

Cousin Kate's Correspondents.

TO OUR YOUNG READERS

Our young readers are cordially invited to enter our wide circle of Cousins, by writing to

COUSIN KATE,
"The Weekly Graphic,"
Shortland Street, Auckland.

Cousin Kate is particularly desirous that those boys and girls who write should tell her whatever it interests them to tell, about their games, their pets, their holidays, or their studies. Their letters and Cousin Kate's replies will appear in the "Weekly Graphic," on the Children's Pages.

All Cousins under the age of fourteen are accounted Junior Cousins, all above that age Senior Cousins. Cousins may continue writing until quite grown up, and after, if they wish to do so; for we are proud to number among our Cousins some who have passed out of their teens. A Badge will be sent to each new Cousin on the receipt of an addressed envelope.

LETTERS AND REPLIES.

Tawa Flat.

DEAR COUSIN KATE,—I am very sorry I did not write before, but I hope you will excuse me. I have not written for over four months. I will try and write a long letter, but I don't suppose you like long letters. It was fine on Friday and Thursday, and I hope it will be fine for a good while. We have got a new teacher, and she is very nice. We had one before her who was nicer than this one. We are going to have another one soon, and I hope she will be nice. Next Thursday I am going to the Zoo and the pictures. My music teacher is going to take me. We do not go anywhere very often. Our school teacher is teaching us to dance. A lady that was up here taught us the Maypole dance, and a clapping polka. Our new teacher took some photos last week, and some of them are very nice. She has taught us some games. We have got some flowers out, but not very many. We had a lovely lot of cosmos, and we had a good few dahlias out. I am sending you a photo, on which I will mark out myself. My sister Marjorie is writing to you too. I am going in for a racing competition this year. It is in November this year. I am trying to beat another girl. I am going in for the examination, and I hope I will pass.—Cousin DORIS.

Dear Cousin Doris,—I was so pleased to have your letter, and it was not a bit too long. Your teacher seems to take a great interest in you all. You must tell me about your visit to the Zoo when next you write.—Cousin KATE.

Hastings.

Dear Cousin Kate,—Just a few lines in answer to your ever welcome letter and badge. I will try my hardest now, dear Cousin Kate, to write as regular every week as I can. We are having very changeable weather here at the present, and it seems fairly hard for anyone to guess whether it is going to be wet or fine, as the weather is so unsettled. I have just lost my dear pet kitten. It was such a good companion to me.—Cousin ELSIE.

[Dear Cousin Elsie,—I am afraid you are undertaking more than you can manage. Supposing you write once a month, and keep to that. Although if you do write more often I will be very pleased. Tell me something about your studies.—Cousin KATE.]

Stratford.

Dear Cousin Kate,—Will you please accept me as a cousin? I am now 12, and my sister and I have a governess. She says I am a bad writer, but I do my best. My sister and I have a dog—just for our selves, and nearly every fine morning after lessons we go for a drive. We have a bicycle each, and our hobby is cycling.—Cousin JUAN.

[Dear Cousin Juan,—I shall be only too pleased to enrol you as a cousin, but you have forgotten to send me your full name and address. Do this, and I will send you a badge. How delightful to have something of your very own to drive.—Cousin KATE.]

Nelson.

Dear Cousin Kate,—Just a few lines to let you know that I have the mumps. They only hurt us when they are coming. I suppose you have been wondering why I have not been writing to you. It is because we have been very busy shifting to Nelson.

Well, don't you think that the Titanic shipwreck was awful?—Cousin THIELMA.

[Dear Cousin Thelma,—I am sorry to hear you are ill, but I expect you are quite well and jolly ere this. You have made a big move. What a lot of packing you must have had. I should think you would find Nelson charming. The Titanic disaster was awful, and so needless.—Cousin KATE.]

Ngarnawabla.

Dear Cousin Kate,—I have made a very strong cart now. I have great fun with it. We give each other a ride nearly every day. We have had very bad weather lately. I wonder what kind of weather you have been having.—Cousin DESMOND.

[Dear Cousin Desmond,—I think you might have told me how you made that

Have you been to Pahiatua? It is a very small place. We know Auckland is a lovely place and would like to go there. I went when I was too young to remember. I am twelve years old, and my birthday is on the 28th July. Would you please let us know when your birthday is? We hope to see our letters in the "Graphic."—Cousins MARY and MARJORIE.

[Dear Cousins Marjory and Maggie,—I got your letters and you will have received the badges ere this, I hope. I am glad to know you are such chums; I love to see girls and boys really good loyal friends in each other. I often think that real loyal friendships are very rare, and very precious things. I am sorry I forgot about the name for the kitten; how would "Nipper" do, or "Fluffy"? I had my birthday yesterday, May 7th, and had a very happy one.—Cousin KATE.]

Ngarnawabla.

Dear Cousin Kate,—I always read the cousins' letters and thought I would like to write to you, too. We have a farm five miles out of Ngarnawabla and have only been here about a year. We have no school out here, so my brother and I have to ride into Ngarnawabla every day. I am ten years old and am in the third standard, and my brother is in the sixth. I have a nice

THE YAKNS OF CAPTAIN FIBB.



1. "Mebbe you won't believe this, but its true. I was on a huntin' trip and suddenly I spies a hull flock of wild turkeys sittin' on the dead limb of a tree. Then I takes careful aim and fires!"



2. --- Shiver me tow-line if I didn't hit that limb lengthwise and split it right open from one end to the other! And when it split, all the toes of them turkeys drops inter the slit, and they're held fast, like a trap!"



3. --- But when the gun went off it kicked so hard that it sent me sprawlin' backward inter the river, and I went clean to the bottom.



4. --- And when I crawls outter the water I feels kinder heavy and soggy like.



5. --- And tar and feather me for a shorter and nigger if the slat in my pants wasn't jist chock-full of fish!"



6. --- Well, I sawed off that limb with all the turkeys caught in it, and carried home the finest mess of fish and nobbiest string of game birds you ever seen."

cart. I think you were a clever chap to do it and I can imagine the fun you have with it. Mind you play fair and give the others a fair share. Cousin KATE.]

Pahiatua.

Dear Cousin Kate,—Marjory and I are writing together, to let you know that we are mates at school. Marjory is staying at our place to-night. We are having very bad weather here. We play hop-scotch at school, and on cold days chasing and many others. We both learn music. Marjory is wondering whether you have thought of a name for her kitten yet. Did you get the letter I wrote to you a fortnight ago? If you have not a red badge, would you please send me a blue one. Marjory's father has 36 ducks, and 23 are laying every day.

little pony and his name is "Billy."—Cousin KATHLEEN.

[Dear Cousin Kathleen,—I enjoyed your charming little letter, which is both well written and neat, and one of the best I have received from such a little girl. It must be lovely riding when the weather is fine but horrid in the wet. We have had four perfect days, which has been a great treat, for the weather has been awful for months. I shall look forward to hearing from you again.—Cousin KATE.]

Stoke.

Dear Cousin Kate,—I went to our Sunday school picnic at Tabuna on Saturday. We were driven in traps to the picnic and we had a grand time. First thing on Saturday morning it rained a little and we were

place; I can well imagine you enjoyed yourself there. You must tell me how the concert went off when next you write.—Cousin KATE.]

Origin of Names.

In case your surname should happen to be Jones, Brown, Smith, or McGill-cuddy, or anything else for that matter, you have probably wondered at times how such a name originated. Some names are easy to trace to a pos-

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