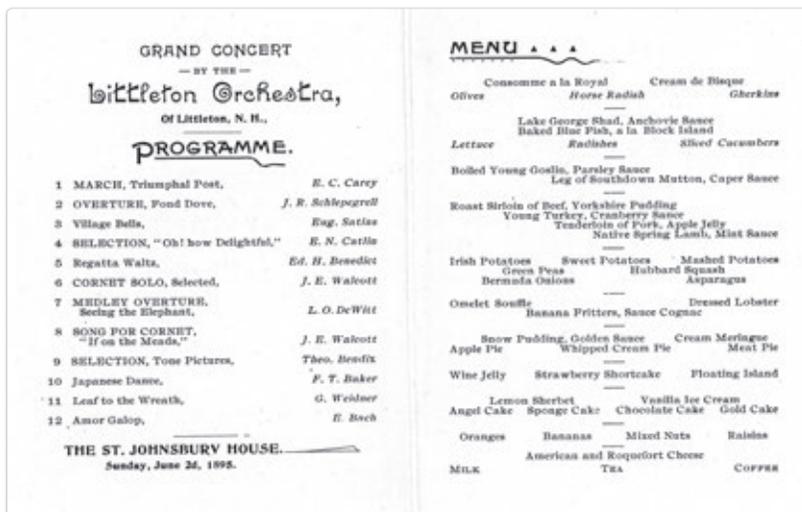
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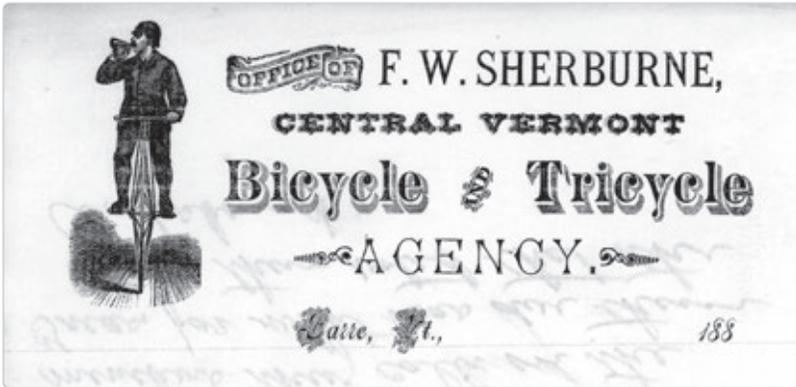
About the Covers

Program and menu, “Wheelman’s Day,
St. Johnsbury, Vt., Sunday, June 2, 1895.”

The *St. Johnsbury Republican* on June 5, 1895, contained a small social announcement: “A large number of wheelmen from Littleton came over for dinner at the St. Johnsbury House on Sunday.” We do not know how large that number was, but it was large enough that the owner of the St. Johnsbury House saw fit to print a menu and program with attractive covers for the event and perhaps to provide the attendees with a keepsake. The front and back cover pages of that pamphlet appear on our front and back covers for this issue.



H. S. Chase, the proprietor of the establishment, provided familiar faces to entertain the visiting wheelmen while they were on the west side of the Connecticut River; the program lists twelve musical pieces performed by the Littleton Orchestra from Littleton, NH. The accompanying menu is extensive. It includes eleven sections of food selections beginning with soup and ending with cheese, tea, and coffee. The meat course includes beef sirloin, turkey, pork tenderloin, and lamb. (Presumably, the diners chose from among those four items!)



This piece is part of the Vermont Historical Society's extensive broadside collection stored in its Leahy Library. Although technically not a broadside, this small piece of ephemera joins several hundred other flat paper items from around the state in the collection's "hotels" category. From fancy Victorian menus to mimeographed sheets to modern three-fold brochures, this section of the collection documents tourism in Vermont through history.

A small portion of the items in the broadside collection, although not the pieces from the hotels section, have been scanned and are now available for viewing on the VHS's Digital Vermont website at <https://digitalvermont.org>. The site includes a collection of 238 small broadsides from 1765 to 1931 (such as the letterhead of the Sherburne Bicycle Agency, shown here) and a growing collection of over 60 small political broadsides from 1834 to 2006 that are searchable by keywords and cataloger-supplied subject headings. The full physical collection is available to researchers in the library during normal library hours.

PAUL A. CARNAHAN

Librarian, Vermont Historical Society

Front cover: "Wheelman's Day, St. Johnsbury, Vt. Sunday, June 2, 1895"
front cover. VHS Broadside: Hotels-St J.-Wheelman

Back Cover: "Wheelman's Day, St. Johnsbury, Vt. Sunday, June 2, 1895"
back cover. VHS Broadside: Hotels-St J.-Wheelman

Above: "Wheelman's Day, St. Johnsbury, Vt. Sunday, June 2, 1895" inside: Program and menu. VHS Broadside: Hotels-St J.-Wheelman; Letterhead, F. W. Sherburne Central Vermont Bicycle and Tricycle Agency, Barre, Vt. 1888. VHS Broadside, Sherburne Bicycle Agency_BHC_17-04.



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