party, and came home with the first prize. It was a cut-glass silver-mounted bottle. I went as "Love me, love my dog," such not one guessed it. Well, now I must say good-bye. From your loving Cousia FLORENCE. dog," una Umust sag

[Dear Cousin Florence,--I was just telling one of my couring that I had not heard from you for quite a long time. I am glad you were pleased with your badge, We have had the most lovely weather up here. I hope you had the same kind for your pienie. There is no-thing so uncomfortable or depressing as pienicing on a windy or abovery day. thing so uncomfortable or depressing as picnicing on a windy or abovery day. You will enjoy the extra week holiday more than all the rest just because you didn't expect it. Book tille parties are great fun, aren't they? Some of the re-presentations are so awfully annusing and quite unguessable. I am gled you en-joyed yours so much and got the prize. Such a nice one, too. But how did you manage to represent "Love ane, love my dog." I would like to see it.—Cousin Kute I dog." Kate.]

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Dear Cousin Kate,-You must think I have forgotten all the cousins, but I don't think I can ever find much news. don't think I can ever find much news. It is my birthday on Monday, and I will be twelve years old. I have not written to you since fleet week; you must think I am awful. I don't like writing unless I have a lot of news to tell; all my letters are short. Well, I think this is all the news till next time. remain, your loving Cousin LEONARD.

[Dear Cousin Leonard,—It certainly is long time since you wrote last, but hen you haven't any news letter-riting becomes really hard work; I n ահայ writing becomes, really hard work; I dun't believe I could write at all if I dun't believe I could write at all if I had to sit and think, and think, of some-thing to write about. What presents did you get on your birthday? I am always wanting to know what kind of present to get for a boy; it is so easy to get things for girls, but when my nephews' birthdays come round I am always at a loss to know what they would like.- Cousin Kate.]

4 +

Dear Cousin Kate, Yen will think me a long time writing to you. How often do you like the cousins to write? I was pleased to see my letter in the "Graphic." Everything loaks torely and green down duce, and the fruit trees are in blos-som. We are having our Michaelmäs holidays, but they are about over now. We got medals for Dominion Day. I hearned to drive during the holidays. Can you, drive, Cousin Kate? We have a phanograph and 74 records. Please may I have a red badge? I shall conclude Dear Cousin Kate .-- You will think me phonograph and /4 records. Fieldse may 1 have a red backge? I shall conclude with love to you, from Cousis KATE. P.S.-4f you have not a red backge, = blac one will do.

Due one will do. [Dear Cousin Kate.-Writing letters when you don't feel inclined is a bore, and I don't want any of my consins to be bothered ever, but I would like them to write often, not at set times every work, but every fortnight or three werks at least. I am glad you are pleased with your letters. Doesn't it look dif-ferent in print so short and business-like. The fruit trees do look lovely now; two old pear trees in our garden are ju-t one mass of white blossom. I hope the wind will not blow them all of. What then of medals did you get on Donihios the wind will not blow them all off. What kind of medals did you get on Donifnion Day. What were they for? Yes; I could drive, but we don't drive very much in town, only in the country, and as a rule I would rather ride; riding in lovely, I think. Certainly you can base a red badge when they come.—Count Kate.]

÷ 4

Dear tonsin Kate.—It is a long time ence I last woole to won, but I know you have such a lot of cousing letters to an-suer, that you cannot answer them all at once as I thought I would wait a little while before I wrote again. My a intro wine where a weak of the form ounce Sydney has gone up to Rotorns for his health. He has been ill nine months, but I hope the baths up there will do him good. We have lots of young months, but I hope the baths up there will do him good. We have bots of young Lambs over here, and I hove watching them run about the paddocks. The other day I had two of my friends down to play with me, and as I was making tea I solided my foot, and it has been very painful for three days. I am going to have a party next Salarday. That story about Tom, Harriet, and the electric man by very good! did you print if! My can-ary is laying, but the eggs are no good. I think it is auch a pity. Breause I might ary is living, but the eggs are no gono. I think it is such a pity, because I might have had some little canaries to sell. The last time she half, she brought out for -but I only managed to rear one, and

its wing looks as if it is broken, but it isn't. I am saving up my money to buy a canary to mate with the one I have now. Once a fortnight we get two little books called "Home Chat." Bo you get now, once a portnight we get two little books calked "Home Chat." Do you get them over in Anekland? I think they are so nice. Old Bob the pony, and Billy the goal are getting along all right. I must now close with best love to all the opping and another the source of all I must now close with pest love to an the cousins and yourself, for it is bed-time now. With love from Cousin MAREL

Dear Cousin Mobel,---We do get a lot of letters sometimes, but we always want of lettern sometimes, but we always want more because at other times perhaps only four or five write. I hope the baths at Rotorua will cure your uncle; it must be awful to be ill for so long. Why, we think it is awful if we have colds or in-fluenza for a week. It is pretty to watch the lamba, isn't it. They look such funny clumsy little things, with those long thin legs. Your foot must have been very painful. What did you do for it? Will it be well enough for you to enjoy your party next Saturday, do you think? I scalded mine once in just the same way. I could not put it to the ground for over a week-i could not put on my books for quite a long time after that. What is the matter with the can-ary's wing, don't you know?.—Cousin 's wing, don't you know?.-Cousin Kate.3

The Elephant and His School.

The great white elephant left the show-He waid he was too refined; he ways of a circus did not suit His most superior mind. 71

A creature as big and wise as I Fhould be teaching webool," as "And all the animal little folk My scholars they shall be." said he:

So into an empty schoolbouse near He marshalled them all one day; ("Twas in vacation time, and so The children were all away.)

The kittens and pupples, the pigs and

Were put to work with a will: But the squired and fox to the platform Went.

Because they would not keep still.

And then he began to teach his school The various things he knew; "There's much Bot down in the books,"

said he "That you ought to know how to lo."

And first be showed how to flap the cars, But their ears were far too small; And then he showed how to wave the

trunk, But they had no trunk at all.

The only thing that he taught his school That the scholars accomplished well, las when he called to the peanut man, And isught them the nuts to shell. Was

The elephant soon issuissed the school, And packed up his trunk to go; For, sher all, my talents," said be, "Are best displayed in a show." • 14

Home-made Sweets.

Peppermint Toffee: Melt 3oz. butter, and then mix with it a pound of brown eugar, stir it on the fire for a quarter of an hour, add a little essence of pepcour, sur it on the ne for a quarter of an hour, sold a little escate of pep-permint, and pour it out on an oiled slab; divide it into two parts, and when you can bear to handle it, work it well till white, then eut it into lozenges. You may mix a little that has been touched, and then cut it into lozenges the form you like. You may vary by dropping in essence of lemon in place of the perpermint or any other essence you like. like

Ginger Candy: Melt 4 pound of lump agar with the third of a put of water, AUGOT sight with the third of a pint of water, let it disacles gently in a preserving pan, and hoil till a clear symp. Have ready a teaspoonful of grated ginger, and mix it gradually with three or four tea-rpoonfuls of the symp, and then stir it into the whole. Watch it carefully, and Into the whole. Watch it carefully, and when it begins to fall in flakes throw in when it begins to fall in flakes throw in the freshly grated rind of a lemon, and work the sugar round quickly, as you add it, keep stiring it round until it is done; this will be when it falls in a mass from the epoon, then drop it in little eakes of table to noshd dishes, and before they are quite cold you can raise them from the dish to dry, but if touch-od when hot they will hypert ed when hot they will break.

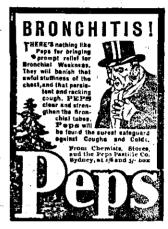
Chocolate Drops; Break in a mortar that has been heated some cake chillste, and work with a pestle until i until it is late, and work with a pesse unto n. as a fine paste; add some vanilla essence, and work it well with an equal weight of angar until well bleuded; then make it into balls or little cakes, and by them on sheets of writing paper until cold: shake over them either nonpariel comfits and the other white when they are

shake over them either nonpariel comfits or coarse white sugar, when they are warm, or they will not stick. Chocolate Almonda: When the choco-late has been softened, as before direct-ed, put in the middle an almond that has been blanched, or a pistachio mut, and then work them into balls as before, and then work them into balls as before, and roll there in comfits or angar.

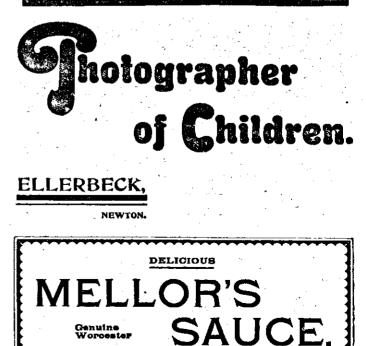
Weather Signs.

Any one can be a weather prophet, more or less infallible. The following rules are laid down by an expert:--"Bees work with redoubled energy just before rain. If the flice are unusually more before rain. If the flies are unusually persistent, either in the house or around stock, there is rain in the air. The cricket sings at the approach of cold weather. The buds of deciduous trees weather. The buds of deciduous trees have a firmer protecting coat if a severe winter is at hand. If the poplark leaves turn up the under side, rain will soon follow. If the camphor bottle becomes turbid it is going to storm; when it clears actiled weather may be expected. This idea has seemingly been utilised in the manufactures of barometers. The main trouble is they seldom forctell the change until about the time it arrives. Last, but not least, rheumatics can al-ways tell it in their bones when a storm is approaching, and of this prognosticais approaching, and of this prognostica-tion the octogenarian of today is as firm an advocate as were his fore-fathers."









The Favourite for Quarter of a Century,