

# Atom Club Page.

The Editor of THE ATOM QUARTERLY, having received many requests from friends and admirers of the little Magazine for a more frequent issue of the same, has now to announce that arrangements have been made with the proprietors of the "N.Z. Graphic" whereby the Magazine will be incorporated with that journal and henceforward a page or more of the "Graphic" will be devoted to contributions from members of the Atom Club. It may be explained for the benefit of those who have not yet met with "The Atom Quarterly," that that magazine has been successfully carried on under the editorship of Miss Moor, with the idea of encouraging a taste for literature and art amongst the girls of New Zealand, and for providing an outlet for amateur talent in this direction. Stories, poems, drawings, essays, answers to correspondents, and articles by New Zealand girls will be received and published as heretofore, and should be addressed "Editor of the Atom Club Page, Graphic Office, Auckland." New members of the Atom Club will be heartily welcomed, and it is hoped that with the vastly increased publicity and the acceleration of issues by means of the "Graphic" the scope and usefulness of the Club will be much extended.

## Atom Club Rules and Regulations.

STUDY FOR SESSION 1903 — "EMERSON'S ESSAYS."  
I. "SELF-RELIANCE."

### RULES.

1. Club fee for each member, 2s 6d per session.
2. Each member to read "Emerson" three hours a week (or six half-hours).
3. All MS. to be sent in to Editor of A.C. page, "Graphic" Office, Auckland, accompanied by stamps for return.
4. Fees to be paid in advance.

### REGULATIONS.

1. Session lasts from March to December.
2. Each member will be presented with a badge on entrance into Club.
3. All articles, essays, etc., written by members will be returned corrected and advised, if desired, when not published in A.C. page.
4. Answers to "Who Knows?" must be sent in to office with full name and nom de plume on Monday following issue of "Graphic."

### WHO KNOWS?

Ignoramus.—Will someone tell me the origin of the figure Britannia?

### REPLIES.

Spider.—"It is a white thorn, and is remarkable for flowering always on Christmas Day. The legend is that it originally sprang from the walking stick of Joseph of Arimathea, who planted his staff on the site of the old Abbey at Glastonbury, England."

## Photography



AS made such strides in the latter half of the nineteenth century, that the possibility of taking and manipulating "sun pictures" is now within the reach of all—even tazy to k.

As it is very likely that some of my girl readers have not taken up this fascinating art, it is to them I particularly intend to address my remarks. The girl who cultivates some hobby, such as photography, drawing, entomology, and a thousand and one other things, which may be classed as personal recreation, has always something within her reach which makes her quite independent of the outside world and its amusements.

In purchasing a camera, several things have to be taken into consideration, but I would obtain, if possible, the advice of a professional on that point, as there are so many different makers to choose from. Personally, I have a great predilection for the hand camera, carrying twelve quarter plates, providing the lens is extra good. The lens is the most important of all the apparatus in photography.

The cost of the camera is by no means all that will be incurred, if you wish to obtain the greatest amount of pleasure possible out of it. There are developing dishes, red lamp, scales, chemicals, etc., but these are comparatively reasonable to purchase.

Before using the camera it is advisable to familiarize one's self with all the working parts, finding out the whys and wherefores of each separate movement, and thus be in a better

position to make use of them before filling and "pressing the button." At the outset, do not hurriedly expose all your plates; use them judiciously and suitably, always remembering that one satisfactory view is worth twelve poor ones. When you arrive at this stage, friends and relations give one plenty of encouragement, providing they are not the victims of your efforts, so do not let your enthusiasm run away with you and lure you into portrait taking thus early.

There is a great longing as progress is made to turn out bigger pictures, and that opens another source of interest towards enlarging, which may be taken up later on.

When the plates have been exposed, the science of development begins, and I recommend every one to do their own.

It is inexpensive and intensely fascinating. The bath-room may be used at night, lighted by a red lamp, if no proper "dark room" is at hand. There are many developers to select from. After "going the rounds" I have settled down to "pyro," but for those to whom stained fingers are a consideration, I suggest hydroquinone. As you gently rock the developing dish and experience the joy of seeing your view gradually grow out of the plate, do not allow your feelings to get the better of you and omit the alum bath, thereby finding, to your horror, the films quietly floating off while being washed. This will surely happen if it be summer time.

After thorough washing comes the fixing with "hypo," that bugbear of beginners, which must be treated with all the respect such an insinuating chemical demands.

Then the final wash reveals the beauty and detail of the negative from which you are to obtain future prints. The art of printing is readily acquired, whether by the sun, a lamp, or match. Every packet of paper for printing on contains minute particulars respecting toning, fixing, etc. Failures may be expected, but that need not discourage, as there is no royal road to any art, much less photography.

ELEANOR BROWN, A.C.

## A Holiday Resort.

(CONTINUED.)

The first port of call is Waitangi, near the mouth of the Maungatukarewa River, and from there the boat generally visits the larger sheep runs round the north of the island, and finally returns to Waitangi before returning to New Zealand, for her mail and passengers.

The first thing that strikes a visitor on nearing the islands is how very low-lying they are, the larger island especially; in fact, the highest elevation hardly exceeds 900 feet. As you steam up the harbour, hugging the shore called Te Ngaio, you are delighted with the picturesque scenery, for widely scattered homesteads are dotted amongst the bush along the coast, and as we get still nearer our destination the scene changes to precipitous red cliffs, sur-

mounted with a crown of vivid green grass, and clumps of the native ake-ake, so called from its durability.

On going inland we pass through dense bush, not such bush as one sees in the North Island, as the trees here never attain a very great height, but still it is beautiful of its kind. Here are noble karaka, or kopi, trees, with their shiny leaves and luscious-looking yellow berries, and matipos with lovely purple berries, and overhead graceful festoons of karewas (supple-jacks). Ever and anon one hears the twitterings of jolly little fantails and the mellow note of the tui. Our old friend the black-bird calls us "pretty dears" in a most persistent manner, and then flies off to attack some poor victim's strawberries. If we proceed and leave the hush, we gain what the shepherds call a "clear." You must keep to the track, for roads there are none, and the bogs (which even excel those of Ireland in their bogginess) are very dangerous. What a land of lakes! Water, water everywhere, but, contrary to the poet, there is plenty to drink. However, one large expanse of water, comprising more than a third of Chatham Island, or about 40,000 acres of brackish lagoon, which has an outlet into the ocean at the Awapatiki (from awa, a river, and patiki, flounder).

To reach some parts of the island (for instance, Kaingaroa, the far-off settlement) this lake has to be forded, and in winter weather it is no small undertaking to ride with your poor hoiho breast high through four and a-half miles of bitterly cold water; but it is thought nothing of by some of the hardy natives.

These islands are an ideal holiday resort to my way of thinking, a perfect Paradise for conchologists, and those who wish to get far from the madding crowd. And then sportsmen would be in their glory here, what with cattle-stalking, pig-hunting, fishing, and shooting. The waters around the islands simply teem with fish of all kinds, the most sought for being hapouka, cod, terakihi, and crawfish, and as for game, the lakes abound with duck, geese, and swan. The plaintive cry of the sea-gull is always in one's ears, and saucy little Jackies, with their brilliant red legs and pretty black and white plumage, are very much in evidence.

A remarkable sight is to be seen off the south coast. Basaltic columns from five to seven hundred feet high go sheer down into the sea, and again at Outeira, near Whangaroa, there is a miniature Giant's Causeway; the only difference in the construction of the columns is that those in Ireland are hexagons, while those in question are five-sided. Another place of interest is north of Whangaroa, where, since before the memory of any living person, peat has been, and is still, burning.

I think I have told you enough, dear reader, to give you an idea of those very interesting islands, and I have written this in hopes that some who may chance to see it will take advantage of the summer weather and holiday time to pay a visit to that quiet retreat, the Chatham Islands.

ETHEL J. FLORENCE.