

FEBRUARY

• 1882 •



THE
BIRD OF
PASSAGE

To my kind young Friends.

First let me thank you all for your kind letters, and wish you all a very happy new year.

And then let me assure you you have given me one of the first great pleasures of my new year - in sending me so many kind and pleasant letters, and such a pretty and welcome gift.

If you had known me all your life, you would not have sent me anything I should like so well, or that would give me so many happy hours of occupation, as a painting-box; and this gives me the opportunity of saying, I wish you could all take as much delight in it as I have done, ever since I was a little child; I do now, even when I am a very old woman. I hope to see many more of your works in the "Bird of Passage" this year; the last I received was sadly scantily filled. I am sure, from your letters, you wish to be kind and give pleasure; and one way to do it, will be to resolve never to

let a month pass by without sending something
for our kind leader's little book. Only think
how much more amusing and interesting it will
then be for us all! Believe ^{me} ~~my~~

My dear young friends
yours affectionately
Annica

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Postage. 3

Table of the Peacock and the Crane

A Peacock, stately & splendid, vain
Spoke thus in anger to a Crane.

"Poor creature! - can it ever be

"Thou could'st compare thyself to me?"

"Observe, the vestments that I wear

"Outshine all creatures of the air;

"The envy of all winged things;

"My crest - my train - my glorious wings,

"The glittering splendour of my breast;

"By none but by my race possessed,

"Make me the glory of our court,

"Admired by all, who there resort.

"Say - what weak nature can there be

"Would give thee preference over me?"

"In peasant garments, poor and mean,

"Of dowdy grey thou'rt ever seen;

"And all thy race the same have been!"

The Crane replied - "Thou speakest true!"

"I have no rank - no plumage new -

"Still, - twist two powerful wings I stand,
 "Will bear me over sea and land!
 "Where'er I choose my flight to bend
 "There can I, at my will, descend;-
 "Find everywhere, a home at need,
 "And everywhere, enough to feed.
 "Whilst thou, hemmed in on every side,
 "Art forced in this dull court to bide;
 "Or if thou ventur'st on a flight,
 "Must on the nearest barn alight!
 "Mind - when with sneers my dress you scan,
 "Tis not the garment makes the man!"

translated from the German
 of Zacharia -

Amica -

7.
A Cockatoo, and other pets.

The other day a white cockatoo, with a sulphur-coloured crest, was brought for me, from Singapore. He arrived, from the Docks, where the ship which brought him was lying, at about six in the evening, in the oddest little cage, so small and low and with such thick cane bars, that we could scarcely see him. The next day however, a nice new perch arrived; it stands about 4 feet high, and has a bar at the top for Cocky to stand on, and a tin at each end of the Bar, one for food and the other for water and a wide tray at the bottom to catch the the husks of his seed. I lured him out of the cage, and then, covering my hands with a duster, I lifted him

on to the perch. The poor fellow was very much flurried, but finding himself safe and sound on the perch, he recovered himself pretty quickly. I feed him on maize chiefly but he will eat rice, sugar, bread, fruit, in fact almost anything. He is very mischievous; when I first had him he was tied by a slender brass chain, but this he smashed in no time. I patched it up with string, but he unpicked my knots without the smallest difficulty. I continually found him loose, and as he can fly pretty well in spite of clipped wings, I was afraid, lest he should fly down and commence operations on the furniture, so I bought a chain for 6^s. at an American shop, every ~~chain~~ link of which was soldered

and though Cockey struggles hard and bites it furiously, this chain has mastered him. But my Cockey is a very nice tame fellow, and loves to be caressed; and he is a very dear pet only very ugly. Instead of being pure white, he is a dirty grey and small, and his dirty yellow crest is small and scrubby, but "handsome is that handsome does," and Cockey is most gentle, and well-mannered. We used to have a cockatoo of the same sort as my present pet who was a most-splendid bird. He won the first prize at a Parrot-show, but then he was very shy and stupid, and mine is very friendly. Sometimes he drives me almost mad, by keeping up an incessant meowing, like a kitten which at last rises to a perfect shriek.

I hope when we go into the country, his colour will improve.

The other pet, I am going to tell you of can hardly be called a pet, seeing he was never petted in the least.

And this was his own fault. We tried all we could to make him like us but he would'nt. This mysterious creature was a Lizard. Last summer at a cricket-match on the Common, my sister saw the little fellow sliding along among the heathar. She caught him, and put him in her handkerchief, and we took him home. We put him in a biscuit-tin for the night, and I must confess, that I did not much like touching him though I knew he was harmless. He had a cold, unpleasant clammy feel, like one would think a snake must

feel. The next day I made a
 house for him, out of a broken
 hat-box. I made it like this: I first
 cut out the top of the box, leaving
 only the rim. Then I gummed
 muslin over this frame, and this
 made a muslin cover for the box
 and let in light and air. Then
 I ~~cut~~ cut a large opening in the
 side of the box like this:  and
 gummed muslin over that too, which
 made a window through which we
 could see the Lizard. Then I made
 a moss bed for him, and put a
little tray of water in, and then I
 lifted the owner of all this glory into
 his new domain. But he seemed
 very unhappy. He refused the most
 tempting flies. I am not aware that
 he touched food all the time we kept

him, which time was about a week. Then we took him back to the common and let him go. He seemed in no great hurry to go, but at last he slid away. I have read of tame lizards but ours did not see being tamed. He was about four inches long, very much like an ept in shape, but more graceful and his scales were most lovely, like a close net-work all over his body, with tiny little hands & feet, and eyes as bright and golden as a toad's.

I'm going to try and do a picture of Cockey but if I can't I shall send this without a picture. The fact is I'm rather busy and if the likeness doesn't come pretty quick I'm afraid I shall have to give it up.

An Ugly Duckling.



"Two of Seven Sisters".

ell

Two of same
map

The Bison, or Buffalo.

There are two kinds of this animal, the European and the American.

The European is now very scarce, and inhabits the marshes of Poland & the Caucasus mountains. They might have been by this time completely exterminated in Russia, had not the Czar commanded that nobody should kill any in his dominions. Some time ago he sent a stuffed one, and a skeleton to the British Museum.

The American Bison inhabits the wilds and prairies of North America. Although so many have been killed, still there are a great many left. This species is larger than the European, & has much thicker hair on its head, which is quite matted between the horns and on the forehead. There is a great difference in its

coat in the winter and summer. In the summer it is very thin, fine, and soft, and in the winter it is much thicker and coarser.

Some of the Indian tribes depend solely on this animal for their maintenance. They eat the flesh fresh in summer and salted in winter; they use the skin for blankets, clothes, and for packing the meat in, and covering their tents; they use the brains for preparing and softening the skin, the fibres of the flesh for thread, the finer bones for needles, the ribs with the stronger fibres for bows, and the larger bones as short chisels and other instruments; they also use the horns as powder flasks.

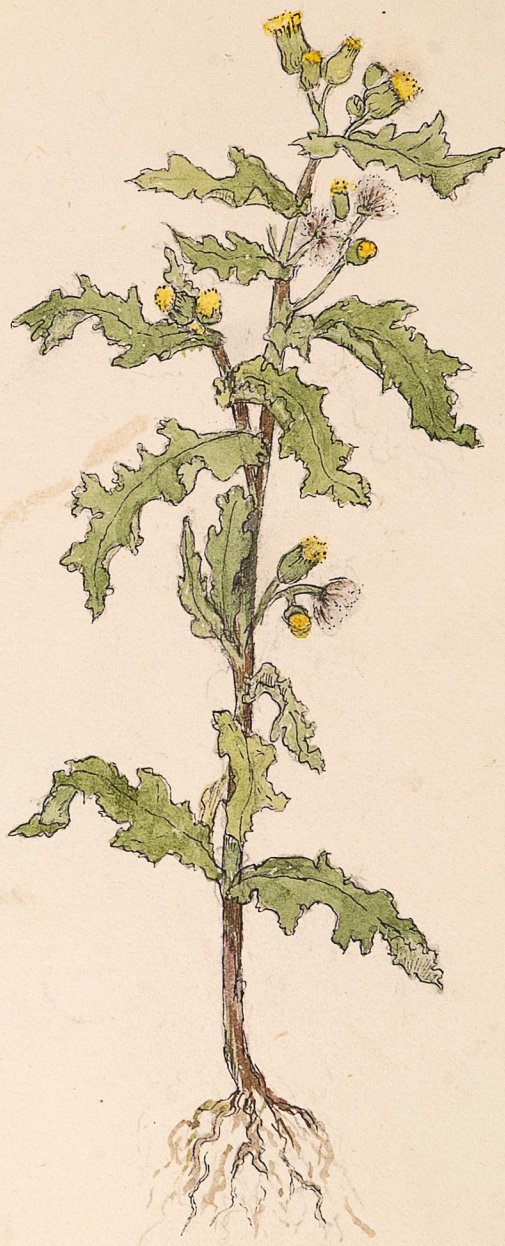
The Indians have a very ingenious method of hunting these animals. They lure them to a spot near a precipice, and then frighten

them with shouting, making them rush with all speed to the edge of the precipice. It is of no use for the leaders to stop, for the hinder ones come rushing on, not being able to stop in time.

The Bison can run very fast, and especially the female, which can run nearly three miles to the male's one mile, and can run a fair race with a horse of moderate pace.

They take very long strides, and though they run fast, they do so rather awkwardly.

Sparrow



GROUNDSEL.

from nature
PROCEY

SENECIO VULGARIS

(COMMON GROUNDSEL)

The name of this weed (*Senecio*), is derived from the Latin word *Senex*, an old man, & is so called on account of its grey seed-down.

Its flowers are rather insignificant, tho' of a bright yellow colour, and they grow in clusters. The leaves which partly embrace the stem, are very deeply lobed, & toothed, and the under-surface is slightly hairy.

Groundsel remains in flower all the year round; it is common in all cultivated ground, & is very difficult to get rid of, owing to the scattering of its seed-down.

Another variety of the *Senecio* order is the Mountain groundsel (*Senecio sylvaticus*), which is distinguished

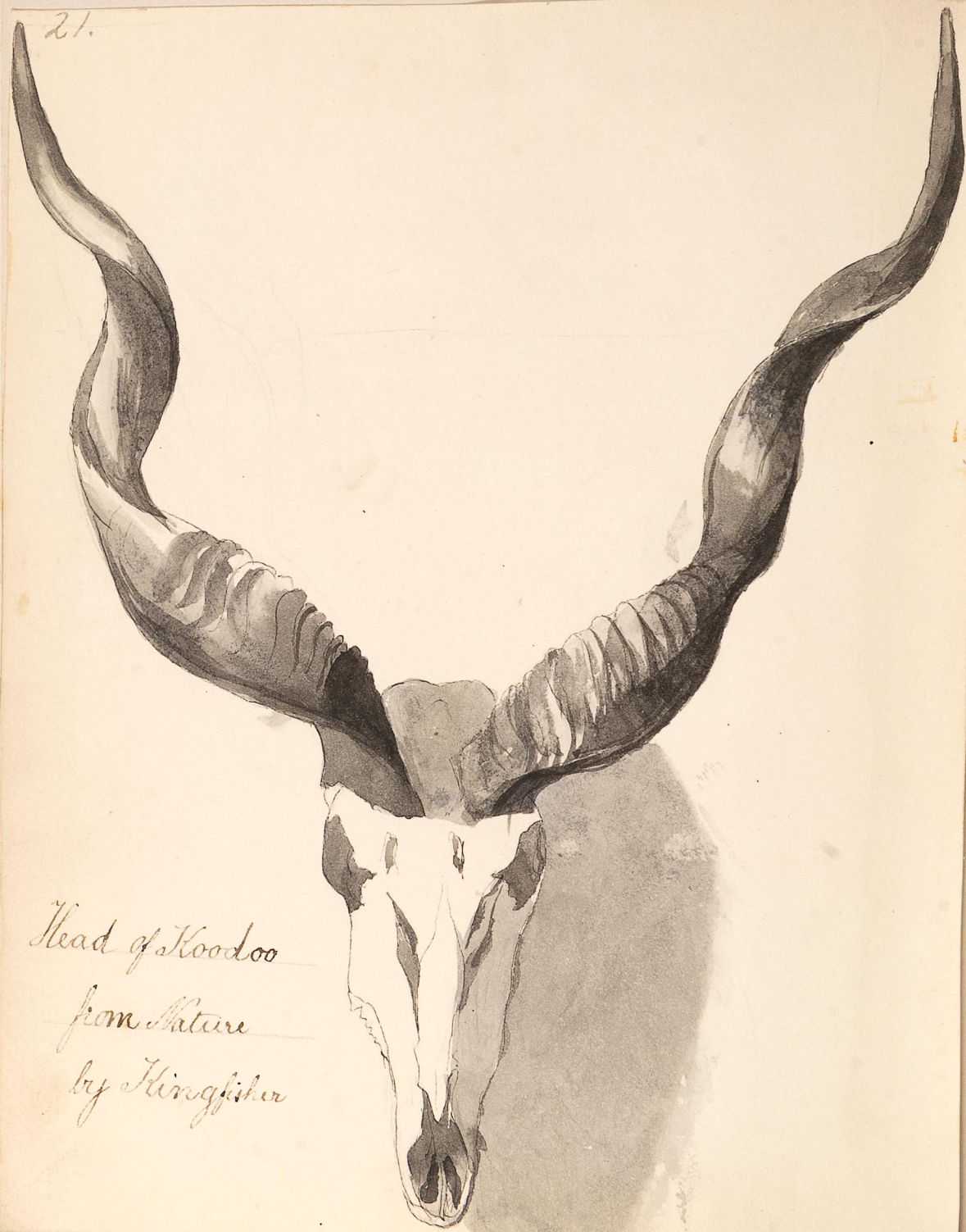
from common groundsel by its superior size, by the more frequent cuts in its hoary leaves, & by its dull yellow flowers. This plant blooms in July, August, & September, and grows to the height of between one & two feet; it is commonly found in gravelly soil.

Another variety is that called *Senecio elegans*, (Purple Jacobaea, or Elegant groundsel,) a native of the Cape of Good Hope. This annual was so named on account of its elegant form, & beauty, & grows to the height of about eighteen inches. The flower has a purple radius & a yellow disk, ~~but~~ the plant occasionally produces white flowers. *Senecio viscosus*, (Viscid groundsel,) is found in the sandy & chalky districts of Britain. The whole plant

is viscid & hairy, & has a disagreeable smell; its flowers are golden, & supported by separate flower-stalks, & bloom from June to October. Groundsel is a very favourite food of canaries & other birds, & they are almost equally fond of its fluffy flowers, & fibrous roots.

Froggy.

21.



Head of Koodoo
from Nature
by Kingfisher

The Koodoo

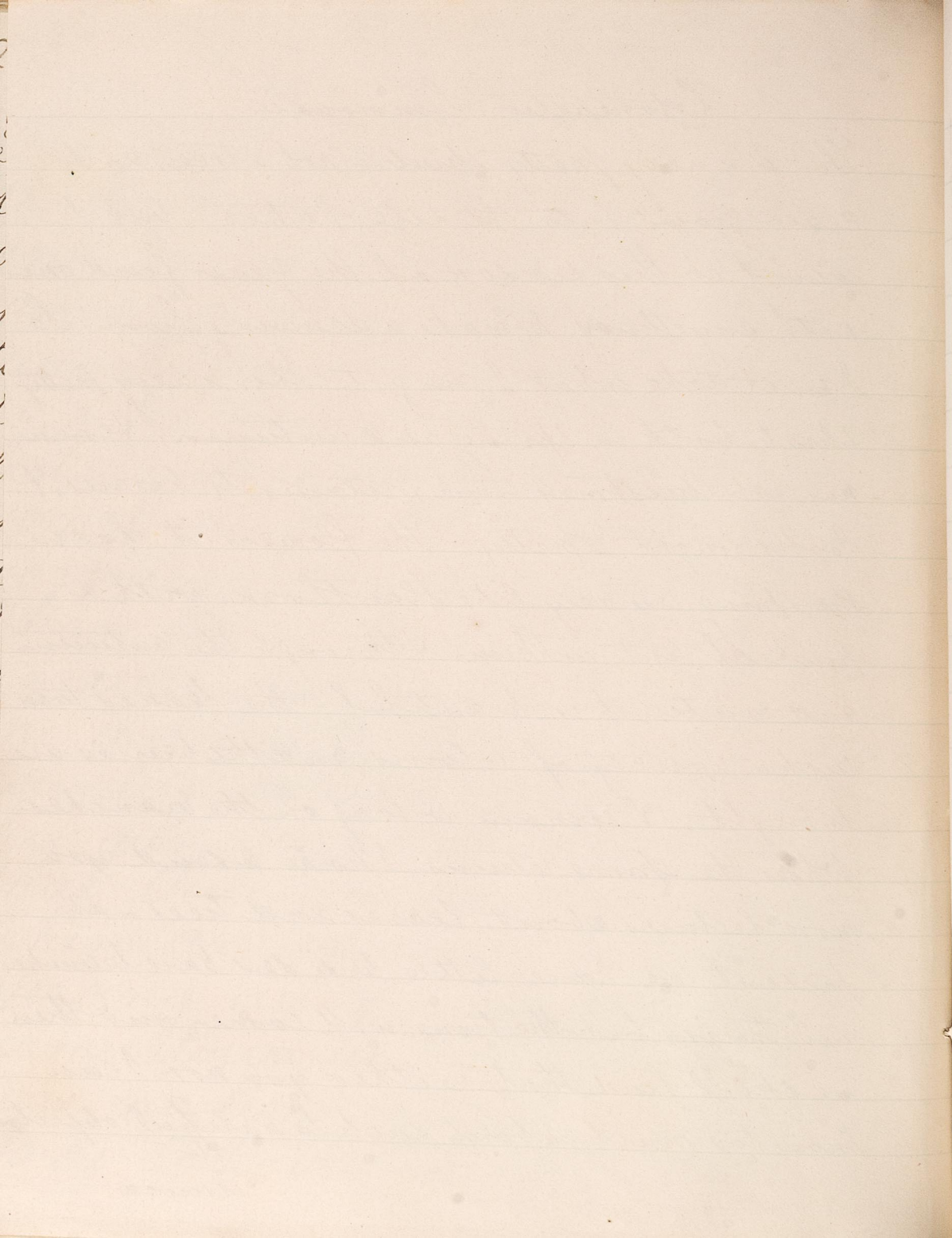
We have had a large skeleton head of a Koodoo sent us and so I thought it would be interesting to write upon it this month. It is an extremely handsome variety of antelope and is found in many parts of Africa; Its horns are very long and beautifully twisted. The Koodoo usually lives very solitary and it inhabits the woods its food is generally grass and the buds and young leaves of trees and shrubs. The horns of the Koodoo sometimes measure four feet in length the female however is hornless

The gentleman who sent us the heads, ^{is} a great Traveller and in his travels has shot several of these beautiful creatures. He does not however make it a business to destroy them but has been obliged to do so sometimes for food. Some of his adventures are very interesting. I have heard that once when he was walking with only one native through a very wild country he had laid down his gun and did not think that there was any danger when an enormous lioness sprang out of a thicket and came towards him. There was no time to run away so he took out his penknife

Cotoneaster Simmoussii

This is a very pretty shrub - not a tree, as it never grows into the size of a tree - but I cannot at this season of the year find one with any thing to make a drawing from. So I must take what I can get. This is a very pretty shrub, both in spring and autumn, & even now at Christmas time, retains its berries, & looks bright & pretty - The flowers it has in the spring are very like Hawthorn, with a pinkish tint in them. & through the autumn and winter it is beautiful - the leaves turn such a variety of colours, and the berries are so bright, & remain so long on the branches. When the spring returns, I hope to send you more lectures about leaves and trees - at present we have little besides bare branches and twigs - but the time will come - and then we shall find that neither you nor I can know too much about such beautiful objects.

Amica



The Bryza

The Bryza is a fungus, which is I believe peculiar to the county of Hampshire. It grows in damp places on banks, generally under moss, on little rotten bits of stick, & is even of a brighter colour than I have painted it.

It will live two or three weeks in water, & I have been told that if kept long enough, new ones grow from the same stick.

At first we thought we had found something very rare, as we had never seen anything of

the kind before, except some painted on Christmas cards; but they seem to be very common in this neighbourhood, as we have had several sent to us, & see them in almost every house.

There are 5000 different kinds of fungi, some of which are very poisonous, others are used ~~for~~ for food, as the mushroom.

I have read that in Italy, Germany & France, many of the poorer people live upon them for weeks.

"Cuckoo"

REGULATION
PEZIZA. "Cucur"
From Nature.



With
and
no
a
for
in

REGULATIONS.

1. The Magazine may be kept two clear days only.
2. Contributions should reach the Editor not later than the 25th; this rule should be strictly observed, as
" only so can the Magazine be sent off in time.
3. A margin of a good inch should be left to allow
" of binding in the Pages.
4. Prizes will be given at the end of the year.
" three in number.
5. Each child must send not less than four
" contributions in the year.

REGISTER

	<u>Rec'd</u>	<u>Sent off.</u>
1. Miss Wilson, Chauntry House, " Bray, Maidenhead.	Feb 3 rd	Feb 6 th
2. Miss Atta Robertson, " Ballanceroch, Lennox Town, N.B.	8 th	10 th
3. Miss M. F. Jones. " Iesketh How, Ambleside.	Feb 14 th	Feb 16 th
4. Miss Theodora Wilson. " Melbourne, Derby.	Feb 19 th	21 st
5. Master Thos. Bissell; " Wollaston, Stourbridge.	Feb 22 nd	23 rd
6. Miss Gertrude Whyley. " Alton Vicarage, Hants.	Feb 23 rd	March 1 st

	Rec ^d	Sent off.
7. Miss Ella Kilburn.	3 rd	6 th
" St Lawrence, Ventnor, I. W.		
8. Miss Margaret Norman.	8 th	8 th
" 90. Portland Place. W.		
9. Miss Mary L. Jones.	9 th	13 th
" The Dower House, Woodcote, Epsom.		
10. Miss Ethel Dawson Campbell.		
" Rose Hill, Hoddesdon, Herts.		
11. Miss Iba Brock, c/o Mrs Round,		
" Birch Hall, Colchester.		
12. Master Edward Jackson.	31 st	1 st April
" c/o A. Maclaren Esq. Summerfield.		
" Oxford.		
13. Miss Mary Wilson.	April 3 rd	5 th
" Nutfield, Watford, Herts.		
14. Miss Katie Kilburn,	" 6 th	" 8 th
" Chancellor House, Tunbridge Wells.		
15. Miss Mary Reed,		
" Dagmar House, Plaistow, Bromley, Kent.		
16. Miss Gertrude Browne.		
" c/o Miss Spencer. Trinity House,	15 th	17 th
Pontefract.		

Rec^d Sent off.

17. Miss Mary Vale, % Miss Robson.
- " 5. Vale View Place, Claremont, Bath.
18. Miss Nellie Atkinson,
- " Margaret's Buildings, Bath.
19. Miss Adèle Barrett.
- " 52. Pierrepoint Street, Bath.
20. Miss Mary Jones.
- " Portway House, Warminster.
21. Miss Emily Collier.
- " Holyport House, Shortlands, Kent.

27.	30 th
25 th	26 th
May 1 st	3 rd
4 th	5 th

CRITICISMS & REMARKS.

First I must tell you who gained the three prizes. The first I gave to "Monkey", the second to "Canary", and the third to Atta Robertson. ("Grey Cat") - We shall have no more papers from "Monkey", I am sorry to say - she is obliged to give up contributing, as her time is so much taken up - I took great pleasure in every thing she wrote, as she persevered with one subject, and always observed for herself, instead of satisfying herself with reading about other people's observations. "Grey Cat" also deserves praise in this respect. "Frozzie" sent the largest number of contributions during the year, but did not gain a Prize, as the same person cannot take one two years running - This year she will again stand on equal chance with you all.

I dare say you may like to see the
number of papers sent by each child.

"Froggie" 7. "Monkey" 6. "Canary" 6. "Grey Cat",
3. "Kingfisher" 3 - "Kangaroo", 3. "Linnet", 3.
"Cock of the Wood", 4. "Blue Tit", 3. "Cuckoo",
4. "Erin go - Bragh", 3. "Heron", 3. "Tadpole",
2. "Bulfinch", 1. "Elk", 1. "Bunnie", 1.
"Chaffinch", 1. "Sparrow" 1. Now, according to
Rule ^v each child must send four
contributions in the year - so that I
ought, really, to strike off the names
of several upon our list - I feel, how-
ever, in a very generous mood, and
so I will give you another chance!
The reason I gave "Grey Cat" a Prize when
she had only contributed three times
in the year was that, until lately,
she has been very regular and always
writes what she notices herself.
I quite hope that you will all be more

industrious this year. Those little books I gave you do not seem to have been of much use. I should be very sorry to give up our little Magazine, but I do not see any use in keeping it up if ~~I~~ it does not answer the purpose for which it was intended. It was not meant to improve your style of writing merely, or to give you practice in making nice little abstracts of anything you may read - it was meant to induce you to observe for yourselves and admire some of the thousand wonders which are all around us - instead of going about with sleepy dull eyes as so many of us do - as I myself did till some few years ago, when I think I opened them wide for the first time in my life! I have not been able to notice the various

papers this month. I hope, however,
that you will all criticize them.

I have not put in one paper upon
Vampire bats, as I don't think it is
correct in its account of them - I will
speak of it in the next number.

I am sorry to say that I lost a
very nice little paper and drawing by
"Kingfisher" upon the Fly catcher.

E. E. de Zotte.

I hope the colour of the binding
will not offend your eyes as much
as it does mine. E. E. de Z.

A very pretty number this month - but I hope
that still more of our birds will make observations
during their various flights, and give us, who do
not fly about much, the result of them next month.

Amica

I am very much interested in "Kingfisher's" paper, because we have a pair of horns of the Hoodoo which came from the Cape of Good Hope. I am very sorry that "Monkey" is going to give up writing, her papers were so nice. I would like to have heard more about the "Two of seven Sisters". I tried to make a drawing of the Ivy leaves but I spoilt it in colouring it.

"Grey bat"

I like the paper on Peziza very much. I think Annica's drawings are very beautiful. I am very sorry Iris has contributed I think the cover very pretty.

Kingfisher.

I think the frontispiece is very pretty & Annica's wreath is beautiful, I am glad she liked her present—

Clock of the Hood.

I do not agree with our Editor
about the cover it does not offend
my taste it is such nice soft
coloring. The two sisters are some
of a clump of seven trees near
our house christened them so
because they have quite a family
likeness.

Eliz.

I think the Magazine is pretty
this month, & the cover does not
offend me at all. I really do
try to write, but in London I
can't find anything to observe.
However next month, I shall be
in the country again.

I think "Kingfisher's illustration of the
'Head of the Koodoo' is very good, & the bird
in the horizon is very well shown. The
flowers on the cover are very well painted, &

the cover itself is very pretty. I have
been obliged to delay this Number a little,
as it had to be forwarded from home,
owing to my being away.

Froggy.

Our Editor's cover is very pretty indeed
and beautifully colored. Amica's contri-
butions as usual are lovely. An Ugly
Duckling's paper is very interesting, so
is "Kingfishers" and the Hoodoo's head is
very well drawn. I am sorry not to have
done a flower for this number, but hope
to have more time for drawing as the
days get longer and the wild flowers
more plentiful. The wild periwinkle
(*Vinca minor*) is in bloom in a hedge near
here, and the Greater Stitchwort (*Stellaria
holostea*) and quantities of Marsh Mari-
gold (*Caltha palustris*) These are all very

early, though some years they have
been earlier still. We are listening for
the first notes of our friends the night-
ingales, who are expected daily here
now. April 4th. "Iris."

I think this is a very pretty number
though it has fewer illustrations than
sometimes. I like the flowers on the
outside, but ~~not~~ the ribbon. "St. Valen-
-tines day" is very pretty and so are
the paintings of "Amica"; I am very
glad she was pleased with her present.
I never knew so much about Ivy before
I read "Grey Cat's paper; our house is
quite covered with ivy which makes
it look very pretty & very lovely kinds
of ivy grow in the woods & lanes about
here. The Head of the Hoodoo is very
nicely done but I think it must

have been rather difficult. "Froggy's"
Groundsel too is very natural.

"Kangaroo."

We are very sorry to have kept
the Magazine more than two
days we never thought ^{of looking} at the
regulations, as it has always been
3 days. We like the wreath by
Amica very much, and are very glad
she liked her present. The ground-
sel is very natural.

Snipe, and
Cock Robin.

I think Amica's paintings are lovely
also the Head of the Kangaroo is done
very well. The Groundsel is very
natural + is very well done.

Peniza is ~~is~~ very nice indeed.
I am very sorry. I could not send

a paper for this month but I
had not time to finish it.

"Buchanan."

I think "St Valentine's Day" is very
pretty. "Amica's" wreath is most lovely. also
her painting of "Cotoneaster Simononii."

I like "Froggy's" drawing of Groundsel very
well. I think the head of the Hoodoo is very
well done. I think "Peziza" is well done
also. Altogether I like this magazine
is very nice, but I quite agree with "Amica"
that we ought to write oftener. Although
I am giving this good advice I am about the
worst contributor but I am going to try and write
much oftener now that Spring has come again for
I do not think that there ever is very much to
write about during the long winter.

Erin-go-bragh.

I think the outside of this paper is beautifully painted, and I also admire "Amica's" wreath very much. "Grey Cat's" paper is very nice, but he (or she) has forgotten that there is a white ivy which changes its color to green in the autumn. "Cuckoo" is wrong in saying that the *Peziza* is peculiar to Hampshire, as I have heard of it in other places, and have also found it myself in Wiltshire. Its color is of the brightest scarlet.

Sparrow.

I like Fossy's nice sensible little paper on ground-sel, & the drawing is good too. The cover this month is extremely pretty. Cuckoo's *Peziza* (how learned we are!) is beautifully done, but I don't know how old Cuckoo is. I don't think "St. Valentine's Day" is at all pretty, in fact they are two little rights! — Tweedledum.

