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Un moment, on avait espéré que le célèbre champion anglais Shorland donnerait, par sa présence, un éclat plus grand au Bol d'Or.

Une lettre que vient de recevoir notre ami H. Hall (Tuck) réduit à néant cette espérance.

Voici cette lettre :

« Mon cher Hall,

« Merci beaucoup pour votre lettre du 28 février au sujet du Bol d'Or, mais comme j'ai la presque certitude d'obtenir ma licence, je ne viendrai pas courir dans cette épreuve ; d'ailleurs, que j'aie ou non ma licence, jamais je ne courrai comme professionnel. Merci encore de votre amabilité et présentez mes amitiés à Charron.

« J'ai bien l'espoir de venir à Paris cette année et de passer un jour ou deux avec vous.

« Mes amitiés pour vous et pour Charron.

« Bien votre dévoué.

« F.-W. SHORLAND. »

Ainsi, il ressort de cette lettre que Shorland refuse de prendre part à la course du Bol d'Or, même en ne courant pas pour de l'argent et que la N. C. U., par crainte ou autrement, s'est enfin décidée à accorder la licence d'amateur au recordman du monde de 24 heures.

O'Parivel.

RHES DU DIMANCHE

July 6. 1895. Paper



FRANK SHORLAND
In Borrowed Plumage.

FRANK SHORLAND, THE CUCA HERO.

To be the winner of a "twenty-four" would be a victory to be proud of; to win it two years in succession should be an undeniable proof of what pluck and stamina can do; but to succeed in capturing the event for three consecutive years stamps the winner at once as possessing almost supernatural powers and good luck. Frank Shorland, "the hero of the Cuca," is a young man, so slim and narrow-shouldered as to cause wonder to be expressed at his marvellous performances; and it must be remembered that in some of the North Road "twenty-fours" Shorland has come off with flying colours. He has not been very long in the twenties, and possesses, as well as strength and stamina, some odd traits of character, which have caused him to be regarded by his fellow-clubmen and others as a practical joker of a very original order.

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Shorland's first important speed event was to break the Edinburgh-London record in 1889; but the Cuca Cup race of 1892 rushed him into first prominence. His performance of nearly 414 miles in the twenty-four hours was regarded as marvellous, beating previous record, that of Spooner of Chicago, by forty miles. Each succeeding year his distance in the Cuca race increased. When last year at Herne Hill he succeeded in covering 460 miles in the day, beating Huret's record by a couple of miles, he decided not to race in another "twenty-four." It is certain, however, that we have not yet seen the last of him as a racing man.