

First Bicycle West of Mississippi

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 FIRST BICYCLE WEST OF MISSISSIPPI

Velocipedes: We learn that our fellow townsman, B. F. Allen and C. P. Luse, have each ordered a velocipede for their own use. All right! Des Moines being the fastest city in the state, ought to have the first bicycle; and we did have a little ambition of our own to live in history as being the first chap who brought a bicycle west of the Mississippi, but we haven't got it now as bad as we had. Anyhow we don't envy you fellows the bumps and tumbles and laughs you'll get.—*Daily State Register*, Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 20, 1869. (Thought to have been written by Ret Clarkson.—*Ed.*) (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department.

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