

QUERIES.

Any queries, domestic or otherwise, will be inserted free of charge. Correspondents replying to queries are requested to give the date of the question they are kind enough to answer, and address their reply to 'The Lady Editor, NEW ZEALAND GRAPHIC, Auckland,' and on the top left-hand corner of the envelope, 'Answer' or 'Query,' as the case may be. The rules for correspondents are few and simple, but readers of the NEW ZEALAND GRAPHIC are requested to comply with them.

Queries and Answers to Queries are always inserted as soon as possible after they are received, though owing to pressure on this column, it may be a week or two before they appear.—Ed.

RULES.

- No. 1.—All communications must be written on one side of the paper only.
- No. 2.—All letters (not left by hand) must be prepaid, or they will receive no attention.
- No. 3.—The editor cannot undertake to reply except through the columns of this paper.

RECIPES.

CARROT SOUP.—4 quarts liquor in which beef or mutton has been boiled, a few beef bones, 6 large carrots, 2 large onions, 1 turnip, salt and pepper, cayenne. Put on the liquor, bones, onions, peeled and cut in slices, turnip, pepper and salt, and simmer for 3 hours; scrape the carrots, cut them in thin slices, strain the soup on them, and stew till soft enough to pulp through a coarse sieve; then add the pulp to the soup, and boil for 1/2 hour.

FORQUARTER OF LAMB.—Place the joint before a nice clear fire, and baste frequently with butter till done; although this joint requires quick roasting, it should not be placed too near the fire, as the fat is so liable to burn; allow 1/2 hour for each pound of meat, and 1/2 hour extra for browning; serve with mint sauce.

MINT SAUCE.—4 dessert spoonfuls chopped mint, 2 dessert spoonfuls pounded white sugar, 1/2 pint vinegar. Wash the mint, pick the leaves from the stalks, mince them very finely, and put them in a tureen, add the sugar and vinegar, and stir till the former is dissolved; it is better to make the sauce two or three hours before it is wanted for table.

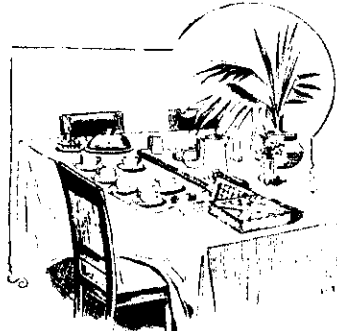
SWISS ROLL.—Eight eggs, 1/2 lb flour, 1/2 lb powdered sugar. Whisk the eggs and sugar to a thick cream, add the flour lightly, then spread out carefully on well buttered and prepared tins, and bake in a very quick oven. When baked, take off the paper quickly, spread with raspberry jam, roll up and dust with sugar.

STRAWBERRY JAM.—To 1 lb fruit allow 1/2 lb sugar. Pick the strawberries, and carefully reject all bruised and wet ones; put a layer of fruit in the pan, then a layer of sugar, and so on, till the pan is three parts full; set it at the side of the fire, and keep stirring gently to prevent its burning; carefully remove all the scum as it rises, and let the jam boil gently for three-quarters of an hour, or till a little put on a plate will set; take the pan off the fire, let its contents cool, pour into jars, and cover in the usual way.

AGUE.—The following appeared a short time since in a contemporary. We believe it would be worth trying, so reproduce it here.—Get an oyster shell and dry it thoroughly in an oven. Then grate it into a fine powder; put a teaspoonful into half a glass of whisky, and then drink it. If the first dose does not effect a cure, try another a few days after. By taking this strange mixture, as many will probably call it, a greenish matter is brought away from the stomach. This is a certain cure.

HOT EGGS.

Eggs hot and eggs cold are both excellent in their way, but they can never be used as apt illustrations of the golden rule of a lukewarm egg is anything but enjoyable, and yet any protest on the part of a late arrival at the breakfast table is usually met with the severely virtuous remark of, 'You should be more punctual.' Now, for the purpose of keeping our eggs warm and stopping invidious comparisons between late and early rising, nothing can be better than an egg cosy, and my sketch here will give some idea of how



A NOVEL EGG COSY.

such a receptacle is to be constructed. Cardboard can be used, but thin wood is rather better. In the first place, a square of this should be covered with brown holland, the four sides should consist of narrow pieces of cardboard, covered with bands of embroidery, which, in this instance, is of cross stitch. The upper part, as will be seen in the sketch, is divided into four sections, all these are joined firmly together, with the exception of the one at the top, which, opening outwards, reveals the eggs lying in their cosy nest, made with olive-green wool, knitted in loop stitch. This is by far the best living, although I have seen coloured flannel, planked out at the edges used for the

purpose. In the latter case the flannel is gathered up into little circles; the centre of each provides a separate little nest for each egg. All the embroidery can, of course, be dispensed with, and lace over a coloured background, need in its stead.

THE DEAR DEPARTED.

MRS POPPIN: 'Don't you miss your husband very much now he is away?'

Mrs GOLIGHTLY: 'Oh, not at all. You see he left me plenty of money, and at breakfast I just set a newspaper up in front of his plate, and half the time forget that he is not there.'

TO DARKEN GREY HAIR.

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CHILDREN'S CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN.

Any boy or girl who likes to become a cousin can do so, and write letters to 'COUSIN KATE, care of the Lady Editor, GRAPHIC Office, Auckland.'

Write on one side of the paper only.

All purely correspondence letters with envelope ends turned in are carried through the Post office as follows:—Not exceeding 10s, 4d; not exceeding 40s, 1d; for every additional 20s or fractional part thereof, 1d. It is well for correspondence to be marked 'Commercial papers only'

DEAR COUSIN KATE.—We have got two little black puppies called Dumey and Bony. You ask me 'why I took to type-writing?' I did so simply because I liked it better than hand-writing, and also because I think it is a much faster way of writing. I think the 'Cot' is a very good idea, don't you? We were going to a picnic last Friday, but as usual it poured with rain, so of course put a stop to our picnic. We are going for a picnic on the 9th though, if it is fine. I have got a very interesting book entitled 'Millicent Courtney.' Have you ever read it? I have had a very nice house made for my three bantams by themselves, as I don't want them to wander away, as they are very apt to get lost. Our holidays start on the 1st of December. I will now say good bye with love from your loving COUSIN DOT.

[What species are your pups? All things are nice when young, especially puppies, but they grow up so horribly fast. I shall send you a card, Cousin Dot, as I venture to think your saying it is a good idea sufficient encouragement. I have sketched out a collecting card, and I hope to have it printed soon. The weather has been most unpleasant for the holidays, but in Auckland those who chose the 9th fared far better than those who waited till Monday. How did you get on? I do not think I have read 'Millicent Courtney.' I almost think I shall start keeping two or three fowls after Christmas.—COUSIN KATE.]

DEAR COUSIN KATE.—I was very pleased to see my letter in the GRAPHIC. I enclose 6d for a badge. Please will you read it and a collecting card? My pigeons do not know their names, as I have not had them long. We have not got a yacht, but the steamer calls in. I think I am going up the mountain to night to the bon-fire. I went to the Agricultural Show last week and enjoyed it very much. We went around and saw all the horses and all the things in the tents. I hope it will be fine on the 9th of November, as we will be going for a picnic. I remain your loving cousin GWEN.

[I have sent you a badge, and will send the card as soon as they are printed, which I do hope may be shortly. What a pity it was so wet for the Show! One lady said that she had to wade through seas of mud to visit the horses. Our bon fire did not come off on the 5th, and no fireworks, though a neighbour burned some lovely coloured lights.—COUSIN KATE.]

DEAR COUSIN KATE.—We were all very pleased indeed with your kind letter, and will be very glad to accept the GRAPHIC Cousins' Humane Society Badge for Iris. She will be five on the 14th of this month, and Cyril will be four in March. Iris pulled Cyril out of the river at the end of the jetty at high tide when a woman's delay would have cost his life. Sylvia and I will be delighted to subscribe to the cousins' cot at the hospital. We will soon send the money.—FERGUS DUNLOP.

P.S.—I could send her photograph for you to look at if you would be sure to return it, for I only have one.

[I have sent the badge to Iris, and she is now a member of the NEW ZEALAND GRAPHIC Humane Society. I will also send you a card for the Cot Fund as soon as printed. Thank you for promising to fill it. I have sent you a message (November 11th) when I wrote a line to Cousin Sylvia with her prize money, asking you to let me see the photograph, which we should like to put in the GRAPHIC. But you will receive that long before you see this letter.—COUSIN KATE.]

DEAR COUSIN KATE.—I have just been reading about the GRAPHIC cousins' cot. I think it is a splendid idea, and I am sure I can get a card filled if you will send me one. I should think every cousin will help; it will be such a good thing. Now, I, too, have a suggestion to offer. Suppose I, or any other cousin, were to set to work and make a nice warm quilt for our cot. It could be made so as to contribute both to the comfort and the amusement of 'our cousin.' Please tell me what you think, Cousin Kate? If you approve I will begin a quilt as soon as possible. Can you tell me about what size it should be? I know my sister (who is also a cousin) will help me, so that it would be finished sooner. I shall be very anxious to get your answer, but I am afraid I must have patience for a few weeks, as we don't get the GRAPHIC till a fortnight after it is printed. I noticed your request for short letters, so will leave 'kicking the boot' till next time if you don't mind. I will think about joining the Humane Society. I should like to join, I think. I wrote a story for the competition, but when I came to read it over I found it wasn't worth sending. When shall we know the result? and will the prize stories appear in the GRAPHIC? After I had sent my letter I discovered that I ought to have sent the answer to my riddle with it. I will send it now.—Hoping this is not too long, I remain your interested reader, MONICA.

[Your letter is not at all too long. I will gladly send you a card when they are ready. Your suggestion is also capital about the quilt. I suppose it will be a pretty patchwork or something of that sort. I am afraid it must wash, as they are so clean in the hospital. I think 4 feet 6 inches long, and 2 feet 6 inches broad is about right. You were probably too modest about your story; you should have sent it, and let me judge it. The prize stories will appear in the GRAPHIC, I think in the Christmas number.—COUSIN KATE.]

DEAR COUSIN KATE.—We are having very bad weather just now. I wrote a story but I forgot to send it. I am very sorry, for I wanted to try for the prize. I am sending you some riddles. The children about here are getting quite excited over the approaching Guy Fawke's Day. All they can think of are bonfires, crackers, masks and gunpowder. I suppose they are just as bad in Auckland. My