

A. Faure

Ca. 1948

Monsieur Faure was a watchmaker in Saint Etienne. Apparently, he was an avid cyclotourist, who built his dream bikes on the side. He may have made several bikes, but only one is known today.

The bike shown here features many interesting details. Monsieur Faure started out with carefully filed lugs and a hand-made twin plate fork crown, but the frame's sloping top tube shows a certain lack of experience.

An exceptional amount of work has been lavished on the components. Bolts, rack and fender stays, as well as other small parts have been custom-made. Because Monsieur Faure considered holes and threads unsightly, he plugged every hole that normally appears on various components: The Stronglight cranks now hide the pedal axle ends, the wingnuts are closed, and specially made domed nuts disguise the threads usually visible on the derailleur rod, shift lever and other components.

The rear reflector has been modified to incorporate the taillight. Looking down on the stem, the rider sees a harmonious ensemble of matching bell, pocket watch and speedometer. By applying his incredible skills, Monsieur Faure brought the concept of a fully integrated, completely custom bicycle to its logical conclusion.

