

# CHILDREN'S PAGE.

THE VERY LAST N.Z. CONTINGENT.



Cousin Gertrude, Cousin Ethel Ada, and Cousin Irene must especially be asked for pardon as their letters arrived early. Cousin Winnie sent me a lovely doll and scrap book. Cousin Ethel Ada a scrap book, and Cousin Roie a box of fancy Santa Claus stockings full of lollies. The tree will be over before you see this, and I do hope some of you will be there.—Cousin Kate.



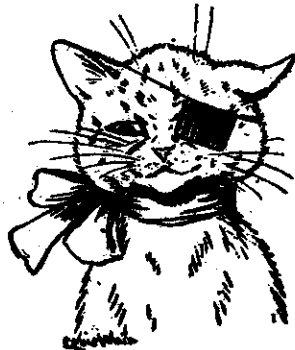
"We're all off to pacify the Boers."



**A Very Happy  
New Year to  
all "Graphic"  
Cousins.**



"And I'm going to carry home all our medals and money."



A CONSIDERATE CAT.

Dear Cousins.—This is a holiday number, and I am giving you such a lot of pictures and Xmas stories that I have decided to keep my letters over till next week. I have a whole heap of them and do not like only to print one or two, and yet if I put all of them in I should not have room for some of these pretty pictures. I hope you will all understand how it is, and not be disappointed at not seeing your letters. Cousin Winnie, Cousin Roie,

"No, thank you, there's nothing the matter. But I don't want my eyes to get tired, so I keep one tied up all the time. It's unkind to keep them both hard at work all day, don't you think?"

**"Hard Lines."**

"It really is preposterous,"  
In anguish squeaked the Slate,  
"To write upon my open face  
That three and three makes eight."  
"It isn't me," the Pencil cried  
(Its grammar was not strong),  
"The fingers make me write it down  
Although I know it's wrong."  
"Oh, fiddlestick," the Slate replied,  
Its anger rising still.

"In a free country, surely you  
Can exercise your will."  
The Pencil could not answer that.  
So changed the theme in haste.  
"Don't speak so loud," it sharply said,  
"It's not at all good taste."  
"Don't scratch so then," the Slate re-  
plied;  
The Pencil said no more,  
But calmly wrote another sb.  
Viz., six from six leaves four.  
—E. M. W., in December Little Folks."



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE THERE?

—This is a real old fashioned Christmas in England. I think we in New Zealand have the best of it, don't you?



"De fowls" THE DAY BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS.

Schooled home. "You are very lazy and very stupid little geese. You really appears to me, for next year or you will never pass when the "auis, come 'd better not use any more