

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "WEEKLY WHAT-NOT"

9th Jan.

21, Short Street,
Longwater.

Sir,

I wonder very much if any of your readers could enlighten me on the subject of "Hedge-Monkeys". I have recently come across a reference to these creatures and am naturally curious to know if they exist in large quantities in this country.

Yours faithfully,

"DISGOOSTED"

TO THE EDITOR - THE "WEEKLY WHAT-NOT"

16th Jan.

Bonny Ho., Bilgewater.

Sir,

"Disgoosted's" letter in your last issue raises an interesting point. As a student of Natural History in its proper sense may I draw his attention to a reference in the "Clodsmeer" M.S.?

...Kynge Guillyam gan loudé for to crye
Go Kyl that I maye ete thys Hedge-Monkye.
And whan that he hadde finyssed hys repaste
Ther cam a man that sayde yt wer the laste.

The passage of course refers to King William Rufus who was apparently very partial to "Greeté roostés of Hedge-Monkye". His passion for this delicacy evidently exhausted the country's supply for the writer of this chronicle goes on to say "...and certes ther are namoore until thys daye!" It seems then that the Hedge-Monkey became extinct in this country circa 1100 AD.

Trusting this will be of interest to your reader,

Yours truly,

Quentin Quartermaine MA (Oxon)