

DOGS:

THEIR ORIGIN AND VARIETIES

DIRECTIONS AS TO THEIR

GENERAL MANAGEMENT,

AND SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS AS TO

THEIR TREATMENT UNDER DISEASE

BY

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"DOMESTIC FOWL," ETC ETC

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS ON WOOD.

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THE IRISH WOLF-DOG.

“The greyhound ! the great hound ! the graceful of limb !
Rough fellow ! tall fellow ! swift fellow, and slim !
Let them sound through the earth, let them sail o'er the sea,
They will light on none other more ancient than thee !”

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It is a pleasure to have the following paper with
you. I am sure that you will find it of interest.
I have had the pleasure of reading it and
I am sure that you will find it of interest.
I have had the pleasure of reading it and
I am sure that you will find it of interest.

H. D. RICHARDS

NEW YORK

TO

A. W. BAKER, ESQ., JUNIOR,

OF BALLYTOBIN, CO. KILKENNY.

MY DEAR SIR,

Permit me to inscribe to you the following pages, with the hope that you will not deem them altogether unworthy of your acceptance. I know that you are, like myself, a warm friend and admirer of the noble animal whose history and habits they are designed to illustrate; and trust that you will receive, in the spirit in which it is tendered, this, the only tribute in my power to offer, in return for the very kind and valuable assistance you extended to me in the preparation of the work.

Believe me, my dear Sir,

Your grateful Friend,

H. D. RICHARDSON

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DOGS:

THEIR NATURAL HISTORY, ETC.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION—ORIGIN OF THE DOG.

It is in far remote ages of "The Earth and Animated Nature" that we have to seek for traces of the origin of this noble and generous animal, which, while some have placed the lion, and some the horse, as the first of quadrupeds, has enjoyed the especial privilege and well-merited honor of being, *par excellence*, the FRIEND OF MAN. This has adhered to him in adversity, since the fall, and through all vicissitudes. I should be disposed to award to this animal the next successive place to man in the scale of, at all events, moral being. True that, in physical formation, the various tribes of Simiæ and Orans would appear to approximate the most closely to humanity; but in intellectual development I think they will be generally conceded to be inferior to our noble friend, THE DOG.

So nearly akin is the intelligence of the dog to reason, that we are sometimes puzzled to account for the actions which result from it. As Pope says, when apostrophizing the elephant—

"'Twixt that and reason, what a nice barrier!
Forever separate, yet forever near."

Essay on Man.

But Pope, among the many poets, has also furnished a very remarkable illustration, from its beauty, its celebrity, and, above all, the wideness of its scope, of these high prerogatives of the dog, of their universality, and also of their repute—I allude to that far-famed passage in the "*Essay on Man*"—

“Lo! the poor Indian, whose untutor'd mind
Sees God in storms, and hears him in the wind,

* * * * *

And thinks, admitted to that equal sky,
His FAITHFUL DOG shall bear him company.”

The “many poets” have been alluded to: yes, from the days of Homer, who hymned the fidelity of Argus, the old dog of Ulysses, in the *Odyssey*, to our own times, when Lord Byron, in his youth, penned the epitaph upon his faithful favorite at Newstead; and the late Thomas Campbell sang, in one of his celebrated ballads, of the old harper by the Shannon and his dog—when the simple tale of Colin and his “poor dog Tray” (the old shepherd and the old shepherd’s dog) was adorned with plaintive verse.

The poets of various ages and of various lands would seem to have delighted in commemorating the virtues of this favorite animal, perhaps, in part, as though they recognised with poetic force of perception in their devotion to man, something of the primal love with which man once looked up to *his* heavenly Father and almighty Friend. If I be not mistaken, this impressive comparison forms the subject of one of Lord Bacon’s famous “*ESSAYS*.”

Should it be deemed that this prefatory “character and eulogium” of the dog partakes too much of “favor and affection,” is not, perhaps, *scientific* enough for a treatise of this nature, I still trust that so much may be conceded to a very zealous author in the commencement of his work, and as such eulogistic notices are not, though rarely, indeed, so richly merited, unusual in history,* they may, perhaps, be allowed in *natural history* also. Though here, from the nature of the subject, these remarks are necessarily placed first, as prefatory, instead of being introduced in the body of the work, yet may I not be excused, as the moral amiable qualities of the dog are so remarkable and notorious, that they form in themselves a kind of description of the species, a sort of special grade of chivalry, giving dogs a rank of honor among animals from the chivalrous character of their many virtues—virtues so numerous and so generally known and experienced, that were they to receive a full degree of tribute, these remarks would extend to the entire limits of my volume? I therefore humbly crave indulgence for

* See Rollin, for instance, and many others.

thus lingering a little upon this pleasing portion of my theme.

It would appear that for some time, I know not why, (unless it be explained on the same principle that caused the ostracizing of Aristides, for being called "The Just,") there has been a strange infatuation among natural historians for withholding from the dog his claims to originality of creation, —for, in short, an "attainder of his lineage;" nearly all who of late have written upon this subject, having zealously endeavored to trace his descent to the treacherous, cowardly, and rapacious wolf, that skulking, scavenger-like marauder, the jackal, or the crafty and plotting fox; some even referring for his primitive type to the surly hyæna, with that animal's unsocial and indomitable congeners.

Some writers, on the other hand, go so far as to admit, that a true and genuine dog was, indeed, originally created among the other tribes of animals; but they, at the same time, maintain him to have been formed with a wild, unsocial, and savage disposition; and to owe his present position as the faithful and valued friend of man, to the reclaiming power of "human reason," and to a train of adventitious circumstances long subsequent to the creation of the animal world, and consequently to the era of his primitive existence. These are the persons who love to descant upon, as they are pleased to call it, the "glorious, never-to-be-forgotten conquest of reason over instinct."

Cuvier has said, speaking of the dog and his supposed subjugation, "C'est la conquête la plus complète, la plus singulière, et la plus utile que l'homme a faite;" and his translator, or rather commentator, Mr. Griffith,* has re-echoed, apparently without attempt at inquiry, "This is the most complete, singular, and useful conquest man has made."† Alas! to this absurd system of blindly following in the wake of the great, we owe much of the ignorance which at present envelopes the study of zoology. Let but a man, by rendering in some one or more instances service to science, obtain a certain position in the world of letters—a certain *name*—and, behold! we have succeeding writers crouching to his dicta as though they were oracular, and, without taking the trouble of investigating their correctness, adopting his opinions, nay,

* Griffith's Cuvier.

† Buffon has made a remark almost identical, even in expression, in his "Introduction to the Natural History of the Horse."

his very *errors*, with a blind and superstitious reverence. Cuvier was undoubtedly a great, a very great naturalist; his writings are to be read with reverence and respect, and if we feel disposed to differ from his theories, the feeling should only be given way to after the most careful examination and research. If facts present an equal balance, let us by all means abandon our own skepticism, and yield to the authority of his master genius; but if facts decidedly preponderate in favor of our doubt, even his great name must not deter us from taking an independent course, and adopting our own views. Cuvier has shown himself a partaker of human fallibility—

“Indignor si quando bonus dormitat Homerus.”

In the case of the fossil deer of Ireland, for instance, he for a long time almost deprived us of our claim to the exclusive possession of that stupendous relic of olden time, by describing remains of what he conceived to be the same animal as having been exhumed in France. These remains have since been recognised as belonging to quite a different tribe of animals; and in this instance also I cannot but observe, that the very obvious difference subsisting between the osseous remains of the animals in question, is sufficient to induce caution towards an author who could thus strangely confound them with each other. It was left to Colonel Hamilton Smith to expose Cuvier's mistake—he alone having the spirit to examine this subject when so great a man had once treated of it, and to remark upon the errors which he found.

✓ To resume, however: so then man boasts of a mysterious control over natural instinct, and that he is able to subdue, reclaim, and conquer for himself what animals he wishes; and that he further possesses a power of rendering those animals, naturally fierce and estranged from his society, his faithful, willing, and unchangeable servants! Truly it is a pity that if such a power ever existed, it should be now so utterly lost. I, for one, would be glad, indeed, were it still capable of being exercised. I have spent years in striving to reclaim the wild creatures of the forest; I have expended upon them my attention and my care; I have given them much of my time, my affection, and my means; and yet I have, after all, but succeeded in the partial familiarization of a few individuals, whose *offspring* have invariably returned to the intractable, ferocious, and feral habits of their race.

And have other experimentalists fared better? How else does it happen that the grim wolf still prowls amidst the gloomy glades of his native forests, that crafty Reynard still preserves his wild and marauding instincts, and that the stealthy jackal is still but the prowling scavenger of the eastern hamlet? Why does not the beautiful zebra habitually grace the equipages of our cities?—why does not the graceful gazelle become the happy and contented ornament of our parks? Why does the furious bison still roam, in unshackled grandeur, the wilds of his native plains, while his kinsmen, the patient ox, drew the baggage of the primeval patriarchs, and the Brahminee bull walks in majestic tranquillity among the topes and lawns of Hindostan, and the placid Indian cow furnishes her nutritious milk to thousands of Gentoos? I need, I think, hardly observe—as all who read must be already aware of the fact—that far more pains have been bestowed upon endeavoring to reclaim these naturally feral creatures, than we have the slightest proof were ever bestowed upon the imaginary reclamation of those which are asserted to be their descendants. “If,” says an eloquent writer in Lardner’s Cyclopædia—“if this power really had been given to us in the sense the assertion evidently implies, the *instinct* of animals would be under the control of man, instead of being immutably fixed by the ALMIGHTY—that power to whom man himself is indebted for his faculty of reason: not, indeed, that it might be made, as in this instance, an idle and arrogant boast, but that it should be used to give honor and reverence to his Maker. The more the wondrous works of the Creator are studied, the more will this truth become incontestable—that it is He only who has given to certain animals, or to certain tribes, an *innate propensity* to live, by free choice, near the haunts of man, or to submit themselves *cheerfully* and *willingly* to his domestication.”

Why should we seek to set limits to the power of HIM who framed the universe? Why should we seek to affix bounds to the power of that BEING whose power is infinite? What positive, tangible, or even analogical evidence exists that the dog was not originally formed at the creation; or that if formed then, it was under a feral type, from which it was left, by the Supreme, to the inventive powers of man to reclaim him? Is it not far more reasonable to suppose, that a benevolent Deity should have formed the dog for the express purpose of becoming the ever faithful, constant friend and companion of

man, and one who would remain his friend after the unhappy FALL should have deprived him of the services or society of other animals? This, however, is too much like mere declamation; let us proceed to something more like *proof* of my positions.

In discussing subjects such as the origin of the dog, it will be evident that *direct* proof is unattainable; I must, therefore, be satisfied if I *confute* the arguments on which my opponents base their theories; and then it will be more easy to deduce, first, the *greater probability*, and secondly, the *greater plausibility*, of my own views.

With the supposed Lupine or Vulpine origin of this animal may be classed the theory which derives him from a feral or wild, yet apparently genuine dog.⁴ Mr. Hodgson,* for instance, thinks that he has discovered a wild dog—the buansu—to have been the primitive type of the whole canine race. Professor Kreischner describes a sort of jackal, preserved in the Frankfort museum, and puts it forward as the type of the dogs of ancient Egypt; with many other theorists and savants, to all of whom the reasoning which I hope to adduce will, I think, apply, as well as to those who uphold the theory of the Lupine or Vulpine origin.

Perhaps the most concise view of the side of the question from which I dissent, is given by Mr. Bell in his "British Quadrupeds." He says:—"It is necessary to ascertain to what type the animal approaches most nearly, after having, for many generations, existed in a wild state, removed from the influence of domestication and association with mankind. Now, we find there are several instances of the existence of dogs in such a state of wildness as to have lost even that common character of domestication, variety of color and marking. Of these, two very remarkable ones are the dhole of India, and the dingo of Australia. There is, besides, a half-reclaimed race among the Indians of North America, and another partially tamed in South America, which deserve peculiar attention; and it is found that these races in different degrees, and in a greater degree as they are more wild, exhibit the lank and gaunt form, the lengthened limbs, the long and slender muzzle, and the great comparative strength, which characterize the wolf; and that the tail of the Australian dog, which may be considered as the most remote from a state of domestication, assumes the slightly bushy form of

* Letters from Africa

that animal. We have here, then, a considerable approximation to a well-known wild animal of the same genus, in races which, though doubtless descended from domesticated ancestors, have gradually assumed the wild condition; and it is worthy of especial remark, that the anatomy of the wolf, and its osteology in particular, does not differ from that of dogs in general, more than the different kinds of dogs do from each other. The cranium is absolutely similar, and so are all, or nearly all, the other essential parts; and to strengthen still further the probability of their identity, the dog and wolf will readily breed together, and their progeny is fertile. The obliquity of the position of the eyes in the wolf is one of the characters in which it differs from the dog; and although it is very desirable not to rest too much upon the effects of habit or structure, it is not, perhaps, straining the point, to attribute the forward direction of the eyes in the dog to the constant habit, for many succeeding generations, of looking forward to its master, and obeying his voice." In my opinion this mode of accounting for the direction of the eye is, to say the least, rather imaginative than philosophical.* But to continue.

"Another criterion," says Mr. Bell, "and a sound one, is the identity of gestation. Sixty-three days form the period during which the bitch goes with young; precisely the same elapses before the wolf gives birth to her offspring. Upon Buffon's instance of seventy-three days—or rather the possibility of such a duration in the gestation of a particular she-wolf—we do not lay much stress, when opposed to the strong evidence of the usual period being sixty-three days. The young of both wolf and dog are born blind; and at the same, or about the same time, viz., about the expiration of the tenth or twelfth day, they begin to see. Hunter's important experiments proved, without doubt, that the wolf and the jackal would breed with the dog; but he had not sufficient data for coming to the conclusion that all three were identical as species. In the course of these experiments, he ascertained that the jackal went fifty-nine days with young, while the wolf went sixty-three; nor does he record that the progeny and the dog would breed together; and he knew too well the value of the argument to be drawn from a fertile progeny, not to have dwelt upon the fact if he had proved it—not to have mentioned it at least, even if he had heard of it."

* It is too like an adaptation of Lord Monboddo's Theory, viz.—that mankind had originally tails, and wore them away by constant sitting.

Mr. Bell concludes his observations as follows:—"Upon the whole, the argument in favor of the view which I have taken, that the wolf is probably the original of all the canine races, may be thus stated. The structure of the animal is identical, or so nearly as to afford the strongest *à priori* evidence in its favor. The dog must have been derived from an animal susceptible of the highest degree of domestication, and capable of great affection for mankind, which has been abundantly proved of the wolf. Dogs having returned to a wild state, and continued in that condition through many generations, exhibit characters which approximate more and more to those of the wolf, in proportion as the influence of civilization ceases to act. The two animals will breed together, and produce fertile young. The period of gestation is the same."

To this brief and intelligible summary of the points on which Mr. Bell bases his opinion, I reply in few words:—

I.—The expression *nearly* identical is too vague for philosophical discussion, and I consider that I need not therefore reply to this first position at all. To avoid misconstruction, however, I shall assume that Mr. Bell positively asserts identity of structure. I positively deny it. The intestines of the wolf are considerably shorter than those of the dog, evidently marking him as an animal of more strictly carnivorous habits. The orbits are placed higher and more forward in the skull. The proportion between the bones of the hind legs differs—so does the number of toes. The structure of the teeth is different, these being in the wolf much larger, and the molar teeth of the upper and under jaws being adapted to each other, in the wolf, in a peculiar *scissors*-like manner, rendering them infinitely more serviceable for breaking bones—a structure not found in the dog.

II.—I deny that the wolf is "susceptible of the *highest degree of domestication*, and capable of great affection for mankind, which has been abundantly proved." When has it been proved? I have seen many so-called "tame wolves," but never one that might be trusted, or that did not, when opportunity offered, return to his fierce nature and wild habits. The whelps, too, produced by these partially *domesticated* wolves, are not in the smallest degree influenced by the domestication of their parents. The Royal Zoological Society of Ireland had, some years ago, in their gardens, Phoenix Park, a pair of very tame wolves. These produced young, which became tame likewise, and in their turn produced cubs. The society very kindly presented me with one of the last

mentioned cubs, which, though only five weeks old when I took him from his dam, was as fierce and violent in his own little way as the most savage denizen of the forest. I brought up this animal among my dogs; for *them* he conceived a considerable degree of affection, or respect perhaps, for *submission* was the most striking feature of his conduct towards them; and was doubtless induced by the frequent and substantial castigations he received from "Bevis," a noble dog of the true breed of bloodhound; but beyond this he was any thing but tame. He never, it is true, exactly dared to attack me in front, but he once showed a disposition to do so, when I pulled him down by the tail as he was endeavoring to get over my garden wall. He, however, on several occasions, charged at me from behind, when he thought my attention was otherwise engaged. I was, however, invariably on my guard, ever carried a good stick, and on these occasions the wolf always got the worst of it. He once only succeeded in inflicting a severe bite; and as by this time I had utterly despaired of making any thing of him—he was about eighteen months old—I sent him about his business. He subsequently fell into the hands of a showman, and assumed his proper position—the caravan.

As to dogs, when accident drives them to subsist on their own resources, thus rendering them wild, I grant the fact of their assuming feral characters; but as to their thus acquiring, in the course of a few generations, the habit and aspect, or the general similitude of wolves, I humbly conceive it to be an assertion only, and one that has yet to be proved. Even such dogs as have been thus driven into feral and independent life, will be found ever ready to acknowledge the control of man, and may, with comparatively little trouble, be induced to return to their allegiance to him. Nor will the whelps of such *redomesticated* dogs be *born wild*, as is the case with the cubs of the tamest wolves. It is, in the case of these dogs, circumstances, and not natural instinct, that have driven them wild; and, these circumstances ceasing to operate, domestication returns.

I would ask another question. How does it happen that the dog is to be met with in every quarter of the globe to which man has penetrated, while the true wolf has never yet been met with south of the equator? Further, are not several distinct species of wolf admitted to exist? Is there not more than one distinct species of wolf admitted by naturalists to exist in North America alone? It has not even been attempted to be

proved that these species are identical ; their distinctness has been more than tacitly admitted. Yet they resemble each other far more closely than any wolf does the dog. Has the dog, then, been derived from each and all of these wolves, or has the original wolf, origin alike of wolf and dog, been yet properly indicated ? Should not this fact be duly ascertained prior to that in question ? Again, are there not numbers of wild dogs—are there not wild canines in South America, Australia, Arabia, India ?—admitted on all hands to be essentially distinct, which no naturalist has as yet attempted to deduce from a common origin ; yet are not these far more nearly allied to the dog than to the wolf ? Are there not likewise several admitted species of fox ? Why not first clear up these doubtful points, ere proceeding to such as are more remote from the point at issue ?

I likewise deny that the wolf and the dog will breed together *in a state of nature*. In their native forests they clearly will not, or the wild dog would not still remain distinct from the wolf, whose lair is in the immediate neighborhood of his own. Man's efforts and skill, combined with partial domestication, may, indeed, induce a union between them, but naturally they shun each other, and mutually exhibit a strong natural antipathy. Nor will these animals—the wolf and the dog—breed together, unless one of them, at least, be thoroughly domesticated. How else have all attempts to produce a breed between the wolf and Australian dingo so signally failed ?

Neither is the simple breeding together of animals, and the fertility of their offspring, a sufficient proof of identity of species. Some of our uninquiring naturalists, who are satisfied to follow quietly in the footsteps of their predecessors, may, doubtless, start at my assertion ; but I am not the less prepared to maintain its truth. Mr. Hodgson (Proceedings of Zoological Society, 1834) has shown that the *capra tharal*—the goat of Nepal—and the domestic goat breed together. The hunch-backed zebu of India will breed with our common cattle, and the offspring is prolific. Pallas has stated that in various parts of Russia the sheep and the goat have bred together. The Chinese and the European pigs, differing, according to Mr. Eyton, in important osteological particulars, will do so likewise ; and in the "Proceedings of the Zoological Society, 1831," page 66, we find the same related of the hare and rabbit. To this I may add, that the mule, the offspring of the horse and ass, has also produced foals. Now, as to fer-

tility of offspring, I would beg my zoological readers to observe, that it will not prove identity of species, but merely a *close alliance*, unless, indeed, when that fertility exists, *inter se*, between the *hybrids themselves*; that the wolf and dog, jackal and dog, fox and dog, will, if proper pains be taken, breed together, I know, for I have proved it; but I also know that, unless in the case of the wolf and fox, the progeny are sterile; and also that even in those cases, although capable of reproducing with either dog, fox, or wolf, they are not capable of doing so *inter se*; this is an important fact, and one that I have not yet seen noticed.

I might adduce further facts in support of my objections to this Lupine or Vulpine theory, but I feel that I have refuted it sufficiently; and in the language of the bar, I say, "Our case rests here."

I now come to another theory, which has been embraced and supported with equal, if not greater ardor, viz.—that all the known varieties of dog have taken their origin from one originally created variety, and that one the shepherd's dog.

Many naturalists, and these natives of different countries, have advanced this theory, and still they have all employed the one designation in indicating their favorite type, viz.—the shepherd's dog. I must here first take the liberty of inquiring, *what shepherd's dog?*—for shepherds' dogs differ most materially from each other. Buffon—as any gallant Frenchman would—stood up for the originality of the *matin*, or shepherd's dog of his own country. Later writers, all copying more or less from him, have adhered to the theory of the sheep-dog origin, while they have forgotten the difference which exists between their own national sheep-dogs, and those indicated by Buffon. Truly there exists but little similitude between the tailless, woolly-looking animal, the sheep-dog of England; the fox-like colley of Scotland; the gaunt and short-haired cur of Ireland; the *matin* of Buffon; the noble, stately, and powerful sheep-dog of the Pyrenees, the guardian of the flocks of the Abruzzi; the gigantic mastiffs, the herddogs of the Himalaya mountains; and, in short, between various other sorts of sheep-dog, used for tending flocks in as various portions of the known world. Shall we assume the original type to have been the sheep-dog or *matin* of France, or the more graceful colley of Scotland? Are we to believe that a brace of either of these dogs were the progenitors of the entire canine race? Did the gigantic boar-dog—the noble Newfoundland—the courageous and powerful mastiff—the

slender and rapid greyhound—the stunted yet formidable bull-dog—the diminutive and sensitive Blenheim spaniel—and the still more diminutive, and now almost extinct, lapdog of Malta—all arise from a brace of curs? If they did, to what are we to attribute the varieties now existing? We are told, to climate and breeding. As to breeding, how could it operate when there was but a single pair to breed from? How, if the varieties of dog proceeded but from one original type, could development thus be produced extending beyond the limits of the faculties and powers proper to that type? Will change of climate ever convert a greyhound into a bull-dog? Will it truncate the muzzle, raise the frontal bones, enlarge the frontal sinuses, or effect a positive alteration of the posterior branches of the lower maxillary bones? Or will change of climate, on the other hand, operate to convert a bull-dog into a greyhound, produce a high and slender form, diminish the frontal sinuses, deprive the animal of the sense of smell, at least comparatively, together with courage and other moral qualities depending on organization? I say nothing; I only ask my intelligent readers, do they believe this possible? Thus far a very eminent naturalist, Colonel Hamilton Smith, goes with me, hand in hand; all that I have adduced he admits, but here we unfortunately part company. Colonel Smith seeks to account for these differences, by calling in the intervention of a supposed admixture of wolf, fox, or hyæna, &c. He admits an originally formed dog, and one variety only; and refers for the alterations that have taken place in him to crossing with these wild animals. Now, I consider this theory as even less tenable than that of the wolfish or Vulpine origin of the dog, as the colonel is obliged to bring several races of wild *dogs* to his aid; and, may I venture to inquire, where is *their* origin? Besides this, we have to refer to the decided antipathy subsisting between these animals in a state of nature, and thus effectually precluding intermixture, unless through human intervention and agency, which clearly was never exerted in that condition for this purpose. For my own part, I am content that the false theories which have been advanced should be overthrown and confuted; and I am satisfied to admit that an impenetrable veil of mystery appears to hang over the subject, and the suggestions that I am about to advance are submitted to my readers with extreme diffidence and reluctance.

Whether more than one variety of any species of animals was formed at the Creation is, perhaps, still a question, though

most naturalists, I must admit, have peremptorily decided to the contrary. I would, for my own part, venture so far as to say that, let it be once granted that the dog was formed *prophetically* by the Creator in order that he might be the friend and assistant of man, after the fall should have deprived him of the allegiance of other animals, it is scarcely too much to suppose that two varieties were then formed. One would scarcely seem sufficient for the purpose, while two might have been so; and by their intermixture and subsequent breeding, we can readily imagine how the other races might have been produced. I may add that this view is in strict accordance with the divisions into which osteological investigation, and more particularly examination of their *skulls*, resolve the many varieties of dog with which we are now acquainted. I do not, however, see any necessity for insisting on this point—I merely throw out the suggestion. No one can contradict it, neither have we any means of satisfactorily establishing it. An impenetrable veil of mystery hangs over the origin of the dog, that I much fear will never be removed until time itself shall be no more, and we shall become acquainted with this amongst other, and, for the present abstruse and dark, mysteries of nature.

CHAPTER II.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE DOG.

THAT the dog was one of those animals that did not, at the "fall," swerve from their allegiance, but maintained their fidelity to man, can scarcely be questioned. The earlier portions of the sacred writings make frequent mention of him, but ever as a settled, domestic animal, as one that had ever been so from the beginning, and never once hint at his having been reclaimed from a wild state. Had he been so reclaimed, I have no doubt but it would have been noticed, for a far less important event is actually recorded—viz., the discovery of the mode of breeding the mule; it is only fair, at the same time, to acknowledge that some translators read this word "*warm springs*," and not mules. We are told that this was that "Anah that found the mules in the wilder-

ness, while hé was herding his father's asses." While herding his father's asses, if my reading be correct, they were, doubtless, visited by a drove of wild coursers; intercourse was the consequence, and mules the ultimate result,—a valuable acquisition, doubtless, to the ass, but still not half so valuable as the domestication of so useful an animal as the dog would have been.

In the latter part of the Book of Genesis, we find Jacob, when blessing his sons, employing the ferocity of the wolf as a familiar simile. In the account of the departure of the Israelites from Egypt—an event which occurred about two hundred years afterwards—we find the dog familiarly mentioned, and his watchful powers and *barking* clearly recognised as things of course. "Nor shall a dog open his mouth." I am aware that some may deduce from this very circumstance the opinion that the dog was only a reclaimed wolf, unknown to the world until the period of the Jews' sojourn in Egypt; and that the Egyptians, eminent as they were for art and invention, had, among other acquisitions, achieved that of the domestication of the wolf, and his conversion into a dog; I shall not admit any such induction, however. After the flood, and at the dispersion of the projectors of the tower of Babel, the world lost many arts and other acquisitions that they before possessed: the Egyptians were, as far as history can inform us, the first to form themselves into a nation, after that event, and to cultivate the arts and sciences, or rather, perhaps, to revive former known, but long-neglected studies.

It is to the Egyptians, contrary indeed to popular opinion, but no less certainly, that we owe the possession of the horse, and it is likely to them also that we owe that of the dog; this, however, does not prove that these animals were not previously in a domesticated state, before the flood and the subsequent confusion of tongues at Babel had produced so many striking changes, and thrown so many valuable branches of knowledge into the gulf of oblivion.

The few graphic touches with which Solomon, in Proverbs xxx. 31, by a compound epithet, like those in Homer, has described a renowned and noble animal, translated "a greyhound," invite special notice, in addition to their appropriateness, from the recollection of that celebrated monarch's fame for knowledge of God's works, as has been recorded in 1 Kings, iv. 33—"And he spake of trees, from the cedar-tree that is in Lebanon, even to the hyssop that spring-

eth out of the wall; he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes"—from which has been taken the beautiful description of him in "Heber's Palestine"—

"He, the sage, whose restless mind
Through Nature's mazes wander'd unconfined;
Who every bird, and beast, and insect knew,
And spake of every plant that quaffeth dew."

I think that, from the above passage of Proverbs, we may infer that the dog had, by Solomon's time, arrived at many varieties; and are not the familiar uses of the dog likewise shown forth in Isaiah, lvi. 10, 11, and in the account of Tobit's dog in the Apocrypha?

From sacred we may, however, turn to profane history. The Egyptians have, from the very earliest ages, held the dog in particular estimation; and a French writer of much ingenuity furnishes us with a very plausible reason for their predilection. "The Egyptians," says M. Elzear Blaze, "seeing in the horizon a superb star, which appeared always at the precise time when the overflowing of the Nile commenced, gave to it the name of Sirius, [the Barker,] because it appeared to show itself expressly in order to warn the laborer against the inundation. 'This Sirius is a god,' said they—'the *dog* renders us service; *it* is a god!' Its appearance corresponding with the periodical overflow of the Nile, the dog soon became regarded as the genius of the river, and the people represented this genius, or god, with the body of a man and the head of a dog. It had also a genealogy; it took the name of Anubis, son of Osiris; its image was placed at the entrance of the temple of Isis and Osiris, and subsequently at the gate of all the temples of Egypt. The dog being the symbol of vigilance, it was thus intended to warn princes of their constant duty to watch over the welfare of their people. The dog was worshipped principally at Hermopolis the Great, [Chemnis or Ouchmonnein in modern Arabic,] and soon afterwards in all the towns of Egypt. Juvenal writes:—

'Oppida tota canem (*Anubim*) venerantur; nemo Dianam.'

['Whole cities worship the dog, (*Anubis*;) no one Diana.']

At a subsequent period, Cynopolis, the 'City of the dog,' [now Samallout,] was built in its honor, and there the priests celebrated its festivals in great splendor."

Other writers say that Anubis was represented as bearing a dog's head, because when Osiris proceeded upon his Indian expedition, Anubis accompanied him, clothed in the skin of that animal. This, however, is at most very dubious, as many writers assert Anubis to have been clothed, on this occasion, with the skin of a *sheep*, and not that of a dog. Be this as it may, the worship of the dog-god rapidly travelled westward, and soon became intermingled with the religious rites of other nations. Lucan says—

“Nos in templa tuam Romana accepimus Isin, semicanesque deos.”

(“We have received into our Roman temples thine Isis, and divinities *half-dog.*”)

The fire-worshippers of Persia also paid divine honors to the dog, by representing, under his form, the good principle, by whose aid they were enabled to repel the assaults of the powers of evil; and he is still held in deep veneration by the modern Parsees.

The ancient Britons would likewise appear to have held the dog in high respect, for when desirous of framing for themselves titles of honor or distinction, they assumed his name. *Cu*, in the language of the ancient British, signifies a dog; and do we not recollect the noble names of Cunobelin, Cynobelin, and Canute?* According to an eminent author,† the word *Khan*, a title of dignity in the East, is identical with *Can*, and is likewise derived from the idea of a dog. In the Erse, or native Irish, the word *Cu* signifies at once a dog and a champion.

Even the awful gates of Hades were furnished by the ancient poets with a faithful and formidable guardian in the shape of a dog; but as the task of watching those dreadful precincts was, doubtless, regarded as no ordinary one, Cerberus, the watch-dog of the Avernian portals, was awarded three heads instead of one, to ensure a triple degree of watchfulness.

Seldom has the dog brought down obloquy upon his name; but even he, with all his noble qualities, has had his moments of frailty. Cerberus himself listened to the promptings of sordid appetite, and, like many another sentinel, accepted

* Canute was a Dane, and this appellative, therefore, shows the close connector between the Celtic and Teutonic or Slavonic.

† Hamilton Smith.

of a bribe, and betrayed his trust. The watch-dogs, too, of the Roman capitol once slept upon their post,—thus, but for the alarm given by the wakeful and clamorous geese, surrendering devoted Rome to the ruthless arm of invading Gaul. A similar failure of duty is noticed in Scripture, as occurring among the Jewish dogs:—"His watchmen are blind; they are all ignorant; they are all *dumb dogs*; they cannot bark—sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs, which can never have enough."—Isaiah, lvi. 10, 11.

According to De La Vega, the Peruvians likewise formerly worshipped the dog, while, singularly enough, they also ate his flesh at their festivals; and, according to a modern authority,* this animal is even yet worshipped by the Japanese, under a form similar to that of the Egyptian Anubis, and under the name of *Amida*. Nor are we to forget Virgil, who notices this noble animal in many passages, among which I cannot omit the following:—

"Nec tibi cura canum fuerit postrema : sed unâ
 Veloces Spartæ Catulos acremque Molossum
 Pasce sero Pingui : nunquam custodibus illis
 Nocturnum Stabulis furem, incursusque luporum,
 Aut impacatos a tergo horrebis Iberos.
 Sæpe etiam cursu timidos agitabis onagros ;
 Et canibus leporem, canibus venabere damas.
 Sæpe volutabris pulsos silvestribus apros
 Latratu turbabis agens ; montesque per altos
 Ingentem clamore premes ad retia cervum."

Georgic. Lib. III., Line 404.

From the earliest periods the dog has commanded attention and respect—in many instances, as I have shown, even worship; and in no instance do we find his name confounded with that of the wolf, jackal, or fox: such has not only been the result of my own inquiry, but I am happy to be able to adduce the very high authority of Colonel Hamilton Smith, who writes:—"A thorough philological inquiry would most assuredly show, that in no language and at no period did man positively confound the wolf, the jackal, or the fox, with a real dog."

Further particulars relative to the early history of the dog, will be elicited in the course of our description of the several varieties.

* Kœmpfer.

CHAPTER III.

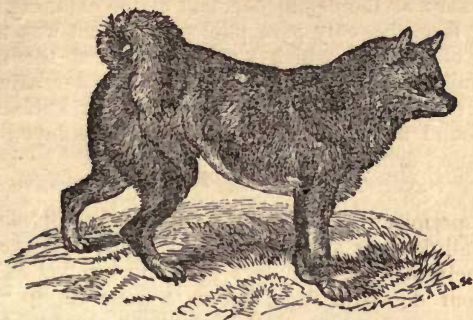
VARIETIES OF DOG.

I MAY premise that I shall first treat of the wild dogs ; and that I shall do so as a separate class, which I believe them to be—namely, not domestic dogs run wild, nor yet as the wild type of our domestic dog ; but as a separate species, only entitled to consideration in this place, as constituting a link between dog and wolf, and as being a species still more nearly allied to the common dog than that animal, although by no means specifically identical ; as the cheetah, or hunting leopard—the “*felis jubata*”—is said to do between the felines and the canines, resembling the greyhound in general form, and differing from the true felines in not possessing *retractile claws*, &c.

The most remarkable of the wild dogs are—the Dingo of Australia ; the Karàrahé ; the Dhole and Jungle koola of India ; the wild dog of China ; the bush-dog, or Aguara, of South America ; the *Deeb* of Egypt. Of the so-called wild dogs of Southern Africa, the “*canis pictus*” of Desmarest, &c., I shall say nothing in the present volume, as these are not at all to be considered as dogs, being far more nearly allied to the hyæna.

THE DINGO.

The Dingo, called by the natives of Australia, “*War-ragal*,” is about the size of a middling foxhound, or from twenty-three to twenty-four inches in height at the shoulder. In form he partakes of many of the characteristics of both dog and wolf, and is not very unlike the cross produced by the intermixture of these two animals. His ears are erect, his muzzle pointed, his tail bushy, his coat of moderate length, and his color usually a buff or bay. Many authors assert that the Dingo never erects his tail, but always carries it in a pendent position : it is not so. The Dingo ordinarily carries his tail curled over his back ; it is only when irritated or alarmed that he lowers it. I had many opportunities of observing a very fine specimen lately in the gardens of



the Royal Zoological Society of Ireland, Phoenix Park, and I found that a lowering of the tail invariably denoted mischief—that member being usually carried over the back.* The Dingo seldom growls, and never barks; although I must say, that I have known captive specimens chained near domestic dogs, to acquire a sort of half howl or yelp, which, apparently a little tuition would have converted into a genuine “bow wow.” The Dingo is easily rendered tolerably tame; but is never to be trusted; if he escape from confinement, he will forget in a moment the lessons of years, and slaughter and rapine will follow in his mad career. This animal is a great scourge in his native country, and is carefully exterminated whenever he approaches a settlement. He is most remarkably tenacious of life, and is a very obstinate fighter; instances are related of the Dingo sustaining a combat with, and ultimately getting away from four or five stout hounds; and very few dogs can kill a Dingo single-handed: they fight, like the wolf, in silence; they utter no cry of pain, but, like that grim felon, die as hard as they have lived. Of their power of endurance I may give the following instances, related by Mr. George Bennett, in his “Wanderings in New South Wales.” “One had been beaten so severely that it was supposed all the bones were broken, and it was left for dead; after the person had walked some distance, upon accidentally looking back, his surprise was much excited by seeing the Dingo rise, shake himself, and march into the bush, evading all pursuit. One supposed dead was brought into a hut, for the purpose of undergoing

* I can also adduce the authority of Mr. Drewett, of Portobello Gardens, a person of undoubted experience.

décartication : at the commencement of the skinning process upon the face, the only perceptible movement was a slight quivering of the lips, which was regarded, at the time, as merely muscular irritability. The man, after skinning a very small portion, left the hut to sharpen his knife, and returning found the animal sitting up, with the flayed integument hanging over on one side of the face."

Another traveller* relates anecdotes illustrative of the tenacity of life exhibited by this animal ; but the details are so revolting that I refrain from quoting them.

Frequent experiments have been instituted, with a view to procure a hybrid race between the Dingo and the common dog, but without success. Mr. Cunningham notices a hybrid race of this description, as established in New Holland ; but as he has given no specific description, I am disposed to question the accuracy of his report. Even, however, were Mr. Cunningham's suppositions really confirmed, the fact of the Dingo and domestic dog breeding together would not militate in any degree against the truth of my positions—as I have no hesitation in admitting that groups of animals may be, though specifically distinct, yet *so nearly allied*, as to intermix and even produce reproductive offspring. The question as to fertility existing in the offspring of such unions *inter se*, must, of necessity, be satisfactorily settled ere identity can be even suggested. He may have been imposed upon by the natives or may have confounded with such a supposed mongrel race a breed of Dingos of a black and tan color, which are far more easily tamed than the common variety. Of these there was a fine pair, about six years ago, in the gardens of the Irish Zoological Society, and they were remarkably gentle.

In New Zealand there has been found an apparently feral dog, called by the natives "KARARAHÉ," respecting which a tradition exists that he was given to them some centuries ago by certain divinities who visited their shores. In aspect, this log very closely resembles the Dingo, but he appears to have been partially domesticated.

THE DHOLE.†

The Dhole is a native of India, over which peninsula it extends in great numbers, and bears different names in different

* Clarke.

† The Dhole is agreeably described in "Williamson's Oriental Field Sports."

parts. It was originally described by Mr. Hodgson as the *Búánsú*, and by him given the title of *Canis Primævus*,* as, in his opinion, it was the origin of the domestic dog, (Zool. Proceed., 1833;) and in the same volume of proceedings we read a communication addressed to the secretary, and describing a wild dog by the name of *dhole*, as found in the Presidency of Bombay. The locality of Mr. Hodgson's dog was Nepâl, the eastern and western limits of its range being the Sutletj and Burhampootra.

In 1831, Colonel Sykes described a wild dog from the Mah-rattas, which he calls the wild dog of the Deccan. Colonel Sykes subsequently compared specimens of his wild dog with that described by Mr. Hodgson, and found them to correspond in the most minute particulars, even to the circumstance of wanting the hinder tubercular tooth† of the lower jaw, and varying only in quantity and quality of coat—a variation depending clearly on individual peculiarity and on climate.

The *Dhole*, *Búánsú*, or *Kolsun*—for these names are synonymous—is about the size of a small wolf, but is much more powerfully built, its limbs, in particular, being remarkably large-boned, and muscular, in proportion to its size; its ears are large, and rounded at the tips; the muzzle is moderately pointed, somewhat like that of the greyhound; the tail very bushy; its color is a sandy red, or buff.

In habits, these dogs present all the characteristics of ferocious beasts of prey. They prowl by night and by day indiscriminately, and hunt in packs of from ten to sixty. While in pursuit, they utter a peculiar yelp, and it is on scent, and not on sight, that they mainly depend for success. Their speed is, however, considerable, and their savage courage and endurance render them a terror to the most formidable rangers of the wild. The panther, the wild bull, the tiger, the elephant, fall an easy prey before a pack of *dholes*. On they sweep, coming upon their game with the force of an avalanche, and overwhelming their victim in a living torrent. The hunted animal may, indeed, kill many of his enemies; but he has little time afforded him for exertion, or display of prowess,

* Original or primeval dog.

† Has any one of my zoological readers ever found the hinder tubercular tooth of the lower jaw absent? If so, I would be thankful for the information. The connection of *deficiency of hairy covering* with deficiency of teeth, has been already pointed out by that eminent naturalist, Col. H. Smith; but I have met with more instances in opposition to than confirmatory of his opinion in this respect.

for the dead or wounded are hardly missed ere others have rushed into their places.

Colonel Baber says, (Trans. Asiat. Soc.)—"As often as I have met with them, they have been invariably in packs of from thirty to perhaps sixty. They must be very formidable, as all animals are very much afraid of them. Frequently remains of hogs and deer have been brought to me which have been taken overnight by these wild dogs. The natives assert that they kill tigers and cheetahs, and there is no doubt of the fact." It would appear that the Dhole is susceptible of being tamed, if taken young; adults are not to be made any thing of, (Hodgson.) In Ceylon, there is a variety of Dhole of a bay color, very fierce, but more solitary in its habits. In Sumatra, there is a wild dog of smaller size, very like a fox, of an ashy gray color, with sharp muzzle and black whiskers. In Java there exists a wild dog about the size of a wolf, of a brownish color. Colonel Sykes brought a Dhole to England some years ago, and presented him to the Zoological Society of London—the first specimen, I believe, ever brought living to Europe.

THE WILD DOG OF CHINA.

This dog is very like the Dhole, but is usually less in size, and its ears are smaller and more pointed; its color is a bright bay. Of its habits in its native country we know little, further than that they are, like those of its Indian congener, at once predatory and gregarious. I saw one that had been brought over to this country, and which appeared exceedingly tame and playful. I found, however, that it was very treacherous, for although it had suffered me to caress it with my hand, and had even taken bread from me, the moment I turned to depart, it plunged after me and snapped at my legs; fortunately, however, nothing suffered but the cloth of my trousers. I have been told that this wild dog is identical with that of Ceylon, but I want data on which to found an opinion.

THE AGUARA OF SOUTH AMERICA.

When the new world was first discovered, the natives were found in possession of domesticated dogs, very different in appearance from any of the European races;* and besides these were found several wild canines, called *Aguaras*. The

* Is this fact to be lost sight of?

natives call them *bush-dogs*, or dogs of the woods, and assert that they are only tame dogs run wild.

The wild dog most common in South America is a small, short-legged, stout, fox-like animal, but somewhat larger than the fox. It is often hunted for its skin, and such of its brethren as may have been partially reclaimed by the natives, make no scruple of joining in the chase. These dogs are very silent, and are great rogues. They appear, indeed, to thieve from a pure and innate propensity to thievery, for they will steal and hide articles for which they can have no possible use.

THE DEEB OF EGYPT.

Principally inhabiting Nubia and Abyssinia—the Thous Anthus of H. Smith—ears erect, muzzle not sharpened at the point, lips semi-pendulous, tail short and hairy, color, a mixture of dirty white, black, and buff, producing a series of small black spots, caused by the union of the tips of the longer hairs. This dog has likewise been, by some naturalists, regarded as the origin of our domestic dogs; and it is certainly of very ancient origin, as has been proved by heads of dogs taken from the catacombs, which evidently belong to a similar variety.

Of the habits of the Deeb I have not been able to obtain any very satisfactory information, excepting that it appears more cowardly than wild dogs usually are, and that it is easily tamed, when it becomes very affectionate. Its height is about eighteen inches.

We now arrive at the main subject of this volume—

THE DOMESTIC DOG.

Even when taken in detail, the anatomy of the domestic dog can, perhaps, scarcely be said to differ materially from that of the wolf or the wild dogs, the points in which any discrepancy exists not being sufficiently striking to catch any but an experienced eye. Such discrepancies, however, do exist, and when combined with other and important physiological facts, are sufficient to establish the non-identity of the canine and lupine families. I have, however, noticed some of these discrepancies already, and it is unnecessary to recapitulate them here.

The dog belongs to the MAMMALIA, or animals possessing teats for the nourishment of their young; to the CARNIVORA,

or *flesh-eaters*—for flesh forms the chief article of his diet. He is *digitigrade*, for in walking he supports himself on the extremities of his toes, or *digits*. He is usually grouped with the wolf, fox, jackal, &c., under the generic appellation of *canis*, and is more particularly separated from these animals by the term *canis familiaris*—the familiar or domestic dog.

The dentition of the dog is as follows:—

- In the upper jaw, six *incisors*, or cutting-teeth ;
 - two canine teeth, or tusks ;
 - six molars, or grinders, on each side.
- In the lower jaw, six incisors ;
 - two canines ;
 - seven molars on each side.

Of the upper molar teeth, three are *false* molars, two are *tubercular*, and one is *carnassier*, or formed rather for *rending* than *grinding*. Of the lower molars, four are false, two tubercular, and one carnassier. In some wild canines, the second tubercular molar-tooth of the lower jaw is constantly wanting, as in the Dholes, &c. ; and in one (*Megalotis*, H. Smith) there exists a redundancy—there being, in the upper jaw, seven molars on each side, and in the lower, eight.

The true dog has five toes on the fore feet, and four toes on the hind ; but occasionally a fifth toe occurs on the hind feet—sometimes on one, and sometimes on both. This toe is called the *dev-claw*, and is usually removed by the sportsman while the animal is young, as its presence is calculated to impede its movements. Some writers speak of this claw as peculiar to certain breeds. I have had much experience in dogs, and regard it as an unquestionable evidence of impurity of breed, wherever existing.*

Various attempts have been made by modern writers to classify the varieties of the domestic dog into groups. A very recent author (Mr. Martin) has adopted the form and size of the ear as a criterion. Colonel Smith appears to have depended, in a great measure, upon color. These ideas are both very good, when taken as adjuncts to another system of a more philosophical foundation, but are of themselves false and deceptive.

* Mongrelism, or impure breeding, will often manifest itself many generations after the *cross* has taken place, and when all other appearance of such has been lost.

I am disposed to take the lamented Frederick Cuvier as my guide, and to form the varieties of dog into groups, indicated by the least variable portion of their osteological structure—craniological development.

This arrangement may be formed with great ease and simplicity. All the varieties of the domestic dog are readily divisible into three great classes, as follow :—

I. Such dogs as present a *convergence* of their parietal bones, (the *side-walls* of the skull, as it were,) and the condyles of whose lower jaw are somewhat below the level of the molar or cheek-teeth of the upper. These present an elongated muzzle, a high and somewhat slender frame, and are far more remarkable for their powers of sight and swiftness, than for a very high development of the sense of smell.

II. The second group consists of dogs which present parietal bones parallel, or at least neither apparently convergent nor divergent, and the condyles of the lower jaw on a level with the upper molar teeth. These are usually dogs of great sagacity, and generally possess the sense of smelling in a very high degree. It is, however, somewhat premature to speak of them, previous to a description of the third group.

III. Parietal bones sensibly *divergent*, and the condyles of the lower jaw much above the line of the upper molar teeth. This group presents a strongly marked contrast to the first, and the varieties of which it is constituted are generally characterized by great *bulk* of body, by powerful strength, indomitable courage, pugnacity of disposition, and not any very great development of mental powers. Although the varieties constituting this group appear to possess a large development of forehead, the appearance is chiefly owing rather to a thickening of *bone* in those regions than to such a development of *brain* as would predicate a high degree of intellectual power.

The first and third groups present, more especially the former, strong marks of originality ; the second looks very much as if it owed its origin to the intermixture of the first and third. Of the origin of the dog I have, however, said enough ; and I have now only to enumerate and describe his varieties.

Under a fourth head I shall describe *mongrels*, and among them such few cross-breeds as have been found judicious and profitable, and have now, consequently, become almost settled varieties.

The first group is represented by the greyhound ; and may appropriately be divided into two sub-varieties, depending for their distinction chiefly on the length and texture of their hair. These sub-varieties are the rough, or long-haired—and the smooth, or short-haired. I may enumerate them as follows :—

Rough	{	Irish wolf-dog,
		Highland deerhound,
		Russian greyhound,
		Scottish greyhound,
		Persian greyhound, (two sub-varieties,)
		Arabian greyhound.

Smooth	{	Common British greyhound,
		Italian greyhound,
		Turkish greyhound,
		Tiger-hound of South America.

Although I have here separated the Irish wolf-dog from the Highland deerhound, and from the Scottish greyhound, I have only done so, partly in conformity with general opinion that I have yet to correct, and partly because these three dogs, though originally identical, are now unquestionably distinct in many particulars. That is to say, the modern Highland deerhound, though the *descendant* of the Irish wolf-dog, yet in some respects differs from what that noble animal *was* ; and the Scottish greyhound, again, is just as different from *his* prototype the deerhound.

CHAPTER IV.

CLASS I.—THE GREYHOUNDS.

SUBDIVISION A.—THE ROUGH GREYHOUNDS.

The Irish Wolf-dog.—Canis Graius Hibernicus.

THIS renowned and redoubted animal, from age to age, in tradition and in song, one of the glories of "The Sacred Isle," and with his kindred unrivalled race, the Irish giant-

deer—her recognised emblem, from among her animated tribes, celebrated and extolled by all authors and lovers of natural history, native and foreign, and of universal fame in his own country—has been long ranked in peerless dignity, “facile princeps,” at the head of the whole dog family. When the noble dogs of Greece and of India were at the height of their renown among the ancients, those of Erin were not as yet known, though they soon afterwards obtained celebrity. The dogs of Greece appear to have had a strange and mysterious affinity with those of the West. Those of India have disappeared from our knowledge, and baffled our research, though they, too, probably shared in this affinity, through, perhaps, the often-proposed medium of the Phœnicians, or through that of the Phocæan colony from Asia Minor, (see Herodotus.) Marsilia, in Gaul, the modern Marseilles, (see Moore.) Many derivations of the name greyhound have been suggested, and among others *great hound*—*grey-hound*, (from color.) My own impression is, that the true one is *Greek hound*, *graius*, and we have reason to believe that to that country we are indebted for the race.

The great point at issue relative to the natural history of the Irish wolf-dog, may be stated as being whether he belonged to the greyhound race, or was of more robust form, approaching that of the mastiff. There are, indeed, individuals who, without a shadow of ground on which to base their opinions, deem him to have been a mongrel, bred between mastiff and greyhound, &c. Of this last-mentioned theory, as it has no fact or authority of any sort to support it, I shall, of course, say nothing—more especially as no such *proof* is attempted by the advocates of this very singular opinion.

In support of the *mastiff** doctrine, we have one single modern authority—if, indeed, authority it can be called. About fifty years ago, the late Aylmer Burke Lambert, Esq., read a paper before the Linnæan Society, subsequently published in the third volume of that Society’s *Transactions*, descriptive of some dogs in possession of Lord Altamont, son of the Marquis of Sligo, and stated to have been the old Irish wolf-dog. The dog described and figured by Mr. Lambert is a middling-sized and apparently not very well-bred speci-

* I employ the term *mastiff* only for brevity, and for the sake of direct antagonism to the *greyhound* doctrine.

men of a comparatively common breed of dog, called the GREAT DANE, an animal that shall be treated of in this volume in his proper place. Had this been the Irish wolf-dog, it were absurd to speak of his *scarcity*, far less of his EXTINCTION! That Lord Altamont *thought* his dogs were wolf-dogs, I do not doubt; and it is very possible that, some generations back, they might have had a *strain* of the true breed in them, subsequently lost by crossing; and I likewise make no doubt but that the Great Dane, introduced into this country by our Danish invaders, was often used in olden time as an auxiliary in the chase of the savage animals, the wolf in particular, with which our woods abounded; but is it not most absurd to find writers adopting Mr. Lambert's description and figure of his Danish mastiff, and yet adhering to the ancient nomenclature of "*Canis Graius Hibernicus*"—the Irish *greyhound*!

Nor would these mastiff-like dogs have, alone, proved equal to the task of wolf-hunting. They might, indeed, if very fine specimens—but not such as Lord Altamont's—have been sufficiently powerful to grapple with their grisly foe; but that foe was very swift of foot, and he had first to be caught—a feat that dogs of their heavy make would find it impossible to perform. Wanting the fleetness necessary to *run into* so swift an animal, they would equally have failed in attempting to run him down by scent. These dogs are of a very lethargic, sluggish temperament, qualities greatly in their favor as boar-hounds, the purpose to which they are applied in their native country, for if they were too eager or too swift in pursuit of the boar, there would very soon be but few of the pack left alive; but such qualities would be most unsuitable, indeed, in the chase of an animal characterized by

“ The long gallop which can tire
The hound's deep hate, and huntsman's fire.”

It is evident, then, that the desideratum in a wolf-dog was a combination of extreme swiftness, to enable him to overtake his rapid and formidable quarry, and vast strength to seize, secure, and slay him when overtaken.

I may here observe that, about five or six years ago, I published an article on this subject in the "*Irish Penny Journal*,"* which every writer on dogs who has published since that time has done me the honor of appropriating, some with full and fair acknowledgment, others with only such a partial ac-

knowledge as was calculated to mislead the reader. I now lay claim to my own property, and finally embody it in the following pages, with many additions, the result of subsequent investigation.*

Pliny relates a combat in which the dogs of Epirus bore a part. He describes them as much taller than mastiffs, and of greyhound form; detailing an account of their contests with a lion and an elephant. This, I should think, suffices to establish the identity of the Irish wolf-dog with the far-famed dogs of Epirus.

Strabo describes a gigantic greyhound as having been in use among the Celtic and Pictish nations; and as being held in such high esteem, as to have been imported into Gaul for the purposes of the chase.

Silius describes a large and powerful greyhound as having been imported into Ireland by the Belgæ; thus identifying the Irish wolf-dog with the celebrated Belgic dog of antiquity, which we read of in so many places as having been brought to Rome for the combats of the amphitheatre.

Hollinshed says of the Irish—"They are not without wolves, and greyhounds to hunt them, bigger of bone and limb than a colt." Campion also speaks of him as a "greyhound of great bone and limb."

Evelyn, describing the savage sports of the bear-garden, says—"The bull-dogs did exceeding well, but the *Irish wolf-dog* exceeded, which was a tall *greyhound*, a stately creature, and did beat a cruel mastiff." Here we have an actual comparison of powers, which marks the dog to have been a greyhound, and quite distinct from a mastiff.

In the second edition of Smith's "History of Waterford," the Irish wolf-dog is described as much taller than a mastiff, and as being of the greyhound form, unequalled in size and strength. Mr. Smith writes:—"Roderick, King of Connaught, was obliged to furnish hawks and greyhounds to Henry II. Sir Thomas Rue obtained great favor from the Great Mogul, in 1615, for a brace of Irish greyhounds presented by him. Henry VIII. presented the Marquis of Dessarages, a Spanish grandee, with two goshawks, and four Irish greyhounds."

In the reign of Richard II., lands were still held under the crown, and amongst other families, by that of Eugaine, on

* In justice, I must here state that the account in question was only subscribed with my initials, H. D. R.

condition of the holders keeping a certain number of wolf-dogs fitted for the chase. (H. Smith.)

Sir James Ware has, in his "Antiquities of Ireland," collected much information relative to this dog, from which I give the following extract:—"I must here take notice of those hounds, which, from their hunting of wolves, are commonly called wolf-dogs, being creatures of great strength and size, and of a fine shape. I cannot but think that these are the dogs which Symmachus mentions in an epistle to his brother Flavianus. 'I thank you,' says he, 'for the present you made me of some *canes Scotici*, which were shown at the Circensian games, to the great astonishment of the people, who could not judge it possible to bring them to Rome otherwise than in iron cages.' I am sensible Mr. Burton, (Itinerary of Anton, 220,) treading the footsteps of Justus Lipsius, (Epist. ad Belg. Cent. i., p. 44,) makes no scruple to say, that the dogs intended by Symmachus were British mastives. But, with submission to such great names, how could the British mastive get the appellation of *Scoticus*, in the age Symmachus lived? For he was Consul of Rome in the latter end of the fourth century; at which time, and for some time before, and for many centuries after, Ireland was well known by the name of *Scotia*, as I have shown before, (Chap. I.) Besides, the English mastive was no way comparable to the Irish wolf-dog in size or elegant shape; nor would it make an *astonishing* figure in the spectacles exhibited in the circus. On the other hand, the Irish wolf-dog has been thought a valuable present to the greatest monarch, and is sought after, and is sent abroad to all quarters of the world; and this has been one cause why that noble creature has grown so scarce among us, as another is the neglect of the species since the extinction of wolves in Ireland; and, even of what remain, the size seems to have dwindled from its ancient stateliness. When Sir Thomas Rowe was ambassador at the court of the Great Mogul, in the year 1615, that emperor desired him to send for some *Irish greyhounds*, as the most welcome present he could make him, which being done, the Mogul showed the greatest respect to Sir Thomas, and presented him with his picture, and several things of value. We see in the public records an earlier instance of the desire foreigners have had for hawks and wolf-dogs of Irish growth. In a privy seal from King Henry VIII. to the Lord Deputy and Council of Ireland, wherein his majesty takes notice, 'that at the instant suit of the Duke of Alberkyrke of Spain, (of the Privy Coun-

cil to Henry VIII.,) on the behalf of the Marquis of Desarrya, and his son, that it might please his majesty to grant to the said marquis, and his son, and the longer liver of them, yearly out of Ireland, two goshawks and four greyhounds; and forasmuch as the said duke hath done the king acceptable service in his wars, and that the king is informed that the said marquis beareth to him especial good-will, he, therefore, grants the said suit, and commands that the deputy for the time being shall take order for the delivery of the said hawks and greyhounds, unto the order of the said marquis and his son, and the longer liver of them, yearly; and that the treasurer shall take the charges of buying the said hawks and hounds.' It is true that *British hounds* and *beagles* were in reputation among the Romans, for their speed and quick scent. Thus, Nemesian, in his *Cunegticks* :—

‘ — Divisa Britannia mittit
 Veloces, nostrique orbis venatibus aptos.’
 ‘ Great Britain sends swift hounds,
 Fittest to hunt upon our grounds.’

And Appian calls the *British hound*, *σύλαξ ἰχνευτήρος*, a dog that *scent*s the track of the game. But this character does not hit the Irish wolf-dog, which is not remarkable for any great sagacity in hunting by the nose. Ulysses Aldrovandus, and Gesner, have given descriptions of the *Canis Scoticus*, and two prints of them very little different from the common hunting-hound. ‘They are,’ says Gesner, ‘something larger than the common hunting-hound, of a brown or sandy spotted color, quick of smelling, and are employed on the borders between England and Scotland to follow thieves. They are called sleut-hound.’ In the *Regiam Majestatem* of Scotland is this passage—‘Nullus perturbet aut impediatur *Canem trasantem* aut homines trassantes cum ipso ad sequendum latrones, aut ad capiendum latrones.’ ‘Nobody shall give any disturbance or hinderance to *tracing-dogs*, or men employed with them to trace or apprehend thieves or malefactors.’ This character no way agrees with the Irish wolf-dog; and the reader must observe, that when Gesner and Aldrovandus wrote, in the sixteenth century, *modern* Scotland was well known by the name of Scotia, which it was not in the fourth century, when Symmachus wrote the aforesaid epistle; and therefore, the *Canis Scoticus* described by Aldrovandus and Gesner, were dogs of different species.”

Thus far we have proved the Irish wolf-dog to have been a

large greyhound, of size and strength far superior to ordinary dogs.

The original greyhound was unquestionably a long-haired dog, and the modern smooth-coated and thin animal, now known by that name, is comparatively of recent date. Of this we have sufficient evidence in the ancient monuments of Egypt, where, as well as in Persia and India, rough greyhounds of great size and power still exist. A dog of the same kind has been described by H. Smith, as well known in Arabia; and a gigantic rough greyhound was found by Doctor Clarke, on the confines of Circassia, and by him described as identical with our old Irish greyhound. (*Clarke's Travels in Russia, Tartary, and Turkey.*)

We find that the smooth greyhound was, on its first introduction, known as "gaze-hound," being remarkable solely for sight and speed, (H. Smith;) and in process of time the new appellation became forgotten, and merged in the original and well-known one of greyhound, up to that period given exclusively to the long-haired variety, (H. Smith.) We may then infer, that not only was the Irish wolf-dog a greyhound, but also long-haired. Whence he originally came would, perhaps, be difficult to determine with any precision; but if I might be permitted to hazard a conjecture, I should refer his origin to Western Asia, where we find a distinct representative of him still existing. From thence he was brought by the *Scythi*, the progenitors of the *Scoti*, or ancient Irish. Perhaps the best mode of defining the true character of the ancient wolf-dog, will be to point to his modern representative; and this can, I conceive, be done without difficulty. I may here quote a writer in the "Penny Cyclopædia," (Art. Ireland,*)—"The *Scoti*, who were in possession of the island at the time of the introduction of Christianity, appear to have been, to a great extent, the successors of a people whose name and monuments indicate a close affinity with the Belgæ (a

* My friend, George Petrie, the celebrated Irish antiquarian, who has published an interesting account of Cyclopean architectural remains as found in Ireland, is disposed to connect these remains with the mysterious *πελασγοι* (*Pelasgi*) of Herodotus, which have given rise to many Pelasgian theories. He has also found many curious traces of Greece in Ireland. Now the Irish annalists, &c., trace these colonies, as well as the Tuatha da Danaans, (*Danai*?) from GREECE. Is not Mr. Petrie's opinion, therefore, that to that country we owe the dog, deserving of attention; and will not this afford some sort of plausibility, at least, to my own derivation of the name of the greyhound: *Canis Graius*—*Grajus*—*sive Græcus*—Greek hound?

Teutonic tribe) of Southern Britain. A people also, called Cruithore by the Irish annalists, who are identifiable with the Picts of Northern Britain, continued to inhabit a portion of the island distinct from the Scoti, until after the Christian mission; and it is observable that the names of mountains and remarkable places in that district, still strikingly resemble the topographical nomenclature of those parts of North Britain which have not been affected by the Scotie conquest. The monuments and relics which attest the presence of a people considerably advanced in civilization, at some period in Ireland—such as Cyclopean buildings, sepulchral mounds containing stone chambers, mines, bronze instruments and weapons, of classic form and elegant workmanship—would appear to be referable to some of the predecessors of the Scoti, and indicate a close affinity between the earliest inhabitants of Ireland and that ancient people.” We may infer, then, that as Ireland was peopled by the Belgæ, the Belgic dog of antiquity was the source whence we derived our Irish greyhound.

We are informed by two very eminent authorities—the Venerable Bede, and the Scottish historian, Major—that Scotland was peopled from Ireland. We know, and I have shown as much in my extract from Sir James Ware, that by the early writers Scotland was styled Scotia Minor, and Ireland, Scotia Major; and it is scarcely necessary for me to make any remark as to the identity of the native languages of the primitive inhabitants of the two countries. The colonization, therefore, of Scotland from Ireland, under the conduct of Reuda, being admitted, can we suppose that the colonists would omit taking with them specimens of such a noble and gallant dog, and one that must prove so serviceable to their emigrant masters; and that, too, at a period when men depended upon the chase for their subsistence? True, this is but an inference; but is it not to be received as a fact, when we find that powerful and noble dog, the Highland deerhound, a *tall, rough* greyhound, to have been known in Scotland since its colonization? Formerly it was called the wolf-dog; but with change of occupation came change of name. In Ireland, wolves were certainly in existence longer than in Scotland; but when these animals ceased to exist in the former country, the wolf-dogs became gradually lost. Not so in Scotland, where abundant employment remained for them, even after the days of wolf-hunting were over: the RED DEER still remained; and useful as had these superb dogs proved as wolf-dogs, they became, perhaps, even more valuable as deerhounds.

Such relics of Celtic verse as have escaped the merciless hand of time, and amongst other fragments, those collected by Macpherson, under the title of "The Poems of Ossian," inform us that the ancient Scoti* possessed a gigantic greyhound, an animal of vast size and prodigious strength, qualities more than equalled by his surpassing speed, which was used by warriors of olden time in the chase of the wolf and deer. Such was "BRAN," "*Bounding Bran*," "*White-breasted Bran*," "*Hairy-footed Bran*."† BRAN, whose very name is beautifully indicative of his character—of the character of his race—signifying, as Celtic scholars inform us, "mountain torrent." Such, indeed, was Bran, the favorite wolf-dog of Fionn Mac Comhal, popularly known as Fin Mac Coul; and be it recollected, Fionn was an Irish chieftain, known to modern ears as Fingal.‡

That the Irish dog was imported into Scotland, and even at a later period than that to which I have alluded, is sufficiently evident from the following document, being a copy of a letter addressed by Deputy Falkland to the Earl of Cork, in 1623:—

"MY LORD,

"I have lately received letters from my Lord Duke of Buccleuch, and others of my noble friends, who have entreated me to send them some greyhound dogs and bitches out of this kingdom, of the largest sort, which, I perceive, they intend to present unto diverse princes, and other noble persons; and if you can possibly, let them be white, which is the color

* Irish or Scotch indifferently.

† These epithets will strongly remind the reader of Homer, and will go to show how nearly the diction of all ancient languages will be found to approximate—"Dog-faced Agamemnon," "Swift-footed Achilles," "Golden-footed Thetis." The simile of "Mountain torrent" is here given, as employed by Ossian, to designate the impetuosity of the wolf-dog. Scott was evidently thinking of this epithet, as thus applied, when he used almost its converse in describing a torrent, as

—"A tawny torrent
Like the mane of a chesnut horse."

‡ Fingal, or Fionn Mac Comhal, son-in-law of Cormac, monarch of Ireland, of whom we read that he was "the most accomplished of all the Milesian princes, whether as legislator, soldier, or scholar—was, according to the general report of all his historians, the monarch and general of the famed Fianna Eiriann, or ancient Irish militia."—(*Moore's Ireland* v pp. 130–133,

most in request here. Expecting an answer by the bearer, I commit you to the protection of the Almighty, and am

“Your Lordship’s faithful and attached friend,
“FALKLAND.”

Moryson, secretary to Lord Deputy Mountjoy, likewise dwells on the excellence of our Irish greyhounds, while he at the same time pays a compliment to the physical qualities of our men. He observes:—“The Irish men and greyhounds are of great stature.” Lombard says that the “best hunting-dogs in Europe” were produced in Ireland.

Sir William Betham, Ulster King-at-Arms, has stated it as his conviction, that the Irish wolf-dog was “a gigantic greyhound, not smooth-skinned, like *our* greyhounds, but rough and curly-haired. The Irish poets call the wolf-dogs ‘Cu,’ and the common hound ‘gayer’—a marked distinction, the word ‘Cu’ signifying also a champion.”

The justly celebrated Ray has described the Irish wolf-dog as a tall, rough greyhound; and so also has Pennant, who descants at some length on his extraordinary size and power.

Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, was presented with one of these dogs by John, king of England. The reader must be familiar with that beautiful ballad, founded on the circumstance of this noble animal’s having saved Llewellyn’s young heir from the attacks of a wolf, entitled “The Grave of the Greyhound.”

In a code of Welsh laws, we find heavy penalties laid down for the maiming or injuring of the Irish greyhound: in this code he is called “*Canis Grajus Hybernicus*.” We know that the dog presented by John was a tall, rough greyhound.

These extracts are all confirmatory of the Irish wolf-dog having been a tall, rough dog, of the greyhound make, but far stronger—similar, in short, to the modern Highland deerhound—but I can adduce further reasons why we must regard him as identical with that dog. The canine skulls found by that eminent naturalist, Surgeon Wilde, some years ago, at Dunshaughlin, and described by him in a paper read before the Royal Irish Academy, were evidently those of rough greyhounds, differing from the modern Highland dog, only in their superior size—of which more anon.

The Irish greyhound, although very scarce, and evidently much degenerated, has existed in Ireland until within a few years—and that in well-authenticated purity. Amongst other possessors of the breed, I may mention Robert Evatt, Esq., of

Mount Louise, county Monaghan—specimens of whose stock have passed into the hands of Francis Carter, Esq., of Vicars Field, county Dublin. Mr. Carter has been most assiduous in keeping up the breed, by crossing it with the best Scottish and Welsh dogs he could obtain; and I never could perceive any difference between them, except that the Irish dogs were thicker, and not so high on their legs, as either the Scottish or Welsh. One of these dogs, sent by Mr. Carter to America, coursed and killed a wolf, upon the open prairie, without assistance. Few dogs can do this; and I refer for my authority to Mr. Carter.

As to the size to which the Irish wolf-dog attained, Goldsmith says that he “saw above a dozen, and one was about four feet high, or as tall as a calf of a year old.” Buffon says he never saw more than one, and that it was five feet high when sitting. Ray calls it “the greatest dog he had ever seen.” In the same communication from Sir W. Betham,* which I have already quoted, that gentleman says, “Sir J. Browne allowed them to come into his dining-room, when they put their heads over the shoulders of those who sat at table.”

If Goldsmith meant that he saw a wolf-dog four feet high at the *head*, we may believe him; and so may we believe Buffon, if we are to understand him as measuring the sitting dog with a line along the back. I cordially agree that it was “the greatest dog” Ray had ever seen; but I am uncertain as to the manner in which the dogs described by Sir William Betham “put their heads over the shoulders” of the guests seated at table. Did they place, as dogs are apt to do, their forefeet on the back rung of the chair? I think they did: still, however, even with these limitations, they must be admitted to have been gigantic dogs.

A large skull was recently found in a bog in Westmeath, by a collector of antiquities and other curiosities, named James Underwood—a man long and favorably known to men of science, for his unwearied diligence, patient research, and acute discernment. Of this skull an account was subsequently published in several of the newspapers, by Mr. Glennon, of 3, Suffolk-street, Dublin, describing it as the skull of our Irish wolf-dog. Every allowance must, however, be made for Mr. Glennon’s zeal and anxiety to bring the matter forward in a hurry. The length of this skull was between seventeen and

* Made to Mr Haffield in 1841.

eighteen inches, which would have furnished a living head of upwards of twenty inches. The living owner of the skull must have been at least four and a half or five feet high at the shoulder. I do not, however, believe this to have been the skull of our wolf-dog; although I cannot, at the same time, agree with those who suppose it to be the skull of a bear. Many of these gentlemen are comparative anatomists, and their opinions are deserving of some attention; but to a close observer, the skull in question will be found to present many discrepancies, from the characters of the ursine group of animals. It certainly differs also from the canines, in the absence of the last molar tooth of the upper jaw, and some other particulars. My own opinion is, that this is the skull of an extinct animal, allied to, but by no means identical with the dog; and an animal with which we are now unacquainted; partaking, likewise, somewhat of the characteristics of the bears, and perhaps, also, the hyænas. It differs from the skull of the hyæna even more than it does from that of the bear. The only *bear* to whose skull this at all approaches is the Great White Bear, (*Ursus Maritimus*,) whose head is not at all unlike that of a shaved deerhound. This skull, then, I only mention, in order to avoid any misconception arising relative to it; or any misrepresentation as to my own views respecting it.

The canine skulls found by Surgeon Wilde, at Dunshaughlin, afford a very rational mode of determining the size, or at least, the extreme size, of the wolf-dog in ancient times. The longest of these skulls (at present preserved in the Royal Irish Academy) measures in length, as accurately as may be, eleven inches in the bone. This, at a small computation, allowing for muzzle, hair, skin, and other tissues, would give fourteen inches as the length of the head in life. As the skulls are those of greyhounds, we must take the head of a greyhound to furnish an analogy. Oscar,* the noble dog, property of Mr. J. J. Nolan, which so long proved an ornament to our Zoological Gardens, Phoenix Park, measured nine and a half inches, from muzzle to occiput: his height at the shoulder was twenty-nine inches. The calculation is thus resolved into a common sum in proportion: which may be stated thus; for the sake of brevity we assume Oscar's head to have measured ten inches:—

* Figured in our frontispiece

10 : 29 : 14 : 40·5

This would give a height of three feet four inches ; but this skull was much superior in size to any others ; and we may, therefore, fairly come to the conclusion, that from thirty-six to forty inches was the ordinary stature of the wolf-dog—a height attained to by none of our modern Highland deerhounds, or by any dog with which we are acquainted.

It has been asserted, that the large dogs in possession of the late celebrated Hamilton Rowan, were Irish wolf-dogs—an assertion which I find contradicted by Mr. Martin, (Knight's Weekly Volume, History of the Dog,) on the authority of a "Dublin Correspondent," who has informed him they were not wolf-dogs, but large *bloodhounds*. The truth is, Mr. Rowan possessed several fine dogs, of the breed called the Great Dane, animals of a slaty-blue mottled color ; but Mr. Rowan was well aware of their proper designation, and never by any chance called them by a wrong name. How any person could be so ignorant of natural history as to call them bloodhounds, I cannot conceive. Mr. Rowan also possessed a wolf-dog, and knew him to be such, calling him the "last of his race." This dog was a very large *rough greyhound*, of an iron-gray color, perfectly similar to our Highland deerhound. Mr. Carter, a gentleman to whom I have already alluded, recollects this dog perfectly, and affirms him to have in every respect resembled his own, but was superior in size. Mr. Rowan subsequently presented this wolf-dog to Lord Nugent. I suppose this is the dog that Mr. Jesse mentions as having possessed so wondrous a power of detecting, by the scent, the presence of the Irish blood royal !*

The Irish wolf-dog forms the subject of several traditions. The following, relating to "Bran," the favorite hound of Fingal, the hero of Macpherson's Ossian, may not prove uninteresting. There are two accounts of this transaction, one given by Mr. Grant, in his work on the Gael, and the other by Mr. Scrope, in his delightful volume on Deer-stalking. They differ in the result of the encounter. I shall adopt Mr. Scrope's, deeming it the most authentic.

"Fingal agreed to hunt in the forest of Sledale, in company with the Sutherland chief, his cotemporary, for the purpose of trying the comparative merits of their dogs. Fingal brought his celebrated dog *Bran* to Sutherland, in order to

* See "Punch," vol. x., p. 236.

compete with an equally famous dog belonging to the Sutherland chief, and the only one in the country supposed to be any match for him. The approaching contest between these fine animals created great interest; White-breasted Bran was superior to the whole of Fingal's other dogs, even to the 'surly strength of Luah;' but the Sutherland dog, known by the full-sounding name of *Phorp*, was incomparably the best and most powerful dog that ever eyed a deer in his master's forests.

“When Fingal arrived in the forest with his retinue and dogs, he was saluted with a welcome that may be translated thus—

“ ‘With your nine great dogs,
With your nine smaller game-starting dogs,
With your nine spears,
Unwieldy weapons!
And with your nine gray, sharp-edged swords,
Famous were you in the foremost fight.’

“The Sutherland chief also made a conspicuous figure, with his followers, and his dogs and weapons for the chase. Of the two rival dogs, *Bran* and *Phorp*, the following descriptions have still survived amongst some of the oldest people in Sutherland. *Bran* is thus represented:—

“ ‘The hind leg like a hook or bent bow,
The breast like that of a garron,*
The ear like a leaf.’

“Such would Fingal, the chief of heroes, select from amongst the youth of his hunting-dogs. *Phorp* was black in color, and his points are thus described:—

“ ‘Two yellow feet such as *Bran* had;
Two black eyes;
And a white breast;
A back narrow and fair,
As required for hunting;
And two erect ears of a dark brown red.’

“Towards the close of the day, after some severe runs, which, however, still left the comparative merits of the two dogs a subject of hot dispute, *Bran* and *Phorp* were brought front to front, to prove their courage; and they were no sooner untied, than they sprang at each other, and fought desperately. *Phorp* seemed about to overcome *Bran*, when his master, the

* A stout gelding.

Sutherland chief, unwilling that either of them should be killed, called out, 'Let each of us take away his dog.' Fingal objected to this; whereupon the Sutherland chief said, with a taunt, that 'it was now evident that the Fingalians did not possess a dog that could match with *Phorp*.'

"Angered and mortified, Fingal immediately extended his 'venomous paw,' as it is called, (for the tradition represents him as possessing supernatural power,) and with one hand he seized *Phorp* by the neck, and with the other, which was a charmed and destructive one, he tore out the brave animal's heart. This adventure occurred at a place near the March, between the parishes of Clyne and Kildonan, still called 'Leck na Con,' 'The stone of the dogs,' there having been placed a large stone on the spot where they fought. The ground over which Fingal and the Sutherland chief hunted that day is called 'Dirri-leck-Con.' *Bran* suffered so severely in the fight that he died in Glen Loth before leaving the forest, and was buried there. A huge cairn was heaped over him, which still remains, and is known by the name of 'Cairn Bran.'"

In a work published at Belfast, in the year 1829, entitled "The Biography of a Tyrone Family," there is a note at foot of page 74, narrating the mode of the destruction of the last wolves in Ireland. That note I shall abridge thus:—

In the mountainous parts of the county Tyrone, the inhabitants suffered much from the wolves, and gave from the public fund, as much for the head of one of these animals, as they would now give for the capture of a notorious robber on the highway. There lived in those days an adventurer, who, alone and unassisted, made it his occupation to destroy those ravagers. The time for attacking them was in the night, and midnight was the best time for doing so, as that was their wonted time for leaving their lair in search of food, when the country was at rest, and all was still; then, issuing forth, they fell on their defenceless prey, and the carnage commenced. There was a species of dog for the purpose of hunting them, resembling a rough, stout, half-bred greyhound, but much stronger. In the county Tyrone there was then a large space of ground enclosed by a high stone-wall, having a gap at the two opposite extremities, and in this were secured the flocks of the surrounding farmers. Still, secure though this fold was deemed, it was entered by the wolves, and its inmates slaughtered. The neighboring proprietors having heard of the noted wolf-hunter above men-

tioned, by name Rory Carragh, sent for him, and offered the usual reward, with some addition, if he would undertake to destroy the two remaining wolves that had committed such devastation. Carragh, undertaking the task, took with him two wolf-dogs, and a little boy, the only person he could prevail on to accompany him, and at the approach of midnight, repaired to the fold in question.

“Now,” said Carragh to the boy, “as the wolves usually attack the opposite extremities of the sheepfold at the same time, I must leave you and one of the dogs to guard this one, while I go to the other. He steals with all the caution of a cat, nor will *you* hear him, but the *dog* will, and will positively give him the first fall; if you are not active, when he is down, to rivet his neck to the ground with this spear, he will rise up and kill both you and the dog.”

“I’ll do what I can,” said the boy, as he took the spear from the wolf-hunter’s hand.

The boy immediately threw open the gate of the fold, and took his seat in the inner part, close to the entrance, his faithful companion crouching at his side, and seeming perfectly aware of the dangerous business he was engaged in. The night was very dark and cold, and the poor little boy being benumbed with the chilly air, was beginning to fall into a kind of sleep, when at that instant the dog, with a roar, leaped across him, and laid his mortal enemy upon the earth. The boy was roused into double activity by the voice of his companion, and drove the spear through the wolf’s neck, as he had been directed, at which time Carragh made his appearance with the head of the other.

We possess no accurate information as to the date of the destruction of the last Irish wolf. There was a presentment for killing wolves granted at Cork, in 1710. An old gentleman, lately deceased, informed me that his mother had often told him she recollected wolves having been killed in the county Wexford so lately as 1740–50, and it is asserted by credible persons, that a very old one was killed in the county Wicklow in 1770! These assertions, however, depending only on hearsay evidence, are not implicitly to be relied on.

THE HIGHLAND DEERHOUND.

This dog is, as I have shown, the modern representative, unchanged, save as to stature, of the Irish wolf-dog.

The deerhound presents the general aspect of a high-bred greyhound, especially in all the points on which speed and power depend ; but he is built more coarsely, and altogether on a larger and more robust scale. The shoulder is also more elevated, the neck thicker, the head and muzzle coarser, and the bone more massive.

The deerhound stands from twenty-eight to thirty inches in height at the shoulder ; his coat is rough, and the hair strong ; color usually iron-gray, sandy-yellow, or white ; *all colors* should have muzzle and tips of ears black.

Attempts have been made to improve the deerhound by crossing him with other breeds, such as the Pyrenean wolf-dog, the bloodhound of Cuba, and the British bloodhound ; but all these attempts have failed of their object, and produced only deterioration. The cross with the Cuban bloodhound has proved least objectionable. It was of this breed that Sir Walter Scott's dog, Maida, bred and presented to him by Glengarry, sprung. I must not omit to mention that a tuft, or pencil of dark hair on the tip of the ear, is likewise a proof of high blood. In my opinion the Persian greyhound, or a very similar greyhound at present used in the hills of Macedonia,* would be found a really valuable cross, and would improve, instead of deteriorating this valuable breed, which we may otherwise expect soon to degenerate, if not wholly disappear, from the baneful effects of breeding within too close consanguinity, or, as it is called, "*in and in.*"

Her majesty possesses a magnificent specimen of deerhound, called "Bran." This noble animal stands over thirty inches in height at the shoulder, and is supposed to be the finest specimen of the breed in existence. I am not sure whether Bran was the gift of Lord Glenlyon, but I know that that nobleman presented her majesty with some fine specimens of this breed.

The following description of deer-coursing, extracted from Mr. Scrope's admirable volume, will, I am confident, be read with interest :—

"No time was to be lost: the whole party immediately moved forward in silent and breathless expectation, with the dogs in front, straining in the slips, and on our reaching the top of the hillock, we got a full view of the noble stag, who, having heard our footsteps, had sprung to his legs, and

* Described p. 56.

was staring us full in the face, at the distance of about sixty yards.

"The dogs were slipped; a general halloo burst from the whole party, and the stag, wheeling round, set off at full speed, with Buskar and Bran straining after him.

"The brown figure of the deer, with his noble antlers laid back, contrasted with the light color of the dogs stretching along the dark heath, presented one of the most exciting scenes that it is possible to imagine.

"The deer's first attempt was to gain some rising ground to the left of the spot where we stood, and rather behind us; but being closely pursued by the dogs, he soon found that his only safety was in speed; and as a deer does not run well up hill, nor, like a roe, straight down hill, on the dogs approaching him he turned and almost retraced his footsteps, taking, however, a steeper line of descent than the one by which he ascended. Here the chase became most interesting; the dogs pressed him hard, and the deer, getting confused, found himself suddenly on the brink of a small precipice, of about fourteen feet in height, from the bottom of which there sloped a rugged mass of stones. He paused for a moment as if afraid to take the leap, but the dogs were so close that he had no alternative..

"At this time the party were not above 150 yards distant, and most anxiously awaited the result, fearing, from the ruggedness of the ground below, that the deer would not survive the leap. They were, however, soon relieved from their anxiety; for though he took the leap, he did so more cunningly than gallantly, dropping himself in the most singular manner, so that his hind legs first reached the broken rocks below: nor were the dogs long in following him; Buskar sprang first, and extraordinary to relate, did not lose his legs; Bran followed, and on reaching the ground, performed a complete somerset; he soon, however, recovered his legs, and the chase was continued in an oblique direction down the side of a most rugged and rocky brae, the deer apparently more fresh and nimble than ever, jumping through the rocks like a goat, and the dogs well up, though occasionally receiving the most fearful falls.

"From the high position in which we were placed, the chase was visible for nearly half a mile. When some rising ground intercepted our view, we made with all speed for a higher point, and on reaching it we could perceive that the dogs, having got upon smooth ground, had gained on the

deer, who was still going at speed, and were now close up with him. Bran was then leading, and in a few seconds was at his heels, and immediately seized his hock with such violence of grasp, as seemed in a great measure to paralyze the limb, for the deer's speed was immediately checked.

“Buskar was not far behind, for soon afterwards passing Bran, he seized the deer by the neck. Notwithstanding the weight of the two dogs which were hanging to him, having the assistance of the slope of the ground, he continued dragging them along at a most extraordinary rate, in defiance of their utmost exertions to detain him, and succeeded more than once in kicking Bran off. But he became at length exhausted; the dogs succeeded in pulling him down, and though he made several attempts to rise, he never completely regained his legs. On coming up, we found him perfectly dead.”

I have seen *smooth* deerhounds in Scotland, but they were not deerhounds properly so called, being merely a cross between the ordinary greyhound and foxhound. In such case it is better that the greyhound should be father, as you will thus be more likely to obtain size and power, combined with swiftness. This is more particularly to be attended to when it is the rough greyhound to which you resort, for among all the rough greyhounds, and more especially those of Ireland and Scotland, there exists a greater disparity of size between male and female, than between the sexes of any other member of the canine family. For instance, of a litter of pups—a dog shall grow to the height of, say, thirty inches—and not a female of the same litter shall exceed twenty-four inches in height at the shoulder. This is a very remarkable fact, and worthy of attention.

The bloodhound has been employed as a cross, but the progeny are too slow and heavy for deer *coursing*, whatever they may be worth as finders, for which latter purpose why not use the bloodhound at once, without resorting to any cross at all? It is a pity that the deerhound should be so scarce; if suffered to become extinct, we may seek in vain for any dog that shall combine in his single person so many valuable qualities.

THE SCOTTISH GREYHOUND.

This is but a degenerate deerhound—a deerhound rendered inferior in size, less shaggy in coat, less ardent and courageous in the chase, less powerful, and therefore less service-

able for deer-coursing, by the effects of breeding too long within the degrees of consanguinity, or, perhaps, from having been crossed with some other breed, most probably the lurcher, or the smooth greyhound. Under these circumstances I do not think any description of him necessary: his height seldom exceeds twenty-seven inches; his color is usually white, or gray, though often brindled.

THE LURCHER is a mongrel, bred from greyhound and any other dog, usually the shepherd's dog, or terrier; though for deer-stalking, often the bloodhound or foxhound. They are not creditable followers, being in greater demand by poachers. This dog will be noticed in his proper place as a mongrel.

THE RUSSIAN GREYHOUND.

The true Russian greyhound is a dog of tremendous size and power—closely resembling the Highland deerhound in every physical quality; but I am sorry to say, far inferior to him in courage. Two of these dogs will not unfrequently race alongside a wolf for many hundred yards, before either of them can make up his mind to grapple with him. A wolf is, however, a very formidable customer; and a dog might be a little shy of experiencing the power of his tusks, while he would run gayly into a deer; I therefore think that the Russian greyhound would prove a good cross for the purpose of improving our Highland stock.

The Russian greyhound stands from twenty-eight to thirty inches at the shoulder. The Emperor lately presented a leash of these dogs to her Majesty, which, in the public prints, were stated to be *three feet high!* It appears, however, that this was intended to apply to the height from the ground to the top of the *head*—the height at the shoulder being not much over thirty inches.

This is the same as the Tartarian dog; the same with that mentioned by Dr. Clarke, as having been met with by him on the confines of Circassia; and is, without question, derived from the ancient dogs of Epirus and Albania—the same source whence we perhaps obtained our Irish wolf-dog. Colonel H. Smith says that the Russian greyhound is “usually white, with black clouds:” judging from such as I have seen, I should say that the color is usually an iron or slaty gray: where any *cloudings* appear, I should suspect a cross with the Great Dane or French Matin.

THE PERSIAN GREYHOUND.

The Persian greyhound is one of the most beautiful dogs with which we are acquainted. There are two varieties of this dog: one of a tan color, with very light golden-colored hair upon the hams and under-surface of the tail; the hair is very long, and disposed in fan-like form, while the coat upon the rest of the body is close and short. This is a most powerful creature, and frequently exceeds thirty inches in height at the shoulder. The other variety is furnished all over the body with long silky hair, of the length of from five to eight inches, according to the purity of blood, and the ears are feathered like those of a spaniel. This latter dog seldom exceeds twenty-eight inches in height; and is far less powerful than the preceding: his color usually black, relieved with tan.

The greyhound of India, called sometimes the Bringaree and Polygar Dog, is identical with the first-mentioned variety. These dogs are all inferior in speed to our European greyhounds, but they answer very well for Eastern sport. They are usually employed in hunting the jackal—a sport in which they prove very effective. It not unfrequently happens, however, that the jackals unite in a body, and turn on their assailants, in which case, unless the sportsmen be well up with their dogs, the latter stand a fair chance of being torn to pieces: hence, too high a rate of going is not considered as a desideratum, but rather the contrary.

The Persian greyhound differs from all the varieties of rough greyhound in his hair, it being of a soft, silky texture, like that of the spaniel. In disposition, the varieties present a striking difference—the black variety being docile and gentle as the spaniel, which he so closely resembles: the tan variety, fierce and intractable, but yet amenable to training—a process, however not required by the other.

I have been told by English sportsmen, who have resided in India, that the smooth, fan-tailed variety of eastern greyhound, is a match for the Caracal or Persian lynx, and can kill that very formidable animal, single-handed; while the other spaniel-like variety is only fit for hare-coursing; and, as Thomson says—

“Poor is the triumph o’er the timid hare,”

and for that purpose far inferior to our own smooth breeds,

from a deficiency of speed, which he does not make up for in strength or endurance.

THE GREEK GREYHOUND

Is not unlike the Lurcher; but its hair, though long, is soft and not wiry.

THE ARABIAN GREYHOUND.

This dog is called by some naturalists the Bedouin greyhound, and by others the greyhound of Akaba. He is large and fierce; is furnished with a short coat, save on the tail, which is very bushy; his ears stand perfectly erect; color usually bluish-gray, but often brown, and not unfrequently white, with yellow cloudings. This dog bears a close resemblance to the wild dog of Egypt, named by Colonel Smith, *Thous Anthus*; and is the same to be frequently found figured on various Egyptian monuments.

Some naturalists have asserted the Arabian greyhound to be the primitive dog—the original stock whence the whole canine family sprung. That a greyhound was the primitive dog, I have no doubt; but it must have been a *pure* one, which that of Arabia evidently is not.

CHAPTER V.

THE GREYHOUNDS.

SUBDIVISION B.

THE SMOOTH GREYHOUNDS—THE COMMON BRITISH GREYHOUND.

THE common greyhound is the most elegantly formed, and most graceful of the canine race, and surpasses, also, all his brethren in speed. He is evidently, however, a factitious dog, produced by care, and, perhaps, crossing, from his rough original.

In height, the greyhound stands from twenty-six to twenty-eight inches at the shoulder, and the female does not present that very striking disparity of size, so remarkable in the deerhound. This fact alone is sufficient to warrant the supposition, that the smooth greyhound owes something to the

effect of cross-breeding. In disposition, the greyhound is gentle and affectionate; indeed he, perhaps, exhibits the latter quality too indiscriminately.

The greyhound was brought to the highest state of perfection by Lord Orford and Major Topham. Those celebrated sportsmen owed their unparalleled success to the introduction of a cross with the *bull-dog*, and though the two dogs may appear very different from each other at first view, a very little reflection will show, that from the *bull-dog*, the greyhound could derive all the wished-for excellence—courage, small ear, whip-tail, large and deep chest, and general firmness of muscle. On the other hand, speed was found to be recovered undiminished, while all the above points were retained, at the *seventh* remove from the *bull-dog*.

SNOWBALL, perhaps the fastest dog that ever ran, came of this stock; he won four cups, and thirty-two or thirty-three matches, at Maxton, and on the Yorkshire wolds.

“ Ah, gallant Snowball! what remains,
Up Fordon's banks, o'er Flixton's plains,
Of all thy strength—thy sinewy force,
Which rather flew than ran the course?
Ah! what remains? save that thy breed
May to their father's fame succeed;
And when the prize appears in view,
May prove that they are Snowballs too.”

Many trials of speed to ascertain the comparative powers of the horse and greyhound have been instituted. It appears from these, that on a flat course, a first-rate racer will beat a greyhound, but that in a hilly country he must succumb to him.

The greyhound has been sometimes crossed, and that to much advantage, with the rough Scotch breeds. The celebrated Gilbertfield, who beat all that ever he encountered, was thus bred: Gilbertfield excited so much attention in his day, that I think the following account of him will prove interesting, and may also prove serviceable to our Irish breeders:—

“The reiterated success of this old dog (Gilbertfield) may well excite a smile at those who would talk or write him down as a third-rate, or stigmatize him as a lurcher! If he be a third-rate, the march of intellect among the knights of the long tails must verily be retrograde; and if he be, indeed, a lurcher, it becomes necessary to know, by what name are to be called the ninety unsuccessful competitors for the Glasgow

Gold Cup. Perhaps, after all, it will turn out that these seeming detractions are but a cunning device of the friends of Gilbertfield, intended to impress the public with the idea, that the achievement of a reputation, greater than that of any other dog in the United Kingdom, is but a small part of his victory, and that the greater part is the accomplishment of an absolute change in language, so that henceforth, the wordurcher is to designate superiority, instead of, as heretofore, inferiority of blood; and the word third-rate, to apply to the ascending scale in degrees of comparison, or in other words, to denote the superlative degree of excellence. But be this as it may, we are happy in being enabled to be the first to publish the pedigree of Gilbertfield, supplied us at our request by his owner. We give only three generations, both because these carry us to the common ancestors of his sire and dam, and because the ancestors of Blucher and Tickler never ran in public. Gilbertfield (brindled and rough) was pupped in June, 1831; and is first, by Giraffe (brindled and smooth) out of Venus, (yellow and rough.)

“Second, Giraffe was by Capilly (brindled and smooth, brother to Oscar) out of Puzzle, (brown and smooth, sister to Mr. Erum’s well-known Charles James Fox.) Venus, by Mr. Hamilton, of Greenbank’s, Alfred (white and red, and smooth, sire of Captain, May, Serpent, Pomni, Lady Mary, &c.) out of Marion, (brindled and rough, sister to Capilly, Oscar, Orlando Furioso, and Burr.) Third, Capilly and Marion were by Blucher (black and smooth) out of Sir William Maxwell, of Calderwood’s Tickler, (white and rough.) This pedigree runs counter to many of the pet theories of breeding, which would seem to be the mere ‘idols of the kennel,’ as Lord Bacon would have styled them, rather than the conclusions of reason, or the result of experiments.

“Bred from first cousins, and sprung from three successive crosses betwixt the smooth and the rough, Gilbertfield, himself rough, is a great public winner, notwithstanding, it is said, that breeding in destroys spirit, and that every cross after the first, betwixt the smooth and rough, more and more banishes the good qualities of the greyhound.

“Opinion, or rather caprice, even among those friendly to one cross with the rough, is diverse as to which parent should be rough. It so happens, that in this pedigree the dams were the rough. But this cannot be held to establish much, when it is remembered that Gilbertfield’s own progeny, out of a smooth bitch, (Black-Eyed Susan,) have distinguished them

selves more than any other puppies of this season, part of which are thoroughly smooth, and part thoroughly rough. The running of him and his lurcher race, equally confute two opposite sayings: the one, that rough dogs are not fast, but last long; the other, that they can get out of the slips, but want bottom. First, Lord Eglinton's Major is the only dog he meets which makes Gilbertfield look not singularly fast up to his hare. Second, the race with Dusty Miller, on the last day of the gold cup running, put an end to all skepticism as to Gilbertfield's bottom. The performances of his ancestors, Oscar, Capilly, and Charles James Fox, in the Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire Club, and of Orlando Furioso, Burr, and Giraffe, in East Lothian—his own success, during four seasons, in every club to which he belongs, viz., the Ardrossan, Biggar, Clydesdale, Dirleton, and the Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire, (being *rough*, he is excluded from running at Winchburg,) and his triumph at Eaglesham—and the commenced career of his offspring, viz., Ocean, Goth, Vandal, Capilly, Harp, Guitar, and Lilly, (one litter,) supply the best of all evidence, that Gilbertfield not only inherits, but can *transmit* winning blood—the great aim, it is to be presumed, of every sagacious breeder of greyhounds."—*Kilmarnock Journal*, 1836.

THE ITALIAN GREYHOUND.

The Italian greyhound is, as might be supposed, a native of the country whence it derives its name; it is a very small, delicate creature, being a miniature portrait of a high-bred greyhound of the very first class; and it has been occasionally resorted to as a cross, to give greater fineness of form and coat to a coarse stock of the ordinary greyhound. The Italian greyhound is very fleet, but is, of course, too feeble to be of any service in coursing, as he could not hold a hare, if even he succeeded in overtaking her.

I have known some, however, less diminutive than usual, employed successfully in coursing rabbits. They are extremely eager and vivacious, full of life and spirit, and make most engaging pets. The Italian greyhound, from being in such esteem with the fair sex, fetches a high price—from five to ten guineas being regarded as by no means unusual, if the animal be a highly bred and handsome specimen.

Mr. Nolan, of Bachelor's-walk, Dublin, has some of the finest I have ever seen, and also, I think, the smallest greyhound in the world—a dog, now very old, not exceeding nine

inches in height. This diminutive creature is beginning to exhibit the moral, as well as the physical infirmities of age; he is very testy and irritable, and appears to think himself as well entitled to respect from his canine comrades, and as well able to command it when necessary, as the largest amongst them; his seems, indeed, "a vast soul in a little carcass."

THE TURKISH GREYHOUND.

There are two varieties of this dog, both equally destitute of hair, but one being more decidedly a greyhound, and of superior stature to the other. Color, usually a leaden or dusky purple; stature of the former breed, about twenty, and the latter about twelve inches.

Colonel Smith considers this to be the same with the naked dog of Mexico, and the *God-dog*, formerly worshipped as a deity by the Xauxa and Huanca Indians. This dog is very apt to *want* the posterior molar teeth, or grinders, at the back of the lower jaw, and sometimes the upper.

Colonel Smith suggests, that the absence of hair may be caused by chronic mange. I think this very improbable, and that it is far more likely to be the result of a burning sun, in a very dry atmosphere.

THE TIGER HOUND OF SOUTH AMERICA.

This is a tall, showy dog, resembling the greyhound closely, but somewhat more robustly formed. Color usually a slaty-blue ground, with tan and brown clouds, resembling the markings of the Great Dane. It is, of course, improperly styled "*Tiger*" hound, as there is no tiger in America—that name being given by the natives to the Jaguar, an animal almost equally dangerous and powerful with his Asiatic congener.

The Tiger hound is not courageous, activity being more called for than courage—the latter quality, indeed, being calculated to lead the dogs into unnecessary danger. He usually reaches twenty-eight or twenty-nine inches in height at the shoulder. This dog has not unfrequently been brought to Britain, and passed off as the Spanish bloodhound—a dog which he closely resembles in form, save that he is more like a greyhound.

CHAPTER VI.

THE SECOND CLASS of domestic dogs may be most aptly represented by the HOUNDS; but, from what I have already said in my introductory remarks, it will readily be perceived that not only does this class present less appearance of originality than either of the others, but also that its members will require greater subdivision, in proportion as they, in their characters, approach more or less to the first or third classes, viz., to those of greyhounds or mastiffs. Hounds, properly so called, and more properly the true type of this class, must be treated of separately.

Among the most striking members of the first doubtful portion of this second class of dogs, or those that approximate most nearly to the greyhound family—while they are, at the same time, by no means true greyhounds—I may enumerate

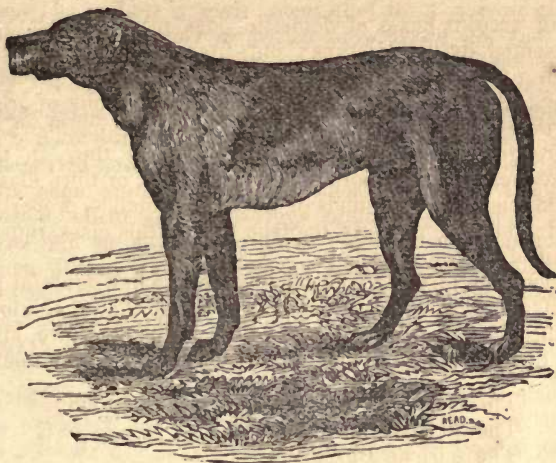
- The Great Danish Dog, type of this group;
- The Spanish Bloodhound;
- The African Bloodhound;
- The French Matin;
- The Feral Dog of St. Domingo;
- The Cattle Dog of Cuba;
- The Pariah, or Indian Street Dog;
- The Mexican Dog, or Taygote;
- The Wolf-Dog of Florida.

THE GREAT DANE.*

This is a dog of gigantic stature; he is, indeed, perhaps, one of the very largest dogs with which we are at present acquainted, standing from thirty to thirty-two inches in height at the shoulder, or even more. In form, the Dane is very powerful, but yet graceful; his head is elongated, but the muzzle does not taper to a point—it is, on the contrary, somewhat truncated, looking as if it had been originally intended to be longer, but had been abruptly cut short within an inch of what should have been the muzzle. The coat of the Dane is close and short, and its color, although oc-

* I may remind my readers that this dog has also been set forward as the Irish Wolf-dog.

sasionally fulvous or yellow, is more frequently a bluish, slaty white, marked with spots, or rather blotches, of brown and black. The ears of the Dane are short, and droop, but



very slightly. I never yet saw an imported specimen that had not the ears cropped off close to the skull. In its native country the Dane is employed chiefly in boar-hunting; it was also formerly used in the chase of the elk. It is not improbable that the Danes brought this dog with them to Ireland when they invaded that country, and that it was employed as an auxiliary in wolf-hunting. Once the matter came to a regular grapple, few dogs could have proved more serviceable; and few could have afforded a better cross with our own ancient wolf-dog. That such crossing did actually take place, is more than probable; and hence the many misconceptions that have since arisen relative to the real characters of our genuine Irish wolf-dog. Hamilton Rowan had some very fair specimens; so had Lord Altamont—also Lord O'Neil; but by far the finest I ever had the good fortune to see, was "Hector," the property of his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, still living, about ten years ago, at Dalkeith palace.* Hector stood a trifle more than thirty-two inches in height at the shoulder; notwithstanding that when I

* Since dead, and preserved by Mr. Carfrae of Edinburgh.

measured him he was close upon his twentieth year, and consequently much drooped. I had the honor of receiving an interesting communication from the duke respecting him, in which his grace stated, that Hector had been purchased by his brother, Lord John Scott, from a student at Dresden, and that the breed were called, in Germany and Saxony, "boar-dogs." His grace also informed me that Hector was the tallest dog he had ever seen.

Hector was very good-natured, and far from being quarrelsome. He frequently took a walk into the little town of Dalkeith, on which occasions he was often followed by the street dogs, and they would sometimes even venture upon an attack. Until an absolute aggression was made, however, Hector contented himself with proceeding on his way in dignified contempt; but if a Newfoundland, mastiff, or other dog at all approaching to his own size, dared to meddle with him, he would "turn him up" in a twinkling, and, raising his hind leg, treat him with the strongest mark of canine contumely.

I had a son of Hector's, not, however, true bred, but produced from a South American dam, of the so-called *tiger*-hound breed. "Lincoln" was his name. This was, without exception, the best dog I ever knew. In attachment and sagacity he more than equalled the spaniel, and his courage was of the most indomitable kind. Often have I seen him from my window engaged in conflict with two or three large Newfoundland dogs resident in the neighborhood, and have rushed to the rescue, but have as often found him victorious ere I could interfere. Lincoln's only fault was a propensity to kill cats; and of this he was eventually cured, by one of those animals, at whom he rushed with open mouth, mistaking his fury for play, and rubbing herself, purring, against the very jaws that were open to crush her.

I must here record an instance of this noble dog's sagacity. I was in the habit of bathing every morning at the extremity of the chain pier of Newhaven, about the distance of a mile from where I dwelt. At this time I was a student of medicine, and, during the summer months, attended the Botanical lectures of Dr. Graham, delivered in the Botanic Garden, Inverleith-row, on my way home from the sea, and very near the house of my respected and kind stepfather, Dr. Cheyne. I used to take Lincoln with me on those occasions, and, on my return, used to dismiss him at the garden gate, and go in to lecture. On one occasion I recollected, when

about half way home, that I had forgotten my towel, in the shed appropriated to the accommodation of bathers at the pier end. More in jest than earnest, I turned to the dog, and said, showing my empty hands, "Lincoln, I have lost my towel, go and seek it." To my surprise, the sagacious creature, after looking for an instant, first at my empty hands, and then at the towel of my companion, turned and set off at a rapid pace back towards Newhaven. At the moment I thought but little of the matter; for I concluded that the dog would retrace his steps for a short distance, and then return; but he had not reappeared when I reached the gate of the Botanic Garden: so I entered, and, as usual, heard lecture; but what was my astonishment when, lecture being over, I left the gardens, and found the faithful and intelligent animal waiting for me, with my missing towel in his mouth.

Colonel H. Smith (Nat. Lib. Mam., vol. x.) describes the boar-dog as an *allied breed* to the Dane, yet not altogether identical with him, and speaks of one that stood "little less than four feet high at the shoulder." It was doubtless so reputed; but Colonel Smith did not himself either see or measure the dog in question. I doubt not but that the animal was very tall, but I most strenuously deny any dog being as large as a *horse*. I am also disposed to the belief that the smooth Dane is the *true* dog, and his rough brother a *cross*. Colonel Smith also styles the boar-dog the "Suliot dog." Now Suli is a very limited district of Albania, occupying scarcely six hundred square miles in extent, and lying *south*, whereas these dogs are natives chiefly of the regions *north* of the Balkan. I think that Colonel Smith has been led into this misnomer from a hasty view of Gmelin's Latin designation of the great Dane, *Canis Suillus*, derived evidently from the employment to which the dogs were devoted, viz., hunting the *sus* or hog, and not from the locality where they were bred. In the older paintings, the boar-dogs are evidently of the great Danish stock, with a dash of the great rough greyhound; and probably such were many of our later Irish wolf-hounds, after the original breed had grown somewhat scarce.

THE SPANISH BLOODHOUND.

This is the dog rendered so infamous by its employment in the chase of runaway negro slaves in South America and the Spanish West Indian Islands.

In form it is intermediate between the mastiff and the greyhound, but approximates more closely to the latter than to the former. Its color is usually tan or liver color; when *pied*, the purity of the breed is susceptible of doubt; the coat is extremely fine; the ears are semi-erect; when the animal is excited, they are pricked somewhat forward; the muzzle and tips of the ears are dark; the tail is fine as a rush.

The Spanish bloodhound stands from twenty-six to twenty-eight inches in height at the shoulder—seldom more, and often less. Columbus, when he invaded America, numbered a staff of twenty bloodhounds as part of his army. More recently, in 1795, a hundred of these fierce dogs were sent to Jamaica from the Havana, to be employed in the Maroon war. Dallas, in his “History of the Maroons,” tells us that General Walpole ordered a review of these dogs and their *chasseurs*, or keepers, principally colored Spaniards, that he might observe their conduct; and accordingly proceeded to a place called Seven Rivers, accompanied by Colonel Skinner, who was appointed to conduct the attack. “Notice of his coming having preceded him, a parade of the *chasseurs* was ordered, and they were taken to a distance from the house, in order to be advanced when the guard alighted. On his arrival, the commissioner, (who had procured the dogs,) having paid his respects, was desired to parade them. The Spaniards soon appeared at the end of a gentle acclivity, drawn out in a line, containing upwards of forty men, with their dogs in front, unmuzzled, and held by cotton ropes. On receiving the command, ‘*fire*,’ they discharged their fuses, and advanced as upon a real attack. This was intended to ascertain what effect would be produced on the dogs, if engaged under a fire of the Maroons. The volley was no sooner discharged than the dogs rushed forward with the greatest fury, amidst the shouts of the Spaniards, who were dragged on by them with irresistible force. Some of the dogs, maddened by the shout of attack while held back by the ropes, seized on the stocks of the guns in the hands of their keepers, and tore pieces out of them. Their impetuosity was so great that they were with difficulty stopped before they reached the general, who found it necessary to get into the chaise from which he had alighted, and if the most strenuous exertions had not been made, they would have seized upon his horses.” Some writers on the dog have confounded the Spanish bloodhound with the Cuban

mastiff; a very great error, as no two dogs could well be more dissimilar; and in one publication, by Mr. Martin, entitled "Knight's Weekly Volume," we have actually a figure given of the Cuban mastiffs some time since kept in the tower menagerie, taken from the "Menageries," a publication under the patronage of the "Society for Promoting Entertaining Knowledge," but with the new title of "Cuban Bloodhounds or Mastiffs." Naturalists who make such mistakes must be satisfied to submit to the friendly correction of *dog-fanciers*. I saw a few years ago a beautiful bitch of this breed in possession of our Surgeon-General, Sir Philip Crampton. She was light-colored, evidently very highly bred, of most graceful form, and gentle in her demeanor, but by no means to be trifled with. It is to be regretted that, no thoroughbred mate being to be had, her progeny have not been preserved pure.

Closely allied to the Spanish bloodhound is the AFRICAN HOUND, a graceful and beautiful creature, partaking also, to a great extent, of the shape and aspect of the pointer. A leash of these, two males and one female, were brought over some years ago by Colonel (then major) Denham, and by him presented to the then existing Tower Menagerie. The colonel stated to the care-taker, Mr. Cops, that he had himself often hunted the gazelle with them; and that they were possessed of extraordinary swiftness, scent, and cunning. These dogs were also, at one period, used, as other bloodhounds, in tracking a fugitive enemy or marauder to his retreat. Colonel Denham's hounds appeared quite subdued in confinement; they had lost all their natural fire and sprightliness, had gradually become morose, sullen, and spiteful, and no efforts could induce them to perpetuate their race.

Neither of these dogs are, however, properly entitled to the epithet of *bloodhound*; they appear to have acquired it only from their employment, and probably owe their origin to a cross at some remote period between the true, long-eared bloodhound of Britain and the more eager and active greyhound. I am the more confirmed in this opinion from the fact, that both these dogs closely resemble the *cross-bred* deerhound, sometimes used in the Highlands of Scotland, where that animal is thus bred. It is only fair that that gentle and affectionate animal—the genuine bloodhound—a dog far from being either cruel or ferocious, should be distinctly separated from these, his disreputable namesakes.

THE FRENCH MATIN.

Many contradictory descriptions of this dog are given by naturalists, some of whom describe him as a smooth dog, similar to the Dane ; others as a rough and lurcher-like mongrel. Buffon, the first who brought the matin into any thing like notice, describes and figures him (quarto ed.) as a sort of rough-coated greyhound, of only moderate stature, and not remarkable for any physical or moral quality. Mr. Martin describes a matin* which he saw in Paris as a smooth-coated, glaucous-colored dog, standing three feet high, and as reminding him of the vast stature and beauty which characterized the Irish wolf-dog.

Colonel Hamilton Smith (Nat. Lib. Mam. vol. x.) describes this dog as equalling the Dane in stature, but having a flatter forehead, a more pointed nose, *rugged* hair, color usually white, with one or more clouds of brown ; “ the ears, also, are more triangular, and the tips bent down, showing upon the whole a certain intermixture of the older Gallic dog. It is fierce, but not remarkable for daring.” Against this description I have nothing to object, except as to stature. The great Dane, usually, as I have already stated, exceeds thirty inches in height at the shoulder, and I do not think anybody ever saw a matin that stood over twenty-eight: indeed, I should say that twenty-six inches is about the average height. Buffon, with perhaps pardonable nationality, but in the absence of both sound reasoning and common sense, has put forward the matin as the origin of the dog, and, in his very fanciful genealogy, derives many noble and valuable breeds immediately from him.

THE FERAL DOG OF ST. DOMINGO.

This dog is fully described by Colonel Smith, who also gives a figure of him. It appears to be a sort of wild hound, approaching closely to the form of the greyhound, but somewhat coarser, and to be the descendant of the bloodhounds formerly used by the Spaniards, to effect their conquests in the western hemisphere. In stature, Colonel Smith describes this dog as “ at least equal to the largest Scottish or Russian greyhound, or about twenty-eight inches high at the shoulder,

* I think that the fine animal which attracted Mr. Martin's notice must have been the Great Dane.

with the head shaped like the wire-haired terrier ; large light-brown eyes ; small ears, pointed and only slightly bent down at the tips ; the neck long and full ; the chest very deep ; the croup slightly arched ; the limbs muscular, but light ; and the tail, not reaching to the tarsus, scantily furnished with long dark hair ; the muzzle was black, as well as the eyelids, lips, and the whole hide ; but his color was a uniform pale-blue ash, the hair being short, scanty, coarse, and apparently without a woolly fur beneath. On the lips, inside of the ears, and above the eyes, there was some whitish gray ; and the back of the ears was dark slate-color. The look and motions of this animal at once told consciousness of superiority. As he passed down the streets, all the house curs slunk away. When within our lodging the family dog had disappeared, although he had neither growled nor barked. His master said he was inoffensive, but requested he might not be touched."

These seem to be the St. Domingo greyhounds mentioned by Buffon.

THE CATTLE-DOG OF CUBA.

I describe this animal here—although his place is, perhaps, more properly with the Newfoundland races—because he appears to be an offshoot from the variety I have just been describing, and is frequently improperly called the Cuba bloodhound.

The head of this dog is coarser, broader at the temples, and does not taper so much at the muzzle as that of the preceding variety ; the back is flatter ; the hair longer and coarser ; and the dog altogether further removed from the greyhound. This dog sometimes attains great size. I had one, whose measurements I shall give as follow :—

	Ft.	In.
From the top of head to ground . . .	3	6
Height from ground to foreshoulder . . .	2	8
Length from nose to tail . . .	6	1
Girth round chest behind foreleg . . .	3	4
Girth of foreleg . . .	0	10
Length from occiput to muzzle . . .	1	2
Girth of head over the ears . . .	2	1

This dog was remarkably fierce and treacherous. On one occasion he attacked myself, and I was so dreadfully torn in the conflict, that I was laid up for many weeks,

while it was months before I recovered the use of my right hand and arm.

In the West Indies these dogs are employed to convey cattle across rivers, and also to aid them in landing from the ships in which they arrive. "We have often witnessed, when vessels with live-stock arrive in our West Indian colonies, and the oxen are hoisted out, by a sling passed round the base of their horns, the great assistance they afford to bring them to land. For when the ox, first suspended by the head, is lowered, and allowed to fall into the water, men generally swim, and guide it by the horns; but at other times this service is performed by one or two dogs, who, catching the bewildered animal by the ears, one on each side, force it to swim in the direction of the landing-place, and instantly release their hold when they feel it touches the ground."*

THE MEXICAN DOG.

A long-backed, ill-shaped animal, not unlike a lurcher; legs comparatively short; and ears usually cropped. This is identical with the Techichi described by Fernandez.

THE WOLF-DOG OF FLORIDA

Is described by Mr. Bartram as different from the local wolves only in its powers of barking. His anecdote of one which was trained by his wild master to guard a troop of horses, without any human superintendence, proves it to be highly docile and intelligent, (Bartram's Travels.) This dog stands upwards of twenty-seven inches in height; the ears are erect; the tail is full, and bushy.

THE PARIAN, OR EGYPTIAN STREET-DOG.

This is probably the "*Keleb*" of antiquity, degraded by mange, famine, mongrelism, and general neglect.

This dog, miserable as is its condition, is not destitute of good qualities. It is sagacious, and will not quit its own quarter of the town, where it acts as a guard upon the property of the inhabitants; none will transgress the limits of their particular district, even though offered the most tempting baits.†

* Nat. Lib. Mam. vol. x.

† The dogs of Lisbon, described by Surgeon Wilde, present a similar trait of character.

Nor is the Pariah devoid of courage. I recollect an anecdote, told, I think, by Captain Brown, on "Oriental Field Sports," of a Pariah that was cast into a tiger's cage, to serve that animal for a meal, seizing his monstrous enemy by the nose whenever he approached, and by his spirited conduct inspiring the tiger with such respect, that it not only ceased attempting to destroy, but actually conceived a strong attachment for the dog.

CHAPTER VII.

HOUNDS PROPERLY SO CALLED.

The Talbot.
 The Bloodhound.
 The Staghound.
 The Oriental Hound.
 The Foxhound.
 The Harrier.
 The Beagle.
 The Kerry Beagle.
 The Otterhound.

The Spanish Pointer.
 The Portuguese Pointer.
 The French Pointer.
 The Italian Pointer.
 The English Pointer.
 The Dalmatian, or Carriage Dog.
 The Russian Pointer.

TERRIERS.

The Russian Terrier.
 The Scottish.
 The Isle of Skye.
 The English.

The Maltese.
 The South American.
 The Turnspit.
 The Harlequin Terrier

THE TALBOT

Is, perhaps, the oldest of our slow hounds. He had a broad mouth; very deep chops; very long and large pendulous ears; was fine-coated, and not, as some write, "rough on the belly;" his color was usually a pure white. This was the hound formerly known as "St. Hubert's breed," and was distinct from the bloodhound, though by some confounded with that dog. It was remarkable for its deep and sonorous voice; and it was this hound of which Shakspeare was evidently thinking, when he wrote—

"My hounds are bred out of the Spartan kind,
 So flew'd, so sanded, and their heads are hung
 With ears that sweep away the morning's dew;
 Crook-kneed, and dew-lapp'd like Thessalian bulls;
 Slow in pursuit, but match'd in mouth like bells,
 Each under each."

This was the same with the old Southern hound, and not, as Colonel Smith seems to suppose, distinct from it.

THE BLOODHOUND.

It is probable that the Bloodhound sprung directly from the preceding dog, having originally been merely individual hounds selected from the pack of Talbots, on account of their superior scent or speed; or, perhaps, their accidentally being dark in color and less noisy of tongue, and from these circumstances less liable to be detected by the felon of whom they were in pursuit. The bloodhound is a



tall, showy hound; but, in a state of purity, seldom attains, and certainly never exceeds, twenty-eight inches in height at the shoulder—the average height is twenty-six inches for females, and twenty-seven for males. The ears are singularly long and pendulous, and should, in a perfect specimen, be within an inch or two of the animal's height, from tip to tip across the head. The great Landseer has immortalized the Bloodhound in many of his superb paintings. Among others, I may name his "Dignity and Impudence," representing a noble Bloodhound looking out from his kennel, in grave and dignified majesty; while a little wire-haired terrier is at his feet, apparently impudently growling at some approaching intruder. Those who have seen the originals of this painting have pronounced "Malvina," a beautiful

animal of the breed, bred by me, and recently in my own possession, but now the property of Robert Sproule, Esq., of Kildevin, to be greatly superior to the Bloodhound portrayed by Landseer. Malvina's sire, "Bevis," figured above, was likewise transferred to canvass by my friend C. Grey, who, as an animal painter, can be reckoned second only to the great master above-mentioned. Malvina stands twenty-six inches in height, and her ears measure twenty-five in extent, and upwards of five in breadth. The color of the Bloodhound is tan, or black and tan, like an English terrier; if white be present, the breed is impure. The jowl of the bloodhound is deep, and his air majestic and solemn. The vertex of the head is remarkably protuberant, and this protuberance is characteristic of high breeding. The Bloodhound is not, as Colonel Smith supposes, "silent while following the scent;" but he is certainly less noisy than other hounds, and only opens occasionally, and even then his bay is easily distinguished, after having once been heard, from that of every other description of dog.

It has been frequently suggested that the Bloodhound should be once more employed in tracing felons to their hiding-place. Many have objected to this, on the score of its supposed cruelty; but they are not, perhaps, aware that the British Bloodhound does not injure the object of his pursuit; he merely traces it to its lair, and then, by his loud baying, indicates its position to his human auxiliaries. I am, however, far from advocating any thing of the kind—I leave the matter where I found it, to be canvassed by others as they please.

In 1803, the "Thrapston Association"—a society formed in Northamptonshire for the suppression of felony—procured and trained a Bloodhound, for the detection of sheep-stealers. In order to prove the utility of the dog, a man was dispatched from a spot, where a great concourse of people were assembled, about ten o'clock, A. M., and an hour afterwards the hound was laid on the scent. After a chase of an hour and a half, the hound found the man secreted in a tree, many miles from the place of starting.

Mr. Boyle, in his "Treatise on Air," informs us that a person of quality, in order to ascertain whether a young Bloodhound had been well trained, caused one of his servants to walk to a town four miles off, and then to a market town three miles from thence. The dog, without seeing the man he was to pursue, followed him by the scent to the above-mentioned places, notwithstanding the multitude of market-people that

went along the same road, and of travellers that had occasion to cross it; and when he came to the chief market town, he passed through the streets without taking any notice of the people there. He ceased not till he had gone to the house where the man he sought rested himself, and where he found him in an upper room, to the wonder of those who had accompanied him in his pursuit.

The only modes of escaping the unerring scent of the bloodhound were crossing water or spilling blood upon the track. In the notes to the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," Sir W. Scott says,—“Barbour informs us that Robert Bruce was repeatedly tracked by sleuth-dogs.* On one occasion, he escaped by wading a bowshot down a brook, and thus baffled the scent. The pursuers came up—

“ ‘Rycht to the burn thai passyt ware,
But the sleuth-hound made slenting there,
And waveryt lang time ta and fra,
That he na certain gait couth ga;
Till at the last John of Lorn
Perseuvit the Hund the sleuth had borne.’

The Bruce, Book VII.

“A sure way of stopping the dog was to spill blood upon the track, which destroyed the discriminating fineness of his scent. A captive was sometimes sacrificed on such occasions. Henry the Minstrel tells us a romantic story of Wallace, founded on this circumstance. The hero's little band had been joined by an Irishman, named Fawdon, or Fadzean, a dark, savage, and suspicious character. After a sharp skirmish at Black Earnside, Wallace was forced to retreat with only sixteen followers. The English pursued with a border sleuth-brach, † or Bloodhound. In the retreat, Fawdon, tired, or affecting to be so, would go no farther. Wallace, having in vain argued with him, in hasty anger struck off his head, and continued the retreat. When the English came up, their hound stayed upon the dead body.”

THE STAGHOUND.

As the breed of English horses increased in swiftness, sportsmen found that it became necessary to increase in an equal ratio the speed of their hounds. From this circum-

* From sleuth, or slot—*track*, especially of blood.

† Literally, “*track-beagle*.”

stance, we have acquired the Staghound, a cross from the Talbot or old southern hound or bloodhound with some lighter stock, probably the greyhound—carefully bred back to the desired standard.

In stature, individual Staghounds frequently equal the bloodhound. Few packs, however, are to be met with exceeding an average of twenty-six inches; and twenty-five inches, at the fore-shoulder, is more near the general mark. In appearance, the Staghound is a half-bred bloodhound, and he certainly possesses one very striking peculiarity in common with that dog—viz., of pertinaciously adhering to the first scent on which he is laid.

The true Staghound has gradually died away since the days of George III.,* and has been replaced by a dog more nearly allied to the foxhound, and that for the very reason already adduced as having produced the Staghound itself—viz., a further increase of speed in the horses employed in the chase. Hunting having subsequently become steeple-chasing in disguise, even the old Staghound became too slow for modern taste, and he has accordingly been laid on the shelf. The foxhound has now become, literally, the “hound of all work.”

Representations of dogs, very like our Staghound, are found among ancient Egyptian paintings. We may fitly describe the dog indicated by them as the oriental hound.

THE ORIENTAL HOUND.

This hound is more like the staghound than the foxhound, differing from the latter dog in the greater height of its legs, and the shortness of its body.

Colonel Smith gives a figure of one of these dogs, “from a drawing made in Persia of one of several belonging to a Coordish chief.” (Nat. Lib. Mam., vol. x.)

These are said to possess so fine a nose as to be able to trace deer several hours after they have passed—a fineness of nose that, considering the heat of the climate, and consequent rapid evaporation of the particles of scent, indicate these dogs as superior in nose to any European hound—if, perhaps, we except the bloodhound. This is by some referred to the hound called the breed of St. Louis, from Palestine, to which our hounds owed much improvement from crossing.

In Wilkinson’s “Manners and Customs of the Egyptians,”

* An ardent admirer and patron of stag-hunting.

there is a representation given of a pack of these dogs, from which Mr. Jesse, (*Anecdotes of Dogs*, p. 305,) not being sufficiently acquainted with the subject to distinguish the staghound from the foxhound, takes occasion to argue that the latter dog is identical with the eastern hound, and consequently of very ancient, instead of, as he actually is, of comparatively modern origin. It is from this dog that the red hounds of the continent, used, in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, for hunting the wolf and boar, sprung; they had been brought thither from Palestine by St. Louis, in the thirteenth century: their principal characteristics were speed, bottom, and high courage; in general aspect they seem to have resembled our bloodhounds, but were rather lighter, and more like the staghound.

THE FOXHOUND

Appears to have been produced from the staghound by a cross of greyhound, and probably also of a terrier. He is less in size than the staghound; has smaller and less hound-like ears, which are also usually rounded off when young. The foxhound was unknown to us until within the last two hundred years.*

He is a bold, dashing hound, up to all sorts of sport, and having "more of the devil" in his composition than any of his congeners. He is now found so useful that he is made to supersede all other hounds, and is bred to size, &c., according to the sport for which he may be required. Fox-hunting is no longer hunting—it is nothing but steeple-chasing; and I cannot dwell upon it with any pleasure, when I reflect on the barbarities which spring from it, as it is now followed.

THE HARRIER.

This was a smaller hound than the preceding, exhibiting an appearance of higher breeding, and resembling a miniature of the old talbot. Its height averaged about eighteen inches; it was remarkable for possessing a delightful melody of voice, and for the leisurely and methodic manner in which it pursued its game. Hare-hunting was, when

* In the account of Queen Elizabeth's hunting establishment, no mention is made of the foxhound; and the first mention of him of which we read, is rather within the above period than beyond it.

managed thus, an amusement of almost a philosophic character, in following which, the mind had time to contemplate the efforts of one animal to elude pursuit, and of the other to frustrate those efforts. The Harrier is now, likewise, gone, having been wholly superseded by the foxhound; a dwarf variety of which dog is now bred for the purpose of hare-hunting,—an amusement which, I must add, is itself rapidly falling into disrepute, as not being sufficiently *exciting*. Fox-hunters are in the habit of characterizing hare-hunting as an amusement only fit for *ladies and elderly gentlemen!*

THE BEAGLE.

The Beagle, the brach of olden time, is the smallest of our hounds, and the most melodious in voice. The Beagle rarely exceeds fourteen inches in height, and, if less, is so much the more highly valued. I saw one some years ago, at Mr. Nolan's, Dublin, only seven inches in height at the shoulder, well-eared, and in every respect beautifully formed. Mr. Beere, of Drumcondra, possesses a specimen almost as diminutive.

These little hounds were well-known in Queen Bess's days, and that sovereign lady had little Beagles, called singing Beagles, so small that they could be placed in a man's glove! It was then quite of common occurrence that an entire pack of them should be carried to the field in a pair of panniers.

There are, and seem ever to have been, two varieties of Beagle—a rough and a smooth. The former seems to have been the dog noticed by Oppian, under the name of "*Agasæus*."

THE KERRY BEAGLE.

I introduce this hound here, although he should more properly have followed in the immediate steps of the staghound, in order to point out the absurdity of his name. The Kerry Beagle is a fine, tall, dashing hound, averaging twenty-six inches in height, and occasionally individual dogs attain to twenty-eight; has deep chops; broad, full, and pendulous ears; and, when highly bred, is hardly to be distinguished from an indifferent bloodhound. In Ireland alone do we find this hound. We have two packs—both in the South—one belonging to John O'Connell, Esq., of Killarney, and the other to H. Herbert, Esq., of Mucross. They appear to be the

genuine descendants of the old Southern hound, bred somewhat lighter, to suit modern taste, and are used exclusively for deer-hunting.

THE OTTER-HOUND

Mr. Jesse, in his "Anecdotes," has evidently mistaken this dog, and its peculiarities of conformation.

The Otter-hound appears to have sprung from a cross between the Southern hound and a rough terrier; at least so his appearance indicates. His head and ears are smooth, and the latter are very pendulous; while the neck, and the remainder of the body, are covered with coarse and wiry hair. The color of the Otter-hound is usually sandy red.

As the otter is no longer hunted with such form and ceremony as of old, the genuine Otter-hounds are fast becoming lost, and their place is supplied by the rough, wire-haired Scotch terrier, especially that breed called Skye terrier. A cross of the bull-dog is an improvement; and even ordinary bull-terriers are not to be despised, for when it comes to the death-tussel, the otter requires a game antagonist.

Attempts have frequently been made to breed or *make* Otter-hounds, resembling the ancient smooth-headed, rough-bodied sort, but without success; it having been found impossible to produce any but such as were either all rough, or all smooth. Otter-hunting certainly requires resolute dogs; but as the pursuit is now only followed to *destroy* this piscatory marauder, we need not be so very particular as to the *modus operandi*. The otter is no longer regarded as game, but branded as a felon, and his destruction hailed with delight.

THE SPANISH POINTER.

This is a large, big-boned hound, standing high on its legs, with very heavy ears, and a deep jowl. The Spanish Pointer is usually white, with occasionally some brown or red patches. He is remarkable for his stanchness, and for the facility with which he can be taught his duty. It appears to admit of no doubt that the pointer, and other setting-dogs, were originally hounds accustomed to trace their game by the scent, and then, *rushing in*, secure it; but, previous to this *rush*, it was natural to them to pause for a second or so to collect their energies for the spring. This momentary pause has been, by training, converted into a decided *stop*; and the

dog has been taught to suspend his intended rush, as it is the privilege of his master, and not himself, to finish the work the dog has only begun. Such is the hereditary instinct of the highly-bred Spanish Pointer, that a whelp, not more than five months old, has been known, when, without any previous training, brought for the first time into the field, to *point* steadily at lying game. I heard one instance, indeed, related of a whelp of this age, and under such circumstances as I describe, actually *backing its dam in her point*. This sounds strange; but the party to whom I am indebted for the anecdote, is not merely a thorough sportsman, but a thorough gentleman, whose word is beyond suspicion.

The Spanish Pointer is apparently a dog of very ancient extraction; but not, as his name would imply, of *Spanish* origin—at least not remotely so; for the primitive breed is traceable to the East. Indeed some ancient Egyptian figures, published by Cailland, distinctly represent a dog, beyond question of this variety, in the act of pointing. The old Spanish Pointer is, when perfectly thoroughbred, remarkable as possessing a *cleft nose*, similar to the Russian variety, presently to be described.

This dog was found too heavy for the ardor of British sportsmen, and, with the old Talbot, or Manchester hound, sunk gradually into disuse; and has since become supplanted by a lighter, more active, and energetic dog, better suited to the tastes of our eager countrymen, viz., the English Pointer.

THE PORTUGUESE POINTER

Is lighter than the Spanish; has a feathered tail; is unsteady and quarrelsome; and by no means to be commended.

THE FRENCH POINTER

Wants the stanchness of our English dog. He is less objectionable than the variety just described, but still *not the thing*.

THE ITALIAN POINTER.

I thus name a dwarf variety of pointer that I formerly described in the "Sportsman." This is a perfect miniature variety of a very highly-bred English pointer, seldom exceeding one foot in height. I saw one about twelve years ago, in possession of Stewart Menteith, Esq., of Closeburn, Dumfriesshire,

and another about the same time, in possession of Mr. Mather, an artist, resident in Edinburgh. These little dogs had exquisite noses, and would set game as stanchly as any other pointer, but were, of course, too small for field use.

THE ENGLISH POINTER.

This has evidently been produced by a cross between the Spanish variety and the foxhound; and it is to this circumstance that we are to attribute his energy and fire.

The English Pointer is remarkable for his extraordinary stanchness. Pluto and Juno, property of the celebrated Colonel Thornton, stood for an hour and a quarter in the act of pointing, without moving during the entire of that time, while they were being drawn and painted by the late eminent artist, Mr. Gilpin.

A well-trained Pointer is very valuable, and will fetch a high price. *Dash*, a fine pointer, also belonging to Colonel Thornton, was sold for £160 worth of champagne and Burgundy, one hogshead of claret, an elegant gun, and another Pointer, with the proviso, that if any accident should at any time disable the dog, he was to be returned to the colonel, at the price of £50! (Sportsman's Repos.)

The following anecdote proves the perfection of training to which Pointers may be brought by proper discipline. A friend of Mr. Jesse's "went out shooting with a gentleman celebrated for the goodness of his breed: they took the field with eight of these dogs. If one pointed, all the rest immediately backed steadily. If a partridge was shot, they all dropped to charge, and whichever dog was called to bring the bird, the rest never stirred till they were told to do so." (Anec. Dogs., p. 283.)

A Pointer hates a bad shot; my old friend Captain Brown relates the following capital anecdote. A gentleman having requested the loan of a Pointer dog from a friend, was informed by him that the dog would behave very well so long as he could kill his birds; but if he frequently missed them, the dog would run home and leave him. The Pointer was accordingly sent, and the following day was fixed for trial; but, unfortunately, his new master happened to be a remarkably bad shot. Bird after bird rose and was fired at, but still pursued its flight untouched, till at last the dog became careless, and often missed his game. As if seemingly willing, however, to give one chance more, he made a dead stop at a fern bush,

with his nose pointed downward, the forefoot bent, and the tail straight and steady. In this position he remained firm till the sportsman was close to him, with both barrels cocked; then moving steadily forward for a few paces, he at last stood still near a bunch of heather, the tail expressing the anxiety of the mind by moving regularly backwards and forwards. At last, out sprung a fine old blackcock. Bang, bang, went both barrels—but the bird escaped unhurt. The patience of the dog was now quite exhausted, and, instead of dropping to charge, he turned boldly round, placed his tail between his legs, gave one howl, long and loud, and set off as fast as he could to his own home.

Pointers have been known to go out by themselves in search of game, and if they *found*, to return for their master, and, by gestures, induce him to take his gun, and follow them to the spot.

The comparative merits of Pointer and Setter have been made the subject of considerable controversy. Much may be said on both sides, and I shall myself have a few words to say when I come to treat of the latter dog.

THE DALMATIAN, OR CARRIAGE DOG.*

This is a very handsome dog, in every respect similar to the pointer. It is not, in its present state, remarkable for sagacity or fineness of scent; but these deficiencies may have arisen from the disuse of its natural powers through so many generations. One instance of a Dalmatian having been broken to the gun, fell, some years ago, under my own observation, and the dog proved himself worthy of his training. Colonel Smith figures a large and showy dog as the supposed original of the Dalmatian. His figure is taken from a print published at Cadiz a number of years ago. The original had been brought from India. This figure is, however, very dissimilar from our carriage-dog, and resembles far more the tiger-hound, already described.

THE RUSSIAN POINTER.

This dog is covered with coarse, wiry hair, like the Russian terrier. He is somewhat less in stature than the ordinary pointer, and is lower in the shoulder. His nose is *cleft*,

* This is a perfectly distinct variety from the *Great Dane*, and by no means to be confounded with him.

hence he is frequently called the "double-nosed pointer." He is very stanch, and is held in deservedly high estimation; but I have been given to understand that his temper is unyielding, and that he requires great care and caution in training. When a good dog of this breed is well and thoroughly broken in, he is considered very valuable, and fetches a long price.

The prevailing opinion among sportsmen is, that the Russian Pointer requires fresh training, to a certain extent, at the commencement of each season; but so, indeed, do most of his smooth-coated brethren.

THE TERRIERS.

THE RUSSIAN TERRIER.

THE Terriers are a very hardy race of dogs, full of courage and spirit. They will face any thing, no matter what may be the disparity of size, and will fight with the greatest vigor and fury.

The Russian Terrier exceeds his brethren in size and strength, frequently attaining to the height of twenty-six inches at the shoulder. He stands high and straight on his legs, and is not altogether unlike the mastiff in general form; but is lighter and more active. Two well-sized dogs are considered sufficient to grapple with an ordinary wolf, and half a dozen are more than enough to puzzle a bear. The Russian Terrier is in considerable request in Scotland as a watch-dog—a post for which he is eminently qualified, uniting, as he does, the force of the mastiff with the vigilance of the Terrier. He is also a good and willing water-dog, and is, on this account, a valuable auxiliary in otter-hunting. He would make a good retriever; but, unfortunately, is of too fierce a temper, will not bear the whip, and is what sportsmen term *hard-mouthed*—being given to injure the game with his teeth. The color of the Russian Terrier is usually black and tan; but the largest dogs of the breed that I have seen were of a reddish-brown color. I saw two dogs of this color about ten years ago, in Edinburgh, one of which measured twenty-seven, and the other twenty-eight inches in height at the shoulder—equal also in bulk and bone to some mastiffs. These are known also in Germany, where they are called "boar-searchers."

THE SCOTCH TERRIER.

There are two varieties of the common Scotch Terrier. One which stands rather high on his legs, is usually of a sandy-red color, and very strongly made—he stands about eighteen or twenty inches in height, and is commonly called the “Highland terrier.” The other is lower, long-backed, and short-legged; hair more wiry, but not so long as in the former; mouth also not so broad, and muzzle longer. This latter variety is the dog celebrated by Sir W. Scott as the Pepper and Mustard, or Dandie Dinmont breed. Francis Carter, Esq., the same gentleman of whom I have already spoken as possessing the deerhounds, has a pair of beautiful little Dinmont terriers—about the best, the dog especially, that I have ever seen.

THE SKYE TERRIER,

So called from its being found in greatest perfection in the Western Isles of Scotland, and the Isle of Skye in par-



ticular, somewhat resembles the preceding, but is even longer in the body, lower on the legs, and is covered with very long, but not coarse hair; its ears are erect, and tufted at the extremities. All the Scotch terriers are “varmint” in the extreme, and are on this account great favorites with young gentlemen when home for the holidays, being equalled by no other breed of dog in the ardor with which they hunt and destroy the rat, cat, weasel—in short, every thing that has

fight in it; and, lacking other game, they will gladly and fiercely engage in combat with each other.

THE ENGLISH TERRIER,

A light, active, and graceful little dog, usually of a black and tan color—and those of this tint are the best—but sometimes white. If black and tan, they should not present a speck of white; and if white, they should be entirely of that color.

The English Terrier is, in combat, as game as the Scotch, but less hardy in enduring cold or constant immersion in water. It appears most probable that the rough or Scotch breed was the primitive stock, and that the smooth or English varieties are the result of artificial culture. A small, well-marked English Terrier, under seven pounds weight, will, "if as *good* as he looks," fetch from five to ten guineas. The celebrated dog "Billy," who killed the hundred rats in less than five minutes, was a white English Terrier, with a dark patch on the side of his head.

THE MALTESE.

This is by some naturalists classed with the spaniels; but in the form of its skull, in its erect ears, rough muzzle, and determination in the pursuit of vermin, it presents characteristics sufficient to induce me to place it in the present group. It is usually black, but sometimes white—in any case it should be but of one color. An uncle of mine had one named ironically "Lion," who, although under five pounds weight, killed an enormous rat in a few seconds, in my presence, in the Hill-street Baths, Edinburgh.

This dog was well known to the ancients, is figured on many Roman monuments, and was described by Strabo. His small size, and want of strength in proportion to his courage, have, however, long reduced this spirited little dog to the condition of a mere lapdog; and as he has been superseded by, perhaps, prettier, and at all events more easily obtained pets, he has now become almost extinct. Landseer has, not long since, introduced one into a splendid painting, as, "The Last of his Race."

THE SOUTH AMERICAN TERRIER

Is something like the preceding, but less hairy, and with a more pointed muzzle. It is remarkable as being a keen de-

stroyer of serpents—avoiding their bite, and with a rapid spring seizing the reptile by the back of the head, and crushing it in an instant. If an eel be shown to one of these dogs, he will act in the same manner as if it were a serpent, and will speedily dispatch it. I have only seen one of these dogs, and saw nothing about it to recommend it, except as being somewhat rare in Britain.

THE MEXICAN PRAIRIE DOG.

This is about the smallest of the canine family. In aspect he resembles a minute English terrier, but his head is somewhat disproportioned to his general bulk. I have been told that these animals burrow in the prairies of their native land, like marmots; I am not, however, satisfied as to the fact, and would, at all events, observe that these dogs are on no account to be confounded with the little animals so common in North America, and known (of course erroneously, as these latter animals do not belong to the dog tribe at all) under the same name. There are some specimens of this curious breed of dog in Dublin; amongst which I may mention one in possession of Mr. Desmond, of Drumcondra Hill.

THE TURNSPIT.

This dog, although evidently a mongrel, is nearer to the terriers than any thing else, and on this account I describe him among them. He is a small, long-backed, cross-made dog, with the fore legs bent, first inwards and then outwards; he is frequently pied, or glaucous-colored, like the Great Danish dog, and the harlequin terrier, next to be described. Formerly his use was to turn a wheel, on which depended the spit which roasted the meat in the kitchen. Fortunately for humanity, mechanical contrivances have, in these countries at least, superseded the necessity of thus torturing a poor dog; and accordingly the Turnspit, his occupation being gone, is himself rapidly passing into oblivion. I have seen dogs in Scotland, resembling the Turnspit, called "bowsy terriers," that were remarkable for their combative powers; I conceived them to be a cross between the old Turnspit and the low-legged Scotch terrier.

THE HARLEQUIN TERRIER.

Whatever be the origin of this little dog, it is now a recog-

nised variety ; and from its extreme beauty, both of form and color, combined with all such qualities as terriers should possess, developed in the highest degree of perfection, it is richly deserving of being cultivated. In form, it is, as it were, a *perfect* English terrier ; in color, it is bluish slate-color, marked with darker blotches and patches, and often with tan about the legs and muzzle. It is one of the most determined of its race, and is surpassed by none in the skill and activity with which it pursues and catches its game, and the resolution with which it battles with and destroys it. I have seen lately a beautiful pair and some puppies, in possession of Mr. Nolan, of Bachelor's-walk, Dublin ; and the Rev. Mr. Wilcocks, of Palmerstown, has also long been famous for this breed of dogs ; I believe Mr. Wilcocks was the first to introduce them into this country, but whence they originally came, I know not.

In former times, a brace of terriers used to accompany every pack of foxhounds, for the sake of unkenning Reynard, in the event of his taking to earth. This attendance has long been discontinued, as being no longer necessary, the fox being now run into too rapidly to admit of his giving the gallant terriers this trouble ; some recent writers do not appear aware of this circumstance, but gravely furnish us with long extracts from Daniel, &c., relative to this now obsolete practice.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND GROUP, OR WOLF-DOGS.

I AM compelled thus arbitrarily to give, perhaps, an undeserved name to the present group, but it is the only one by means of which I can accurately indicate the family of dogs to which I refer. The individuals of which this group is composed, bear, all of them, a greater or less resemblance to the wolf, in erect or semi-erect ears—in long and shaggy coats, and bushy tails. The Newfoundland dog is fully entitled to be placed at the head of the group ; from his being better known than the others, from his greater beauty, his sagacity, nobility of nature and disposition, his utility to man-

kind, and the high degree of estimation in which he is held in every part of the world where he is known.

Those who have grouped these dogs with the Spaniels, are in error, for they possess none of the characteristics of that group.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND DOG.

The true breed of Newfoundland is a dog of moderate stature, seldom exceeding twenty-six or twenty-seven inches in height; long-bodied, broad-chested, shaggy coat, pointed, wolf-



ish muzzle, ears small, and inclined to be semi-erect; color usually black, with a shade of brown through it, and occasionally some white. There is another breed of dog peculiar to Newfoundland; short-coated, and sharp-nosed—an excellent water-dog, by some mistaken for the true Newfoundland breed.

The large dogs, usually known as Newfoundland in this country, are evidently the result of a cross with the mastiff. They are a fine showy animal, but less sagacious, less active, and more apt to display irregularity of temper than the original breed; these often attain the height of thirty inches.*

* These large dogs are rapidly becoming the *peculiar* breed of Newfoundland, and dogs of this sort are gladly *imported*, whereas our Newfoundland friends have now little or nothing but *curs* to offer in return.

In his native country, the Newfoundland dog meets with worse than indifferent treatment; during winter, he is ill-fed, and most severely worked; his employment consisting of drawing heavy loads of timber—an employment so severe, that many dogs are worn out, and perish from exhaustion, before winter is over. When summer approaches, and the occupation of the natives changes to fishing, the poor dogs are turned adrift, to shift for themselves.

The origin of this dog is questionable, but I am disposed to trace him to a large European variety, still in use among the Norwegians, for the chase of the bear and wolf. It is now well known that the original discovery of Newfoundland is to be attributed to the Norwegians, who, before the year 1000, sailed from Greenland on a voyage of discovery, and that the same people discovered North America some time between the tenth and eleventh centuries.—*Lond. Geogr. Jour.* vol. viii. At the same time, I have no wish to deny that this breed of dogs may have been since modified, by crossing with the Esquimaux and Labrador varieties.

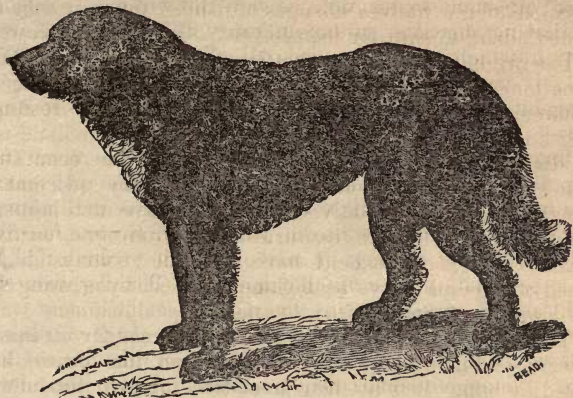
The Newfoundland dog has long been famed for his aquatic powers, and many human lives have, from time to time, been saved by him. It is not long since ten of the true breed were imported into Paris, and employed in watching the banks of the Seine—experienced trainers being daily employed in teaching them to draw, from the water, stuffed figures of men and children: handsome kennels have been erected for them on the bridges, and they have already proved their utility, in saving a number of poor perishing human creatures from a watery death. I recollect a noble dog of this breed, the property of Professor Dunbar, of Edinburgh, which was accustomed to go out with the young people, in the capacity of a protector, and a most efficient one he proved himself, suffering neither man nor brute to approach his charge. This dog, also, was accustomed to apply to the bell at his master's gate, when it happened to be shut, and he desired admittance. The true Newfoundland dog has been frequently used as a retriever, and is remarkable for his fearless manner of penetrating the thickest cover. I shall close my account of the Newfoundland, with the following lines from Lord Byron's beautiful epitaph on his favorite "Boatswain:"—

"The poor dog! in life the firmest friend,
The first to welcome, foremost to defend;
Whose honest heart is still his master's own—
Who labors, fights, lives, breathes for him alone."

The true breed is about twenty-six inches in height at the shoulder.

THE LABRADOR DOG.

This is a much larger animal than the preceding, standing from twenty eight to thirty inches in height ; his muzzle is



shorter and more truncated, the upper lip more pendulous, the coat coarser, and the whole dog presenting far more marks of great strength than the Newfoundland.

The following are the measurements of a dog of this breed, given in "Knight's Weekly Volume :"—"Total length, including the tail, six feet three inches ; height at the shoulder, two feet six inches ; length of head from occiput to point of nose, eleven inches ; circumference of chest, three feet one inch. In Labrador, these large dogs are used in drawing sledges loaded with wood, and are of great service to the settlers."

The finest specimen of the Labrador dog that I have ever seen, is Rollo, property of Lady Bellew, lady of Sir Patrick Bellew, of Barmeth, whose baronetcy is the oldest in Ireland. Rollo stands above twenty-nine inches in height at the shoulder. As we have given a faithful portrait of him, description is unnecessary.

THE LABRADOR SPANIEL, OR LESSER LABRADOR DOG.

This dog presents an appearance intermediate between the Newfoundland dog and the Land Spaniel ; he is generally

called by the above name, but whether or not he is fully entitled to it, is in my judgment at least questionable. These dogs are remarkable for their diving powers. I saw one some years ago with an officer, who was quartered at Portobello Barracks, Dublin, which dived repeatedly to the bottom of the canal, between the *locks*, when full of water, and fetched up such stones, &c., as were thrown in. I subjoin the following anecdote, on the authority of Saunders's Newsletter, in which paper it appeared, of date September 21, 1846. I can only observe, that if strictly true, it places the sagacity and gratitude of this dog in a most interesting light:—

“PEELER, THE DOG OF THE POLICE.—During the recent investigation relative to the manner in which the policeman came by his death at Kingstown, a little active and inquisitive dog, of the Labrador breed, was seen from time to time during each day running in and out of the room as if he took a personal interest in the inquiry. The dog was admired, and a gentleman in the police establishment was asked to whom it belonged. ‘Oh,’ said he, ‘don’t you know him? we thought every one knew Peeler, the dog of the police.’ The gentleman then proceeded to give the interrogator the history of this singular dog. It appeared from the story, that a few years ago poor little Peeler tempted the canine appetite of a Mount St. Bernard, or Newfoundland dog, and was in peril of being swallowed up by him for a luncheon, when a policeman interposed, and with a blow of his baton, levelled the assailant, and rescued the assailed. From that time ‘Peeler’ has united his fortunes with those of the police; wherever they go, he follows; whether pacing with measured tread the tedious ‘beat,’ or engaged in the energetic duty of arresting a disturber of the public peace. He is a self-constituted general-superintendent of the police, visiting station after station, and after he has made his observations in one district, wending his way to the next. He is frequently seen to enter a third class carriage at the Kingstown Railway, get out at Black Rock, visit the police station there, continue his tour of inspection to Booterstown, reach there in time for the train as before, and go on to Dublin to take a peep at the ‘metropolitans;’ and having satisfied himself that ‘all is right,’ return by an early evening train to Kingstown. He sometimes takes a dislike to an individual, and shuns him as anxiously as he wags his tail at the approach, and frisks about the feet of another for whom

he has a regard. There is one man in the force for whom he has this antipathy; and a day or two ago, seeing him in 'the train,' he left the carriage, and waited for the next, preferring a delay of half an hour, to such company; and when the bell rang, with the eagerness with which protracted joy is sought, he ran to his accustomed seat in 'the third class.' His partiality for the police is extraordinary; wherever he sees a man in the garb of a constable, he expresses his pleasure by walking near him, rubbing against and dancing about him; nor does he forget him in death, for he was at his post in the funeral of Daly, the policeman who was killed in Kingstown. He is able to recognise a few in plain clothes, but they must have been old friends of his. Wherever he goes, he gets a crust, a piece of meat, a pat on the head, or a rub down upon his glossy back, from the hand of a policeman; and he is as well known among the body as any man in it. We have heard of the dog of Montargis, the soldier's dog, the blind beggar's dog, and the dog of the monks of St. Bernard, and been delighted by stories of their fidelity and sagacity, but none are more interesting than 'Peeler, the dog of the Police,' 'whose heart, enlarged with gratitude to one, grows bountiful to all.' "

THE ITALIAN OR PYRENEAN WOLF-DOG,

Called, also, the Calabrian, and shepherd's dog of the Abruzzo. These dogs stand about twenty-nine or thirty inches in height at the shoulder, are usually of a white color, with one or two patches of a buff or tan color on the head or sides; the ears are not hairy, and are half erect; when pendent, you may suspect a cross of Newfoundland; the tail is very bushy, and is carried, in a curl, close over the back; the nose is pointed, and the general aspect of the head wolfish. They are the sheep-dogs of the Italian and Spanish shepherds, but they are rather guardians than herd-dogs. The chief occasion of their usefulness is in summer, when the wolves are abundant on the hills, but are of less value in winter, when the shepherds with their flocks descend into the plains.

Doctor Barker, of Cumberland-street, Dublin, had lately a very fine specimen of the Pyrenean wolf-dog, since, however, unfortunately, deceased. - This dog has been very strangely confounded, by Mr. Youatt, with the old Irish wolf-dog. At page 66, under the head of the "Italian or

Pomeranian Wolf-dog," he says—"The Wolf-dog is no longer a native of Great Britain, because his services are not required there, but he is useful in various parts of the Continent, in the protection of the sheep from the attacks of the wolf." Mr. Youatt is also incorrect in calling this the "Pomeranian"—the true Pomeranian being, as I shall show, a very different animal. At page 40, speaking of the Irish wolf-dog, Mr. Youatt again confounds him with the dog at present under consideration. I shall have to advert to more mistakes Mr. Youatt has made relative to the varieties of dog; and I am sorry to be compelled to do so, his volume being so valuable for its physiological and pathological details.

THE POMERANIAN DOG,

By some writers confounded with the last described, is a small dog, of usually a white color. In stature, it is under twenty inches at the shoulder; its ears are *perfectly* erect, like those of a fox, and the tail is not *fringed* like that of the Pyrenean dog, but bushed *all round* like that of the fox. This is often called the "fox-dog," from its resemblance to that animal.

There is a small Chinese variety of dog, so closely resembling the Pomeranian, (except in color, being usually yellow or black,) that they cannot be distinguished from one another. I knew an officer in Edinburgh, about ten or twelve years ago, who had in his possession two of these Chinese dogs, one of which was remarkable for his combative powers, frequently conquering dogs of treble his own size and force.*

THE HARE INDIAN DOG.

First described by Dr. Richardson, and found by that eminent naturalist on the Mackenzie River. It is of small size, and slenderly made, with broad, erect ears, sharp at the tips; the tail is pendent, with a slight curve upwards, near the tip. These resemble the preceding dog in size, and somewhat in appearance, and their resemblance to the fox is also consider-

* These are the dogs used as food by the natives. There are regular dog-butchers in most of the Chinese towns, and dog's flesh, especially roasted, is held in high esteem. It is not long since, that not only was "roasted dog" regarded as the very quintessence of good living, but that, like "lively turtle" among us, its promised appearance at the board was regularly announced as an attraction to the invited guests.

able. One which Dr. Richardson had in his possession, and which was accustomed to follow his sledge, was killed and eaten by one of his Indian guides, who stated that he mistook it for a fox. - The feet of this dog are large, spread, and thickly clothed with fur, in consequence of which he can run upon the snow with rapidity and ease, without sinking. In their native country, these dogs never bark ; in confinement they do

THE "MAILED" DOG.

It would be, perhaps, somewhat negligent, on my part, were I not to describe, in this place, a very curious-looking dog, apparently belonging to the Esquimaux, or Greenland breed, lately exhibited in London, and since figured and described in *The Pictorial Times*. This dog was completely clothed in *plated armor*, composed of some kind of horny substance, the result, I imagine, of a depraved growth of hair. I did not see this dog myself, or perhaps I might be able to speak more decidedly as to the real nature of his very singular clothing : perhaps it was the result of a disease analogous to that terrible one occasionally presented in human creatures, and known as "Plique Polonaise," (Polish plait.) Of course it is unnecessary for me to remark, that this appearance is merely accidental, and that no known variety of dog possesses habitually such a covering.

THE ESQUIMAUX DOG.

About the size of a large Newfoundland ; hair long, *straight*, and coarse ; tail bushy, curling over the back ; ears erect and pointed : in general aspect he closely resembles the wolf. This is a remarkably good-tempered and intelligent animal ; in his native country, I need scarcely inform my readers that he answers the purposes of a horse, being employed in draught. They are active, swift, and enduring.

THE SIBERIAN DOG

Is large, wolfish, and powerful. The ears are rounded at the tips, like those of a bear ; the color is usually grayish, and the tail resembles a fox's brush.

THE KAMTSCHATKA DOG

Is like the preceding, but smaller, and the tips of the ears drop. These dogs are remarkable for instinctively returning to their master at the period when they are annually required

for the sledge. They are generally badly used by their unfeeling masters, and appear conscious of it, and anxious for vengeance, not unfrequently purposely overturning the sledge.

THE ICELAND DOG.

About the size of the Kamtschatkan, but coated and coloured like the Esquimaux. It is said by Colonel H. Smith to have been brought to Iceland by the Norwegians, and he supposes it to have been originally obtained from the Skrelings, or Esquimaux, by the adventurers who first visited Greenland.

THE GREENLAND DOG.

This is a variety of the Esquimaux, but is smaller. Its colors are usually gray and white. It is very hardy, and enduring, and five of these dogs will draw a heavily-laden sledge, at a rapid rate.

THE LAPLAND DOG

Is thus described by Clarke, ("Scandinavia," vol. i. page 432:)—"We had a valuable companion in a dog belonging to one of the boatmen. It was of the true Lapland breed, and in all respects similar to a wolf, excepting the tail, which was bushy and curled, like those of the Pomeranian race. This dog, swimming after the boat, if his master merely waved his hand, would cross the lake as often as he pleased, carrying half his body and the whole of his head and tail out of the water. Wherever he landed, he scoured all the long grass by the side of the lake, in search of wild fowl, and came back to us, bringing wild ducks in his mouth to the boat, and then, having delivered his prey to his master, he would instantly set off again in search of more."

THE SHEPHERD'S DOG, OR COLLEY.

The genuine original Shepherd's dog is now nearly altogether confined to Scotland, where he is called the "Colley." He stands about twenty-one inches in height at the shoulder; is very gracefully shaped; muzzle pointed; ears half erect; coat long, but fine and silky; tail and hams fringed with hair, color usually black and tan, or sandy yellow.

This animal is remarkable for his sagacity; and his disposition to tend sheep appears to be inherent and hereditary. The late lamented Hogg, better known as the "Ettrick Shep

herd," had a dog of this breed, named *Sirrah*, to whom, from his extraordinary intelligence, one would almost be disposed



to allow the possession of reason. Mr. Hogg has immortalized his favorite; and perhaps the following anecdote may not prove uninteresting to the reader:—

One night, a large flock of lambs that were under the shepherd's charge, startled at something, scampered away in three different directions across the hills, despite his efforts to keep them together. "Sirrah," said the shepherd, "they're awa!"

It was too dark for dog and master to see each other at any distance apart; but "Sirrah" understood him, and set off after the fugitives. The night passed on, and Hogg and his assistant traversed every neighboring hill in anxious but fruitless search, but could hear nothing of either lambs or dog; and he was returning to his master with the doleful intelligence that his charge were lost. "On our way home, however," says he, "we discovered a lot of lambs at the bottom of a deep ravine, called the 'Flesh Cleuch,' and the indefatigable Sirrah standing in front of them, looking round for some relief, but still true to his charge."

THE SHEPHERD'S DOG OF ENGLAND

Is larger and stronger than the preceding, and has much of the appearance of a cross with the great rough water-dog.

It is coarser in the muzzle and in coat, and is destitute of tail. In sagacity, however, I believe it is fully equal to its more northern relative.

THE SHEPHERD'S DOG OF FRANCE.

This dog is not to be confounded with the *MATIN*. He resembles, in form, size, and disposition, the common sheep-dog of England, and, like that animal, usually possesses little or no tail. Mr. Whyte Baker has favored me with the following interesting notice of this dog:—"In France, where, from the absence of fences, the dogs are placed in care of the various flocks, it is usual for these animals, at the bidding of their master, to keep ranging round their charge, from flock to flock, till he calls them off again. In one case this was forgotten, and the faithful animal continued his rounds till he died of the fatigue!—a parallel case among animals to the celebrated one among the human kind, of the French admiral's son in the ship 'Orient,' at the Battle of the Nile—the theme of Mrs. Heman's beautiful song, 'Casabianca.'"

THE DROVER'S DOG

Is larger than the colley, and seems to have sprung from a cross with the lurcher. He is as sagacious as the shepherd's dog, but more courageous; and will pin and pull down a bullock in a moment, if directed to do so by his master.

THE CUR-DOG

Is the colley *mongrelized*. He is a bully and a coward, and is very fond of running after the heels of a horse; but, with all his faults, is the best watch-dog in existence, and is, on that account, valuable to the poor cottager, of whose humble dwelling he is ever a faithful guardian.

CHAPTER IX.

THE SPANIELS.

THE beautiful race at which we are now arrived, is one of especial celebrity; and is peculiarly endeared to us from the

many intellectual and moral qualities by which it is characterized, and from its sagacity and affection. As the shepherd's dog is the faithful friend of those in the humbler walks of life, so are the Spaniels to "chiefs and ladies bright"—to the gentler sex, *par excellence*, and to those high in "honor and in place." Examples of the good qualities of these dogs are everywhere notorious. As the shepherd's dog represents the "utile," so may these represent the "dulce." The former, the rough and honest comrade of the rough and honest peasant—the latter, the associate of luxurious courtiers, and of powerful princes; but still, though moving amidst tinsel and falsehood, never losing the primitive honesty and purity of intention which characterizes its disposition.

Spaniels are of several sub-varieties, amongst which I may enumerate

THE SETTER, OR LAND-SPANIEL.

This *Spaniel* was first broken in to *set* partridges, and other feathered game, as an assistant to the *net*, by Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, A. D. 1335; and Mr. Daniel, in "Rural Sports," gives a copy of a document, dated 1685, in which a yeoman binds himself, for ten shillings, to teach a *Spaniel* to *set* partridges and pheasants. That the Setter and the old original Land-spaniel are identical, there can, therefore, be no doubt.

There are several varieties of Setter. The ordinary old English Setter, with rather a square head and heavy chops, looking as if he had a dash of Spanish pointer in him; color usually liver and white. The Irish Setter, narrower in the head, finer in the muzzle, usually of a dun or yellow color. This is a dog in very high esteem; no trace of the pointer is seen in him. These are the genuine, unmixed descendants of the original Land-spaniel; and so highly valued are they, that a hundred guineas is by no means an unusual price for a single dog. A very superior breed of these dogs, belonging to Sir John Blunden, Bart., of Castle Blunden, in the County Kilkenny, is described and figured in a work published some time ago, by Jennings, London. There was also a celebrated breed of these dogs—now, I believe, extinct—kept by that ancient and noble Irish family, the O'Conors of Offaly: those belonging to the late Maurice O'Connor were highly renowned, and the breed is described by his grandson as yet remaining.

The Scotch Setter stands high on his legs; is usually black and tan in color; has the apex of the skull very prominent;

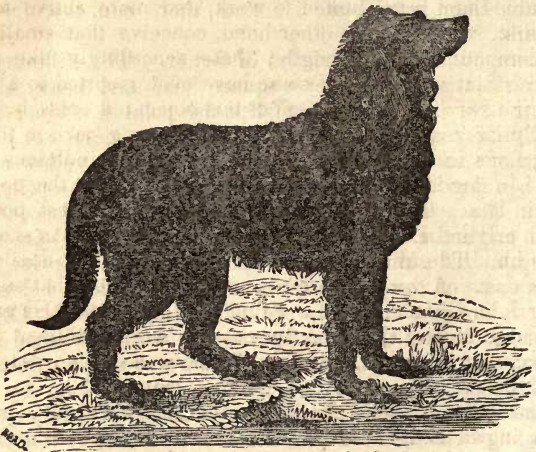
the hair long and silky ; the tail well fringed and fan-like , and is altogether a very beautiful dog . He is somewhat quarrelsome, however, and of a forgetful disposition ; whence he is not only hard to break, but, in general, requires a repetition of the lesson at the commencement of each season.

The black Setter is a scarce dog ; very beautiful and very staunch . I saw lately a superb brace in Dublin, the property of Mr. Maziere.

The Setter is by some sportsmen preferred to the pointer, and where water is to be got at occasionally, during a day's shooting, there can be no doubt of his superiority . He cannot, however, work without a drink so long as the pointer can, although if he can obtain a sufficient supply, he can work still longer than that dog . In disposition, the Setter is more affectionate and more attached to his master, individually, than the pointer is . He requires more training than the latter dog ; but that training must be of a very mild and gentle description, lest the dog be *blinked* or spirit-broken.

THE WATER-SPANIEL.

The genuine Water-spaniel is strongly and compactly formed ; the nose fine ; the forehead high ; apex of the head



very prominent, and furnished with a tuft or top-knot of hair ; ears very long, and deeply fringed ; color brown ; coat curl.

ed all over the body, in close, crisp curls; the *tail not fringed*, but covered with close curls to the point. The smallest speck of white may be regarded as indicative of foul breeding.

There is also a *black Water-spaniel*. I saw several in Edinburgh, but I do not find them common anywhere else. Some (and Mr. Youatt amongst others) describe two varieties of Water-spaniel—a large and a small; but the fact is, that we might describe *two dozen* varieties—the variations depending on size and color only, the results of whims or fancies on the part of breeders, who, resorting to crosses, have produced so many aberrations from the pure and original breed, which is that I have just described.

The Water-spaniel, however, is much improved in beauty by intermixture with the *land* variety. A female of this kind named “Duck,” which we have figured, is in possession of Mr. Macneil, the well-known and justly-esteemed musical instrument maker, Capel-street, (Dublin,) and is one of the most beautiful and affectionate creatures I have ever seen. Macneil reflects credit on “Irish manufacture;” but I presume that he and his establishment are too well known to require further eulogy. Many prefer a medium, or even small-sized Water-spaniel, and I confess that I am of this number, as I conceive them better suited to work, and more active as retrievers. Some, on the other hand, conceive that small size is incompatible with strength; these accordingly take pains to breed large dogs, and some have even resorted to a cross with the Newfoundland to effect this object; a cross is, however, unnecessary—all that is requisite being care in the selection of such whelps as are to be reared, and judicious pairing. In proof of this assertion, I may mention the dogs of Justin Macarthy, Esq., of Dublin, of the highest possible blood, and at the same time little inferior to mastiffs in size and strength. The Water-spaniel is, I think, the most docile and affectionate of the canine race, and the best dog that such as require him as a companion could possibly keep. He can be trained to do any thing but speak—an accomplishment itself, indeed, that was, to a limited extent, possessed some years ago by a spaniel in Germany, (Leibnitz, Opera, 1768.)

The Water-spaniel is of considerable antiquity, having been known to the Romans, as we find him figured on many of their monuments. Colonel H. Smith regards it as identical with the “*Canis Tuscus*,” praised by Nemesian.

Some years ago this dog was in great repute in Dublin

In those days, duck-hunting was a favorite amusement; it used to be practised in the "brackish canal," near the north wall, and the brown Water-spaniel was found superior to all other dogs at this sport; further, he was *soft*-mouthed, and did not injure the duck when he succeeded in capturing her, consequently, the same unfortunate bird answered for a second hunt. Among many other improvements that have characterized the present generation, I may observe that this inhuman sport is no longer permitted.

THE COCKER

Is in appearance a diminutive land-spaniel, but with a shorter muzzle, a more rounded head, and longer ears. He is a lively, amusing little dog, and a great favorite with the fair sex. The use of the Cocker is to spring woodcocks and pheasants in copses and thickets which larger dogs cannot enter.

THE SPRINGER

Is the same with the cocker, but of somewhat larger size and heavier form. He is less lively in his movements, takes matters more coolly, and can, consequently, better stand a hard day's work.

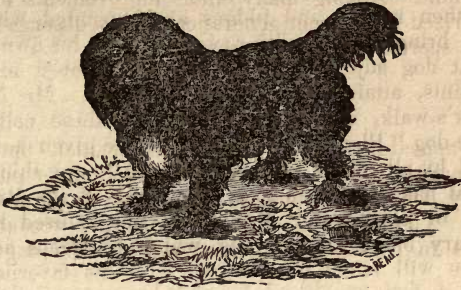
THE BLENHEIM SPANIEL.

Blenheim Castle, near Woodstock, Oxfordshire, was formerly the residence of King Ethelred, and since that, of Henry II., as also the birthplace of several princes of the royal line of England; subsequently the prison of Queen Elizabeth, during a portion of Queen Mary's reign; and was afterwards granted by Queen Anne to John Duke of Marlborough, for obtaining illustrious victories over the French and Bavarians, at the village of Blenheim, in Suabia, A. D. 1704. In this superb mansion has been preserved, for the last century and a half, the small red and white spaniel or comforter, the "Pyrame" of Buffon—the Blenheim Spaniel of the present day.

THE KING CHARLES SPANIEL

Is distinguished by the shortness of his muzzle—the round and bullet-like shape of his head—the prominence of his eye—the length of his ears, and his *color*, which must be

black and tan. These were the favorite companions of King Charles II., and the breed has since been carefully preserved by the Duke of Norfolk. Mr. Youatt speaks of this breed, but oddly enough describes it as the result of a cross with the terrier, a dog from which this breed differs far more in



form than does the common cocker. The present Duke possesses two varieties of the King Charles breed, one black and tan, and of a middling size, like the ordinary field cocker, and it is, perhaps, these to which Mr. Youatt alludes and the other breed of very diminutive size, with extremely long ears, and silky coat; these latter sometimes occur black and white; they are kept at Arundel Castle, Sussex, the ancient seat of the Howard family. They are admitted to the apartment in which the Duke dines; and his grace has been known to select the first cuts for them off the joints of which he himself was partaking. They are introduced into nearly all the family pictures. It is also on record, that James II. was particularly attached to these Spaniels, so that they are justly entitled to their appellation of "ROYAL RACE."

In London, where these two dogs are bred with great care, and to the highest degree of perfection, the Blenheim is frequently crossed with the Charles, so that the variety of color on which the difference of nomenclature depends, often appears in the same litter; the black and tan being denominated "King Charles," and the red and white, "Blenheim."

Several "Spaniel Clubs" have been formed with a view to promote the careful breeding of these dogs, and of some of these His Royal Highness Prince Albert is the patron, both her Majesty and the Prince being enthusiastic admirers

of these beautiful little creatures. His Royal Highness has, at no sparing outlay, erected a superb kennel for them at Windsor.

The members of these Spaniel Clubs subscribe a small sum each, and with the amount contributed a handsome collar of silver, with gold entablature, is purchased; a particular day is then named, and judges are appointed, when each member brings to the club-room a dog of his own rearing, and that dog adjudged to possess the greatest number of good points, attains the collar as a prize. Mr. Nolan, of Bachelor's-walk, in Dublin, has one of these collars, and his prize-dog "Blouse," of which we have given a figure, is admitted by all judges to be far superior to any thing of the kind that has ever been seen in any part of the British dominions, or elsewhere. Mr. Nolan has refused most extraordinary offers for this dog, which he keeps as a sire. No price will tempt him to part with his favorite, whom, however, I feel convinced, he will have great pleasure in showing to any admirer of the breed that may call upon him.

King Charles and Blenheim Spaniels have been known in London to fetch the price of from 150 to 200 guineas! I have already detailed the points on which excellence depends.

The keeper of a gaming house in Dublin had lately a little black and tan Spaniel of this breed, for which he refused the sum of eighty guineas; within a fortnight from his refusal, the animal was run over by a carriage, and killed upon the spot.

Both the Blenheim and King Charles breeds are remarkably affectionate to their owners; they are likewise very watchful, and in other respects extremely sagacious. I recollect reading an account of one which saved his sleeping master's life, by biting his finger, and thus awakening him in time to perceive that a stone summer temple in which he had been reading, was tottering, and about to fall upon him: catching the little dog in his arms, he rushed hastily into the open air, which he had no sooner reached, than the temple was a mass of ruins.

Both these dogs have also been found perfectly fit for service in the field, and if the pets were occasionally permitted to do duty there, the race would be greatly improved in health and beauty, and considerably enhanced in value.

THE WATER-DOG.

THE GREAT ROUGH WATER-DOG.

This is a dog of considerable size, being about the height o' a stout setter, but much more powerfully built. His coat is long and curled; the head is large and round; the frontal sinuses ample; ears long, and well furnished with hair; legs rather short; color usually brown and white, or black and white; he possesses great courage and sagacity; he is an excellent water-dog, and well adapted to the duties of a retriever; he, however, requires considerable training to induce him to be *tender* of his game, as he is apt to drive in his teeth, and consequently mangle his bird.

This dog is not to be confounded with the poodle of either France or Germany; he is a more original, and a very different dog.

I recollect a singularly large dog of this breed, about ten years ago, in possession of Mr. Grierson, of N. Hanover-street, Edinburgh, near the foot of the Mound, which was possessed of unusual intelligence. Among other eccentricities, this dog followed the profession of mendicancy, and regularly solicited the charity of the passers-by. On receiving a halfpenny, his habit was, if hungry, to proceed at once to the shop of Mr. Nelson, at the corner of Rose-street, and purchase a biscuit; but it sometimes happened that he put by his halfpence until the calls of appetite returned, when he would go to his repository, take the money to the baker's, and make his purchase. A servant of Mr. Grierson's accidentally came upon this sagacious and provident animal's hoarding-place on one occasion, where were found about five-pence halfpenny in halfpence. The dog chanced to enter at the moment of the discovery, and with a growl of displeasure he rushed to the spot, and snatching up his wealth, proceeded at full speed to the shop, and dashed the money on the counter, barking vehemently at the same time, probably deeming it safer to turn it into bread at once, than risk being robbed by keeping it. This dog was stuffed at his death, and is preserved in the Ed. Mus. of Nat. History.

THE POODLE.

The Poodle resembles the great water-dog in general appearance, but may be very easily distinguished from him by

the circumstance of his being furnished with wool instead of hair. The Poodle is an excellent water-dog, but is not so hardy, and consequently not capable of remaining in the water so long as the preceding variety; he is, however, more active, more easily trained, and far more tender-mouthed. Mr. Jesse, in his "Gleanings," mentions a Poodle belonging to a friend of his, for whom correction was found necessary, he being sometimes rather unruly: the gentleman bought a whip, with which he corrected him once or twice when out walking; on his return he left the whip on the hall-table, and in the morning it was missing. Having been found concealed in an out-building, and, as before, used when occasion required, in correcting the dog, it was once more missed; but on the dog, who was suspected of having stolen it, being watched, he was seen to take it from the hall-table, in order to hide it as before.

In a most amusing paper, entitled "Sketches of Burschen Life," published in that excellent periodical, THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE, for July, 1846, is the following laughable anecdote of a Poodle and a short-sighted Professor:—

"There was a story, when we were in Heidelberg, going about of a certain student who had a remarkably fine white Poodle; the intelligence and sagacity of the animal were uncommon, and as he used daily to accompany his master to the lecture-room of a professor, who was not very remarkable for the distinctness of his vision, he would regularly take his seat upon the bench beside his master, and peer into his book, as if he understood every word of it.

"One wet morning, the lecture-room, never, at any time, remarkable for its fulness, was deserted, save by the student who owned the Poodle. The dog, however, had somehow happened to remain at home.

"Gentlemen," said the short-sighted professor, as he commenced his lecture, "I am sorry to notice, that the very attentive student in the white coat, whose industry I have not failed to observe, is, contrary to his usual custom, absent to-day!"

THE LITTLE BARBET

Is a diminutive poodle, the head being covered with straight and silky hair—the rest of the body having a curly and woolly coat.

THE LION DOG

Has a mane like a lion, the remainder of the body having close hair; supposed to have sprung from a cross between the small barbet and naked Turk; it is a very rare variety, and useless.

CHAPTER X.

THE third great group of domestic dogs may be best represented by the mastiff, of which dogs, indeed, it is exclusively composed. This group and the first, or that represented by the greyhounds, present the strongest marks of originality.

THE MASTIFFS.

- The Dog of Thibet.
- The Dog of St. Bernard, or Alpine Mastiff.
- The Spanish, or Cuban Mastiff.
- The Bull-dog.
- The Pug-dog.
- The British Mastiff.

THE DOG OF THIBET.

Placed by Mr. Youatt at the head of the first or greyhound group, but in reality the extreme opposite to that group, presenting all the mastiff attributes to a degree of perfection amounting almost to exaggeration or caricature.

The mastiff of Thibet is a dog of vast size, standing from thirty to thirty-three inches in height at the shoulder, and being bulky in proportion. His head is large and broad, and the divergence of the parietal bones is very strongly marked. His lips are very full and pendulous, and the skin from the eyebrows forms a fold towards the outer edge of the eyes ending in the jowl; the neck is remarkably full, and the chest is furnished with a *dewlap*. The usual color of this dog is black and tan; the coat is large and rugged; the tail very bushy, and carried up over the back. The figure of this noble dog, given in Mr. Youatt's book, is very good, and most faithfully depicts the animal it is designed to repre-

sent ; and this renders it still more singular that the dog and its description should be so misplaced as at the head of the greyhound group.



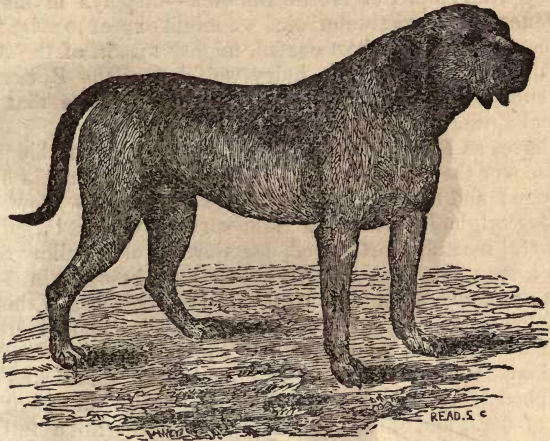
In disposition, the Thibet dog is said to be very fierce, but much attached to his master. They were originally noticed by Marco Polo, who described them as being "as large as asses," a description contradicted by some subsequent travellers, but since amply confirmed. The probable cause of these discrepant accounts is, that the Thibet mastiff degenerates rapidly if removed to a milder climate, and several inferior, though similar breeds, exist in different portions of the Himalaya chain of mountains.

The mastiff of Thibet is well figured in that interesting work, "Gardens and Menagerie of the Zoological Society." Colonel Smith most justly refers to this dog as the typical mastiff—the *Canis Urcanus* described of old by Oppian.

THE DOG OF ST. BERNARD, OR ALPINE MASTIFF.

So many conflicting accounts of this dog have appeared from time to time, that it is impossible to trust to the accuracy of any of them ; accordingly, I have rejected all, and turned to nature itself—to the existing dogs, and the verbal

accounts of such faithworthy persons as have actually seen them.



It is not every one whose description of a dog would have weight with me. He must be a lover of the race—in short, a dog-fancier—to understand the animal's points, and hence give a correct description. By some writers, the St. Bernard dog is described as a large *spaniel*! with soft, curly coat, and long, fringed ears. My esteemed old friend, Captain Thomas Brown, in his very amusing "Anecdotes of Dogs," actually gives a figure of this dog, representing him as a large cocker! Mr. Jesse does not describe the dog's appearance at all, and it would not be easy to make out what the figure is intended to represent, whether, indeed, a dog, or some nondescript animal. Mr. Martin places him with the Newfoundland and Calabrian dogs, and, to a certain extent, he is not far astray.

Colonel H. Smith, (Nat. Lib.)—and whose valuable work seems to have furnished Mr. Martin with more than the groundwork of his—classes the St. Bernard dog also with the wolf-dog group; but he, at the same time, informs us, that more than one description of dog is trained by the monks of the Great St. Bernard, for their pious and charitable purposes. One sort he describes as being long-coated, and resembling the Newfoundland, and the other as being short-coated, and resembling the Great Dane in color and hair.

The animal figured by Colonel Smith—a dog belonging to

Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, and stated by that gentleman to have been brought direct from the Great St. Bernard, by Sir Henry Dalrymple, of North Berwick—displays in his appearance all the characteristics we might expect to arise from a cross between the short-coated, mighty mastiff of the Alps and the slighter and more hairy wolf-dog of the Pyrenees ; and such I believe to have been the cross whence that fine animal sprang.

I have, as I have already stated, been at considerable pains to discover the true character and history of this noble breed of dogs ; and the result of my inquiries tends to show that the dog originally trained to this service, was a large and powerful mastiff, short-coated, deep-jowled, of a yellow color, with a long, fine tail. L'Ami, who was brought, in 1829, from the convent on the Great St. Bernard, was of this description. He was exhibited, in both London and Liverpool, to many thousand people, at the charge of one shilling admission. I was favored by Mr. Clarke of Holborn, who lithographed L'Ami's portrait, and who is himself an ardent fancier of dogs, and of this breed in particular, with a full account of the true dogs of St. Bernard, obtained by him from the very best authorities. A good many years ago a pestilence made its appearance amongst the dogs of the convent, and all were destroyed save one single specimen. Under these circumstances, the monks had no alternative but to cross the breed, which they did with the Spanish or Pyrenean wolf-dog --the most likely cross to which they could have resorted ; hence arose the race of dogs ordinarily known as St. Bernard's. Some of the true race have been now restored ; but they are very scarce, and are not to be possessed under enormous prices ; in fact, not to be had from the convent at all ; Mr. Clarke being acquainted with a nobleman who offered one hundred guineas for a brace of puppies, without success. Hence the mistakes arising from spurious dogs, supposed to be original, merely because they came from the mountain. Mr. Youatt gives a very excellent figure of the present most common race of St. Bernard dogs ; but, notwithstanding the figure he gives, persists in naming it a spaniel. Perhaps the finest of this breed in existence is the dog recently kept at Chatsworth. I know not whether it be still living. It was a dog of amazing stature, of a yellow color, with a black muzzie. There is also one at Elvaston Castle, in Derbyshire, for which Lord Harrington gave fifty guineas. In Dublin, these dogs used to be common. They were introduced by a

Frenchman, named Casserane, a butcher in Ormond Market. He had male and female, and their whelps were eagerly purchased at five guineas each, as soon as weaned. W. Flood, Esq., of Stillorgan, possesses a noble specimen, of which we give a figure; and there was also, until lately, a beautiful specimen, named "Donna," in possession of my relative, John Richardson, Esq., of Newington Terrace, Rathmines. Donna was one of the best water-dogs I ever saw. She was gentle; but very wild and playful, and her tremendous size rendered her romping caresses any thing but agreeable. My relative went on one occasion to bathe, accompanied by Donna, who watched the progress of unrobing with much apparent curiosity. No sooner had her master plunged into the water, however, than Donna sprang after him, and, doubtless uneasy for his safety, seized him by the shoulder, and dragged him, in spite of all his resistance—and he is both a powerful man and a capital swimmer—with more zeal than gentleness, to land; nor could he ever enter the water in Donna's presence.

Mr. Otley, of Rathmines, possesses a noble dog of this breed, of remarkably large size and striking appearance: and Mr. Bryan (late Sheriff Bryan) has a fine dog, which was brought some years ago from the Alps direct.

THE SPANISH OR CUBAN MASTIFF

Is not to be confounded—which he, however, has been—with the Spanish or Cuban bloodhound. This is a totally different dog.

The Spanish or Cuban Mastiff is a very powerfully built dog, of from twenty-six to twenty-eight inches in height, with extraordinary development of bone and muscle. His head is of prodigious size, even apparently too large in proportion to his body; his eyes are placed very far apart; his upper lip pendulous, but not so much so as in the preceding dog; the ear is small, and not perfectly pendulous, being erect at the root, but the tip falling over; color usually tawny or light rufus; the under jaw is also *undershot*, and I do not think I can give my readers a better idea of the dog, than by describing him as a gigantic bull-dog, occupying precisely the same position with regard to the prodigious mastiff of the Alps, which our own British bull-dog does in reference to the English mastiff. The Spanish or Cuban Mastiff is a dog of great courage; in Spain he is used in the combats of the amphitheatre,

and is commonly known on the Continent as the "Spanish bull-dog." The dogs procured from Spain and Portugal will be found to answer my present description more fully than such as we may *now* procure from Cuba; the latter breed having, in many instances, undergone much alteration and deterioration by crossing with the Cuban bloodhound. J. Aylmer, Esq., of 5, Bachelor's Walk, Dublin, has the finest of the breed, perhaps, in Britain. He is frequently importing new and perfect specimens from Cadiz; for doing which he possesses peculiar facilities. Colonel H. Smith conceives this race to have been identical with the broad-mouthed dogs for which Britain was celebrated during the Roman era; and certainly, as this race answers to ancient description far better than our common bull-dog, I am disposed fully to concur with him.

Some years ago, I saw a remarkably fine specimen of this breed, at the Portobello Gardens, which fell since into the possession of Dr. Gilgeous, of Demerara. There was also a good specimen recently presented to our Zoological Society, by Sir George Preston, which is, I believe, still in the Society's gardens.

THE BULL-DOG.

The British Bull-dog is, when a good dog, perhaps one of the most courageous animals in existence. I am obliged to qualify my meed of praise, however, as I have myself seen Bull-dogs, not merely of very doubtful courage, but absolutely *cowards*. I attribute this moral degeneracy to the practice of too close, or "in and in" breeding—a practice certain to prejudice the mental qualifications, even though external or physical conformation remain apparently the same.

The Bull-dog needs little description: he usually stands twenty inches in height—if smaller, he is so much the more highly esteemed;—his head is large and round; his eyes small and far apart; ears small and partly erect; muzzle short, truncated, and turned upwards; under jaw projecting beyond the upper, displaying the lower incisor teeth; color usually brindled, but white is the fancy color; party colors, as black and white, &c., are to be condemned; his tail must be fine as a rush.

The Bull-dog is remarkable for the obstinacy with which he keeps his hold, suffering himself to be dismembered—and the merciless experiment has, to the disgrace of human na-

ture, been tried more than once—rather than quit it. He is an excellent water-dog, very faithful to his master; but, unfortunately, has become too notorious, from the inhuman and blackguard sports for which he has been generally used, to be suffered to follow the heel of any man who does not desire to be set down as a patron of ruffianism and infamy.

The Bull-dog is not wholly destitute of good qualities, as some writers have represented him to be. Besides his courage, he possesses strong attachment to his master. Mr. Jesse relates an anecdote of a Bull-dog, that having been accustomed to be his master's travelling companion, in his carriage, for several years, on his place being allotted to a new favorite, refused to eat, sickened, pined, and died.

A Bull-dog saved a shipwrecked crew, by towing a rope from the vessel to the shore, after two fine Newfoundland dogs had perished in the attempt. I should attribute his success to his indomitable courage, which prevented him from giving up his exertions while life remained.

THE PUG.

This dog was a sort of miniature of the bull-dog, but without his courage. His muzzle was usually black; the rest of his body of a buff color; and the tail curled tightly over the hinder end.

The Pug has been replaced, as a lady's pet, by the more elegant Italian greyhound, and the Blenheim and King Charles spaniels. He is now very rarely to be seen, and will soon become extinct, if, indeed, such has not already been his fate.

THE BRITISH MASTIFF.

This dog appears to owe his origin to a mixture of the bull-dog of ancient Britain with the old Talbot hound. He is usually of a brindled color, or buff, with dark ears and muzzle. "Chicken,"* a dog belonging to the 43d regiment, stood twenty-nine inches and a half in height at the shoulder. He was very gentle to human beings, but was not to be trifled with by his own kind; for on one occasion he killed his brother in combat. Chicken was once passing up Union-street, at Plymouth, when he was beset by a troop of curs, who at length actually impeded him in his walk, and excited his anger, on which he paused, raised one of his hind legs, and astonished them all.

* Colonel Smith.

The disposition of the Mastiff is characterized by courage, generosity, and forbearance: even the midnight marauder will be held by him uninjured, until human aid arrives, provided he refrain from struggle or resistance. The attacks of puny antagonists are despised; but if they become intolerable, the noble Mastiff is satisfied with showing his contempt, or inflicting chastisement of rather a humiliating than a painful nature. The story of the Mastiff that, when greatly annoyed by the incessant barking of a little cur, took him by the back of the neck, and dropped him over a quay wall into the river, is well known; but I recollect an instance of this nature, when the Mastiff, standing for a moment contemplating the struggles of his late tormenter, and perceiving that the current was likely to carry him away, actually sprang into the water, and rescued him from his dangerous position.

Henry VII. ordered a Mastiff to be hanged, because he had *singly coped with and overcome a lion!* And in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when Lord Buckhurst was ambassador at the court of Charles IX., a Mastiff is said to have, alone and unassisted, successively engaged a bear, a leopard, and a lion, and pulled them all down. Stow relates an engagement which took place, in the reign of James I., between three mastiffs and a lion. One of the dogs being put into the den, was soon disabled by the lion, who took him by the head and neck, and dragged him about. Another dog was next let loose, which shared the same fate; but the third, on being put in, immediately seized the lion by the lip, and held him for a considerable time, till being severely torn by his claws, the dog was obliged to quit his hold; and the lion, greatly exhausted by the conflict, refused to renew the engagement, but taking a sudden leap over the dogs, fled into the interior part of his den. Two of the dogs soon died of their wounds: but the third recovered, and was taken care of by the king's son, who said, "He that had fought with the king of beasts should never after fight with any inferior creature"—a far nobler determination than that arrived at by the usurper, Henry VII., as already detailed.

The English Mastiff is now very rare, even more so than that of the Alps. He was in high esteem formerly as a watch-dog, but is now generally superseded in that duty by the Newfoundland, who is more than competent to supply his place.

CHAPTER XI.

MONGRELS.

THE principal Mongrels are:—

The Lurcher,
 The Bandog,
 The Dropper,
 The Bull-terrier,
 The Alicant Dog,
 The Shock Dog,
 The Artois Dog,
 The Griffin Dog,
 The Kangaroo Dog.

These Mongrel races may be quickly dispatched. The LURCHER I have already treated of among the rough greyhounds.

The BANDOg is figured and described by Bewick. He seems to have been a sort of light mastiff, and has all the appearance of having been a cross between that dog and foxhound. He is now, I should imagine, quite extinct.

THE DROPPER

Is a cross between pointer and setter. He is a most useful dog in the field, and in high esteem with such sportsmen as, shooting in a wet country, like a dog of all work. The "Yorkshire Dropper" has been long famous among sporting dogs.

THE BULL-TERRIER.

A cross between terrier and bull-dog, varying in aspect according to the sort of terrier to which he owes descent: a lively, courageous dog, well adapted for all kinds of mischievous sport, and affording fewer unpleasant associations than the bull-dog, while he is hardier than the terrier.

THE ALICANT DOG

Is a small, silky-haired spaniel, with a pug's head and muzzle. I have often thought this dog is related to our King Charles and Blenheim breeds.

THE SHOCK DOG.

A small poodle, with silky hair instead of wool, and the short, turned-up nose of the pug.

THE ARTOIS DOG.

Between the shock and the pug.

THE GRIFFIN DOG.

Apparently a cross between the sheep-dog and water-dog. With the exception of the bull-terrier and dropper, none of these dogs are of any use.

THE KANGAROO DOG.

This is a tall and handsome dog, bred between a mastiff, or Newfoundland, and greyhound, with a dash of bull-dog. It usually reaches the height of twenty-seven or twenty-eight inches at the shoulder; is swift, strong, and with a fair average share of courage; and is, consequently, about the best description of dog that could be employed in the chase of kangaroo—a chase attended with considerable danger to the dogs, as the kangaroo often rips up a dog from jaw to belly with a single stroke of the hind-foot. A mongrel is therefore the best for such a use, as it would not answer to expose valuable or high-bred dogs to so much risk. In appearance the Kangaroo dog is not very unlike the tiger-hound of South America.

 CHAPTER XII.

GENERAL TREATMENT OF THE DOG.

THOSE who desire to breed dogs of peculiar excellence for themselves, will be certain of success, if they attend to one or two simple directions. Do not be satisfied with the *appearance* alone of either parent. Ascertain the *pedigree* as far as possible; for it not unfrequently happens that a whelp, having all the *appearance* of high breeding, will be accidentally produced when one parent is absolutely of a different breed, or haply a

common cur: from such stock, however, it would be unsafe to breed, as the probability is, in such cases, in favor of the whelps, more or less, taking after the bad blood, or, as it is called, *throwing back*. Ascertain the pedigree, therefore, for at least four generations.

Let your next consideration be the age and health of the parents. The male should be, at least, two years old, and the female at least fifteen months. The male need not be rejected as unfit until his eighth year, provided he have *worn well*, not been hardly used, and have retained his health and vigor. The female, under similar circumstances, need not be rejected until her sixth year.

Both parents should be in perfect health. The female goes with young sixty-three days; she has from four to thirteen young at a birth. The whelps are born blind, and their eyes open about the eleventh or twelfth day. The dam should not be permitted to breed oftener than three times in two years, nor to rear more than five puppies; and if delicate, she must not rear so many. If the whelps are very valuable, you can readily procure a foster-nurse, who can, without difficulty, be induced to adopt as many whelps as you find it necessary to remove from the dam. The whelps should not be suckled longer than six weeks; but five, or even four, is sufficiently long, if necessity calls for their removal so soon; the only difference being, that in such case they require more care at your hands.

After weaning, the pups will feed voraciously, but should not be given as much as they will eat, or they will surfeit themselves. Their diet may consist of well-boiled oatmeal porridge, mashed potatoes, with skim milk, or new milk, to dilute the mess; give it *cool*, and do not add the milk until the mess be cool. Do not make more than will be wanted at one time; give the food *fresh and fresh*, and keep the vessels scrupulously clean. Let the whelps have a bed of clean straw *over* pine shavings, or pine sawdust; the turpentine contained in the wood will banish fleas. Let there be a supply of fresh water always within their reach, and let them have a free, open, airy court, in which to disport themselves. A grass-plot is a great advantage; and if you have no such accommodation, get some nice fresh grass cut twice or thrice a week, and lay it down in your court. The dog is the best physician in his own sickness, and will resort to the grass with much satisfaction if his stomach be out of order.

At about four months old, the first set of teeth, or milk

teeth, begin to drop out, and are replaced by the permanent set, which change is complete between the sixth and seventh month. The tusks have acquired their full length about the twelfth or thirteenth month. At about two years old, a yellow circle makes its appearance around the base of the tusks, which gradually develops itself, with more and more intensity, until the third year. About this time you will find the edges of the front, or cutting teeth, begin to be worn down, and the little *nick* on the crown of the lateral incisors to disappear. As the fourth year approaches, the tusks lose their points, and the teeth present a gradual progress of decay, until the fifth or sixth year, when the incisors begin to fall, and the tusks become discolored over their entire surface. The sixth or seventh year finds the dog less lively than of old; he is evidently no longer young; as soon as his eighth year has passed away, a few gray hairs show themselves around his eyes, and at the corners of the mouth. These appearances increase in intensity to the eleventh or twelfth year, when actual decrepitude usually sets in, and increases so rapidly, that by the fourteenth year, if the animal survive so long, he is a nuisance to himself and all with whom he comes in contact; sores break out in different parts of his body, his whole carcass emits a fetid smell, and it is with difficulty he can drag his aged limbs along: it is, then, a source of congratulation when death comes in, and releases him from his sufferings.

DEWCLAWS.

It frequently happens that puppies are born with a fifth toe upon the hind foot; this is called a dewclaw. It is usually only a false toe, possessing no connection with the bony structure of the limb; but, in any case, should be taken off. Mr. Youatt calls the practice an inhuman one, and seems to think that this claw is seldom any hinderance to the dog. I see no great inhumanity in it; for if it be done at the proper age—viz., between the third and fourth week—the operation is scarcely felt by the pup, and the tongue of the dam soon heals the wound. Let it also be properly done, with a pair of large, *sharp* scissors; let the pup be firmly held by one person, while a second operates, and let the operator feel for the proper place to cut, and also not be nervous, but do his work with *decision*. The dewclaws, when left on, are constantly coming in the way, getting entangled in grass or roots, and

rendering their possessor quite unfit to enter cover, and ready, if he could speak, to curse the maudlin sentimentality to which he owed the annoyance.

CROPPING AND TAILING.

Some persons like to crop the ears of a terrier; others like them to be left in their natural condition. Mr. Youatt objects to cropping: so do many. I say nothing either for or against; but if you be resolved on cropping, do it humanely; let *three cuts* suffice. Draw the ears over the head until the points meet; with a *very sharp pair* of scissors, cut both points off to the length you desire; then with a single cut to each, from below upwards, cut away the hinder portion of the flaps of the ears up to the point.

In a week the ears will be well; and I have never known deafness or any other of the bad effects prognosticated by Mr. Youatt, to result from the operation. As I have already stated, however, I am not advocating the practice; I merely give instructions as to how it should be done in the most merciful manner. The tail of a well-bred pup should never be meddled with; and if the dog be badly bred, and his tail, consequently, coarse, he is not worth keeping.

In training your dogs, *keep your temper*; never correct the dog in vengeance for your own irritation; gentleness does far more than violence will ever effect; and a dog that requires the latter treatment had better be got rid of; he will ever be a nuisance.

In proof of my assertion I adduce the following most interesting account of the performances of two dogs, exhibited some time ago in London. The account was published in the "Lancet."

"Two fine dogs, of the Spanish breed, were introduced by M. Léonard, with the customary French politesse—the largest, by the name of M. Philax; the other, as M. Brac, (or Spot.) The former had been in training three—the latter, two years. They were in vigorous health, and, having bowed very gracefully, seated themselves on the hearth-rug side by side. M. Léonard then gave a lively description of the means he had employed to develop the cerebral system in these animals; how, from having been fond of the chase, and ambitious of possessing the best-trained dogs, he had employed the usual course of training—how the conviction had been impressed on his mind, that by gentle usage, and steady perseverance in

inducing the animal to repeat, again and again, what was required—not only would the dog be capable of performing that specific act, but that part of the brain, which was brought into activity by the mental effort, would become more largely developed; and hence a permanent increase of mental power be obtained. This reasoning is in accordance with the known laws of the physiology of the nervous system, and is fraught with the most important results. We may refer the reader interested in the subject, to the masterly little work of Doctor Verity, ‘Changes produced in the Nervous System by Civilization.’ After this introduction, M. Léonard spoke to his dogs in French, in his usual tone, and ordered one of them to walk, the other to lie down, to run, to gallop, halt crouch, &c., which they performed as promptly and correctly as the most docile children. Then he directed them to go through the usual exercises of the *manège*, which they performed as well as the best-trained ponies at Astley’s. He next placed six cards of different colors on the floor, and, sitting with his back to the dogs, directed one to pick up the blue card, and the other the white, &c., varying his orders rapidly, and speaking in such a manner, that it was impossible the dogs could have executed his commands if they had not a perfect knowledge of the words. For instance, M. Léonard said, ‘Philax, take the red card, and give it to Brac; and Brac, take the white card, and give it to Philax.’ ‘The dogs instantly did this, and exchanged cards with each other. He then said, ‘Philax, put your card on the green, and Brac, put yours on the blue,’ and this was instantly performed. Pieces of bread and meat were placed on the floor, with figured cards, and a variety of directions were given to the dogs, so as to put their intelligence and obedience to a severe test. They brought the meat, bread, or cards, as commanded, but did not attempt to eat or to touch, unless ordered. Philax was then ordered to bring a piece of meat, and give it to Brac, and then Brac was told to give it back to Philax, who was to return it to its place. Philax was next told he might bring a piece of bread, and eat it; but, before he had time to swallow it, his master forbade him, and directed him to show that he had not disobeyed, and the dog instantly protruded the crust between his lips.

“While many of these feats were being performed, M. Léonard snapped a whip violently, to prove that the animals were so completely under discipline that they would not heed any interruption.

“After many other performances, M. Léonard invited a gentleman to play a game of dominoes with one of them. The younger and slighter dog then seated himself on a chair at the table, and the writer and M. Léonard seated themselves opposite. Six dominoes were placed on their edges in the usual manner before the dog, and a like number before the writer. The dog having a double number, took one up in his mouth, and put it in the middle of the table; the writer placed a corresponding piece on one side; the dog immediately played another correctly; and so on until all the pieces were engaged. Other six dominoes were then given to each, and the writer intentionally played a wrong number. The dog looked surprised, stared very earnestly at the writer, growled, and finally barked angrily. Finding that no notice was taken of his remonstrances, he pushed away the wrong domino with his nose, and took up a suitable one from his own pieces, and placed it in its stead. The writer then played correctly; the dog followed, and won the game. Not the slightest intimation could have been given by M. Léonard to the dog; this mode of play must have been entirely the result of his own observation and judgment. It should be added, that the performances were strictly private. The owner of the dogs was a gentleman of independent fortune, and the instruction of his dogs had been taken up merely as a curious and amusing investigation.”

Some years ago, a Spaniard, named Germondi, exhibited a company of performing dogs in the different towns of Great Britain and Ireland. In Dublin, where he made some stay, he occupied, with his company, the large building at the corner of D'Olier-street, which is now the handsome shop of Messrs. Kinahan. The performances of these dogs were extremely curious. They danced, waltzed, and pirouetted. One, in the costume and character of a lady, sat down to a spinning-wheel, which he kept in motion for a considerable time.

The company was divided into two groups: one-half appearing in dresses of a red color, and the other being attired in blue. The blues occupied the model of a fortress, which the red troop attacked, drawing up their artillery in front, and opening a heavy fire upon the enemy, which the blues returned with their cannon from the fortress. The reds were, however, at length victorious; the fortress tottered, and the reds dashed across the defences. Suddenly the works blew up with a tremendous crash, and several dogs,

on both sides, lay motionless as they fell, apparently severely maimed, if not entirely dead. When the effects of the explosion had died away, the proprietor advanced, and pulled the performers about as dead dogs, to the no small horror and amazement of the spectators; but immediately on the dropping of the curtain, the apparently wounded or dead dogs sprang to their feet, and resumed their proper places.

The next scene introduced one of the dogs a captive between two of his comrades, all attired in military costume. The captive, being condemned as a deserter, was sentenced to be shot, and the sentence carried forthwith into execution by his canine comrades. On being fired at, he fell, struggled convulsively for a few seconds, then apparently died; in this state he was dragged about the stage; his comrades then placed him in a barrow, and wheeled him away. He subsequently appeared placed in a bier drawn by dogs, with likewise a canine driver, who flourished a whip over his companions, and with a procession of the whole company attired as soldiers, moved slowly to the solemn dead march, deposited their comrade in the grave, and thus concluded their performance. These dogs were of various descriptions—pugs, poodles, mongrels.

There was an interlude of young puppies, who tumbled head over heels in various diverting attitudes, after which he introduced a fine specimen of bull-dog, which the exhibiter called his fire-king. This dog was trained to exhibit in the midst of a brilliant display of fireworks, and nothing could exceed the courage he preserved when wholly surrounded by flames, or the resolution he manifested not to quit his position until the fire was entirely extinguished.

I adduce these interesting accounts, in order to impress upon my readers' mind the grand fact, that gentleness, and not cruelty, is the "*modus operandi*" likely to succeed with an animal capable of so much intellectual culture as is the dog; and I hope that the above anecdotes may touch other minds as deeply as they have mine, and save many a poor dog from the ill-usage to which he might otherwise have been subjected.

CHAPTER XIII.

DISEASES OF THE DOG.

THIS portion of my subject might truly be made to occupy a considerable space of the present entire treatise. Such an extended dissertation, however, would not be within the limits of such a work as this; nor do I think it would prove very useful. The less any one *quacks* his dog the better. If a veterinary surgeon can be called in, let him prescribe, and do you implicitly follow his directions. It may happen that you are not so circumstanced as to be able to obtain such assistance; then let nature work her own will, and, in nine cases out of ten, you will find her successful. Still, however, though nature does not require absolute *aid* in her operations, she requires the removal of *obstacles*—of such attendant circumstances as might interfere with her operations. I shall not pretend to offer more than a little advice on such subjects generally; and I may here observe, that when a human surgeon happens also to be a dog-fancier, you will find his opinion and advice far more valuable than that of half a hundred quack pretenders.

RABIES, OR CANINE MADNESS,

SOMETIMES IMPROPERLY CALLED HYDROPHOBIA.

Hydrophobia, a term expressing *fear of water*, is, when applied to this malady as occurring in the dog, grossly incorrect, a dog laboring under rabies drinking water not only willingly, but greedily to the very last.

I need scarcely say that no curative treatment will avail, once a dog has been seized with this terrible disease: my duty, therefore, merely consists in describing the symptoms which indicate the approach of danger, that the affected animal may be timely destroyed; and also to point out the treatment to be pursued in the event of a fellow-creature having been bitten. One of the earliest symptoms of rabies in the dog is *restlessness*. He is constantly turning round and round before he will lie down; his countenance becomes anxious; his eyes bloodshot; he fancies that he sees objects around him which have no real existence, and he snaps at

the empty air; his fondness for his master increases, and with it his propensity to lick the hands and face—a filthy practice at any time, and one most dangerous;—the appetite becomes depraved, his natural food is neglected, and, at the same time, every sort of filthy trash is greedily devoured; *eating his own excrement* is an early symptom, and so sure a one, that the moment a dog is seen doing so he should be destroyed, or, at all events, carefully confined.

Rubbing the paws against the sides of the mouth. If this be done to remove a *bone*, the mouth will remain open; but when it takes place as the precursor of rabies, the jaws close after the rubbing ceases.

Soon follows an *insatiable thirst*; so insatiable that the poor animal often plunges his whole muzzle into the water; and here you may observe *spume* left upon the surface. Soon the dog falls or staggers, and sometimes, but not invariably, becomes delirious. Death speedily ensues.

DUMB MADNESS

Is chiefly characterized by stupidity, and, at the same time, restlessness of demeanor; the tongue becomes of a dark color, and much swollen; the animal is also constantly rubbing its jaws with its paws, as if seeking to remove a bone from its throat; and is in general unable to keep its mouth shut, or the tongue within it.

If a person be bitten by a dog supposed to be rabid, let the bitten part be carefully excised, and liquid caustic copiously applied to the wound thus formed. Rabies has been known to supervene after seven months from the infliction of the bite, having lain dormant in the system during that period. Although horror at the sight of liquids is not present in this disease when occurring in the dog, it is one of its strongest characteristics when occurring in the human subject, and the disease is then, with propriety, termed **HYDROPHOBIA**.

CANKER IN THE EAR

A disease to which all water-dogs are very subject, probably produced by a determination of blood to the head, resulting from that part not sharing in the general immersion. The treatment should, therefore, commence with keeping the affected dogs from water. The earliest symptoms are, shaking the head, holding it to one side, and violent scratching of the ear.

When these are perceived, the ears should be well washed with warm water and soap; and then syringed out with a solution of sugar of lead, in the proportion of about a teaspoonful of the lead to one pint of distilled water. If distilled water cannot be procured, use rain-water. Besides this, the washing should be repeated twice or thrice daily, and the bowels of the dog kept open by a daily laxative; if these remedies fail, a seton must be run through the back of the neck, and strong doses of *aloes* given every second day. If you can, apply to a veterinary surgeon.

JAUNDICE.

The dog appears very subject to this disease. Its symptoms are obvious. The conjunctiva, or "white of the eye," becomes suffused with a yellow hue, and soon after, the same hue spreads over all the skin; the nose and mouth are dry and parched; the dog loses appetite; seeks concealment; becomes weak and emaciated; vomits greenish matter, sometimes tinged with blood; loses consciousness; dies.

Much depends on taking this disease in time; but it is so insidious and deceptive in its advances, that two or three weeks often elapse before its discovery. In such cases the animal is lost.

If early perceived, give Epsom salts, combined with mucilage of gum arabic, or very well-boiled gruel. If you think the disease has only just made its appearance, an emetic will be of great service, and common salt will answer the purpose, if nothing else is at hand. Small doses of calomel and colocynth, in the form of pill, given at night, and followed by an aperient in the morning, will generally prove successful. If much fever be present, bleeding should be resorted to.

When appetite returns, the food should be light, and given in small quantities

WORMS.

The dog is very subject to the accumulation of worms in the intestines. They are of three kinds: *Ascarides*, or small threadlike worms, not more than half an inch in length. These are chiefly present in the rectum; and hence the ordinary symptoms of their presence is the dog dragging his fundament along the ground. Puppies are very subject to these worms.

The *teres*, like the earth-worm in form and appearance, but of a *white* color. The *tænia*, or tapeworm, several inches in length, and *flat* for nearly its whole extent. There is also another description of worm that is, I think, peculiar to very young puppies, and which appear to be generated in their intestines in great quantities. This worm is from two to four inches in length, of a dirty white color, round, and pointed at both extremities. Sometimes these worms collect in balls or masses, to the number of a dozen or more in each mass. Many young puppies fall away in flesh, until they actually reach the extreme of emaciation; fits supervene, and death soon carries them away. The deaths are attributed to *distemper*; but worms are the true cause, and these of the description I have indicated. I have found the following treatment most efficacious; and I have had very great experience in rearing puppies:—Give, say on Monday, a small pill formed of Venice turpentine and flour, from the size of a very minute pea to that of a small marble, according to the size and age of the pup. The former will suffice for Blenheim or King Charles pups, Italian greyhounds, &c.; the latter for bloodhounds, Newfoundlands, mastiffs, &c. On Tuesday, give a small dose of castor-oil; a teaspoonful to the smaller, a tablespoonful to the larger breeds; in neither case, however, quite full. On Wednesday give *nothing*; on Thursday give the turpentine as before; on Friday, the oil; on Saturday, nothing; and so on.

Keep your puppies' beds dry, clean, and sweet. Do not feed them too often, or on food of too nutritious a quality. Puppies should not be fed oftener than three times a day. The morning and evening meals may be given at 9 A. M., and at 7 P. M., and should consist of vegetables—potatoes, oatmeal, &c.—well-boiled, and given with milk. At two, you may give *meat* with the mess, but not too abundantly. Between the meals give a drink of buttermilk, or milk and water.

The general symptoms of the presence of all or any of these worms, are, fetid breath, staring coat, voracity, or total loss of appetite, violent purging, or obstinate constipation, with great emaciation, sometimes fits. Venice turpentine is a good remedy, and is effective in slight cases. Aloes are useful for dislodging worms from the rectum, as they pass down the intestines, almost unchanged; but powdered glass is the safest and most efficacious; give it pills formed with butter and ginger, and covered with soft paper.

MANGE

Is of three kinds—the common mange, red mange, and scabby mange.

Common mange is too well known to need description. It readily yields to cleanliness, with small alterative doses of sulphur and nitre given daily. If neglected, it runs into scabby mange; the skin breaks out into blotches; the dog becomes emaciated; the belly hard and swollen; and death will sooner or later ensue. Use aperient medicine for a day or two; then for a week give the alterative medicines above mentioned; after which have the animal well washed with soft soap and warm water; then rub his entire body with the following:—

Train Oil	. . .	One Pint,
Turpentine	. . .	One Ounce,
Naphtha	. . .	One Ounce,
Oil of Tar	. . .	One Ounce,
Soot	. . .	One Ounce,

and Sulphur in powder sufficient to make the stuff of a proper consistence.

This is to remain on the dog for three days, during which time he must be kept dry and warm, and fed sparingly; let it be washed off on the fourth day, with soft soap and warm water, in which some common washing-soda has been dissolved; give clean straw, plenty of exercise, and cooling diet, and the dog will speedily get well.

This mode of treatment will apply to *red mange* also; but in its case, a little mercurial ointment may be added to the above preparation.

Puppies are very liable to display a mangy-looking coat, at the age of from two to four months. The hair falls off in spots, and the skin becomes itchy, dry, and scaly. This is not genuine mange; but if neglected is apt to run into it. At this early stage it is easily cured, by washing with soft soap and water, and change of bedding; giving also a little sulphur in the food daily, and in very minute quantities. This appears to me to be only an effort of nature to throw off the old or puppy coat of hair, and assume the new one.

Change of feeding is serviceable in the treatment of mange; but it is a mistake to suppose that this must always be to a reduced regimen. In many cases, mange is only the offspring

of filth and hunger ; and in these cases the change must be to clean bedding and generous diet. The change of food, however, should not be sudden, otherwise not only may the existing disorder be aggravated, but other and less manageable affections may be superinduced.

DISTEMPER.

The most fatal disorder, next to rabies, to which the canine race is liable. Nearly every dog is certain to have it at some period of his existence ; but in general it makes its appearance during the first year. If an old dog get this disease, you need not hope to save him.

Distemper is strongly marked in its symptoms, though they are not invariably of the same character. They are usually loss of appetite, dulness, fever, weakness of the eyes, a discharge from the nose, a short husky cough, discharge from both eyes and nose, a peculiar and fetid smell, emaciation, sometimes *fits*, and when they appear, I should prognosticate a fatal termination to the complaint. Dogs in a fit are sometimes mistaken for *mad* : let it be understood, then, fits are *never* present in rabies.

The distemper is a disease of the *mucous* surfaces, and usually commences in nasal catarrh. If the disease be detected in the first stage, bleeding will be most useful, and that pretty copious : give an emetic, and follow it up by a gentle purgative ; if—as is generally the case when the above treatment does not effect a cure—inflammation of the lungs supervenes, you must take more blood, give more aperient medicine, with occasional emetics. If the animal become weak, and is apparently sinking, give mild tonics, as gentian, quinine ; and if he will not eat, put some strong beef-jelly down his throat. A seton in the back of the neck is often useful, but should not be used indiscriminately. If possible, consult a veterinary surgeon, and place your dog in his hands.

The more generous the breed, the more liable is the dog to have distemper, and to sink under it. Cur-dogs of low degree hardly know what it is. The hardy shepherd's dog of Scotland, if he have it at all, gets over it unaided, in a day or two.

DIARRHŒA.

Wait for a day or two, to ascertain if the discharge will cure itself ; if it continue, give castor-oil, with a few drops of laudanum.

COSTIVENESS.

Change the diet; give gruel and slops; and let the dog have full liberty; boiled liver will be found useful. If these measures fail, give small doses of castor oil.

I have not gone into the subject of canine diseases at any great length; for I hold all quackery in great abhorrence. The less a dog is drugged the better; and he will never be unwell if allowed sufficient exercise, and be judiciously fed. When illness presents itself, if you can procure advice, do so at once; if you cannot, use some simple remedy. If you must yourself *bleed* your dog, tie a ligature round his neck, and the vein will rise. Bleed the dog *standing* on his feet; when he droops his head, or appears weak, cut the cord; the bleeding will stop of itself without the aid of a pin.

Warts may be removed by the aid of caustic, and sometimes a ligature.

I do not think that I have now left any necessary or useful information undetailed. I have been induced to present this book to the reader, by the conviction that no work on dogs that has yet appeared, has emanated from the pen of a *dog-fancier*, and that no other person is capable of satisfactorily handling the subject. Whether or not I have succeeded in doing so, will speedily appear from the reception my work will meet with from the best of all judges—the public.

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