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BRITISH DOGS.

VOL. I.

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BRITISH DOGS:

DESCRIBING

THE HISTORY, CHARACTERISTICS, BREEDING,
MANAGEMENT, AND EXHIBITION

OF THE

VARIOUS BREEDS OF DOGS ESTABLISHED IN GREAT BRITAIN.

By HUGH DALZIEL,

Author of "The Diseases of Dogs," "The Diseases of Horses," "Breaking and Training Dogs," "Mad Dogs and Hydrophobia," &c.

WITH COLOURED PLATES AND WOOD ENGRAVINGS

BY A. BAKER, A. F. LYDON, R. MOORE, &c.

SECOND EDITION.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

L. UPCOTT GILL, 170, STRAND, W.C.

1888.

LONDON :

PRINTED BY A. BRADLEY, 170, STRAND, W.C.

636.7
D 1762

PREFACE.

SINCE the first edition of "British Dogs" was published, interest in the dog, and particularly in the nice distinctions that separate one variety from another closely allied, has largely increased. This opinion I base on the greater number of exhibitions, on the extended classification at shows, and the number of new varieties introduced, many of these latter being considered by their admirers as of sufficient importance to deserve the nurturing care and support of a special club instituted with that one object.

I of course admit—that which all may easily perceive—that the facts stated furnish no proof of the existence of a greater love for the dog than has always characterised our nation. All the facts, however, point to an increased interest, mainly directed to the consideration of minor differences between related breeds. Such distinctions, in many cases, are set up in a somewhat arbitrary manner; but he who aspires to be a connoisseur of dogs must study the points of each variety as they are set down by such authorities as the clubs above referred to, recognised and endorsed by the decisions of public judges, and now generally accepted as correct.

To meet this requirement of the time, I have therefore given, in the present and much enlarged edition, the description and numerical code of points adopted by each club representing the particular breed taken under its *xegis*.

Those who take an interest in exhibitions of dogs are, however, as statistics abundantly prove, but a small section

469000

of the dog-loving public. There are great numbers who care little for such descriptions and definitions of the individual and relative value of dogs as expressed in the words and numbers of club standards of excellence, and who seek information of what they consider a more practical, and also of a more general and widely-interesting character. I have therefore endeavoured to give fair expression to opinions of sportsmen and others who are outside what is called "the Fancy," and I have also introduced such historical accounts of our breeds as I could glean from sources I consider reliable.

In the compilation of the work I have had the generous assistance of friends whose opinions are, in many cases, given at large; and as these contributors are known to stand in the first rank as breeders and judges of the varieties of which they have written, I feel confident that such portions of this work will be accepted by readers as of high value.

A new and most valuable feature of the present edition is the series of excellent portraits, printed in colours, and representing dogs selected as eminently good specimens of their breeds. These are so true to life as to be in the highest degree creditable to the artists who produced them, and I look upon them as a great aid to the object of this work, which is to give correct delineations of all the varieties of our dogs.

HUGH DALZIEL.



CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTORY	1
<i>GROUP I.—Dogs that Hunt their Game by Sight, and Kill.</i>	
HISTORY OF THE GROUP	16
✓THE GREYHOUND	22
THE SCOTCH DEERHOUND	46
✓THE IRISH WOLFHOUND	76
THE SCOTCH ROUGH-HAIRED GREYHOUND	113
✓THE LUECHER	115
THE WHIPPET	118
THE SIBERIAN WOLFHOUND	129
THE PYRENEAN WOLFHOUND	131
THE CIRCASSIAN WOLFHOUND	133
THE PERSIAN GREYHOUND	136
<i>GROUP II.—Dogs that Hunt their Game by Scent, and Kill.</i>	
HISTORY OF THE GROUP	138
✓THE BLOODHOUND	151
THE STAGHOUND	174
THE FOXHOUND	181
THE OTTER-HOUND	196
THE HARRIER	201
✓THE BEAGLE	216
✓THE BASSET-HOUND	231
THE DACHSHUND	264
THE SCHWEISSHUND	284

GROUP III.—*Dogs that Find their Game by Scent,
and Index it for the Advantage of the Gun.*

	PAGE
HISTORY OF THE GROUP	288
THE POINTER	290
THE SPANISH POINTER	319
THE DROPPER	320
THE ENGLISH SETTER	321
THE IRISH SETTER	344
THE GORDON, OR BLACK AND TAN SETTER	356

FIELD TRIALS OF POINTERS AND SETTERS	365

GROUP IV.—*Dogs used with the Gun in Questing
and Retrieving Game.*

HISTORY OF THE GROUP	381
THE CLUMBER SPANIEL	392
THE SUSSEX SPANIEL	403
THE NORFOLK SPANIEL	413
THE BLACK FIELD SPANIEL	416
THE COCKER SPANIEL	429
THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL	435
THE ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL	449
THE FLAT, OR WAVY-COATED RETRIEVER	458
THE CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER	469
THE NORFOLK RETRIEVER	477
THE RUSSIAN RETRIEVER	481

FOREIGN BREEDS OCCASIONALLY EXHIBITED	483
STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE	488
INDEX	495



BRITISH DOGS.

INTRODUCTORY.

Few subjects, and certainly no animals, have been treated with so much written eloquence as the Dog; nor do I grudge the lavish encomiums heaped upon him, for they are well deserved.

There are several reasons why I have not followed the usual course pursued by writers on this subject. First, the felt want of ability to give expression to my views and feelings in language at once sufficiently laudatory and appropriate; secondly, that the several writers who have assisted in compiling this book may be trusted to do justice to the breeds they treat of in better terms than I can; and lastly, that as the book is intended to be, in great part, descriptive of the varieties as seen and classified at our dog shows, and therefore a practical work both for the experienced exhibitor and the tyro whose love for the dog needs no stimulus, panegyrics on his good qualities are not needed.

In carrying out my purpose, I have, on a plan I will presently more fully explain, grouped the dogs, and

as far as possible, given a full, minute, and accurate description of each variety as it at present exists and is recognised at our principal dog shows, and have illustrated these descriptions by faithful portraits of dogs that are acknowledged by the highest authorities to be true representatives of their class.

The sub-division of classes is now so great, and the points that separate one from another, in some cases, so minute, that an illustration in every case is needless; but wherever a sufficient difference of type exists to require it, the aid of the artist has been called in to explain the meaning. The pencil greatly assists the pen in showing the difference between closely allied breeds, and in this the several artists have, in most cases, been eminently successful.

No book on dogs would be complete without some notice of the history and development of the various breeds, as far as it can be traced by direct testimony or fair inference; but I have not attempted that well-trodden ground, which has hitherto proved so barren, and discussed the vexed question of the origin of the dog, which remains, to the present time, hopelessly obscure, and surrounded with the entanglements of contradictory opinions waiting to be unravelled by a Darwin or a Wallace.

In reference, however, to the origin of the very great number of varieties which exist, and are ever increasing, I may, in many instances, hazard a speculation, which can be accepted or rejected at the reader's option.

I cannot accept the theory, propounded by a recent writer, that each country or district had a peculiar type of wild dog created for it, from which the various breeds of domesticated dogs have sprung. Varieties can, I think, be accounted for more reasonably, and more in accord with the result of modern research.

Whoever would write the history of dogs must write the history of man; for, in periods as remote as history reaches, we find this animal associated with him as his

useful servant. When or how the close intimacy sprung up, which mutual advantage has kept and improved century after century, it may be impossible, with accuracy, to determine; but when we consider the extraordinary capacity for service natural to the dog—his wonderful scenting powers, his great speed, his strength and endurance, his marvellous cunning, his indomitable courage, his power of arranging, and facility in carrying out, a preconcerted attack on his prey—we see a combination of qualities of the greatest value to man in his most primitive state, which man's superior intelligence would quickly perceive, and lead him to wish to appropriate to his own use; and possibly the conquest was rendered easy by a natural instinct in the lower animal to trust, love, and serve him. At least, in favour of this we have the fact, which applies with more or less force to all breeds, that their greatest pleasure is in serving man and receiving his praise.

When man depended largely on the spoils of the chase for sustenance, the dog would be of the utmost value to him; and when the time came that other of our more domesticated animals were subdued, or partially so, and the shepherd's crook was taken up in addition to the rude instruments of war and the chase, the pliant nature of the dog would be quickly moulded into agreement with the new state of things, and he would become, as we find he had in the days of the patriarch Job, and as he still is, in many countries, both tender and defender of the flocks and herds.

In this case, the new duties and conditions of life would develop fresh traits of character, and variety of form and shape. The shepherd's dog would gradually assume a character of his own, and the Nimrods of those early days would have their own branches of the family chosen as best suited for their particular purpose: these being used for special work, certain faculties being constantly called into play, whilst others were allowed to lie dormant, the

latter would become almost extinguished, and thus still further divergence of type from the original ensued, and differences between existing breeds became more distinct.

This alone, carried out extensively, as it was certain to be, would produce great variety in form, size, colour, and capabilities; and, with the growth of civilisation these influences would increase in strength and variety, and, together with the powerful influence of climate and accidental circumstances, impossible to gauge, fully account for the extraordinary varieties of form we see in the dog as he exists at present.

Anecdotes of dogs are not embraced in my scheme. I have not inflicted insipidities of that kind on my readers; these are usually mere extensions of personal vanity, using the dog as the medium of praising the writer, and are generally, in addition, a compromise between the marvellous and the silly, that might be fairly described as attenuated twaddle. All such I have mercilessly excluded, and found room only for a few anecdotes which are exceptionally apt, and strongly illustrative of some distinguishing characteristic.

It may be said, that with works to hand wherein the subject is so well and exhaustively treated as those of "Stonehenge," Youatt, Hamilton, &c., there is no necessity for further writing on the subject. I trust, however, the reader will find in the following pages the best justification of our efforts; and, as this is one of those subjects of which so many never tire, and on many points of which there is still considerable difference of opinion, I have reason to hope it will not be without its use: and, although there may be little original in what has been written—for there are many echoes and but few voices—still it is pleasant, sometimes, to see old friends in new dresses, and instructive to view even familiar things through other eyes than our own. It is always interesting to compare the opinions of the past with those of the present, and to mark the changes

that take place; and, to go no further back, those who have followed dog shows from their establishment, cannot fail to be struck with the very great change which has taken place in many varieties for better or worse, and which are worth while considering.

Before proceeding to explain my grouping of the dogs, it may be of interest to very briefly notice the classification and arrangement adopted by the principal writers on the subject. The arrangement of dogs by our dog-show committees cannot be considered very satisfactory where there are the two great divisions of sporting and non-sporting. No doubt this system has arisen from the fact that the first publicly-recognised dog shows were for sporting dogs only, and the division was made when other classes were added; but the distinction appears to me to be perfectly useless, and rather confusing. Why; for instance, should a Fox Terrier, used for bolting foxes, be in the sporting division, and a Dandie Dinmont Terrier, used for bolting otters, be in the non-sporting division? The arrangement is arbitrary and useless, and those who frame dog-show schedules seem simply to have followed each other in the matter like sheep through a gap without their bell-wether. I have, therefore, discarded dog-show catalogues as a guide to my arrangement.

I will now hark back to one of the oldest English writers on dogs, and, I believe, the first to attempt a classification—Dr. Johannes Caius. In his treatise on “*Englishe Dogges*,” he adopted a classification, very quaintly expressed, but which has much to recommend it, its principle being based on the dog’s relation to man, and the uses to which man puts him; and he makes three great divisions—namely, sporting dogs, useful dogs otherwise employed, and toys. He says: “All English dogges be eyther of, A gentle kind, serving the game, A homely kind, apt for sundry necessary uses, or A Currish kind, meet for many toyes.” The first of these he sub-divides into two kinds—those used in hunting,

including Harriers, Terriers, Bloodhounds, Gazeounds, Greyhounds, Lyemmers, and Tumblers; and those used in fowling, which include the Land Spaniel, Water Spaniel, Setter, and the Fisher. The second division, or "homely kind," contains the "Shepherd's Dogge" and the Mastive or Bandogge, with a few others not very clearly defined, as "the Mooner" and "the Tynckers Curre." The third division, or the "Currish kind," he describes as "cures of the mongrel and rascall sort," and it consists of three varieties: "The Wappe, or Warner," "the Turnspete," and "the Dancer." This arrangement of Caius has been followed by Pennant, Daniel, and other writers.

I will now refer to the classification adopted by "Stonehenge," although it will be familiar to most of my readers; but I do so to show that the same principle is applied, though, of course, the latter writer had a greater subject to handle, and the manner of using the dog had considerably changed in three centuries. On the same plan, he gives us a fuller and more detailed arrangement—namely, first, wild and half-reclaimed dogs; second, dogs hunting chiefly by the eye; third, dogs hunting chiefly by the nose, and both finding and killing their game; fourth, dogs finding their game by scent, but not killing it, being chiefly used in aid of the gun (corresponding to the "gentle kind" of Caius, used "in taking the byrde"—that is, in aid of the net, now supplanted by the gun); fifth, pastoral dogs and those used for draught; sixth, watch, house, and toy dogs; seventh, crossbreeds, retrievers, &c.

It will be seen that these two arrangements, differing in detail, possess leading features in common; and now, as in strongest contrast to them, I will briefly give Cuvier's arrangement, which separates into three great divisions, according to the shape of the head and length of jaw. This places the Greyhound, Deerhound, Dingo, Dhole, &c., in one class; and, as many Terriers are now bred, it would certainly include them. The second division, consisting of

those with heads moderately elongated, includes the Spaniels, Pointer, Setter, Sheepdogs, and the Hounds hunting by scent—as the Foxhound, &c. The third division, with short muzzle and high skull, includes the Bulldog, Mastiff, Pug, and, in the present time, would also take in Blenheims and King Charles Spaniels.

Now, whatever merits Cuvier's plan of classifying the dog may possess from a scientific point of view, it is useless and confusing to the sportsman and the fancier.

Lieut.-Col. C. Hamilton-Smith adopts a similar arrangement, and also takes into consideration the original geographical distribution, and makes sub-divisions according to the length and quality of coat. On this latter point he lays more stress than any other writer. Youatt adopts Cuvier's system, as does Blaine. Meyrick considers it practically useless. Mr. C. Linnæus Martin divides dogs into five groups—Greyhounds, Newfoundlands, Spaniels, Hounds, and Mastiffs and Terriers, which is at least as unsatisfactory as having no arrangement at all; this, indeed, being the case with a considerable number of writers, to whom it is, perhaps, unnecessary to make further reference.

The tripartite division of some of the Greek and Roman cynegetical writers, and which is followed, and elucidated in a masterly manner, by Dansey, in his monograph of the *Canes venatici* of classical antiquity, recognises, first, the fierce dogs of war—the *Canes pugnaces*, or *bellicosi*—that were also used in the hunting of large and fierce game, and included all of the Molossian type, the British Mastiff, the Epirote, the Ser of India, the Albanian, and probably the Sicamber, now possibly represented by the German Boarhound; secondly, the *Canes sagaces*, including a great number of varieties, headed by the deep-mouthed dogs of Sparta, and including the parent stock of our modern Hounds.

The third group—the *Canes celeres*—was unknown to the older classic authors, and is first recognised and described

by Ovid, Nemesianus, Darcii, Arrian, and others living at the time of the initiation of the Christian era and the next two or three centuries.

This variety a consensus of opinion gives as obtained from the Celtic tribes that spread over Europe, and as far east as Asia Minor, and a branch of which settled in Ireland and Britain at a very early period, the date being variously stated by different historians. It is, however, certain that Julius Cæsar found Celts established in these Islands B.C. 59; and we have the fact established that these Celts possessed dogs of the Greyhound type, fast enough to cope with the hare and deer, running by sight and speed.

In dealing with a subject that has been treated by such able writers as those referred to, and others I have not mentioned, it is not to be expected, nor is it pretended, that I have anything very original to offer in the arrangement and grouping I propose; neither do I for a moment suppose that I have hit on a perfect system of classifying dogs. The varieties run into each other so imperceptibly, and, from the pliant, tractable nature of the dog, he is put to such various uses, that we often find varieties, the farthest removed from each other in form and structure, interchanging positions, and each doing what I may term the legitimate work of the other, so that I can conceive of no system free from flaws and objections; but I hope the plan here adopted will prove convenient for the discussion of the history, development, and characteristics of each group, with its individual varieties, and be found of easy and ready reference by those disposed to consult it for information.

A word of explanation, and by anticipation of objections, to disarm quibblers. I have included in the term "British Dogs" varieties that are not strictly British, because I think them, like so many breeds introduced in the past, likely to become British, and, meeting with them so often at

our shows, I trust they are, if not yet fully, at least in process of being, naturalised.

The increased number of foreign dogs now exhibited at our shows has induced me to add descriptions of several varieties not referred to in the first edition of this work.

Knowing also, as Dr. Caius quaintly expresses it, in referring to "a new sort of dog just brought out of France," that "we Englishmen are marvellous greedy, gaping gluttons after novelties, and covetous cormorants of things that be seldom, rare, strange, and hard to get," I believe my readers will not severely censure me for travelling a little beyond the title.

Thanks to the enthusiasm of Mr. J. Cumming Macdona, Mr. J. H. Murchison, and a few other gentlemen, the magnificent St. Bernard is now a British dog; and so may it be, in the future, with many other noble breeds, that need only to come under the genius for stock-breeding so peculiarly English to have their best qualities fully and quickly developed.

Of the breeds worthy of being added to our list of British dogs, and that I should like to see more popular, I may mention that handsome dog, the Barzoi, or Siberian Wolfhound, splendid specimens of which have been shown by H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the Right Hon. Lady Emily Peel, and others; that immense dog, the Great Dane, the finest specimen of which that has graced the show bench being Mr. Frank Adcock's gigantic dog, Satan; that singularly attractive and eminently useful-looking La Vendée Hound, of which Mr. G. de Landre Macdona's Ramonneau is a splendid specimen; the Basset, as represented by Mr. E. Millais' Model, and the Earl of Onslow's team; those burly tykes, the Thibet Mastiffs, of which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales shows specimens; and several other attractive varieties.

Since the above was first written, in 1880, a club has been formed for the encouragement of the Great Dane, and large

classes are now seen at our shows ; and the same remarks apply to the Basset Hound ; the other varieties mentioned have not as yet received much encouragement, but may, as others have, become popular alike unexpectedly and suddenly.

The classification I shall adopt is as follows :—

DIVISION I.—DOGS USED IN FIELD SPORTS.

Group I.—Those that pursue and kill the game, depending entirely, or mainly, on sight and speed, and little or not at all on their scenting powers, with varieties bred directly from them : Greyhounds, Deerhounds, Whippets, Lurchers, &c.

Group II.—Those hunting the game by scent and killing it : Bloodhounds, Foxhounds, Otter Hounds, Harriers, Beagles, &c.

Group III.—Those finding the game by scent, but trained to forego their natural instinct to pursue, and to stand and index the game for the advantage of the gun : Setters, Pointers, &c.

Group IV.—Other varieties used with the gun in questing and retrieving : All the Spaniels and Retrievers.

DIVISION II.—DOGS USEFUL TO MAN

(as assistants in his work, watchers and defenders of property, life-savers, companion and ornamental dogs, and destroyers of vermin).

Group I.—Those specially used as assistants in man's work : Pastoral dogs, and dogs used for draught ; shepherds' and drovers' dogs ; Esquimaux, &c.

Group II.—Watchers and defenders of life and property, life-savers, companion and ornamental dogs, as Bulldogs, Mastiffs, St. Bernards, Newfoundlands, Dalmatians, &c.

Group III.—Vermin destroyers : The Terriers.

DIVISION III.—HOUSE DOGS AND TOY DOGS.

Group I.—Those of distinct varieties from the foregoing: Pugs, Pomeranians, Poodles, Blenheims, &c.

Group II.—Those that are merely diminutives of already-mentioned species: The various Toy Terriers, &c.



DIVISION I.
DOGS USED IN FIELD SPORTS.

GROUP I.

Dogs that Hunt their Game by Sight, and Kill.

INCLUDING:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>The Greyhound.</i> | 6. <i>The Whippet, or Snap Dog.</i> |
| 2. <i>The Deerhound.</i> | 7. <i>The Siberian Wolfhound.</i> |
| 3. <i>The Irish Wolfhound.</i> | 8. <i>The Pyrenean Wolfhound.</i> |
| 4. <i>The Rough Scotch Greyhound.</i> | 9. <i>The Circassian Wolfhound.</i> |
| 5. <i>The Lurcher.</i> | 10. <i>The Persian Greyhound.</i> |

The whole of this group is included in Cuvier's first division, "characterised by head more or less elongated, parietal bones insensibly approaching each other, and the condyles of the lower jaw placed in a horizontal line with the upper molar teeth." The general form is light and elegant, chest deep, with flank more or less tucked up, long and strong back, and great length from hip bone to hock joint; the whole appearance giving the impression of great swiftness, which is a distinguishing property of the whole group, although not possessed in an equal degree by each variety. All more or less show the characteristics of the Canes celeres of the ancients, and although not in every case running their game strictly by sight, that is also a leading characteristic of all.

HISTORY OF THE GROUP.

THIS group stands out very boldly from all others; and, whether all its varieties came originally from the same stock (some *Canis primævus*, as Darwin suggests), or a species of wolf, existent or extinct, they have for ages been recognised as constituting a very distinct type, and from remote history have formed, as they still do, a very important section of our British dogs.

It is probable that the whole of those I have enumerated above, belonging to this country, are from the same stock, modified by selection and occasional crosses; as, for instance, the large, muscular Irish Wolfhound may have had a strain of the old fierce war dog used by the Celtic natives of these Isles; but it is certain, that at a very early period the wide distinction which separates our quick-footed Hounds from the slower Hounds working by scent, and the still more powerful *Canis pugnaces*, of the Molossian, or Mastiff type, was recognised as clearly as we now separate them from our Hounds, Spaniels, and Mastiffs.

The Romans did not merely obtain our pugnacious dogs for the sports of their amphitheatres: our hunting dogs, which excelled all others, both in swiftness and excellence of scent, were purchased, and brought high prices, or what, at all events, was at the time considered such, as is evidenced by the words of the Latin poet:

But if the coasts of Calais you visit next,
Where the firm shore with changing tides is vert,
And thence your course to distant Britain steer,
What store of dogs! and how exceeding dear!

The smooth Greyhound is now by far the most important, as he is the most perfect, representative of the group, showing in the greatest perfection the qualities for which they have always been distinguished and valued.

It is generally believed that the Greyhound was brought into these Islands by a Celtic tribe, who spread over Ireland

and the Western islands, and mainland of Scotland, during the third century, according to Holinshed, but much earlier in the opinion of others, who hold that the great Celtic wave spread over Europe, reaching these Islands B.C. 500; but it is admittedly impossible to define dates. Arrian, writing about the third decade of the second century, gives a full and accurate description of the dog, and calls him a Celtic Hound. Holinshed, in his description of Ireland, says: "The Greihounde of King Cranthylinth's dayes was not fetched so far as out of Grecia, but rather bred in Scotland." Cranthylinth, or Crathilinthus, was the eighteenth of the kings of Scotland, and began to reign in the year 277.

Evidence exists that the Greyhound formed part of the kennels of Elfric, Duke of Mercia, for, in some curious dialogues, written by him in Latin, and translated by Turner, the following occurs: "I am a hunter to one of the kings."—"How do you exercise your art?" "I spread my nets, and set them in a fit place, and instruct my Hounds to pursue the wild deer till they come to the nets unexpectedly, and so are entangled, and I slay them in the nets."—"Cannot you hunt without nets?" "Yes, with *swift Hounds* I follow the wild deer."—"What wild deer do you chiefly take?" "Harts, boars, and reindeer and goats, and sometimes hares." In the Cotton Library, also, there exists a manuscript of the ninth century, in which a Saxon chieftain and his huntsman, with a brace of Greyhounds, are portrayed. The picture is copied by Strutt, in his "Sports and Pastimes," and shows a couple of dogs with something of the type of head of, but shorter in body and tail than, our Greyhounds, about to be slipped at wild swine. I am bound to say that the figures of these dogs, as reproduced by Strutt, so far as they can be relied on to represent a breed, are more like the Great Dane of our shows in head and carriage of stern (which latter is Hound-like); but the back is shorter, and the ears appear short, pointed,

and erect, as if cropped. It is the more important to notice this, as we have the assurance of Strutt that the engravings are faithful copies of ancient ones. Far more Greyhound-like is the dog represented in the picture, "The Unearthing of a Fox," from a manuscript of the fourteenth century, in the Royal Library.

Among the wild clans of the North, the ancestors of our Deerhounds were cherished, and used by those hardy hunters in the pursuit of the stag, as well as in the destruction of the wolf; and the stealing of one that excelled in size, swiftness, and courage, by a clan that had been the guests of another at a hunting party, led to a furious and bloody combat. And however apocryphal the songs of Ossian may be, the writer touches a genuine chord in the national sympathies in singing the praises of the dogs of Fingal, in his description of a royal hunting "call." Said Fingal: "Call my dogs, the long-bounding sons of the chace. Call white-breasted Bran, and the surly strength of Luath. Fillan and Fergus! blow my horn, that the joy of the chace may arise; that the deer of Cromla may hear and start at the Lake of Roes. The shrill sound spreads along the wood. The sons of heathy Cromla arise. A thousand dogs fly off at once, gray-bounding through the heath. A deer fell by évery dog, and three by the white-breasted Bran."

That the Deerhound and Irish Wolfhound were, if not identical, very closely allied, I think there can be no doubt; and with such game as they were fitted to cope with in abundance, the fugacious hare was thought little of; but, in the lower and more open countries, the lighter built and more nimble dogs would be used for that quarry. Arrian, describing the Celtic Greyhound, refers to both smooth and long-haired; and I think it in the highest degree probable that all are from the same stock, for we know that quantity and quality of coat readily change, and, according to domestic treatment, quite alter in character

in a few generations, whilst variation in colour is the common inheritance of domestication.

According to William of Malmesbury, Edward the Confessor "took great delight to follow a pack of swift hounds in pursuit of game, and to cheer them with his voice"; but these were, probably, hounds running by scent. But the same writer, enumerating the dogs of the chase, includes Greyhounds as favourite dogs with the sportsmen of that time.

King John was a lover of hunting, and of the Greyhound; and the gallant Gelert, made famous in Spenser's poem, was said to be a gift of this king to his son-in-law, Llewellyn. That the story must be admitted to be mythical does not altogether destroy its value. John was at heavy charges in the maintenance of his kennels, including Wolfhounds and Greyhounds, and his son and successor, Henry III., who instituted the severest of Forest Laws, kept up the sport of hunting, in which these and other varieties of dogs were used.

Edmund de Langley, fourth son of Edward III., who was born 1341, became Master of Hounds and Hawks to Henry IV., and wrote a Treatise, called "Mayster of Game," for the pleasure and instruction of Prince Henry—afterwards Henry V.—in which the Greyhound is minutely described.

Following shortly after De Langley, we have the celebrated "Book of St. Albans," published by Winkin de Worde, 1496, in which Greyhounds and hare-hunting, as well as stag-hunting, are referred to and explained.

In the time of Henry VIII., it was a boast of manhood on the part of the young gallants, among other accomplishments—

. to nourishe up and fede
The Greyhounde to the course.

During this reign, we have the first mention of coursing for wagers. Jesse quotes from the accounts of expenditure

of the King: "Sir William Pykering received forty-five shillings for a course that he won of the king's grase in Eltham Park against his dog; and another person, twenty-two and sixpence, for bets that he won of the king in Eltham Park. Also the Lord Rochford—forty-five shillings for a wager he won with a brace of Greyhounds at Mote Park."

In the reign of Elizabeth, Dr. Johannes Caius wrote his "Englishe Dogges," in which the Greyhound is described, but not with that accuracy of detail which we find in the writings of Gervase Markham, who followed a generation later, or of Edmund de Langley, who preceded him by about two centuries.

Caius recognises the distinction in size, coat, and the purposes to which the dogs were put, which answer to our Deerhounds and Greyhounds of to-day. "Some," he remarks, "are of a greater sorte, and some of a lesser, some are smooth skynned and some are curled; the bigger, therefore, are appoynted to hunt the bigger beasts, and the smaller serve to hunte the lesser accordingly."

The Gazehound, one of this group, used to single out and pursue the wounded or selected deer by sight alone, is also mentioned by Caius, but by him wrongly termed "*Agaseus*," which really represents the Beagle, and had been applied to that dog for centuries previous to his time.

In Elizabeth's reign, the diversion of coursing became more fashionable than it had ever been previously, and Her Majesty personally enjoyed the sport of coursing stags with Greyhounds. It is recorded that, on a visit to Cowdry Park, the seat of Lord Montacute, the Queen saw sixteen bucks pulled down by Greyhounds after dinner, the bucks having fair law. These dogs were probably of the strong Deerhound type.

Hare-coursing now became established on a firmer and better basis than it had occupied, by the formation of the laws of the leash into a regular code, by the Duke of

Norfolk, which, with alterations not affecting their principle, rules at the present day.

Modern coursing can scarcely, however, be said to have been raised to its present high position till the end of the last century, when Lord Orford, in 1776, established the Swaffham Coursing Society, and, in 1780, Lord Craven the Ashdown Park Meeting. Since that time, the throwing open of the pastime, by the alteration in the Game Laws permitting anyone to course hares without a certificate, clubs have become numerous, the chief of which—the National Coursing Club—exercises authority over all public meetings where its rules are adopted, and under its auspices a Stud Book has been compiled, and is now issued annually, giving the pedigrees of all the public runners of the year.

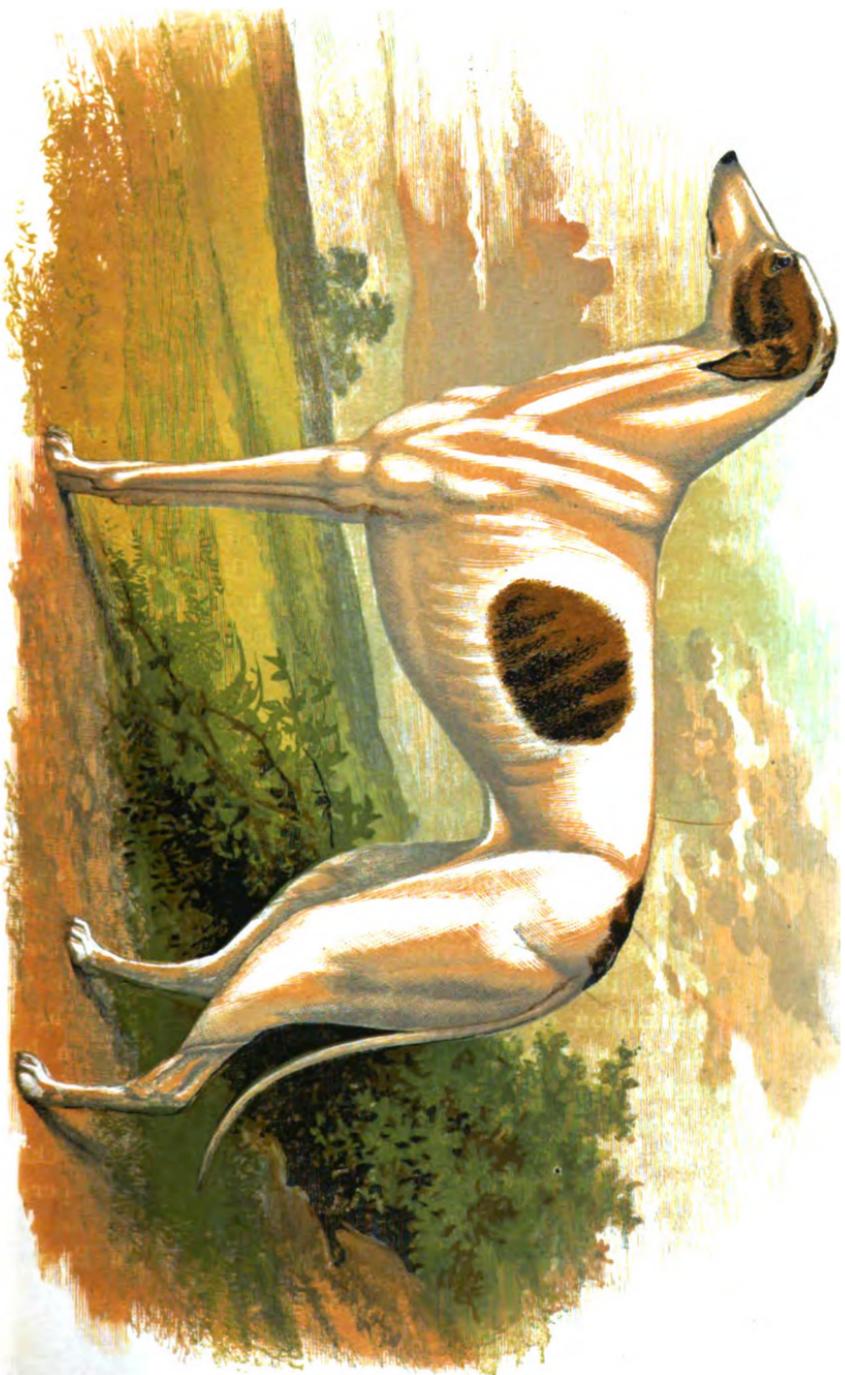
It is impossible to trace the divergence from the original Greyhound, and the modifications which have resulted in the varieties we now possess; but all history and records of sport seem to point to the fact that Wolfhound, Deerhound, and Greyhound, sprang from the same source, although, probably, not each alike bred in purity. In the case of the latter, the type has, by careful breeding, become fixed; and even in the most trivial features there is a closer likeness between the individuals of the race than ever before existed. Each variety of the group will, however, be dealt with separately, and at length; but the following description, said to be from an old MS., but of what date I do not know, applies to the generic character of the purer varieties of the group:

The Greyhound, the great Hound, the graceful of limb,
Rough fellow, tall fellow, swift fellow, and slim;
Let them sound o'er the earth, let them sail o'er the sea,
They will light on none other more ancient than he.

CHAPTER I.

THE GREYHOUND.

THE particular variety of *Canes venatici grayii* of which I propose to treat, and which possesses an inherent right to occupy the highest place in the group of dogs hunting by keenness of sight and fleetness of foot, is the modern British Greyhound. I say British, for the time has gone by when we could speak of English, Scotch, or Irish Greyhounds in any other than the past tense; and the modern Greyhound, the most elegant of the canine race, the highest achievement of man's skill in manipulating the plastic nature of the dog, and forming it to his special requirements, as he is stripped, in all his beauty of outline and wonderful development, not only of muscle, but of that hidden fire which gives dash, energy, and daring, stands revealed a manufactured article, the acme of perfection in beauty of outline and fitness of purpose; and whether we see him trying conclusions on the meadows of Lurgan, the rough hillsides of Crawford John, or for the blue ribbon of the leash on the flats of Altcar, he is still the same—the dog in whom the genius of man has so mingled the blood of all the best varieties of the Celtic *Canes celeres*, that no one can lay special claim to him. He is a combination of art and Nature that challenges the world, unequalled in speed, spirit, and perseverance, and, in elegance and beauty of form, as far removed from many of his clumsy ancestors as an English thoroughbred from a coarse dray-horse.



GREYHOUND.

Mr. D. H. Owen's Lady Shrewsbury, by Happy Lad, out of Rowena.

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OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

It is not my intention, further than I have already done, to attempt to trace the history of the Greyhound, or to follow his development from the comparatively coarse but more powerful dog from which he probably derives his origin. It is clear, however, that our ancestors had two thousand years ago developed his form, swiftness, and wind, so as to enable him to run down the deer and hare at speed. The very name has long been a bone of contention among etymologists; but, however interesting to the scholar, the discussion possesses few attractions for the general reader, the ingenious guessing and nice hair-splitting proving often more confusing than profitable. Not to pass the subject over in complete silence, I may observe, that whilst some contend that the name *Canis Græcus* points to a Greek origin, others derive the name from "grey," *gre*, or *grie*, supposed to be originally the prevailing colours; others, with apparently greater reason, suppose the name to have been given on account of the high rank or degree the dog held among his fellows. The latter is the meaning attached to it by Caius, who says: "The Grehound hath his name of this word *gre*, which word soundeth *gradus* in Latine, in Englishe *degree*; because, among all dogges these are the most principall, occupying the chiefest place, and being simply and absolutely the best of the gentle kinde of Houndes." The translator of Arrian thinks this fanciful, but at the same time points out that the word *gre* is used for degree by Gawin Douglas, Thomas the Rhymer the Prophet of Ercildoun, the author of the metrical romance "Morte Arthur," and by Sir David Lindsay in his satirical poem "The Complaint of the King's Auld Hound, Bagsche," when addressing the King's new favourite Houndes: "Though ye stand in the highest gre"; and he (the translator) acknowledges: "Whimsical, therefore, as Caius's tracing of the term may be, we cannot view it as utterly untenable."

In addition to this, I may point out that the word,

bearing the same signification, is to be found in Burns and Scott, and there is a common Scotch phrase, "to bear the gree," meaning to be decidedly victor, or to take precedence of others.

The translator of Arrian "would rather seek the origin of the English name in the prevailing colour of the dog," in which the numerous commixtures of colours forming the various shades of grey predominate. "Stonehenge" leans to this view; and he also points out that "no other breed has, I believe, the blue or grey colour prevalent." The blue colour is, however, common to the Great Dane.

Again, it has been sought to trace the name to the grey, the old name for the badger—hence Grey-hunde, or Badger-hound; but although so high an authority as Skinner suggests it, I cannot but think it entirely fanciful, for a dog of the Greyhound type is not needed for such slow game as the badger.

Gesner spells the name Grewhound; and Golding, in his translation of Ovid, uses the contraction of that compound, Grewnd, which is common enough:

And even as when the greedy Grewnde doth course the sillie hare,
Amiddes the plaine and champion fields, without all covert bare.

In the south of Scotland the Greyhound is still commonly called the Grew; and in "Guy Mannering," Dandie Dinmont includes, in the list of his dogs, "six Terriers, twa couple of Slowhounds, five *Grews*, and a wheen ither dowgs."

The Greyhound, having been always kept for the chase, would naturally undergo modifications with the changes in the manner of hunting, the nature of the wild animals he was trained to hunt, and the characteristics of the country in which he was used; and having always, until very recent times, been restricted to the possession of persons of the higher ranks, he would have greater care, and his improvement be the better secured. That his possession was so restricted is shown by the Forest Laws of King

Canute, which prohibited anyone under the degree of a gentleman from keeping a Greyhound ; and an old Welsh proverb says : " You may know a gentleman by his horse, his hawk, and his Greyhound." In the Welsh laws of Howel Dda (who died 948), the King's Buckhound, or Covert-hound, is valued at a pound, his Greyhound at six-score pence ; and, in the Code of 1080, and the Dimetian Code of 1180, the Greyhound is valued at half that of the Buckhound. The alteration in the game laws of modern times, coupled with the great increase of wealth and leisure, have, by giving impetus to the natural desire for field sports characteristic of Englishmen, led to the present great and increasing popularity of coursing, and consequent diffusion of Greyhounds through all classes, heightening an honourable competition, and securing a continued if not a greater care, and certainty of the dog's still further improvement.

It is impossible to separate the Greyhound from coursing as we understand it ; for, although the sport existed, and was practised in a manner similar to our present system, some seventeen hundred years ago, as described by Arrian in the second century, the thorough organisation of the sport, and the condensation of the laws governing it, are not only essentially British, but, in their present shape, quite modern ; and it is the conditions of the sport that have produced the Greyhound of the day, to which the words—

*They are as swift as breathed stags,
Aye, fleetest than the roe,*

are more applicable than to any of its predecessors.

If we go back to the earlier centuries of the history of our country, we find the Greyhound used in pursuit of the wolf, boar, deer, &c., in conjunction with other dogs of more powerful build. Still, we can easily perceive that, to take a share in such sports at all, he must have been probably larger, certainly stronger, coarser, and more inured to hard-

ships, whilst he would not be kept so strictly to sight hunting as the demands of the present require; but the material out of which the present dog has been made was there, and his form and characteristics, even to minute detail, were recognised, and have been described with an accuracy of which no other breed of dogs has had the advantage, else might we be in a better position to understand the value of claims for old descent set up for so many varieties. And to these descriptions I propose to refer, to endorse, as well as to make still more clear and emphatic, the points of excellence recognised as correct by modern followers of the leash.

The whole group to which the Greyhound belongs is distinguished by the elongated head; the parietal, side and upper, or partition bones of the head, shelving in towards each other; high proportionate stature, deep chest, arched loins, tucked-up flank, and long, fine tail; and such general form as is outlined in this description is seen in perfection in the Greyhound. To some it may sound contradictory to speak in one sentence of elegance and beauty of form, and in the next of a tucked-up flank; and Fox Terrier and Mastiff men, who want their favourites well-ribbed back, with deep loin, and flanks well filled, to make a form as square as a prize Shorthorn, may object; but we must remember, that beauty largely consists in fitness and aptitude for the uses designed, and the position to be filled.

This being so, in estimating the Greyhound's claim to be the handsomest of the canine race we must remember for what his various excellencies, resulting in a whole which is so strikingly elegant, are designed. Speed is the first and greatest quality a dog of this breed can possess; to make a perfect dog there are other attributes he must not be deficient in, but wanting in pace he can never hope to excel. The most superficial knowledge of coursing or coursing literature will show this, and it is a quality which,

although developed to its present high pitch, has always been recognised as most important. Chaucer says :

、 Greihounds he hadde as swift as fowl of flight ;

And again—following the example of the immortal scoundrel, Wegg—to drop into poetry, Sir Walter Scott, in his introduction to “Marmion,” thus eulogises the speed of the Greyhound :

Remember’st thou my Greyhounds true?
O’er holt or hill there never flew,
From leash or slip there never sprang,
More fleet of foot, more sure of fang.

Well does he deserve the encomium of Markham, who declares he is, “of all dogs whatsoever, the most princely, strong, nimble, swift, and valient.”

In addition to speed, the dog must have strength to last out a severe course, nimbleness in turning, the capacity to catch and bear the hare in his stride, good killing powers, and vital force to give him dash, staunchness, and endurance. What a dog possessing these qualities should be like I shall, by the assistance of the keenest and most experienced observers and writers on the subject, endeavour to show ; and whilst gladly sitting at the feet of modern Gamaliels, will not slight the wisdom of the past, but will offer gleanings from the works of old, that may prove both interesting and instructive to the tyro, although as a tale that hath been told to many ; and in defence of such a course, let me quote Geoffrey Chaucer :

For out of the old fieldis, as men saith,
Cometh all this new corn from year to year ;
And out of olde bookis in good faith,
Cometh all this new science that men lere.

It will be unnecessary here to enter on any lengthened dissertation on coursing as at present practised, and it will suffice to say that the sport has, in fact, lived

down the old prejudices which existed against it, as expressed in the words of Somerville, whose tastes preferred

The musical confusion
Of Hounds and echo in conjunction ;

and who, with unjust prejudice, penned an undeserved censure against followers of the leash when he wrote :

A different Hound for every different chase
Select with judgment ; nor the poor timorous hare,
O'er matched, destroy ; but leave that vile offence
To the mean, murderous, coursing crew.

I have no doubt, however, that Somerville, who was a thorough sportsman, had in his mind, when penning these lines, the poacher and currant jelly courser, who do not hesitate at the means, or how they o'ermatch the hare, so that their supreme object of filling the bag is attained ; for with such a murderous crew the hare gets no law.

Without going deeply into the subject of coursing, it will, however, I think, be necessary to briefly glance at what a dog is required to do in a course, and that for two reasons : First, because I hold that all dogs should be judged in the show ring by their apparent suitability for their special work ; and secondly, because this book may fall into the hands of many who are real lovers of the dog, and genuine sportsmen at heart, but who, from various circumstances, have never had an opportunity of seeing a course, or that so rarely as to be practically unacquainted with its merits.

The remarks of the inexperienced on a course are often amusing. The most common mistake made by the tyro is, that the dog which kills the hare always wins, irrespective of other considerations—a most excusable error on the part of the novice, as in most or all other descriptions of racing the first at the post or object is the winner ;

but in coursing it is not which is first there, but which has done most towards accomplishing the death of the hare, or put her to the greatest straits to escape. Be it here understood, that the object of the courser and the object of the dogs differ materially. The dogs' object is the death of the hare; the courser's object is to test the relative speed, working abilities, and endurance of the competitors, as shown in their endeavours to accomplish their object: and the possession of the hare is of little consequence, except to the pothunter or currant jelly devotee, who is quite out of the pale of genuine coursing society.

Although what I am going to say will be as stale and tiresome to—and as likely to create a smile in—many as listening to a child's first lesson in the alphabet, I consider it, for the reasons already given, necessary. Two dogs only are slipped at a hare—and this has always been the honourable practice in this country. Even the Greek courser, Arrian, recognises this, saying: "Whoever courses with Greyhounds should neither slip them near the hare, nor more than a brace at a time"; and in Turberville's "Observations on Coursing" we find the maxim: "If the Greyhounds be but yonge or slow, you may course with a lease at one hare, but that is seldom seen, and a brase of dogges is ynow for such a poore beaste."

The hare being found, or so-ho'd, and given law—a fair start of eighty or a hundred yards—the dogs are slipped. In the run up, as in after stretches following a turn, the relative speed of the dogs is seen; but the hare, being pressed, will jerk, turn, and wind in the most nimble manner, testing the dogs' smartness in working, suppleness, and agility in making quick turns, and "it is a gallant sport to see how the hare will turn and wind to save herself out of the dogge's mouth, so that, sometimes, when you think that your Greyhound doth,

as it were, gape to take her, she will turn and cast them a good way behind her, and so save herself by turning, wrenching, and winding." It is by the practice of these clever wiles and shifts that the hare endeavours to reach her covert, and, in closely following her scut, and o'er-mastering her in her own devices, that a Greyhound displays the mastery of this branch of his business, in which particular a slower dog will often excel an opponent that has the foot of him in the stretches; but, with this working power, a facility in making short turns, speed must be combined, or it stands to reason points could not be made, except on a comparatively weak hare. It is, therefore, important that the conformation of the dog should be such as to combine speed with a strength and suppleness that will, as far as possible, enable him to control and guide the velocity with which he is moving, as his quick eye sees the game swerve or turn to one side or another.

As the death of the hare, when it is a kill of merit—that is, when accomplished by superior speed and cleverness, and not by the accident of the foremost dog turning the hare, as it were, into the killer's mouth—is a consideration in reckoning up the total of good points made, it is important that the dog should be formed to do this, picking up and bearing the hare in his stride, and not stopping to worry her as a terrier would a rat; and here many points come in which should be narrowly scanned and compared in the show ring, but too often are not, and these I will allude to in going over the several points.

In addition, there are other requirements for which the dog must possess qualities to make him successful in the field, and give him a right to a prize in the show ring, and which will be noticed in detail. A good idea of a course, with the gallant efforts of pursuer and pursued, is given in the following lines from Ovid, translated by Dryden :

As when the impatient Greyhound, slipped from far,
Bounds o'er the glade to course the fearful hare,
She in her speed does all her safety lie,
And he with double speed pursues his prey,
O'erruns her at the sitting turn; but licks
His chaps in vain; yet blows upon the flix.
She seeks the shelter which the neighbouring covert gives,
And, gaining it, she doubts if yet she lives.

In forming an opinion of a dog—whether in selecting him for some special purpose of work, or merely choosing the best out of a lot in the prize ring—first impressions are occasionally deceptive, get confirmed into prejudices, and mislead the judgment. But, in the great majority of cases, to the man who knows what he is *looking at*, what he is *looking for*, and what he has a reasonable right to expect, the first impression conveyed to the mind by the general outline or contour, and the way it is filled in, will be confirmed on a close critical and analytical examination of the animal point by point; and it is only by such close and minute examination that a judge can become thoroughly master of his subject, and arrive at a position where he can give strong, clear, and intelligible reasons for the opinions he has formed, and the decision he has given. Moreover, there is that to be weighed and taken into account, in the final judgment on the dog's merits, which is referable to no part alone, which can only be appreciated on taking him as a whole—that is, *life*—that indefinable something which evades the dissector's knife, yet permeates the whole body; the centre power, which is the source of movement in every quivering muscle, and is variously seen in every action of the dog, and in every changing emotion of which he is capable. This I conceive to be the only difficulty in the way of judging by points, and it is not insuperable: this is probably what is often meant by *condition* and *quality*.

The judge must, however, as already said, consider, and, if need be, describe, not only the general appearance of

the animal, and the impression he conveys to his (the judge's) mind, but, as it were, take him to pieces, assessing the value of each particular part according to its fitness for the performance of the special function for which it is designed, and under the peculiar conditions in which it will have to act; and, having done so, he will find his first opinion confirmed precisely in the ratio of his fitness to judge.

Before taking the points one by one, I must give the description of a Greyhound, as laid down in the doggerel rhymes of the illustrious authoress of "The Booke of St. Albans," Dame Juliana Berners, or Barnes, sometime Abbess of Sopewell, and since described as "a second Minerva in her studies and another Diana in her diversions." It would be sheer heresy to write of Greyhounds without introducing her description, so universally has this been done; I therefore give it in full, which I have never seen done by any of our modern authorities. In doing so, I must confess there are two lines that to me are somewhat obscure. I, however, venture to suggest that in his eighth year he is only a *lick ladle*—fit to lick a trencher; and in his ninth year, cart and saddle may be used to take him to the tanner.

THE PROPERTIES OF A GOOD GREHOUNDE.

A Grehound shold be heeded lyke a snake
 And neckyd lyke a drake,
 Footed lyke a catte,
 Tayllyd lyke a ratte,
 Syded lyke a teme,
 And ohynyd lyke a beme.
 The fyrst yere he must lerne to fede,
 The second yere to felde him lede,
 The thyrde yere he is felowe lyke,
 The fourth yere there is none syke,
 The fyfth yeare he is good enough,
 The syxte yere he shall hold the plough,
 The seventh yere he woll avaylle
 Grete bytches for to assaylle,

The eygthe yere licke ladyll,
 The nynthe yere cartsadyll ;
 And when he is comyn to that yere
 Have him to the tannere,
 For the best Hounde that ever bytohe had
 At nynthe yere he is full badde.

To begin the detailed description with *the head*—which includes jaws, teeth, eyes, ears, and brain development—first the general form must be considered. It must be quite evident that “headed like a snake” cannot mean “like a snake’s head,” which is short, flat, and blunt, or truncated. I understand the Abbess to use the snake itself, not its head only, as a simile of the length and thinness of the Greyhound’s head.

Arrian says: “Your Greyhounds should have light and well-articulated heads, whether hooked or flat-nosed is not of much consequence, nor does it greatly matter whether the parts beneath the forehead be protuberant with muscle. They are alone bad which are heavy-headed, having thick nostrils, with a blunt instead of a pointed termination.” Edmund de Langley, in his “Mayster of Game,” says: “The Greihouñd should have a long hede and somedele grete, ymakyd in the manner of a luce; a good large mouth and good sessours, the one again the other, so that the nether jaws passe not them above, ne that thei above passe not him by neither”; and coming down to Gervase Markham, in the sixteenth century, we have his description: “He should have a fine long leane head, with a sharp nose, rush grown from the eyes downward.”

The general form and character of the head is here pretty fairly sketched, and we see a very close agreement between these old authorities. It appears to me that the “Mayster of Game” was the most happy in his illustration, “Made in the manner of a luce”—that is, a full-grown pike—as the heads of the Greyhound and pike will bear a fair comparison without straining; and who can say it was not the exigencies of rhyme that compelled our

sporting Abbess to set up for us that stumbling-block, the head of a snake? No doubt she thought of the excellent illustration the neck of the drake offered her, and had to find a rhyme to it; but she might with as great propriety have written:

The Grehound should be heeded like a luce
And neckyd like a goose.

The force of illustration lost in the second line is more than compensated for by the strength of the first. Markham is right in desiring a "long leane head," though even that may be carried to a fault: but we do not want the "part beneath the forehead protuberant of muscle"; and the "heavy-headed, with thick nostrils and a blunt nose," I must, with Arrian, discard altogether as thoroughly bad, too slow, and certain to be "too clever by half." Looking at the whole head, we see by the sloping in of the side walls of the skull how the brain capacity is diminished, and how the elongation and narrowing of head and jaws have almost obliterated the olfactory organs, the internal cavities becoming contracted, and presenting so much less surface that the scenting powers are necessarily limited, although it is a mistake to suppose that they are entirely lost. This is just what we want in the Greyhound; he must run by sight, never using his nose; he must have the brain developed where it shows courage, not intelligence. When a Retriever has to puzzle out a lost bird his nose and his intelligence are both put to the test, and the higher the development the better the dog. And as we find the intellectual faculties highest in those dogs with most brain, so we select our Retrievers thus formed: but as this would be a disadvantage in the Greyhound, which we want to run honest and fair—such as Justice Shallow in the "Merry Wives of Windsor" describes:

He is a good dog and a fair dog;
Can there be more said?—he is good and fair—

we select them without this intellectual development, by use of which they would soon study the wiles and shifts of "poor Wat," and, to save their wind and legs, "run cunning"—that is, do a "waiting race," the cunning dog allowing his fellow to do the work, whilst he hangs back for the hare to be turned into his mouth. A Greyhound should measure well round the head by the ears, which is a sure indication of the courage that gives dash and persistence to his efforts.

By "hooked nose" I presume Arrian to mean that the upper jaw protrudes; but that would decidedly be a fault, as a dog so formed would be at a disadvantage in holding and killing his hare. This formation, called overshot, or pig-jawed, is often met with in various breeds of dogs, but if at all excessive is most objectionable. The opposite to that is sometimes seen, and we have them under-shot, though such cases are comparatively rare, and owe their origin to the cross with the Bulldog, which has been resorted to to give stamina, courage, and staunchness. The form to be desired is the level mouth, with the "good sessours, the one again the other."

There is a formation of muzzle met with which is slightly ridged or Roman nosed; if not excessive, this is no detriment to the dog's practical usefulness, although as a matter of taste it may not be considered as adding to the beauty of his appearance. This peculiarity may exist with a good level mouth.

The teeth themselves are important, and should be large, strong, and white, the fangs sharp and powerful—the upper ones just overlapping those in the lower jaw; this is not only necessary for their work, but is always a sign of health.

"*The eye*," Arrian says, "should be large, upraised, clear, and strikingly bright. The best look fiery, and flash like lightning, resembling those of leopards, lions, or lynxes." Markham says: "A full, clear eye, with long eyelids." The latter peculiarity I have never observed,

probably from want of a close attention to the point; but the clear, bright, and fiery eye is always a necessity, although, of course, the condition of the dog and the circumstances under which he is seen must be considered in judging of it. The colour varies with that of the coat, as in all breeds. I have only met with one instance of wall-eye, or china-eye, such as is so common in the peculiar dappled grizzle-coloured Colleys, and that was in a pure bred and very handsome dog with light blue brindle markings; it is certainly a disfigurement, but in no way interferes with the dog's vision.

Of *the ears* Arrian writes: "They should be large and soft, so as to appear broken; but it is no bad indication if they appear erect, provided they are not small and stiff." This description would not be accepted as satisfactory now, as ears are preferred small, and free from all coarseness. Neither does Markham's "a sharp ear, short, and close-falling," quite convey the modern idea of a Greyhound's ear; it should be soft, fine in leather, and folded, with the shoulder of the ear strong enough to carry the whole up when the dog is excited or his attention fixed.

The neck is the next point, and it is one of very great importance; it must be long, strong, well-clothed with muscle, yet withal light, airy, and possessing wonderful flexibility and suppleness. Arrian says: "The neck should be long, round, and flexible, so that if you forcibly draw the dogs backwards by their collars it may seem to be broken from its flexibility and softness." The neck is certainly wonderfully pliant, and readily bent to either side at will. Our Royal writer says: "The neck should be grete and longe, and bowed as a swanne's neck"; Markham: "A long neck, a little bending, with a loose, hanging wezand." The last point is not correct, and might convey the idea that there was a looseness of skin underneath: the windpipe, although easily felt, does not hang loose, the whole neck being neat, round, clean made,

and elegantly carried. A long neck, as well as a long head, is necessary to enable the dog to pick up, carry, or bear the hare without stopping, which he will do throwing his head up with the hare in his mouth; but a dog with a short neck would have to stoop so in catching his hare, that there would be a very great chance of his coming a "cropper," the force at which he was going throwing him heels over head.

Continuing from the neck we have the broad, square, beam-like *back*, of good length and great strength; without this the dog could not endure the exhaustive process of the "pumpers" he is submitted to. *The chest*, too, must be deep, and fairly wide. Arrian says: "Broad chests are better than narrow; shoulders wide apart, not tied together, but as loose and free as possible; legs round, straight, and well-jointed; sides strong; loins broad, firm, not fleshy, but sinewy; upper flanks loose and supple; hips wide asunder; lower flanks hollow; tail long, fine, and supple; haunches sweeping, and fine to the touch." In respect to the chest, it is needless to say how all-important it is that it should be capacious; but we must get capacity from the depth and squareness, not from the bulged-out, barrel form, which would produce slow movement and a heavy-fronted dog that would soon tire. Take Markham's description in "The Country Farm": "A long, broad, and square beam back, with high, round fillets; he must be deep, swine-sided, with hollow bended ribs and a full brest."

"The Mayster of Game" gives an excellent description: "Her shuldres as a roebuck; the for leggs streight and grete ynow, and nought to hind legges; the feet straught and round as a catte, and great cleas; the boones and the joyntes of the cheyne grete and hard as the chyne of an hert; the thighs great and squarred as an hare; the houghs streight, and not crompyng as of an oxe." The shoulders should be set on as obliquely as possible, to

enable the dog to throw his fore legs well forward in his gallop, the shoulder blades sloping in towards each other as they rise; they should be well clothed with muscle, but not fleshy and coarse so as to look loaded; the shoulders should not be tied together, but have plenty of freedom—this, with the strong muscles of the loin, enables the dog to turn fast and cleverly; the elbows must be neither turned out nor in; the bone of the leg must be strong; there must be good length of arm; and the leg below the knee must be short and very strong, and the foot round and cat-like; well-sprung knuckles, a firm, hard, thick sole, and large, strong nails, are also essential.

The beam-like back is to give the necessary strength; the deep chest is needed with sufficient width to give plenty of room for the lungs and heart to freely perform their functions; width is needed that the necessary room may be got without making the chest so deep as to be in the way and catch against stones, tussocks, and lumps of turf on rough, coarse ground, when the dog is fully stretched in the gallop; the oblique shoulders enable the dog to throw his legs well forward and close together, thus enabling him to cover a lot of ground at each stride, and also, in connection with his long and supple neck, to throw himself through an astonishingly small meuse. The necessity of sufficient bone, big, strong joints, and muscular legs is apparent where such violent exertion is called for, and the round, cat-like foot, is a necessity of speed: no one would have the wheels of a fast-going gig made as broad in the tyre as those of a four-ton waggon. The soles are required hard and tough that they may stand the wear and tear of rough ground and stony lanes, if these have to be travelled over; the strong claws give the dog purchase over the ground.

The loins must be strong; a Greyhound weak there might be fast for a spurt, but he would prove merely flashy, being neither able to endure nor yet be good at

his turns. When Markham says, "short and strong filets," he means the loin—the term being used in speaking of the horse—not the fleshy part of the thigh, which the term might seem to indicate. The hips must be wide asunder, and the hind legs straight as regards each other, "not crompyng as of an oxe"—that is, as we now express it, not cow-hocked—but they must be bent or sickle-hocked, and the thighs with immense and well-developed muscle. The same strength of muscular development is needed as in the fore legs, and especially there should be no weakness below the knee. The dog should stand rather wide behind, and higher than before; the slight width gives additional propelling force, and the higher hind quarters additional speed and power in racing up hill, as hares invariably do, if they can, unless there is temptation of a covert near, a fact quaintly expressed in the "Booke of St. Alban's":

"Tell me, Maystre," quod the man, "what is the skylk
Why the Haare wolde so fayne renne against the hill?"
Quod the Mayster, "For her legges be shorter before
Than behind; that is the skylk thore."

In respect to *the tail*, all agree it should be long and fine. Markham says: "An even growne long rat's tail, round, turning at the lower end leashward, and full set on between the buttocks." The "Mayster of Game" says: "A catte's tayle, making a ring at eend, but not to hie." The tail, no doubt, acts as a rudder, and as such must play an important part in swerving and turning.

Colour in Greyhounds should go for little; for although many persons have a prejudice in favour of a special fancy, experience proves that there are good of all. In the hunting poem by Gratius, as translated by Wase, we are told to—

Chuse the Greyhound pied with black and white:
He runs more swift than thought or winged flight.

Arrian considered the colour of Greyhounds of no importance; but most old, and also modern, writers have their preferences. As directly opposite to the opinion just quoted, Oppian objects to white and black, as too sensitive to heat and cold. De Langley says: "Of all manere of Greihoundes there byn both good and evel; nathelless the best hewe is rede falow, with a black moselle." "Stonehenge" says the colours preferred are black, and red or fawn, with black muzzle; and it may be worth notice that, in quoting him, "Idstone" falls into the singular mistake of saying they should have red muzzles. Turberville mentions white, fallow, dun, and black as the preferable colours of Hounds; and that the dun is an old favourite colour may be inferred from the following lines from an ancient metrical romance:

"Sir, yf you be on hunting bounde,
I shall you gyve a good Greyhounde
That is dunne as a doo;
For as I am trewe gentewoman,
There was never deer that he at ran
That myght yscape him fro."

At the sale of the Greyhounds of that eminent courser, Lord Rivers, in May, 1825, a list of which is given in Goodlake's "Courser's Manual," there were, out of fifty-two dogs, twenty-three all black, fourteen all blue, six red, four blue and white, and one all white. There are still many coursers who prefer the pure black or the red; but the following short list, taken from the "Coursing Calendar," shows good Greyhounds of many different colours: Scotland Yet and her sons Canaradzo and Calioja were white; Cerito, fawn and white; Lobelia, brindled and white; Lady Stormont, black and white; Master M'Grath, black and white; Beacon, Blue Light, and Sapphire, all blue; High Idea, blue ticked; Bed of Stone, Bab at the Bowster, and Sea Cove, red; Cauld Kail, red ticked; Mocking Bird, Cashier, and Black Knight, all black; Landgravine and Elsecar, brindled.

As regards *size*, the medium-sized dog is preferred by most. There is a considerable difference, both in height and weight, between the dog and bitch. Prejudice against small dogs received a shock by the double victory of Coomassie in the Waterloo Cup, she being a bitch of only 42lb. running weight; and her appearance, also, was not prepossessing, her colour being a washed-out fawn. Again, Penelope II., the runner up for the Cup in 1886, weighed but 41lb., her victor, Miss Glendyne, weighing 54lb.; this seeming to confirm the courser's adage, "A good big one will always beat a good little one."

A cross with the Bulldog was resorted to by Lord Orford with the object of giving additional *courage* to the Greyhound, and it was held to have produced that result; but subsequent experiments in that way have not, I believe, resulted successfully.

SUMMARY OF POINTS OF MODERN GREYHOUND.

The Head.—Long and lean, but wide between ears, measuring in girth, just before or close in behind, about 15in. in a dog 26in. high, with a length from occiput to nose of about 10in. to 10½in.

The Ears.—Set on well back, small and fine in the flap, falling gracefully with a half fold back, exposing the inner surface. Erect or pricked ears are now seldom seen, and are disliked.

The Eye.—Varying in colour; must be bright, clear, and fiery.

The Teeth.—Strong and white, the upper canines, with the slight curve they possess, clipping those of the lower jaw. (Value 15.)

The Neck.—Length and suppleness are of great importance, to enable the dog to seize the hare as he runs at full speed. It is elegantly bent or arched above the windpipe, giving it a slightly protuberant form along the

lower surface, the whole gradually swelling out to meet the shoulders. (Value 10.)

Chest and Fore Quarters (including shoulders and fore legs).—*The Chest* must be capacious, and the room obtained more by depth than width, to give free action to the heart and lungs. *The Shoulders*.—The scapula, or shoulder blade, must be oblique, that the fore legs may be readily stretched well forward. The arm from shoulder to elbow, and fore arm from elbow to knee, both of good length, and short from knee to the ground. *The Elbows* must not turn either in or out, but be in a straight line, so that the action may be free. *The Muscles* for expansion and retraction of the several parts of legs and shoulders must be large and well-developed. (Value 20.)

Loin and Back Ribs.—The back should be broad and square, or beam-like, slightly arched, but not approaching to the wheel back of the Italian Toy Greyhound. The loin wide, deep, and strong, the muscles well-developed throughout, so that, although the flank is cut up, it yet measures well round—and this is important, as showing strength. (Value 15.)

Hind Quarters.—Strong, broad across, the stifles well bent; first and second thigh both big with muscle; the legs rather wide apart, and longer than the fore legs, short from the hock to the ground. (Value 20.)

Feet.—Round, with the toes well sprung, the claws strong, and the pad, or sole, compact and hard. (Value 10.)

Tail.—Long, taper, and nicely curved. (Value 5.)

Coat and Colour.—Coat fine, thick, and close, and colour clear. (Value 5.)

The Greyhound selected to illustrate the breed in this instance is a white and brindled bitch the property of Mr. D. H. Owen, of Belmont Bank, Shrewsbury, and named Lady Shrewsbury. She is a very handsome bitch, a winner at several shows, and also of some coursing stakes, including the cup at Sundorne.

The classes of Greyhounds seen at our shows vary very much as to numbers. There are seldom a dozen specimens at the great London shows, although at the time of the summer show at the Crystal Palace Greyhounds are idle, and could be sent in scores if coursers put any value on prizes won in the show ring. This is not the case, however, and the consequence is that competition is very much limited.

Occasionally, when well-known coursing men have been appointed to judge, classes have filled well. This seems to indicate that, if only such were selected to officiate, and a different classification adopted, we might see large numbers competing at our more important summer shows. Classes for winners at their legitimate work would not merely be interesting, but would have a wholesome effect in modifying the extravagancies of theoretical ideas of fitness, which are too apt to prevail.

The best classes of Greyhounds are to be met with at provincial shows, in coursing counties, where the local celebrities are shown by their owners; but at many shows one or more good-looking dogs that have been brought out—generally in the North—are first run round a few of the summer shows, and then, getting into the hands of regular exhibitors, snap up most of the prizes throughout the country. Some of these prize dogs have been fair performers, and are eminently handsome specimens, and invariably well bred; I give the measurements of a few, which may be compared with those of some Waterloo Cup Winners, for particulars of which latter I am indebted to the "Coursing Calendar."* The show dogs will have been weighed and measured in a fatter state than the Cup winners, as the weight of the latter represents that which they scaled when trained to run. The Earl of Haddington's Honeywood and Mr. H. G. Miller's Misterton each ran at

* Published at *The Field Office*, 346, Strand, London.

the weight of 63lb., Princess Dagmar 58lb., Snowflight 47½lb., Wild Mint 45lb., and Coomassie at 42lb., all of these being winners of the Waterloo Cup. In respect to three of them the measurements were as follows:

MEASUREMENTS.	PRINCESS DAGMAR.	WILD MINT.	HONEYWOOD.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
<i>Head—</i>			
From tip of snout to joining of neck	8½	9	9½
Girth of head between eyes and ears	13½	13	15½
" " snout ... ..	...	7	9
Distance between eyes	2	1½	2
<i>Neck—</i>			
Length from head to shoulders	9½	7½	9½
Girth round neck	13½	12½	14½
<i>Back—</i>			
From neck to base of tail	24	22	23½
<i>Tail—</i>			
Length	19	17	20
<i>Hips—</i>			
Length of loin from junction of last rib to hip bone	8½	8	7½
Length of hip bone to socket of thigh joint ...	5½	7½	7½
<i>Fore Leg—</i>			
From base of two middle nails to fetlock joint	...	2½	...
" fetlock joint to elbow joint ... ..	...	10½	10½
" elbow joint to shoulder blade	12	11½	13
Thickness of fore leg before the elbow	6½	5½	7
<i>Hind Leg—</i>			
From hock to stifle joint	12	9½	10½
Stifle joint to top of hip bone	12½	10½	11
Girth of ham part of thigh	16½	15	17
Thickness of second thigh below stifle	9½	7	8½
<i>Body—</i>			
Girth round depth of chest	27	26½	30½
" " loins	23	18½	23

The following measurements of good show dogs may be taken as a fair average:

Mr. J. L. Bensted's Greyhound *Chimney Sweep*: Age, 5 years; weight, 66lb.; height at shoulder, 26½in.; length from nose to set on of tail, 42¼in.; length of tail, 19in.; girth of chest, 29¾in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 6¾in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8¾in.; measured in working condition. *Chimney Sweep* won the gold medal in his class at the Paris International Dog Show, 1878.—Mr. J. H. Salter's Greyhound dog *Snapdragon*: Age, 8 years; weight, 72lb.; height at shoulder, 27in.; length from nose to set on of tail, 41in.; length of tail, 19in.; girth of chest, 31½in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 7¾in.—Mr. J. H. Salter's Greyhound bitch *Satanella*: Age, 5 years; weight, 57½lb.; height at shoulder, 24½in.; length from nose to set on of tail, 41½in.; length of tail, 18½in.; girth of chest, 30½in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 14½in.; girth of forearm, 6½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.

If any of my readers require information on coursing, breeding, rearing, and training Greyhounds, I must refer them to my Monograph,* as it is too voluminous to be included in a general work such as the present one.

* "The Greyhound: its History, Points, Breeding, Rearing, Training, and Running" (London: L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand).

CHAPTER II.

THE SCOTCH DEERHOUND.

White-breasted Bran came bounding with joy to the known path
of Fingal.—OSSIAN.

THE Deerhound, from his superior size and rough coat, has a more imposing appearance than his refined brother, the Greyhound, and many would place him at the head of the family. As I have said, I look upon the whole of the group under consideration as of one stock, and the existing variations in them as arising from the different uses to which they have been put, the special qualities requisite for these purposes having been secured and continued by selection in breeding; so that, for many years, we have had clearly-marked characteristics, entitling each to be considered a distinct breed, especially as each reproduces its own form with certainty when bred *inter se*. I cannot admit the very extraordinary theory, advanced by a writer hereafter quoted, that the Deerhound was specially made and intended by a Higher Power for the hunting of stags, which is closely allied to that other theory that each country had a special breed created for it. Man is the power that moulds other animals to his will, and, in the case of dogs, makes them what they are; and we may well be satisfied that that is something very much better than they would have been without his interference. We may reverently acknowledge the source of our own power, but it is foolish to ignore its recognition by indulgence in a maudlin and spurious piety.

The Deerhound is frequently referred to as the Stag-hound, and in the schedules of Northern dog shows, such as Aberdeen, he is so styled. It is well to note this, to prevent confusion, as in England the Staghound is a totally different class of dog, hunting by scent alone, and of Foxhound character, and often simply these hounds bred to a larger than the usual size. He is also named the Rough Greyhound, and the Northern, or Fleet-hound.

Blome, writing of the various hounds of his time, after describing the deep-mouthed hound, says: "For the Northern, or Fleet-hound, his head and nose ought to be slenderer and longer, his back broad, his belly gaunt, his joints long, and his ears thicker and shorter—in a word, he is in all parts slighter made, and framed after the mould of a Greyhound." I do not feel sure, however, whether Blome here meant to describe the Deerhound, or the light-built and swift Foxhound of the North, which, by comparison with the slow, deep-tongued, Southern hound, approached to the Greyhound form.

In that much-valued work, the "Sportsman's Cabinet," no mention is made of the Scotch Deerhound, and the Staghound described and illustrated by Reinagle is a pure modern Foxhound.

Richardson, a well-known authority on dogs, writing fifty years ago, gave it as his opinion, that the Irish Wolfhound was the ancestor of the Highland Deerhound, an opinion I do not consider well supported; this question, however, will be thoroughly discussed in the chapter on the Irish hound.

In treating of the Deerhound, "Stonehenge," who is usually careful and accurate, says: "On carefully examining the description given by Arrian, no one can doubt that the dog of his day was rough in his coat, and in all respects like the present Scotch dog." On the contrary, Arrian is very clear on this point, showing he was well acquainted with both varieties, for he says: "The hair, whether the

dog be of the rough or smooth sort," &c. I quote this in support of my views of a common origin for all the members of this group. "Idstone" is "inclined to think it is an imported breed;" but he gives no reason for thinking so, and declares it "is one of the oldest breeds we have."

The Deerhound does not increase in numbers, as we see other breeds of dogs do under the fostering care of clubs, and he was probably more popular as a companion dog two generations ago than he is to-day.

The writings of Sir Walter Scott did much to draw attention to the breed, and created a desire in many to own an animal possessing all the qualities of ancient lineage, a noble presence, and made attractive by a certain halo of romance, which the Wizard of the North succeeded in throwing around all he touched with his magic pen. The description of the Deerhound he puts in the mouth of the Knight of Gilsland has never been equalled, and no article on the breed is complete without it: "A most perfect creature of heaven; of the old Northern breed—deep in the chest, strong in the stern, black colour, and brindled on the breast and legs, not spotted with white, but just shaded into gray—strength to pull down a bull, swiftness to cote an antelope."

The brief but poetic references to this noble hound in Macpherson's "Ossian" also heighten the imagination, and tend to increase the regard of dog lovers for the breed. I have headed the chapter with a quotation from that work, and with all the greater pleasure that I do not think a little white on chest, feet, or tip of tail, a thing to be regarded in a dog that 'is something so much higher than a mere fancy article. In this trifling matter it will be seen I am not fully in accord with the writer for whom I now make way, Mr. G. W. Hickman, the following treatise on the breed by whom will, I believe, be found the most complete that has been published; which, indeed, was to be expected

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DEERHOUND.

Mr. G. W. Hickman's LORD OF THE ISLES, by Mr. Barrow's Wallace, out of Mr. H. P. Parkes's Lorna.

from one who has devoted so many years to the practical study of the race, as a breeder and judge, and whose literary tastes have naturally led him to make, in addition, a study of its history. Mr. Hickman writes:—

Fears have been recently expressed, by some writers in papers devoted to matters canine, that the Scotch Deerhound, as a breed, is languishing, and will soon become extinct. I do not share in this view, though it may be true that the Deerhound has not increased in numbers at our shows in late years. The thing to be feared, in my opinion, is that the breed, as its use gradually dies out in the Highlands, may lose all its character and quality, and thus be theorised into extinction. The reason why the Deerhound is not attracted in large numbers to the show bench is not far to seek: Those gentlemen—and there are still a few, to my knowledge—who keep the breed for work will not trouble to send their animals to shows, and, if they do so occasionally, they receive no encouragement when they find their animals beaten by some large but ungainly animal, utterly unsuited for his vocation.

Of late years many men have bred solely for size, and trusted to Providence for quality. The outcome of this has been that we have had on the show bench animals wanting in all the grace, elegance, and symmetry which should characterise the Deerhound; with big, heavy heads, bulging out at the eyes; with blunt muzzles, nearly as thick at the nose as just in front of the eyes; and with big, heavy, drooping ears, often heavily coated and fringed in addition; with a large but overgrown and weak-looking frame, and coarse but doubtful-looking limbs.

I do not say that most of our show dogs have been of this kind, but we have had several notable instances, whose success has been perplexing and disheartening to those who have kept the Deerhound for his proper work, and

whose occasional patronage of shows has thus been alienated. This is the more to be regretted, as the use of the Deerhound in his native country is decreasing day by day; and in this fact we come to another of the chief causes which have been prejudicial to the breed, and will be still more so unless care be taken not to lose sight of the purpose for which it was used.

As soon as the Deerhound begins to be regarded solely as a show dog, then will the breed be in imminent danger of losing its character. But as long as an animal is bred and used for a practical purpose, so long can reference be made to the product which is found best suited to such requirements.

"Man," says Darwin, "closely imitates natural selection;" that is, man in breeding Greyhounds for coursing, Deerhounds for deerstalking, and St. Bernards for use in the snow, selects and breeds from those specimens only which are likely to produce the requisite combination of qualities for his purpose. Thus each product becomes, as far as it can be, a naturally perfect animal for the designed purpose, inasmuch as there is always being applied the infallible criterion of utility and experience to test the results. In each case, mere appearance or outward form has not been the primary consideration with the breeder—the essential qualities are what he aims at; but, finding that those qualities are associated with certain outward characteristics, he is guided by the latter in his selection of breeding specimens. So each breed settles down into a uniform type, and this is maintained by the most rigid of all examiners—experience.

At this point, perhaps, in steps the fancier, or the man who takes up the breed rather from its appearance than its practical qualities. At first he accepts what he finds, and does not get far away from the proper type; but presently, as he has no other means of testing his results, he lays down certain rules or points for his guidance, and

very often attaches undue importance to some one of these that readily strikes the eye, forcing it unduly to the expense of, and out of its proper relation to, the rest; and as he does not apply the touchstone of a practical trial in its proper vocation to his production, he errs more and more in the direction of his arbitrary requirements, and the breed loses that harmony of combined qualities which constituted its original "character," and which had been kept in due relation by practical requirements. Thus, in the larger breeds, such as Deerhounds and St. Bernards, size has been seized upon as a striking point, and one easy to be discriminated, and men have dreamed of their ideal Deerhound rivalling the stature of the Irish Wolfhound, or of a St. Bernard like the gigantic animal figured by Du Maurier, some time ago, in *Punch*. No matter that the Deerhound would be too big and clumsy for the hills, or the St. Bernard for the snow. No deer forest is at hand in the one case, or Alpine mountain in the other, to try the point, so theory goes confidently on, and can always produce any number of arguments in its own favour. The Greyhound is a proof of the truth of the foregoing remarks. It is about the only one of the large breeds that has not greatly increased in size since the institution of shows, and, in fact, has in every respect been totally unaffected by them. And why? Because even the few that find their way to the show bench have been bred for work, and not for mere appearance.

That the Deerhound has suffered considerably from this mania for size is only too certain, and that it will suffer more yet is to be feared, unless judges will set their faces against allowing themselves to be influenced by mere size and bulk. Only a few weeks ago I received a letter from the bearer of one of the most famous and historic names in the Highlands, whose family have kept, and who himself still keeps, the Deerhound for use in its proper vocation. In the course of some inquiries as to

how the show breed was progressing in England, he remarked that, so far as he had noticed, a weighing machine in the show-yard, and a 3ft. rule, would in most cases fulfil all the requirements of modern Deerhound judging. I am afraid that there has always been some justification for this satire, but never so much so as in certain cases in recent years, when dog shows have multiplied, and judges with a knowledge of the breed have rather decreased. In proof of my assertion, I subjoin an extract from a letter I received, some fifteen years ago, from a gentleman who bred and exhibited some of the best specimens when shows were in their infancy.

“Some twenty years ago, before shows began, there were two or three owners of the breed, and a few dogs might be called pure. The late Duke of Leeds had as pure blood of the old breed as anyone. After shows were the fashion, great size, at the expense of other qualities, was considered necessary, and lately there has been much resort to crossing. I am an advocate for size myself, but speed must not be sacrificed to it. If you desire a true guide to tell whether a dog has been crossed, look at his ear first. If that is SMALL, and lies folded close to his head, like a Greyhound's, I should consider *that* a very great point in his favour as to his purity; but if his ears droop, and are large, no matter what his size and appearance were, I should be quite certain he had a cross somewhere. I consider size and shape before colour, and the purest dogs of old time had little white upon them—the less the better on the feet and legs; but colour is always a superficial matter, and can always be regulated as the breeder chooses. Size and FORM, especially combining strength and great speed, are far more difficult to obtain.”

I can commend every word of the foregoing remarks to the careful consideration of every admirer of the Deerhound, especially those with regard to the ear, as close observation for the last fifteen years has convinced me

of their perfect truth, as I have invariably noticed, in those strains which have been notoriously crossed within a recent period, that, though they might pass muster in other respects, they had large, heavy, hanging ears.

As regards the size required in the Deerhound for work in the Highlands, there seems to be no doubt that a dog over 30in. at the shoulder would be useless. Indeed, one authority, whose family claim to have kept the purest breed in the Highlands, solely for work, for upwards of the last sixty years, puts the height at "26in. up to 28in." He says: "Larger dogs may be good enough for racing, but for hard work, so far as my experience has gone, I always found an ordinary sized dog do his work much better." The following opinions of the two greatest living authorities that could be produced, must convince even those who, by their arguments and aims, seem to think that the Deerhound can never be too large for his work. The gentlemen I allude to are Lochiel, and Horatio Ross, Esq., the most famous of living deerstalkers, or even of all-round sportsmen. The former observes:—"Personally, I do not like dogs over 30in., and prefer them between 28in. and 30in. They get too coarse at a great height, and quite useless for real work. Great size too often depends on feeding, and if thus produced gives a coarse and soft dog, quite unsuited for the purpose for which he is intended." The latter states, that for deerstalking a height of "28in. to 30in. is ample. A very large dog is never a good dog; he gets beat going up hill." What is the use of theory against opinions like these? The late Lieut.-Col. Inge, who for many years possessed one of the most extensive deer forests in Scotland, and whose kennel of Deerhounds fetched large prices on their disposal at Aldridge's many years ago, was of the same opinion, and informed my father that large dogs were useless for deerstalking. I have had personal knowledge of five kennels of Deerhounds, kept for work alone in the Highlands, and from

all connected with them I have always heard the same opinion expressed as to the uselessness of the very large dogs. In the case of three noted show dogs of late years, all about 3lin. high, and of another that created a sensation in America, I was informed by each of their owners, that they were parted with because they were too big for work in the Highlands—and not one exceeded 3lin. at the shoulder, and three of them were symmetrical, and well made for big dogs. These three were (Old) Torunn, Bran (1st prize, Crystal Palace, 1872), and Sir Boriss. The remaining one was never exhibited in England. It will be recollected, perhaps, that McNeil's Buskar, the largest of the dogs which took part in the deer course described in the Appendix to Scrope's "Deerstalking," was only 28in. in height. Those who wish to see the original of Landseer's sketch will find it in the Bell Collection in the National Gallery. The animal certainly looks rather light in substance, but it is fair to call to mind that McNeil, referring to it, stated that the portrait scarcely gave a correct idea of the muscle and bone of the original; and this must have been so, as the dog girthed 32in., or 4in. more than its height, and few Deerhounds exceed, or attain to, this proportionate depth of chest. McNeil's dogs, as is well-known, were used for coursing the deer in the Island of Jura, and, from the very fact of the place being an island, the practice was not subject to the disadvantages which it would have been on the mainland, by driving the deer far away. Now, if McNeil's dogs, which did not exceed 28in. in height, were equal to the task of coursing and pulling down a cold (*i.e.*, unwounded) stag, it seems reasonable to infer that a larger dog could hardly be necessary for deerstalking where it was only, or chiefly, used for the purpose of retrieving the wounded deer.

From the above remarks and authorities, it will be gathered that very large dogs are of little use in deerstalking. It

must not, however, be supposed that I would necessarily confine the show Deerhound within the same limits. Everyone likes a fine, upstanding dog, and a little extra height may, perhaps, be tolerated in a show dog; but what is deprecated is the awarding of a prize to a dog simply and solely because he is large, coarse, and bulky—in fact, for the very and only reason that he possesses those qualities which would entirely unfit him for the purpose which his name implies. Personally, I think dogs of 30in. tall enough for anything; and that, instead of trying to raise them beyond this, the efforts of breeders would be more usefully directed to improving their quality, and obtaining the requisite combination of strength and speed.

The causes of the disuse of the Deerhound in the Highlands are, as is pretty well known, the greater precision of modern rifles, and the great demand for, and consequent sub-division of, deer forests and shootings. Years ago, when the large Highland proprietors, or chieftains, held their vast tracts in their own possession, before they had begun to realise what a gold mine their barren hills and wild expanse of heather contained, it mattered little how much the deer were disturbed, or how far they were driven. But now that forests, by sub-division, have become far more numerous, and as nothing frightens away deer more than chasing them with Deerhounds, the use of the latter has died away, and, indeed, is prohibited in many leases. The following graphic description by Captain Horatio Ross will be read with great interest, as, from his experience of sixty years as a deerstalker, no one is more qualified to speak on the subject: “The pure bred old Highland Stag-hound is, I think, the grandest of all dogs. From old associations I love the *old* pure-bred Staghound. Still, he was not a clever reasoning animal. His eyesight, speed, and pluck, were undeniable; but if, from roughness of ground, he lost sight of a stag, whether wounded or cold, he was done. He rushed here and he bolted there, and if he caught

sight of a herd of fresh deer he went at them, and drove them perhaps a dozen miles. Now, it is a recognised, well-established fact, that deer which have had a regular rattling from Staghounds rarely return to the ground whence they have been coursed. For these reasons, latterly Lurchers were preferred for recovering wounded deer; they were bred between pure Highland Staghounds and Foxhounds. If they lost sight of the wounded deer, down went their noses to the ground, and with all the perseverance of a Foxhound they followed the track until they again caught sight, and brought the wounded stag to bay. In modern times the McNeils of Colonsay had the purest blood. Their sport was coursing, not stalking, deer, and they looked on it as a crime to shoot a stag."

Captain Ross had a famous dog named Oscar, the father of most of the good dogs of his time; but after that dog's death, in 1846, he gave up the breed, and in the introduction to Mr. Alexander Macrae's "Handbook of Deerstalking" he mentions that he had not taken a dog out deerstalking for five-and-twenty years at least. It would be presumptuous on my part to question in the slightest degree any part of the description given above, but it has certainly been claimed for some strains of the Deerhound that they have the power of running by scent. Perhaps the McNeil strain, having been confined to coursing the deer, and bred for that particular purpose, had had their faculty of scent diminished as it is in our Greyhound, and to a greater extent than the dogs which were used for retrieving the wounded deer on the mainland. Mr. Malcolm Clarke, whose kennel was disposed of in Edinburgh in 1881, stated that his breed would run by scent as well as by eyesight. The following description of this kennel, given in the sale catalogue, will doubtless prove interesting to my readers:

"This breed has been in the possession of the exposor for the last sixty-three years. Besides being allowed to

be the best sporting dogs, they were perfect models of their kind, as proved by the fact of their having been chosen on more than one occasion as subjects of his most noted paintings. The owner, in order to maintain the quality of the breed, got these dogs crossed from time to time with the best blood in the kennels of the late Duke of Leeds and Lord Henry Bentinck.

“Horatio Ross, Esq., of Wyvis, the veteran and champion deerstalker of Scotland, in writing to Mr. Malcolm Clarke about his Staghounds, says: ‘When I was in the habit of seeing them in the forests of Mar Lodge and Glenfeshie they were first-rate dogs. For a great many seasons I stalked deer in both forests with the Duke of Leeds; his best Staghounds were of Malcolm Clarke’s breed.’ Fly, the mother of these dogs, is of the ancient breed known as ‘Gruagachs,’ which has been considered for generations to be the best and purest breed of Staghounds in the Highlands — Fly’s mother being Sinlach, of Gruagach breed.”

These dogs were all more or less of a yellowish fawn, and showed plenty of quality; and, with one exception, they were all medium-sized, one or two of the bitches being rather too small and light. There was, however, one dog—Ossian, a yellowish grey, close on 30in. in height—that showed great quality, and I have seen no dog of late years that could beat him in that respect; he fetched the highest price of the lot, and was purchased by Lord Richard Grosvenor, who knew his working qualities.

Another circumstance which threatens to seriously injure and coarsen the Deerhound is the modern craze that seeks to identify the Irish Wolfhound, long extinct, with a gigantic Deerhound. To attain the required standard, the Deerhound has been crossed with various large breeds, even, I believe, with the St. Bernard; but the results have not been satisfactory, as, though bulk and coarseness have been obtained, the height does not appear to have been

increased. Some of the animals thus bred have found their way on to the show bench as Deerhounds, and will certainly, with their mixed blood, do no good to the breed if they transmit the qualities for which themselves are conspicuous.

Having now seen what the Deerhound, in my opinion, was not, let us see what he is. He is doubtless the tall, rough Greyhound of ancient days, appointed, as Holinshed says, to hunt the larger beasts, such as stags and such like, and probably at one time as common in England as Scotland. The disappearance of the larger animals in a wild state from England at such an early period contrasted with Scotland would account for his being found in the latter country so long a time after he had totally died away here. There can, indeed, be no doubt, from the accounts of Caius and Holinshed, and those we get from others, that large "shagg-haired" Greyhounds were used in England. This affords another inference against the theory of Richardson, for, if the Irish dog had been no more than a large, rough Greyhound, it would not have been in any way remarkable. It was clearly a specific animal, peculiar to Ireland, which merely rough Greyhounds evidently were not. The Russian Wolfhound is an analogous example of the tall, rough Greyhound of ancient days, yet I have never heard it claimed as an Irish Wolfdog.

Captain Graham, in "The Book of the Dog," says the earliest record of the Deerhound is that given by Pennant, in 1769, and elsewhere he finds thereon one of the chief inferences for his Wolfdog theory, "that, whilst we have accounts of all the noticeable breeds from a remote period, including the Irish Wolfdog, we do not find any allusion to the Deerhound, save in writings of a comparatively modern date, which in a measure justify us in supposing that the Deerhound is the modern representative of that superb animal." Now, if my theory is

correct that the Deerhound is simply the tall, rough Greyhound used for hunting the larger game, this apparent want of allusion is explained, as we have plenty of references to such Greyhounds. It is remarkable that, to this day, the Deerhound is often called "a Greyhound" by the Highlanders. A gentleman informed me, some years ago, that his forester always used the term "Greyhound," and I have letters from gentlemen in the Highlands in which the terms Greyhound, Staghound, and Deerhound are used indifferently; in fact, Deerhound is a term even now far less in use than Staghound.

We cannot, therefore, feel surprised if we do not meet the term "Deerhound" in old times, when we get mention of the Greyhound under the term of Highland Greyhound, or its equivalent. The "Irish Greyhounds" mentioned by Taylor, in 1620, were most certainly Deerhounds; but, to save any quibbling on terms, I will now proceed to show that the specific word "Deerhound" was used long ago, before any degeneracy from the Wolfdog can be supposed. In Pitscottie's "History of Scotland," published about 1600, occurs the following passage: "The king (A.D. 1528) desired all gentlemen that had dogges that war guid to bring thame to hunt in the saidis boundis, quhilk the most pairt of the noblemen of the Highlandis did, sick as the Earles of Huntlie, Argyle, and Athol, who brought their deir houndis with thame and hunted with his majestie."

This authority is decisive, and completely shatters the last possible remnant of the chief argument for the identification of the Irish Wolfdog with the Deerhound. The inference that both were the same is met by the irresistible fact that the Irish dog was imported into Scotland when the Deerhound existed in large numbers, and at a period when it cannot have degenerated. The further inference of the Richardsonians, that with a change of occupation came a change of name, and that the name Deerhound was not used until very late times, when the Wolfdog had

degenerated into the Deerhound, is shown to be utterly unfounded by the fact of the use of the name Deerhound 300 years ago. The last pretence for such an inference is now destroyed.

In modern times, the breed of Mr. Menzies, of Chesthill, is doubtless the oldest strain we have note of. A gentleman who knows the district well, and purchased a dog called Ossian at Menzies of Chesthill's sale some years ago, informed the writer that the family claimed to have had the breed pure for one hundred years. Ossian is the grandsire of my champion Cuchullin.

Next in point of antiquity would come the strain of Mr. Grant, of Glenmoriston, for Captain Basil Hall, who described his dogs in 1848, and who therefore saw them, probably, a year or so before, mentions that Mr. Grant had kept the breed thirty years, which would take us back to about 1815 or so. I have never seen Captain Basil Hall referred to in relation to the Deerhound, though his account is highly interesting—so much so, that I venture to subjoin part of it verbatim. He states that the first dog Glenmoriston had was sent him by Captain Macdonald, of Moray in the Braes of Lochaber. Having heard of a pure and beautiful bitch, celebrated for her great courage and lasting power, then the property of Mr. Mackenzie, of Applecross, Glenmoriston suggested to him that one of them should keep up the breed. Mr. Mackenzie declined, and the bitch became domiciled at Invermoriston, from which period—then about thirty years ago—the breed had remained uncontaminated in those parts. Captain Hall then remarks, that he had since learnt that Glenmoriston had relinquished the breed to Mr. E. Ellis, of Glengarry. I now quote his own words:—"The trouble and difficulty of rearing them and keeping them pure in breed is, however, immense. Cross them but once, and a smooth-piled puppy will be introduced among the litter—as has been the case with Mr. Grant's dogs—and ever afterwards one or

two of the puppies will be smooth-haired. We must, however, state that the fact of their smoothness does not always detract from their fleetness and courage. The puppies are extremely delicate, and require constant care and attention. Glengarry, who at one period possessed many of these dogs, was in the habit of crossing them, and some other owners continue to do so at the present day. There is no question, however, that they act erroneously—that is to say, if they require a race of animals to hunt, chase, kill, or bring to bay a red deer. *The Deerhound is either a Deerhound or it is a mongrel*—there can be no intermediate race. Neither can there be a question that the animal intended by a Higher Power for a particular object is the fit, proper, and superior one over all others.

“For instance, cross a Greyhound with a Newfoundland dog, and he may kill a hare—but how? why by chance—but he will never win a cup at Altcar. For the same reason, cross a noble Deerhound with a Mastiff or Bulldog, as many have done—he may in some trifling degree increase some particular quality of the latter, but he will lose many of the fine qualities and sagacities of the former, which are alone to be found in the pure breed. For instance, Glengarry’s dogs had large feet and great ugly heads, and other defects of proportion, which made them unable to run on rocky or hard ground without soon becoming lame and useless.”

The breed of McNeil of Colonsay, described in Scrope’s work in 1839, would be the next one of which we have any account. His dogs have been already described.

It may here be mentioned, that Captain Hall states that he had two Glenmoriston dogs, and one from another source, and that he gave one to a friend in Ireland. It was, perhaps, some of the descendants of this latter dog that Captain Graham’s friend mistook for Wolfdogs in the early part of the “Forties” of this century. At all events, we see that Deerhounds had been sent to Ireland.

General Hugh Ross and Colonel David Ross had also a fine kennel in Glenmoidart some years ago, the remains of which, including Oscar, winner of 1st prize Birmingham in 1865 and 1866, passed into the hands of their relative, Major Robertson, who has, unfortunately, lost the stud records. I have no very distinct recollection of Oscar, but he has been described to me by the breeder of Morni—whose sire Oscar was—as a dog not over large, but with grand hind quarters and thorough Deerhound character. Colonel Campbell, of Monzie, was also noted for his kennel of Deerhounds some twenty years or more ago. I never saw but one actually bred by Monzie—an elegant yellow dog, called Rob, exhibited by Mrs. Cameron Campbell, at Birmingham, in 1870, good sized, and with plenty of character. Monzie's Gruamach, the sire of Lochiel's Torunn (afterwards belonging to Mr. Masters) and Pirate, is perhaps the best known of this strain. He was, doubtless, a very fine dog, and I may perhaps be permitted to mention, without being charged with egotism, that I was informed by a gentleman who has kept Deerhounds for work for nearly thirty years, and who was well acquainted with Monzie's dogs, and bred from them, that Gruamach and Morni were the two finest Deerhounds he had ever seen. The same gentleman informed me—*horresco referens*—that Gruamach, in his old age, was killed and eaten by his kennel companions! This is the worst blot on the Deerhound's character that I ever knew, and is almost incredible. In conversation, some years after, with the kennelman who had charge of the dogs at the time, he repeated the circumstance, with particulars. It appears that Gruamach had been the master of the kennel so long, that his younger companions rose one night in a body against his tyranny, and treated him as I have described.

Perhaps the happiest hit ever known in breeding show Deerhounds was made by my friend, Mr. Pershouse Parkes,

when he sent Brenda, the own sister to Morni, to Mr. Masters' Torunn. The one litter contained such noted dogs as Mr. Masters' Torunn (the Younger), Mr. H. P. Parkes' champion bitch Teeldar, Lord St. Leonard's Hylda, and Mr. Lewis' Meg, all great winners on the show bench at Birmingham and the other large shows. In addition to this, their blood, or that of their near relative, Morni, is to be found in nearly every show dog of the present day. As an example of the uncertainty in choosing a puppy in dogs like the Deerhound, it may be mentioned, that Morni and his sister Brenda were the two selected by their breeder for weeding out from a litter of six. I selected the dog for a small sum, and the bitch was given away to a friend. The one grew up into Champion Morni, the most successful show dog of his day, though he retired at six years old; and the other became the dam and ancestress of more prize winners than any other bitch that can be mentioned. Such is luck. Allowance must be made for the fond prejudice of ownership, and perhaps a discount taken off accordingly; but I cannot call to mind a dog that combined in a greater degree than Morni the qualities of symmetry and strength: of a good height, and a greater proportionate length than is usually seen, he nevertheless possessed an extremely deep chest and enormous loin, with a wonderful breadth of hind quarters, a grand forearm, and yet withal a perfect Greyhound frame. There was, moreover, that appearance of quality and character which is so wanting in some specimens nowadays. One fault was ever found with him—viz., that his coat was too soft; but that arose from the way he was treated, in being made a pet of. Had he been kept out in a kennel, and roughed it, the coat would have been hard enough; and, as it was, it was hardness itself to that of most of the prize winners we have seen since. Morni had but few chances given him at the stud, his services being only allowed to a select few. He

was chiefly used by a gentleman who bred dogs for work alone, and the few of his progeny that have found their way on to the show bench have been odd dogs out of such litters. Nevertheless, every dog but one by him that has been shown has been a prize winner; and, what is more, the pups that were bred for work all showed themselves possessed of speed, courage, and all the qualities of the Deerhound in their vocation in the Highlands.

Lochiel's Pirate was one of the finest dogs I ever saw; he stood about 29in., had good bone, fine symmetry, and a hardish coat of a fair length, and altogether looked what a Deerhound should—a combination of speed and power. He was of the dark blue colour, so much prized, and so seldom seen. The Duke of Sutherland exhibited two very fine dogs of this colour at Birmingham, in 1869, and a descendant of theirs, in the person of Lord Fitzhardinge's Tom, a powerful dog of like colour, took first at Birmingham in 1880. Another beautiful dog, in shape and symmetry, was Mr. J. Addie's Arran, a well-known dog some twelve years ago. He stood over 30in. at the shoulder, had a wonderfully deep chest, capital loin, strong limbs of the best shape, and was of a dark blue colour, approaching black. His great failing was his want of coat, it being extremely scanty, especially on the head and legs. From the union with Mr. Parkes's Brenda he is the grandsire of that gentleman's Borva and Leona, and of my Lord of the Isles, in all of which dogs some of his best qualities can be traced. Wallace, son of Arran, was a well-shaped dog, of but medium height, perhaps not more than 28in. For this reason, and from a deficiency of coat as a puppy, he was not destined to the show bench, but given away. He afterwards, I am told, developed a splendid coat; but it was almost by a chance that Mr. H. P. Parkes bred from him, as he was thought not to have sufficient size. The result was, however, that his first litter produced some dogs of the largest size, in

Lord of the Isles, Mr. Parkes's Duncan, and Mr. Sherman's Haco. Duncan, whose loss Mr. Parkes has never ceased to regret, though larger than I care for, was certainly the best made giant I can call to mind. His owner states that he was 31½ in. in height, girthed 35 in., and weighed 97 lb., at thirteen months old, when he was exhibited for the first time. He then caught distemper and died, as so many puppies do. Haco was over 29 in. high at nine months old, when purchased by me for Mr. W. S. Sherman, of Rhode Island, and sent out to America. On his voyage out he was shipwrecked on his "native" shore of Scotland, off the Mull of Cantyre; but after being transhipped he arrived safely at his destination, and won first prize at the great New York Show in 1881.

Wallace's second litter from the same bitch produced Mr. Parkes's Borva and his well-known bitch Leona, the latter one of the best of late years. Borva was a true Deerhound, a wonderfully fast dog, and a magnificent fencer, and would have made a perfect dog for work. Owing, however, to his not being an overgrown animal, but only about 28 in., he was not so successful as a show dog as he should have been, and he is now abroad.

Here we have the case of a moderate-sized dog like Wallace getting unusually large stock; showing that, if an animal has size in its breeding, it is just as likely to transmit size as one of its larger relations, thus giving encouragement to the plan, advocated by me, of not always selecting the largest and coarsest specimens of a strain in the hope of getting size merely because they are big, a system which simply perpetuates coarseness and clumsiness, very often unaccompanied by what is the chief aim. But if you breed from the smaller specimens of a large strain which possess character and quality, you will be nearly sure to get the latter, and very probably the size: "a giant's dwarf may beget a giant." Dr. Hemming's Linda, whose portrait was given in the first edition of

this work, was a splendid bitch, but her portrait was a mere caricature, and must have been taken in the last stage of decrepitude and decay. It has been a matter of remark, how much superior in late years the bitches have been to the dogs. For one good dog we can count three or four good bitches. Amongst the latter, Dr. Haddon's Maida must not be forgotten. She was a grand bitch, with a fine coat, and would doubtless have been the greatest prize winner of her sex, had she not been killed in transit to the Alexandra Palace Show before she had got to her best. Mr. Parkes's Teeldar and Leona were also of the highest class, and several others I might mention. Indeed, a long string of first-class ones could be given, beside which an equal number of the dogs contemporary with them would make a poor show. For this reason, and because, from having been a constant competitor against most of them for the past fifteen years, my ideas might possibly be open to the charge of prejudice, I forbear to make a selection for enumeration.

The great fault of the show Deerhound of to-day is the want of length and Greyhound form, the coarse, thick muzzles, heavy ears, woolly coats, and want of quality, arising from breeding for size alone. A dog standing 30in. at the shoulder, girthing 33in. to 34in., and with a loin of not less than 24in. round, should be the highest standard aimed at. The rest of our efforts should be directed to getting the highest combination of strength and speed with the greatest amount of character, aiming at improving the length to such a degree that the dog should, with all his size, have a long, low frame, rather than a tall, stilty one.

The following description of the points of the Deerhound does not embody my personal opinion alone, but is founded on information I have obtained, from all the oldest and best authorities, in the Highlands and elsewhere, during a period of several years. Perhaps, however, I may be

met by the same reply as I received some short time ago when arguing a point with a gentleman who is a noted advocate for size, who remarked, in regard to the quoted opinion of a gentleman whose family had kept the Deerhound for generations, that "he did not consider the opinion of any Scotchman on the subject worth a fig!" This is only in harmony with our usual fashion in dealing with the breeds of other countries, teaching the monks what a St. Bernard should be, and persisting in calling the German Mastiff a Great Dane or a Boarhound (the latter simply a corruption of Bauerhund), against the remonstrances of the Germans themselves.

The Head.—The head should be broadest between the ears, and should taper gradually to the nose, the muzzle being of the same character, in proportion, as that of the smooth Greyhound. The head should be long, with a slight rise over the eyes; the skull flat rather than round, and well coated with longish hair, which should be softer than the general coat. There should be a good moustache, of a silky hair, and plenty of beard. A smooth-skulled dog is not liked. The nose should be black (or blue in some colours), pointed, and slightly arched. In a light-coloured dog, the muzzle should for preference be black. A thick, blunt, coarse muzzle, is much objected to, and betrays a cross. Nor is a merely long head valued, unless it is the proper shape: thus, if it has most of its bulk in front of the eyes, giving it a topheavy look, it is a great fault, and one very conspicuous in some dogs of the present day.

The Ears.—The ears should be set on high, and, in repose, folded back like those of the Greyhound, though raised above the level of the head in excitement, without losing the fold. Nothing shows breed like the ear. A big, thick ear, hanging flat to the cheek, or heavily fringed, is a certain indication of a cross. It should be soft, glossy, and like a mouse's coat to the touch, and the smaller it is the better. It should have no long hair whatever on it, though some-

times there is a little silky fringe at the tip—the less the better. Whatever the colour of the dog, the ear should be black, or dark coloured.

Neck.—The neck should be strong, and not quite so long in proportion as the Greyhound's, as this dog is not required to stoop to his work. The nape of the neck should be very prominent where the head is set on. A prominent throat, clean cut at the angle, with a grisly, hard mane, is greatly to be desired.

The *Tail* should be long, tapering, and lashing, set on very low, and carried in a curve, like the Greyhound's. A curled tail is greatly objected to. In a full-coated dog, the tail has a slight fringe; but this should not be very much, as it is suggestive of a cross with a colley or other rough-coated dog. The tail, when drawn down straight, should nearly touch the ground.

The Eyes.—These should be dark; generally they are dark brown or hazel. A very light eye is not liked; but with a blue-nosed dog a perfectly blue eye is sometimes seen. The rims of the eyelids should be black. In repose the eye has a soft expression, but when the dog's attention is roused has an intent, far-away look, which is very characteristic of the breed.

Legs and Feet.—The legs should be broad and flat, rather than round, a good broad fore arm and elbow being desirable; forelegs, of course, as straight as possible. The feet should be close and compact, with the toes well arched: a great authority informs me that, in his opinion, they should be "as like a cat's as possible. An open, spreading foot, is very objectionable, as it always gets injured in running deer on rough ground." The hind quarters should be as broad and powerful as possible, for a Deerhound requires great leverage to go up hill, a course which is found to be the most advantageous to adopt in slipping. The hips should, therefore, be set wide apart, and be very muscular. The hind legs should be

well bent at the stifle. With a very broad-hipped dog the stifles are generally set outwards, thus throwing the hocks nearer together. This formation is greatly liked by some, as it enables the dog to bring his hind legs well forward, clear of his sides; but some wisecracks confound it with "cowhocks," which arise from the legs being bowed in at the hocks. The hocks should be broad and flat, and the legs well bent there, which will generally be found to be the case when the hind quarters are very drooping, as they should be.

Body and General Formation.—The latter is that of a Greyhound, though of greater size and with coarser bone. The chest should be deep rather than broad, but yet not too narrow. The loin and back should be arched; a straight-backed Deerhound is not desirable, this formation being unfavourable for going up hill. Great power of loin is required; but, perhaps, from the arched formation, the power will be found more in depth than breadth. Anyhow, we seldom or never see a Deerhound with such a loin as the Greyhound, in proportion to his size.

Coat.—This is the much-vexed question in the Deerhound, and where many of our English specimens fail, though I think the hardness required has been much exaggerated. The truth is, that much depends on the length of coat. A very full coat is seldom very wiry, though a shorter one of the same quality appears so, just as a month's beard would appear bristly compared to the same when full-grown. But there is no doubt that the hair on the body, neck, and quarters, should be tolerably hard and wiry; that on the head and chest, and the fringe on the legs, is always much softer. There should be a slight fringe on the inside of fore and hind legs, but the back of the hocks should be clear of rough hair. The Deerhound should be a shaggy dog, but not overcoated, and a profuse woolly coat is bad; in fact, such a coat is the most objectionable of all, even more so than a silky

one. Some of the best bred dogs, however, have a mixture of silky hair with the hard, and this, if the main coat is hard, is not so much objected to. The harder the coat the better, though very many well-bred dogs have a softer coat than is quite desirable; a thick, coarse, close-lying, but ragged coat on the back, is the sort that is liked. A smooth-skulled dog is not liked, though there is no doubt some such are equally well bred. In reference to coat, I would point out that McNeil, in his account of his brother's dogs, which were all yellow, stated that there was another race in Lochaber of dark colour, but more woolly-coated. It is pretty certain that most of the softer coats are in the dark-coloured dogs, and that in the yellow dogs the coat is generally much harder.

Colour.—Dark blue-grey, like a Skye Terrier, is the best and handsomest colour. Next in estimation come the darker and lighter greys, the darkest shades being preferred. The least liked are the washed-out looking fawns. In fact, the lighter colours have by some been, undeservedly, neglected or despised, and dark colour made almost a crucial point. This is undoubtedly wrong. For my own part, I think a rich yellow dog, with black ears and muzzle, one of the most characteristic and handsome of Deerhounds, though all the best authorities prefer the dark grey. Yet the latter colour is not the best for stalking. A gentleman of great experience informed me that "a light-coloured Deerhound, red or fawn, is in reality better for stalking than the true dark blue colour. In choosing colleys for tracking, or ponies, we like a dun or fawn colour, as less visible." As has been observed, whatever the colour of the dog, the ear should be dark or black, light-coloured dogs being preferred with black muzzles.

White is not liked in the Deerhound—it is not a Deerhound colour. I once saw a Deerhound perfectly white, but from his coat and appearance I do not think he was pure bred by

any means. We know, from Glengarry's own account, that he had some Deerhounds quite white; but as he crossed with all kinds of dogs, and especially with the Pyrenean Wolf or Shepherd dog, which is mainly white, this is no authority. Sir W. Scott's Maida, which was the result of a cross between a Pyrenean Wolfdog and a Deerhound bitch, was mostly white. Maida was no doubt a large dog, but he was certainly not much of a Deerhound. With the exception of an iron-grey saddle on the back, extending half-way down the thighs, and a similar patch on the head, he was altogether white. Those who wish to see his portrait will find at least three—one in colours at Abbotsford, another in the picture of the Abbotsford family by Wilkie, and the third by Sir E. Landseer. In Wilkie's picture Maida seems almost smooth-coated, but in Landseer's he is represented as rough-coated. A Deerhound is in the same picture, showing the difference between the two. Anyhow, few Deerhound fanciers will, after seeing the portraits, care to trace back to Sir W. Scott's Maida. White, then, is greatly objected to by *all* the best authorities. It is least objectionable on the chest, and perhaps on the tips of the toes, but the less there is the better. A white tip to the tail is bad. A grey chest, which nearly all dark dogs have, must not be confounded with white. It must be admitted, however, that few dogs are without some little white on the chest, though as the coat breaks up it becomes very often merged in the grey. A white blaze on the head, or a white collar, or white legs, should utterly disqualify.

The following extract from the "Handbook on Deerstalking" will show how the Deerhound is used, and the necessity of his possessing great leverage power for going up hill. Anyone who wishes to realise the science and difficulties of real deerstalking is referred to this treatise, which is entirely practical, its author, Mr. Macrae, having been forester to the late Lord H. Bentinck.

"A Deerhound has more advantage when slipped from

below than from above the deer. If the ground is broken, dogs are apt to fall when going down hill, and the deer has the advantage of being at liberty to take a straight course whenever he chooses; but when slipped from below, the deer is more or less exhausted before the dog comes up to him, and the dog is all the better for getting a little warm by the time the deer turns from the hill, and has a good chance of intercepting him in the turn. . . . Unless a dog can take a deer in three or four minutes he will not take him at all. He may, by perseverance, make the deer turn on him, but he will not take him by speed."

As companionable animals, Deerhounds cannot be excelled. Their chief drawback is their eagerness, when young, to chase any running object. If, however, they are taken out constantly, or reared amongst animals in the country, they soon become easily restrainable, and capital followers. They are not quarrelsome, but when they get three or four years old will not stand any nonsense from other dogs. They are of a gentle and affectionate disposition, strong in personal attachment, and may safely be let run about the premises without any fear of their biting any lawful comer. They are delicate dogs to rear, and should never be shown as puppies unless they have had distemper.

The great difference in size between dogs and bitches of this breed has often been a matter of notice; and, as has been often correctly remarked, the purer the breed the greater the difference. Crossing increases the height of bitches, but not so much so that of the dogs. I do not believe in crossing; but, if it be resorted to, the best cross, there can be no question, is that with the Russian Wolfhound, a very pure bred dog, and of an analogous breed. Improvement in Greyhound shape might certainly be looked for, and the chief defects to be expected are the soft, silky coat, and the white colour. But plenty of material is at hand nowadays, if breeders will have

the courage not to neglect good strains simply because they are not of very large size.

I will now conclude with a further extract from the work of Captain Basil Hall, the sentiments of which should be taken to heart by all breeders of the Deerhound.

“Were we to write volumes on the interesting subject of this breed of dogs we should only add—Get the pure race, and you will have the true one. Treat them and train them properly, and they will prove the best and only dogs which ought to be used in the noble sport of Deerstalking, whether in the open chase, or as the means of running a wounded deer and bringing him to bay. They are a great acquisition to any sporting kennel, and, even when far away from the Highlands, we know of few more magnificent and faithful companions during a morning’s ramble or by a winter’s fireside.”

Mr. Hickman has correctly referred to the fact that abundance of good material exists for the increase and improvement of this breed; and I interpolate here to emphasise that, for I know there is an opinion prevalent that the true Scotch Deerhound has been reduced in numbers almost to extermination.

I believe the paucity of entries at most of our shows of late years gave rise to this mistaken notion. The Birmingham Show has always been noted for its splendid classes of Deerhounds; at the 1886 Show no less than twenty-seven of these dogs competed, in three classes, although the whole of the prize money was only £23. If a Deerhound club were formed, to encourage breeders by the offer of enhanced prizes, as is done by other special clubs, I do not doubt that a very general interest in the breed, and, consequently, a large increase in the number of Deerhound shows, would speedily follow.

I have thought it unnecessary to repeat the measurements of dogs given in the first edition of this work, the following, supplied by Mr. Hickman, being sufficiently complete:

MEASUREMENTS AND WEIGHT OF DEERHOUNDS.

As breeders and admirers of the Deerhound often wish to compare the size of their dogs, it may be interesting to them if I subjoin the principal measurements of the dogs exhibited at the Birmingham Show in 1873. Wonderful mistakes are made in the height of dogs, but the following figures may be relied on, as they were supplied by a very experienced admirer of the breed, and one who reduced fancy measurements with a ruthless hand. The length of head was taken with a rule, not with a tape.

	Height at Shoulder	Girth of Chest.	Girth of Loins.	Length of Head.	Length of Tail.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
DOGS.					
Mr. P. Parkes' Bevis	30	32	22	11	24
Mr. G. W. Hickman's Morni	30½	34	27	10½	25
Mr. H. C. Musters' Torunn	30½	31	23	10½	24
Mrs. Loftus' Royal	30	31½	21	10½	22
Mr. H. Smith's Torrum	30	32½	22½	11½	24
Mr. J. Addie's Arran	30½	33	25	10½	23
Mr. G. Addie's Charlie	28	30	23	10½	22
Mr. E. Hancock's Young Torrum	30½	33	25½	11½	25
Mr. W. A. Smith's Oscar	26	30	23	10	21
BITCHES.					
Mr. E. Lewis' Meg	26½	28½	21½	10	22
Mr. P. Parkes' Hilda	27	29	23	9½	21
" Brenda	25	29	22½	9	21
" Teeldar	27	29	23½	10	21
Mr. Carbonell's Lufra	25½	28½	21½	9½	18
Mr. E. A. Luck's Mona	28	29½	22	10	18
Mr. G. W. Hickman's Brenda	24	28	21½	9½	21
Mr. H. C. Musters' Hylda	27	30½	23	10	24
Mr. Hancock's Braie	26½	30½	22	10½	22
Countess of Aylesford's Hylda	26½	28	23	10½	22
Mr. Cunningham's Dora	26½	27	22	9½	18

The Torunn of Mr. Musters was his younger dog of that name. Mr. Smith's Oscar was the sire of Mr. R. H.

Wright's Bevis. Mr. Parkes' Brenda was sister to Morni, and dam of Meg, Teeldar, and Hylda. Mr. Musters' Torunn, Mr. Smith's Torrum, and Mr. Parkes' Bevis, were all exhibited at the same time. Young Torrum afterwards became the property of Captain Graham. The following are the dimensions, at from three months to twelve months old, of one of my own dogs—Cuchullin—a powerful but not large animal:—

AGE.	Height.	Girth.	Loin.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Three Months	20	21½	16
Four	22	23	17
Five	23½	25½	18
Six	25	27	19
Seven	27	28	21
Eight	27½	29	21
Nine	28	29½	21
Ten	28½	31	22
Eleven	28½	31	22
Twelve	29	31½	22

This dog never made more in height, but increased about 2in. in loin and chest.

Our coloured illustration is a portrait of Mr. G. W. Hickman's Lord of the Isles, drawn from life by Mr. Alfred E. Smith. This dog was a magnificent specimen of his breed, and as a first prize winner at many important shows had attained to championship honours. He died in 1885, being then only six years old.



CHAPTER III.

THE IRISH WOLFHOUND.

THIS historical dog has been the subject of much contention, and of misapprehension, from the evidently exaggerated statements respecting the size to which it, in some instances, attained. Oliver Goldsmith, who was not distinguished, as a naturalist, by strict accuracy, was certainly very far wrong in stating that the Irish Wolfhound attained to a height of 4ft., as we measure dogs and horses—that is, from the ground to the level of the top of the shoulders; though a tall, long-necked, and long-headed dog, with his snout held pointing up in air, might reach very near that height. That, however, would be a totally misleading way of taking and stating the dog's height. There is a tendency, in speaking and writing of the far past and the far distant, to exaggerate, not, probably, from any intention to distinctly deceive or mislead, but from a natural desire not to under state that which has impressed us by its greatness, and which we do not possess the material to express in exact figures.

Marco Polo described a breed of dogs he had met with in his travels to be “as big as donkeys;” and, as a proof how history repeats itself, and how tenacious the mind is of a well-expressed phrase, the *Daily Telegraph*, in a leader written a few years ago on the researches of the intrepid and successful traveller, Mr. Stanley, in Central Africa, told its readers that that gentleman had met with “dogs as big as donkeys.” Reduced to plain facts, we have no doubt these



IRISH WOLFHOUND.

Capt. G. A. Graham's SCOT, by a Kilfane Dog, out of a Red Bitch of Capt. Graham's strain.

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travellers did meet with dogs of very large size, of which they did not take, and could not give, accurate dimensions.

Doubtless the size of the Irish Wolfhound has also been exaggerated by the use of loose expressions; but that he was the giant of his race, so far as these Islands are concerned, there appears to be very good grounds for believing. That there should have been, by many, a strong desire entertained to save from utter extinction so noble a breed, is most natural. The astonishing matter is that so few persons have taken practical steps towards its resuscitation; and those steps, in nearly all cases, have been of a fitful and short-lived kind. Such a work requires long-sustained, intelligent endeavour; but it is one which Captain G. A. Graham has for years been left to carry out almost alone.

The Irish Kennel Club, which bade fair to prove a powerful factor in the work, unfortunately ceased to exist some years ago, and, with its dissolution, all public attempts to foster the breed in Ireland by the offer of premiums at shows ceased.

I am of opinion the work might still be done by the establishment of kennels on the principle of co-operation, which would make the cost to individuals comparatively light, and give a prospect of eventual profit. Once establish the breed—that is, persevere until a sufficient number of dogs have been bred up to a recognised standard, so as to form a variety possessing features in common, and distinct from other breeds—and there would be every chance of the Irish Wolfhound becoming popular, when, of course, the material for improving, and breeding still closer to, the standard, would be greatly increased, and the demand for the dogs would repay the previous outlay.

Some of the American Kennel Clubs are co-operative in so far as their breeding establishments are concerned, and hence the heavy investments made in stud dogs with a view to improving stock.

Early in 1885 I suggested to Captain Graham the formation of a club to carry out his objects, pointing to the success of the Great Dane Club as an incentive.

The Irish Wolfhound Club has now for some time been an accomplished fact, and special classes for Irish Wolfhounds have been instituted at the Kennel Club's shows in London; so that the world is likely to see and hear more of a breed, concerning which there has been much exaggeration, and very opposite opinions expressed. Consequent on the formation of this Club, Captain Graham has published a Monograph on the Wolfhound, which covers the whole ground of controversy from his point of view.

I confess that the arguments advanced in favour of the existence of a sufficiency of the original blood on which to rebuild the breed "in all its pristine glory and pre-eminence," far from confirming me in that opinion—which I had previously adopted—have, on the contrary, rudely shaken my faith in it. In consequence of this, I have turned my attention to a closer examination of authorities, with the result that I must admit having taken too much for granted, and, too often, opinions at secondhand.

I look upon the subject as one peculiarly open to variance of opinion, and, in order to do justice to it, I propose to give pretty fully the views of Captain Graham and Mr. Hickman, both of whom have devoted special attention to it, and whose ability is without question; yet, as a proof of the difficulty of the subject, these gentlemen arrive at widely different conclusions.

In the controversies on this, as on other breeds, reference is often made to the Greek and Latin classical writers. The conclusion I have come to, after such diligent attention as I could give to the subject, is this: In none of the ancient cynegeticæ—with one notable exception, the Younger Xenophon's description of the Celtic Greyhound—do we get anything like the minute physical description necessary to enable us to identify any breed,

though the descriptions are still clear enough in broad outline to enable us to classify the dogs written of in groups.

That the Irish Wolfhound has been a recognised variety from very ancient down to recent times we have proof in abundance; and I may here introduce a scrap of evidence I met with when on a totally different research, and which, very naturally, has escaped all previous writers on this breed. Dr. James, a celebrated physician of his time, in his treatise on "Canine Madness," published 1733, refers to "an Irish Wolfhound of uncommon size. The dog attacked his owner's child, and would have killed it, but that he wore a garland." Dr. James explains that "a garland is a thing well known to sportsmen, and consists of two hoops crossing each other, and which, hanging before a dog's forelegs, prevent his running after sheep, or being otherwise mischievous."

In the first edition of this book, the chapter on Irish Wolfhounds was mainly written by Captain Graham; but as he therein stated the space at command was insufficient to do justice to the subject, I shall, further on, introduce such quotations from his (since published) Monograph as appear to me important to the full and clear statement and support of his views.

In the previous edition Captain G. A. Graham wrote:—

"To do full justice to this subject is almost impossible, owing to the fact that there has been a generally-received impression amongst modern writers that this noble breed of dog is entirely extinct! That, in its 'original integrity,' it has apparently disappeared, cannot be disputed; yet there can be little doubt that so much of the true breed is forthcoming, both in the race still known in Ireland as the 'Irish Wolfhound' (to be met with, however, in one or two places only), and in our modern Deerhound, as to allow of its complete recovery in its pristine grandeur, with proper management, in judicious hands. It is a fact well known to all modern Mastiff-

breeders who have thoroughly studied the history of their breed, that, until within the last thirty or forty years, Mastiffs, as a pure race, had almost become extinct. Active measures were then taken by various spirited individuals, which resulted in the complete recovery of the breed, in a form at least equal, if not superior, to what it was of yore.

“Why should not, then, such measures be taken to recover the more ancient, and certainly equally noble, race of Irish Wolfhounds? It may be argued that, the services of such a dog being no longer required for sport, his existence is not to be desired; but such an argument is unworthy of consideration for a moment, for how many thousands of dogs are bred for which no work is provided, nor is any expected of them; in addition to which, the Irish Wolfhound would be admirably suited to the requirements of our colonies. One after another the various breeds of dogs which had, of late years, more or less degenerated—as, for instance, Mastiffs, Fox Terriers, Pugs, St. Bernards, Colleys—have become ‘the rage,’ and, in consequence, a vast improvement is now observable in the numerous specimens shown. Let us, then, hope that steps may be taken to restore to us such a magnificent animal as the Irish Wolfhound.

“That we have in the Deerhound the modern representative of the old Irish dog is patent; though of less stature, less robust, and of slimmer form, the main characteristics of the original breed remain, and, in very exceptional instances, specimens ‘crop up’ that throw back to, and resemble in a marked manner, the old stock from which they have sprung. For instance, the dog well known at all the leading shows as champion Torunn (now for some years lost to sight), although requiring a somewhat lighter ear and still more massive proportions, combined with greater stature, evidently approximated more nearly to his distant ancestors than to his immediate

ones. The matter of ear alluded to here is probably only a requirement called for by modern and more refined tastes, as it is hardly likely that any very high standard, as to quality or looks, was ever aimed at or reached, by our remote ancestors, in any breed of dogs. Strength, stature, and fleetness, were the points most carefully cultivated—at any rate, as regards those dogs used in the pursuit and capture of large and fierce game.

“It is somewhat remarkable that, whilst we have accounts of almost all the noted breeds, including the Irish Wolfhound, there is no allusion to any such dog as the Deerhound, save in writings of a comparatively recent date.

“The article or essay on the Irish Wolfhound written by Richardson, in 1842, is, it is supposed, the only one on this subject in existence; and whilst it is evident to the reader of it that the subject has been most ably treated and thoroughly sifted, yet some of the writer’s conclusions, if not erroneous, are at least open to question. It is a matter of history that this dog was of very ancient origin, being well known to, and highly prized by, the Romans, who frequently used him for their combats in the arena; and also that he was retained at home, in a certain degree of purity, to within a comparatively recent period, when, owing to the extinction of wolves, and, presumably, to the indifference and carelessness of owners, this most superb and valuable breed of dog was unaccountably suffered to fall into a very neglected and degenerate state.

“From the general tenor of old accounts we have of this dog’s dimensions and appearance, it is to be gathered that he was of considerably greater stature than any known race existing at present, and, apparently, more than equal to the destruction of the wolf.

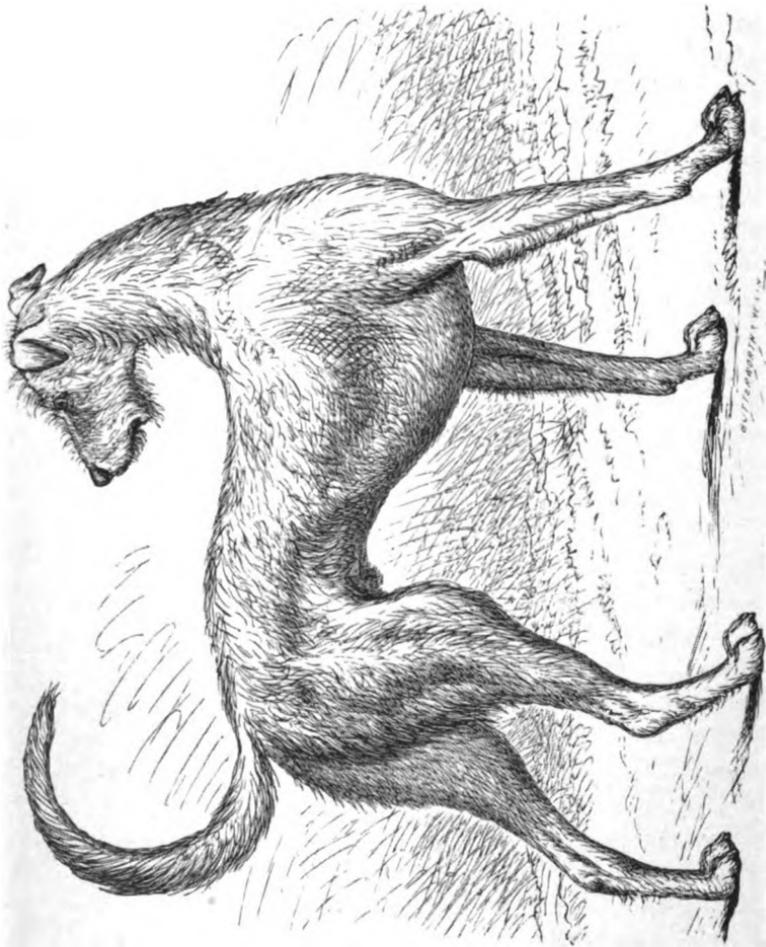
“It is an incontestable fact that the domestic dog, when used for the pursuit of ferocious animals, should be invariably larger, and apparently more powerful, than his

quarry, as the fierce nature, roving habits, and food of the wild animal, render him usually more than a match for his domesticated enemy if only of equal size and stature. We know that the Russian Wolfhound, though equal in stature to the wolf, will not attack him single-handed; and wisely, for it would certainly be worsted in the combat.

“The Irish Wolfhound, being used for both the capture and despatch of the wolf, would necessarily have been of Greyhound conformation, besides being of enormous power. A heavy dog, such as a Mastiff, would be equal to the destruction of a wolf when caught; but to obtain a dog with Greyhound speed and the strength of the Mastiff, it would stand to reason that his stature should considerably exceed that of the Mastiff—one of our tallest as well as most powerful breeds. The usual height of the Mastiff does not exceed 30in.; and, arguing as above, we may reasonably conclude that, to obtain the requisite combination of speed and power, a height of at least 33in. would have to be reached. Many writers, however, put the stature of the Irish Wolfhound down as far exceeding that. Goldsmith states he stood 4ft.; Buffon that one sitting measured 5ft. in height; Bewick, that he was about 3ft. in height; Richardson, arguing from the measurements of the skulls of Irish Wolfhounds preserved at the present time in the Royal Irish Academy, pronounced it his opinion that they must have stood 40in.

“It is perfectly certain, from these and many other accounts, allusion to which want of space renders impossible, that the dog was of vast size and strength; and all agree in stating that, whilst his power was that of the Mastiff, his form was that of the Greyhound. The ‘Sportsman’s Cabinet,’ a very valuable old book on dogs, published in 1803, which is illustrated with very good engravings after drawings from life by Reinagle, R.A., says: ‘The dogs of Greece, Denmark, Tartary, and

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IRISH WOLFHOUND.
(From an old Drawing by Reinagle.)

Ireland, are the largest and strongest of their species. The Irish Greyhound is of very ancient race, and still to be found in some few remote parts of the Kingdom, but they are said to be much reduced in size, even in their original climate; they are much larger than the Mastiff, and exceedingly ferocious when engaged.' A very good and spirited drawing of this dog is also given [the one reproduced in this volume—Ed.], which almost entirely agrees with my opinion as to what the Irish Wolfhound was and should be, though a rougher coat and somewhat more lengthy frame are desirable. The dogs described in 'Ossian' are evidently identical with the Irish Wolfhound, being of much greater stature and power than the present Deerhound. From these descriptions, and those given elsewhere, we may conclude that, in addition to the dog's being of great stature, strength, and speed, he was also clothed in rough hair. In support of this, we find that in the present day all the larger breeds of Greyhound are invariably rough or long in coat.

"Many writers have incorrectly confounded the Irish Wolfhound with the Great Dane, though the two dogs vary entirely in appearance, if not much in build. It seems more than probable, however, that the two breeds were frequently crossed, which may account for the confusion. The late Marquis of Sligo possessed some of this breed, which he (erroneously) considered Irish Wolfhounds.

"Richardson was at very great trouble to get every information as to the probable height of this dog, but the conclusions arrived at by him (chiefly based on the lengths of the skulls he measured) would seem to be decidedly wrong, for the following reasons. He states: 'The skull is 11in. in the bone'; to that he adds 3in. for nose, skin, and hair, thus getting 14in. as the length of the living animal's head. The head of a living Deerhound

measured by him is 10in., the dog standing 29in.; and he then calculates that the height of the Irish Wolfhound would have been 40in., taking for his guide the fact that the 29in. dog's head was 10in. This would appear to be correct enough, though the allowance of 3in. for extras is absurd. 1½in. is an ample allowance for the extras, and if the head is taken at 12½in., the height of the dog will be reduced to 36in. Moreover, the measurement of 10in. for the head of a 29in. Deerhound is manifestly insufficient, as I can testify from ample experience and frequent measurements. A Deerhound of that height would have a head at least 11in.; so, calculating on the same principle, the Irish skulls would have been from dogs that only stood 33½in. Richardson says that this skull is superior in size to the others, which would prove that the average must have been under 33½in.; and so we may safely conclude that the height of these dogs varied from 31in. to 34in. In support of this view I would point to the German Boarhound. This dog has retained his character from a very remote age, and, as he is still used for the capture of fierce and large animals, the breed is not likely to have been allowed to degenerate. The height of these dogs varies from 28in. to 33in., the latter being probably the limit to which any race of dogs has been known to arrive.

“When Sir Walter Scott lost his celebrated dog Maida (which, by the way, was by a Pyrenean dog out of a Glengarry Deerhound bitch), he was presented with a brace of dogs by Glengarry and Cluny Macpherson, both of gigantic size. He calls them ‘Wolfhounds,’ and says: ‘There is no occupation for them, as there is only one wolf near, and that is confined in a menagerie.’ He was offered a fine Irish Greyhound by Miss Edgeworth, who owned some of this breed, but declined, having the others.

“Richardson says: ‘Though I have separated the Irish Wolfdog from the Highland Deerhound and the Scottish

Greyhound, I have only done so partly in conformity with general opinion that I have yet to correct, and partly because these dogs, though originally identical, are now unquestionably distinct in many particulars.'

"As the rough Scotch Greyhound is to the present Deerhound, so is the Deerhound to what the Irish Wolfhound was.

"It may be of interest to mention here, that the last wolf in Ireland is said to have been killed in 1710, but there is no accurate information as to the precise date. The height of the European wolf varies from 28in. to 30in., and he is, though of comparatively slight form, an animal of very great power and activity.

"Richardson being an enthusiast on this subject, not content with simply writing, took measures to recover the breed. With much patience and trouble he hunted up all the strains he could hear of, and bred dogs of gigantic size, to which the strains now in existence can be distinctly traced. A gentleman of position and means in Ireland deceased some six or eight years, possessed a kennel of these dogs, on the breeding of which he expended both time and fortune freely. They were, though not equal to the original dog, very fine animals. It has been ascertained beyond all question that there are a few specimens of the breed still in Ireland and England that have well-founded pretensions to be considered Irish Wolfhounds, though falling far short of the requisite dimensions."

Since the foregoing was written by Captain Graham, the subject of the Irish Wolfhound has been occasionally brought before the public, both in this country and in America, but no new and authenticated facts have, so far as I am aware, been elicited in the discussion of it; and so, unless we accept statements unsupported by evidence, we are left in the position that, although there are dogs unquestionably possessing some of the original Irish Wolf-

hound blood, yet none are known to exist of absolutely pure pedigree.

In March, 1878, a sketch of a supposed scion of this race appeared in the *Country* newspaper of New York, followed by a fair *resumé* of historical notices of the breed. A month following, a letter appeared in the same journal, from Mr. Frank Adcock, of Shevington Hall, Wigan, in which that gentleman says: "It may interest your readers to know that this dog (the Irish Wolfhound) is still in existence, and exhibits all the various attributes ascribed to him by ancient writers. Those that I possess are blackish-grey and grizzled in colour, with stiff, wiry coats. In shape they resemble the great Scotch Deerhound, but are somewhat more stoutly made, and very much superior in size and courage; the head, also, although as long, is more massive and punishing in character, and the sense of smell is marvellously acute."

I, through the same medium, expressed my surprise at Mr. Adcock's statement that the pure breed existed, and were in that gentleman's possession, yet that he kept such an interesting fact from his countrymen, giving them no opportunity of seeing, even at a Kennel Club Show, one specimen of this rarity; and I suggested that he should substantiate a statement which had astonished many. Unfortunately, the *American Country* is now more extinct than the Irish Wolfhound; but in its last issue appeared a letter from Mr. Adcock, in response, I presume, to an editorial article on the subject in which occurred the following sentence: "It certainly seems strange that the first intimation of it (the existence of the breed) should have been published in our columns, but we have no complaint to make on that score if Mr. Adcock will make his claim good by proving that he really owns, as he has stated, more than one of the original breed." The letter from Mr. Adcock, however, is headed "Wolfhounds," says a good deal about Spain, and the Pyrenees

Wolf dogs, and distinctly adds: "The Wolfhounds I allude to are not to be confounded with these mongrels, but are, more or less, identical with the dog known as the Irish Greyhound or Wolfhound."

Mr. Tileston started the *Country* in New York because of his admiration for the paper of that name then published in London, and the discussion on the Irish Wolfhound was really taken up from the English paper by its American contemporary. The London *Country*, indeed, was the only paper that had advocated attempts to resuscitate the breed, a fact Captain Graham was aware of, and which he should not have overlooked in his *brochure*.

Captain Graham further wrote:

"With regard to the Caledon breed of Irish Wolfhounds, the present lord tells me that his father kept them, and that he can just remember them in his extreme youth. He very kindly made strict inquiries when on his Irish estates last year, and from the older keepers and tenants he gathered the following particulars, which he filled in on a form containing a series of questions which I sent him. The Irish Wolfhounds kept by the late Earl of Caledon were as tall as the largest Deerhound now seen—if not taller—of a stouter make throughout, broader, and more massive; the ears were similar to a Deerhound's; rough, but not long coated; fawn, grizzly, and dun in colour; some old men have mentioned a mixture of white.

"The late Earl of Derby had a similar breed, I am assured positively by a gentleman (a clergyman) who had a specimen given him many years ago (over fifteen, probably twenty): but from Knowsley direct I have not got any information, though I wrote; probably the old keepers who had charge of the menagerie have disappeared, and knowledge of the dogs has died out. A clergyman to whom one of my dogs was given some nine or ten years ago, told me that the present Lord Derby had seen this dog,

and considered him a finer specimen than any he had formerly possessed. I understand this dog grew to be very high (32in.), and massive in proportion; his sire was only 30½in., but his grandsire was 32in., or considered to be so.

“Richardson, in his essay on this breed, says: ‘Sir William Betham, Ulster King at Arms, has stated it as his conviction that the Irish Wolfdog was a gigantic Greyhound, not smooth-skinned, like our Greyhounds, but rough and curly-haired.’ In the face of this, Sir William Betham’s son, the well-known archer, wrote me some years ago to call my attention to a specimen of the Irish Wolfhound which was to be purchased in his neighbourhood; his description of the dog, however, showed him to be distinctly a Boarhound, or Great Dane, of no great size.

“A Mr. Mahon, of Dromore—a large property near Muckcross—had, about twenty years ago, a breed of these dogs, but they have been allowed to die out. He had them, however, from the late Sir J. Power, and the same blood is now in my possession. He described them fully to me as being similar to the Deerhound, but more massive and powerful, and not so high on the leg.

“Two of these dogs of the Power breed were the property of a lady living at Ryde, Isle of Wight, and of them I have photographs; they are, however, dead, and left no produce. I, at great trouble, traced out the Mr. Carter who is referred to by Richardson, but only to find that his breed of dogs had passed into oblivion.”

This closes the contribution of Captain Graham to the first edition of “British Dogs.” The following quotations occurring in his Monograph I have kept as short as seemed to me compatible with fair representation of the fuller statements. Captain Graham recognises several “very clever essays, . . . the two ablest written by McNeill of Colonsay (1838) and H. D. Richardson (1841),” and

quotes Sir James Ware (1630 ?), who contends that “‘Symmachus, in thanking his brother Flavianus for the present of some *canes Scotici*, referred to Irish Wolfhounds, and not Mastiffs, as interpreted by Burton and Justus Lipsius’—and reason confirms that view. Ware adds that in his time the Irish Wolfdog had grown scarce, and ‘the size seems to have dwindled from its ancient stateliness.’

“In the Welsh laws of the ninth century, the ‘*canis graius Hibernicus*’ is specially referred to, and valued at double the ordinary Greyhound.

“Stainhurst (1650), in his description of Ireland, writes: ‘They are not without wolves, and Greyhounds to hunt them bigger of bone and limb than a colt.’

“In 1562, the Irish chieftain, Shane O’Neill, presented Queen Elizabeth with two Irish Wolfhounds, and in 1585 Sir John Perrott, then Deputy of Ireland, sent to Sir Francis Walsingham ‘a brace of good Wolfdogs, one black, one white.’

“Ray the naturalist, about 1697, describes the Irish Greyhound as ‘surpassing in size the Molossus, and, as regards shape of body and general character, similar in all respects to the common Greyhound.’”

Captain Graham here interposes the remark: “There is but little doubt that the ordinary Greyhound of that date was a rough-coated dog.” I do not know on what evidence Captain Graham relies for that opinion. Arrian, writing in the second century, describing the Celtic Greyhound, says: “The hair, whether the dog be of the rough or smooth sort, should be fine, close, and soft;” and again, “in figure a prodigy of beauty—their eyes, their hair, their colour . . . such brilliancy of gloss is there about the spottiness of the parti-coloured, and in those of uniform colour such glistening over the sameness of tint, as to afford a most delightful spectacle to an amateur of coursing”; and, further: “Tails long, rough, with hair supple, flexible, and more hairy towards the tip.” Edmund de

Langley, in the fourteenth century, appears to me to describe a smooth dog, as does Markham writing at the period Captain Graham refers to ; indeed, Markham describes the Greyhound as having "an even grown, long, rat's tail," a peculiarity not seen in rough-haired dogs, so far as I can remember, except in Irish Spaniels ; and how far art is accountable for that peculiarity I do not know.

Brook ("Natural History," 1772) seems to have copied Ray, and Smith ("History of Waterford," 1774) to have copied Brook ; and the letterpress in Bewick (1792) is a reiteration of what had been written before.

In regard to the "Sportsman's Cabinet" (1803), Captain Graham points out that the author "makes no mention of Scottish Deerhounds, or any breed of dog used for hunting or taking deer, save the Stag, Blood, and Old Southern Hounds." But in Scotland the Deerhound is still often called the Staghound, and at Northern dog shows, such as those of Aberdeen and Inverness, the class for Deerhounds is in the catalogues designated Staghounds.

I do not think I need quote more from Captain Graham, with the exception of one most important statement, on which I wish to comment ; but, before doing so, as bearing on the subject, I must remark that I have been greatly struck, in my investigations, by the constant repetition by writers, through several centuries, of lamentations on the decadence of the Irish Wolfhound, and particularly in respect to his greatly diminished size. I have searched in vain for anything like tangible proof that there ever was a dog of the gigantic proportions he has been assumed to have attained. The mist of time appears to have done for the Irish Wolfhound what the mists of Connemara will do now for anyone who travels on her mountains.

One rather amusing circumstance will be sure to attract the attention of those who study such scraps of history and tradition as bear on this subject, and that is the great

number of big dogs which have been called Irish Wolfhounds. Each one of these has been declared to be "the last of his race," reminding one strongly of the conventional "positively the last appearance on this or any other stage" in connection with a popular actor.

Captain Graham states that he has dogs of Irish Wolfhound blood whose pedigree can be traced for forty years. I take it that these go back to Richardson's strain; but, as Richardson fails, in my opinion, to show that he had genuine material to work upon, and as I consider it undeniable that, if he had any pure Irish Wolfhound blood to start with, he greatly diluted it; and, further, as I presume that Captain Graham must have carried on the diluting process, I find it difficult to understand how any thing more than infinitesimally allied to the original Irish Wolfhound can remain.

That a gigantic rough-coated dog of the Deerhound type may be produced by judicious breeding I do not doubt, but it must be by a still further large addition of foreign blood.

I have ventured, in my own mind, to come to, not a conclusion, but a compromise, that the immensely-powerful, yet tolerably fleet, dog used for the destruction of wolves in Ireland, and otherwise famous in her history, must have been raised by a cross between a variety of the *pugnaces*, or *bellicosi*, and the species of the *celeres* known as the Celtic Greyhound. This is, of course, mere speculation; but, if there is any truth in it, the Irish Wolfhound Club is in the right way to reproduce another such animal, although I cannot say it will be—what I at one time hoped was possible—a resuscitation of an ancient race.

Having, as I believe, fairly placed Captain G. A. Graham's views before my readers, by giving quotations from his Monograph, as well as the matter supplied by him direct to me for the previous edition of this book, I

cannot, in justice to the subject, and to all interested in it, deny space to the opposite opinions of Mr. G. W. Hickman, who has equally devoted time and ability to an examination of the subject. Mr. Hickman writes:

Having gone most fully into the question of the Irish Wolfhound, and with no preconceived views on the subject, I cannot avoid stating the conclusions I was forced to adopt. There is not a particle of direct evidence to identify the Irish Wolfhound with the Deerhound, and such evidence as we have goes in the opposite direction. Until some time in the "Thirties" of the present century, all the naturalists who described or depicted the Irish Wolfhound concurred in representing it as an animal of a certain kind, both in their descriptions and their pictures. But about the time mentioned, a Mr. Haffield, who appears to have been prompted by that desire for starting new theories and demolishing old-standing beliefs which actuates men of science, read a paper before one of the Dublin philosophical societies, in which he departed from all existing ideas, and enunciated views which suggested—as it seems—to Richardson his enlarged Deerhound theory. Richardson, who admits that he had previously entertained the orthodox views, in accordance with the existing evidence, appears to have had an accommodating mind, and to have considered that evidence equally applicable to "the new departure," which he hastened to advocate. The theory of Richardson and his followers is merely one of conjecture and inference. The practice of these writers has been to start with a theory, and to adapt their evidence to it, instead of deducing their theory from the existing evidence. They pick out such passages as suit their views, with more or less of misquotation, draw their own inferences from them, and totally ignore all the authorities that are opposed to them.

No doubt what first suggested the identification of

the Irish Wolfdog with the Deerhound was Macpherson's "Ossian," and the accounts in the Fingalian legends of the marvellous doings of the hero's "white-breasted," "hairy-footed" Bran, and others. As Ireland claimed some common property in this legend, Irish *amour propre* seized the idea of associating with their already extinct and almost mythological Wolfdog—as harmonising with his traditional gigantic size—all the glamour and poetical colouring belonging to the dogs of "Ossian." But as it is a matter of doubt with some "if"—as Gibbon says—"we can with safety indulge the pleasing supposition that Fingal lived and Ossian sung," there is no value in such an argument; and even granting that there is foundation for those legends, it is absurd to draw any conclusions as to the gigantic character of the dogs from the poetical exaggerations of mere legends; whilst their rough coats would only be an instance of the "local colouring" supplied by the bards from the dogs they were accustomed to, as no one disputes that the Deerhound, or rough Greyhound, was a common dog enough in olden times. The Ossianic argument may therefore be put aside.

Another thing which seems to have suggested the identification of the Irish Greyhound with the Deerhound, is the passage in the works of Taylor, the "Water Poet," who, in describing a hunting battue given by the Earl of Mar in the Highlands, in 1618, says that the valley was waylaid by a hundred couple of strong *Irish* Greyhounds. These were, no doubt, Deerhounds, and the passage would, at first sight, seem to prove that the Deerhound was identical with the Irish Greyhound, or Wolfdog. But McNeil himself admitted that the term "Irish" was probably applied to the Highland dogs, as everything Celtic was then so designated in England, in consequence of Ireland being better known than Scotland—that is to say, the terms "Celtic" and "Highland" were then unknown, and, as the common origin of the two peoples was well

known, our ancestors, instead of applying the epithet "Highland," or "Celtic," to any animal or thing in what are now called the Highlands, used the term "Irish." This is so well known that it is hardly necessary to dwell upon it; but I may as well mention two authorities who conclusively prove the assertion. In Holinshed's "Chronicles" we find this passage: "For in the north part of the region where the wild Scots, otherwise called the Red Shankes, or rough Scots, do inhabit, they speak good Irish, which they call Gaichlet." Again, the Introduction to Pitscottie's "History of Scotland" describes the "wyld Scottis" as follows: "They be cloathed with ane mantle with ane schirt fashioned after the Irisch manner, going barelegged to the knee. All speak Irisch." The term, therefore, as used by Taylor, simply meant that what he saw were Highland Greyhounds, and does not necessarily imply that the animals were the same as the Greyhound that was found in Ireland, and known as the Wolfdog. Indeed, every supposition is against the possibility of this view.

If anything is certain, it is that, even in Ireland, as long as we have any record, the Wolfdog was very rare, was a gift for princes, and only to be obtained by great influence. Is it, then, credible that the Earl of Mar alone could bring into the field a couple of hundred? Is it credible or likely, if they were thus common in Scotland in 1618, that they should have become so scarce in Ireland in 1652 that a declaration had to be issued, by the Privy Council of Cromwell's Government, against the export of "such great dogges as are commonly called Wolfdogges"?

Again, we find that, in 1623, the Duke of Buckingham (not Buccleugh, as Richardson states) wrote to Lord Falkland, in Ireland, asking that nobleman to procure him some Irish Greyhounds as a great favour, and that they were to be white. It is utterly impossible to imagine that Buckingham, the favourite of James I., who refused him nothing,

would have gone to all the trouble of sending to Ireland and asking, as a favour, for what his Royal master could have procured him any number of by a word to one of his Scotch nobles, seeing that one of these alone could muster so many—that is, if the Irish Greyhound and Deerhound were identical. It is also very unlikely that James, who was passionately fond of the chase, and on that account must have been well acquainted with the Deerhound, should not have introduced such a much-prized breed to England, if it was the same as the Irish Wolfdog. But we never read of any being procured, except from Ireland.

Apart from mere inference, we have proof that the Irish dog was imported at this period to Scotland. Jesse, in his "History of the Dog," tells us that, in 1591, an Irishman, Brian O'Rourke, from Connaught, arrived at Glasgow with six fair Irish Hobbies, and four great dogs, to be presented to the king. After what we have seen in Taylor, that only thirty years later these Deerhounds could be mustered in hundreds, it would have been carrying coals to Newcastle to take them to Scotland, especially as a rare present.

The one thing that has done more than anything else to confuse the question, and which has misled the adopters of the Deerhound theory, is the remarkable mis-translation, in the English version of Buffon, in the passage relating to the Irish dog, a mistake which has been repeated parrot-like by all those who have gone into the subject superficially, and accepted whatever was put before them. The mistake alluded to is the translation of the word "Mâtin" by the term "Irish Greyhound."

The reason for the error may, perhaps, have been that the translator, not recognising in the Mâtin any breed of dog he knew, conjectured that it might be the then rare, if not extinct, Irish Greyhound, of which he knew nothing; but most probably he saw some fancied resemblance, arising from the similarity in the patched colour

to the dogs depicted by Schreber and Ridinger. Anyhow, the absurdity of the rendering can be demonstrated beyond question. Buffon says of the "Chiens d'Irlande" (he never calls them Greyhounds), that "they are much larger than our largest Mâtins." Now, if the translator was right in rendering Mâtin as "Irish Greyhound," it follows that Buffon committed the absurdity of stating that the Irish dog was much taller than itself. The translator, however, avoided this by rendering the word in this one place by the term "Mastiff," but in every other as "Irish Greyhound." To suit this rendering, the picture of the Mâtin given by Buffon was appropriated to and became the Irish Greyhound in all the English editions, and, from the animal seeming to have a broken coat, the argument for the roughness of the Irish Greyhound has been chiefly drawn. So far was the mistake carried, that in the "Encyclopædia Britannica" for 1797 the portraits of Buffon's Great Dane and the Mâtin were reproduced, the latter, under the title of the Irish Greyhound, showing a dog vastly larger than the Great Dane, though in Buffon it was rather the smaller. This portrait Captain Graham adduces as that of an Irish Wolfhound of gigantic size! But the Mâtin is well known to have been a French dog, and is so described by very many writers, Buffon himself describing it as "originaire ou plutôt naturel de France," and making it his constant standard of comparison in height, and from which we gather that the Mâtin, as known to him, did not exceed 25in. He also, perhaps out of a national feeling, placed the Mâtin as the original of all breeds of dogs, in the rather fanciful pedigree or table he deduced. But in the English versions of the table the same substitution of the "Irish Greyhound" for the Mâtin takes place, and the former figures therein as the ancestor of the canine race. Buffon really puts the Great Dane as one remove from the Mâtin, and the Chien d'Irlande as a step further from the Dane; and

his text corroborates this, for he observes: "The Mâtin, transported to the North, has become the Great Dane; the Great Dane, transported to Ireland, has become the Chien d'Irlande." Captain Graham, in his essay on the Irish Wolfhound, quotes five passages from the "Sportsman's Cabinet" relating to the Irish Greyhound. These passages are really taken from Buffon; three of them are instances of the mistranslation already mentioned, and do not relate to the Irish Greyhound at all, but to the Mâtin. Consequently, the argument which Captain Graham deduces, that the mongrel Greyhound—arising, as Buffon said, from the Greyhound and Irish Greyhound—was probably the Scotch Deerhound, is utterly unfounded, as Buffon said nothing of the sort.

Now, how can we wonder at the mis-statements that have been made, and theories formed, on this subject, when we see writer after writer for nearly a century perpetuating this error regarding the identity of the French Mâtin and Irish Wolfhound? Of course, I do not suppose that our eminent naturalists have done so, as they would go to the originals, and not accept their authorities secondhand. It is, at all events, certain and curious that none of our great writers on natural history have accepted the theory of Richardson.

Before leaving Buffon, there is another consideration which I think entitled to great weight. Buffon says that his son had brought from St. Petersburg a dog and bitch (from his minute description and the portraits clearly Russian Wolfhounds just as we know them) "of a different race from all those which I have previously described." Now, if there is a race which resembles the Deerhound it is the Russian Wolfhound; both are the great rough Greyhound of the North, and the Russian dog has been selected as the nearest in type to cross with the Deerhound, and is, in my opinion, the only one possible without entailing loss of quality and character. Although

white greatly preponderates in the colour of the Russian dog, as it is liked so in order to render the animal less visible on the snow, yet it is well known that many of these dogs have their bodies all iron grey, like a Deerhound. Had the Chien d'Irlande, therefore, been the same as the Deerhound, Buffon must have been struck at once with the resemblance to the Russian dog; but, as we have seen, he says that the latter was of a quite different race to any he had described. And when we further consider that Buffon described the Irish Wolfdog as resembling the Great Dane, but could see no resemblance in it to the Russian Wolfhound, it is clear, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that the Irish Wolfdog as known to Buffon was a totally different animal to one of Deerhound type.

I have said that all the direct evidence is against the Richardsonian theory. This is so. By direct evidence, I mean that of those persons who saw or described the Irish dog before it had become extinct, or a matter of conjecture, and of historic interest only. After the beginning of this century, all accounts agree in the utter extinction of the breed, and certain people, whose attention had been directed to the subject by the popular works of Goldsmith and Buffon, had begun to cast round and see if they could not revive it—much in the same manner as efforts are being made at the present day—and, not finding anything that would answer the descriptions given of it by all the authorities, they eagerly seized on the enlarged Deerhound theory. Consequently, the dogs that were so bred fifty years ago have no more right to be called Irish Wolfdogs than those that are manufactured in modern days will acquire the right to the title fifty years hence.

Now, the only persons who describe the Irish Greyhound, or Wölfdog, from having (as they say) personally seen specimens, are Ray, Buffon, Goldsmith, and Pennant. Ray (1697) simply says that it was the largest dog he had

seen in general character resembling the common Greyhound. Buffon (1750), as we know, never saw but one, "all white, and very gentle and peaceful in disposition, resembling in form the Great Dane." Goldsmith (1770) says: "It was made extremely like a Greyhound, but rather more robust, and inclining to the figure of the French Mâtin or the Great Dane. His eye was mild, his colour white, and his nature heavy and phlegmatic. He seemed more timid than the ordinary race of dogs, and his skin much thinner, and, consequently, less fitted for combat." Pennant (1776) had seen two or three in the whole of Ireland: "They were of the kind called by M. de Buffon the Great Dane, and probably imported by the Danes." As Buffon gives no verbal description of the Great Dane, Pennant must have formed his opinion from Buffon's portrait of it, which is of a smooth dog. It must also be distinctly borne in mind that, when old writers mention the Great Dane, they do not mean a dog like the German Mastiff, which the admirers of the breed choose to term Great Dane; reference to their writings, and to their plates, will show that their Great Dane was a much lighter-framed dog, with far more slender muzzle, and smaller ears—in fact, quite a different animal.

I may just call attention to the fact, that neither Goldsmith nor Pennant fell into the error of confounding the Irish dog with the Mâtin; the former mentions the Mâtin as a different animal, and the latter would have referred to Buffon's plate of the Mâtin, instead of to the Great Dane, had the Mâtin been identical with the Irish dog. Of naturalists who have given portraits of the Irish Greyhound, in times when it is pretty certain there must have been some relics of the breed, and before any doubt could be entertained of its identity, are the great German naturalists, Ridinger and Schreber. The former, whose work was published about 1720, and whose experience

would date back into the previous century, was one of the greatest depicors of animals—especially dogs—that ever lived. If anyone doubts this, I refer him to “Engravings of Animals,” by Thomas Landseer, chiefly after his brother Edwin, where the letterpress states that “Ridinger was an artist of great power, who studied wild animals in their sequestered haunts, and, generally speaking, left little or no room for others to improve;” and also to Bryan’s “Dictionary of Painters,” wherein Ridinger is credited with having “given to each animal its peculiar character and attitude with surprising expression and exactness.” Schreber was also a naturalist of renown, whose work was published about 1785. His picture of the Irish Greyhound is executed in colours, whilst Ridinger’s is an engraving; but though there are small points of difference, each evidently represented the same dog—a most peculiar-looking animal, and certainly like nothing we ever see now. The arched loin, extremely long legs, and sharp muzzle, at once suggest a comparison with the Greyhound; whilst the thick skull, coarse limbs, thick neck, and heavy shoulders, give an ungainly look, and take away the Greyhound character. In the case of both portraits the main colour of the dog is white, with light-brown patches; the coat is smooth, and is so described in the text; and the eye and general expression are sleepy and lethargic. It will, therefore, be seen that all these writers evidently refer to the same type of dog. The colour is, in all the old descriptions, white, or chiefly so; whilst the descriptions by Buffon and Goldsmith of the mild eye and lethargic disposition, exactly correspond with the appearance of the portraits, the latter showing a smooth coat, which agrees with Goldsmith’s observation that the Irish Greyhound had a skin much thinner than other dogs—a remark, surely, that could never be applied to a rough dog of Deerhound type. Lastly, Goldsmith’s description—“made extremely like a Greyhound, but rather

more robust"—hits the portraits exactly, and corresponds with the almost invariable description, "taller than the Mastiff, but more like the Greyhound."

Amongst other well-known naturalists who have given us portraits of the Irish Greyhound are Bewick (1800), Bingley (1809), and Captain Brown (1829), all of whom adopt Goldsmith's view, and represent a smooth-coated dog. Bewick's dog is more like the Great Dane, and it is probable that he drew it from one of Lord Altamont's dogs. The Richardsonian theorists are very disingenuous on the subject of that nobleman's dogs, pointing, as they do, to the one engraved in Mr. Lambert's account, and never mentioning the explanation I was the first to call attention to, viz., that Lord Altamont had stated that he had two kinds of Wolfdogs—the Greyhound and the Mastiff; and that he was, to within a short time previously, possessed of each kind, perfectly distinct: "The heads were not so sharp in the latter as the former, but there seemed a great similarity of temper." He further said, that the painting was of the *Mastiff* Wolfdog, and that he had then five dogs bred between the Mastiff and Greyhound Wolfdog. This cross would give just such an animal as represented by Bewick. We thus see that Lord Altamont had other Wolfdogs of Greyhound type, and smooth-coated as the Mastiff Wolfdog in the picture; but the explanation seems to have been curiously overlooked by every writer on the subject.

I now put it to every impartial reader whether the dog described and depicted by the writers cited above could possibly have been an animal like the Deerhound. I have shown, beyond question, that the dog represented by these great authorities was smooth; that it was chiefly white (not a Deerhound colour); and that it was mild, lethargic, and heavy-looking. Contrast the description of the two supposed Wolfhounds seen by Captain Graham's friend (Mr. Ronayne Couron, of Lewisham), in Ireland, in "the Forties

of the present century," which had "fierce, piercing eyes, shaggy brows, and very rough, dark grey coats"—which is a very good description of the Deerhound, as these animals no doubt were—with the dog described by Buffon, Goldsmith, Linnæus, Pennant, Ridinger, Schreber, Bewick, and other eminent naturalists, and ask, Is it possible to say the latter could have been the Deerhound, or a similar dog. The supporters of the Richardsonian theory must, therefore, if their theory is to stand, reject all these accounts, and are then left without any detailed historic description at all, and must fall back on conjecture and inference, which is, after all, the essence of their views. Even so enthusiastic a supporter of Richardson as Captain Graham admits that he can produce no evidence from old writers that the Irish Greyhound was rough; and, indeed, the argument that it was so is only supposition and inference. For example, we are told of the Irish harp in Trinity College, Dublin, that it has carved upon it figures of Irish Wolfdogs, and that their coats are rough. Now, I have seen a model of this harp, and also an engraving of it, and I say that to deduce any serious argument from it is absurd. To pronounce the figures dogs at all is mere conjecture, as may be gathered from the remark of Petrie (who started the idea), that "they were not lions" (as evidently had been supposed), "but Wolf-dogs;" whilst to say they are rough-coated is creditable to the imagination; and, in any case, to say they are Irish Wolfdogs is pure assumption. Yet this harp theory is the only testimony from ancient sources that the Richardsonians can bring for roughness of coat, against the positive evidence of the writers I have mentioned.

The modern testimony brought forward to support the rough-coated theory is based upon the supposed character of the dogs of Hamilton Rowan and O'Toole, and the inquiries made by the Earl of Caledon, within the last few years, from people on his estates, as to the dogs kept by his ancestors. Now, the latter testimony cannot go far

enough back to be of the slightest weight: for, if anything is clear, it is that the Irish Greyhound was extinct at the close of the last century; and it is equally clear, that people were then seeking to revive the breed, just as has been the case in more recent years. The uncertainty of such hearsay evidence is well illustrated by the case of Lord Altamont's dogs. That nobleman's son, whose experience dated much further back than Lord Caledon's, informed Captain Graham that his father's dogs were rough; but this Captain Graham candidly admits must have been a mistake, as we have Lord Altamont's and Mr. Lambert's accounts to the contrary. In any event, the cases of Rowan's and O'Toole's dogs, which existed about the second decade of the present century, would not be of any value, as they only show that attention was being directed to the question.

But it is curious to note how opposite is the testimony in each case. First, as to Rowan's dogs. Col. Hamilton Smith states that Rowan used to appear followed by two Wolfdogs that resembled Great Danes. Martin denied they were the latter, but said they were Bloodhounds. Richardson, to get over the difficulty, states that Rowan had several Danes and one Wolfdog, which he called "the last of his race;" and, further, says that it was a large Greyhound, perfectly similar to a Scotch Deerhound. But this latter statement disproves itself, as we know that the Deerhound was then far from extinct. To add to the complication, Mr. Betham appears to have informed Captain Graham that he was personally well acquainted with Rowan and his dogs, and that "they were smooth-coated, and not shaggy like the Scotch Deerhound." Mr. Betham is most positive that these dogs were what Rowan considered his Wolfhounds, and, from the circumstances he mentions as to the precautions Rowan used to protect his breed, it is certain that he must have had more than one Wolfdog. There is no doubt that

Rowan, whose aim was to make himself conspicuous by adding the romantic associations of the Wolfdog to the singularity of his gigantic frame and yellow club, did not care very much what the animal he had was so long as it was very large and striking. It is possible that, having met with a larger and more striking animal than those he had hitherto considered Wolfdogs—one that was so like nothing else in existence that it was termed the last of its race, as it was also probably the first—he thought fit to change his views; but this is only a suggestion. Certain it is, however, that Hamilton Rowan's smooth dogs must at one time have been held forth by him as Wolfdogs, judging from the writers I have quoted, and Mr. Betham's letter. Whether they had any right to the title is beside the question, as I hold that no true specimen survived the last century. There is no doubt, however, that Rowan had a large rough dog, Bran; but whether he transferred the title of Wolfdog to it from what he had before represented as that breed, or whether other people, knowing that he had reputed Wolfdogs, credited every large dog he was seen with as being of that breed—an extremely probable supposition—cannot be determined. According to both Lady Morgan and Sir Jonah Barrington, Bran was more like a Newfoundland, if it was not actually one. Lady Morgan admits that she took the hero of her novel, O'Donnel, and his hound, from Hamilton Rowan and his dog Bran. The only passage in her novel that affords us any clue to the appearance of Bran, is a question, addressed to the hero by a lady, as to whether his dog is not a *Newfoundland*. Sir J. Barrington describes Rowan's advent, with his club and dog, into an assembly of young barristers where he was present, on what may be termed a bullying expedition, in the following terms: "He was very well dressed; close by his side stalked in a shaggy Newfoundland dog, of corresponding magnitude, with hair a foot long." It is remarkable that two independent witnesses who had seen

Bran should in effect state that he was, to all appearance, a Newfoundland, and proves that he must greatly have resembled that breed to have suggested the idea to the casual observer, though it is utterly impossible that any dog that exactly resembled the Scotch Deerhound (as Richardson stated, without giving any authority) would be thus described by different writers. The coat "a foot long" may well apply to the Newfoundland, but not to the Deerhound. Neither Lady Morgan nor Barrington considered Bran a Wolfdog, and the former's letter to Jesse on the breed shows that she thought it extinct, spoke of its resemblance to the Great Dane of Buffon, and evidently considered Lord Altamont's dogs as the remains of it.

The case of O'Toole's dogs is as doubtful as that of Rowan's, and depends on a lady's recollection of what she saw as a child; and even she says that "they were rough, not long-coated"—a very uncertain description, and quite opposed to the character of the supposed Wolfdog, Bran, with his coat a foot long. O'Toole appears to have been an eccentric old gentleman, who imagined he was of the blood royal of the old Irish kings, and therefore kept what he considered Wolfdogs, as one of the proper old-fashioned appendages of royalty. But though I hold that it matters little whether Rowan's or O'Toole's dogs were rough or smooth, yet it is strange how contradiction crops up even in the latter case, for the tail-piece in Jesse's work is a representation of O'Toole followed by his three Wolfdogs, which are perfectly smooth-coated animals! We may therefore dismiss the evidence as to both Rowan's and O'Toole's dogs, as being so contradictory in nature as to be of no value whatever, and, if anything, more assuredly against than in favour of their being rough-coated.

There remains, then, but one argument of the Richardsonians in favour of a rough coat, viz., that—conceding that the Wolfdog was a Greyhound—it must have been

rough-coated because all Greyhounds were originally rough-haired. But this appears to be simply conjecture; and there is positive evidence to the contrary, for Dr. Caius says of the Greyhound in his time: "Some are of a greater sorte, and some of a lesser; some are smooth-skynned, and some are curled." Holinshed uses similar language, as follows: "The fift (hight) a Greihound, cherished for his strength, swiftnesse, and stature, of which sorte also some be smoothe, of sundry colours, and some shake haired."

We therefore have it clearly proved that, three hundred years ago, there were both rough and smooth Greyhounds; so the inference drawn from the belief that all Greyhounds were formerly rough also falls to the ground. Reinagle's portrait of an Irish Greyhound, reproduced in "British Dogs," from the "Sportsman's Cabinet," can carry no value, as it is utterly opposed to the text of the latter book. In such a case, where there is a precise description in the text, and an engraving stuck in without any comment or explanation, and which may be a fancy portrait, Which is to be believed—the author, who has, we presume, studied the subject, or the artist? As the text of the "Sportsman's Cabinet" stated the Irish Greyhound to be extinct, probably Reinagle indulged his imagination; at all events, the statement of its extinction showed that, in the opinion of the author, there was no existing dog of the breed for Reinagle to draw, and, therefore, probably allowed him to draw from his imagination. What value, in any case, could his representation—he not being a naturalist, and living at a time when the Wolfdog is universally admitted to have degenerated into extinction, and become a subject of historic interest only—have against the portraits by Ridinger and Schreber, both of whom were great naturalists, and lived at a time when the breed existed?

Before leaving the subject, I may mention the reckless

and audacious manner in which Richardson supported his theory. Amongst other misquotations, he adduced passages from Pliny, Buffon, Ray, and Pennant, which went far to support his views; but as no such passages are to be found in those authors bearing the interpretation given, he must have garbled or fabricated them for his own purposes. Again, we are told that the faithful Gelert was an Irish Wolfdog, presented by King John to Llewellyn—as evidence, apparently, that the Irish Wolfdog was a match for a wolf. Unfortunately, Mr. Baring Gould, and other myth-destroyers, have demolished this pretty legend, which it is well known is, in various forms, still common to several countries in the world. We are also told that the skulls of dogs found in the bogs by Mr. Wylde are “evidently” those of rough Greyhounds. But impartial people would like to know how the skull of a dog of Greyhound type can be, with certainty, pronounced to be that of a rough-coated dog. Assertion goes for nothing. Similar unsupported “authorities” abound in Richardson’s essay. The question of these skulls affords a good example of the way the supporters of Richardson adapt the evidence to the theory, and shift their front. Richardson demonstrated, as he was then arguing for a very giant of a dog, that these skulls, which, of course, were assumed to be those of Irish Wolfdogs, belonged to dogs at least 40in. high. But of late times, as no one could be expected to “swallow” an enlarged Deerhound of that height, the very same premises are found elastic enough to reduce the standard to from 31in. to 34in.—within a measurable distance of the Deerhound, which is Captain Graham’s conclusion. But if anything is certain on such a doubtful subject, it is that the Irish Wolfdog was of gigantic height—greater than any dog we know; and though we might be disposed to allow some margin off for a general estimate, yet Buffon’s dog, “5ft. high when sitting,” and Goldsmith’s largest,

“4ft. high, or as tall as a calf a year old,” cannot well be reduced to 33in. or 34in. The argument that seeks to prove that the Irish Wolfdog was of the same character as the Scotch Deerhound cannot admit any other logical conclusion, if correct, than that in the Deerhound we have the Irish Wolfdog itself. This was Richardson’s conclusion in his first essay, thus stated: “I have said that many assert the Irish Wolfdog to be no longer in existence. I have ventured a denial of this, and refer to the Wolf-dog, or Deer-dog of the Highlands, as his actual and faithful living representative. Perhaps I am wrong in saying representative. I hold that the Irish Wolf-dog and the Highland Deer-dog *are one and the same.*” Why, then, did Richardson not accept the Deerhound? Because it was found that no true Greyhound like the Deerhound could be raised to the stated height of the Irish Wolfdog, and it was seen to be necessary to fit in the theory with the reputed stature. Consequently, the probable height of the Wolf-dog was reduced as much as possible, and, there still being a large gap, the further theory was propounded that the Deerhound is a degenerate Wolfdog. But I have shown, from its importation into Scotland, that the Irish Wolf-dog could not have been identical with the Deerhound; and as this occurred nearly 300 years ago, when wolves were in existence, and the Deerhound existed in hundreds, there can be no pretence for saying that the difference between the Irish Wolfdog and the Deerhound arises from degeneracy. The large Deerhounds of to-day are, as I have shown, in some cases too large for their work. Why, then, should it be supposed they were far larger when kept for work alone? That they were trained as Wolfdogs is probable, but all the accounts we have show they were used in great numbers, which negatives the presumption that they were required to be so large as to be, singly, a match for a wolf. Who asserts that the Russian dog is, singly, such a match; and yet they are used for the chase

of the wolf? Why say, because the Deerhound was once used as a Wolfdog, that it was necessarily the same as the Irish Wolfdog, any more than it was the same as the Pyrenean Wolfdog? You may catch a deer with many kinds of hounds, but it does not therefore follow that these are all of a similar breed, or the same as the Scotch Deerhound.

I now finally submit to the judgment of my readers, that the adoption of Richardson's theory necessitates the rejection of all the definite accounts of the greatest naturalists — Ridinger, Linnæus, Buffon, Goldsmith, Schreber, Pennant, Bewick, Brown, Bell, Bingley, Hamilton Smith, and others—and the adoption of conjecture and inference, which, as I have shown, is more or less unfounded. There is no middle course; for, if Richardson's theory be right, all the above-mentioned writers must have been in error as to the Irish Wolfdog, for the two theories cannot possibly be reconciled.

Having now placed both Captain Graham's and Mr. Hickman's views before my readers, I think it necessary, before concluding this article, to refer to several statements and opinions that appear to me to be erroneous. In the early part of Captain Graham's contribution, he claims the dogs described by Ossian as evidently identical with the Irish Wolfhound, and as being of much greater stature and power than the present Deerhound. I can find no passage in Ossian that warrants such an assumption. No mention is made of Wolfhounds, and the dogs introduced are described as those used in the work of Deerhounds. It cannot be fairly inferred that these dogs were larger than their descendants of the present day because Macpherson, with poetic licence, describes a hunt in which "a deer fell to every dog, and three to the white-breasted Bran."

Again, Captain Graham appears to be entirely wrong in stating that the "*Canis graius Hibernicus*" is specially

referred to in the Welsh laws of the ninth century. These ancient statutes are known as "The Laws of Howell the Good," and the name of Irish Greyhound, either in Welsh or Latin, does not occur in them. The dog referred to, and priced at double the value of the Greyhound, is the King's Buckhound, or Covert Hound. Mr. Hickman evidently had in his mind, when writing his contribution to this Chapter, arguments advanced by Captain Graham in his Monograph; but these I do not think it necessary to quote more fully, as the gist of them will be seen by the references Mr. Hickman makes to them.

Lord Altamont's dogs are frequently referred to by writers on this subject, and special reference made to the drawing of one of them given by that nobleman to Mr. Lambert. It will be interesting to readers to see what he has to say on the subject, and I therefore reproduce here a letter written by him to Pennant, the naturalist, and bound up with Vol. I. of that writer's "British Zoology":—

"This drawing of the Irish Wolfhound was given me by Lord Altamont, done exactly the natural size of one in his lordship's possession at Westport, in the County of Mayo, Ireland, during my stay there, in 1790. I had frequent opportunities of observing these dogs, Lord Altamont having eight of them—the only ones now in the kingdom. There is a man kept on purpose to take care of them, as they are with difficulty bred up and kept healthy. I took the measurements of one of the largest, which are as follows: From the tip of the nose to the end of the tail, 61in.; tail, 17½in. long; from the tip of the nose to the back part of skull, 10in.; from the back part of skull to the beginning of the tail, 33in.; from the toe of the fore leg to the top of the shoulders, 28½in.; the length of the leg, 16in.; from the point of the nose to the first point of the eye, 4½in.; the ear, 6in. long; round the widest part of the belly, about 3in. from the fore

legs, 35in.—26in. round the hind part, close to the hind legs. The hair, short and smooth; the colour, brown and white of some, others black and white. They seem good-natured animals, but, from the account I received, are now degenerated in size, having been larger some years ago, and their make more like a Greyhound.—A. B. L.” (AYLMER BOURKE LAMBERT).

The following is the standard adopted by the Irish Wolfhound Club, and by which the dogs of that name are now judged at our shows:—

1. *General Appearance.*—The Irish Wolfhound should not be quite so heavy or massive as the Great Dane, but more so than the Deerhound, which in general type he should otherwise resemble. Of great size and commanding appearance, very muscular, strongly though gracefully built, and movements easy and active; head and neck carried high; the tail carried with an upward sweep, with a slight curve towards the extremity. The minimum height and weight of dogs should be 31in. and 120lb.; of bitches, 28in. and 90lb. Anything below this should be debarred from competition. Great size, including height at shoulder and proportionate length of body, is the desideratum to be aimed at, and it is desired to firmly establish a race that shall average from 32in. to 34in. in dogs, showing the requisite power, activity, courage, and symmetry.

2. *Head.*—Long, the frontal bones of the forehead very slightly raised, and very little indentation between the eyes. Skull not too broad, muzzle long, and moderately pointed. Ears small, and Greyhound-like in carriage.

3. *Neck.*—Rather long, very strong and muscular, well arched, without dewlap or loose skin about the throat.

4. *Chest.*—Very deep. Breast wide.

5. *Back.*—Rather long than short. Loins arched.

6. *Tail.*—Long, and slightly curved, of moderate thickness, and well covered with hair.

7. *Belly.*—Well drawn up.

8. *Fore Quarters*.—Shoulders muscular, giving breadth of chest, set sloping. Elbows well under, neither turned inwards nor outwards. Leg: forearm muscular, and the whole leg strong, and quite straight.

9. *Hind Quarters*.—Muscular thighs, and second thigh long and strong as in the Greyhound; hocks well let down, and turning neither in nor out.

10. *Feet*.—Moderately large and round, neither turned inwards nor outwards. Toes well arched and closed. Nails, very strong, and curved.

11. *Hair*.—Rough and hard on body, legs, and head; especially wiry, and long over eyes and under jaw.

12. *Colour and Markings*.—The recognised colours are grey, brindle, red, black, pure white, fawn, or any colour that appears in the Deerhound.

13. *Faults*.—Too light or heavy a head, too highly-arched frontal bones, large ears, and hanging flat to the face, short neck, full dew-lap, too narrow or too broad a chest, sunken or hollow or quite straight back, bent forelegs, overbent fetlocks, twisted feet, spreading toes, too curly a tail, weak hind quarters, and a general want of muscle, too short in body.

The members of the Irish Wolfhound Club are actively engaged in their object of producing a dog of gigantic size, and corresponding to their idea of the original Irish Wolfhound.

The results of breeding so far are, I understand, considered satisfactory; but, even with a number of breeders acting in harmony, it must take some years to attain the ideal sought for, and to establish fixity of type, as we see it in many of our old breeds.



CHAPTER IV.

THE SCOTCH ROUGH-HAIRED GREYHOUND.

THIS variety of dog is now rarely met with, except on some show benches, mixing with his larger brethren, the Deerhounds, and assuming their name. The popularity and great increase of public coursing seem to have rung his death knell, and, although he still exists in out-of-the-way places, he has, to a very large extent, become absorbed in the more modern smooth-skins, most strains of which have more or less of the rough blood in their veins. It is now nearly forty years since I last saw a Rough Greyhound competing in a coursing match, and he won it. When I say this occurred in a parish where almost everyone was a courser, and that can boast the production of such good Greyhounds as Cutty Sark, Scotland Yet, Wigan, Canaradzo, &c., it will be a sufficient guarantee that good stuff was pitted against the lanky dog with hirsute muzzle, whose name I forget, and who, I well remember, had his life closed on the day of his victory by some undiscovered scoundrel having cut his hock sinews, when, of course, he had to be destroyed.

A celebrated public performer was Gilbertfield, a rough brindled dog that flourished fifty years ago; but although rough himself, and the sire of rough dogs that proved themselves good ones, his sire was of the smooth variety.

The shape of the Rough Greyhound corresponds closely to that of the Deerhound; but he is not so large and powerful, averaging only 26in. at shoulder, against 29in. or

30in. in the Deerhound. That both sprang from the same original stock I think there can be no doubt; the existing difference gradually became established by the work to which they were kept, and the selections in breeding that would naturally be resorted to to mould and modify each animal to the purpose for which it was required.

In most points the Rough—or, as it has been called, the Wiry-haired — Greyhound corresponds with the Smooth, except that he is larger boned, and not quite so elegant in shape—or, perhaps, more correctly, is wanting in that beautiful finish that stamps the modern Greyhound as the highest effort of man's skill in moulding that plastic animal to his will. The rough, harsh coat, adds to this effect, and the hairy jaws make the head look coarse; this, however, it is in reality, caused by the head being wider between the ears, which latter are also apt to be rather large, and carried in an ugly manner. From its general resemblance to the Deerhound, many specimens have been sold as such, and, after having been kept as companions, and crossed with Deerhounds, have swelled the ranks of the latter, and helped to deteriorate their size.

I believe there are still specimens of the Rough Greyhound to be met with in Wales. I have no personal knowledge of these, but, from information furnished me, I believe they in all respects correspond with the Scotch, and are no doubt descendants of the dogs that rid the Principality of its wolves.

CHAPTER V.

THE LURCHER.

It would be in vain to look for the Lurcher in the streets or parks of London, in any of our considerable towns, or at any of our dog shows. In some of our manufacturing towns he is kept, though out of sight; his appearance is so suggestive, that the modesty and retiring disposition of his master will not allow him to parade the dog before the public gaze. The Lurcher is, in fact, *par excellence* the poacher's dog, and those who desire to see him must look for him in the rural districts; there look out for the jobbing labourer, the man who never works but from dire necessity, a sturdily-built but rather slouching fellow, whose very gait and carriage—half swagger, half lurch—proclaim the midnight prowler, and close to his heels, or crouched at his feet, beneath the ale-house bench, you will find the object of your search.

The Lurcher is by no means the ugly brute he is sometimes described to be. True, they vary greatly, and the name more properly describes the peculiar duties of the dog, and his manner of performing them, than distinctiveness of type; but still, the old-fashioned, genuine Lurcher has a well-defined character of his own, which no other dog can lay claim to.

The Lurcher proper is a cross between the Scotch Colley and the Greyhound. An average one will stand about three-fourths the height of the Greyhound. He is more strongly built than the latter dog, and heavier boned,

yet lithe and supple withal; his whole conformation gives an impression of speed, just as his blinking, half-closed eye, as he lies pretending to sleep, impresses one with his intelligence and cunning. His coat is rough, hard, and uneven; his ears are coarse; and altogether there is an air of, not rusticity, but vulgarity, about him. You cannot help associating dog and master; and, to be just, you will admit that there has been gross neglect or fundamental error in the education and bringing up of both dog and man, for which they may not be altogether responsible; and, to conclude your philosophising, you may possibly, with a sigh, regret that so much capacity for real work should be turned into a wrong channel. If we may compare the two in morals, the dog has much the better of it. He worships his master; he is as ready to defend as to adulate; his obedience is willing, prompt, and thorough, and rendered with a silence that would have commanded the praise of the Chelsea philosopher. No yelp, youf, or yowl from the Lurcher. Steady at heel, or keeping watch at the stile till the wire is in the meuse and the net across the gate; then, at a motion of the hand, and, without a whimper, he is round the field, driving rabbit and hare into the fatal snare.

I attribute the wonderful intelligence displayed by some Lurchers I have known to their constant and most intimate association with their owners. Both dogs and owners eat, sleep, and thief together, and, if the former were not of Sir Wilfrid Lawson's opinion, would, after a successful raid on the squire's preserves—like Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnny—"be drunk for weeks together."

Some Lurchers have a Terrier cross, others may have a dash of Harrier, Pointer, or Setter. I knew a dog, whose dam was a pure Irish Water Spaniel, and his sire, I believe, a flat-coated Retriever, that was the most perfect hare poacher I ever saw. He was perfect in nose, and in rough, tussocky, or rushy ground, would steal upon

pussy on her form with the most cautious silence, till within springing distance, when he seldom failed to secure her. This dog, from his manner of stealing on to his game, and his success, always reminded me of the description of the Tumbler in "Englishe Dogges"; but he was not in appearance like a "Mongrelle Greyhounde"; but rather a coarse, curly, black Poodle.

Lurchers will run either by nose or sight, as suits them, but always cunning. Let them start a hare, they will probably make for the meuse and meet poor Wat; but their great game is, with crouching, stealthy step, to pounce on him in his form.

All Lurchers will retrieve their game. Watch that itinerant tinker and collector of sundries, trudging behind that thing on four wheels he calls a cart, drawn by a nag that should be at the knacker's—he has seen the keeper heading for the Pig and Whistle. In a low, hoarse voice, the poacher says: "Hie in, Jerry!" and the Lurcher, that enters the spinney empty-mouthed, comes out two hundred yards below and deposits a hare at his master's feet.

These dogs vary greatly in general size and shape, and so they do in colour; but my *beau ideal* of a Lurcher is an animal with a heavyish Greyhound conformation, with just enough of the Colley to make him look intelligent, and in colour, red, brindle, or grizzle.



CHAPTER VI.

THE WHIPPET.

I HAVE failed to trace the etymology of the term "Whippet," but conceive it to be a provincial name, expressive at once of the diminutive size of these dogs, and the quick action they display in the sports in which they are used, especially that of rabbit coursing, or, rather, running rabbits; for with these diminutive Greyhounds, as they may be described, the laws of coursing are not followed, but the dog that soonest reaches and kills, or snaps, the rabbit, wins; hence their other appellation of Snap dogs. Although written of under these names, they are not usually called so by the miners, ironworkers, and others that most affect the sport in which they are employed, and many of those who have bred, kept, and run Whippets all their lives, would not know what was meant by the name, as they are usually spoken of as Running or Rabbit dogs.

By the latter name they used to be classed at the Darlington Show, where, in years gone by, good classes of them were annually shown; but for the last four or five years they have disappeared from the schedule. Nor are they likely to re-appear under Kennel Club rules; for, when working men are called upon to pay a tax of a shilling per dog exhibited, to a London Club composed of wealthy men, they very naturally want to know the reason why, and how the money so paid is to benefit themselves or their dogs.

The Whippet had been ignored in all published books

on dogs till the first edition of this work appeared; but the example there set has since been followed, and the importance of a breed, members of which, to the extent of between 400 and 500, have been entered in one handicap alone, has been recognised, although not to the extent it deserves.

Whippets are kept in great numbers throughout the counties of Lancaster, York, Durham, Northumberland, and the northern districts of the Midlands.

It is not for the show bench, but for the race ground, that Whippets are bred, where they are matched against each other for speed, and for their superiority in rabbit coursing.

An account of the racing for which these dogs are used, and which is so popular with the working-classes in many parts of the North, will no doubt prove interesting.

The dogs are handicapped according to their known performances, &c., the distance run being 200yds. They are entered as "Thomson's Rose, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.," &c., as the case may be, the weight appearing on the handicap card. Dogs are weighed in an hour before the time set for the first heat, and are allowed 4oz. over the declared weight. The winners of the heats are weighed again immediately the heats are run. For the second heat 8oz. are allowed. For the final race, run on the following Saturday, additional extra weight is allowed. The dogs generally get a light meal—half a pigeon, or a chop, or piece of steak—after running the second trial heats on the second Saturday, and so weigh a bit heavier the second time of scaling. The *modus operandi* will be best illustrated by the following description of a race meeting held at Farnworth Recreation Grounds, near Bolton. There were sixty odd heats of three dogs. The course is a perfectly level path of 12yds. in width. The dogs are stripped and put on their marks, each being held by his owner, or a man for him, and the starter goes behind them, with

the pistol. Meanwhile a man the dog knows starts off in front of him, carrying a big piece of linen rag, or some conspicuous object—sometimes a big tuft of grass, or a pigeon's wing; and every now and then, as he runs up the course, the man will turn round and "Hi" to the dog, at the same time waving the cloth up and down. When these runners-up have got pretty near the finish, the pistol is fired, and the dogs are released; the runners-up must then get over the 10yds. mark, beyond the finish line. Each dog has a piece of ribbon round his neck—according to his station, red, white, or blue—and the judge, or referee, as he is called, holds up a flag of the winning

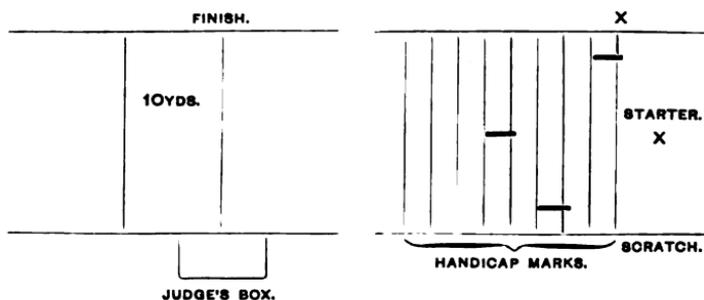


FIG. 1.

colour to show which has won. The cloth carried by the men who run before and encourage the dogs is called "bait," and "live bait" is prohibited. The diagram (Fig. 1) shows the positions of starter and judge, that of the dogs as handicapped, and the line—10yds. beyond the finish, or goal line—over which the men who have been encouraging the dogs must get to be out of the way of the competitors.

The following is a copy of the rules in force at a number of racing grounds in the Manchester district, and which will make the working of this popular pastime clear:—

1. All dogs that have never run at these grounds must be entered in their real owner's name and residence, also the town or place in which they are kept, or they will lose all claim in any handicap, and will be subject to inspection at the scales; and no person will be allowed to run with live bait.

2. Any person objecting to a dog on the mark, that heat shall be postponed. The objector and owner shall stake in the hands of the handicapper, or referee, £1 each, at the time of objection, which must be made into £5 each before the last heat is run. If the objection cannot be proved on the day it is lodged, the dog will run under protest. The person who owns the dog shall leave it with the proprietor or handicapper until the objection is decided; if it is proved, the money to be paid to the objector; but if not proved, the money to be paid to the owner of the said dog.

3. In any case of running-up for a wrong dog, the owner, the "runner," and the dog, will be disqualified. They will be expelled from the grounds for twelve months, and will not be allowed to enter any handicap during that time. Their names will also be published in the sporting papers.

4. Any owner of dogs attempting to weigh, or sending any other person to weigh, a wrong dog, both owner and dog shall be excluded from the grounds for twelve months.

5. If a dog be disqualified after running, the second dog in the heat shall be placed first; and if it is not possible to tell the second dog, all the dogs in the heat shall run again, except the one disqualified. All bets void on the heat.

6. Should the dogs go when the cap is fired, and not the shot, they shall run again in all cases; and any dog slipped before the cap or shot is fired shall forfeit all claim to the handicap, except all the dogs go; then it shall be a race.

7. Only one runner-up allowed with each dog. Anyone not at the mark when the previous heat is over will be disqualified in any part of the race. The runners to be 10yds. or 15yds. over the mark—according to the rules of the ground—when the dogs finish, or the dogs they represent will be disqualified. In all heats dogs must start at their respective marks.

8. All bets stand whether the dogs run or not, excepting bets on heats, when backers must have a race for their money.

9. That entries for dog handicaps shall close on Saturdays (Monday morning's post in time); and no entries will be taken after Monday morning on any account. This rule applies only to

handicaps run on two succeeding Saturdays; when run on other days, it will be subject to alteration as announced in bills.

10. If the proprietors and handicappers at any of these grounds make a mistake in a dog's start, and, not detecting it, allow any dog to run the first day, it shall not be disqualified through the handicapper having made a mistake in the start, and all bets must stand.

11. Any dog entered "old," and not over five years old, will be disqualified in any part of the race, and lose all claim to bets or stakes. No age will be taken after eight months old.

12. FINAL HEAT.—All dogs in the final heat shall be subject to weighing and inspection. In weighing, they will be allowed 6oz. in addition to the usual allowance; and anyone taking his dog off the course before the referee declares "All right," shall forfeit all claim to stakes and bets.

All disputes to be settled by the referee.

The following additional information, as interesting as it is reliable, was furnished me by the late Mr. Angus Sutherland, of Accrington, well known as a writer on dogs, coursing, and other sports, and who had exceptional experience of this breed of dog, and every phase of the sports in which it is used:—

These dogs, which are kept in large numbers by the working-classes in the Northern counties of England, may be called the Poor Man's Greyhounds, being similar in form, and having to undergo the same preparation for work, by severe training and a prescribed diet, as Greyhounds, and, like them, require to be protected from the effects of severe weather by the use of thick woollen covers, both breeds being very susceptible to chills in the sudden changes of our fickle climate.

These remarks specially refer to the smooth-coated sort, which form an immense majority of those kept in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the Midlands; but amongst the pit-men of Durham and Northumberland are found a great many rough-haired ones, many of which are the result of

crossing with the Bedlington Terrier, and these are naturally hardier.

The breed is kept for the sport termed straight running, and also for rabbit coursing. The fastest dogs have been produced by a first cross from the Greyhound; but those used for rabbit coursing have generally an infusion of Bull Terrier, or some other game blood, calculated to give them staying powers; for to run thirty-one courses in one day, is not only a trying test of condition, but also a severe trial of gameness.

The fleetness of the modern Whippet is not generally known to the outside world; but, considering their weight, these dogs may be termed the speediest four-legged animals known. As an illustration, I will adduce Mr. William Whittaker's red bitch, Nettle. This bitch was not only the handsomest, but about the fastest, ever bred; her running weight was 19lb. She will be known to many from her show bench career, having, when exhibited by Messrs. William Whittaker and Abraham Boulton, won a great number of first prizes; in fact, in this line she had an unbeaten record. But it is to her extraordinary fleetness I wish particularly to refer. Upon a favourable day, and given a good course, she could traverse 200yds. in 12sec., which gives a speed of $16\frac{2}{3}$ yds. per second, her stride, when thoroughly extended, as measured from toes to toes, being a trifle over 15ft.; such cannot but be considered astounding when performed by a 19lb. animal. By way of comparison, I will take the fastest celebrity in the annals of the equine race, Colonel Townley's Kettledrum, who, strange to say, sprung from the same town as the bitch Nettle, viz., Burnley, in Lancashire. He traversed the Derby course, Epsom ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in extent), in 2min. 43sec. (the fastest time on record), or at the rate of $16\frac{2}{3}$ yds. per second; consequently, the rate of speed is in favour of the canine heroine.

The parallel here drawn by Mr. Sutherland is scarcely

fair to the horse, as his average is taken on a distance more than thirteen times that covered by the dog.

The description of straight running given by Mr. Sutherland is, in substance, the same as mine, and I therefore omit it; but the following remarks by him on rabbit coursing with Whippets, and his description of some of the notable dogs of the breed, with their pedigrees and performances, will be read with interest:—

The matches in connection with rabbit coursing invariably take place in inclosed grounds set apart for that and other sports. These matches are ruled by what is termed the "60yds. Law"—that is, the rabbits are allowed 60yds. start of the competing dogs. The slipper, who is selected for his known impartiality, grasps the competitors by the napes of their necks, despatching them as evenly as possible the instant the rabbit is dropped at the stipulated mark by the judge, who immediately takes up a favourable position to view the course, and decides in favour of the dog first seizing and holding bunny.

It will thus be seen, that the duties of judge are not so intricate as those of the Greyhound judge, who is called upon to decide the knotty points of pace, the working turns, go-byes, and merits of the kill.

The weight of the dogs is generally the guide in match-making, the heavier dog having to give his opponent a certain ratio of dead rabbits. In rabbit coursing, however, as in straight running, there are at all times a few dogs more proficient than others; these are handicapped by dead rabbits, according to merit; and, as in the latter sport, bitches, being considered greater adepts at the game, are handicapped accordingly.

Having described the uses to which Whippets are put, I cannot do better than give a description of their breeding, and, at the outset, say that it must be considered as an axiom that, from their general conformation, they most certainly have sprung from the Greyhound. To illustrate

this, I cannot do better than give the original pedigree of a breed that has produced the greatest heroes and heroines of the last thirty years. In the year 1845, Mr. Sutcliffe Whittam, of Burnley, possessed a celebrated black Greyhound dog, Sailor, weight about 65lb. This dog was mated to a rather leggy, broken-haired Terrier bitch of Mr. Pickthalls', about 20lb. weight. From this cross came the celebrated Whippet stud dog, Spring, weight 26lb., colour—like his sire—black, who in every particular was a Greyhound in miniature. Spring, owing to his great pace, had, during his running career, no compeer near his throne, though it is only fair to say that, at this particular period, Whippet-breeding was only in its infancy. Spring was next mated to the black and white bitch, Peevish, weight 17lb.; the litter produced that sensational black and white bitch, Barlick Fly, whose time-test record so electrified the Whippet world, and who, during her career, never knew defeat, notwithstanding that she was called upon to give any amount of weight and yardage.

One of this bitch's great performances was when she was pitted against the two would-be champions, Bury Pink and Stockport Fly. Although there was little difference in weight, she conceded each far above the usual handicap start, and ran them both within the hour, at the then usual rendezvous, Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester. Although this was considered a marvellous effort, the result proved how easy was the task allotted her, as she simply romped in in both essays. From this blood were Dutch and Flint, both of whom won innumerable matches and handicaps; in fact, these two, with Barlick Fly, formed a trio that were invincible to any opponents, each holding the highest time-test record until Whittaker's Nettle burst upon the Whippet world like a meteor.

Nettle's sire was the above-named Dutch; her dam, the brindle Bradford Lady, who was own sister to the cele-

brated Myrtle. To enumerate her many brilliant performances would fill a small volume, her name being, for a lengthened period, before the world as the champion of champions; and although Barlick Fly, in her time, was considered the bright particular star, her time record effectually paled when placed in contrast with that of the beautiful Nettle. Nettle was for a long time the terror of the owners of all the noted dogs of her day, and, in many trials, her terrific speed, previously considered impossible of accomplishment, carried her successfully through.

Towards the latter portion of her career she began to exhibit a playfulness in her matches, which resulted disastrously in her great match with Batley Nancy, when, without doubt, their weight in gold was pending upon the result. In this memorable match, Nettle had to concede Nancy about 7yds. in the 200yds., and in running caught her before crossing the 100yds. mark, when it appeared a "kingdom to an orange" upon her; but, playing with her opponent the latter half of the journey, she failed to have her head straight when crossing the winning mark, and lost by 3in., amidst the vociferous cheering of the Yorkshireites, who a moment before considered they had not a ghost of a chance. Owing to the loss of this match, Nettle's engagements were henceforth made to be run under canvas, of which a description will not be out of place here, it having had many times to be resorted to, owing to the peculiar temperament of many dogs.

The "canvas" used is ordinary cotton cloth, 200yds. in length, and 40in. deep; this is attached to iron rods, placed in the centre, throughout the length of the course. The competitors run upon each side of the canvas, and are thus prevented from seeing each other during the contest, and run home in the straightest manner possible, free from any vagaries.

Nettle ran many matches in this manner successfully; amongst others, one against that good dog, Hoyle's Turpin.

Although conceding to him a lot of weight, he had to succumb to her superior prowess.

Nettle's sister, the brindled Sallie, was also a top-sawyer, very little behind her sister in running qualities, and she also had a very successful career.

It will thus be seen, that the first cross from the Greyhound Sailor, through his son Spring, and grandson Dutch, were a veritable gold-mine to their owners—the betting on these races being very heavy—for from this strain sprang all the champions for a quarter of a century. Other good strains sprang from Rochdale Spark (another first cross from the Greyhound), Huddersfield Spot, and Blue Jacket. From the first-named came that little wonder, Mr. David Sutcliffe's fawn bitch, Luce, weight 12lb., whom it was a treat to see run, for, owing to her short stride of 10ft., her movements were like those of a delicate piece of machinery. She won many matches, and secured one of the large Oldham handicaps, netting her party more than £1000; and, had she not met a premature death upon the railway, near Oldham, she would have proved a rod in pickle in another of the large handicaps immediately taking place, for, on a good track, she could cover 200yds. within 14secs.

The most noted rabbit-coursing dogs have been Preston's Navy Jack, red and white dog, weight 28lb., by Not for Joe; dam, a crossbred bitch; he won fifteen or more matches, and many handicap sweeps. Turpin, another first cross from a Greyhound, weight 33lb., was also a great winner, and proved a capital stud dog, being the sire of Rushton's Nimper, Shipley Sparrow, and Burnley Maggie, whose owners were prepared to match them against all comers. Among the middle weights, Holdsworth's Rose stood out in bold relief; and amongst the lesser weights, Little Bright from Wigan, and Jerry from Bingley, both 13½lb. dogs, were the acknowledged champions.

Many are the interesting anecdotes that could be related respecting the jealous manner these dogs are guarded by

their owners; their meat must be the daintiest of mutton, and their drink the best of tea; in fact, they are invariably better fed than their owners, or their families. After feeding Whippets, which only takes place once a day, at a fixed time, the inevitable muzzle is requisitioned to prevent their picking up anything that would derange their stomachs; and this is not taken off until feeding-time again, excepting when the dogs are running a trial, or engaged in an actual race.

CHAPTER VII.

THE SIBERIAN WOLFHOUND.

THIS is a dog of the Scotch Deerhound type, and much the same in size. The most striking difference between them is in the colour, the grizzle, almost universal in the Deerhound, giving place in these dogs to a mixture of colours. The majority of those exhibited at our shows are white, with fawn or yellow markings; but a gentleman who reported a dog show at Moscow for *The Country*, where there were about fifty of these dogs exhibited, describes the prevailing colour of the *Barzoi*—as these hounds are called—as white and dark grey. Minski, shown at Burton-on-Trent, was a mixture of light and dark grey and white; but certainly the majority we see in this country are white and fawn, or yellow.

Siberian Wolfhounds are scarce in this country, which is to be regretted, as they are strikingly handsome and majestic. The best specimen I have seen is Lady Emily Peel's Czar, by the Duke of Hamilton's Moscow (a dog I do not know), out of Mr. Cumming Macdona's Sandringham, the latter a remarkably handsome specimen of her breed. Czar is a splendid fellow, white and lemon coloured, and in build corresponds with our best Deerhounds; he has a good deep chest, well-sloped shoulders, airy neck, and noble head, with rather full, almost amber-coloured, eyes, which show bead-like, surrounded, as they are, with white. He is altogether a dog

of fine proportions and noble appearance, and a first-rate specimen of his race.

The texture of the coat is finer than in our Deerhounds; and the Siberian hounds have a milder look (which the softer colours probably increase the effect of) than their name and work would lead us to expect.

In now writing (at the end of 1886), I can only say that fashion, so all-powerful in these matters, has almost entirely banished this beautiful breed from our shows for some years past.

As ornamental and companion dogs Siberian Wolfhounds are to be commended, and I hope to see them become more plentiful.



CHAPTER VIII.

THE PYRENEAN WOLFHOUND.

UNDER various names, such as Pyrenean Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Mastiffs, &c., dogs of the Wolfhound type are often met with at our shows. These are of stronger build, and shorter, in proportion to height, than the Siberian hound. The whole head is thicker, and the skull rounder, although the muzzle is fairly elongated, and not approaching to the truncated Mastiff type. From an English point of view, so far as general shape of body goes, they suggest a cross between a Colley and a Deerhound.

They appear to be a race of dogs well fitted to tend mountain sheep, and to defend them from the attacks of such predatory animals as wolves and foxes. Their coats are thick and shaggy, frequently of a rufous colour, slightly tawny, and of a lighter shade on throat, chest, and lower parts. The height appears to range from about 28in. to 30in. Although the breed cannot be considered as established in this country, yet, as specimens are shown from time to time, and have many admirers, it would only be in accordance with precedent were a club formed to encourage the breed, when, no doubt, large classes would soon adorn our show benches. As a matter of fact, the formation of a club for the introduction and improvement of several varieties of foreign dogs of the Wolfhound type has already been mooted, and is, I believe, likely to become a reality.

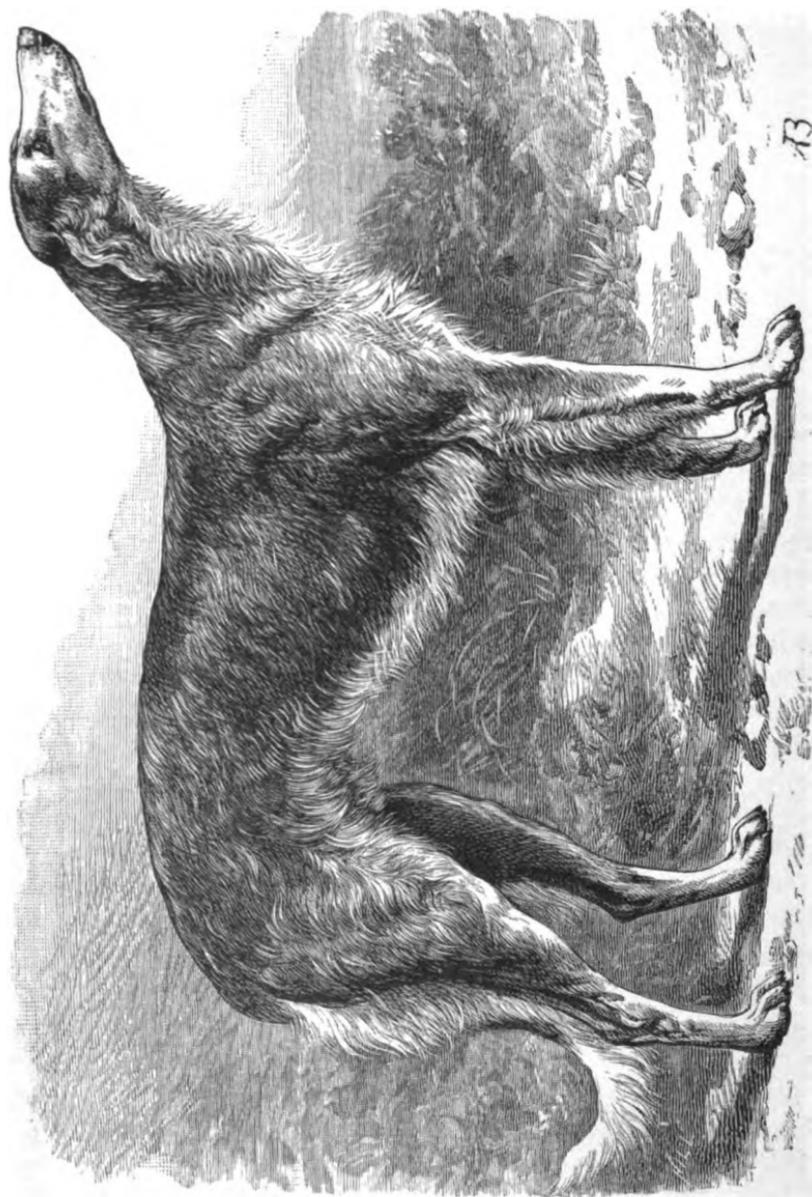
It is a very generally accepted opinion that the Pyrenean

Wolfhound was resorted to to resuscitate the St. Bernard, at a time when that breed of dogs was nearly extinguished; and many St. Bernards, of good pedigree, that have attained to some notoriety here, by their general conformation and length of skull and muzzle, give substantial support to that view.

The Pyrenean Wolfhound appears at our shows in the class for any breed of foreign dog not specially classified in the schedule, which many foreign breeds, from their great popularity, now are. From the specimens awarded prizes as good representatives of the breed, it is evident no very clear idea of their special characteristics prevails with the judges, for dogs very different from each other have won. Of recent prize-winners, I may name Capt. S. M. Thomas's Bilboa (K.C.S.B. 18,328), Miss A. Bodley's Congleton Bruno (K.C.S.B. 15,689), and Mr. R. Todd's Derwent Jumbo (K.C.S.B. 17,236)—all Crystal Palace winners; these are parti-coloured dogs—white, lemon, fawn, and black or tawny in parts.



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CIRCISSIAN ORLOFF WOLFHOUND.

M. D. F. Zambaco's DOMOVOV, by Bulgare, out of Neva, by Tcherkoss, out of Neva.

CHAPTER IX.

THE CIRCASSIAN WOLFHOUND.

THE Circassian, or Orloff Wolfhound, is stated to be descended from the Siberian Wolfhound, or Barzoi, imported into Circassia, and the modifications in shape and colour are said to be due to climatic influences.

We have not had many specimens of this variety exhibited in England; but I hope to see the number increase, as the race is a very fine one, tall and strong, with a noble appearance, befitting companion dogs; and as they are as active as cats in their movements, they, in that respect, possess a great advantage over the majority of our show Mastiffs and St. Bernards, whose ungainly gallop is decidedly bovine in style.

A remarkably handsome specimen of this breed was exhibited at the Crystal Palace Show, 1885. This was M. Zambaco's Domovoy, a fine, upstanding dog, straight and strong in limbs, and in contour resembling a Scotch Deerhound, though shorter in comparison to height, as will be seen by comparing his measurements—which his owner has kindly supplied me with—with those of some of our noted Deerhounds, whose weights and measurements are given in the chapter devoted to that breed.

Domovoy was not awarded a prize by the judge, Mr. Farquharson, though the critics were almost unanimous in declaring that his merits would have warranted the judge in putting him first in a class of foreign dogs wherein

were great variety and merit; but it must be acknowledged that such mixed lots are always very difficult to adjudicate upon.

Domovoy is cloudy red in colour, with a useful coat, not very thick. He has won several prizes at Continental shows, and his parents have also won exhibition honours. His pedigree is: Sire, M. G. Lemoin's Bulgare (31in. high at shoulder), by Tristan ex Arratt (both imported into France from the Caucasus); dam, Madame Vennin Desvignes' Neva (29in. high at shoulder), by Kabile out of Olga (both imported).*

The following are detailed particulars of Domovoy :

Domovoy (L. O. F. 91), Circassian Wolfhound (Orloff breed), 1st Paris, 1885, by Bulgare (extra 1st, Paris, 1885) out of Neva. Born 18th March, 1884. Weight, 83lb.; height at shoulder, 32½in.; length from nose to set on of tail, 51in.; length of tail, 26in.; girth of chest, 35in.; girth of loin, 21½in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of fore arm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.; length of neck from joint to shoulders, 11½in.; girth round neck, 17in.; girth of thigh, 19in.; length of ear (important as showing purity of breed), 5in.; colour, fawn, mixed with black (wolf's colour).

A few specimens of these dogs have been exhibited at our shows, by far the grandest of any being Domovoy, the subject of our illustration.

Of this variety M. Zambaco writes:—

The Circassian Orloff Wolfhound is the cousin of the Siberian Barzoi; but it has a few special characteristics, which clearly show it to be a distinct variety. The coat,

* In the Plate representing Domovoy, given with this work, an error as to his pedigree has been made. The correct pedigree is that given above: Olga, given as his dam, is Olga II., by Tcherkess out of Neva, the latter another bitch than Domovoy's granddam.

instead of being wavy, as in the Northern animal, lies flat on the body, though it is about 2in. long. The hind part of the front legs, the thighs, and the lower part of the tail, are heavily feathered; the coat is longest about the breast and the neck, forming a sort of frill. The legs of the Circassian dog are proportionately longer than those of the Siberian; the head is shorter, and the forehead not so sloping back between the ears; the eyes are more open; the colour is dark fawn or black. This hound is swifter than the Siberian, and perhaps more intelligent, though both are suitable as companions; their aristocratic demeanour, and most graceful attitudes, make them the richest ornamental hound of the hall and the drawing-room.

As supplementary to the particulars given by M. Zambaco, I may say that the colour of the Circassian is very distinct from the white, and but lightly spotted, Siberian, it being always dark; that preferred is dark tawny or black and fawn on back and other upper parts, shading off into a creamy fawn, almost white, on belly, lower thighs, and limbs.

The Circassian hound is believed by some of its breeders to be the Siberian transported to the Southern mountainous regions, and altered in colour and minor characteristics by centuries of climatic influence.

This theory seems, however, to be purely conjectural, whilst the structural affinity of both Circassian and Siberian hounds with our Deerhounds and Greyhounds suggest all of them as variations merely, and alike descendants of the same parent stock; and the little light history throws on the subject points to the Greyhound of the old Celtic tribes as the origin of all.



CHAPTER X.

THE PERSIAN GREYHOUND.

SPECIMENS of this graceful but rather delicate variety are comparatively rare in England; still, we generally have one or more at our London shows.

Persian Greyhounds are of similar type to our Greyhounds, but built more slimly, and wanting the great muscular development which the latter possess; indeed, so delicate in appearance are those I have seen exhibited, that they are in that respect an enlarged edition of the Italian Greyhound. These dogs differ from our Greyhounds also in having the ears larger, drooping, and fringed with silky hair much longer than on the body; and the tail is similarly adorned.

They are used in hunting the gazelle, an interesting account of which sport appeared in the *Field* newspaper some years ago. For this purpose they are used in relays, a custom which was at one time in practice in this country in deer hunting.

The most beautiful specimen of this breed I have seen was Mr. H. Allan's Tierma, a delicate fawn, standing, I should say, 22in. to 23in. at the shoulder. Tierma has often been exhibited, and her great beauty has always secured her a first prize on these occasions.

Although there are few large shows at which one or more foreign dogs of Greyhound type do not appear, yet none of the Eastern varieties seem to take the popular fancy, and I am not aware of Persian Greyhounds having yet been bred in this country.

GROUP II.

Dogs that Hunt their Game by Scent, and Kill.

INCLUDING :

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <i>The Bloodhound.</i> | 5. <i>The Harrier.</i> |
| 2. <i>The Staghound.</i> | 6. <i>The Beagle.</i> |
| 3. <i>The Foxhound.</i> | 7. <i>The Basset.</i> |
| 4. <i>The Otterhound.</i> | 8. <i>The Dachshund.</i> |

This group corresponds, in head formation, with the second division of M. Cuvier: "The head moderately elongated, and the parietals diverging from each other for a certain space as they rise upon the side of the head, enlarging the cerebral cavity and the frontal sinus." Many, and notably those nearest approaching the older types, are possessed of deep flews, and abundance of loose skin about the head and throat. They are heavier in build and slower in pace than those in Group I., and, although in several instances used to quest for game only, the general employment of the group is to hunt by scent only, and to kill.

HISTORY OF THE GROUP.

THE group which the initiated in the mysteries of the modern chase scorn to call dogs, and ridicule those who do, is known by the generic name of hound, and is, in its present-day application, limited to such as hunt in packs. This was not always so, as is evident by the retention of the terminal in the appellatives Greyhound, Deerhound, Lymehound, Bloodhound, still retained, although referring to dogs hunting singly in some instances, and entirely by sight in others.

The history of the hound cannot be considered coeval with hunting, for the impulses of hunger, on which, with those of love, the edifice of the world is sustained, as expressed by Schiller, had forced man to exercise his higher brain-power in aid of his weaker physical force, alike against the ferocious beasts that preyed on his flocks and herds, and to capture those he selected for his food, in forms which Tickell has well expressed as—

Rude arts at first, but witty want refined
The huntsman's wiles, and famine formed the mind.

Various devices, taking the forms of gins, nets, snares, and pitfalls, we may suppose to have succeeded to the more toilsome, dangerous, and less successful plan of capture by main force. From the evidence on this subject supplied by the text of the Old Testament, we may reason that these hunters' wiles were the only ones known to the Hebrews of King David's time; for, although in the Psalms, as in the Book of Job, and in the writings of Isaiah later, all the artifices of the class of sportsman we now dub poacher, are used freely as illustrations—thereby proving them to have been so common as to be well understood—we have no reference to hunting with dogs, even by the father of sports of the chase, Nimrod. The toils into which the game was driven were probably first com-

posed of osiers and other such pliant growths, till the art of spinning had been mastered. This system long continued after dogs had been introduced as aids in the capture of the prey; and, indeed, in some countries the practice still survives of using nets in aid of the hounds, although here the practice is limited to the poacher and the ferreter in capturing the destructive rabbit. Whether the dog was first used by man to help him to win his daily rations—which is most probable—or whether he was initiated into the work when man had so far advanced in civilisation as to be able to live other than from hand to mouth, and, having provided liberally for necessities, began to follow the chase as a sport and pastime, history does not make clear. In regard to the group of hounds we now have under consideration, we get some glimpses into their evolution, alike through recorded fact and fable.

The *cynetica* of Greek and Latin authors throws much light on the kind of dogs employed by them in hunting; and then, as now, we find the hound as various as the quarry pursued.

For the fiercer game, such as the wild boar, wolf, bear, tiger, and lion, the mute dogs of the fighting class, such as the Molossian, the Ser, the Acarnanian, the Celtic, &c., were employed, in conjunction with the true hounds hunting by scent, and giving tongue when eager on the quarry; and among these the Spartan, the Cretan, the Carian, the Metagon, and the British hound, all, with many other breeds, come in for a share of the encomiums of the ancient sporting poets. The sagacious hounds were used to rouse and hunt the game, and the pugnacious to attack them when at bay; and to these was added the Limier, whose duty it was to lead up to the harbour of the deer, or boar, or other beast, in silence, which the other dogs were set on to unharbour. These Limiers were the Metagons praised by Homer, because they so silently approached their prey, and they correspond to

our more modern Lymehound, eulogised by Sir William Davenant :

And dogs, such whose cold secrecy was meant
 By Nature for surprise, on those attend—
 Wise, temperate Limehounds, that proclaim no scent,
 Nor harb'ring will their mouths in boasting spend.

According to Gratius, the first hound to work up to game from a trail as a Lymehound, was trained by Hagnon, and named Glympicus ; but whether that is literally correct is of little consequence compared to the important fact that the method in vogue in those old days continued in use, and was practised in our own country, in quite recent times.

In his description of wild boar hunting, Xenophon recommends Indian and Locrian hounds to be selected from the pugnacious, and Cretans and Spartans from the sagacious, sorts. And the style of hunting of the sagacious hounds—*nares sagaces*—is told by many ; and to show that the working character of these corresponds with the hounds of our own country, even as modified to suit changed conditions and altered tastes in hunting, I will quote from two authorities. Gratius says : “ Those of which we now speak have their nostrils split to the ears, and scarcely showing any sign of muzzle, barking like wild beasts, and obeying the voice of the master ” ; and Darcus, describing a pack of Spartan hounds : “ From thence we have the dogs that are prized, from Achaian, Lacedæmon, dwelling in woods, precipitating themselves on wild beasts, tracking them throughout their dens and deep valleys, and encountering them everywhere ; making their teeth meet in their rigid hides ; always being able to track what has at any time been indicated to them. The broad river that flows among the winding hills does not impede them, nor does its boundary arrest their course. Their mouths may be broken by their constant

barking, and they may drag their weary limbs after them, but they are still constant to pursue the prey."

In the more familiar and polished lines of our own Shakespeare, the Spartan pack approaches nearer to the ideal of our English hound, such as he was when music was prized above speed:—

"My hounds are bred out of the Spartan kind,
So flewed, so sanded, and their heads are hung
With ears that sweep away the morning dew,
Crook-kneed and dew-lap'd like Thessalian bulls;
Slow in pursuit, but matched in mouth like bells,
Each under each. A cry more tuneable
Was never halloo'd to, nor cheered with horn,
In Crete, in Sparta, nor in Thessaly."

There appear to have been two varieties of hounds indigenous to Britain: one of large size, probably the progenitor of the dog known later as the Sleuthhound; and the small Beagle, or, according to Canute's forest laws, "the Velterer, which the English call Langehren"; and both kinds seem to have been known in Italy—sent there, doubtless, along with the progenitors of our Mastiffs, required for the sports of the Amphitheatre, by the Procurator Cynegii. Of the larger breed, there does not exist the means of certain identification; but the Agaseous or Beagle is accurately described by Oppian and Arrian, the latter writing of them that "they are not less clever at hunting on scent than the Carian and Cretan, but in shape sorry brutes. In pursuit these give tongue with a clanging howl, like the yelping Carians, but are more eager when they catch the scent. Sometimes, indeed, they gladden so outrageously, even on a stale trail, that I have rated them for their excessive barking—alike on every scent, whether it be the hare going to form, or at speed. In pursuing and recovering her when started, they are not inferior to the Carians or Cretans, save in the one point of speed."

The above corresponds closely with the description of Oppian given in the chapter on Beagles, although applied by Arrian to a very close congener—another Celtic hound, the Segusian, a small Basset, named after a Celtic tribe, the Segusiani, inhabiting the western banks of the Rhone.

What amount of original stock of hounds may have been left in Britain by the Romans it is impossible to say; but we may be sure that Danes and Saxons both introduced breeds which, by commixture with those already here, modified their character.

In delineations of boar-hunting in England, in a Saxon MS. of the ninth century, the dogs held in leash, ready to be slipped, strongly resemble in conformation the German Boarhound with cropped ears; and in the laws of Canute the Dane, hounds of the chase are referred to, and we know from the ancient Welsh laws that two centuries earlier the king's Buckhound was the dog reckoned at the highest value.

Edmund de Langley, writing in the fourteenth century, gives very accurate and detailed descriptions of our sporting dogs; and it is important to remember that this was after the hounds imported from France by the Normans had immensely influenced, if they had not displaced those kept by the Saxons. The Normans introduced a new style of hunting, which they carried out with great pomp and ceremony; and it is but a fair inference that a people who paid so much attention to all the paraphernalia of the hunting-field, even carrying the nomenclature of the chase to absurd extravagance, would be very nice in the selection of their hounds.

From the date referred to, modifications have gone on through selection in breeding, to suit altered forms of hunting, up almost to the present; and now, in every variety, we have better-built, and altogether handsomer, hounds than our forefathers were content to hunt with,

and it is certain that the qualities of the hounds, as hounds, have not suffered, but have been improved.

De Langley gives this description: "Thei that ben gentile shuld be made and shape as a Greyhounde, evyn of alle things sauf of the heved, the whiche shuld be greet and short."

The next writer in sequence of time is Juliana Berners, in the "Booke of St. Alban's," but her description of hounds is meagre; she was followed by Dr. Johannes Caius, in "Englishe Dogges," 1557, and very soon after Turberville wrote the "Noble Art of Venerie," in which he gives very fair descriptions of several hounds. Gervase Markham followed soon, and in his works, and those of Sir Thomas Cockaine, Richard Surflet, Sir T. Elyot, and others, about the same date, we get fair descriptions of hounds as they then were; and, following on, through Blome, Somerville, Giles, Smedley, Beckford, and others, we can trace the changes in style of hound, from the ancient, clumsily-built animal, collectively forming a motley pack, to the perfect in shape and equally-matched hounds of our present packs.

Much discussion has been indulged in respecting the original hound of Britain; and if we could identify the Bloodhound, as we now know it, with the Sleuthhound of Scotland, as many are of opinion, there would be strong presumptive evidence in favour of that theory of Bloodhound origin. In the north, and in Wales, the native breeds were, for centuries after the Norman conquest, less open than their southern congeners to crossings by the hounds introduced to the south of England from France. It is, however, made clear enough, by evidence from various reliable sources, that Bloodhounds were merely drafts from the general pack, and were so designated because of the special work they were put to; and nothing can be more indubitably established than that each and every one of our breeds has been formed and moulded

into its distinctive characters by the special work each has has been kept to.

Some would refer the quotation given above, from De Langley, to the Mastiff or Bulldog class, the name Alauuts being by them restricted to such dogs. Such, however, has not been accepted as its meaning by all writers, and Daniels, in his "Rural Sports," calls the "ten white Alauutes" of Chaucer Greyhounds. De Langley distinguishes between hounds and Greyhounds; therefore, I take it, Alauutes was a generic term, and the following, from that writer, confirms my view: "Alaut is a maner and natre of houndes, and the good Aulautz ben the which men clepyn Alautz gentil. Other there byn that men clepyn ventreres. Others byn Alautz of the botcherie."

Dansey says: "Possibly the old English Talbot was the parent stock whence all the sub-varieties at present found in the kennels of Great Britain originally sprung, modified, in shape and character, by judicious crossing and careful management as to quarry."

Whittaker, in his history of Manchester, expresses a similar opinion respecting the position of the Talbot in relation to all of our modern breeds.

For my own part, I cannot believe, on the evidence I have been able to collect, that our hounds can be traced to any one source exercising even a preponderating influence on their character, but rather incline to the view that they are the result of many judicious commixtures of breeds.

Turberville, who appears to have been rather too easily satisfied regarding historical facts, says of white hounds: "The first of the race was given to King Louis by a poor gentleman. The king thought little of it, liking dun hounds, of which his kennels were, and only valuing others to make Bloodhounds of." Gervase Markham says: "The milk-white is the true Talbot," and his description

of the breed will be found in the following chapter on the Bloodhound.

Somerville also describes the Talbot as white in this passage from "The Chase":—

The deep flewed hound
Breed up with care, strong, heavy, slow, but sure,
Whose ears, down-hanging from his thick, round head,
Shall sweep the morning dew; whose clanging voice
Awake the mountain echo in her cell,
And shake the forest: the bold Talbot kind,
Of these the prime, as white as Alpine snows,
And great their use of old.

These white Talbot hounds were held in high estimation. Turberville gives them credit for great perseverance in the chase of the hart, for which they were principally reserved; and adds, "They are most commodious for princes and gentlemen."

Spackman, writing some forty years later—in 1613—speaks of "the gentlemanly Greyhound, for coursing buck, stag, otter, or hare; and the Talbot, or Buckhound, more regarded of noble personages."

Some writers would trace the Bloodhound to the black St. Hubert race; but, so far as concerns our English Bloodhounds, there is abundant evidence to show they were drafted from other hounds, because of their suitability as Lymehounds. The Bloodhound, or Sleuthound of Scotland, as described by Hector Boethius, corresponds in general character with the Bloodhound of Caius, Tickell, Somerville, and other English writers.

Blome (A.D. 1688) gives an illustration of a pack of hounds, uncoupled, and a Bloodhound held in leash. The latter is much the heavier-looking dog, and appears to be a black or very dark-coloured dog, with a white muzzle and blaze, and very long, pendent ears; the pack, consisting of more nimble hounds, apparently pied, as our Foxhounds of the present day. This writer's remarks are

well worth quoting here, as throwing strong light on the subject, and, I think, justifying the views I have ventured to express. He says: "They who undertake to distinguish hounds by their colours, do but trifle away their time, it being no inherent quality or ingredient towards the making anything good and useful; but the proportions, sizes, and features are to be inquired after." As a general proposition, that is correct, and, I think, disposes of those who would trace the pedigree of our hounds to a kind of any distinct colour, whether black St. Huberts or white Talbots. It is different, however, in its application at the present time, for, as hounds have been bred, colour has now become a distinguishing feature.

Blome describes, with some minuteness of detail, the hounds of chase of his day, dividing them into three varieties—the Deep-mouthed or Southern-mouthed Hound, the Fleet or Northern Hound, and a variety between these and partaking of the character of both. At an earlier date, Markham had described the difference between the Southern and the Northern Hounds, in a similar way. Still earlier, Dr. Caius* had described the *Leve-rarius*, or Harrier, a hound of this type, and closely corresponding to the Scottish Rache, of which the Mayster of Game says: "The Rache, the whiche men clepyn the renning hound," and which Bellenden writes of as "ane Rache that seekis thair pray, baith of fowlis, beastis, and fische, be scent and smell of their neis."

Sir Thomas Cockaine, Knight, author of "A Short Treatise of Hunting, Compiled for the Delight of Noblemen and Gentlemen," 1591, gives, as a frontispiece, a drawing of a hound of the heavy Southern type; and he recommends that with the pack there should be bred a couple of Kibble Hounds. These I understand to be

* "Of Englishe Dogges," reprinted verbatim, and published by L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand, London.

broken or crook-legged hounds of the Basset type, to be used as Lyme-hounds.

The author of "The Sportsman's Cabinet," 1803, expressed the opinion that the Bloodhound is "the original breed of hound"; adding, "Every considerate reflection, as well as the result of every corresponding research, seems to justify the most probably well-founded opinion that this was the very description of hound originally brought into use for running the game by scent in this country; from whom the different degrees have been gradationally and progressively improved, to render them more fleet and applicable to the refined sports of the present day."

The desire to trace our breeds of hounds to one common source is strong in many writers; and what they desire, they imagine they see. There is nothing, however, more certain than that no amount of reflection and meditation will prove a pedigree; and I cannot help thinking that the author of "The Sportsman's Cabinet," in his desire to achieve his purpose, lost his way in the luxuriance of his own verbosity.

Towards the end of the last century, Beckford published his "Thoughts upon Hunting," and his work is still an authority, and it certainly did much towards making our hounds what they are to-day. His prose essay was a fitting follower of the spirit-stirring poem "The Chase," both inculcating wise practical lessons in breeding. These two writers—Somerville and Beckford—very conclusively proved how our packs had been slowly forming, and gave an impetus to breeding to a clearly-conceived type, which masters of Foxhounds and Harriers have assiduously, and with great judgment, carried out; so that our hounds have been not merely modified to suit new conditions, but improved in their physical characteristics and working qualities alike as hounds and as packs. To use a parallel, very old, but not a bit the worse for the wear, the hound, as the individual soldier, is a finer animal than

his forebears, and the various regiments or packs made up of the individuals present a grander *tout ensemble* alike because of improved individual physique and the regularity of character that marks the whole. Each regiment or pack possesses family peculiarities of its own, but, taken collectively, they form a noble army of pronouncedly the same type and nationality.

In the course of evolution which has been going on, the old Southern Hound has disappeared, with many other types, unsuited to new times and conditions, but their good qualities have been preserved in new combinations of excellencies. The Lymehound is no more, for his work ceased long ago; and that curious and clever hound, the Tumbler, that must have been dear to every poacher's heart, is no longer recognised as a breed: if haply the inherited cunning and tricky ways of this *Vertragus* develop in an individual now and then, it depends on who is his master whether he meets an early doom, or his qualities are modestly veiled from the Squire because of his utility in filling the pot.

I think it will be interesting to introduce, in the history of the hound group, Blome's description of the Tumbler, as we can no longer include him as a breed of British dogs:—

“*The Tumbler* is a small-sized dog with some black spots, hath one eye bigger than the other, and is a well-trussed *Dog*. He is a creature of great Craft and Subtlety, for in the Hunting of his Game, which is the Coney, he useth great Policy, being called *Tumblers* from their nature and quality of *Tumbling* and winding themselves in Hunting and Taking their Game.

“When this *Dog* is sent or cast off into a *Warren* by his *Master*, who hath fixed his Station in some convenient and private place, which the *Dog* must be privy to, he seemingly Hunts not after them, but as it were not regarding them, observing their Burrows, and when he

meeteth with a place where there are *Coneys*, he coucheth down close with his *Belly* to the ground, and so ordereth his business that the Wind is against him, and that the *Coneys* do not discover him, by which means he gets Scent of them and gets betwixt them and their *Burrows*, and so they soon become his Prey; and so soon as caught, being so well educated, that he carrieth it to his *Master*, and returneth again to his business as aforesaid; and using such like Subtleties, in a short time will catch a sufficient quantity, provided there be *Game*."

I have referred to Turberville as too easily satisfied with recorded statements as historical facts. In his "Noble Arte of Venerie and Hunting," published 1575, which, he tells us, was translated and collected for the pleasure of all noblemen and gentlemen, out of the best approved authors who have written on the same, not only English, but French, Latin, Italian, and Dutch, he gives the following history of the first importation of hounds into England.

Turberville was indebted to the French writer, Jacques de Fouilloux ("Book on Venerie") for his history, which will at least amuse, for it cannot now be accepted as historical fact. He traces our hounds to the kennels of Brutus (the son of Sylvius, the son of Ascanius, the son of Æneas), and says that at the destruction of Troy (1174 B.C.) Ascanius brought these hounds into Italy. His grandson, Brutus, having killed his sire by accident, fled into Greece, and, with old Trojan friends, caused to be rigged and trimmed a great number of ships, wherein he embarked himself and all his men, and took with him a great number of hounds and Greyhounds. He sailed along till he passed the Straits of Gibraltar, and settled first in Bretagne. After four years he "took ship againe, and landed in Totnes, in y' west of this noble realme." After his conquest over certain giants, one of his captains, called Corineus, "did buyld the chiefe town of Cornwall."

Further on, Turberville adds: "I have thought good to recompte this historie, that men may understand that it is long since hounds have been used in Bretagne, and I think certainly that these Trojans were the first which brought the race of hounds into this country."

The history is such a pretty one, embellished as it is with fitting adventure, that we part with our faith in it with much the same reluctance we feel when compelled to give up the story of Llewellyn's Gelert slaying the wolf and saving the heir—a tragedy dear to the heart of every schoolboy.



THE
OF THE
SOCIETY OF



BLOODHOUND.

Mr. E. Bird's BRUTUS (K.C.S.B., 4029). Sire, Roswell (K.C.S.B., 58);
Dam Rufia, by Regent (K.C.S.B., 50).

CHAPTER XI.

THE BLOODHOUND.

His eye how piercing, and his scent how true
To wind the vapour in the tainted dew.

POPE.

HE who attempts to discover the origin and trace the history of any one of our breeds of dogs, beyond a comparatively few generations, will, in most or all cases, speedily find himself in a fog, tossed on a sea of doubt, driven hither and thither by the conflicting evidence of the writers he consults, who seem to emulate each other in the meagreness of the information they give, and the vagueness with which they convey it. To this the Bloodhound is no exception; and it is, perhaps, wiser to accept the inevitable, and frankly admit that we know very little about the origin of this or any other breed, for at best we can but guess at the most probable from the very insufficient data at our command to form any certain opinion. This is certainly a wiser and more dignified course than to prate about this, that, and the other breed being the original dog of the British Islands, as many are disposed to do. Of one thing I feel very certain, that, could we go back, say, a thousand years, and select a hundred of the finest specimens then living, and bring them as they then were into competition with their descendants of to-day, say, at a Crystal Palace show, the whole century of them would be quickly sent out of the ring as mongrels: they would stand no more chance than a herd of our ancient wild

cattle would against a dairy of shorthorns. Such, at least, is my opinion, and if anyone disputes it, let him prove me wrong. The first printed book touching on dogs that we have is the "Book of Huntynge," by Juliana Berners. The list of dogs given by her does not include Bloodhounds, but it does the Lemor and Raches, both of which were dogs that ran their game by scent, and the former was probably the nearest approach to our notions of a hound, and was used to trace the wounded deer, &c., the name Lymer being taken from the fact of his being led in a leash or lyam. In more ancient times, the Lymehound, under the name of Inductor, appears to have been employed to lead up to the harbour of the game sought, being selected for that work on account of the superiority of his scenting powers. Xenophon (B.C. 500) describes a Lymehound as a dog that follows up by scent the quarry in quest, and then, calling others together, rouses the game by barking. The principles of breeding were sufficiently well known to the hunting men of Greece and Italy to assure us that this special superiority of nose would be propagated and improved, by mating the animals most distinguished in that quality—in fact, the first principle in breeding, and one that lies on the surface, staring the most unobservant in the face, that like produces like, would certainly be acted on, and so the earliest steps be taken, in fixing a special type of hound, the particular quality of which we see inherited now by many allied breeds.

No doubt at the date at which the "Book of Huntynge" was written, and for a long time previous, English hounds were being modified by crosses from imported dogs brought in by the Norman conquerors from France, some varieties of them having originally come from the East; and the slow hunting hounds of that day have, by various commixture, produced for us the varieties we now recognise.

Dr. Caius mentions the Bloodhound as "the greatest

sort which serves to hunt, having lips of a large size, and ears of no small length." In Turberville's "Book of Hunting" there are a number of dogs portrayed, all of the hound type, and with true hound ears; whereas, in the "Book of St. Albans," printed a century earlier, the dogs represented have much smaller ears, and thrown back, as the dogs are seen straining on the slips, greyhound-like. Turberville has a good deal to say about hounds. If he could be credited, the progenitors of our modern dogs originally came from Greece, and the first of them that reached this country were landed at Totnes. I have given his statement pretty fully in the chapter on the history of the group. It was the custom in his time to range the dogs according to colour; of these, white and fallow, white spotted with red, and black, were most esteemed. White, spotted with black or dun, was not so much valued. The best of the fallow dogs were held to be those with their hair lively red, with white spots on the forehead, or a white ring round the neck; and of these it is said "those which are well joynted and dew-clawed are best to make Bloodhounds," clearly showing, as passages from all the old writers could be quoted to do, that the term Bloodhound was applied to the dog because of the work set him, and that, in fact, where hounds are spoken of the Bloodhound is included. That the work of this hound was varied—that he was used as a Lyme-hound, as well as in tracking wounded deer, and deer-stealers, sheep-stealers, and other felons, even so late as two centuries ago—is clear from Blome's instructions in his work "The Gentleman's Recreation," 1688: "To find out the Hart or Stag, where his harbour or Lare is, you must be provided with a Bloodhound, Draughthound, or Sluithound, which must be led in a Liam; and, for the quickening his scent, it is good to rub his nose with vinegar." Black hounds, called St. Huberts, are described as mighty of body, with legs low and short, not swift in

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work, but of good scent. The following couplet shows that the St. Hubert hounds were highly thought of:—

My name came first from holy Hubert's race ;
Soyllard my sire, a hound of singular grace.

The Count le Conteulx de Cautelen in his work "Les Races de Chiens Courans Français," says: "The hounds of St. Hubert, famous since the eighth century, under the name of Flemish Hounds, were divided into two varieties, the black and the white. The most esteemed was the black variety, and the abbots of the St. Hubert Monastery preserved the breed in memory of their founder. They were generally black, running into tan, tan markings over the eye, and feet the same colour; long ears.

"Descendants of the white St. Huberts existed in the Duke of Lorraine's hounds, spoken of by Ligniville; Salno also mentions the existence of the black and the white St. Huberts in their native country, the Ardennes.

"In 1620 we have an account of two packs of the black and tan St. Huberts belonging to the Cardinal de Guise and the Marquis of Souvray. The St. Huberts were transported to England at the *time of the Conquest*, and Henri IV. presented a team to James I. Up to the year 1789 the Abbots of the St. Hubert Monastery annually supplied the royal kennels of France with specimens of the black and tan breed. There is evidence of their presence in the royal kennels in the sixteenth century. At the end of Louis XIV.'s reign, according to Gaffet de la Briffardière, they were preserved by gentlemen in the north of France for their all-round hunting capabilities. By the time of D'Yauville the breed had become rare."

The count gives it as his opinion that "there cannot be a doubt that the English Bloodhound comes from the St. Hubert."

I wish to present to the reader every view worth consideration, but, for reasons repeatedly given, I cannot myself accept the opinion just quoted as to the origin of our Blood-

hounds. If it be accepted, we must take also as lineal descendants of the St. Hubert the black and tan harriers common in Devon and some few other parts of the country.

I think writers are apt to lay too much stress on colour, and, in studying this question, we must not forget that black and tan combined are colours common to almost every breed: Spaniels, Setters, Colleys, Terriers, and even Greyhounds, have been known of these colours, and with the characteristic spots on cheeks and over the eyes.

Turberville says: "The Bloodhounds of this colour prove good, especially such as are 'cole' black." The dun hounds are much nearer in colour to our modern dog; these were dun on the back, having their legs and fore quarters red or tanned, and it is added the light tanned dogs were not so strong.

Gervase Markham, who was a very copious writer, follows Turberville pretty closely. His description of a Talbot-like hound would, in many respects, stand for a modern Bloodhound, although certainly not in head, on which point I fancy he has not expressed his meaning very clearly. He says: "A round, thick head, with a short nose uprising, and large, open nostrils; ears exceedingly large and thin, and down hanging much lower than his chaps, and the flews of his upper lips almost two inches lower than his nether chaps; back strong and straight; fillets thick and great; huckle bones round and hidden; thighs round; hams straight; tail long and rush-grown—that is, big at the setting on, and small downwards; legs large and lean; foot high knuckled and well clawed, with a dry, hard sole."

From all this, and much more that might be quoted, I gather that whilst the dun and tan—that is, the black saddle back and tan-legged—dogs most nearly agree in colour with our Bloodhound, it is a mere accident of selection, although that may have been influenced by that coloured dog showing more aptitude for the special work

he was put to, and certainly the colour is admirably adapted to a dog used for night work, as he often was; and this reminds me that Dr. Caius tells us these dogs were kept in dark kennels, that they might better do night work. The practice would assuredly defeat its object.

Daniels, in his "Rural Sports," says of the Bloodhound: "This singular race of dogs is nearly extinct, Mr. Astle and his family possessing a few only of the pure breed. The height of the species was seven or eight and twenty inches; of compact, muscular form; the upper part of the face broad, gradually contracted to the snout; nostrils wide; ears large and pendulous, and narrowing to the tip. One distinguishing trait of purity in the breed was the colour, which was almost invariably a reddish tan, progressively darkening to the upper part, with a mixture of black upon the back."

It appears to me that Daniels made the mistake, so common with modern ephemeral writers on dogs, of taking a particular strain or kennel as the type of a breed, instead of a variation of the breed in unimportant points.

When the Bloodhound was first used to track fugitives I have never been able to discover; the first written notice of such a thing I am acquainted with occurs in "Blind Harry's Life of William Wallace," the Scottish patriot, as the following lines, which have been so frequently quoted by writers on the Bloodhound, show:—

About the ground they set on breid and length
 A hundredth men, chairgit in arms strang,
 To keep a hunde that they had them amang,
 In Gillisland there was that Brachell bred,
 Sikyr of scent, to follow them that fled.
 Sae was she used in Eske and Liddesdale,
 Quhile she gat bluid nae fleeing might avail.

And again:—

But this sleuth Brache, quilke sekyr was and keen,
 On Wallace fute followit sae felloune fast
 Quilk in thar sicht thai prochit at the last.

In the traditions of the peasantry of the West of Scotland many stirring stories of the "hair-breadth 'scapes" of Wallace and Bruce from Bloodhounds still live, and some of them at the present moment come up fresh to my mind, although they have lain buried for many years.

An old MS., referring to King Edward I. pursuing Robert Bruce, when as yet a claimant only to the Scottish crown, says :—

The King Edward with horse and hound him sought—
With men on foot, through marshes, moss, and mire;
Through woods also, and mountains, where they fought.

By the above-quoted instances we see that the use of the Bloodhound as a tracker of fugitives was a common enough practice with our ancestors.

In the metrical legend of Owen Glendower these lines occur :—

For as the dogs pursue the silty doe,
The Brach behind, the hounds on every side,
So traced they me among the mountains wide.

As the term "Brach" is so often met with in old sporting writers, and as the above quotations show that it was certainly applied to the Bloodhound, as well as other varieties of hounds, it may be as well to give the definitions of it.

Brach seems to be a term of general application to all hunting dogs, and in old English and old French spelt Brache, and modern German Brack, applies to dogs that hunt by scent. Cotgrave says the French Braque is a kind of short-tailed dog, usually of a parti-colour; Spanish Braco is flat-nosed, from the usually blunt, square nose of dogs that hunt by scent.

Jamieson, in his "Scottish Dictionary," defines "Brachell" as "a dog employed to discover and pursue game by scent;" but, whether by change of time or otherwise, Brachell,

and also Brach, is generally applied to bitch hounds. Shakespeare seems to use the term indifferently to both sexes: in "The Taming of the Shrew" we have the lines:—

• "Brach Merriman—the poor hound is imboist,
And couple Clouder with the deep mouthed Brach"—

evidently referring to dog hounds; but in "Henry IV.," and other of his plays, he seems to indicate bitch hounds:—

"I had rather hear Lady, my Brach, howl in Irish."

And H. Taylor may be considered to apply the term to the same sex in the quaint and pretty lines—

Down lay, in a nook, my lady's Brach,
And said, "My feet are sore:
I cannot follow with the pack,
A-hunting of the Boar."

Wright, in his dictionary, defines Brach as "a bitch of the hound kind;" and the author of "The Gentleman's Recreation" says: "There are in England and Scotland two kinds of hunting dogs, and nowhere else in the world: the first is called a Rache, and this is a foot-scenting creature, both of wild beasts, birds, and fishes also, which lie among the rocks; the female herof in England is called a Brach, which is a mannerly name for all bitch hounds." By "the fishes which lie among the rocks," I should presume is intended otters and seals—the notable *phoca* that so much disconcerted the gallant, hot-headed Captain McIntyre.

In the wars in Ireland Bloodhounds were used in a manner reflecting little credit on the dominant power, and their scenting faculties and ferocity have, in later times, been used to hunt down the unfortunate slaves in Cuba and elsewhere. For a stirring account of the employment of over a hundred of these dogs in hunting down revolted negroes in Jamaica, I refer the reader to the "Sportsman's Cabinet."

In our own country, they were long bred and trained to track Border raiders, and a most exciting chase it must have been through those wild moorlands, as all who have read Scott, even without having visited the scenes he so well depicts, will say. The words of eulogy on the dead Richard Musgrave, pronounced by "the stark moss-trooping Scott," William of Deloraine, who,

By wily turns and desperate bounds,
Had baffled Percy's best Bloodhounds,

will arise in every reader's memory, but they will lose nothing by repetition here :

"Yet rest thee, God! for well I know
I ne'er shall find a nobler foe
In all the northern countries here,
Whose word is snaffle, spur, and spear.
Thou wert the best to follow gear;
'Twas pleasure, as we looked behind,
To see how thou the chase could wind,
Cheer the dark Bloodhound on his way,
And with the bugle rouse the fray.
I'd give the lands of Deloraine
Dark Musgrave were alive again."

In order to follow the Border rieviers, or cattle-lifters, a special law, imposing a tax for the maintenance of Bloodhounds as trackers, obtained in Scotland; and by the law of *Hot-trod*, which implied tracking the rieviers at once, on discovery of the loss of stock—or gear, as Scott has it—if the hounds traced the thief to a house, and showed their desire to enter, the occupants refusing admittance were held equally culpable with the cattle-lifters, and rendered themselves liable to punishment.

In later times, the Bloodhound has been used successfully in tracing poachers. Meyrick, in his useful little work on dogs, gives an interesting example of a successful poacher-hunt. The hound was also often used for tracing thieves; and, as an instance of this, so late as the beginning of

the present century, the Thrapstone Association for the Prosecution of Felons—a class of institution now almost obsolete—kept a trained Bloodhound for the tracking of sheep-stealers. The description of the dog so employed, as given by Somerville in “The Chase,” is inimitable in its graphic force. No one not thoroughly acquainted with hounds could have worked every detail into so telling a picture :—

Soon the sagacious brute, his curling tail
 Flourished in air, low bending, plies around ;
 His busy nose the steaming vapour snuffs
 Inquisitive, nor leaves one turf untried,
 Till, conscious of the recent stains, his heart
 Beats quick ; his snuffing nose, his active tail,
 Attest his joy ; then with deep opening mouth,
 That makes the welkin tremble, he proclaims
 Th’ audacious felon ; foot by foot he makes
 His winding way, while all the listening crowd
 Applaud his reasonings : O’er the watery ford,
 Dry sandy heaths, and stony barren hills ;
 O’er beaten paths, by men and beasts distained,
 Unerring he pursues, ’till at the cot
 Arrived, and seizing by his guilty throat
 The caitif vile, redeems the captive prey.
 So exquisitely delicate is his nose.

So excellent an authority as Col. Hutchinson, author of “Dog Breaking,” gives details of a case of Bloodhounds, “held with long cords,” being put on the track of a gang of poachers in a frosty night of December, 1844, and following them for nine miles into the town of Coventry ; and he also quotes, as an established fact, that a discharged groom, who had mutilated a horse of his former master, was tracked by a Bloodhound for twenty miles, and followed to his bedroom, where the man was found and, in proof of the sagacity of the hound, admitted his guilt.

Somerville is not the only poet who has paid tribute to the wonderful powers of this king of hounds. Tickell, in his poem on hunting, says :—

O'er all the Bloodhound boasts superior skill,
To scent, to view, to turn, to boldly kill.

The following quotation from Dr. Caius (*temp.* 1550) as to the use of Bloodhounds may prove suggestive, and enforce the arguments I have repeatedly used in favour of the extraordinary scenting powers of this noble hound being again utilised in his employment as a thief-taker. Burglaries, especially in rural and suburban districts, never were more rife; the capture of the thieves is often due to some happy accident, but capture and detection of the perpetrators of these crimes too rare. The use of well-trained Bloodhounds would, I am persuaded, prove most valuable in lessening this class of crime, because of the absolute certainty with which they could be trained to track the felon, even when put on the scent hours after the deed had been committed. The case of the men who committed a burglary at Sir J. Graham's residence, Netherby Hall, affords singularly strong proof of the practical use that might be made of Bloodhounds in the detection and prevention of crime. The circumstances are of such recent occurrence that they must be fresh in the memory of many readers. The robbers escaped for a time, and, while at liberty, shot to death a police-officer who attempted to arrest them. Being subsequently taken, and the robbery and murder proved against them, these men were hanged; which many agree with Wilkes, is the worst use a man can be put to. I have not the slightest doubt that, had the Knight of Netherby Hall kept well-trained Bloodhounds, as his forefathers did, and put them to their old use, under a modern revival of the law of Hot-trod, the burglars would have been tracked and arrested, and the life of the constable saved from their murderous fire, and their own from the hangman.

The employment of dogs in the detection of a great crime in Lancashire, about seven years ago, brought the

question of the utilisation of the Bloodhound for such purposes up for discussion. In the case referred to, the dog had displayed no more sagacity than is common to the whole species, but advantage was taken of the deep sensation produced by the inhuman nature of the crime to impose on the ignorant and credulous as a wonderful performance the most ordinary event. It is not, however, altogether impracticable to make these hounds auxiliaries to the police. A well-trained hound will trace the steps of the fugitive after many hours, and in cases of burglary or other crimes in rural districts, as already said, his employment might be useful. It certainly seems a pity that, kept as he is now as a noble companion, the wonderful power nature has given him should, with but few exceptional cases, be allowed to lie dormant.

The dog was probably first used to trace deer-stealers when the stringent forest laws of the Norman kings were in force, and afterwards his aptitude for the work was used for extended purposes. That may be merely conjecture, but Dr. Caius seems to strengthen the idea; he says they "do not only chase the beast while it liveth, but being dead also by any manner of casualty make recourse to the place where it lieth, having in this point a sure and infallible guide, namely, the scent and savour of the blood sprinkled here and there upon the ground; for whether the beast, being wounded, doth notwithstanding enjoy life, and escape the hands of the huntsman, or whether the said beast, being slain, is conveyed clearly out of the park (so that there be some signification of bloodshed), these dogs, with no less facility and earnestness than avidity and greediness, can disclose and bewray the same by smelling, applying to their pursuit agility and nimbleness, without tediousness, for which consideration of a singular speciality they deserved to be called *sanguinarius* Bloodhounds. And albeit, peradventure, it may chance that a piece of flesh be subtly stolen

and cunningly conveyed away with such provisos and pre-caveats, as thereby all appearance of blood is either prevented, excluded, or concealed, yet these kind of dogs, by a certain direction and an inward assured notice and privy mark, pursue the deed doers through long lanes, crooked reaches, and weary ways, without wandering away out of the limits of the land whereon these desperate purloiners prepared their speedy passage; yea, the nature of these dogs is such, and so effectual is their foresight, that they can bewray separate, and pick them out from an infinite multitude and an innumerable company, escape they never so far into the thickest throng, they will find him out notwithstanding he be hidden in wild woods, in close and overgrown groves, and lurk in hollow boles apt to harbour such ungracious guests.

“Moreover, although they should pass over the water, thinking thereby to avoid the pursuit of the hounds, yet will not these dogs give over their attempt, but, presuming to swim through the stream, persevere in their pursuit, and when they be arrived and gotten to the further bank, they hunt up and down, to and fro run they, from place to place shift they, until they have attained to that plot of ground where they passed over, and this is their practice, perdie they cannot at the first time smelling find out the way which the deed doers took to escape. So at length get they that by art and cunning and diligent endeavour which by fortune and luck they cannot otherwise overcome, in so much as it seemeth wisely written by Elianus to be as it were naturally instilled and poured into these kind of dogs, for they will not pause nor breathe from their pursuit until such time as they be apprehended and taken which committed the fact. The owners of such dogs use to keep them in close and dark channels in the day time, and let them loose at liberty in the night season, to the intent they might with more courage and boldness practise to follow the felon in the

evening and solitary hours of darkness, when such ill-disposed varlets are principally purposed to play their impudent pranks.

“These hounds, when they are to follow such fellows as we have before rehearsed, use not that liberty to range at will which they have otherwise when they are on game (except upon necessary occasion, whereon dependeth an urgent, an effectual persuasion, when such purloiners make speedy way in flight), but being restrained and drawn backward from running at random with the leash, the end thereof the owner holding in his hand, is led, guided, and directed with such swiftness and slowness (whether he go on foot or whether he ride on horseback), as he himself in heart would wish for the more easy apprehension of these venturesome varlets.”

Having, in the first part of this chapter, looked at the Bloodhound of our forefathers through such dim light as is obtainable, I now turn to him as he is in our own day, the noblest of all the hound tribe, so patrician in appearance that he calls up to the imagination pictures of old baronial halls with their wide-extending parks and noble woods, rather than the surroundings in which the majority now only see him—that is, on the show bench where, however, he, as by right of birth and blood, heads the long list of canine aristocracy. To write of the Bloodhound and not quote the unparalleled lines of Scott in the “Lay of the Last Minstrel” were rank heresy. The writer of the article on “Bloodhounds” in the “Penny Cyclopædia” has eulogised the beauty of these lines so much better than I can, that I quote verbatim as an introduction to the lines themselves: “This is one of the best poetical descriptions of the Bloodhound in action, if not the best; for though Somerville’s lines may enter more into detail, they want the vivid animation of the images brought absolutely under the eye by the power of Scott, where the

'noble child,' the heir of Branksome, is left alone in his terror":—

Starting oft, he journeyed on,
And deeper in the wood is gone.
For aye, the more he sought his way
The farther still he went astray ;
Until he heard the mountains round
Ring to the baying of a hound.
And hark ! and hark ! the deep-mouthed bark
Comes nigher still, and nigher ;
Burst on the path a dark Bloodhound,
His tawny muzzle tracked the ground,
And his red eye shot fire.
Soon as the 'wilderer child saw he,
He flew at him right furiously.
I ween you would have seen with joy
The bearing of the gallant boy,
When, worthy of his noble sire,
His wet cheek glowed 'twixt fear and ire.
He faced the Bloodhound manfully,
And held his little bat on high ;
So fierce he struck, the dog, afraid,
At cautious distance hoarsely bay'd,
But still in act to spring.
When dashed an archer through the glade,
And when he saw the hound was stayed,
He drew his tough bow-string.
But a rough voice cried, "Shoot not, hoy !
Ho ! shoot not, Edward—'tis a boy."

The Bloodhound of to-day, changed as he no doubt has been by "modern refinement, collateral crosses, and experimental commixture," stands an average height of about 27in., bitches an inch or more less. He possesses a commanding dignity of appearance, with an attractiveness of expression that is truly noble ; he seems to rest with silent confidence and self-reliance in the consciousness of his own power and importance ; and, as he reposes on his bench, in stately form, calmly viewing his admirers, receives their adulations in kingly fashion, as "to the manner born." When seen in action, he moves more gracefully than the

more massive mastiff, and gives an impression of a well-adjusted union of activity and strength.

The head is remarkably striking: it is large and long, high-domed, and peaked at back of skull—in comparison with its length it is narrow; the upper jaw is also long and narrow, ending with wide-spread, capacious nose; the upper lips, or flews, are thin and deep, hanging well below the under jaw. The ears, low set on, are remarkable for their great length, hanging like folds of graceful drapery to such depth they can be made to meet before the nose. There is a quantity of loose skin about the head and throat, giving the attractive wrinkled appearance to the face, and the “dewlaps like Thessalian bulls” called “throatyness.” The eye is deep-seated, calm and scrutinising, and full of expression, the “haw”—from its red appearance, probably named from the berry of the white-thorn—well exposed. The modern “fancier’s” term for the haw is “sealing-wax,” which is not only inexpressive but absurd. The neck is longer in reality than appearance, shoulders fairly sloped, and fore legs stout, straight, and muscular, with the feet round and well padded—splay feet are objectionable; the claws are large, strong, and black in colour. The barrel is of moderate length, ribs deep and well sprung; loins and hind quarters very muscular; the tail of great length, set on high, thick at the base, and tapering, but not to a fine point—very pliant. “Stonehenge” says “gracefully waving;” another writer says “lashing,” and carried moderately high; but it is of little consequence which description we accept.

Colour has been, if it is not still, a vexed question. “Stonehenge” says “black-tan, or deep and reddish fawn (no white should be shown but on just the tip of the stern).” “Dogs of the British Islands” (first edition) says: “A reddish tan, darkening gradually towards the upper parts till it becomes black on the back. A white patch on the body, a white face, or a streak down it, pro-

claims a stain which is death to all hope of purity of blood."

I cannot believe in colour as an infallible test of purity of blood. We have seen how these hounds were bred from those of various colours; and Pennant, writing at the end of last century, claims for them a black spot over each eye—a characteristic of the old Southern hound. Does this ever appear in litters now? Mr. Holford, a successful modern breeder, says: "There is almost invariably more or less white on the chest. . . . The less white on the feet the better. There should be no white on any other part of the body, though few breeders would reject a dog solely on account of colour, if all other points were good."

Those that are spotted with white are esteemed by many, and, when thus faintly flecked or dappled, the effect is greatly to enhance the appearance of the dog in the eyes of many. I certainly very much admire it, but question its being any proof of purity.

The coat is short, fine, and thick; but, of course, this is much modified by the circumstances of rearing, keeping, and work. The voice, once heard, is not to be forgotten: it is awfully deep and loud, with a prolonged, sonorous melody; and heard at night, when the mountain echoes sullenly fling back a dull response, it has quite a solemn and weird effect.

The value of the points of the Bloodhound, as generally accepted, is as follows:—

Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ears and Eyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Flews and Dewlap	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Neck	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Chest and Shoulders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Back and Back Ribs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Legs and Feet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Colour and Coat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Stern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Symmetry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100

I am of opinion that in this breed, as in many others, shows have had the result of more value being placed on secondary qualities and accessories than they deserve relatively to the essential qualities of a good hound.

Allowing the superabundance of loose skin about the throat, head, and lips, to be characteristic of this variety, and even accepting the opinion that these features are the natural accompaniment, and indicative of great power of scent, it is not clear that excess of them is concurrent with enlarged development of the olfactory organs; and the constant praise, by judges and newspaper critics, of dogs possessing these features in a high degree, whilst hound form—the firmly-knit frame, good shoulders, strong loins, and legs and feet, fit to carry the dog through a day's hard work—is neglected, tends to the creation of a big toy rather than a useful hound.

At the Warwick Dog Show, 1886, trials of these hounds in running drags were instituted, but, apparently from want of knowledge and experience on the part of the managing committee, they proved a failure. I trust such trials may be repeated under better auspices, and continued, for it is by practical tests of working qualities that the standard of real usefulness in our various breeds can alone be kept up. Our Greyhounds, Foxhounds, Setters, Pointers, and Sheepdogs, are excellent instances in proof of my view.

In the public mind, the Bloodhound is associated with acts of cruelty, and his nature too readily assumed to be ferocious. The very name lends itself to this view; but, as a matter of fact, it is a libel on the breed to describe them as ferocious, bloodthirsty, and uncontrollable.

These hounds, like all varieties of the dog, are peculiarly open to the ameliorating influences of good and kind treatment; and such as are nurtured with care, and bred up under what I may call humanising influences, are found

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BLOODHOUND.

Mrs. S. A. Humphries' Don (K.C.S.B., 6853). Sire, Roswell (K.C.S.B., 58); Dam, Flora, by Rufus (K.C.S.B., 61),
out of Hilda (K.C.S.B., 4032).

to be as full of affection, as docile, and as reliable, as dogs of any breed.

For ladies in the country who use the fashionable tricycle, drive, ride, or walk alone, there is no better canine protector than a Bloodhound, and his singular yet noble appearance renders him a terror to evil-doers.

To make the Bloodhound the perfect companion he is capable of being, his owner should rear him from puppyhood, and make as constant a companion and friend of him as possible; and, by exercising an unceasing, firm, but gentle command over his actions and temper, a thoroughly reliable servant will result.

Among the best Bloodhounds that have been exhibited, I may enumerate Major J. A. Cowan's Druid, Dauntless. Dingle, and Draco; Mr. T. A. Jennings's Druid; Mr. C. E. Holford's Regent, Matchless, and Trimbush; Mr. E. Reynolds Ray's Roswell, Baron, and Baroness; Mr. Edwin Brough's Rufus; Sir Fowell-Buxton's Luath, and Capt. Clayton's Luath; and, of a later date, those taking the lead at our exhibitions have been Mr. Bird's Brutus; Capt. J. W. Clayton's Luath XI., too pale-coloured for modern fancy, but a grand hound, with a long, deep, narrow head, peaked skull, and abundance of flew, wrinkles, and dewlap; Mr. Leger G. Morrell's Rollo, rich in colour and good in head; Mr. Mark Beaufoy's Merton; Mr. W. Herbert Singer's Judge, a stout-built, dark-coloured, and excellent hound; and Mrs. Humphries' Don, without exception the finest-made specimen of the breed of his date, full of quality, with all the special attributes of the Bloodhound well developed, although the skull is neither quite so narrow or peaked as in some of his competitors.

Of first-class bitches, Mr. J. C. Tinker's Dido, I think, ranks the highest, and her success in the show-ring was uninterrupted. Mr. Johnstone Auld's Harmony, Dr. Forbes Winslow's Bell, and Mrs. Humphries' Haidée, are also magnificent hounds of the true type.

Through the courtesy of their owners, I am enabled to give particulars of measurements of some of the above-mentioned and other hounds, which will be of use for comparison with those that come after them.

Mrs. Humphries' *Don*: Age, 4½ years; length from nose to set-on of tail, 49in.; length of tail, 18in.; girth of chest, 35in.; girth of loin, 29¾in.; girth of head 18in.; girth of forearm, 8¾in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 13in.; ears from tip to tip, 27½in.; each ear, 9½in.; between ears, 8½in.; depth of flews, 6¼in.

Mr. J. C. Tinker's *Dido*: Age, 1 year 7½ months; weight, 87lb.; height at shoulder, 25¾in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 45¾in.; length of tail, 18½in.; girth of chest, 33in.; girth of loin, 26in.; girth of head, 18in.; girth of forearm, 8¾in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11¼in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 25in.

Capt. J. W. Clayton's *Luath XI.*: Age, 4 years; weight 107lb.; height at shoulder, 27in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 46in.; length of tail, 19in.; girth of chest, 36in.; girth of loin, 32in.; girth of head, 23in.; girth of forearm, 9in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 13in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 14in.; length from tips of ears across forehead, 26in.

Mr. W. Herbert Singer's *Judge*: Age, 1 year 7 months; weight, 89lb.; height at shoulder, 27in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 48½in.; length of tail, 18½in.; girth of chest, 33½in.; girth of loin, 27in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 9¼in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 12in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10½in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 29in.

Mr. J. E. W. Wilbey's *Cassij* (K.C.S.B. 6861): Age, 2 years 8 months; height at shoulder, 24½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 45in.; length of tail, 16½in.; girth of chest, 32in.; girth of loin, 25in.; girth of head, 19in.;

girth of forearm, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; length of ears, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Rev. R. Fowler's *Druid*: Age, uncertain; weight, 94lb.; height at shoulder, 24in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 52in.; length of tail, 16in.; girth of chest, 34in.; girth of loin, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 27in.; girth of forearm, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 13in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 18in.; ears from tip to tip, 27in.

Rev. R. Fowler's *Lufra*: Age, 3 years; weight, 86lb.; height at shoulder, 24in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 43in.; length of tail, 17in.; girth of chest, 32in.; girth of loin, 33in.; girth of head, 21in.; girth of forearm, 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; ears from tip to tip, 26in.

I give an engraving of Mr. E. Bird's Brutus, winner of a cup and two firsts at Birmingham, second twice at Crystal Palace, and also second at Alexandra Palace. Brutus was bred by his owner, and he was by Mr. Reynolds Ray's Roswell out of Rufia, by Mr. Holford's Regent out of Doris, by Rockwood out of Bird's Vengeance; and the following notice of him appeared in *The Country* report of the Birmingham show, 1875: "Brutus is wonderfully good, although considered by many short in leg, but he has a magnificent head, grandly carried, and is well made throughout; anything he loses in height is compensated by his bone and substance and symmetrical frame."

Don, the subject of the other engraving, was by the old champion Roswell out of Flora, by Rufus out of Hilda. Roswell was by the Duke of Beaufort's Warrior out of sister to Rufus. Don was considered by many of our best judges the Bloodhound of the day, and he was, unquestionably, the best-framed and most symmetrical hound of the breed I have seen. He won first prize at Manchester, Bristol, Alexandra Palace, and many other places, and the

couple of magnificent puppies by him taking second and third prizes at the Irish Kennel Club, April 1, 1879, prove his capability of transmitting his grand proportions.

Although the Bloodhound is now rarely hunted in packs, Lord Wolverton, until a few years ago, hunted regularly seventeen and a half couples. His lordship exhibited a few of his hounds at the Bristol Show, November, 1878, and fine specimens they were, especially the grand old dog Harold and the beautifully-modelled bitch Freedom.

I think it unnecessary to give any further list of measurements of hounds, for the preceding, taken of the leading dogs of ten years ago, may be accepted as fairly representative, no marked change in size having occurred.

I may, however, notice a few of the leading hounds that have been on exhibition, and attained notoriety by their winnings, since the first edition of this work appeared; and it will be seen they have been of the same strains as, and generally direct descendants of, the hounds previously enumerated:—

Mr. J. Collingham Tinker's Duncan, by Luath XII., and, through him, combining the blood of Duke of Beaufort's Warrior, Mr. Edwin Brough's celebrated and highly bred Rufus, and Lufra, sister to Sir Fowell-Buxton's Luath. Duncan's dam was Mr. Tinker's celebrated Champion Dido, a daughter of Mr. Bird's Brutus.

Mr. E. Brough, a breeder of many years' standing, has had Champion Napier (sired by that splendid hound, Luath XI.), which, as well as Duncan, is now dead, but has left good stock; Barnaby, by Nobleman, a son of Napier; Bayard, by Bradshaw, by Napier; Beaufort, by Nobleman; and in bitches, Beeswing and Banshee.

Mr. Edwin Nichols' Pharaoh, by Nimrod; his magnificent hound, Triumph, by Wills' Trimbush, and his bitch Novice.

Mr. L. G. Morrell's Maltravers, Memphis, and Merriman,

all by Rollo; and Musgrave, a very good hound, by Champion Nobleman.

Mr. Mark Beaufoy's Nestor, by Rollo; his Nobleman, by Napier.

Mr. Robin Hood Wright, Dr. G. Hales Parry, Mr. J. Evans, Mr. Amphlet, and Mr. J. H. Asquith, have all recently bred and shown excellent hounds; and Mr. Cousin's Cromwell, by Nestor, although not three years old, has attained champion honours, and is held by many judges to be the best hound of the day.

Dr. E. Reynolds Ray, a breeder of many years' standing, has lately introduced a cross of the old Southern Hound into his extensive kennels, with the object of strengthening the constitution of the Bloodhound, and the experiment will be followed with interest by all admirers of this breed. This present generation, with the infused blood, promise well, and I have no doubt that, in the hands of so able a breeder, the desired Bloodhound characteristics will be secured and fixed.

The delicacy of the Bloodhound, and difficulty in rearing it through puppyhood, deters many from keeping the breed. No doubt this weakness of constitution has arisen from the necessity that has existed for rather too close inbreeding. With increasing numbers, opportunities are given of further-removed collateral crosses, and these should be taken advantage of by breeders.

CHAPTER XII.

THE STAGHOUND.

The Staghound, weary with the chase,
Lay stretched upon the rushy floor,
And urged in dreams the forest race,
From Teviot-stone to Eskdale moor.

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

ALTHOUGH in the North of Scotland the Deerhound is often called the Staghound, in England the latter name is used to designate hounds of the Foxhound type, kept, as the name implies, to the chase of the deer.

There are at present in existence twelve packs of Staghounds in England, and two in Ireland, for the following list of which I am indebted to *The Field*, October 23rd, 1886:—Her Majesty's, kept at the Royal Kennels, Ascot; the Berkhamstead—Master, Mr. Richard Rawle (kennels, Great Berkhamstead Common, Herts); the Devon and Somerset—Master, Viscount Ebrington, M.P. (kennels, Exford, near Taunton); the Enfield Chase—Master, Col. A. P. Somerset (kennels, Enfield Court, Middlesex); the Essex—Master, Mr. Sheffield H. M. Neave (kennels, Mill Green, Ingatestone); the Mid-Kent—Master, Mr. Herbert Leney (kennels, Watringbury, near Maidstone); the Morden—Master, Mr. Alderman Evans (kennels, Acre Hill, Chessington); the New Forest—Master, Mr. F. Lovell (kennels, Hinchelsea, Brokenhurst, Hants); the Norfolk—Master, Mr. Robert A. Barkley (kennels, Palgrave, Diss); Lord Rothschild's—Master, Lord Rothschild

(kennels, Ascott, near Leighton, Beds); the Surrey—Master, Mr. Tom Nickalls (kennels, Chilmead, Nutfield, Redhill); the Warnham—Master, Mr. Arthur Labouchere (kennels, Strood Park, Horsham); the Down County—Master, Captain R. B. Ker, M.P. (kennels, Montalto, Ballynahinch, Co. Down); the Ward Union—the Masters, a Committee (kennels, Ashbourne, Co. Meath).

There is considerable difference in the style of hounds that constitute these packs; but, as a whole, they may be described as a larger draft of the modern Foxhound. If we go into minutiae, descriptions differ; and when that is the case between, for instance, such close observers and accurate writers as "Stonehenge" and Youatt, I think it is in itself proof that the character of this hound varies considerably, as is to be expected when they have been in individual packs, undergoing changes by variations in the systems of breeding adopted.

Youatt says of the Staghound: "He is taller than the Foxhound, and with far more delicate scent, but he is not so speedy." "Stonehenge," writing some twenty years later, says, on the contrary, and referring specially to Her Majesty's and Baron Rothschild's kennels: "The Staghound is merely a larger, and therefore faster, draft of the Foxhound of the day."

I have only seen one pack of Staghounds, and that was Her Majesty's, at the Royal Kennels, Ascot, which I visited recently, and the general description quoted from "Stonehenge" accurately applies to them. The date of my visit was only three days before the lamentable accident in the field to Mr. Frank Goodall, the Royal huntsman, to whose kindness I was indebted for a thorough inspection of the kennels, and information as to the hounds. The pack consists of forty couples, the difference in height between the sexes being well-marked, and certainly quite 2in. The hounds each represent care and judgment in the selection, and, as a whole, are a well-matched lot;

yet a novice can without difficulty distinguish at a glance the individual from the family character.

The hounds are very much rounded. In one point, the description of "Stonehenge," that they have "broad, short heads," does not apply to the present hounds; in that respect I observed considerable variation; and, taking them throughout, I should say the head is quite as long as in any of the Foxhound packs I know. The compact, muscular build of these hounds, the capacious chest, deep, strong loins, well-furnished thighs, straight limbs, and round, strong feet, indicate rather endurance than speed, although considerable speed must be ensured by the symmetry attained by the just adaptation of every part.

It has been claimed for the old Staghound, as for so many others, that he was the original stock whence we have derived all of our varieties. This cannot apply to the Staghound of to-day, for he is to a certainty a manufactured article; and as none of the writers who adopt the theory that he was the progenitor of all our hounds, make any serious attempt to identify him by description, which would show us what he really was, I fall back on the conviction, forced on my mind from so many sources, that it is idle to speak of any hound, in the way of exact description, as the progenitor of all of our breeds, or as having had a predominating influence in the establishment of them. It seems to me to be a common mistake to recognise the influences at work, in present and comparatively recent times, in modifying breeds, and to fail to recognise that similar influences must have been at work ever since the dog became the trained servant of man.

"Idstone" says: "Possibly the Staghound was introduced by the Norman invaders, and continued by succeeding kings." Had "Idstone" said *a* Staghound, he would have been right, but as to the continuance of the breed, without admixture, I cannot think it feasible.

The author of the "Sportsman's Cabinet" says: "It is by no means unfair to conclude that the large, strong, bony hound, passing under the common acceptation of the term Staghound, was the primeval stock from which every collateral branch of that particular race has since descended, with such deviations only as were occasioned by the crosses and improvements of those who, during so many centuries, were disposed to vary the breed and size in proportion to the country in which they were to hunt, or the sort of game they were intended to pursue."

The error of the writer just quoted seems to me to be in attempting the impossible task of defining what the primogeneous stock was; for to do so, with any hope of approximating to truth, we should have to travel back further, by many centuries, than he and "Idstone" have done. Of the Staghounds of the beginning of this century and the end of the last, the writer above quoted says they were a "cross between the old English, deep-tongued, Southern, and the fleeter Foxhound, grafted upon the basis of what was formerly called, and better known, by the appellation of Bloodhounds."

It may be as well to notice here, that Mr. Vero Shaw, in his book, has fallen into the error of attributing the above opinions to the author of "The Field Book," published by Effingham Wilson, London, 1833: the compiler of that book plagiarised. The exact words quoted above occur in two works, both published in 1803—the "Sportsman's Cabinet," and Taplin's "Sporting Dictionary," and the style of language leaves no doubt that the writer of the first-named was the author of them.

Although it is out of the scope of this book to treat of the various modes of hunting, the very fundamental difference in style of deer-hunting by Staghounds cannot be entirely passed over, in even a brief sketch of the breed of dogs used in the sport. The hunting of the carted deer, and the unharbouring of the wild stag in his lair;

the hunting of the bagged fox, and the running of one forced from cover by the hounds, or unkennelled from his earth by the Terrier; and the coursing of the hare confined by brattice cloth and wattles to the ground on which she is a stranger, and the pursuit, after fair law allowed, of one so-ho'd from her form, have each had, and for some time longer will have, their partisans.

It has not been my good fortune to indulge in sport to the extent my natural inclinations would have prompted me to; but having enjoyed, from time to time, a fair amount of hunting in its several forms, and under the natural and primitive conditions of the pursuer first finding the pursued, I confess to a prejudice against all forms of field sports in which the artificial predominates. I will give brief quotations showing ably expressed views on both sides.

Daniels expresses himself strongly: "At the present day, as an object of the chase, to the sportsman the stag requires but cursory mention; those, indeed, who are fond of pomp and parade in hunting, will not accede to this opinion; but the only way this sport can recommend itself to the real sportsman, is when the deer is sought for and found in the same way as other game which hounds pursue. . . . Were the king once to see a fox well found, and killed handsomely, he would, in all probability, give a decided preference in favour of Foxhounds; for what a marked difference there is between conveying, in a covered cart, an animal nearly as big as the horse that draws it, to a particular spot, where he is liberated, and cheerly riding to the covert side, with all the ecstasy of hope and expectation."

To this the author of "The Sportsman's Cabinet"—an enthusiastic stag-hunter—replies by comparing men who, professionally engaged during most of their time, wishing to enjoy the exhilaration of sport, require it to be ready to their needs, at given hour and place, with those who

have abundance of leisure ; and his style of argument seems so perennial, to judge by sporting and doggy writers of to-day, that the case may well be left as it is between him and Daniels, for more recent disputants have not improved on, or even altered, the arguments. He says of Daniels : "Being a son of the Church, he had all the loose time of the week upon his hands, and was only *professionally engaged* on a Sunday ! To one of this description, who has most of his time to *kill*, and very little to *employ*, a long and dreary day through the gloomy coverts of a distant and dirty country, without a single challenge, or one consolatory crop or drag, must prove a scene of the most ecstatic enjoyment ; and, in the very zenith of sporting exaltation, it must be acknowledged, by professed and energetic juveniles, that riding thirty or forty miles, in wet and dirt, to enjoy the supreme happiness of repeated disappointments, terminating in a *blank day*, must be equal, if not superior, to a stag-hunt of even the first description."

The italics are not mine ; they were, I suppose, as they often are, needed to support a weak case, for I think there can be no doubt, in the mind imbued with true sporting instincts, that the parson writer has all the best of the argument.

The author of "The Sportsman's Cabinet" is at once jocose and severe on the subject of the king preferring fox-hunting to galloping after a carted stag. He says : "The idea of the king giving the preference to fox-hunting is a thought in itself entitled to consideration on account of its novelty, and the more particularly as it affords immediate mental reference to the degradation of majestic dignity, should it ever be found exploring its dreary way through the bushy brambles of a beechen wood, two or three miles in length, following the chase by the reverberating sounds of distant 'hark forwards,' but without the sight or sound of a single hound." After that

specimen of humiliating sycophancy, the odds were a hundred to one on the parson as the true sportsman.

In hunting, the master must be king, and the field, regardless of dignities elsewhere, must be equal, until they prove their own and their horses' metal.

In the practice of hunting wild deer, slower hounds than those forming the running pack are, in most cases, used. These hounds are termed "tufters," and their duty is to lead up to and unharbour the deer, thereby according, in the character of their work, to the old Lymehound.

Whatever our views and tastes in the sports of the field may be, we must all see, who watch the tide of history as it is being written in facts, that the more artificial forms of sport, represented by stag-hunting in the Home counties, inclosed coursing of hares at Kempton Park and elsewhere, and the novel rabbit-coursing with Fox Terriers, are likely to increase as higher culture of land goes on, and, with it, legislative enactments which practically denude the country of game for all sportsmen who are not millionaires.



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FOXHOUND.

WILDBOY. Sire, Saffron, by Belvoir Saffron, out of Baneful ; Dam, Welcome, by Melton Furrer, out of Albrighton Woodbine.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE FOXHOUND.

How the hounds and horn
Cheerly rouse the slumbering morn,
From the side of some high bill,
Through the high wood echoing shrill.

MILTON.

THE writer of the following spirited article was a frequent contributor to *The Country*, and well known as a judge at many of our most important shows; and that he was equally at home and happy in the field as in the ring no reader of his article can doubt.

I write in the past tense, with very deep regret, of one who was a staunch friend, a man of strong, clear intelligence, shrewd judgment, and whose cheery voice and countenance gave a welcome finish to a character that commanded the respect of all who knew him.

Mr. John Fisher, who adopted, as a writer, the *nom de guerre* of "Vert," has been for some years lost to the *habitués* of our shows, among the exhibiting class of which he was justly a favourite. He possessed a keen eye for "form," and a judicial mind, to compare the merits of the animals brought before him, and fairly and intelligently relegate each competitor for honour to his due place. This is not claiming for him freedom from error, but that, whenever he delivered judgment, he knew why, and was prepared with intelligible reasons.

Before giving his article, I wish to point out how clearly

he recognised the variations in hounds under the hands of different breeders, ancient and modern; and, in support of that view, from my own experience, gained since the article originally appeared, to show a strongly-marked case of hounds from the same original stock showing far more divergence to-day than exists in our own Foxhounds.

Having seen American Foxhounds exhibited in that country, and being much struck with some points of strong resemblance to, and others, equally strong, of difference from, our own, and being told they were considered lineal descendants from English hounds, introduced by the earlier settlers in the older of the United States, I got friends resident there to try and find out the history and pedigree of what I must call the American Foxhound. There, as here, when we go back any great distance in genealogy, we find it impossible to trace pedigree by an unbroken line, and have to trust to tradition.

The information given me, and for the collection of which I have specially to thank Mr. W. Wade of Hulton, Pa., leaves no doubt on my mind that these hounds are the descendants of English hounds, such as were hunted, probably, a couple of centuries ago.

The old families of Virginia are tenacious of their English descent, and with that class the Foxhound would be just one of the cherished appendages to family state that would be kept pure. In fact, there seems little chance of any admixture with a foreign breed having taken place, and, therefore, it is probable these hounds are much nearer to our old type than is our own hound of to-day. Modifications there doubtless have been, through, to some extent, climatic influence, and from the difference in the conditions of hunting, as well as the varying tastes of the breeders. Still, with all that, the opportunities of change of blood being so very circumscribed, the probabilities of great variation from the original are small.

These hounds—such of them as I had an opportunity

of seeing—are lighter in build than ours, very graceful in outline, but without the compactness showing strength and endurance; and yet they are said to be untiring in work. This may be accounted for by the accepted axiom in such cases—“Blood will tell.” They have not the legs and feet, shoulders and loins, that please us; the head is much nearer to that of our Bloodhound, and the ears long, thin, and unrounded. In their pied colours they resemble our English Foxhounds, and I think we may fairly claim them as descended from these.

The following is the original article (written 1877) from the pen of “Vert:”

“Our Saxon forefathers hunted down the fox, not so much for sport, as to protect their slender stock of poultry, lambs, and sucking pigs from ‘the subtle, pilfering foe, prowling around in midnight shades,’ and were wont to proclaim his mort-note in joyous blasts from the sonorous throat of the cowhorn; and we do not suppose that they would be very particular as to the kind of hound they employed for their purpose.

“‘Who ever asks where, or when, or how, the wily fox is ta’en,’ until victorious William and his son Rufus taught them, with horn and voice, to cheer and discipline the pack? For centuries the chase was reserved for royalty and the nobles of the land; and it was not until ‘our George was king’ that the middle classes were allowed to join in the sport, when the yeomen and farmers in various parts of England got up packs of hounds for hunting the fox, each giving bed and board to one or more couples, which they brought together on appointed hunting days. These were called trencher packs, from the manner in which they were billeted out on the members of the clubs. Several such packs are still kept in the Northern counties, and afford their supporters plenty of sport.

“The first pack of Foxhounds, with huntsman and

whippers-in on horseback, was established about the middle of the last century in Dorsetshire, and hunted the Cranbourne Chase country for several years, when they were purchased by Mr. George Bowes, grandfather of the present Mr. John Bowes, of Streatlem Castle, after which they hunted the Durham country, and initiated Northern foxhunters into the proper way of following the sport.

“The Brocklesby Hound list, which is one of the earliest, dates from 1786, the first sire recorded being Dover, by Fitzwilliam’s Rumager.

“Mr. Farquharson hunted Dorsetshire from 1806 to 1858—fifty-two seasons—and had ninety couples of hounds in his kennels. He bred his bitches to about 21in., and his dog hounds to 23in. high, and they brought 1347 brace of foxes to book in twenty-one seasons. In the season 1842-1843, the nose tally of this kennel was eighty-seven brace.

“Mr. Meynell, who hunted the Quorn for twenty-four seasons, did not care to have them under 24in., and Mr. Assheton Smith, who succeeded him, raised the standard to 25in. Of the old masters, the Duke of Grafton, Lord Lonsdale, and Mr. Warde, liked to have them very little under 26in.

“Mr. Hall, the present master of the Holderness, has hunted that country for thirty-five seasons without intermission, having won his first spurs on the greytail Screveton, with Mr. Digby Legard, in 1820, and has since learnt the ‘hang’ of every field from Sledmere plantation to Lammas stream, of which local tradition avers that, by sounding the depth of that dainty-looking water-trap, Mr. ‘Nimrod’ Apperley had the freedom of Holderness conferred on him, and that he carried away a luckless Lammas minnow in his boot as his precept of initiation. Mr. Hall cares more for the working qualities of his hounds than an inch or so in height; and, besides his doings at home with the Holderness, he has also

carried his banner to the fore amongst the crack riders, and at all the crack meets in the shires, from Lord Yarborough's at Cainby Corner, and the Quorn at Rolleston, to Lord Chesterfield's at Bullock Smithy.

"In January of 1836, a knot of twenty-one second horses, by a lucky nick-in, gained the rising ground, and caught a head view of the Belvoir bitch pack pressing hard on a Piper Hole fox up the vale, near the close of a fast forty-eight minutes; the first flight being reduced to seven horsemen, with Tom Goosey at the fag end.

"'Lord Forrester is leading them, on the grey,' says Tom Chambers, alluding to a grey holding a centre lead of a good twenty lengths. Mentally, we had already claimed the grey as one of the Yorkshire contingent; and, biding our time, as he led down the swede ridges, and closely scanning his charge at the ox-fence—too stiff to bend and too tough to break—we caught the certainty, and broke out: 'It's the Lord of Holderness that's on the grey, my lads; and all the lords in Leicestershire can't catch him!' Nor could they! And when the fox was pulled down, two fields ahead, there were only three claimants up for the twenty-one fresh horses at hand, the noble lord above alluded to not being one of them. Will Goodall was second whip on that day; and when he took the horn, in 1842, he reduced the Belvoir standard from 24in. to 23in., and in the season of 1854 killed one hundred and ten foxes in one hundred and twelve days.

"'We don't call Foxhounds dogs,' was the crusty retort of Tom Parrington, the Yorkshire secretary, to a Craven scut-hunter, on the eve of the Skipton hound show. But, with all due deference to the cherished reservation of the mighty mentor, we not only call the Foxhound a dog, but the dog of dogs, and premise that, from a national point of view, Foxhounds are of more importance than all other breeds of dogs clubbed together.

"We have weekly records of hunting appointments from

one hundred and sixty seven packs of Foxhounds in Great Britain and Ireland, which collectively engage to hunt about five hundred and forty days a week; besides which, we are cognisant of several other established packs of Foxhounds not included in the lists, and probably six hundred hunting days a week would be nearer the mark—and this goes on ('weather permitting') for nearly half the year.

"It is a clearly ascertained fact that a country cannot be properly hunted three days a week for less than £3000 a year, or four days a week for less than £4000 a year; and if we make this a basis for calculation, we have as an approximate no less a sum than £600,000 a year spent on fox-hunting establishments alone, to say nothing of the enormous sums spent on the private studs of those for whom the sport is provided, nearly every shilling of which is not only spent at home, but on home products, and filters through every branch of the home trade.

I do not rhyme for that dull elf
Who cannot picture to himself

that the chief reason why our 'flower of chivalry' are the finest and best field officers in the world, is owing to the knowledge of the management of the horse, and the courage inspired thereby, acquired by early lessons taken in the hunting-field.

"There is no breed of dogs that have attained to such a high degree of perfection in form and substance as Foxhounds. Their pedigrees have been longer and better kept; their breeders have united science with practice for many years past, and the result shows the master's hand. They have also been long under the control of a class with whom petty jealousies do not stand in the way of improvements, the services of a favourite hound, in most packs, being available for any other kennel, if properly sought, of which we have an instance in the case of the late Sir Richard Sutton, who, in a letter to a brother

M.F.H., written only a few days before his death, says: 'Send bitches to Glider'—Glider being considered the best hound in Sir Richard's kennel.

"The modern Foxhound possesses in the highest degree the proper conformation for courage, scenting powers, speed, and endurance, which proclaim him a workman of the first order, and a model of canine perfection to breed up to—a model such as Petrarch in the equine world, that we may fancy to have said, at the St. Leger post: 'Tell Kisber and the gentlemen that I am here waiting.' In short, the Foxhound is a pattern card for the breeders of Pointers, Setters, Retrievers, &c., to help them to breed out chumpy heads and lumpy shoulders, lanky backs and cranky hind quarters, leathery necks and narrow chests, cowhocks and weak feet and pasterns.

"To give a list of the names of the patriarchs of the stud which have taken their part in bringing the Foxhound to his present standard of excellence would fill a volume of no mean size. Most kennels have had their Tarquins and Furriers, their Ringwoods and Rallywoods, to make or mar their destinies. Yorkshiremen of the old *régime* would swear by Sir Mark Sykes' Aimwell, that Chalon transferred to canvas, and whose grand head 'gardant' is considered the choicest specimen from that artist's easel, his written eulogy—

Aimwell is by judges called a handsome hound,
And always foremost when the fox is found—

being attributed to the pen of Major Healey, than whom few had a more correct eye for horse or hound, or stronger nerve or better hand, as he proved when he jumped the iron-spiked gate in the Welham carriage-drive when on the swing, without disturbing a hair on the clever brown bay, Hard Bargain. Willing and Wanton, and a long array of W's, have kept up the dark patchy Aimwell's reputation, in this and other kennels.

“Willing was a wonder at carrying a scent over sticky fallows, but, being too fast for Tom Carter on the wolds, she was transferred to Brocklesby, where Will Smith did not give her many trials before he returned her with—‘She’s of no use to me; we can’t keep her in sight.’ But Carter had no cause to regret the return, as she bred him Warrior and Woodman, to Splendour. The former carried home the fox’s head the first day he was out; and, if allowed, he would always do so, be the distance never so great.

“Of the fifty couples in the Eddlethorpe hound list of 1842, before the kennel was transferred to Birdsall account, for the third time during the half century, Wanton and her sister Willing contributed ten-and-a-half couples. The Mennithorpe miller never forgot his short cut across the kennel meadow at Eddlethorpe when Wanton, catching sight of his dusky figure flitting through the early dawn, opened tongue, and, deserting her Shiner puppies, after a brief run, gave him a two hours and twenty minutes bay in the ash-tree, at the end of which time he was released by Robert Wise, the kennelman, as he arose to his duties at 5 A.M. ‘Tak’ her away, Robert,’ he pleaded; ‘I was runnin’ ti Burythorpe to fetch t’ cow doctor; dea tak’ her away!’

“The Brocklesby hounds, like the Yarborough estates, passed in male tail, of which the old lord, regardless alike of the tooth of time or the increase of the gods, decreed: ‘We will fall our Brocklesby oaks every hundred years, and our ashes every fifty.’ The Brocklesby horn also descended from father to son for several generations, and old Will Smith’s last command to his son and successor was: ‘Stick to Ranter.’

“Tom Sebright was first entered to the chase by running after his father’s primitive pack in the New Forest, where they would hunt anything from a deer to a dragon-fly. He was then caught up and schooled by

Mr. Musters; thence he passed to Sir Mark Sykes for three seasons, when he was transferred to Mr. Osbaldeston as whip, with this recommendation: 'He kills all our horses.' In 1822, he entered upon his forty years' service under Earl Fitzwilliam, and hunted the Milton Hounds up to his death in 1862, having spent well-nigh half-a-century in breeding and hunting hounds. He had his favourite Furriers and Feudals; but the cheery face of the veteran never beamed more radiantly than when he dilated on the Quorn Tarquin of his whipper-in days.

"There never was such another hound as Trimbush,' was Will Danby's rooted belief, and he had had a lifetime of experience in the Raby, Holderness, Ainsty, and Harworth saddles. No day was too long, and no seduction powerful enough, for this unpledged disciple of Father Matthew, always excepting the Curaçoa substitute in the coffee-cup when the Holderness meet was under the old Scorbro' elms; but he took much more kindly to this little counterfeit than any allusion to his fast fifteen minutes with the Neswick badger, which he pulled down on Tibthorpe wold. The tastes of Danby's henchman, Ned Oxtoby, also ran in the temperance groove; and he proved that his mother was no false prophetess when she predicted that 'he was born to be a huntsman,' as the Holderness killed their fox under her cottage window, at Long Riston, in the same hour in which he first saw light; and he himself was strong in the faith that his mission in life was fox-hunting. When the leading hounds once went headlong after their fox over the Speeton Cliff, he begged a farmer to fetch a cart rope, and lower him over the precipice, and he was drawn up first with Lavender in his arms, and then made a second descent for Petticoat, both of which, but for this gallant rope adventure, must have been left to perish among the seagulls and kittiwakes.

"Will Goodall's lease of life was as brief as his hunting

career was brilliant. But his faith in the 23in. Brocklesby Rallywood did good service to the Belvoir kennel; and, when he laid down his horn in 1859, he left a pack of hounds which, for matchiness in size and colour, as also for steadiness and working qualities, has rarely, if ever, been equalled. His last advice to Ben Morgan was: 'Hold by the Alfred sort; they are such close workers, and have got me out of many a difficulty.'

"Will Derry, like Ben Morgan, preferred gay, raking hounds of the 24in. stamp, and both men were quick and clever in the field, and great killers of foxes. Nothing delighted Ben so much as to get on the trail of a good fox that would take them over the Holderness, or the York and Ainsty frontier, and nothing short of failing scent or closing darkness would prevent his being brought to book. Both Derry and Morgan were hard riders, and proved the truth of the axiom that, 'If welter weights break horses' backs, light weights break horses' hearts.'

"Puppies are mostly whelped during the spring months, and, as soon as able to take care of themselves, they are taken out to quarters amongst the farmers, where they lead a *dolce far niente* sort of life, and are fetched in about the next February, when the lambs begin to drop. On their return, they are branded with the initial of the hunt, and their ears are shortened by rounding off the points, to prevent them dipping into the feeding-trough, and thus becoming coated and greasy, which would induce canker on the edge of the ear. Each now receives a name, and their education begins in good earnest—being constantly schooled into submission and confidence; for even Tom, the whip's, manner of rating a delinquent is open, decisive, cheery, and instructive, and in marked contrast with Whistle, the head-keeper's, bullying and degrading appeal to a recalcitrant Pointer, which oftener results in a fit of either the shivers or the sulks,

than in any knowledge of the fault committed or the duties required.

“The beautiful manner in which the Quorn entries behaved at the late Yorkshire Hound Show at Skipton, was worth a day’s journey to witness—especially in the case of Alice, the winner in the unentered bitch class—coming up to every call, and turning to every wave of Tom Firr’s hand, true as the magnet to the pole.

“Some of the hard-riding Holderness farmers, whose hearts are in the sport, are proud of being trusted with a favourite bitch before she pups, when, for her accommodation and comfort, they cut a hole in the biely side of the straw stack, where she rears her whelps far better than in any kennel. It is customary in most hunts to have the young, unentered hounds, judged during the summer, when prizes, which take the shape of silver cups, silver teapots, or handsome silk dresses, are awarded to the lady of the house where the best-looking puppy has been walked in the previous year; so that every farmer’s wife wants to have charge of a good-looking one, to qualify her chance for the next show day.

“Draft hounds are such as can be spared from the pack, and are drawn for size as above or below the desired standard of the kennel, or for some fault, real or imaginary. These are the perquisites of the huntsman, and usually fetch three to four guineas a couple. Drafts from the best packs are in great request, being often bespoke long before the time, and command higher prices.

“Promoters of monster dog shows must have been profoundly purblind when they placed Foxhounds in their prize schedule, or they would have foreseen that M.F.H.’s of important packs would never send hounds to be cribbed, cabined, and confined for the week about, running the gauntlet of all the ills that dog flesh is heir to; to be poked and provoked by the canes of incipient man-milliners, and submitted to the judgment and criticism of

lapdog fanciers—the Whitby deadlock of '75 to wit. 'What's that lang chap, wi'd fine gleaves on, keep leaking into their e'en for?' asked a Bilsdale jet miner, who had tramped ten miles on foot and thirty-six by rail to back 'oor Charlotte,' and had lost his money in the first over. 'E'en!' replied his companion in travel; 'he's leaking up their noases, mum, to see which has the sharpest scent.'

"From the Waterloo year to the advent of the Russian campaign may be termed the Homeric period of fox-hunting. Fields were more select and less crowded, first-flight men had less difficulty in recruiting their studs, as thoroughbreds too slow for the turf were then drafted to the hunting stable, instead of being, as of late, degraded into steeplechasers, timber-toppers, and instruments of cheating and robbery. Fallows were not generally gridironed by drain-pipes and 'catch 'em up' wire fences, and asphalt had not taken possession of the country. Coverts were not yet sacred to St. Pheasant, nor was there then a branch railway to cross the line of every fox. However, things look brighter in the North, for the engine-drivers on the Richmond branch line, who have mostly one or more crosses of the sportsman in them, have decided to respect the scarlet sleeve of the Master of the Bedale, and when they see it standing at danger, they draw up to a standstill, and allow his spotted beauties to cross scathless. But the N.E.R. is accustomed to take things easy, and the traveller who has crawled through Quaker Straits by the North Passage, without having his time wasted, or his temper spoilt, must have dropped into a hopeless state of uselessness.

"The music of hounds breaking covert, blended with the windings of the huntsman's horn, is something to be remembered with pleasure; but it is reserved for those whose nights are spent within earshot of the kennel to listen to that matchless song of unpricked music which, once heard, is never to be forgotten—the midnight chorus

of a pack of Foxhounds, as it breaks on the ear, and swells in tuneful cadences in the dark and stilly night; when Harmony and Audible pitch the keynote, and Musical and Singwell and Songstress carry on the air, waking old Charon and Crowner, that put in the bass notes, while Vocal and Tuneful, and Rhapsody and Rantipole, and a score more, swell the choir and prolong the song. The wakened kennelman starts from his pillow, but, catching *hon-accord* notes ere he can clutch the handle of the riot bell, gives pious thanks that it is Harmony, and not old Discord, that breaks his dreams, composes himself, and drops off to sleep again."

To the foregoing remarks by "Vert" I would add the following, as giving information on points not touched upon by him.

Two qualities have always been considered essential in the Foxhound—nose and endurance—and to that is now added speed. To ensure the latter two qualities, perfect symmetry is essential; by which is meant harmony and due proportion of each part relatively to the other and to the whole, and which, as applied in the present instance, includes the adaptability for displaying a high rate of speed, conjointly with great stoutness, by the special development and strengthening of certain parts towards that end.

Mere size has nothing to do with this, and although on that point there is difference of opinion, still the balance, as in the days of Somerville and Beckford, is in favour of a middle-sized hound; but that must always be a question to be determined, to a considerable extent, by the nature of the country to be hunted.

On the subject of size Beckford says: "I most approve of hounds of the middle size, and believe all animals of that description are strongest, and best able to endure fatigue." And Somerville, in "The Chase," gives his views on this point in the following words:—

But here a mean
 Observe, nor the large hound prefer, of size
 Gigantic; he in the thick-woven covert
 Painfully tugs, or in the thorny brake,
 Torn and embarrassed, bleeds; but if too small,
 The pigmy brood in every furrow swims;
 Moiled in the clogging clay, panting, they lag
 Behind inglorious; or else shivering creep,
 Benumbed and faint, beneath the sheltering thorn.
 Foxhounds of middle size, active and strong,
 Will better answer all thy various ends,
 And crown thy pleasing labours with success.

The *head* must be of good size, and well balanced; forehead well pronounced, without being unduly prominent; good length of skull, and also of muzzle, which is not pointed, the nostrils being wide and open; the ears, which are generally rounded, to prevent them from getting torn, set on low, and closely carried.

The *neck*, from the head, should gradually swell towards the shoulder; it is long and muscular, without coarseness, clean, and free from dewlap or throatiness, such as characterise the Bloodhound and old Southern Hound.

The *shoulders* should be strong and clean, not loaded, and well sloped; the arms long and muscular, the elbows thereby being well let down. It is essential that the elbows should be quite straight, in a line with the body, to insure the requisite speed.

The *chest* should be deep, and fairly wide, the ribs, especially the back ribs, coming down well, giving strength, and a certain degree of squareness, without clumsiness.

The *back* and *loins* must be strong, and connected with abundance of muscle.

The *hind quarters* of the Foxhound must also be very strong; the buttocks firm and muscular; the thighs long, letting down the hock well; and the stifles but slightly bent.

The *legs* and *feet* are of great importance. The leg

bone should be great, and the muscles hard and firm. The legs should be "straight as arrows," and the feet round and compact, with high knuckles, strong claws, and a hard, firm sole.

The *coat* must be close, short, and rather hard in texture. The chief colours are black and white, black tan and white, hare pied, and badger pied.

The *stern* should be thick at the root, gradually tapering, carried well up, with a gentle arch, and fringed slightly with strongish hair.



CHAPTER XIV.

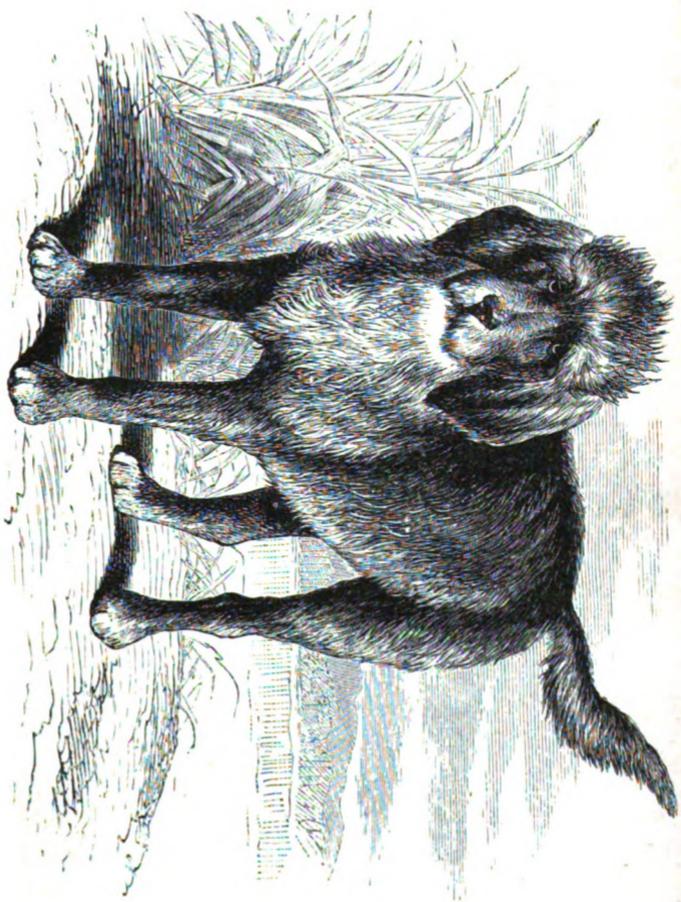
THE OTTER-HOUND.

The busy, spreading pack, that fearless plunge
Into the flood, and cross the rapid stream.

SOMERVILLE.

ALTHOUGH many writers describe the Otter-hound as a dog of mixed breed, all refer him back to the old Southern Hound, or the Bloodhound, for his origin, whatever crosses may have been resorted to to produce the dog we now recognise as the legitimate hound to pursue the "Fish-slicer." Blaine says he is the old Southern Hound crossed with the Water Spaniel, and that those with a dash of the Bulldog in them are the best; the Water Spaniel being supposed to supply the roughness of coat—for Water Spaniels of last century were very different in coat, as in other points, to those dogs of to-day called by that name—and also to give or increase the aptitude for swimming, whilst the Bulldog cross is supposed to have infused the necessary hardiness, courage, and tenacity.

Both Youatt and Richardson suppose him to be the result of a cross between the Southern Hound and the rough Terrier, and by others the rough Deerhound has been held to have had a share in the production of the Otter-hound. I am strongly of opinion, however, that if any such cross has ever occurred, either by accident or design, it is so remote and slight as to be now quite swallowed up; and as a stream lost in the immensely larger volume of the river to which it is a tributary, so



OTTERHOUND.

Mr. J. C. Carrick's CHARMER (K.C.S.B., 365). Sire, Wellington, by Bruiser, out of Rough Rally; Dam, Countess.

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has any infusion of alien blood been absorbed by the true old English hound blood of the genuine Otter-hound.

The hunting of the otter is one of our most ancient sports. Jesse, in his researches into the history of the dog, gives many interesting quotations from ancient documents showing the pursuit with hounds of

This subtle spoiler of the beaver kind

to have been a Royal pastime with many of our English kings. In July, 1212, the Sheriff of Somerset received commands from King John to "provide necessaries for Ralph, the otter-huntsman, and Godfrey, his fellow, with two men and two horses, and twelve Otter-hounds, as long as they find employment in capturing otters in your shire." And John, the otter-hunter to King Edward I., had twelve otter dogs under his charge. An annual payment, called "Kilgh Dourgon," was made in Wales for the king's water dogs with which otters were hunted; and James I., an ardent sportsman, had for his master of Otter-hounds John Parry, to superintend the hunt, and provide for the king's diversion; and so on, from reign to reign, otter-hunting has, with varying patronage and popularity, remained a British sport, there being, in 1878, on the authority of "Stonehenge," at least nine packs hunted, of which the following is a list: "Subscription packs—at Carlisle, under the mastership of Mr. Carrick; in Northumberland, near Morpeth, under Mr. A. Fenwick; and at Cockermonth, hunted by a committee. In South Wales, Colonel Pryse and Mr. Moore have each a pack; while in England, the Hon. Geoffrey Hill hunts the otter from his kennels at Hawkestone, Salop, and Mr. Collier from Culmstock, near Wellington. In the West, Mr. Cheriton and Mr. Mildmay also pursue the sport." There are now about twelve, of which the Kendal hunt is an important one. It is neither my province to describe otter-hunting, nor my purpose to attempt it; but I have

considered some reference to it necessary, that the hound engaged in this sport, and the qualifications required in him, may be better understood. From the time when he is driven from his "wicker couch," contrived "within some hollow trunk, where ancient alders shade the deep, still pool," until—

Pierced through and through,
On pointed spears they lift him high in air,

the mephitic otter gives his pursuers plenty to do, and when it comes to close quarters, be it with Terrier or hound, makes, as opportunity offers, good use of his teeth. Traced by his sprints and seal, and unharboured from his kennel or couch, he finds hard work for men and dogs, as the latter follow him up from holt to holt, and pool to pool, and the huntsmen eagerly watch for his vents.

In recent times, otter-hunting has been modified to suit different circumstances, and practices in vogue in one hunt are tabooed in another. The spear is discontinued, and the practice of tailing the otter—that is, rushing in on him when worn and pressed, seizing him by the tail, swinging him round in the presence of the hounds, to excite them, and finally throwing him among them—whilst treated as an act of prowess in some otter-hunting districts, is strictly forbidden in others.

A breed of dogs selected and kept to this game, even if originally of the identical stock of our modern bloodhounds, would naturally diverge in some characteristics, and the wet-resisting coat, so necessary to a dog so much in the water, would be developed; whereas, on the contrary, the treatment to which the companion Bloodhound is subjected tends to fine and soften his coat: or there may have been—and I think it highly probable, if not capable of absolute proof, that there were—rough-coated hounds of the Bloodhound type from which the Otter-hound has

sprung; and, according to both Caius and Turberville, Bloodhounds were used for this sport. But whether either of these suppositions is correct or not, he is in shape and voice and style so truly a hound, that I cannot think he is indebted to a strain of either Spaniel, Terrier, or Deerhound blood, for his rough and wet-resisting coat.

In general appearance—always excepting the coat—he much resembles the Bloodhound; he should be perfect in symmetry, strongly built, hard and enduring, with unfailling powers of scent, and a natural antipathy to the game he is bred to pursue. The head should be large, broader in proportion than the Bloodhound's, the forehead high, the muzzle a fair length, and the nostrils wide; the ears long, thin, and pendulous, fringed with hair; the neck not naturally long, and looking shorter than it really is, from the abundance of hair on it. The shoulders should slope well, the legs be straight, and the feet a good size, but compact; the back strong and wide; the ribs, and particularly the back ribs, well let down; the thighs big and firm, and the hocks well let down; the stern well and thickly covered with hair, and carried well up, but not curled. The colours are generally grizzle or sandy, with black and tan more or less clearly defined. The subject of our engraving is Mr. J. C. Carrick's Charmer; the drawing was made out of the hunting season, and when she was fat, and the position adds to that appearance, which must consequently be allowed for; but her head and front are wonderfully well done, and the artist has caught the expression well.

The following are the weights and measurements of two of Mr. Carrick's best hounds:—

Lottery: Age, 3½ years; weight, 76½lb.; height at shoulder, 24in.; length from nose to set on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, 17in.; girth of chest, 30in.; girth of loin, 24in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length

of head from occiput to tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 11in.; ear, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Danger: Age, $1\frac{1}{2}$ years; weight, 73lb.; height at shoulder, $25\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set on of tail, $40\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of tail, 18in.; girth of chest, 31in.; girth of loin, 23in.; girth of head, 18in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.; ear, 9in.

CHAPTER XV.

THE HARRIER.

Sad on yon little eminence she sits;
Intent she listens, with one ear erect;
. Away she flies. . . .

The patient pack

Hang on the scent, unwearied,
And wide-opening lead the trembling air
With various melody.

—SOMEVILLE.

OF the various breeds of hounds, none has undergone greater modifications than the Harrier, or Hare-hound, so called from his having been kept exclusively, or nearly so, to the pursuit of that game.

Whether the name Harrier is derived from hare, is by some disputed. Mr. M. B. Wynn, author of the "History of the Mastiff," thinks it is not, and says: "The word Harrier (which we find employed to denote hounds in general), in its older form, Harier (in use down to 1750), was apparently the correct Norman term for the Saxon raches, or hounds. Harriers were not necessarily Hare-hounds, nor was the word in any way derived from the substantive hare, the animal, as some etymologists have fallen into the error of thinking, in spite of common sense as well as historical evidence.

"The term harrier, or rather harier, is derived direct from the Norman word *harier*, or *harer* (to harass, devast, or worry); we get the same word in the obsolete English

verb *hare*, to harass. The original theme is probably from the Latin *are*, to vex, harass, harrow or plough the ground for tillage.

"We find the word harrier employed in the same sense in the names of the Lanner Falcon (*Laniarius circus pygargus*), hen or marsh-harrier—sometimes harrower, showing the original meaning and idea to have been a devaster, harasser, or spoiler. In the word lanner we see the same reduplication of letters as in harrier, lanner being derived from the Norman and French, *lanier*; Latin, *lanius*, a butcher.

"Thus, the terms Stag and Fox-Harriers, in Caius, were quite correct, and simply denoted a Stag-Rache, or Fox-hound; and a Hare-Harrier was not tautologic; although, at the present day, we understand a Harrier to define a hound strictly confined to hare-hunting.

"Thus, in brief, 'harier' was the Norman equivalent for our word 'hound,' in the modern acceptation of the latter: had the expression 'houndes,' instead of 'hariers,' met the ear of either the Conqueror or a Grosveneur previous to A.D. 1150, it would probably have sounded as vulgar and ignorant to them as it would to a modern M.F.H. of old family to have an invite from a cotton baronet or shoddy knight 'to bring his dogs to harry the foxes.' *Tempora mutantur*, but small wonder the Conqueror tried to abolish the Anglo-Saxon tongue."

Dr. Skeat may be considered a higher authority, as an etymologist, than Mr. Wynn, and he derives Harrier, formerly Harier, from *hare*—Anglo-Saxon, *haro*; Dutch, *haas*; Danish and Swedish, *hare*; Icelandic, *héri*; whereas the word harry, to ravage, he derives from middle English *harwen*, *herien*; Anglo-Saxon, *hergien*, to lay waste, as is done by an army: and he points to the cognate Icelandic *herja*, to ravage, from *herr*, army; Danish, *hærge*, from *hær*. The sense of *here* is, destroyer. Dr. Ogilvie, in the "Imperial Dictionary," makes the same distinction in

the etymology of the two words: Harrier, a dog of the hound species, employed in hunting the hare; and harry, to strip, harass, or pillage.

Mr. Wynn's contention, that the Normans used the word as the synonym of hound, rests on no solid foundation; and it appears to me that "common sense" may, after all, not be entirely on Mr. Wynn's side; and even "historic evidence" will not bear him out, if he takes other and earlier writers, as well as Caius, to elucidate the question.

Juliana Berners, in the "Booke of St. Albans," does not mention the Harrier by that name in her list of dogs, but includes Raches; and that term with the Prioress of Sopewell, as with the author of the "Mayster of Game"—both Norman writers on sports of the chase—is the synonym of Harrier.

"Idstone's" opinion, as to the probabilities of the Harrier being the origin of the Foxhound, rather than a draft of that hound, or owing much to infusion of Foxhound blood, seems to me to be wrong, in that it ignores the undeniable fact, that every one of our existing breeds is the result of judicious crossings, selection of individuals, and keeping of each breed to a special quarry. These influences—always at work more or less—have, because more systematically pursued, told more effectively during the past 100 or 130 years.

Caius describes the Harrier as "that kind of dog which Nature hath endued with the virtue of smelling, whose property it is to use a justness, a readiness, and a courageousness in hunting;" and, further: "We may know these kind of dogs by their long, large, and bagging lippes, by their hanging ears, reaching down both sides of their chappes, and by the indifferent and measurable proportion of their making; this sort of dog we call *Leverarius*, Harriers."

Such a description, meagre as it is, applies more to the

dog we still recognise as the old Southern Hound—if, indeed, that type has not been entirely improved out of existence—than to the Harrier of to-day; for it is long since hare-hunting was revolutionised, and the slow, plodding hound, that would dwell on the scent—giving vent to the keenness of his own enjoyment of the chase, and delighting the sportsman with melodious tongue whilst following puss in her every wile and double—has had to make way for the modern hound, possessing more dash and speed, which force the hare to depend on her swiftness, rather than on cunning devices, to evade her pursuers.

Harriers, like other classes of hounds, have been bred and varied to suit the requirements of the country they are hunted in, and the taste, and even whims, of the owner. "Stonehenge," in his original work on the dog, says: "The true Harrier is a dwarf Southern Hound, with a very slight infusion of the *Greyhound* in him." But I should think, to get the increased speed required, it would be unnecessary and unadvisable to go to the *Greyhound* for qualities to be obtained from a nearer ally—the light and fleet Northern Hound, which cross would not endanger or diminish the scenting power. Beckford, a sportsman, and brilliant writer on sporting, whose opinions were, and still are, authoritative as far as applicable to the altered circumstances of our day, writing at the end of last century, says: "The hounds I think most likely to show you sport are between the large, slow-hunting Harrier and the little Fox-Beagle. . . . The first, it is true, have most excellent noses, and I make no doubt will kill their game at last if the day be long enough; but the days are short in winter, and it is bad hunting in the dark. The other, on the contrary, fling and dash, and are all alive; but every cold blast affects them, and if your country be deep and wet, it is not impossible that some of them may be drowned. My hounds," he goes on to say, "were a cross of both these

kinds, in which it was my endeavour to get as much bone and strength in as small a compass as possible. I tried many years, and an infinity of hounds, before I could get what I wanted, and at last had the pleasure to see them very handsome, small, yet very bony; they ran remarkably well together, went fast enough, had all the alacrity that could be desired, and would hunt the coldest scent."

The Harrier in most externals is almost a facsimile of the Foxhound; but the head is, in proportion, heavier, the skull flat and broad, the ears set on low, being close and fine in texture; the "large and bagging lippes" of the days of Caius, with the attendant abundance of dewlap, have been bred out; the neck long and airy, rising with a gradual swell from the shoulders, which must be well-placed, sloping back, and clothed with muscle; the forearms strong, elbows well let down, and in a straight line with the body; the fore legs perfectly straight, large of bone; neat strong ankles, and a foot round, firm, and close—the knuckles arched, but not immoderately so, the claws strong, and the sole firm and hard. The chest must be capacious; the back broad and strong, lined with hard muscle; the ribs, especially the back ones, well let down; the loin deep, and, like the hind quarters, very strong; the thighs very muscular; clean hocks, without a suspicion of "cromping" (that is, cow-hocked, leaning in towards each other), and the leg from the hock down should be short and strong; the stern must be thick at the setting, and gradually tapering to the point, well covered with hair, without being bushy, and carried gaily, and almost straight. The whole build of the Harrier is most symmetrical—there should be, literally, no waste about him. The coat should in texture be moderately fine, very dense, and the colour various—black, white and tan, blue mottles, badger pied, hare pied, and a variety of combinations, in which the colours are often very beautifully blended.

Delicacy of scent and perseverance are essential qualities in the Harrier, and the tongue should be rich and melodious.

Through the courtesy of the master of the Holcombe Hunt, Alfred Ashworth, Esq., of Egerton Hall, Bolton-le-Moors, I am enabled to give the measurements of one and a half couples of the Holcombe Harriers—one couple of dogs, and a single bitch. These are:—

Sergeant: Age, 3 years; weight, 63lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, $12\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 29in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, $16\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of forearm, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 11in.

Swinger: Age, 3 years; weight, 62lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, $36\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, $29\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, $16\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $7\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of the head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between the eyes and the tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{4}$ in.

Barmaid: Age, 4 years; weight, 56lb.; height at shoulder, $21\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, $27\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, $22\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of head, $15\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

These hounds have a pedigree for a hundred years back in the Holcombe Kennels.

Lancashire is the home and centre of hare-hunting, and the Holcombe pack is pure Harrier blood. Sergeant and Swinger are a wonderful pair, pronounced by competent judges to be the grandest couple of Harriers in Lancashire, which is about equivalent to saying "in the world." These and Barmaid, of the same pack, are thoroughly representative and true-made Lancashire Harriers

—not too large, but strong, compact dogs, with plenty of lip and plenty of music, with still a nice clean neck, grand ribs, and low, good, straight legs, and cat feet; just the stamp to give a good account of themselves over the rough, bleak hills of the country, where it is not a question of doubling round a few fields, but, after all the windings, of killing the game three or four miles, as the crow flies, from the find.

I have also been favoured with measurements of two of Mr. Charles Dundas Everett's Harriers, which are as follow:—

Gladsome: Age, 2 years; weight, 34½lb.; height at shoulder, 19½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 27in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 19in.; girth of forearm, 6½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

Glider: Age, 2 years; weight, 32lb.; height at shoulder, 19½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 12½in.; girth of chest, 27in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head from occiput to the tip of the nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between the eyes and the tip of the nose, 10in.

The Welsh Harrier is still to be met with. This is a rough or shag-haired hound, more resembling the Otter-hound than our modern Harrier, in shape as well as coat. He is much smaller than the Otter-hound, but may be used for otter-hunting; in fact, like other varieties, may be trained to hunt and keep to any particular quarry he is entered to, and taught that to chase other game is riot.

In England there are this year (1887), according to *The Field* list of hounds, 100 packs of Harriers kept; in Scotland, four packs only; and in Ireland, thirty-

four packs; and, besides these, there are, in several parts of the country, what may be called scratch packs, the hounds being the individual property of, and kept by, men who join their forces for the mutual enjoyment of the pleasures of the chase.

Although so much weaker, numerically, than the Foxhounds, the above citations respecting Harriers show the aggregate to be very considerable; and when the vast amount of incidental expenditure connected with them is reckoned, the most exacting of political economists may be reasonably expected to pause and think before proceeding further in rendering the hare as extinct as the wolf in our country.

Before taking leave of the Harrier, and proceeding to the consideration of the Beagle, perhaps it would not be out of place here to say a word or two on the subject of hare-hunting, a sport in which either breed of dogs is called into requisition. The antiquity of this pastime cannot be called into question; and we have an undoubted allusion to it by Cervantes, in his "Don Quixote," wherein he says :

"Mercy on me, what pleasure can you find, any of ye all, in killing a poor beast that never meant any harm?"

The question of Sancho Panza has, by all writers, down to a very recent period, received the stereotyped answer, that it is a noble recreation, most suitable for kings, princes, and the nobility, and also a healthy recreation for knights and gentlemen; and it was usually gently insinuated, that the poor beast, whatever might be its name and nature, ought to be rather pleased than otherwise to be hunted to death by such very exalted beings and their hounds. Without inquiring too curiously into the ethics of hunting, we may venture on the truism that, as hunting, in one form or another, has existed since the dawn of our history, we may assume the predatory habit as instinctive and inherited; and even in these democratic

days, when the pleasures of the chase are less restricted to the highly-bred, there is no diminution in the ardour with which it is pursued. One thing we may congratulate ourselves upon is that, with a few exceptions, sport is carried out with less of cruelty, and more in a spirit of fair-play to the game. No one, nowadays, would, I presume, advocate breaking the lower jaw of a badger in order that a young terrier might, with safety to itself, learn to draw it. In like manner, the hunting of the hare is carried out on fairer terms than of yore, although being pursued by a pack of Harriers or a cry of Beagles seems a one-sided game against puss, with all her wiles. We no longer, however, resort to nets, gins, and pitfalls in aid of the dogs that drive her to destruction; nor do we uncouple hounds, one after another, at points of 'vantage, after she has been roused, in order to make the more sure of her capture.

In ancient times, not only the hare, but all beasts of chase, had to run the gauntlet of relays of hounds of various kinds, and also risk being driven into toils prepared for their capture. These practices have long ceased in England, if, indeed, the use of nets was ever in vogue here. The *Mayster of Game* says: "Men slee hares with Greyhoundes and with Rennynghoundes as in England; but ellis where they slee hem with smale pocketes and with pursenettes and w^t smale nettes, with hare pipes and with long nettis, and with smale cordes that men casten where thei mak here brekyng of the smale twygges whan thei goon to hure pasture."

In the classic ages, hounds and nets combined were used in hare-hunting, and Xenophon, writing B.C. 500, gives minutely-detailed accounts of the methods used, and of the dogs employed, which embraced many varieties of the type of our hounds; for the Greyhound, running by sight, and outspeeding the hare, was unknown to him. It is pleasant to read that Xenophon, with the instincts

of a true sportsman, forbade the nets and gins, set for the capture of the hare during the hunt, to be left standing when the game was over; that was, at least, a step towards fair-play to the quarry. From that very ancient date, down to the latter half of the last century, it was the general custom to hunt hares in the early morning, so that what was considered a good day's sport, with, perhaps, several hares accounted for by the hounds, had been enjoyed, and an appetite for lunch obtained, by the hour sportsmen now think of turning out of the stableyard to go to the meet. The otter-hunters are almost the only sportsmen nowadays who can be called early risers. There was, above and beyond what has been suggested, a special advantage in hunting the hare in the early morning. The hare being, to a great extent, a night-feeder, goes to her seat or form in the morning, and, by taking the hounds out then, they, coming across her trail, have a stronger scent to lead them up to her seat than when she is sought in her form and then pursued. This fact, well known to every sportsman, was recognised and described by the old Greek hare-hunter, who says, according to Blane's translation: "The scent of the hare going to her form lasts longer than that of her course when pursued. When she goes to her form, she goes slowly, often stopping; but her course, when pursued, is performed running; therefore, the ground is saturated with the one and not filled with the other." Anyone who has watched a hare in early morning, stealing leisurely along a fence, from her feeding-ground, to squat in the open, among rushes or tussocks of grass, or to shelter in the plantation, must have noticed the easy-going style, apparently unconscious of surroundings, except when every now and again, on some hillock, she stops, with ears erect, to take a general survey, and make sure there are no enemies near.

It is about a hundred years since the fashion of late

meets came into vogue, and the hunter's horn ceased to proclaim the morn in competition with shrill-voiced chanticleer. With this change, and to make the fun easy for feather-bed sportsmen, hare-finders were employed to mark down the seated game. Now the prevailing custom is to beat up the hare without such help, and the agreeable work of looking for and finding is only less than the more exciting pleasure of pursuit.

Although much has been written on hunting since the time of those classic authors, Somerville and Beckford, it is doubtful if a scintilla of real knowledge has been given out adding to the ample store they supplied us with. Beckford complained that no one wrote his experience of sport. No such complaint can be made now, for there are numbers of clever writers, who are sportsmen and scholars, whose contributions to the higher class of sporting journals are graphic in their descriptions of good runs, always crisp and fresh, redolent of the country, and absorbingly interesting to everyone with a taste for sylvan sports. Without wishing or intending to be invidious in naming one out of such numbers of writers, I would instance the interesting, polished, and spirited weekly letters, during the season, of the correspondent of the *Field*—"Traviator, or the Man at the X Roads." He devotes himself to fox-hunting; but, in the same journal, and a few others, hare-hunting with Harriers and Beagles is almost equally well described, the local scenery and special incidents being often worked, and evidently without effort, into graphic and pleasing pictures.

As, allowing for minor changes in the lapse of time, Beckford is still the head of all authorities, and his descriptions are generically true, I will quote his remarks on hare-hunting—a sport, by the way, to which he was not partial, but took to as the best substitute for his favourite fox-hunting, because, as he declared, he could not ride along a turnpike road.

In hare-hunting, as distinguished from coursing, Harriers and Beagles are almost solely used; but, of late years, Basset-hounds, in small packs, have been employed by a few gentlemen, and are said to give good sport. These are a nearer approach to the old Southern Hound in speed, or, rather, in lack of speed, and bring up to the mind visions of hunting with the pole. On this style of hare-hunting the following, from Blome, is at once explanatory and interesting, and it might be applied in the case of well-trained Bassets.

“Your large, tall, and big hounds, called and known by the name of *Deep-mouthed*, or *Southern-mouthed Hounds*, are heavy and slow, and fit for woodlands and hilly countries; they are of deep mouths, and swift spenders; they are generally higher behind than before, with thick and short Legs, and are generally great of Body and Head, and are most proper for such as delight to follow them on foot as *Stop-Hunting*, as some call it; but by most it is termed *Hunting under the Pole*; that is, they are brought to that exactness of command that, in their hottest scent and fullest chase, if one but step before them, or hollo, or but hold up or throw before them the *Hunting Pole*, they will stop at an instant, and Hunt in *Full Cry* after you at your own pace, until you give them encouragement by the Word of Command; which much adds to the length of the sport and pleasure of the Hunters; so that a course often lasts five or six hours.”

The hounds referred to in the passage just quoted were a variety of the Harrier—the Raches of De Langley, Juliana Berners, and other old writers.

Beckford formed his Harriers by a cross of these large, slow-hunting Harriers and the little Fox-Beagle, holding that “the former were too dull, too heavy, and too slow; the latter too lively, too light, and too fleet.” He adds: “As the trail of a hare lays both partially and imperfectly in proportion to the length of time elapsed since she went

to her seat, so is the difficulty of finding increased in proportion to the late or early hour at which the hounds are thrown off; hence it is, that the attendants upon different packs, under the denomination of hare-finders, so very little known or required at that time, are now become so truly and unavoidably instrumental to the sport of the day. Although the services of these people are always welcome to the anxious and expectant sportsman, yet it is admitted, by every judicious and competent observer, they are exceedingly prejudicial to the good order and regular discipline of hounds; for, having occasionally such assistance, they become habitually indolent, and progressively wild; the game being so frequently and easily found for them, they become individually and conjunctively indifferent to the trouble of finding it for themselves. Those who are accustomed to have their hares found sitting, know the hare-finders as well as they know the huntsman, and will not only, upon sight, set off to meet him, but have their heads eternally thrown up in the air in expectation of a view holloa! Packs of Harriers well managed and disciplined, are quietly brought up to the place of meeting, and, when thrown off, a general silence should prevail, that every hound may be permitted to do his own work. Those well bred and properly broke seldom stand in need of assistance; officious intrusions frequently do more harm than good. . . . Young sportsmen, like young hounds, are too much accustomed to babbling when newly entered, and often, by frivolous questions, or obtrusive conversation, attract the attention of the hounds, and insure the silent curse or public reproach of the huntsman.

“Those who keep Harriers vary considerably in their modes of hunting them, but the humane and liberal-minded never deviate from the consistency and strict impartiality of the chase. If the hare is found sitting, and the hounds too near at hand, they should be imme-

diately (and, as it were, accidentally) drawn off, to prevent her being chopped in her form; the hare should then be silently walked up by the individual who found her, or knows where she is seated, that she may be permitted to go off without alarm, at her own pace. The hounds should then be drawn quietly over the spot from whence she started, where, being permitted to come calmly and unexpectedly upon the scent, they then go away with it in a style of uniformity, constituting what may be candidly considered the consistency of the chase."

It is of importance to the full enjoyment of the sport, whether coursing or hunting the hare, to let her steal away quietly, for, if she is hustled, being a timid creature, she is likely to double instead of giving a tolerably straight run, without which there is comparatively little enjoyment. It is in the nature of the hare to run more or less in circles, and to make ever and again for the home she has been driven from by her pursuers; and, when hard pressed, her instinct or reason instructs her to betake herself for shelter to the midst of a hirsel of sheep, where, the ground being soiled by them, the effluvia from her own heated body may be overpowered by that of the sheep, and the hounds thereby baffled.

A long treatise would be necessary to do justice to the subject of hare-hunting, but my object has been to convey to the uninitiated a general conception of the sport. No one, without practical experience, can ever be a hunting man, in the sense of fully understanding and enjoying the glories, the dangers, and the pleasures of the chase; and, as a stimulus to attain to that position, I will conclude with a graphic description of hare-hunting from Somerville's poem of "The Chase":

Huntsman, take heed; they stop in full career.
 Yon crowding flocks, that at a distance gaze,
 Have hap'ly foil'd the turf. See! that old hound!
 How busily he works, but dares not trust

His doubtful sense; draw yet a wider ring.
Hark! now again the chorus fills. As bells,
Sally'd awhile, at once their peal renew,
And high in air the tuneful thunder rolls,
See how they toss, with animated rage
Recovering all they lost! That eager haste
Some doubling wile foreshows. Ah! yet once more
They're check'd, hold back with speed—on either hand
They flourish round—e'en yet persist—'Tis right,
Away they spring; the rustling stubbles bend
Beneath the driving storm. Now the poor chase
Begins to flag, to her last shifts reduced.
From brake to brake she flies, and visits all
Her well-known haunts, where once she rang'd secure,
With love and plenty blest. See! there she goes,
She reels along, and by her gait betrays
Her inward weakness. See! how black she looks!
The sweat, that clogs th' obstructed pores, scarce leaves
A languid scent. And now in open view
See, see, she flies! each eager hound exerts
His utmost speed, and stretches every nerve;
How quick she turns! their gaping jaws eludes,
And yet a moment lives; 'till, round enclosed
By all the greedy pack, with infant screams
She yields her breath, and there reluctant dies.

CHAPTER XVI.

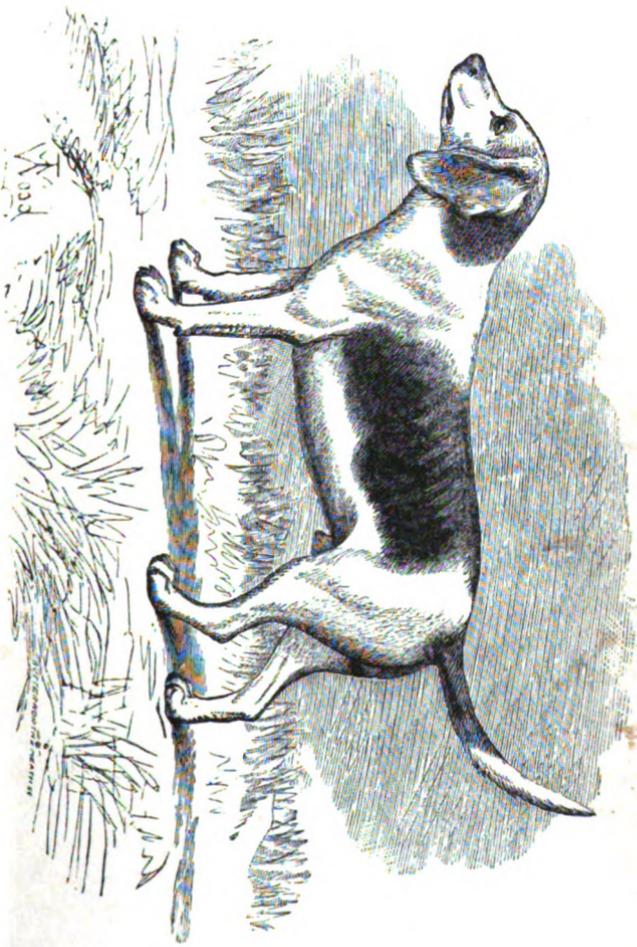
THE BEAGLE.

Of smallè houndès had she, that she fed
On roasted flesh and wastel bread.

—CHAUCER.

THE words above quoted refer to the Beagle, the smallest of our hounds. That it was so referred to by Chaucer is in itself argument against Mr. Wynn's contention that the Harrier, or Harier, was the general name adopted by the Normans for all hounds; and Dame Juliana Berners, who is accepted as an authority on hunting in her day, writing a century later, includes neither Beagle nor Harrier by name in the list of dogs she published, which runs as follows: "The names of diures manere of houndes. These ben the names of houndes: Fyrste, there is a Grehounde, a Bastard, a Mongrell, a Mastife, a Lemor, a Spányell, Raches, Kennettys, Terours, Butcher's houndes, Dunghill dogges, Tryndel tayles, and Pryckered Currees and smalle Ladyes Popees, that bere away the fleas and divers smale fawtis."

The Raches are closely identical with the Harrier, and the term is so used by Edmund de Langley, author of "Mayster of Game," who wrote about the time of Chaucer. I cannot find the name Beagle used prior to the time of Queen Elizabeth, but Skeat refers the word to "The Squire of Low Degree," which I have not read; while the term "Kennettys," or "Kenet," is given in Wright and Thomas's "Dictionary of Obsolete and Provincial



BEAGLE.

Mr. E. Jackson's MARKSMAN. Sire, Merryman; Dam, Hebe, by Cronney, out of Madcap.

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English," as meaning a small hound, and would, therefore, most appropriately apply to the Beagle. In the forest laws of King Canute, wherein certain dogs are prohibited within the royal forests, exemption is specially made of the Velterer, "which the English call Langehren [long-eared], for, manifestly, they are too small to do any harm"—that is, harm to the king's deer. This dog must, I think, have been the Beagle, unless we suppose the existence of long-eared Terriers, and that I think untenable. All of our Terriers with drooping ears—the Dandie Dinmont, Airedale, Bedlington, and Fox Terrier—are generally acknowledged to owe that feature, and others, to a hound cross; and every one of these breeds, as we now know them, is of quite recent manufacture.

There appears to have been a very close relationship between this little British hound and the Segusian, or Basset, and the congener of these, the Dachshund, taking into account their general structure and character as hunters. Let the reader compare the description of the Segusian, or Basset, by Arrian, writing about A.D. 125 (see page 141), with that of the British Beagle, or Agasæus, by the Greek poet Oppian, about the year A.D. 200, which is given at page 224. Oppian and Arrian both describe dogs sent from this country and Gaul by the Roman Procurator Cynegii, and most writers have identified the *Agasæus* of the former with our Beagle. These views have not, however, met with universal acceptance.

The very existence of such an official as the Procurator Cynegii is thus challenged by Wynn, in his "History of the Mastiff": "It has constantly been advanced in a careless, off-hand manner, by writers treading on the footsteps of each other, when treating on the Mastiff and Bulldog, both having laid claim to the same fallacy, that, at the time of the Roman dominion over Britain, there existed an officer (Procurator Cynegii), who was stationed at Winchester, and that his business was to select British

Mastiffs, or Bulldogs, and forward them to Rome to fight in the amphitheatre.

“Now, the most absurd part of this hackneyed statement is, that none of its users are able to state any authority for their assertion, except by referring to some predecessor. Camden is the earliest author I know who has treated on this, and, from what he writes, it would appear that the error was extant in his time; yet it will readily be seen, by what is said in Gough’s edition of ‘Camden,’ that the whole superstructure hangs on the translation of a single word, namely, that of ‘cynæcii,’ or ‘cynegii.’ I have never met with anything to warrant any reason for believing such an officer, steward, or agent for Mastiffs or dogs of that sort existed, either in any Greek or Latin author, coeval with the Roman occupation; and it is only probable that, had there been any Roman agent stationed to procure and forward dogs to Rome, some mention or reference to it would have been found in the classics. There is nothing in the ‘Monumenta Historica,’ compiled by the Record Commission, that warrants any such assertion, and the passage in Gough’s ‘Camden’ goes a long way to prove it is an error that has crept in and grown.

“Camden, under Hantshire, writes upon the town of Winchester: ‘The city was certainly considerable in the Roman times, since it appears that the emperors had here their colonial weaving manufactory, this being the principal of the British ports, and lying nearest to Italy. In the “Notilia” we have “Procurator Cynegii in Britannis ventensis” (or bentensis), where that eminent civilian, J. Cunacius, reads “cynæcii,” which, in his “Paratitla” on the codes, he interprets “sacrum textrinum,” or royal weavery. Of his opinion is Paucirolus, who writes that these “cynæcii” were founded to make clothes for the Emperor and the army, and also bed, soil, and other household linen; but Wolf-gaugus Lazius thinks the officer had the care of the Emperor’s dogs here. It is certain our

dogs were celebrated as the best in Europe, insomuch that Strabo (Lib. iv., p. 199) says they served as soldiers, and were used in war by the ancient Gauls, and were in great demand for the sports in the amphitheatre at Rome.'

"The foregoing is from page 168 of Camden's 'Britannica,' enlarged by Richard Gough, and edition 1806, and in it there is a note to the effect that 'it cannot be otherwise than cynæcii, if we attend to the company it is in—a list of superintendents of wardrobes, of linen manufacturers and dyers—cynæcii, lainsicia, and baptica.' From this passage in 'Camden' has the whole misstatement seemingly been fabricated. Had the officer in question been a superintendent to procure and forward British baiting dogs for the amphitheatre, his title would have been Procurator Pugnacium Vel Molossorum. However, it will be seen there is not sufficient to warrant any careful writer on the Mastiff accepting the statement that any such officer existed to procure and forward Mastiffs, or any sort of dogs, for Rome; and the mistake appears, from 'Camden,' to have originated with a supposition or mistaken reading of Wolf-gaugus Lazius of the word 'cynæcii,' who seems to have mistaken the Imperial linen-draper for a canine agent of the Emperor's. Rather rough on the old women of writers whom he has misled; but such is the result of ignorance and piracy. Where one sheep goes, others will follow; and writer after writer pirates the misstatements which I have only mentioned so fully to expose."

Mr. M. B. Wynn is a man of microscopic mind, which prompts him to magnify non-essentials, and hinders him taking a broad and extended view of the subject. He constantly pounces on trifles, and builds theories on supposed discoveries, and his manner of relegating every writer but himself to realms of ignorance and stupidity shows that, whatever else he may lack, it is not a high opinion of himself.

It would occur to many minds that the ramifications of the great Roman empire might have room for a Procurator Cynæcii, and also a Procurator Cynegii; or, to put it into free and easy modern language, rag merchants and dog dealers: for even we have men whose business in chief it is to deal in all varieties of spiritual and temporal wares, finding time to do a considerable stroke of business in the dog trade. It would not matter a fraction, however, whether there ever was such a Roman official as a Procurator Cynegii, for the fact is undisputed that, among the Romans, there was a great demand for the pugnacious dogs of Britain for the sports of the amphitheatre, and also for our hounds and Greyhounds; and it is not credible that so methodical a people would trust the import of them to chance.

In the passage I have cited, Mr. Wynn enjoys a sneer at writers he considers careless—pirates, plagiarists, and mere sheep following their bell-wether. Will it be believed that, in the page preceding that from which I have taken the passage quoted, Mr. Wynn—that careful writer—says: “At the time of the Roman dominion over this country, we certainly possessed the British Mastiff, of distinct character and large size, at least from 27in. to 30in. at shoulder, or more; and, from Arrian’s account and other data, it would seem that this breed had then been manufactured from larger crosses with the pure *pugnaces* of Britain and Gaul;” and on pages 40, 41 of his book he says: “Arrian, who wrote A.D. 130, about, and whose work was translated by the Rev. W. Dansey, in 1831, mentions the *pugnaces* of Britain and Gaul in his ‘Cynegeticus,’ observing that they were getting scarce in their purity, having been much crossed with the larger and swifter breeds. This mention, on Arrian’s part, of the crossing of the pure British *pugnaces*, to obtain greater size, shows very clearly how the British Mastiff was manufactured, and accounts for the breed being men-

tioned by various subsequent writers as the greater and lesser sorts."

Then follows a tirade on "some writers and dog-fanciers in England, whose imagination being as elastic as their veracity, have been sufficiently insane," &c., &c. Now the fact is, Arrian did not write a word about Mastiffs, big or little; Mr. Wynn, the censor of careless writers, having simply confounded the opinions of Arrian and his translator, Dansey—writers separated in time by about 1700 years.

The question whether the Agasæus of Oppian was the Beagle or the Gazehound has been much discussed. Dr. Caius, in his "Englishe Dogges," adopts the view that it was the Gazehound Oppian described, and Camden takes the same view. A correspondent of *The Stock-keeper*, simply signing himself "A Regular Reader," referring to some remarks of mine on this subject, wrote as follows, putting the case excellently from the point of view taken up:—

"The Latin writers appear to me to have used the term Agasæus (much as we now use the German word hound) to denote a hunting dog of any breed, the word seemingly being derived from the Greek word *ago*, or, in its older form, *agago*, meaning to fetch, drive, bring, or carry. We find the word used substantively by Livy and Plautus, the latter using *agaso* to denote 'a driver of beasts'; and again, we find Horace, speaking of the dog, using the word in its verbal form in his 'Epodes,' Ode vi., line 7—*agam*, I will drive. I have entered thus minutely into the etymology of the term Agasæus, as many writers, overlooking its palpable meaning—simply a hunting dog—have fallen into the error of assigning it as a name for a particular breed.

"Oppian, in his 'Cynegeticus,' Lib. i., line 465, mentions that the Greeks were acquainted with and valued the Agasæus, by which he evidently intended to define a certain

breed. Owing to his translators rendering (incorrectly, I hold) the Greek word *βαιοι* small (instead of slender), their readers have accepted the idea that the Agasæus was a *small* dog. Nevertheless, a Latin writer (I cannot call the particular author to name just now) wondered why Oppian called these British dogs *βαιοι*, little; 'for,' says he, 'in our age they are large.' Oppian, I hold, intended to state the Agasæus was slender, lean, coarse-haired, and armed with deadly teeth, being in itself a correct description of the rough Celtic Greyhound. Caius, who was no indifferent scholar, evidently held this view; and Camden, page 190, held that Oppian intended the Gazehound in this particular passage. Whitaker (no mean authority on such subjects), in his 'History of Manchester,' page 71, gives the Greek text with a very free poetical translation, and considers Oppian to have intended a Terrier by the lines in question. He further explains, in a note, that 'gast' or 'agass,' also kist and kiss, the same word in another form, merely meant a dog. The assumption that the Agasæus was the progenitor of the Beagle, or allied particularly to any sort of hound of the Basset type, is without sufficient warrant, and all that can with any certainty be said of the Agasæus is—"a native, rough-haired British breed, found here by the Romans, and mentioned by Oppian" ('Cyneget,' Lib. i., line 465, &c.). By some it is thought to have been the Beagle, by others the Gazehound, or a Terrier. The size of the breed (hanging on a single Greek word, which may be translated slender or little) is doubtful."

Dr. Robert Henry, in his "History of Britain," interprets Oppian differently, and, in the lines we give, on page 224, makes the Agasæus the Beagle. Mr. Dansey, the translator of Arrian, says: "Identical with the least of the hound tribe of the British Isles, the *Canis venaticus minor* of Ray's synopsis, and Charleton's 'Onomasticon,' is the Oppianic Agasæus. . . . It is scarce

necessary to observe that the dog in question has no affinity with the Agasæus of Dr. Caius, who, very absurdly, borrows for the Gazehound a name previously engaged by a totally different dog, as if to gratify his etymological mania by connecting the terms Agasæus, a gaze, a Gazehound"; and, quoting Oppian's description of the dog, adds: "Let the reader compare these pet-like, weakly, crooked; lank, wire-haired, dull-looking creatures—keen, however, and excellent of nose—with his own experience of the Beagle's type and properties, and the representations of authors."

The name Beagle seems to be of doubtful etymology. Skinner derives it from the French bugler, *mugire*; and Ménage thinks, as the hounds were sent from Britain into Gaul, the name may be of British origin. Skeat says the term is of unknown origin. Ogilvie gives Beagle from the French *beigle*, so named from littleness. I am of opinion, that the identity of the Beagle with the Agasæus of Oppian is very well established.

The variety of dogs from Britain most valued by the Romans were the hounds, and the descriptions left us point to a hound of the Beagle type as being one of them; the wire hair is still a characteristic of some Beagles, and in a previous chapter I have shown that our Greyhounds also, as known to and described by Arrian, were of two kinds—rough and smooth-coated.

None of our hounds vary in size so much as the Beagle, the smallest being only some 9in. to 10in. high, the largest about 16in., being as great a difference as between the largest and a medium Foxhound.

The following description, from Somerville's poem "The Chase," applies with propriety to either the Beagle or Harrier, and is as clear, minute, and correct as it is beautiful:—

His glossy skin, or yellow pied or blue,
In lights or shades by Nature's pencil drawn,

Reflects the various tints; his ears and legs,
 Flecked here and there in gay enamelled pride,
 Rival the speckled pard; his rash-grown tail,
 O'er his broad back bends in an ample arch;
 On shoulders clean, upright and firm he stands;
 His round, cat foot, straight hams, and wide-spread thighs,
 And his low drooping chest, confess his speed,
 His strength, his wind, or on the steepy hill
 Or far extended plain.

Of the antiquity of the breed there can be no doubt. It is said that Queen Elizabeth owned a pack so small that they could be carried in a man's glove—a statement which we must take *cum grano salis*. Gervase Markham describes “the little Beagle, which may be carried in a man's glove”—probably a mere quibble, the fact being that these dogs were bred so small that one could be easily carried in a gloved hand. Whilst on the subject of their size, I may quote the following from the “Sportsman's Cabinet,” published 1803: “The late Col. Hardy had once a collection of this diminutive tribe amounting to ten or twelve couple, which were always carried to and from the field of glory in a large pair of panniers slung across a horse; small as they were, and insignificant as they would now seem, they could invariably keep a hare at all her shifts from escaping them, and finally worry or rather tease her to death.”

Although Gervase Markham doubtless refers to the Beagles of the time of Elizabeth, it is singular that Johannes Caius, in his “*Englishe Dogges*,” does not mention the Beagle, nor does he specially refer to any diminutive hound, although he lived during the first fifteen years of Elizabeth's reign, when dwarf “singing Beagles” are reported to have been popular. These small hounds are spoken of by Oppian as one of the kind of dogs peculiar to the ancient Britons:—

There is a kind of dog of mighty fame
 For hunting; worthier of a fairer frame:
 By painted Britons brave in war they're bred,

Are Beagles called, and to the chase are led;
 Their bodies small, and of so mean a shape
 You'd think them curs that under tables gape.

The following prose translation, also from Oppian, will further assist in conveying a correct idea of the Beagle of these old days:

"Among the noble breeds of dogs that are used for hunting, let me note those whose breeds have been sedulously preserved. Thus we see that, in Britain, there have been especially cherished those dogs that have been termed *Agassæi*. All these are adapted by their form to search for their adversaries even in their own burrows, for which their apparently feeble aspect does not unfit them. Their gliding motions, their feeble loins, their wire-like hair, fits them for this purpose, and we are enabled to see that their powerful jaws belie the impression of their feebleness. This breed of dog is especially known as the *Agassei*, and its derivation stands apart, so that those who know them merely from the aspect of their form, may naturally be led into the impression that they are a feeble breed of hounds. Such a conclusion is, however, not warranted, when we look at their achievements within the burrows."

The following from the "*Venatiæ Novantiqua*" of Janus Vlitius is in reference to the same breed of hound:

"There are also the *Agassæi*, which are very slender and small, and, being very much like the hare, hunt them out in the burrows where they dwell, where they bite them to death, in spite of all their struggles to get free. They are bred to be especially delicate and slender, so that one hand may encompass the whole of their body. They are great pets at the table, and it is a great pleasure to them when they are led to the chase."

.Not only in the time of Elizabeth, but in our own, there has been an occasional rage for very diminutive Beagles, and much emulation in producing the most per-

fect liliputian hound. The writer of the article on this breed in "The Dogs of the British Islands" describes Mr. Crane's Southover Beagles as perfect in symmetry, excellent in nose and intelligence, not exceeding 9in. in height, and all of them model miniature hounds. It is to be regretted that the Beagle is not more encouraged by committees of shows, and that, when a class is made for them, all sizes are lumped together.

I have spoken of the Beagle as a dwarf hound, which he is, but there is a considerable difference in outline between him and the modern Foxhound: the former is not so clean in the shoulder, his head is different in shape, the skull being in proportion broader and flatter, the jaw shorter, the ear longer, and there is always more or less dewlap or throatiness.

Beagles may be fairly classified as Hare-Beagles and Rabbit-Beagles, other distinction than size being minor. Their power of scent is exquisitely keen, and their intelligence great; and, when well sorted in these respects, and in size, they work wonderfully together, puzzling out even the coldest scent, whilst their music is most charming.

Although occasionally, they are not much used with the gun, except in driving woods and spinneys for rabbits, &c.

Of whatever size, the Beagle should be shapely, as free from lumpy shoulders as possible, legs straight, and more bone and stronger pasterns than are generally seen would be an improvement; the ears are very long, broad at base, hang close, and very fine in the leather; ribs rather more rounded than in the Foxhound, with the back ribs well let down; back and loins strong, and hind quarters very cobby and muscular; the tail roughish, and gaily carried. The colours are various, as in the Harrier, and chosen to suit individual tastes.

When a portion of this article appeared in *The Country*, it called forth the following letter of friendly criticism

from the late Mr. Edward Sandell, which is well worthy of a place here:—

“In his paper on the Beagle, I observe that ‘Corsincon’ affects to class the breed into Hare and Rabbit Beagles, with the remark that other distinction than size is ‘minor.’ Now, it is not very often I find room to differ with ‘Corsincon,’ but I honestly confess I do here. In the first place, I believe the term Rabbit-Beagle to have been coined for a half-breed between the Beagle and the Terrier. The Beagle *pur et simple* is, and ever has been, a hound valued essentially for its exquisite power of scent; bred, as Gervase Markham tells us, ‘for delight only, being of curious scents, and passing cunning in their hunting, for the most part tiring, but seldom killing, the prey.’ The different requirements in a Hare-hound and a ‘Rabbiter’ are strikingly pronounced. In the former, delicacy of nose is all-important; but in the latter, where the quarry is rarely found farther than a stone’s throw from his burrow, which he can dart into before you can shout ‘knife,’ the less nose in your dogs the better. Of course, I am fully aware that Beagles are occasionally employed in driving woods and spinneys, as well as gorse and fern brakes, for rabbits, but I say there is no special breed for this purpose, either in size or character.

“A pack of these half-bred, small size, Terrier-Beagle-Rabbiters is given by Stradanus, in his thirty-eighth plate of “*Venationes Ferarum*,” with an explanatory quatrain by Dufflœus:

“*Callidus effosais latitare curriculum antris
Et generare solet. Verum persæpè catelli
Anglorum celeres fallunt pecus: ore prehendunt
Illusum: prædam venatorique ministrant.*”

The following is a translation of the lines of Dufflœus, and I think it does not show that cross-bred Terrier-Beagles were intended, but that the Beagles were called Terriers in the sense in which any dog may be so described that goes to earth after its game:

“With zest they hunt out the rabbits, even in the lairs where they breed. Their puppies are of great value, especially amongst the English, who breed them in packs. Their jaws are powerful, and they help the work of the hunter.”

Mr. Sandell further wrote :

“Now for the second chapter of my disagreement. I maintain there are as many types of Beagles as there are of Spaniels, Mastiffs, or St. Bernards. Some are rough as Jack Russell’s Terriers or Mr. Carrick’s Otter-hounds; others as smooth and silky-coated as a Dachshund or a Toy Terrier. There are strains—possibly derived from a cross with the Foxhound—showing the clean-cut throat and symmetry of a Manchester Terrier; and quite as familiar is the exact double of the Segusian dog mentioned by Arrian in the third chapter of his ‘Book on Coursing’: ‘Shaggy and ugly, and such as are most high bred are most unsightly.’ Again, there is a very distinct variety in ‘the Kerry Beagle,’ a specimen which may, roughly speaking, be described as a miniature Bloodhound, being of precisely the same colour, and sharing many of that noble dog’s chief characteristics. The beautiful short-legged Basset of France, the Dachshund of Germany, and the peculiar Swedish Beagle, are but branches of the one family, which most truly exists in all the symmetry of variety.”

The black and tan Beagle is also met with in Devon, Cornwall, and, I understand, in Wales.

The following description and points of Beagles are by H. A. Clark, Esq., Master of the Cockermonth Beagles:—

“*Head*, like that of a Foxhound, not quite so broad across forehead, with sweet, intelligent countenance; the head long, and the nose should not come to a sharp point.

“*Ears* long, and set on low down, and carried close to head; not too broad, and the thinner in the leather the better.

“*Neck* and throat long and lean; but some of the heavier hounds are very loose in throat, and have a deep voice.

“*Shoulders*, long and strong, well clothed with muscle.

“*Chest*, deep and wide; *ribs* also deep.

“*Back*, strong and wide, and especially wide across loins. Bitches are generally better across loins than dogs, for their size.

“*Hind Quarters*, the stronger the better, wide and deep; stern strong at set-on, and tapering, carried high, but not curled.

“*Legs* straight, although for work they are no worse standing a little over on the fore legs; strong of bone; feet round, like those of a cat.

“*Colour*, black, white, and tan; black and white. I had a heavy dog the latter colour, that was always first to find game, and always led. He was well known among the Cumbrians, and they knew his voice, and said: ‘Dar, that’s auld Duster; we’ll have a run noo.’ Occasionally, Beagles are the colour of Bloodhounds.

“The Beagle should be hard in condition, with plenty of muscle.

“The Cockermouth Beagles hunt the hare often on Skiddaw, and in the Lake District. Some capital runs are enjoyed about Buttermere, where it is a grand sight to see the little hounds on the breast of a mountain, when a sheet could cover them sometimes, and their cry is melodious. It takes us all our time to keep up with them on a good flat country. In the season of 1878 and 1879 we killed eighty hares. We do not mount our huntsman. In summer, the dogs are sent out to farms, &c., to walk, and are great pets with children.”

The following are the measurements of three good dogs:

Mr. H. A. Clark’s *Comely*: Age, 6 years; weight, 27½lb.; height at shoulder, 14¾in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 30in.; length of tail, 11in.; girth of chest, 21in.; girth of loin, 18in.; girth of head, 13½in.; girth of fore-

arm, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 8in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 17in.

Mr. H. A. Clark's dog *Crowner*: Age, 5 years; weight, $26\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; height at shoulder, 15in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 31in.; length of tail, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 22in.; girth of loin, $18\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 14in.; girth of forearm, 6in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.; length of ears from tip to tip, $17\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Mr. C. H. Beck's *Abigail* (1st Birmingham, 1883, 1884, and 1885): Age, unknown; weight, 25lb.; height at shoulder, 14in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 27in.; length of tail, 9in.; girth of chest, 22in.; girth of loin, $17\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, $13\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of forearm, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $7\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 16in.

In the season 1886-7, eighteen packs of Beagles and Harrier-Beagles were hunted in this country, according to the annual list published in *The Field*; and of these, the heights vary from 14in. to 15in. in the packs considered pure Beagles. Some having a Harrier cross are higher; and the Royal Rock pack, claimed to be pure Beagles, measure 16in. high.

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86



FRENCH BASSET.

Mr. E. Millais' MODEL. (K.C.S.B., 7854). Pedigree unknown.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE BASSET-HOUND.

“Let my woods re-echo with the music of their cry, and the cheerful notes of the horn; and let the walls of my palace be decorated with the trophies of the chase.”

—REGINALDUS BRIAN, *Bishop of Worcester*, 1352.

SINCE the time of the gentleman who at one time wrote over the *nom de guerre* of “Snapshot,” and who is better known to the present generation of doggy men as “Wildfowler,” the Basset-hound has, in this country, attained to very considerable numerical strength. The fact that Mr. Everett Millais, when acting as judge at the show held at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, in 1886, had 120 entries to deal with, shows that “fanciers” of the breed have not been wanting; and that exhibition was in strong contrast to the time—not more than ten years back—when Lord Onslow and Mr. Everett Millais were the only exhibitors of these crook-legged, slow hounds, and had to show them in the *omnium gatherum* class, which may be described as the show committee’s finest-mesh net, that secures all the fish and finance that escapes the regulation nets.

Although with the increase of Bassets in this country we have had a plentiful crop of fanciers, judges, and writers of and upon the breed, but few have shown a wide and deep knowledge of dogs in general, without which the opinions offered to the public must, of necessity, be of a contracted and petty character. The man who succeeds in producing piebald mice, of peculiar and dis-

tinctive marking, is deserving of credit equal to his achievement; but the men who do the same thing, and no more, with a breed of hounds, show that they have mistaken their vocation, and they merit, and receive, the contempt of sportsmen.

Fortunately for the breed of Bassets in England, there are among its admirers men imbued with the true instincts of sportsmen, and it is to these we must look for the salvation of Bassets from degeneration into crippled toys.

I shall have to take a closer view of the Basset in England during the last ten years, but give precedence to the following contribution by "Wildfowler," written for the first edition of this work, and written, I may add, from the point of view of a practical sportsman.

"Snapshot" was a frequent contributor, under that signature, to *The Country*, and was also well known as "Wildfowler" of the *Field*; he is the author of numerous canine articles and works, including "General Sport at Home and Abroad," "Modern Wildfowling," &c. His experience with Continental sporting dogs has been considerable, which gives weight and value to his article on Bassets. He says:

"Any hound which stands lower than 16in. (no matter his 'provincial' breed) is called in France and in Belgium a Basset. The derivation of the expression Basset is clear; *i.e.*, *bas* means low; and, therefore, Basset means low set, a very appropriate denomination as applied to these diminutive hounds.

"The vast army of French and Belgian Bassets may be divided into three grand classes, *viz.*, Bassets à *jambes droites*—straight-legged; ditto à *jambes demi-torses*—with fore legs half crooked; and ditto à *jambes torsées*—fore legs fully crooked. And in each of these classes will be found three varieties of coats, *viz.*, the Bassets à *poil ras*—smooth-coated; those à *poil dur*—rough-coated; and a class half rough, half smooth-coated, which is called half griffon.

“The types vary for almost each province, but the general characteristics remain throughout pretty well the same. All well-bred Bassets have long, pendulous ears and hounds’ heads; but the crooked-legged breeds show always better points in these respects than the straight-legged ones, simply because, when a man wishes to breed a good Basset à *jambes torses*, he is obliged to be very careful in selecting the stock to breed from, if he does not wish his experiment to end in failure; for, should there be the slightest admixture of foreign blood, the ‘bar sinister’ will be at once shown in the fore legs. Hence, the Bassets à *jambes torses* show, as a rule, far better properties than their congeners.

“In build the Basset à *jambes torses* is long in the barrel, and is very low on his pins; so much so that, when hunting, he literally drags his long ears on the ground. He is the slowest of hounds, and his value as such cannot be over-estimated. His style of hunting is peculiar, inasmuch that he will have his own way, and each one tries for himself; and if one of them finds, and ‘says’ so, the others will not blindly follow him and give tongue simply because he does (as some hounds, accustomed to work in packs, are apt to do); but, on the contrary, they are slow to acknowledge the alarm given, and will investigate the matter for themselves. Thus, under covert, Bassets à *jambes torses* following a scent go in Indian file, and each one speaks to the line according to his own sentiments on the point, irrespective of what the others may think about it. In this manner, it is not uncommon to see the little hounds, when following a mazy track, crossing each other’s route without paying any attention to one another; and, in short, each of them works as if he were alone. This style I attribute to their slowness, to their extremely delicate powers of scent, and to their innate stubborn confidence in their own powers. Nevertheless, it is a fashion which has its drawbacks; for, should the individual hounds

hit on separate tracks of different animals, unless at once stopped, and put together on the same one, each will follow its own find, and let the shooter or shooters do his or their best. That is why a shooter who is fond of that sort of sport rarely owns more than one or two of these hounds. One is enough, two may be handy in difficult cases, but more would certainly entail confusion, precisely because each one of them will rely only on the evidence of his own senses.

“I have now several clever *Bassets à jambes torses* in my mind’s eye, and their general description would be about as follows: Height between 10in. and 15in. at shoulder; longish barrels; very crooked fore legs, with little more than an inch or two of daylight between the knees; stout thighs, gay sterns, conical heads, long faces; ears long enough to overlap each other by an inch or two (and more sometimes) when both were drawn over the nose; heavy-headed rather, with square muzzles; plenty of flews and dewlap; eyes deep set, under heavy wrinkles; fore paws wide, and well turned out; markings, hare-pied and white, black-tan and white, tan and white, black with tan eyebrows, and tan legs and belly, &c.—in short, all the varieties of hound markings will be found among them. They have excellent tongues for their size, and when in good training and good condition they will hunt every day, and seem to thrive on it. They are very fond of the gun, and many are cunning enough to ‘ring’ the game, if missed when breaking covert, back again to the guns until it is shot. Some of these *Bassets* are so highly prized, that no amount of money will buy them; and, as a breed, it may safely be asserted that it is probably the purest now in existence in France. They hunt readily deer, roebuck, wild boars, wolves, foxes, hares, rabbits, &c., but if entered exclusively for one species of quarry, and kept to it, they never leave it to run riot after anything else. I have seen one, when hunting a hare in a

park, running through fifty rabbits and never noticing them. They go slowly, and give you plenty of time to take your station for a shot—hence their great value in the estimation of shooters. They are chiefly used for smallish woods, furze fields, and the like, because, if uncoupled in a forest, they do not drive their game fast enough; and though eventually they are bound to bring it out, yet the long time they would take in so doing would tell against the sport. Moreover, large forests are cut about by ditches, and here and there streamlets, boulders, and rocks intervene, which difficulty the short, crooked-legged hound would be slow in surmounting. He is, therefore, not so often used there as for smaller coverts, where his voice can throughout the hunt be heard, and thereby direct the shooters which post of 'vantage to take.

“As regards the coats of Bassets à *jambes torsées*, there are both rough, half-rough, and smooth-coated specimens; but the two latter predominate greatly. In fact, I have but rarely seen very rough Bassets à *jambes torsées*. I saw three once, in the Ardennes. They were very big hounds for Bassets, and were used chiefly to drive wolves, roebuck, and wild boars. They were à *poil dur* with a vengeance, and, when ‘riled,’ their backs were up like bristles. Of course, in these matters, the chasseurs breed their hounds according to the ground they have to hunt over; and, consequently, in provinces of comparatively easy coverts, such as vineyards, small woods, furze fields, &c., smooth-coated or half rough-coated Bassets are in universal demand. In Brittany, Vendée, Alsace, Lorraine, Luxemburg, on the contrary, wherever the coverts are extensive and very rough, rougher-coated hounds are used; but *poil durs* are scarce, as far as diminutive hounds are concerned.

“Bassets à *jambes demi-torsées* are simply crosses between Bassets à *jambes torsées* and Bassets à *jambes droites*.

They are usually bigger than the former and smaller than the latter, although it must be borne in mind that there are several varieties of *Bassets à jambes droites* quite as small as the smallest with crooked legs. In short, there are so many sub-divisions in each breed that any classification must necessarily be general.

“The advantages claimed by the owners of *Bassets à jambes demi-torses* are these: first, these hounds are almost as sure-nosed as the full-crooked breeds; secondly, they run faster, and yet not fast enough to spoil shooting; thirdly, in a wood with moderate ditches, being bigger in body and higher on the leg than the full-crooked Beagles, they can clear the ditches at a bound, whereas the full *jambes torses* has to go down into them, and scramble up on the other side. In points, they are pretty much like their congeners, but already the cross tells. The lips are shorter; the muzzle not so stout in proportion to general size; the ears are much shorter; the skull is less conical, the occiput being not so pronounced; the body is not so long; the stern is carried more horizontally; the feet are rounder; the wrinkles in the face are fewer; the eye is smaller; and the coat, as a rule, is coarser. The increase in size is also great. I have seen such reaching to fully 16in.; and I believe they had been obtained by a direct cross from a regular *chien courant* (hound) with a full *Basset à jambes torses*. When sire and dam are both good, there is no reason why the progeny should not answer the breeder's purpose; but I confess to a tendency for either one thing or another, and, were I to go in for fancy for that breed of hounds, I would certainly get either a thoroughly crooked Basset or a thoroughly straight-on-his-pins Beagle. By the way, a black and tan or a red *Basset à jambes torses* cannot, by any possible use of one's eyes, be distinguished from a *Dachshund* of the same colour, although some German writers assert that the breeds are quite distinct. To the naked eye there is no difference; but

in the matter of names (wherein German scientists particularly shine), then, indeed, confusion gets worse confounded. They have, say, a dozen black and tan Bassets à *jambes torses* before them. Well, if one of them is a thorough good-looking hound, they call him Dachs Bracken; if he is short-eared, and with a pointed muzzle, they cap him with the appellation of a Dachshund. Between you and I, kind reader, it is a distinction without a difference, and there is no doubt that both belong to the same breed. I will, at a fortnight's notice, place a Basset à *jambes torses*, small size, side by side with the best Dachshund hound to be found, and if any difference in legs, anatomy, and general appearance of the two can be detected, I shall be very greatly surprised. That the longer-eared and squarer-muzzled hound is the better of the two for practical work there is not the shadow of a doubt; but, of course, if digging badgers is the sport in view, then the Dachshund Terrier is the proper article. But that is not to be admitted. One cannot breed Hounds from Terriers, whereas one can breed Terriers from Hounds, and therefore the Dachshund Terrier is descended from the Basset à *jambes torses*. As for Dachshund hounds, they are, in every respect, Bassets à *jambes torses*; at least, that is the opinion I have come to after a great deal of experience. Quarrelling about names is an unprofitable occupation. Never mind the 'Bracken' or the 'Hund,' since the two articles are alike. I say, from the evidence of my senses, that they must come from the same stock, and, since they cannot come from a Terrier pedigree, the hound one is the only logical solution.

"The Basset à *jambes droites* is synonymous with our Beagle; but, whereas our Beagles rarely exceed 14in., it is not uncommon to see some Bassets reaching even 16in. in France; but it should be remembered that then, even among the French, appellations will differ. Thus, a certain school will call 16in. Bassets *petits Chiens Courants*,

and will deny them the right of being called Bassets, being, in their estimation, too high on the leg. I agree with them. The characteristics of Bassets à *jambes droites* are: a somewhat shorter face than those with crooked legs; ears shorter, but broader, and very soft usually; neck a shade longer; stern carried straight up; good loins; shorter bodies, very level from shoulder to rump: whereas the other two breeds are invariably a shade lower at shoulder than at the stern. Some show the *os occipitis* well marked; others are more apple-headed; the hair is coarse on the stern; the feet are straight and compact, knees well placed, thighs muscular and well proportioned; in short, they are an elegant-looking, dashing, and rather taking breed as a lot. But in work there is a world of difference. The crooked-legged ones go slow and sure; the straight-legged ones run into the defect of fast hounds, *i.e.*, they go too fast occasionally for their noses; they are not, either, quite so free from riot; but wherever pretty fast work is required, and when the covert requires some doing in the way of jumping drains and scrambling over boulders, &c., then they will carry the day. They are chiefly used for large game, in pretty large coverts, and run in small packs. For fast fun, exercise, and music, they will do; but for actual shooting, commend me to the Basset à *jambes torses*. With such a little hound, if he knows you, and understands your ways, you are bound to bag, and alone he will do the work of ten ordinary hounds; and, in truth, there are few things more exciting to the sportsman than to hear his lonely, crooked-legged companion, merrily, slowly, but surely, bringing his quarry to his gun. Some of the pleasantest moments of my life have been thus spent; and once, having shot two wolves that had been led out to me by a Basset à *jambes torses*, I fairly lifted up the little beggar to my breast and hugged him, and I called him a pet and a dear, and all that sort of bosh, and I thought that in

all my life I had never seen a pluckier and cleverer little fellow.

“In short, there is no doubt that, for purposes of shooting, Bassets, of whatever breed, are pre-eminently excellent. They run very true, and are more easily taught the tricks of game than full-sized hounds. This I have found out by experience. The average large hound, once in full swing on a scent, runs on like a donkey. But Bassets seem to reason, and when they come to an imbroglio of tracks, purposely left by the quarry to puzzle them, they are rarely taken in, but, slowly and patiently setting to work, they unravel the maze, and eventually pick up again the wily customer’s scent. Hence, for the man who can only keep one or two hounds to be used with the gun, there is no breed likely to suit him better than Bassets, for they are sure not to lose the scent, whatever takes place, and their low size enables them to pick it up when it is so cold that a larger hound would, perhaps, not even notice it.

“They have also a good deal of pluck, to which they add a sort of reasoning discretion. To illustrate my meaning, I will give an instance to the point—viz., very few hounds of any kind take readily to hunting wolves, and when they do take to it, they hunt in a pack, each hound countenancing the other. Now, some well-bred Bassets will hunt a wolf singly. I have stated already that I have had myself the pleasure of killing two wolves that were, individually, hunted by one Basset. This, therefore, shows extraordinary pluck on the part of the little hound; for be it known that, as a rule, any hound or dog who comes for the first time on the scent of a wolf forthwith bolts home, or hides behind his master for protection. On the other hand, Bassets are cautious. When they by chance come near a wolf, or a wild boar, or a stag, or any other wild animal on whom they could make but little impression, but who is, on the other hand, likely

to do them an irretrievable injury, they never run the risk, but bay at him from a distance. As long as he chooses to stop they will not leave him; they will resume hunting him as soon as he will start, but they will only run at him when the decisive shot has been fired.

“Some Bassets are used for vermin-killing (badger, fox, &c.); others are employed for pheasant-shooting, woodcock-shooting, and partridge-shooting, besides their legitimate employment in hunting ground game. When used for birds, they are frequently called to, to keep them within range, and, generally, a bell or small brass *grelot* is fastened to their collar, that the shooter may know where they are. Some men make their Bassets retrieve, even from water; and most Bassets will go to ground readily to fox or badger.

“Finally, some peasants use their extraordinary powers of scent to find truffles. Their training for that sort of business is wonderfully simple. The hound, when young, is kept a day without food, and a truffle being shown to him, the peasant throws it into some small covert, or hides it in stones, or buries it lightly in the ground, and makes the dog find it; when he has done so, he gives him a piece of bread—this sort of thing being repeated until the Basset looks readily for the truffle. He is then taken to those places in the neighbourhood of which truffles are known or suspected to be, and the peasant, pretending to throw away the usual truffle, tells the dog, ‘*Cherchez! cherchez!*’ (‘Seek! seek!’), whereupon the little hound, diligently ferreting about the ground, soon comes upon a truffle scent, and begins digging for the tuber. At the first sign of that process, the peasant relieves him, and digs out the precious tubercle; and so on. There are some other species of dogs also used for that sort of work; but the Basset, owing to his acute power of scent, is mostly preferred by the professional *chercheurs de truffes*. Some of these men, however, use pigs for the purpose.

“Concerning those French Bassets which have from time to time been exhibited at our shows, some of them have shown fair points, but none of them have had the very long ears which one will notice with the Bassets in the foresters’ kennels on the Continent. Moreover, in the classes set aside for Bassets, I do not remember having seen a good Basset à *jambes torses*, though there were one or two fair specimens of half-crooked and straight-legged Bassets. If my memory serves me right, the Earl of Onslow’s were straight-legged, half rough-coated Bassets, with remarkably short ears. Mr. Millais’ Model was a black, white, and tan, smooth-coated Basset, with very fair properties—the best I had seen in England so far—and a Vendéan Basset was a regular Griffon. I forget now the state of his legs, but his coat was just the sort of jacket for the rough woods of Brittany and Vendée.

“On the other hand, in the classes for Dachshunds I have seen some first-rate black and tan, and also red, Bassets à *jambes torses*, all smooth-coated. No doubt, eventually, classes will be set apart for each individual breed, and in such a case there is a very fine field yet open for an enterprising exhibitor wishing to produce Bassets in open court.”

Since the foregoing was written the Basset-hound has, by importation and breeding, greatly increased in this country; and, to all frequenters of shows, this quaint animal, with his short, bandy legs, and heavy body, has now become familiar: and a better knowledge of his intrinsic qualities has secured for him admirers, even among those who, on his first introduction, scoffed at him as a deformity, a disproportioned beast, with the clumsy gait and the abnormal strength often found in misshapen dwarfs.

This better acquaintance and closer study of the Basset has compelled a change in the view taken of the breed, and most unprejudiced persons are now ready to admit that these hounds possess characteristics worthy of the

admiration both of the sportsman and fancier; consequently, they are no longer looked upon—as when Mr. Millais first exhibited Model, at Wolverhampton, in 1875—as oddities or curiosities, only fit for a place in a museum of the *Canidæ*, and, as the rector's wife said of Di Vernon, “of no use in the 'varsal world.”

I have reason to believe that the preceding article on the breed, contributed to the original edition of “British Dogs” by “Wildfowler,” was a powerful incentive to that study of the Basset which has resulted in its becoming a recognised British breed, existing in such numbers as to now fully justify me in including it in my original scheme.

It is only thirteen years since Mr. Everett Millais imported Model, the portrait of which, drawn by Mr. R. H. Moore, from an oil painting by Sir J. E. Millais, R.A., is given with this chapter. Mr. E. Millais was at that time under the impression that Model was the first of the breed imported, and that hound was certainly the first of his kind exhibited at an English dog-show. It appears, however, from a pamphlet (“Bassets: their Use and Breeding”), recently written and published by Mr. Millais, and to which I shall have to refer on several points, that Lord Onslow possessed, at the time of Model's importation, several Bassets, which had been given to him by Lord Galway, who had been presented with them by Comte Tournon, of Montmelas. These are the first imported Bassets on record; but I think it would be against fair inference from undoubted evidence, to suppose that Bassets, like other French breeds, had not been brought to England centuries ago, although the blood has been absorbed and lost in the flood of other varieties. Whether our Clumber Spaniel, with his decidedly hound-like head, has a considerable proportion of Basset blood in him, we may discuss when we come to deal with that breed.

The next great impulse towards popularising these

hounds here was, undoubtedly, the importation, six or seven years ago, of specimens from the best French kennels, by "Wildfowler" and Mr. G. R. Krehl; to a remarkable extent, by the latter's *Fino de Paris*, a hound of great beauty and of concentrated pedigree, whose blood runs in the majority of Bassets of the day. The next potent factor in the establishment of the breed in this country came into play in 1883.

It is related of certain voyagers that, when in immediate danger of shipwreck, and it was found no one of their number was capable of conducting the devotions suitable to the perilous occasion, a brilliant idea presented itself to one of them, who exclaimed: "Let us make a collection." In the doggy world, when a breed does not prosper as its devotees desire, someone possessed of specimens writes to the newspapers, and says, "Let us form a club;" and, calling a few friends together, a club is formed, and a standard framed to match existing specimens, by which all future dogs of the breed are to be judged. I offer here no opinion for or against this practice, for the whole subject will be discussed later on.

In 1883, then, the Basset Club was instituted, and the immense increase of these hounds in England is largely due to its influence. The Club proposed to itself the task of defining the true type, of publishing a full and minute description of the breed, and also a book of pedigrees. These self-imposed duties have not yet been performed; and, an important member of the Club informs me, the unofficial description written by Mr. Krehl, for "Stonehenge's" "Dogs of the British Islands," is tacitly accepted by the Club. I shall, therefore, have to deal with that description when discussing the type and special physical characteristics of this hound.

Turning, for the time being, from that part of the subject to a consideration of the uses of Bassets, it will be seen, from "Wildfowler's" contribution, that in France

their chief use is in serving the gun, and especially in driving ground game from the coverts to the open glades, rides, or avenues, wherein the shooters take up their position; and although not kept exclusively to that work, yet there is no mention of them being used as we do our Harriers and Beagles.

If the reader, however, will refer back to the quotation from Arrian given on page 141, he will see that hounds corresponding to the modern Basset—and with which I have sought to, in some degree, identify them—were used for hunting, as we use the term, many centuries before “villainous saltpetre was digged out of the bowels of the harmless earth” for the making of gunpowder. Such use of hounds was an absolute necessity of the then existing circumstances; and, no doubt, in times nearer to our own, Bassets were also used to drive game within reach of the bowman’s shaft long before the “mimic thunder” of the iron tube roused the echo, as it sounded the *morte* of hare or pheasant.

Within the last few years Bassets have been employed in hare-hunting in this country, in packs, as Harriers are used, and, in some instances, with marked success, although many circumstances conjoin to check their employment in that way.

To the courtesy of Mr. Fred. W. Blain, of Bromborough, Cheshire, I am indebted for valuable information on this and other branches of the subject. I have been favoured with the following communication on the general subject of Bassets, by Mr. Blain, who is thoroughly competent to speak as a breeder, successful exhibitor, and sportsman. He says:—

During the past few years the number of Basset-hounds in this country has greatly increased, and I am glad to see that they are growing in favour as sporting dogs. For hare-hunting they are excellent, and for some reasons I think they are preferable to Beagles. They are

by no means as slow as most people imagine, and they will go on for hours at top speed, showing great endurance and pluck. Like most delicate-nosed hounds, such as Bloodhounds, Otter-hounds, and the old Southern Hounds, Bassets are inclined to dwell very much on a scent, and to be rather too free with their tongue; they like to work out every inch of the trail, and, as they invariably cast *back* of their own accord, they hunt best when left pretty much to themselves. They should not be pressed, especially at the beginning, before they are well settled to their work.

It is well known that the formation of a fair pack of Foxhounds is the work of very many years, even with the great number of drafts to choose from. With Bassets, the number a buyer can select from is very limited; they vary greatly in size and build, and, of course, in speed: yet some people, having got together half-a-dozen hounds of all sizes and shapes, never hunted before, and probably bred from parents which for generations have not done a day's hunting, are disgusted because they do not show good sport. Surely this is unreasonable. A certain amount of time and patience is required before a pack can be formed of, say, eight couple, well matched in speed, and hunting nicely together; but with such a pack splendid results are obtained, and I have heard old Beagle men most enthusiastic in their praise. On a smaller scale, very good amusement and exercise may be obtained with two couple or so, run on a plain rabbit-skin drag, or even merely letting them track their kennelman across country.

Let me advise anyone trying Bassets for hunting not to attempt to teach them with the whip and harsh words, as they are very sensitive, and easily frightened, and in some cases never forget a thrashing. Headstrong they certainly are, and fond of their own way—but this failing must be put up with; to those who know the breed they are not hard to manage, with a little tact.

I consider that, in making use of Bassets to run as Beagles, we are taking them rather out of their element, and, consequently, it will take time before they can be expected to be perfect at this work. For shooting where the covers are too dense for beaters, Bassets in France take the place of our Spaniels, driving everything before them, and making such a noise that neither boar nor rabbit is likely to remain in cover. This was, I think, their original use in France; but in this country game is generally too plentiful and highly preserved for them to be much used.

I hope that, in breeding Bassets for hunting purposes, owners will not neglect the heavy and somewhat ungainly appearance that they should have, and gradually get them higher on the leg and lighter in bone and body; by so doing they may increase the speed, but they will lose the endurance, and they will in time be nothing better than deformed Beagles. I have already noticed a tendency in this direction in packs. If Bassets are not fast enough for a man, let him by all means keep Beagles instead. You cannot expect a Clydesdale to go as fast as a thoroughbred, nor would you think of breeding them to do so. Keep each to his real work: both are good, but their style may suit different tastes.

As to existing packs of Bassets regularly or occasionally hunted, I understand that Lieutenant Munro is, or was lately, the master of a pack, which he regularly hunted; but from a note of that gentleman, quoted by Mr. Millais, he appears rather to have used them to beat rabbits to the gun than as hare-hounds. Lieutenant Munro says: "Two years ago I had a very good pack of eight couple working hounds, all good hunting, and staunch. If one of my hounds gave tongue, I was certain that there was a rabbit. I used to shoot over my Bassets, and have often killed fifty couple rabbits a day over them. I believe, when bred carefully for this object, they are the *best* sort of dogs for rabbiting."

Speaking of the same hounds, Mr. Northcote, another well-known admirer of Bassets, says: "He" (Mr. Munro) "used them for rabbiting. I was delighted with them. Their lovely music, like a Foxhound; first-rate nose; and, after finding, keeping together in a pack after one rabbit, however many there were about—to me was enchanting, adding considerably to the sport."

I confess myself rather at a loss to appreciate these remarks, for the rabbits of my acquaintance have seldom run sufficiently far on end, or been found at such a distance from home as to give hounds, if acting together as a pack, an opportunity of displaying the qualities for which Mr. Northcote praises them; and if eight couples were used to serve one gun, it seems to me there was a marvellous disproportion of dogs to game—I have seen as good execution done by the aid of a brace of Spaniels.

I believe that the number of real packs of Bassets kept for hunting purposes is very few. I am told, on good authority, that the only pack kept and bred solely for hunting, and apart altogether from show and fancy use, is that kept by Mr. Forbes Woodhouse, in Cheshire. Mr. Harry Jones also hunts his as well as shows them; so does Mr. Northcote, I believe; and there are many others who would hunt packs, but are short of real country to hunt, on account of packs of Harriers and Beagles, which having been long established in the country, their place cannot be used for Bassets as well, without giving rise to unkindly feelings. Still, occasional good sport is to be had, and the Beagle men are often willing to join and have a day with the Bassets. Mr. Blain tells me he often lends such hounds as he can spare, to let them run with another man's pack; and in this way his hounds understand what they have to do, as well as take their chance for looks on the bench; at least, the capabilities of each one can, by such means, be judged. Mr. Blain expresses the opinion that, although it may be impossible for each breeder

or exhibitor to use the dogs he admires regularly at their proper work, he, by keeping in mind the use for which they were intended, and by breeding up to the points which will aid the dog in his work, can still do his share towards improving the breed generally, and at least will increase the number of dogs capable of performing their duties, although they may require practice or training.

I am completely in accord with Mr. Blain's views, and, indeed, would be disposed to go a step further, and apply the principle of capability of work to the judging of all breeds other than Toys; but more on that head when we come to discuss type.

Mr. T. Pick—who had the care and management of the Earl of Onslow's Bassets, and who still continues to breed these hounds, and has, presumably, a longer experience of them than anyone in England—tells me that the longer he knows them, the better he likes them; and, writing to me about seven years ago, at the time when the Earl of Onslow had just given up the breed, and made a present of most of his dogs to Mr. Pick, he was equally enthusiastic in their favour. He says:—

They are the most intelligent dogs in the world. They are very keen hunters, and I have hunted a hare with them, with two inches of snow on the ground, for over two miles. I have also hunted a hare with them for a mile, over a dust-blown field, with a warm sun and a dry east wind, at four o'clock in the afternoon. Once, when out with a pup a few days under four months old, named Proctor, a rabbit crossed the gravel path, and when the pup came on the scent he immediately gave tongue, and followed up the scent for about 400 yards, when the rabbit got into his hole. That pup had never seen a rabbit, or any other game, in his life before. I once left a pup named Hector (now belonging to Mr. Ramsay, of Bray) hunting a hare or something, and, as I was in a hurry, I did not wait for him, but went on to Gomshall, a

distance of four miles from home, thinking the pup would go home when he had lost me. But when I had just got to Gomshall, which was about one hour after, I heard him following full-cry; so, after he had missed me, he got on my scent, and hunted me down, though I had crossed over ploughed fields, through very large woods, and through lanes, and on a track that I had never been before. The pup was only eight months old at the time. The same pup was out with Lord Burleigh's hounds on the 1st of January, 1881, when only seven months old, and I had the chance of putting him on the scent of a fox, to see if he would hunt him; and he went off full-cry at once, although he had never seen a fox in his life. I have hunted deer with them; but the proper game for them is the hare. They seem to hunt more offhand than the Foxhound and Harrier, and they give more music, and are keener than any English Hound; and although they have short legs, they get over the ground very fast—they take the scent so very easily, and don't seem to lose time in putting their heads up and down. I was once out with twelve of these hounds in a strange country to them, and they were hunting a rabbit or something; but as I had no whipper-in, and as it was late in the afternoon, I wanted to get home, so I ran away from them, thinking that when they could not see me, and found that I had gone, they would leave off hunting rabbits. I ran about a mile across fields, towards home, and, after the hounds had their hunt out, and could not find me, and being in a part of the country they did not know, they immediately got on my track full cry; when I found what they were doing, I ran as fast as possible to have a good start, but they soon ran me down.

From the opinions and experiences quoted, it is evident that the Basset may be turned to account in many branches of sport; and, notwithstanding some slight discrepancies in the statements, the whole speaks well for the utility

of the breed. I need only give one more quotation on this head, and it is from the article by Mr. Krehl, in "Stonehenge's" book. "Deer and hares," says this eminently practical follower of the chase, "will actually play before the little hounds, stopping to listen to them coming." The games the deer and hares play on these agreeable occasions are, perhaps discreetly, not declared. There is no beast of chase that does not use its ears in endeavouring to escape, no matter what the nature of the pursuer; and the great "poet of the chase" has better expressed the fact than "the Denizen of Cockayne," to use Mr. Krehl's description of himself:—

Sad on yon little eminence she sits;
Intent she listens, with one ear erect,
Pondering, and doubtful what new course to take,
And how to escape the fierce, bloodthirsty crew,
That still urge on, and still in volleys loud
Insult her woes, and mock her sore distress.

I have already referred to Mr. Everett Millais' essay on "Bassets: their Use and Breeding," and I strongly commend it, not to the mere perusal, but the serious study, of breeders of Bassets, and also of other dogs; for although it is written for the special use and benefit of the former, there is much in it well worth the consideration of every breeder. Mr. Millais has collected a mass of facts, and has so marshalled them as to show, almost to a demonstration, the results certain to follow the mating of Bassets, in certain proportions of blood, of the strains of these hounds we now possess in England. The book is not an inviting one on first dipping into it, but well repays digestion. I confess that, on first reading it, it was to me an enigma, and I could not find the key to it. The fact is, Mr. Millais has written for those who are supposed to know, and perfectly comprehend every allusion to, the types of hounds he speaks of; but, as I think, he is in error there, and should have defined

his types, in order to make his arguments clear to the uninitiated in Basset mysteries.

In a correspondence I have had with Mr. Millais, he declares: "In a word, type cannot be defined more than fashion." But fashion can be defined; even a male creature, without being a milliner, can define and describe the difference between the type of ladies' head-gear that used to be called a "cosy," and that irreverently named the "coal-scuttle," up the long cavern of which those who would osculate had to venture as into a railway tunnel. Mr. Millais says: "Type is as changeable as fashion; were it not so, the Foxhound of to-day would be a very similar animal to what it was 100 years ago, which it is not." From this and much more of similar argument I dissent, because I take a totally different view of what type is to that entertained by Mr. Millais. He prefers a Basset tricoloured, with tan head, and black and white body; but that is not type: the type—that is to say, the generic characters—of the Basset, as of the Greyhound, was accurately, and with very considerable detail, described nearly 2000 years ago, and remains essentially the same. As to our English hounds, the type has not been altered, but special developments, amounting merely to variations to meet altered methods of using the hounds, and the difference in the enjoyment sought to be derived from them, have been cultivated. Our Foxhounds of to-day were formed by selection 100 years ago, to meet new requirements, but the modifications made did not interfere with the essential character of them as hounds. Those only who set up imaginary types to suit their taste as fanciers, of whatever breed, imitate, and may, therefore, be compared to the rulers of fashion in dress and other trivialities.

Mr. Millais has, however, been good enough to contribute to this chapter his views of the three divisions of Bassets existing in England—namely, the Couteulx, or Fino

de Paris; the Masson, or Termino; and the Lane—holding the term Couteulx hound, as applied to all our Bassets, to be a most erroneous nomenclature. It is right, therefore, to present his views here, and, in my opinion, they supply the great want in his essay, and should always be read, in conjunction with his remarks on breeding, by those interested in Bassets. Mr. Millais writes:—

When you asked me, some seven years ago, to write a small article on the Basset for your book on “British Dogs,” this hound could scarcely be called a British dog, the breed having only just begun to have a footing in England. Since then it has largely increased, and may now safely be classed as a British production.

Bassets may be classed in three divisions:—

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------|----------------|
| 1. Couteulx Hounds | } | Smooth-coated. |
| 2. Lane Hounds | - | |
| 3. Griffons | - - - - | Rough-coated. |

Of the first two species, we have many examples at present; of the third, only one, to my knowledge, has been exhibited in England—namely, Ramoneau—though the type is common enough at Continental shows. To go into minute particulars of how the Basset has had its origin, or how it has thriven in this country, is not the object of these notes; though it will be necessary, in dealing with the Couteulx Hounds, to show how the two sub-divisions, into which they must now be classed, have come about.

In the first place, before proceeding further, it must be clearly understood what the terms “Couteulx” and “Lane” mean. When Bassets first began to be imported into England—I refer, of course, to our present stock, dating back to 1874—our hounds were imported from the kennels of Comte Couteulx le Cantalan, of Étrepagny. After a lapse of a few years, a new kind of Basset made its appearance on the show-bench, exhibited by Mons. Louis Lane, of Francqueville, near Rouen.

from Comte Couteulx's kennels; but they much resembled Bellicent, another of Mons. Masson's hounds imported into this country, which is a proof that this peculiar type is indigenous in his kennels. They must, therefore, have resembled their sire, which belonged to Mons. Masson. Bearing this well in mind, it is very easy to see how these two nearly-related but different types have arisen.

On the importation of Guinevre, Théo, and Vivien, into this country, the first-named bitch was mated with Fino de Paris. Had Guinevre followed the common rules of breeding, she should have given birth to pups of Fino de Paris type, but she did not; she chose to present one of them (Bourbon) in her own form, the type of Monsieur Masson's kennel, and that which I call the Termino type. The other pup, Fino V., resembled his sire, with the addition of some of his dam's quality.

Bourbon, being mated with his aunt, Théo, thus virtually breeding into the Masson or Termino side of the house, produced Chopette, a bitch excelling even her sire in points which make him so different to his Fino de Paris brother, Fino V.

In Vivien we have a bitch of very weak Termino type, so "complaisant" as to throw both types whichever way mated, but who will throw her own, as in the case of Jupiter, a poor type-producer. In this way have arisen the two Couteulx types that we have at present on our show-benches.

Fino de Paris Type.

Colour.—Rich tricolour—hare-pie, lemon, and white. The first object which strikes us is the brilliancy and general evenness of the markings; the tan is deep; the black, saddle-shaped on the back, running into tan on the buttocks.

Coat.—Thick, strong, and at times crimped even to coarseness; stern feathered.

Head.—In those unallied to the Termino hounds, flattish,

ears set on high and small, but should be domed. In those containing Termino blood, the head is large, well shaped, ears hung low and of good size, with well-developed flews, nose slightly inclined to be Roman.

Eye.—Dark, sunken, and showing a prominent haw.

Bone.—Good; in those not too closely inbred, massive.

Legs.—Torses, demi-torses, droites.

General Appearance.—A fine large hound, of powerful physique.

Examples.—In the first instance, Fino de Paris as a type. In the second, Fino V., VI., Pallas II., Fresco, Forester, Merlin, Clovis, Eve, Texas Fino, Wazir, Aryan, Lælaps, Fancy, Fiddler, Flora.

Termino Type.

Colour.—Tricolour (light), lemon and white, hare-pie, blue mottled. The tricolour of this hound is far less brilliant than in the preceding type, the tan being no longer so rich, whilst the black is distributed in uneven patches over the body, and, in addition to these markings, the hound is frequently "ticked," whilst frequently is to be seen a blue mottled appearance.

Coat.—Short and fine; no crimping.

Head.—Domed; though in many of our best specimens this is not apparent.

Nose.—Strongly Roman, and finer than in the Fino de Paris hounds.

Ears.—Hung very low, and of immense length.

Flews.—Well marked.

Eye.—Dark, sunken, and hawed.

Bone.—Somewhat light, except in one or two specimens.

Legs.—Torses, demi-torses, droites, with an inclination to height.

General Appearance.—A fine, upstanding hound, well put together, and of high breeding.

Examples.—In the first instance, Termino (?), Guinevre,

Bellicent. In the second degree, Bourbon, Chopette, Zeus, Bean, Beauclerc (dead), Narcissus, Colinnette, Blondin, Dosia.

LANE HOUNDS.

Colour.—Light tricolour, lemon and white, hare-pie (with ticking).

Coat.—Short, thick.

Head.—Should be domed; somewhat large and coarse.

Ears.—Long, heavy, broad, and hung low.

Flews.—Well marked.

Eye.—Light.

Legs.—Torses.

Bone.—Enormous.

General Appearance.—A very big, heavy Basset; coarse and clumsy, with enormous chest development.

Examples.—In the first instance, Ramono II.; in the second instance, Gavotte, Blanchette II., Champion, Bavard, Chorister, Hannibal.

GRIFFONS.

Colour.—Tricolour, blue-grey, hare-pie, lemon and white.

Coat.—Thick, hard, wire-haired, and like that of the Otter-hound.

Head.—Such as that of the Otter-hound, and well flewed.

Eye.—Dark and hawed.

Ears.—Long and pendulous, low hung.

Bone.—Good.

Legs.—Torses.

General Appearance.—A strong, active hound, powerful, and well knit together.

Example.—Ramoneau.

Readers of the foregoing interesting contribution will, I think, admit that I have earned a morsel of their gratitude by my obstinacy in persisting that type and fashion could each be defined; for in his article Mr.

Millais has described, not merely one type of Basset, but (including the broken-haired Griffon) four, and has thereby proved that he had estimated his own ability too modestly. I confess I still think that the term "type" is too strong to apply to the slight variations described, which, in fact, amount merely to small differences in features, always showing variations in families. We would say of the Scottish Highlanders, they are of Celtic type; but the term would not be used to describe some minute difference that may have been observable between the Clan Macgregor and the Clan Macdonald. It is, however, the order of the day, in regard to dogs, to sub-divide with such great minuteness that it is only given to those inspired with the peculiar afflatus of "the fancy" to appreciate every microscopic difference dealt with.

I have always urged that the points of a dog, of whatever breed, must, if worthy of appreciation, be capable of demonstration in terms comprehensible to every one. I was confident that Mr. Millais was not one of those who cannot express in language the differences they distinguish in the animals they judge; and I think it will be acknowledged he has done good service in plainly stating the distinguishing features of the four varieties of Basset-hounds as they are types fixed in his mind. It is a decided advantage—indeed, I consider it a necessity, in these days of competitive shows—to have the points, or, as the old school of fanciers called them, "the properties," of each breed defined. If the definition proves to be wrong, or capable of amendment in any way, it can be done; but without a written definition we are left to the incompetence of egotists, who claim to be inspired, and able to see a something they call "character," indefinable by them, and invisible to all but themselves and the privileged few initiated in the mystery.

I accept Mr. Millais' distinction between the Fino de Paris and the Termino hounds; I cannot, however, accept

his theory of breeding, for it appears to me to rest on an insufficiently solid basis, leaving out of account influences which sometimes assert themselves in a way to all of us inexplicable.

Fino de Paris was bred from brother and sister—further than his grandparents his pedigree is, I believe, unknown. Termino is said, as a sire, to show more prepotency, stamping the character of his family against odds in favour of Fino de Paris; yet the pedigree of Termino is unknown. To square results, in this case, with the accumulated experiences of breeders, Termino's pedigree, although unwritten, must be the longest, and most free from foreign admixture.

The facts of the case appear to be, that Comte Couteulx and MM. Masson and Lane have each bred his own strain from the same common stock. Now I think it is going too far to base a system on present results in England of any combinations of these strains, until several more generations of breeding from existing results are seen.

I have now to give the description by Mr. G. R. Krehl, which has hitherto been accepted by the Basset Club. It is as follows:—

POINTS OF THE BASSET-HOUND.

	VALUE.
Head, skull, eyes, muzzle, and flews	15
Ears	15
Neck, dewlap, chest, and shoulders	10
Fore legs and feet	15
Back, loins, and hind quarters	10
Stern	5
Coat and skin	10
Colour and markings	15
“Basset character” and symmetry	5
Total	100

1. To begin with the *head*, as the most distinguishing part of all breeds. The head of the Basset-hound is most perfect when it closest resembles a Bloodhound's. It is long and narrow, with heavy flews, occiput prominent, "*la bosse de la chasse*," and forehead wrinkled to the eyes, which should be kind, and show the haw. The general appearance of the head must present high breeding and reposeful dignity; the teeth are small, and the upper jaw sometimes protrudes. This is not a fault, and is called the "*bec de lièvre*."

2. The *ears* very long, and when drawn forward folding well over the nose—so long that in hunting they will often actually tread on them; they are set on low, and hang loose in folds like drapery, the ends inward curling, in texture thin and velvety.

3. The *neck* is powerful, with heavy dewlaps. Elbows must not turn out. The chest is deep, full, and framed like a "man-of-war." Body long and low.

4. *Fore legs* short, about 4in., and close-fitting to the chest till the crooked knee, from where the wrinkled ankle ends in a massive paw, each toe standing out distinctly.

5. The *stifles* are bent, and the quarters full of muscle, which stands out so that when one looks at the dog from behind, it gives him a round, barrel-like effect. This, with their peculiar, waddling gait, goes a long way towards Basset character—a quality easily recognised by the judge, and as desirable as Terrier character in a Terrier.

6. The *stern* is coarse underneath, and carried hound-fashion.

7. The *coat* is short, smooth, and fine, and has a gloss on it like that of a racehorse. (To get this appearance, they should be hound-gloved, never brushed.) Skin loose and elastic.

8. The *colour* should be black, white, and tan; the head, shoulders, and quarters a rich tan, and black patches on the back. They are also sometimes hare-pied.

In refusing to accept the above as a correct description of any dog, I take strong exception to the dogma that "the head is the most distinguishing feature of all breeds." It is not so in either the Basset or Dachshund, both of which are more distinguished from other hounds by the disproportion between their length and height, than any other feature.

Whether we take dogs, sheep, or cattle, the head as distinguishing breeds does not go far, but in marking groups, each including many breeds, it comes into prominence. But what are we to say of an animal constructed as Mr. Krehl does the Basset, opining, in unintelligible terms, a prodigy from his inner consciousness or abortive imagination?

What would an English M.F.H. say to a hound whose ears are worth all the rest of his head, including nose? What can anybody say to a dog of any kind, unless it be a fancy Toy, whose hide, tail, and ears make nearly half of him, and are reckoned at one-seventh more value than all the rest of him, except head and a something undefined, and called character—which latter quality, it is hinted, if not distinctly stated, is only visible to a judge? Certainly, a dog 40 per cent. hide seems best fitted for the tanyard.

The fact is, the description is absurd, and can only be accepted as a caricature of any hound; and it seems to me impossible that the Basset Club, or, at least, those members of it who desire to use the Basset for his legitimate work, can, on reflection, continue to accept it as the standard by which their hounds shall be judged: even if indisposed to criticise too keenly, they liberally give their own definition to the obscurities of its involved sentences.

I ought to say that the quotation from Bishop Brian, which heads this article, refers to Welsh Hounds, which a brother dignitary of the Church was about to send him

from Wales; and it has often occurred to my mind, when pondering on the Bishop's enthusiastic words, "Let them come; and let my woods re-echo with the music of their cry," that it is a pity Welshmen do not try to find some remnants of the old Welsh Hound, and resuscitate the breed, if that be possible. Judging from analogous cases, it does not seem impossible, and one-half the energy applied, with less than 1 per cent. of the nonsense written, in the making of a Welsh Terrier, should ensure success.

The following are measurements, &c., of celebrated French Bassets:

The Earl of Onslow's *Nestor*: Age, 2 years 10 months; weight, 39lb.; height at shoulder, 14in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 12in.; girth of chest, 24in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 15½in.; girth of forearm, 6½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

The Earl of Onslow's *Fino*: Age, 3 years 8 months; weight, 39lb.; height at shoulder, 13in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 33in.; length of tail, 11in.; girth of chest, 24in.; girth of loin, 23in.; girth of head, 16½in.; girth of forearm, 6in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8½in.

Mr. Everett Millais' *Model*: Age, 7½ years; weight, 46lb.; height at shoulder, 12in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 32in.; length of tail, 11½in.; girth of chest, 25in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 6½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9½in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 19in.; height from ground (fore feet), 2¾in.

Mr. Everett Millais' *Garrenne*: Age, 2½ years; weight, 30lb.; height at shoulder, 9½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 29in.; length of tail, 9in.; girth of chest, 20in.;

girth of loin, 16in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 5in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 7in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 17in.; height from ground (fore feet), 2½in.

The following measurements are those of two dogs and two bitches, the property of Mr. F. W. Blain, all of them well-known winners:—

Champion *Bourbon* (K.C.S.B., 13,853): Dog. Age, 4½ years; weight, about 40lb.; height at shoulder, 12in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 35in.; length of tail, 11½in.; girth of chest, 24½in.; girth of loin, 19½in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 6in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 20in.; height from ground, at chest, 2½in.

Champion *Bourbon* has won thirteen champion prizes, ten specials, and seven firsts.

Blondin: Dog. Age, 2½ years; weight, about 35lb.; height at shoulder, 12in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 33in.; length of tail, 12in.; girth of chest, 23in.; girth of loin, 19in.; girth of head, 14in.; girth of forearm, 5½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 19in.; height from ground, at chest, 3½in.

Blondin, a son of *Bourbon*, has won first and cup Liverpool, 1887.

Bertille (K.C.S.B., 17,572): Bitch. Age, 3 years; weight, about 33lb.; height at shoulder, 11in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 33in.; length of tail, 11½in.; girth of chest, 22in.; girth of loin, 19in.; girth of head, 14in.; girth of forearm, 5½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 7in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 21in.; height from ground, at chest, 3in.

Bertille, an imported bitch, has won fifteen prizes at best shows.

Théo (K.C.S.B., 15,703): Bitch. Age, 8½ years; weight, about 35lb.; height at shoulder, 13in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 35in.; length of tail, 11in.; girth of chest, 22in.; girth of loin, 19½in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 5in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6½in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 18½in.; height from ground, at chest, 4in.

Théo has won first Crystal Palace, first Warwick, &c.



CHAPTER XVIII.

THE DACHSHUND.

"The kind of dog that is sold by the yard."

—"PUNCH."

"You must breed fourteen or fifteen couple of small Kibble-hounds, low and swift."

—SIR THOMAS COCKAINE (*temp.* 1591).

I AM rather disposed to think the quotation from our facetious friend *Punch* more accurately describes the Dachshund of to-day than that from Sir Thomas Cockaine's "Treatise on Hunting," "Imprinted at London, by Thomas Orwin, for Thomas Woodcocke, dwelling in Paule's Churchyard, at the signe of the Black Bear, 1591." Certain it is that a Dachshund as long and as short-legged as a caterpillar would fetch an exceptionally high price in the dog market.

Bewick says the Kibble-hound of his day was a cross between the old English hound and the Beagle, which would give a low hound, but not a swift one; and, indeed, lowness and swiftness are incompatible, and Sir Thomas Cockaine probably used the term "swift" relatively to a standard understood by himself but not explained to his readers. The Dachshund is low, and also swift—relatively to the American sloth, which Col. Ingersoll calculates would have required, at its ordinary rate of progression, 3500 years to reach the shelter of Noah's ark.

Whether the Dachshund is a Kibble-hound, or even what a Kibble-hound exactly was, is not very clear, for



DACHSHUNDS.

1. Mr. H. Jones's *JOURNERT*, by Mr. Walker's *Maximus*, out of owner's *Jezebel*.
2. Mr. W. Ingram's *INDIANA*, by Mr. H. Jones's *Dessauer III*, out of Mr. W. Ingram's *Zebra*.
3. Mr. H. Jones's *JOAN OF ARC*, by Mr. H. A. Walker's *Maximus*, out of owner's *Jezebel*.

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kennel terms vary greatly in meaning in course of time, and two centuries separate the writers quoted. As an instance of such variation, the Dachshund furnishes an apt illustration; and I am strongly of opinion that negligence or misconception on this point has led astray our English Dachshund Club. They write of "the true hound type," and ascribe to the dog the head of a Bloodhound, contrary to the views of German sportsmen; and, probably, this divergence has resulted from the word "hund" being accepted in the modern English restricted sense, instead of being rendered in the wider application of our old English, Anglo-Saxon, and Saxon, "hund," a dog: the German Dachshund is the Badger Dog, or Badger Terrier, and not a hound as that term is used by our hunting men. He has, however, notwithstanding his use as a Terrier, many of the properties of the hound, and generically should be classed with them; and, indeed, our own native Terriers are classed with the hounds, by Caius, although many of our existing varieties are of very different type from hounds. The term "Kibble-hound" may have been applied to such as were short and crooked in the leg, as if broken, and, in that sense, the Dachshund and Basset, and some of our Dandie Dinmont Terriers, may be called Kibble-hounds.

During the last ten years Dachshunds have immensely increased in numbers, and sixty to eighty are often exhibited at Kennel Club shows. This is accounted for by the Dachshund Club supporting only shows under Kennel Club rules, and giving their best prizes at shows held by the latter. I do not think, however, the Dachshund has the same hold on popular favour as he had some years ago, and he seems to be coming more and more a purely fancier's and exhibitor's dog.

The following was contributed to the first edition of this work by my late friend "Vert," to whom, as a sportsman, I have already alluded in my prefatory remarks to his

article on Foxhounds; and I need only say here, that his large experience of Dachshunds entitles his opinions on the breed to be considered authoritative :

“So much has been said and written on this breed of dogs during the few years that they have had a place in the prize schedules of our shows, that in treating the subject we shall endeavour to unsay some of the nonsense that has from time to time been put forth by some of those journals whose pages are opened to the discussion of canine matters, in one of which a certain amusing correspondent, in a playful moment, tells his readers that the ears of the Dachshund cannot be too long. Another says the body cannot be too long. Then we read that the legs cannot be too short or too crooked, with such impossible measurements as could only be found in the fertile brain of the writer. At shows we have had our special attention drawn to the veriest mongrels, and been held by the button by enthusiastic owners, and had glaring defects pointed out as characteristics of the pure breed; but, being unable to draw on our credulity to that extent, we have had to fall back on our stock of charity, and call to mind that even Solomon was young once in his lifetime. There is no breed of dogs that the English have been so tardy in taking to as the Dachshund, Satan and Feldmann being the only representatives of the breed on the Birmingham show bench for several years; and certainly we had one judge who had the courage to grapple with this little hound when he did make an attempt to emerge from his obscurity, and we have seen the best Dachshund that has yet been exhibited passed over by a couple of ‘all-round’ judges of high standing at an important show, one of those Solons arguing that he was a Beagle Otter-hound, and the other that he was a Turnspit; neither of them being aware that the Turnspit was little different from a moderate crooked-legged Pug of the present time, and that it would be

impossible to confine a long-backed twenty-pound dog in one of those small cages in which the little prisoner had to ply his calling. We have no wish to speculate on the early history of this breed, as, like other cases, it would be a mere leap in the dark from the same source as before alluded to. We have been seriously told that the breed came originally from France, and that once on a time, when the French army invaded Germany, and were capturing towns and provinces, the German nobles, by way of retaliation, invaded France and carried off all the Dachshunds; but as we do not find this theory supported by any authority that we have consulted, possibly the writer of the story may be entitled to the invention also.

“The Dachshund is a short-coated, long-backed dog, on very short legs, of about 20lb. weight, and should not be less than 18lb., the bitches being 3lb. or 4lb. less than the dogs. They must be self-coloured, although a little white on the breast or toes should not be a disqualification, as these beauty spots will crop out now and then in any breed of dogs.

“The colour most in fashion just now is the fallow red and black and tan, but we have very good specimens of various shades of red, more or less smutty, as well as the brown with tawny markings, some of which are very handsome. In black and tan we do not demand pencilled toes, as in the Terrier, although, if good in every other respect, we should consider it an acquisition; but we prefer such as nearest approach the standard of excellence, and care little for shades of colour, so that it be any of those above-named. The head, when of the proper type, greatly resembles that of the Bloodhound. The ears also are long and pendulous, and in a 20lb. dog should measure from 4½in. to 5in. each, and from tip to tip over the cranium, when hanging down in their natural position, from 13in. to 14in.; the length from the eye to the end of the nose

should be over 3in., 3½in. being a good length for a dog of 20lb. weight; girth of muzzle, from 8in. to 8½in., which should finish square, and not snipey or spigot-nosed, and the flews should be fairly developed; the eyes should be very lustrous and mild in expression, varying in colour with that of the coat; the teeth should be very strong and perfectly sound, as a dog with a diseased mouth is of little use for work, is very objectionable as a companion, and is quite unfit for the stud in this or any other breed of dogs; the neck should be rather long, and very muscular. We have a brood bitch from one of the best kennels in Germany, in which the dewlap is very strongly pronounced; but this and the conical head are but rarely met with as yet. The chest should be broad, with the brisket point well up to the throat; the shoulders should be very loose, giving the chest an appearance of hanging between them; they should be well covered with muscle, with plenty of loose skin about them. The fore legs are one of the great peculiarities of the breed; these are very large in bone for the size of the dog, and very crooked, being turned out at the elbows and in at the knees; the knees, however, should not 'knuckle,' or stand forward over the ankles, as we frequently see in very crooked-legged dogs, which renders them more clumsy and less powerful. The feet should be very large, and armed with strong claws, and should be well splayed outwards, to enable him to clear his way in the burrow. Terrier-like fore feet cannot be tolerated in the Dachshund, as great speed is not required, the great essentials being: a good nose for tracking; a conformation of body that will admit of his entering the badger earth, and adapting himself to his situation; and a lion heart and power to grapple with the quarry, in the earth or in the open—and these are no small requirements. We are frequently told So-and-so's Terrier has finished his badger in some very small number of minutes. But there are badgers and badgers—baby badgers; and if we are to believe a

tithe of what we hear on this head, the supposition is forced upon us that a great many badgers die in their infancy.

“We do know that the premier Dachshund of the present day has drawn a wild fox from his fastness, and finished him, unaided, in about four minutes; but an un-snubbed, fully-matured badger of five or six summers is an awkward customer, and with him the result might have been quite different.

“What are called Dachshunds may be picked up in most German towns, but those are often of an inferior sort, or half-breds, the genuine blue blood being almost entirely in the hands of the nobles. Familiar to us in the north were those of the late King of Hanover; those of Baron Nathasius and Baron Von Cram in the south. The Grand Duke of Baden’s kennel, at Eberstein Schloss, is unrivalled. Prince Couza, Baroness Ingelheim, and Baron Haber also possessed some of the best and purest strains.

“In England, Her Majesty the Queen and H.S.H. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, have for many years possessed the choicest specimens of the best strains in Germany; and we have been favoured with stud dogs and brood from some of the above-named kennels, which required something more than gold to possess them. A habit has sprung up of late—and a very bad one it is—of entering rough-coated little dogs as Dachshunds at some of our best shows, and some of them have received honours which they are in no way entitled to. This is misleading, as they are not Dachshunds, but ‘Bassets,’ very nice little fellows, but with no more right to be exhibited as Dachshunds than a Setter or a Spaniel would have in a Pointer class. They may be half-breds—as Dachshund-Basset or Dachshund-Spaniel. We have also met with others, hound-marked and smooth-coated, which looked like Dachshund-Beagles; these are all Bassets, a term applied by the French to all low, short-legged dogs. The best we have met with were a leash owned by a French marquis; these had

grand heads of the Otter-hound type, with rough coats, very long bodies, and short, crooked legs, and were called 'Rostaing Bassets,' and were excellent workers in thick coverts; but they rarely possess either the courage or the scenting powers of the Dachshund."

In the year 1881, the Dachshund Club was formed, and its second rule declares its purpose, in the following terms: "That its object be to promote the breeding of Dachshunds; to define precisely and publish a description of the true hound type; and to urge the adoption of such type on breeders, judges, dog-show committees, &c., as the only recognised and unvarying standard by which Dachshunds are to be judged, and which may in future be uniformly accepted as the sole standard of excellence in breeding, and in awarding prizes to Dachshunds; and (by giving prizes, supporting shows, and taking other steps) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed."

The Club, which numbers thirty, has a fifty-guinea challenge cup, which is offered for competition not oftener than three times a year. The cup does not become the actual property of the winner, but a commemoration medal is presented to each holder of the cup. The description, or standard, has been prepared and published, and is given hereafter.

Between the points translated for me from the German by Herr Von Schmiedenburg, editor of *Der Hund*, and the English view, as defined by the Club, and also as given by "Stonehenge" in "Dogs of the British Islands," there is some difference; and as "Stonehenge" acknowledges the assistance, in drawing up the description of points, of three German gentlemen, and at least two Englishmen of long experience in Germany, this is the more remarkable. These gentlemen were Prince Albert Solms, Mr. Schuller (who has imported a great number of the best Dachshunds seen in this country), Mr. Schweitzer, Mr.

Percival de Castro, Mr. Fisher, and Mr. Barclay Hanbury.

Of the *skull*, "Stonehenge" says: "The occiput wide, and its protuberance well developed"—the German description ignoring an occipital protuberance, and, indeed, seeming to be in contradiction of its existence, for conical heads are distinctly declared faulty.

Of the *ears*, "Stonehenge" says: "Long enough to reach nearly to the tip of the nose . . . hanging back in graceful folds." By German breeders, at Hanover Show, 1879, we were assured they do not like the ears to come much over the angle of the jaws.

Of the *eye*, "Stonehenge" says: "Rather small, piercing, and deeply set," against "medium size, round, neither protruding nor sunken."

Neck "somewhat short, thick," against "long, flexible, broad, and strong."

The German description is silent as to *size*, but this I have remedied by the actual measurements of well-known dogs, both of the past and present, which are given at the end of the chapter.

The following are the points of the Dachshund, as drawn up by a council of the Hanover Kennel Club, composed of many of the leading German breeders:

1. *General Appearance*.—Low and very long in structure, the fore part (not only the chest) especially well developed; legs very short, the fore legs turned inward at the knees, but the feet considerably bent out. The whole appearance is weasel-like. The tail is moderately bent, and is carried very little above a horizontal line, or else downwards. Hair close, short, smooth. Expression intelligent, attentive, and lively.

2. *Head*.—Somewhat long, tapering towards the nose, wedge-like, broadest at the hind part of the skull, and without a stop; skull broad, almost flat; nose narrow, straight, sometimes a little upward bent; lips very little hanging, forming a small fold at the corner of the mouth.

3. *Ears* of medium length, tolerably broad, and rounded at the end, which is less broad than the other part. The ear is placed high up, and well backward, so that the space between ear and eye appears considerably larger than with other hunting dogs. The ears are not wrinkled, but hang down close at the cheeks.

4. The *Eye* is of medium size, round, neither protruding nor sunken in (*klar vorliegend, i.e.,* well visible when seen from the side), and very sharp in expression.

5. *Neck*.—Long, flexible, broad, and strong; the skin somewhat loose in front.

6. *Back*.—Very long, slanting towards the tail; loins well developed.

7. *Breast*.—Broad; framework of ribs long and deep, the flanks drawn in.

8. *Tail* of medium length, strong at the root, and tapering to a thin end; almost straight, and carried as stated above.

9. *Fore Legs*.—Muscles stronger than those of the hind legs; the shoulders very muscular; upper arm short and strong, bending outwards; the knees bent inwards, the feet outwards. The legs, seen in the profile, must appear straight, not hanging over in the knees.

10. *Hind Legs*.—Straighter than with other dogs—seen from behind, almost straight; the quarters have muscles well visible, almost standing out (*eikig*); the bone from hock to pastern very short.

11. *Feet*.—The feet of the fore legs are more muscular than those of the hind legs; the toes well closed, with nails strongly curved and black; the soles of the feet are broad and thick. The toes of the hind legs are shorter and straighter, the feet also smaller.

12. *Hair*.—Short, close, and glossy, not soft, but resisting to the touch (*mit stechender Spitze*) when stroking against it; very fine and close at the ears, coarser and longer at the lower side of the tail, but here also lying

close to the skin. On the belly the hair is a little coarser, and the skin well covered.

13. *Colour*.—Black, with tan at head, breast, front of neck, belly, legs, and under the tail; also dark brown, golden brown, dark grey with darker stripe on the back: as also ash grey, silver grey with dark patches (*Tiger-dachs*). The darker colours are mostly united with tan markings; with lighter colours, the nails ought also to be black, and the eyes always dark. Any white is only to be endured as a small mark at the chest.

14. *Teeth*.—Upper and lower teeth meet exactly; in proportion to the jaws they are stronger than with any other breed, especially the corner teeth.

As faulty are considered dogs who have a compressed or conical head; the muzzle too short, too broad, or with a stop at forehead; when the lips are hanging; the ears folded, or not hanging close; when the fore legs are so crooked that the knees touch each other, or are unable to bear the weight of the body; when the neck is thin and the breast too narrow; when the fore feet are too much, or irregularly, turned outward; when the knee-joint is weak and the toes spread out; also when the bone from the hock downward is too long and the hocks too close together. The tail is bad if it is crooked or has long hair sticking out. Any white as principal colour is also faulty.

I will now give English Club views, and draw the attention of readers to the very important differences between that and the German.

It seems to me, that the people from whom we had the dog, and who have bred and used it for centuries, are the most likely to know what the desirable and correct points of a pure-bred Dachshund should be, and I question the wisdom of altering the characteristics, as these are recognised in his native home, of any imported dog. Modifications are sure to take place in time, but the

type should be upheld; and this has not been done in the present instance, as the most cursory comparison will show.

The consequence of this divergence from German views has been that our Teutonic cousins will have none of our Dachshund standard, and their kennel clubs, on being invited to exhibit at the great Jubilee Show, held under our Kennel Club's auspices, refused, unless classes for German Dachshunds were provided, and these classes judged by the German standard.

The Dachshund standard, as settled by the Dachshund Club, November, 1881, is as follows:—

Head and Skull.—Long, level, and narrow; peak well developed; no stop; eyes intelligent, and somewhat small; follow body in colour. (Value, 12.)

Ears.—Long, broad, and soft; set on low, and well back; carried close to the head. (Value, 6½.)

Jaw.—Strong, level, and square to the muzzle; canines recurvent. (Value, 5.)

Chest.—Deep and narrow; breast-bone prominent. (Value, 7.)

Legs and Feet.—Fore legs very short, and strong in bone, well crooked, not standing over; elbows well clothed with muscle, neither in nor out; feet large, round, and strong, with thick pads and strong nails. Hind legs smaller in bone and higher, hind feet smaller. The dog must stand true—*i.e.*, equally on all parts of the foot. (Value, 20.)

Skin and Coat.—Skin thick, loose, supple, and in great quantity; coat dense, short, and strong. (Value, 13.)

Loin.—Well arched, long, and muscular. (Value, 8.)

Stern.—Long and strong, flat at root, tapering to the tip; hair on under side coarse; carried low, except when excited. Quarters very muscular. (Value, 5.)

Body.—Length from back of head to root of stern, 2½ times the height at shoulder. Fore ribs well sprung, back ribs very short. (Value, 8½.)

Colour.—Any colour; nose to follow body colour; much white objectionable. (Value, 4.)

Symmetry and Quality.—The Dachshund should be long, low, and graceful, not cloddy. (Value, 11.)

Weight.—Dogs about 21lb.; bitches, about 18lb.

The Dachshund Club states that it does not advocate point judging, the figures given being only used to show the comparative value of the features.

The Germans begin, rightly I think, where the English standard ends, with a description of the dog's general appearance; and it surely cannot be disputed that the German is immeasurably the best and the most intelligible.

A long, low dog would not be "cloddy," and a Dachshund never yet was, and never will be, "graceful," in the ordinary sense of these English words, although it may be otherwise in some Pickwickian sense recognised by the Dachshund Club. To say that a Dachshund is a graceful creature is a most unfortunate misuse of a word, and its antonym, deformed, more truly describes the animal. If a Dachshund is graceful, so is the short-legged, over-bodied, shambling dwarf, and Richard, Duke of Gloucester, was an Adonis, formed "to caper nimbly in a lady's chamber—shaped for sportive tricks, and to court the amorous looking-glass," not "rudely stamped, and wanting in love's majesty," nor "cheated of feature by dissembling Nature, deformed, unfinished, sent before his time into this breathing world, scarce half made up, and that so lamely and unfashionable that dogs barked at him." The Lady Anne doubtless took a Dachshund Club's view of the graceful outlines of the hunchbacked murderer of her husband and his father; and, when dog-fanciers put on their peculiar-tinted spectacles, they see beauties in deformities, that are hidden from the eyes of mere common mortals.

In head and skull the English and German Dachshund widely differ, the latter being broad where the former

is narrow and peaked. The ears in the one are "set on low," in the other "placed high." The teeth are described by both as level, but there is a very remarkable difference, the Germans remarking on the great strength of the teeth in general, and especially of the "corner teeth," whilst the English say, the "canines recurvent." The corner teeth are the incisors next to the canines. The caduceous corner teeth are erupted when the pup is four to six weeks old, and replaced by the permanent ones at about the fifth month—a month or six weeks later than the other incisors, of which they are always the largest; but I should be greatly surprised to find any marked distinction in that respect between Dachshunds and other dogs.

Then, what does our English Club mean by the canines being recurvent? They surely do not mean recurvant. And if, as may be reasonably supposed, they mean recurved, I ask if they mean that the canine teeth of the Dachshund are different in shape from those of other dogs, and on what ground they rest that statement? The canine teeth of all dogs curve outward and backward, and there is nothing exceptional in the Dachshund.

Oscar Schmidt, Professor of the University of Strasburg, writing of the *Canidæ*, says: "Any of our readers who can examine the head of a Dachshund, may convince themselves of the fact that the first pre-molar, above and below, can scarcely be of any use to the animal; it is a little stump, which does not come in contact with the opposite row of teeth, and is frequently wanting altogether. If the Dachshund is not forcibly suppressed, as a species, its dentition will one day inevitably be reduced by one pre-molar."

At the Dachshund show held at the Aquarium in 1886, I examined a considerable number of Dachshunds, and found the case to be as described by Professor Schmidt; and, since then, I have noticed the same thing in dogs of other breeds, though I have not examined any very great number. I suppose the gradual loss in size to be ac-

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DACHSHUND.

Mr. F. Barclay Hanbury's FRITZ. Imported, by Mr. Schuller, from the Royal Kennels, Stuttgart.

counted for by the comparative little use of the teeth under our common methods of feeding dogs.

In describing the chest, the English say deep and narrow, with breast-bone prominent; the Germans, breast broad—the two being absolutely contradictory.

I cannot but look on the standard of the English Club as a not very intelligible description of the animal, and the value of their points as decidedly puzzling; not, perhaps, so absurd, however, as the fact that the Club does not advocate point judging, but merely gives the figures to show the comparative value of the features. Surely, if the figures show that, it is what judging is supposed to do; and if figures are an aid to anyone desiring to value the special qualities of the dog, they must also be of value to the judge, who should use them as a means of instructing students of the breed: but if they are of no practical use, they ought not to be put forward.

It is really too ridiculous to say a dog's ears are within half a point of the value of his chest; and to value the stern at 5 per cent. of the whole dog, and to throw the quarters in as make-weight, appears to display a singular misconception of animal structure.

Measurements, weights, &c., of celebrated Dachshunds:—

Mr. J. Hanson Lewis's *Uhlán* (K.C.S.B. 6333): Age, 3 years; weight, 22lb.; height at shoulder, 8½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 27in.; length of tail, 9in.; girth of chest, 21in.; girth of loin, 10½in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 4¾in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7¼in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6¾in.

Mr. W. Arkwright's *Xaverl* (K.C.S.B. 6337): Age, 3½ years; weight, 18½lb.; height at shoulder, 10¾in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 29¾in.; length of tail, 11in.; girth of chest, 19½in.; girth of loin, 15¾in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 5in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8in.; girth of muzzle mid-

way between eyes and tip of nose, 7in.; length of ear, 6in.

Mr. H. Jones's *Zange*: Age, nearly 2 years; weight, 13½lb.; height at shoulder, 9in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 26½in.; length of tail, 8in.; girth of chest, 16½in.; girth of loin, 13½in.; girth of head, 10½in.; girth of forearm, measured lin. above elbow, 5½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 5½in.; colour and markings, red; girth of leg, measured lin. below elbow, 4½in.; sex, bitch.

Mr. H. Jones's *Blitz*: Age, 9 months; weight, 13lb.; height at shoulder, 8½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 25½in.; length of tail, 8½in.; girth of chest, 16in.; girth of loin, 13½in.; girth of head, 10½in.; girth of forearm, measured lin. above elbow, 5½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 5½in.; colour and markings, black and tan; girth of leg, measured lin. below elbow, 4½in.; sex, bitch.

Mr. H. Jones's *Waldine*: Age, over 2 years; weight, 13lb.; height at shoulder, 9in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 25in.; tail, injured; girth of chest, 16½in.; girth of loin, 13½in.; girth of head, 10½in.; girth of arm, measured lin. above elbow, 5½in.; girth of leg, measured lin. below elbow, 4½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 6½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 5½in.; colour and markings, black and tan; sex, bitch.

Mr. H. Jones's *Waldmann I.* (K.C.S.B. 6335): Age, 4 years; weight, 16½lb.; height at shoulder, 10½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 27½in.; length of tail, 8½in.; girth of chest, 18½in.; girth of loin, 15½in.; girth of head, 12½in.; girth of arm, measured lin. above elbow, 6½in.; girth of leg, measured lin. below elbow, 5½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7½in.; girth of

muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour and markings, black and tan; sex, dog.

Mr. H. Jones's *Donner* (K.C.S.B. 8377): Age, about 2 years; weight, 16lb. 6oz.; height at shoulder, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, $26\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of tail, 10in.; girth of chest 17in.; girth of loin, $14\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of arm, measured 1in. above elbow, $5\frac{5}{8}$ in.; girth of leg, measured 1in. below elbow, 4in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $6\frac{3}{4}$ in.; colour and markings, black and tan.

Miss M. J. Bell's *Faust*: Age, 16 months; weight, 25lb. $10\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; height at shoulder, $10\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, $32\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of tail, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, $20\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, $17\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; from point to point of ears, $14\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour, black and tan.

Miss M. J. Bell's *Waldine*: Age, about 3 years; weight, 17lb.; height at shoulder, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 28in.; length of tail, 10in.; girth of chest, 17in.; girth of loin, 14in.; girth of head, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6in.; from point to point of ears, 13in.; colour, black and tan.

Miss M. J. Bell's *Dessauer*: Age, about 6 years; weight, 24lb.; height at shoulder, $10\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, $32\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of tail, 10in.; girth of chest, 20in.; girth of loin, 16in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $8\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 7in.; from point to point of ears, $15\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour, black and tan.

Miss M. J. Bell's *Frida*: Age, 1 year 4 months; weight,

14lb.; height at shoulder, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 29in.; length of tail, 10in.; girth of chest, $17\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, 5in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $5\frac{3}{4}$ in.; from point to point of ears, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour, black and tan.

Mrs. Douglas Murray's *Von Josstik*: Age, $4\frac{1}{2}$ years; weight, $17\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; height at shoulder, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 27in.; length of tail, 9in.; girth of chest, $17\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, 13in.; girth of head, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of arm, measured lin. above elbow, 7in.; girth of leg, measured lin. below elbow, 4in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.; colour and markings, red.

Mrs. Douglas Murray's *Von*: Age, 1 year 9 months; weight, $18\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; height at shoulder, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 27in.; length of tail, 9in.; girth of chest, $17\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of loin, 12in.; girth of head, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of arm, measured lin. above elbow, 9in.; girth of leg, measured lin. below elbow, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour and markings, red—white spot on chest.

Mr. Montague Wootten's *Zigzag* (K.C.S.B. 8393): Age, 1 year 5 months; weight, $21\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; height at shoulder, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 31in.; length of tail, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, $19\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, 17in.; girth of head, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $5\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $6\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of ear from root to tip, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour, blood red—red nose. Breeder, owner.

Mr. Montague Wootten's *Zanah* (K.C.S.B. 8404): Age, 1 year 8 months; weight, 20lb.; height at shoulder, 11in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 29in.; length of tail, 11in.;

girth of chest, 19in.; girth of loin, 16in.; girth of head, 13½in.; girth of forearm, 5½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6½in.; length of ear from root to tip, 5½in.; colour, red—white fore feet, black nose; breeder, W. Arkwright. She is own sister to Senta (K.C.S.B. 8401).

The following measurements are those of dogs of a date from five to ten years later than the preceding:—

Mr. Henry Jones's Champion *Joan of Arc* (K.C.S.B. 17,117): Age, 2 years; weight, 16½lb.; height at shoulder, 9½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 29½in.; length of tail, 9¾in.; girth of chest, 18¼in.; girth of loin, 15in.; girth of head, 11¼in.; girth of arm, lin. above elbow, 6½in.; girth of leg, lin. below elbow, 5½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6¾in.; length of ear from root to tip, 6½in.; colour, red, with red nose.

Mr. Henry Jones's *Joubert* (K.C.S.B. 17,034): Age, 2 years; weight, 17½lb.; height at shoulder, 9¼in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 30in.; length of tail, 10in.; girth of chest, 18¾in.; girth of loin, 14½in.; girth of head, 12in.; girth of arm, lin. above elbow, 6¼in.; girth of leg, lin. below elbow, 5in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7¾in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6¾in.; length of ear from root to tip, 5¾in.; colour, red, with red nose.

Mr. Arthur O. Mudie's *Hallad*: Age, 2 years 5 months; weight, 20½lb.; height at shoulder, 8½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 30in.; length of tail, 9¾in.; girth of chest, 18in.; girth of loin, 16¾in.; girth of head, 12½in.; girth of arm, lin. above elbow, 5¾in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6¾in.; colour and markings, liver and tan.

Mr. Arthur O. Mudie's *Astrid*: Age, 3 years; weight, 18lb.; height at shoulder, 9¼in.; length from nose to set-

on of tail, 30in.; length of tail, 10in.; girth of chest, 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of loin, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 12in.; girth of arm, 1in. above elbow, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour and markings, all red.

Mr. Arthur O. Mudie's *Wiggle*: Age, 3 years 11 months; weight, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; height at shoulder, 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 28in.; length of tail, 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of chest, 17in.; girth of loin, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of arm, 1in. above elbow, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; colour and markings, black and tan.

Mr. Arthur O. Mudie's *Herfrida*: Age, 11 months; weight, 16lb.; height at shoulder, 8in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 29in.; length of tail, 8in.; girth of chest, 17in.; girth of loin, 15in.; girth of head, 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of arm, 1in. above elbow, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; colour and markings, black and tan.

Mr. Arthur O. Mudie's *Wespe*: Age, 2 years 4 months; weight, 18lb.; height at shoulder, 9in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of tail, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 18in.; girth of loin, 15in.; girth of head, 11in.; girth of arm, 1in. above elbow, 6in.; girth of leg, 1in. below elbow, 4in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 7in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 7in.; colour and markings, all red.

Mr. Arthur O. Mudie's *Mista*: Age, 11 months; weight, 15lb.; height at shoulder, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 27in.; length of tail, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 16in.; girth of loin, 15in.; girth of head, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of arm, 1in. above elbow, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of leg, 1in. below elbow, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of

nose, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; colour and markings, black and tan—white chest.

From observation of the classes of Dachshunds exhibited eight years ago and those of the present day, I think the tendency has been to produce them lower at the shoulder in proportion to the length. In taking the average measurements of a dozen of those of the former period, as given above, we get : Mean weight, $19\frac{1}{2}$ lb. ; height, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; length, 29in. ; and the half-dozen dogs of the present show : Weight, $17\frac{1}{2}$ lb. ; height, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; length, $29\frac{1}{2}$ in.

It would not be safe, however, to rest an argument on these figures, for, to be trustworthy, they should be deduced from a far greater number of measurements.

There is no apparent reason why Dachshunds should not be used in packs as draghounds, or in hare-hunting ; and it seems peculiarly the province of those English breeders of them who contend that they are hounds in our ordinary acceptance of the term, to use them as such.

I have, in conjunction with the late Mr. Edward Sandell, tried them on a drag ; but those we had were too young to be a fair test, nor were the trials sufficiently extended. Still, from what was done by them, I have no doubt that sport and recreation, with a rate of travelling fast enough for many, may be enjoyed with a well-trained pack.

It would be well worth the while of those with leisure and opportunity, to train a pack of them as stop-hounds, to hunt under the pole, as it was called, after the fashion of our forefathers.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE SCHWEISSHUND.

I WAS of opinion, when I wrote the description of the Schweisshund for the first edition of this work, that this favourite German hound, which possesses many intrinsic and attractive qualities, would, when better known in England, find admirers, and a place in our kennels and shows.

It is never safe to predict, or even to trust to the direction fashion will travel in, and, after eight years' waiting, I have seen no move made towards naturalising the Schweisshund here, as has been done with the Dachs-hund, Basset, and many other breeds. Such being the case, I had determined to leave the Schweisshund out of the list treated in this edition; but as I am given to understand we are likely to see the breed in force at the great Jubilee Show inaugurated by the Kennel Club, and as the intercourse between Continental and English dog-lovers is steadily increasing, with the result of a growing concurrence of tastes and of interests, I still expect to see the Schweisshund take a place among our Anglicised breeds, if such application of the term may be permitted.

I had the opportunity of seeing a large class of Schweisshunds at the Hanover Show, 1879, about sixty competing at that exhibition, when they attracted the attention of the numerous English visitors.

The Schweisshund is about the size of our larger Fox-

hounds, and corresponds with what was once known here as the Lyme Hound, or Lymer, as far as work is concerned, for it is impossible now to fix accurately the points of a dog long since modified or absorbed in higher types, a process which has so long gone on in this country. The Schweisshund has a great reputation at home for aptitude and perseverance in his special work of tracking wounded deer. The type of head is different from our Bloodhound; the occipital protuberance is not very pronounced; there is an absence of "frown"—insisted on as one of the evidences of great scenting powers by a few Bloodhound fanciers here—yet these Schweisshunds are marvellously clever on the coldest scent. They are shorter in the muzzle, proportionately to size, than our Bloodhounds, or even Foxhounds, and flatter in the skull, with little flew or dewlap. The colour is generally a red or a red-brindle, from which I imagine them to be more nearly related to the immense Boarhound of Germany than to any of our hounds. The following are the points required by German breeders and sportsmen:

1. *General Appearance*.—Medium height, of strong and long structure, high in the back head, tail rarely carried high, earnest expression of the face.

2. *Head* of middling size; the upper part broad and flat, the forehead slightly wrinkled; the hind part of the head is moderately expressed. Nose broader than in other breeds of hounds; may be black or red. The bridge of the nose under the eyes is small or drawn in, almost arched. The eyebrows are considerably developed, and protruding. Nose round, and lips falling over in the corner of the mouth.

3. *Ears* tolerably long, very broad, rounded at the ends, high, and equally set out, always lying close.

4. *Eyes* clear, with energetic expression; no red observable.

5. *Neck* long and strong, enlarging towards the chest.

6. *Back* rather long, sunk behind the shoulders; hind part broad, and slightly vaulted and sloping.

7. *Breast* wide, *ribs* deep and long, *back* gradually sloping up behind.

8. *Tail* long, and well provided with hair.

9. *Fore legs* stronger than the hind legs; shoulders sloping, very loose and movable; the muscles of the shoulders are well developed.

10. *Hind legs* moderately well developed, the lower parts not quite straight.

11. *Feet* strong, round, and closed toes. Nails strong, uneven; the sole of the foot is strong and large.

12. *Coat* close and full, smooth and elastic, almost glossy.

13. *Colour* grey-brown, like the winter coat of deer, dark brown on muzzle; eyes and tail red-brown, or red-yellow, or brown intermixed with black, and marked mostly with the darker colour on the eyes, nose, and tail, and with dark marks on the back.

Those dogs are considered as faulty which have a small, high skull, narrow nose, continuing of the same dimension toward the forehead; if the ears are too long, too narrow, and too pointed; if the legs are bent, too short, or too thin, or a strongly bent and too highly carried tail; as also the structure, if not in correspondence with the different parts of the body. As regards colour, white and also yellow marks must be considered faulty.



GROUP III.

Dogs that find their Game by Scent, and Index it for
the Advantage of the Gun.

INCLUDING :

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. <i>The Pointer.</i> | 5. <i>The Irish Setter.</i> |
| 2. <i>The Spanish Pointer.</i> | 6. <i>The Gordon, or Black
and Tan Setter.</i> |
| 3. <i>The Dropper.</i> | |
| 4. <i>The English Setter.</i> | |

This group corresponds sufficiently closely with Group II. in head formation to come also into the second division in the arrangement of M. Cuvier. Speaking broadly and generally, the head and muzzle of the modern varieties included in this group are slightly more elongated than those of the dogs embraced in Group II., with the exception of the Bloodhounds. Setters are undoubtedly more closely allied to Spaniels than to Pointers, and naturalists would group the two former together, and the Pointers with the Hounds; but the system of classification which, for convenience, I have adopted, leaves no option but to place Setters and Pointers together, as the work they do, and the manner of doing it, are in strong accord.

HISTORY OF THE GROUP.

THIS group is made up of two very distinct types of dog, the Pointer differing very greatly in formation and general appearance from the Setter; so that anyone without a knowledge of the different breeds of dogs would certainly, from his shape and style, class the Pointer with the Hounds.

The colour markings form a distinct, although superficial, difference between the Pointer and the Hound, which takes the eye of the casual observer; and to those accustomed to discriminate between breeds, many other differences are plainly observable.

None of these are, however, so great as not to be accounted for by selection generation after generation; and the same may be said of the different styles of hunting exhibited by the two, for each has been strictly kept to its own particular game, and the Hound that naturally puts his nose down, might, in the course of a few generations, develop the style of the Pointer, if constantly kept to the same sort of work.

That we had our Pointers originally from the Continent is the opinion held by most writers, and it seems tolerably clear such was the case; but that does not alter the strong probability—in my opinion, the certainty—that the Pointers of Spain, France, Portugal, and other countries, are all closely allied with the Hounds proper, if not absolutely pure Hounds modified by selection.

Holding this view, I have altered the position of the Pointer in the present edition, placing him next to the Hound group, instead of after the Setters, as in the former.

As to the history of the Pointer in England, it is not a long one, not going further back, I believe, than some time early in the last century; but I have been unable to get at the exact date of his introduction.

In regard to the Setter, he is admitted to be a

Spaniel modified to meet new conditions of work ; and the term "Setting Spaniel" is, in fact, the old name. That the modern English Setter has a cross of Pointer, as some writers, including Youatt, state, seems to me exceedingly doubtful, for the two breeds do not mix well, and the progeny of the immediate cross, called Droppers, do not turn out satisfactory, but exhibit proofs of discordant elements unwilling to combine.

The history of the Setter—at least, his more remote history—is, therefore, I hold, that of the Spaniel, referred to hereafter ; and his more recent history will be more advantageously referred to in treating of the several varieties now recognised.

If we take the large classes of English Setters that a Kennel Club or Birmingham Show brings together, and compare them with the Field Spaniels of to-day, we see at once a very marked distinction—differences so wide that, unless we reflect on the influences that have been at work in producing both, we cannot realise that they are from the same stock. But ever since dog shows began Setters have been undergoing alteration in form, and the long, low, workmanlike Setter of a quarter of a century ago has been changed to a lighter, more leggy, and—in appearance, at least—less enduring animal ; whereas the Field Spaniel has been bred lower on the leg, and with longer body—so that the divergence is now greater than ever it was in the history of the group.

CHAPTER XX.

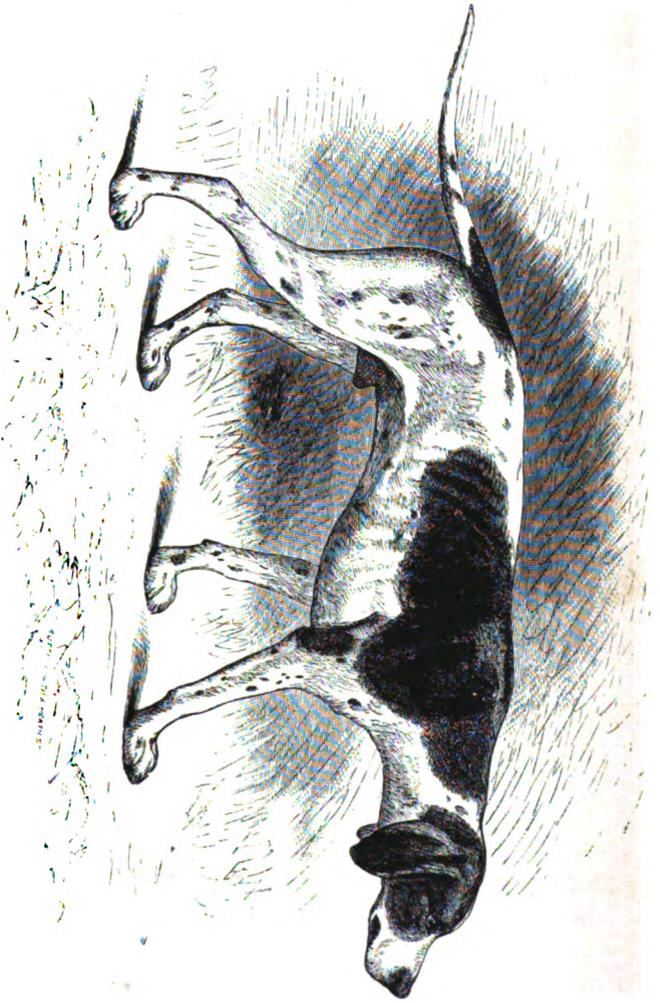
THE POINTER.

“‘Setter!’ sneeringly retorted Sir Bingo Binks; ‘Pointer,’ I suppose you mean; I never yet heard that a Setter was fit to follow any man’s heels but a poacher’s.”
—*St. Ronan’s Well.*”

A VERY interesting chapter might be written on the ever-varying fashions in sport, and the amusing, and often contradictory, prejudices of sportsmen.

In none are such prejudices more strongly seen than in the votaries of particular breeds of dogs. In my experience, I have found admirers of the Fox Terrier exhibit this weakness more fully developed than any other class; especially those of them who know nothing of dogs beyond their fancy animal, and the limited, and often meaningless, language that is used to describe him.

In “*St. Ronan’s Well*,” Scott has happily hit off the prejudice against the older breed, the Setter, and that in favour of the more modern Pointer, which, with Scottish sportsmen, appears to have been prime favourite at the beginning of this century. About the date to which Scott’s tale refers, my father had a brace of liver and white Pointers which he thought so much of, that when, in the year 1808, they went the way of all dogs, he had their skins prepared by the tanner, and used them to cover the large two-volume Family Bible, which, doubtless, was a proof of his regard for his lost favourites, and exhibited a curious mingling of the sporting spirit with the devotional.



POINTER.

Mr. J. Fletcher's DON (K.C.S.B., 4201). Sire, Ransom (brother to Champion Sancho,
K.C.S.B., 1004) ; Dam, Juno.

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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The author of the "Sportsman's Cabinet" ascribes the introduction of the Pointer into this country to about the year 1600. I have not been able to find any reference to the Pointer by name in any writer of so early a period; but I made a quotation—unfortunately mislaid—from a sporting work of about the middle of the seventeenth century, wherein the Pointer is named. Gervase Markham, who wrote nearly up to that date, is silent as to Pointers; and Richard Surfleet, who wrote and published in the year 1600, says nothing of Pointers, although tolerably minute in his description of Spaniels and other breeds.

In writing of Spaniels used in taking the partridge and pheasant, Dr. Caius,* after describing their colours, says: "There is also at this day a new kinde of dogge brought out of Fraunce; and they be speckled all over with white and black, which mingled colours incline to a marble blewe, which beautifyeth their skinnes and affordeth a seemely show of comlynesse." He adds, that these were called French dogs, but leaves us to conjecture what they were like in other respects than colour.

The marble blue is not an unknown colour in Pointers, although at the present day we associate it with the Belton Setter. Taplin, writing in 1803, says that, forty or fifty years before that date, Pointers were hardly ever seen other than entirely white, or variegated with liver-coloured spots. The then Duke of Kingston, however, had a breed all black and white, and considered so superior to all other strains that, after the death of the Duke, they were eagerly bought by sportsmen at extravagant prices.

Taplin differs from the author of the "Sportsman's Cabinet," which gives these Pointers as black; but these contemporaries (if not personally identical) often use the same language, and agree in saying that, by crossings,

* "Of Englishhe Dogges," by Johannes Caius, translated by Fleming, 1576. Reprint published by L. Upcott Gill, London, 1880.

specimens of many colours had been produced, from pure white, and a flea-bitten blue or grey, to a universal liver-colour and perfect black. Self-colours are now objected to, as being more difficult to see when working; and a whole white, a liver, or a black, are rare exceptions.

The Foxhound cross is referred to as an undoubted fact by all writers of standing, the object sought to be attained being finer proportions in build, and to instil more go and endurance into the heavy-shouldered, slow, and lumbering Pointer of the old Spanish stamp. As against increased speed and stamina, it is contended that loss of nose was a result of the cross; and, doubtless, a dog going at the racing speed now required is more likely to overrun scent than the old, slow, plodding kind; but, on the other hand, he is sure to find far more game. It is of little use, however, to compare the two, for the Spanish style of dog, although general in the past, is now rarely seen, and only useful under what are now exceptional circumstances of sport. The contempt for the old style is, perhaps, another instance of that prejudice which, in sport, crops up everywhere. In 1803, "A Veteran Sportsman" bewailed the introduction of double-barrelled guns, as certain to destroy the whole of our game; but innovations such as that rarely have the disastrous effects anticipated of them, and even fast Pointers and breech-loading choke-bores have not had a hundredth part of the effect in destroying the sport they are used in, that a very few years of the Ground Game Act has had.

In the earlier decades of the present century, sporting literature began to develop more rapidly, and, imbued with the true spirit of sport as most of it is, yet details as to individual dogs and registers of pedigrees were still wanting until the era of shows and field trials made their value, and the necessity of more accuracy on such matters, apparent. Good strains of Pointers existed in many kennels, and systematic breeding for improvement was

taken in hand by Mattingley and others. Many of our great families owned kennels of distinct strains, and those of Earl Derby, at Knowsley, and Earl Sefton, have pretty largely contributed to produce the excellence of our existing Pointers. The Edge strain obtained merited fame, and when the kennels were broken up, after the death of Webb Edge, there were eager buyers at the sale at Strelley, some of the Pointers going to Prince Albert, and others to Mr. Statter, Mr. Brailsford, of the Knowsley Kennels, and Mr. George Moore, of Appleby.

Mr. Garth's celebrated Drake, whose pedigree is given very fully in the Kennel Club Stud Book, takes us back about half a century, with an almost unbroken lineage; and since Drake's time (he was whelped 1867), most of our Pointers have had their pedigrees minutely kept.

Some years ago, lemon and white Pointers were very popular, and many of that colour figure in the prize lists; but recently, liver and white are again in the ascendant. It is a distinction that should not influence the judgment much in considering the relative merits of a sporting dog; and, indeed, the various livers, from dark to pale, the orange and the lemon, are but gradations in shade, and represent, probably, the most variable characteristic of dogs.

A Pointer Club has recently been formed, for the improvement of the breed; so that, evidently, that process has not yet been carried to its limits in the opinion of present Pointer breeders. The Club will, at least, doubtless encourage the breeding of superior animals by its support of shows and field trials.

It is denied by some sportsmen that the institutions referred to have benefited the breed of Pointers. I am convinced, from my own observation, that a general improvement has resulted since the first establishment of shows and field trials, and that we have now in this country a stock much superior, as a whole, to its

predecessors of any time. On this matter I have taken Mr. William Lort's opinion, than whom there is no one in a better position to, or more capable of, forming a correct judgment, for he adds to a naturally keen, yet calm, discriminating, and judicious mind, the advantages of being a practical sportsman, and having enjoyed exceptional opportunities to exercise these faculties, as our oldest and still most popular judge of dogs in the show ring and the field. Mr. Lort writes :

Great improvements have been made, within the last ten or twelve years, in many of our now numerous Pointer kennels, insomuch that far better-looking dogs are now to be seen competing and winning at field trials; and many of our chief field trial winners have figured in the prize lists of the leading shows, notably Prince Solms' Naso of Kippen, Mr. F. Lowe's Bang Bang and Duke of Hessen, Colonel Cotes' Carlo, Mr. Shields' Gladsome, and Mr. Salter's Osborne Ale, with many others. Some that have not been fortunate enough to win at field trials have shown themselves to be not only handsome, but really good dogs at work.

On the show bench, since the days of Hamlet, Wagg, and Ponto, the leading places have been successfully held by Mr. George Pilkington's Faust, Mr. Luck's Bang II., Mr. Norrish's Graphic, and last, but by no means least or worst, Mr. C. H. Beck's Naso of Upton. Amongst the opposite sex, the late Major Vaughan Lee's Maggie, Mr. Grant's Maggie, Mr. R. J. Lloyd Price's Bow Bells, Mr. Heywood Lonsdale's Peach, Mr. Beck's Nan, Mr. S. Price's Belle of Bow, and a host of others, have gained high positions.

We find the blood of old Champion Bang running strongly through the list of field trial winners, Priam, Scamp, Bang Bang, Laurel, Lingo, Hero, and others, having done much to bring the good old blood into high repute; whilst Mr. Salter has been especially fortunate

in producing such animals as Malt, Romp's Baby, Paris, and Osborne Ale, by crosses from Bang, on the Salter strain. My Naso (as good a dog as ever ran) earned a reputation, not only in this country, but also on the Continent, where many of the strain have been in the hands of Prince Solms, among which Naso II., Duke of Hessen, and Naso of Kippen, all field trial winners, come from the Prince's kennel; whilst Naso of Kippen, who has lately been exported at a long price, leaves behind him, in this country, three good sons in Mr. Beck's Naso of Upton and Rapid Ben (winner of the Field Trial Derby last year), and the Rev. W. J. Richardson's Rex of Milton. Mr. J. E. Lloyd Lloyd has also shown some very beautiful bitches in Daphne, Zasme, Ilma, and Lady Jane; but these have not appeared at field trials. Mr. Norrish's name, too, has been well known to the public through Graphic, Berryl, Glee, Revel, Revel III., Beau Ideal, and others. Sir Thomas Lennard, Mr. R. J. Lloyd Price, Mr. George Pilkington, Mr. J. H. Whitehouse, Mr. Barclay Field, and Mr. Haywood Lonsdale, have all done much to make the modern Pointer the most fashionable of sporting dogs.

I have now to lay before my readers the views of Mr. G. Thorpe Bartram, given in a contribution to the first edition of "British Dogs," and now revised by him; and as a breeder, exhibitor, and one devoted to the field sports in which dogs are employed, his remarks are well worthy of attention. Mr. Bartram says:

The Pointer is now, and has ever been, most essentially a sporting dog. Although his origin is not quite clear, nor the country from which he was imported into England satisfactorily made out, still he is generally credited with coming to us from Spain. Even now we not infrequently hear the phrase, "That is a regular old-fashioned Spanish Pointer," applied to a heavy, lumbering dog, such as was

much used by our forefathers. If his footing upon British soil cannot be traced back so far as the Setter's—or, at least, as the Setter has existed amongst us in some form or another—still he seems to have been bred in this country for the purpose for which he is now used, and for that alone. In France, America, Spain, and Portugal, he is also used for sporting purposes.

He has always, as far as I can ascertain, been considered in England a distinct breed of dog, cultivated for finding game by scent, and trained to “pointing” it when found—*i.e.*, to come to a standstill upon scenting it. So innate is this propensity to point in a well-bred puppy of this breed, that we frequently see him point the first time he is entered to game. This is regarded by some sportsmen as evidence of an original disposition to point peculiar to this breed; but all the information that I have obtained on this matter goes to show that it was first only the result of training, and now exists more as a communicated habit than anything else. It is advanced, in favour of the pre-disposition theory, that the Setter has been bred, trained, and used for precisely the same purpose, yet he does not exhibit this quality—spontaneous pointing—in anything like the same degree. It is a fact that the Pointer does, as a rule, take to pointing much earlier in his training; but the cause of this I must leave for others to decide.

The Pointer, however different in form to what he now is, and in spite of the many crosses to which he has been subjected, seems to have experienced very little change in his leading characteristics. The crossing him with other dogs, which at various times has been tried, has not eradicated the “stamp” peculiar to his breed; neither is it evident that the object sought by infusing into his veins blood foreign to him was so much to change his character as to introduce qualities that it was thought he might with advantage possess. By this I mean that

it was not so much to produce, by crossing with other breeds, a dog to do the Pointer's work, as to render him more suitable to the work which he was, through change of circumstances, required to perform. In most cases, I believe, first crosses have proved failures, whether with Foxhound or other dog. The foreign blood thus imported had to be diluted (if I may use the expression) by crossing back again with the Pointer, before even so good a dog as the pure Pointer was produced. "Droppers"—for such is the name given to the produce of the first cross between Pointer and Setter—are, in some few instances, fairly good; but they are no improvement on the Pointer or Setter proper. The Pointer of to-day is an animal that has been produced by the most careful exercise of knowledge, gained by keen observation, assisted by extensive breeding and sporting experience. He is now a dog specially adapted to his work. He has been rendered capable of doing it with the greatest amount of ease and efficiency. By careful selection he has been divested of all the lumber that was the cause of his distress in years gone by. His pace has been improved by a due regard to formation, and he is, as a consequence, capable of hunting a larger range of ground without becoming useless by excessive fatigue. The ease with which the present shape of his shoulders and chest allows him to sweep over his ground in graceful strides, and to preserve and exercise with advantage his gift of scent, is a pleasure to witness.

There is no doubt that the field trials and dog shows that have been held for the past fifteen years have greatly contributed towards the attainment of his present high state of excellence; but, much as I admire the modern Pointer, there is just one of his properties that I do not think has been improved, at least, by no means so much as have others—I mean his olfactory powers. He does not appear to possess any greater, or even so great, a

faculty of scenting game now as he did years ago. But I am fully aware that the great speed at which most Pointers hunt the ground now, as compared with the old-fashioned dog of, say, twenty-five years ago, ought to be taken into account in considering this matter. It is more than probable that, the slower a dog goes, the greater are his facilities for taking into his nostrils the atoms of scent. Assuming this to be the case, the slow dog of the past had an advantage in "winding" game over the flyers of to-day.

Be this as it may, the Pointer now, to my thinking, does not "spot" out his game with the ease and certainty and at the great distance he once did. For, let an old, slow dog, trot round or across a field of ordinary size, and if he did not point, you might depend on it there was no game in it. His nose appeared to be good enough to allow him to go almost straight to his game without the laborious quartering of the ground which is now so necessary, and without which much game would be left behind.

I may be permitted to remark that many of my sporting friends who have used Pointers all their lives are of my opinion upon the subject. My father has used Pointers and Setters for nearly fifty years, and has within the last few trained some (and seen others at work) of my Pointers by champions Rap, Pax, Chang, Macgregor, and Bang; and although he willingly admits their superior pace and style, yet he fails to detect any increased range of nose over that he has been accustomed to in good dogs he used very early in his sporting experience.

There is no doubt whatever that the modern Pointer, owing to his increased pace, and through being able to endure (by his better formation) more hard work, with less fatigue, is of more service to the sportsman; still, there is room for improvement in him. What we want

is to make him as much superior in nose as he is beyond his ancestors in pace. This as yet we have not accomplished. Of course, increased pace allows of more ground being hunted in the same time, and this of itself is a great advantage; and it is this alone, in my opinion, that gives the modern fast Pointer the advantage over his slower rival. To illustrate what I mean, I may say that I have often put down my field trial winner, Romp, with good-nosed slow dogs (local celebrities, too), and, owing to her terrific pace, she could always take and keep the outside beat; consequently, her chances of finding game were much increased, and she invariably beat them "hands down." But it was only her *pace*, not her *nose*, that gave her the advantage. The dogs she could easily beat were her equals in nose. I have attended field trials for the last fifteen years, and in no case have I seen any Pointer exhibiting an increased range of nose over that I have seen in other good dogs.

A fear has often been expressed that, by breeding for pace, the staunchness of the Pointer would be detrimentally affected. I am pleased to say I do not find this to be the case. He is now, in this respect, all that a sportsman can wish for.

As the Pointer and Setter are used for identically the same purpose, it may be expected that I should say something as to their relative merit. It is always an invidious task to draw comparisons, and in this case I think it especially so; for each breed has a host of admirers, who are ready to swear by their favourite's superiority.

As we are all too apt to be influenced in our opinion by our surroundings, and by our likes and dislikes, and, further, to generalise from a few instances that we may have had occasion to take knowledge of, I shall content myself by pointing out that sportsmen of great experience, both in the past and present, agree that the Setter is the

better adapted for hunting rough heather. His feet seem to stand the work better. It has also been said the Setter can do more hard work; but I think that the fact of the old-fashioned Pointer being so heavy in frame and build that he could not bear the strain of continued hunting, has produced an unmerited prejudice as to the powers of endurance of the breed.

I possess Pointers (and I do not for one moment suppose I am an exception) equal to any amount of work. The subject of the illustration (Special) I have hunted daily, week after week, and never saw him either footsore or come to a trot. And the Pointer, I am fully persuaded, is more readily trained to his duties than the Setter. He seems to take more kindly to his work, and is generally kept up to his training with less trouble. I have seen Pointers that have not been turned into a field for a year or two go and do their work in rare form, as if they had been in full training. I do not think the Pointer is such a companionable dog as the Setter. He is "all there" when at work, but afterwards the kennel seems his proper place. He does not acquire so much affectionate amiability of character from his association with mankind as does the Setter and other sporting dogs. Of course, there are exceptions to every rule, and I know some few Pointers that are remarkable for their attachment and sagacity.

By old sportsmen, and in books too, we have had some truly astonishing accounts given of intelligence displayed by them when at their legitimate work, and I feel bound to say that, after what I have seen, I am inclined to believe quite possible much that I at one time thought wholly incredible. Had it not been for the high authority who stated the fact that a dog, when used by him with a puppy, would worry the puppy because he flushed game, I could not have credited it for one moment; but, since this article first appeared in print,

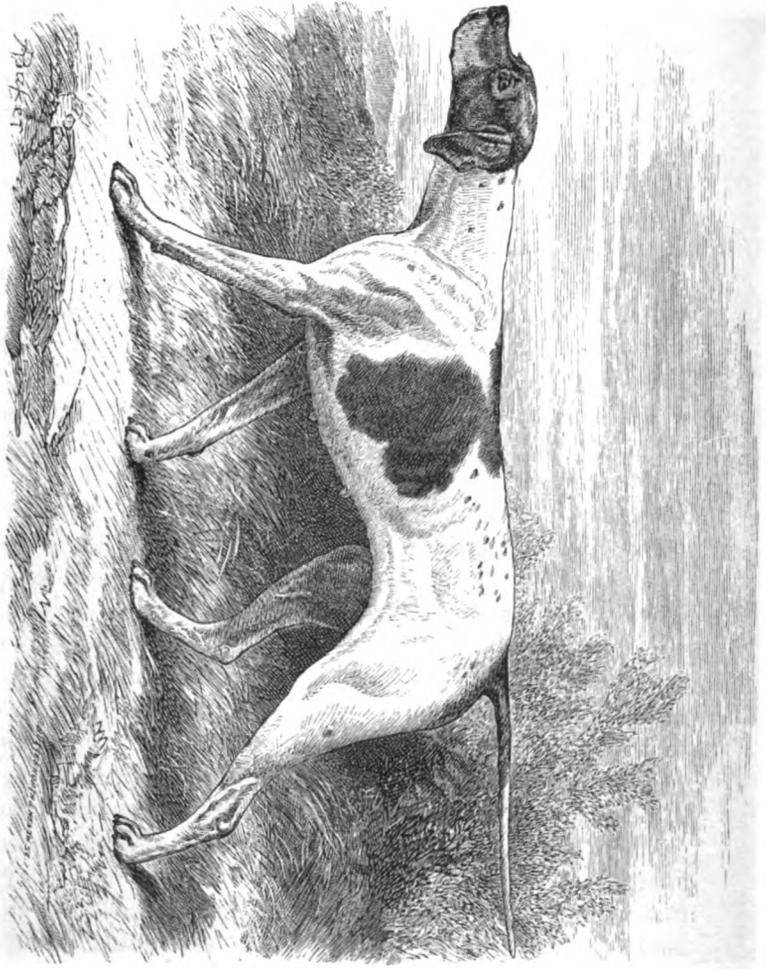
a similar fact has been demonstrated before my eyes; and more, the dog that would do this would also, when told, run after and bite the puppy that persisted in chasing game. I have also seen a Pointer leave his "point," and go round the birds that were running from him, apparently to prevent their getting up "out of shot," and this without the least instruction.

These facts serve to show what a high degree of sagacity it is possible to obtain in the Pointer. I feel sure that it will be said, by many of my readers: "No matter what you say in favour of the Pointer, he is of less service to the sportsman than he has ever been." As far as partridge-shooting is concerned, I am compelled to admit that he is the victim of circumstances. The change made in the system of cultivation in England has been such that, from lack of cover to hide his game (which enabled him to get up to it), and not from degeneracy in himself, he has become of less service now than he was in the days of small inclosures and reaped stubbles.

The stubbles, once the chief cover, are now cut by the machine so close that it is next to impossible for game to lie to a dog on them. This, with other changes in agriculture, militates strongly against the dog. He has now to work against very great difficulties, and difficulties which are not, I am sorry to say, likely to disappear. In spite of these disadvantages, I still maintain that a good Pointer can be used during the first month of the season with pleasure and advantage. I have always thus used my dogs, whether I have been shooting alone or in company, and during the first three weeks of the season 1879, in a very rough country, over 100 brace were killed to them, and they did excellent service in finding wounded game. A friend to whom I one season lent my bitch Stella, killed over her 100 brace to his own gun, and in the latter part of September he wrote me: "I find I can still have good

sport with your dog. Stella is all that I can wish for as a Pointer, and I never lose any wounded game with her; she has rendered me excellent services. She does in her work all but talk to me."

Before I proceed to define the points considered necessary to make up a first-class prize-winning Pointer, I may just say that there can be no doubt whatever that the standard of points used to decide as to which is the best-looking Pointer is in some measure a fancy and an arbitrary one. It makes some points essentially necessary that are of no real practical value, because they have no direct or indirect bearing on the dog's utility. The possession of them does not render him any the more fitted to assist the sportsman with the gun. I do not demur to the points now adopted as tests of beauty, simply because we all have our ideas of what is beautiful, and the standard may represent the framer's views of it; but I only wish to point out that, in matter of minutiae, the standard of points used to decide which is the best-looking Pointer need not be applied to dogs bred for sporting purposes alone, for whether they possess these trifling points or not does not in any way affect their usefulness; such, for instance, as that a Pointer must have a deep stop between the eyes, and a well-pronounced drop from skull to nose; no loose skin on his throat, called "throatings"; ears lying flat to cheeks; a nicely tapered stern, &c. That these are not absolutely necessary to render a Pointer good at his work will be clearly understood by every sportsman, and, in support of this statement, I may add that many dogs remarkable for their excellence in the field do not possess them. That celebrated field trial winner, Drake (sold at seven years old for 150 guineas to Mr. Price, of Bala), a marvel in his day, although possessing in a very marked degree the points of endurance, wear and tear qualities, cannot raise any claim to be considered good looking from a show-bench point of view.



POINTER.

Mr. G. Thorpe Bartram's Bitch, **STELLA**. Sire, Sancho (K.C.S.B., 1004) ; Dam, Bess, by Hamlet.

In general outline he is just the build that is looked for in a dog of whom a lot of hard work is required; but on critical examination—that is, taking into consideration all the little etceteras which go to make up a show-bench winner—he is found very deficient. When compared with his kennel companion, the celebrated show-bench winner, Wagg, the points which made Wagg so successful were seen to be entirely absent in him. These are the points which I would be understood to call “fancy points.”

I know well that many good-looking dogs have won at field trials; but the fact that many more that are not good-looking have taken the most prominent position as field trial runners remains. Dogs that have, by their excellent qualities in the field, quite charmed me, have been most unlike what is considered a good-looking show-bred bench Pointer.

I know the object of the standard of points was to combine the useful and the beautiful, and that these have not been more successfully united in the Pointer of to-day is no reflection on breeders. Pointers are now (in 1887), there can be no question, far better looking than in former years, but that the best for field purposes are not always the best looking is a well-established fact. In the productions of Nature, and of animal nature especially, great beauty and great usefulness are very rarely combined, and that Pointers possessing both are the exception, not the rule, is quite certain.

Our leading prize-winners, under different, and even the same judges, so very frequently change places in the prize list, that it is almost impossible to select any one dog as “the model” of what a Pointer should be. In the midst of this strange conflict of opinion as to which is and which is not the ideal Pointer, and in spite of the seeming fickleness of individual judges, it must be admitted that many of the principal prize-takers of to-day are dogs of

striking symmetry, and such as possess all the essential qualities to make excellent sporting dogs, although their beauty may be of very different types.

As far as can be gathered from decisions given by our judges—

The *head* should be long, and that part from the corner of eye to end of nose should be as long as possible. There should be a well-pronounced stop between the eyes, and a good drop from the skull to nose. The space under the eye, between the eye and nose, should be cleanly cut. This seems to give character to the face; when this part is filled up, it makes the head look what is called "gummy." The skull should not be too wide between the ears, nor too prominent from corner of set of ear to the eye. Dogs with wide skulls and full temples are very frequently extremely headstrong, and far too independent of their master's instructions when at work. They do not acquire in intelligence by this increased size of skull so much as a selfish liking to do as they please when beyond immediate control—a very troublesome fault. The lips should not hang down like the Bloodhound's, nor yet taper up to nostrils so much as the Foxhound's.

The *eyes* should not be sunken like the Hound's, nor yet "goggle-eyed," but should be full of animation and intelligence. A sullen, hard-looking eye is to be avoided; it is frequently the indication of a headstrong, ungovernable animal, almost worthless in the field.

The *ears* should be thin and silky, and of such a length as to reach just below the throat—that is, when hanging in the usual position. They should be set in below the square of the skull, and hang flat to the cheeks.

The *neck* should be long and muscular, springing out cleanly from the shoulders, and pinned to the skull in the same way. It should be slightly arched.

The *fore legs* should be straight and strong; the arms muscular; the elbows well let down, and coming down

well under the body, not out at elbow, or pigeon-toed. The pastern should be short, and well developed.

The *feet* should be of proportionate size to the dog, and either round or cat-shaped, or pointed like that of the hare. I have seen dogs with both kinds stand any amount of work without going lame, therefore for use I think there is no difference; but for show purposes, the round foot, with well-arched toes, looks the smartest.

The *shoulders* should be long, thin, and sloping backwards; great attention should be given to them, as a dog with a thick, loaded, straight shoulder, will have a cramped, stilty, laboured gallop.

The *chest* should be deep, and not wide; the ribs well sprung from backbone, and not *shovelling* at the brisket.

The *body* should be long and powerful; a weak, tucked-up body is a great defect, indicating lack of constitution, and a dog without a good constitution is not capable of enduring consecutive hard work. The back ribs should be deep, and the last rib as near the hip-bone as it is possible to get it. Much length from last rib to hip gives an appearance of a slack, weak loin.

The *loin* should be slightly arched, very wide, strong, and muscular.

It is upon the *hind legs* and *thighs* that a dog chiefly depends for his propelling leverage. If they are weak and ill-formed, the dog is a poor "stayer." The thighs should be very long and muscular, well developed, with a prominent second thigh; the stifle fairly bent, and slightly inclined outwards; the hocks large and strong, and coming straight with thigh, not in, or cow-hocked; the hips wide apart and well up, at least as high as the line of back, even when the dog is in good condition. The dogs with wide, ragged hip-bones are generally dogs with speed and endurance.

The *tail* should be short, but *not shortened*, fine at tip, and strong at root. It should be set on just below the

line of back, and not too low down to make the dog look "goose-rumped." It must not be curled over back like the *Hound's*, nor yet drooping like the *Clumber's*. It should be carried in a lively manner just above the level of the back.

Symmetry is, as far as I can define it, a perfect unity of proportion of all the points before enumerated, so as to present the beautiful outline that is so pleasing to the eye—a perfect adaptability of each part of the dog to the exercise of all his powers to the greatest advantage. For instance, some dogs possess several points in a very marked degree of excellence, and still, because other parts are deficient, their symmetry will be said to be at fault. Unless all parts are considered collectively, no estimate can be formed of symmetry; and then it is very difficult to estimate correctly.

Colour I do not consider should have any weight in a decision at all. A predominance of white has been thought to be best, because it assists the sportsman in detecting the whereabouts of his dogs in high covert: but as to the colour of the markings on this white ground, why, I attach no importance to it whatever; and, in support of this opinion, I may say we frequently see equally good Pointers of different colours. A few years ago the lemon and white were most fashionable, but for the past year or two the liver and white have been the most successful prize-winners. For smartness of appearance in the showing I consider liver or lemon and white the best colours.

There is much that is quite essential in making up a first-class Pointer, that show-bench beauty—however much it may be admired and valued—does not vouch for the possession of; consequently, a great deal besides the points of merit, as given in my standard, whereby to judge of appearance, has to enter into the calculations of a successful breeder. For instance, a dog may comply with all the conditions there laid down to make him a

successful show dog, and yet be a worthless brute for the purposes for which the Pointer is bred; and as these qualities so necessary to make the dog useful are transmitted from parents to offspring, it is only reasonable in breeding to exercise the same care to produce what is needed in the dog to make him suited for his work, as is employed to obtain the beauty that now graces the Pointer classes at our large shows.

As much difference exists between Pointers in their working capacities as in their appearances, and sportsmen know well enough how to appreciate the qualities that make a dog a good performer in the field. Dogs that can successfully run through a big stake at field trials are considered more valuable than those that are able to win many a champion cup on the show bench. And, having knowledge of this fact, I think it becomes me, in writing on this subject, to define that which is of such primary importance to those interested in the breed.

First, it is of great importance that Pointers should have a good nose, to enable them to scent game at a distance, the further off the better, provided that they are possessed of sufficient discrimination in using it to prevent their false-pointing. The necessity for this quality is so evident that I will not dilate further upon it, simply adding that this subject, nose *versus* brains in setting dogs, is full of interest.

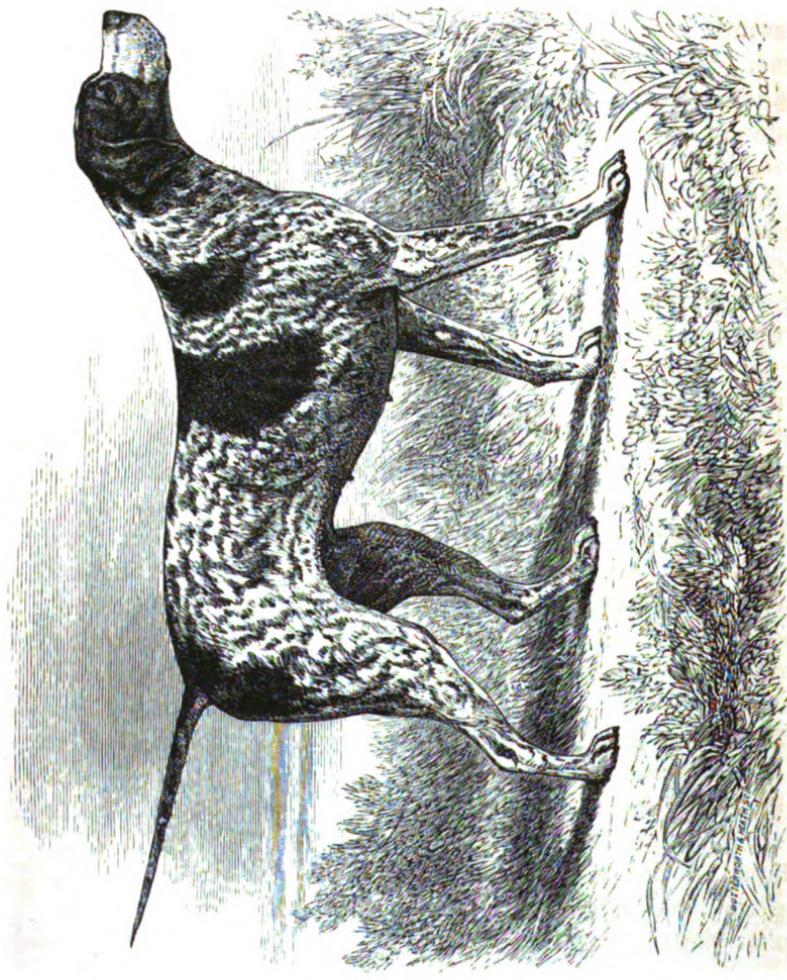
Next to this is a natural love of hunting, without which no dog ever attains to any great perfection, and with it many dogs, weak in other points, become, by practice, tolerably useful dogs. Those that frequently require the words of encouragement, "Hold up," are very troublesome to break, and when broken often turn out lazy, or display a lack of energy that is painful to witness. From their nervousness and want of heart they are unable to use to advantage the other good qualities they may possess.

It is a nice, lively, high-spirited, kindly-dispositioned

dog that is so much prized—those with plenty of pluck, and yet not headstrong or reckless. Many dogs from their self-will, although possessing other admirable qualities, become very difficult to manage, and nothing but repeated and hard work will keep them under control. Such dogs are never wholly reliable, and this is especially felt when using them in braces. A good dog that is trying to do his best is tempted into doing wrong by the provocation he receives from his reckless companion.

Many otherwise good dogs turn out useless because of their defective temper, and, therefore, I think it is an all-important matter to get a good-tempered dog, especially if he is to be trained for sporting purposes; for, in his work, he has so continually to hold in check his natural instincts that, unless he has a good temper, he is continually forgetting his previous training. As for myself, I have quite decided never again to undertake to train a dog that is thoroughly self-willed. It is, at best, a tiresome undertaking, and, as yet, I have never found it worth the trouble it entails. When a dog of this temperament gets beyond your immediate control, he is often getting into trouble by doing something that is sufficient to annoy you, or else the close attention necessary in working him destroys half the pleasure the sport should afford; at least, such is my experience.

Dogs with a jealous disposition are, I consider, very defective. They are difficult to deal with when using in braces, because they are not to be depended upon as "backers," and, when opportunity serves them, they will take away the other dog's point—a most serious fault. This same failing makes them reckless in their range, and they have the stupid habit of *follow the leader*, instead of taking up an independent beat, and, often from sheer jealousy, commit faults (amongst others, that of "flushing"), not from want of *nose*, but from giving too much attention to what the other dog is doing, instead of



POINTER.

Mr. G. Thorpe Bartram's SPECIAL. Sire, Pax (K.C.S.B., 935) ; Dam, Romp (K.C.S.B., 4249).

minding their own work. What is most needed in a Pointer to make him a good workman is a good nose, plenty of pace, a level, sweeping stride that will enable him to hunt a lot of ground without distressing himself, a natural love of hunting, making him anxious to find game, with sufficient perseverance to make him continue ranging, even where game is scarce; a lively, kindly temperament, with plenty of courage without being headstrong, not jealous of a companion, though ever ready to do his share of work; standing correction for a fault, without getting sulky or refusing to work; neither sly, shy, nor wilful; carrying his head well up, never stooping to ground scent; having sufficient brains to make him clever at getting on to "point" by making the best use of the wind in quartering the ground. When a sportsman has succeeded in breeding or obtaining Pointers possessed of the qualities I have enumerated, as necessary for success on the show bench and in the field, if he takes my advice, he will be very chary in parting with them.

The gentlemen who at present possess dogs nearest to my idea of the model Pointer are Messrs. J. H. Whitehouse, Samuel Price, G. Pilkington, R. Lloyd Price, G. Moore, T. Statter, Heywood-Lonsdale, W. Arkwright, Barclay-Field, R. P. Leeche, Viscount Downe, and Lord Sefton.

The brace illustrated, Special and Stella, combine in a marked degree those qualities I have attempted to describe, and which I consider are a *sine quâ non* in a first-class Pointer. Stella has been decided by competent judges to be one of the best large Pointer bitches in England, as evidenced by the fact that she won the cup at the Crystal Palace, and then, after a rest of four years, was again shown and won first Palace, first Birmingham, and then took champion cup at Birmingham [1878], which proves that during her career nothing was produced that could relegate her to a "back seat."

She was one of the very few Sancho bitches left, and it is to this blood much of the excellence of the Pointers of the present day is due. I may just mention the fact that very prominent—indeed, the most prominent—prize-winners for years past have been direct descendants of Sancho, viz., champions Wagg, Don II., Pearl, Blanche, Macgregor, Cedric, Luna, Stella, &c., &c. What other dog can show such an illustrious family? And it must be remembered that this dog died very young. His litter brother, Chang, too, was a champion in his day. Now, a few years later, we find that so strong is his blood that his daughter, Mr. Leeche's Belle, when put to Mr. Samuel Price's Bang, in two litters produced a whole string of winners, sufficient to sweep the board for some time. One of the first litter, Bow Bells, scarcely suffered a defeat. She in three years took the first prizes and champion at the leading Kennel Club shows: and £200 was offered for her. Her sister, Zeal, was also successful here, and more so in America. If only shown in good condition, she was almost beyond beating in any company. Again we find, in a strong class at a show held at the Alexandra Palace, five bitches out of a later litter, sisters to Bow Bells and Zeal, were those left in for all the prizes given in this class, one of them afterwards taking the cup given by *The Country* as the best sporting puppy bred in 1878. These contained a large amount of Sancho blood, as their dam was by Sancho, and their sire, Mr. S. Price's Bang, was by Brockton's Bounce, the sire of Sancho. This is in-breeding, and probably accounts for the smallness of the Pointers produced by the Belle and Bang cross. However, this is sufficient to establish beyond doubt the Sancho blood as of the very best. Besides these being good show-bench dogs, they were equally good in the field; indeed, Rapid, Romp, Macgregor, Bow Bells, Zeal, and Wagg all figured in field trial prize-lists, so their achievements must

be added to the successes of the same blood. It is a rare thing to find Pointers of this strain that are not good at work, providing, of course, they have been properly handled. They are rather excitable, but when settled down to their work they are very reliable, and no day is too long and no work too hard for them.

Special was a dog of great muscular development. He was only exhibited seventeen times, and won sixteen prizes. His pedigree is of the best, combining as it does the blood of the most noted field trial and show-bench winning strains existing in England at the present day. I have owned and worked many Pointers, but none better than Romp, Special, and Stella, above referred to.

During the past ten years, American sportsmen have taken to using and breeding Pointers very largely, and to improve their dogs have purchased most of the best dogs England has produced during this period; and so well have they studied the art of breeding, that English judges who have attended American shows assert that they have in the States bred, from the Pointers purchased of us, a grand lot of dogs—such, indeed, as could not, in their opinion, be beaten by anything in England. Several German sportsmen, too, have become quite prominent Pointer breeders and exhibitors, and foremost amongst them is Prince Albert Solms, who, with the aid of Naso of Kipping and others, has succeeded in taking many premier honours at the leading Kennel Club and other shows, and, with others, been equally successful at English field trials.

The engravings given are from sketches taken by that successful artist Mr. Arthur Baker, and I am pleased to vouch for the faithfulness of the likenesses he has produced.

The following measurements, very carefully taken, are of two celebrated prize winners. It will be seen that there is very little difference between the two dogs. They are both magnificent animals. Wagg took the cup as

best Pointer in the show at Birmingham, and Don (an engraving of whom is also given) has once beaten Wagg under the same judge.

MEASUREMENTS OF MR. FLETCHER'S DON AND MR. LLOYD
PRICE'S WAGG.

	DON.	WAGG.
	in.	in.
Height at shoulder	24½	24
Length of body... ..	31	31
Length of head... ..	9½	9½
Round skull	18½	18½
Round loin	23	25
Round thigh	16	16
Round second thigh	9½	9½
Round chest	29½	30
Round forearm	8	7½
From corner of eye to end of nose...	3½	4
Length of ears	6	6
Distance between ears... ..	6	6½
Top of shoulder to elbow	11½	11½

PEDIGREE OF SPECIAL.

SPECIAL.	Romp (owner)	Romp (Brackenbury's)	Champion Bell Bounce (Brockton's)
		Champion Chang	
	Champion Pax	Nina	Hamlet Sal Romp (Powis's)
		Priam	Bob (Price's) Mona (Whitehouse's)

Measurements of some celebrated Pointers:

Mr. J. H. Salter's *Chang II.*: Age, about 5 years; weight, 65lb.; height at shoulder, 24in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 17½in.; girth of chest, 30in.; girth of loin, 24in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 7½in.; length of head from occiput to

tip of nose, $9\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 11in.

Mr. Geo. Pilkington's *Fancy*: Age, 4 years; weight, 48lb.; height at shoulder, $22\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, 12in.; girth of chest, $26\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth of head, 14in.; girth of forearm, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

Mr. Geo. Pilkington's *Faust*: Age 4 years; weight, 70lb.; height at shoulder, 25in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, $14\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, $30\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, $22\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, $17\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $7\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Mr. Geo. Pilkington's *Tory*: Age, 5 years; weight, 62lb.; height at shoulder, $25\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, $30\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, $16\frac{3}{4}$ in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Mr. Geo. Pilkington's *Garnet*: Age, 3 years; weight, 58lb.; height at shoulder, $25\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 29in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 16in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

Mr. G. Thorpe-Bartram's *Stella*: Age, $6\frac{1}{2}$ years; weight, 58lb.; height at shoulder, $22\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 15in.; girth of chest, 30in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, $16\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $7\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.; girth of neck midway between head

and shoulders, 15½in.; length from corner of eye to end of nose, 4in.; length from elbow to top of shoulders, 11½in.; length of ear from top to set-on at skull, 6½in.

The following are the property of Mr. R. J. Ll. Price:

Grog: Age, 3 years; weight, 60lb.; height at shoulder, 25in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 38in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 28in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 16½in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9½in.

Eos Cymru: Age, 4½ years; weight, 65lb.; height at shoulder, 25in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, 14½in.; girth of chest, 29in.; girth of loin, 23in.; girth of head, 17½in.; girth of forearm, 10in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

Dandy Drake: Age, 2 years; weight, 46lb.; height at shoulder, 23in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, 12in.; girth of chest, 27in.; girth of loin, 17in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 9in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

Irrepressible: Age, 2 years; weight, 58lb.; height at shoulder, 25in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36½in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, 29in.; girth of loin, 21½in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 9in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

Belle: Age, 9 years; weight, 56lb.; height at shoulder, 24in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 38½in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 29in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8½in.

Bow Bells: Age, 3 years; weight, 52lb.; height at shoulder, 24½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.;

length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, 27½in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 18in.; girth of forearm, 9in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8½in.

Siapence: Age, 4 years; weight, 52lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, 12½in.; girth of chest, 27in.; girth of loin, 23½in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.

Ben: Age, 3 years; weight, 42lb.; height at shoulder, 20½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 33in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, 26in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8½in.

Juno: Age, 2 years; weight, 48lb.; height at shoulder, 23in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, 26in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.

Nimble Ninepence: Age, 6 years; weight, 48lb.; height at shoulder, 22½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 35in.; length of tail, 13½in.; girth of chest, 25in.; girth of loin, 21½in.; girth of head, 13in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

Beau: Age, 6 years; weight, 51lb.; height at shoulder, 23in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 34in.; length of tail, 13½in.; girth of chest, 27in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth of head, 16in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

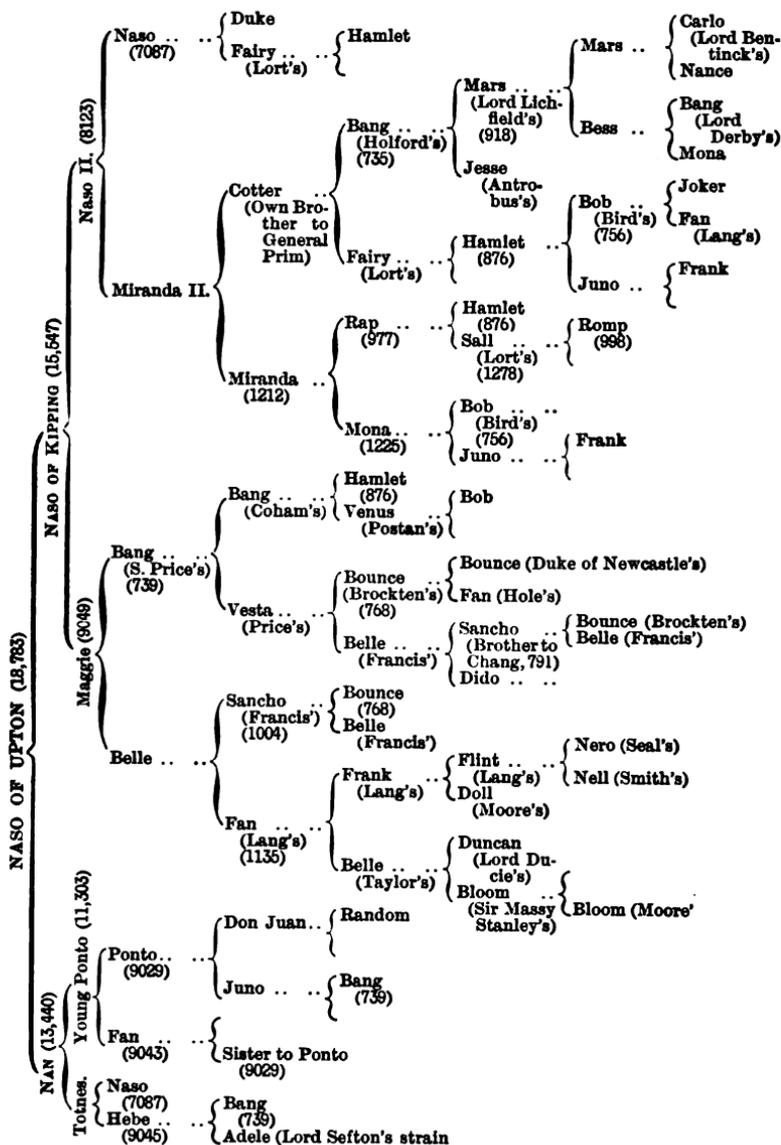
Mr. C. H. Beck's *Naso of Upton*: Age, 3 years; weight, 64lb.; height at shoulder, 24in.; length from

nose to set-on of tail, 38in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 30½in.; girth of loin, 24in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head, 9½in.; girth of muzzle, 9½in.

During the last few years, the number of Pointers exhibited has increased, and competition has been keener and closer than ever before, and that by the increase in the number of good ones, or, in other words, the raising of the average excellence. Few, if any, handsomer Pointers than *Graphic* ever delighted the eye of a sportsman. After winning the highest honours here, he was sold at a high price and exported to America, leaving behind many of his progeny to sustain the reputation of our home kennels. Among these, his son *Don* of Cornwall, the property of Mr. W. J. Tredinnick, is one of the best; and Mr. J. L. Anthony's *Lad* of Bow, another of his sons, is of superlative merit. Mr. T. Butler's *Milton Bang II.*, Mr. T. B. Lennard's *Chandos*, Prince A. Solms' *Naso* of Kipping, the Rev. W. Shield's *Gladstone*, and Mr. E. Bulled's *Devon Ponto*, in dogs; and in bitches, Sir H. F. de Trafford's *Duchess* of Hautroyde, Mr. J. E. L. Lloyd's *Ilma* and *Zasme*, and Mr. J. L. Anthony's *Lass* of Bow, are prominent in an extensive galaxy of excellence.

I have given above the weight and measurements of Mr. C. H. Beck's *Naso* of Upton, who is, if not the best, certainly one of the few having pretensions to that very high position—the foremost of living British Pointers.

I subjoin a table of *Naso* of Kipping's pedigree, which is interesting and useful, as showing how the celebrated blood of the kennels of a past generation of sportsmen celebrated for their Pointers sustains its prestige still; for the famous kennels of Earl Derby, Mr. Edge, Sir F. Goodrich, Lord Sefton, and others, through Mr. Lort's *Naso*, Mr. Whitehouse's *Hamlet*, and other past celebrities of the stud, lives in *Naso* of Upton and many besides of our famous Pointers of the day.



Mr. Thorpe-Bartram has, in the preceding pages, referred to the system of judging by arbitrary standards of beauty, and it is a system I agree with him in denouncing as vicious, even when applied to mere fancy breeds, for fashion knows no law, and it is in its nature to fall into extravagancies.

Our Pointers have, however, suffered less than most breeds from that cause, for there has been at constant work a factor more powerful, checking the follow of arbitrary fancy, and preventing the degeneracy of the race, which would follow its uncurbed indulgence.

Our modern practice of testing the working capabilities of Pointers and Setters at field trials, although, unfortunately, not so frequent, nor so generally adopted as they might well be, have yet exercised a good influence.

The most powerful and constant factor for good is, however, to be found in the fact that, with rare exceptions, the Pointer has not attracted the attention of the mere fancier, nearly all successful exhibitors being sportsmen who train and regularly work their dogs on game.

It will be seen from the table of pedigree of Naso of Upton, and the more limited one of Special, that all the kennels to which they trace back were noted for the working qualities of the dogs; and hence we have the result of selection, generation after generation, of the fittest for the special duties of the Pointer.



CHAPTER XXI.

THE SPANISH POINTER.

THE old heavy, lumbering Spanish Pointer is said to be no more, at least in this country; but judging from specimens we still see occasionally at shows, he has not been entirely improved out of existence in the British Isles. As the source of our far more elegant, faster, and stauncher Pointer, we must speak of him with feelings of regret as for the now obsolete that was useful in its day.

Compared with the modern English Pointer, he was bigger, coarser, and clumsier. Standing higher on the leg, his coarse head and badly-balanced body gave him an over-topped appearance. His feet were apt to be flat and spreading, which added to his slowness; but in nose he excelled, and to careful breeding from him the present Pointer's high qualities in that respect are due. Close observers may still see, in litters bred without the exercise of care and judgment, specimens with unknit frames, unsymmetrical build, and heavy, chumpy heads—evidence of their origin from a dog most useful in his day.

No detailed description of him is necessary; but we owe too much to him to altogether ignore his existence, and the influence he has had on the modern race.



CHAPTER XXII.

T H E D R O P P E R .

THE cross between the Setter and the Pointer is so called, and often proves to be a hardy, useful dog, displaying the excellencies of both parents; but although individual specimens turn out all that their owners wish, the cross is not a desirable one, resulting, in the first generation, in produce of the most varied types; nor can it be continued with advantage or any certainty.

It has, therefore, followed that these are but seldom bred now, and they never find a place at any of our shows.

“Idstone,” writing from experience of the Dropper, says “his talents are uncertain, and his temper is capricious.” The same might be said of the talents of any breed, but there appears to me more reason, *primâ facie*, for the charge of undesirable temper. There are, doubtless, many influences besides heredity affecting the temper of dogs; and, so far as my observations have extended, I think there is good ground for believing that crossing pure breeds often results in uncertain tempers in the progeny.

The majority of writers who have given their opinion of the Dropper speak well of his usefulness. The cross was, however, I consider, rather fantastic, and the mistake of sportsmen who were so far from being naturalists, they ignored the very wide physical difference so apparent between Pointer and Setter, and were influenced solely by the similarity of the work to which each breed had been trained, so that aptitude for it had become in them what is commonly expressed to be a second nature.



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ENGLISH SETTER.

Mr. G. Potter's COURT HOWARD, K.C.S.B. 17,640. Sire, Mr. Cunningham's Sir Alister, K.C.S.B. 10,165.
Dam, Mr. G. Potter's Mena, K.C.S.B. 19,169.

CHAPTER XXIII.

THE ENGLISH SETTER.

My Setter ranges in the new-shorn field,
His nose in air erect; from ridge to ridge,
Panting, he bounds, his quartered ground divides
In equal intervals, nor careless leaves
One inch untried.

—SOMERVILLE.

DIFFICULT as it admittedly is to trace the history of any of our modern breeds of dogs, although in so many instances their manufacture, if I may use the term, into their present form, is of comparatively recent date, there is, in respect to the Setter, a general agreement among writers and breeders that our present dog is largely derived from the Spaniel; indeed, the proofs of this are very conclusive: the family likeness is in many respects yet strongly preserved, and in some kennels, where they have kept pretty much to their own blood, following different lines from our show and field-trial breeders, this is most markedly so. No more pronounced instance of this has come under my notice for years than a number of dogs, all of the same blood, shown by the Earl of Carlisle and other gentlemen, at the Border Counties Show at Carlisle, in January, 1877. These were mostly liver and white in colour, stood higher than the show-bench Spaniel, shorter and rounder in the head than the present-day Setter. They were all strong, useful-looking dogs, showing

a lot of Spaniel character in general formation, carriage of ears, and coat and feathering, the coat having a strong tendency to curl, and some of them having as distinct a topknot as the Irish Water Spaniel, although not so large.

I find, since writing the above, that the late Mr. Edward Laverack, in his Monograph on the Setter, had described this strain as the Naworth Castle and Featherstone Castle breed, and our descriptions are practically identical. Mr. Laverack speaks of some specimens as liver, others liver and white, and says some of these Setters were sent to Ireland seventy years ago. When I first saw this breed, I was struck with several points of resemblance to the Irish Water Spaniel, and it is quite likely that the blood of the Naworth Castle Setter runs in the veins of our Irish Spaniels. In favour of this idea, it may be necessary to remind many readers that, until quite recently, a distinct difference was recognised between the Water Spaniels of the South and North of Ireland; and the latter were certainly more like the Naworth Setter than those of the South. The resemblance between the two breeds does not consist alone in the topknot, which, undoubtedly, is a feature that readily catches the eye; but the strong fore quarters, the upstanding style, and lofty carriage, are remarkable in both.

The writer on Setters in the "Sportsman's Cabinet," 1802, tells us that in his day, in the Northern counties, the Pointer was called the Smooth Spaniel, the Setter the Rough Spaniel; and although he speaks of this localism with surprise, as a misnomer, it was really the preservation of an old distinction, the Setters, or Setting Spaniels, being so named to divide them from their congeners, used for different work, and named Cockers and Springers. Our forefathers do not appear to have been so fastidious respecting the appearance of their dogs as we are, but undoubtedly the Spaniel was pre-eminently

their setting dog for use with both the net and the gun. The name Setter does not appear to have been used till about the end of the seventeenth, or beginning of the eighteenth, century. Somerville, in "The Chase," first published 1734, uses it; but in the "Dictionarum Rusticum et Urbicum," 1704, Setting Spaniel is the term under which the dog is described.

In a much older book than the "Sportsman's Cabinet," the "Gentleman's Recreation," the writer gives the following directions how to select a setting dog: "The dog which you elect for setting must have a perfect and good scent, and be naturally addicted to the hunting of feathers; and this dog may be either Land Spaniel, Water Spaniel, or mongrel of them both—either the shallow-flewed hound, Tumbler, Lurcher, or small bastard Mastiff. But there is none better than the Land Spaniel, being of a good and nimble size, rather small than gross, and of a courageous mettle, which, though you cannot discern, being young, yet you may very well know from a right breed which have been known to be strong, lusty, and nimble rangers, of active feet, wanton tails, and busy nostrils, whose tail was without weariness, their search without changeableness, and whom no delight did transport beyond fear and obedience." Many other writers might be quoted to the same effect, and it is quite clear that the old Setter was simply a Spaniel kept to certain work, and as useful to the old sportsman who netted his covey of partridge as his modern representative is to the present "shooter on the wing," who is content to bag his brace by a right and left from his patent breech-loader. Somerville, that thorough sportsman and true poet, gives a lucid and very happy description of the working of the Setter in the following lines:

When autumn smiles, all beauteous in decay,
 And paints each chequered grove with various hues,
 My setter ranges in the new-shorn fields,
 His nose in air erect; from ridge to ridge,

Panting, he bounds, his quartered ground divides
In equal intervals, nor careless leaves
One inch untried. At length the tainted gale
His nostrils wide inhale; quick joy elates
His beating heart, which, awed by discipline
Severe, he dares not own, but cautious creeps,
Low-cowering, step by step; at last attains
His proper distance; there he stops at once,
And points with his instructive nose upon
The trembling prey. On wings of wind upborne
The floating net, unfolded, flies, then drops,
And the poor fluttering captives rise in vain.

These were the halcyon days of sport, when driving, battues, and mowing machines were alike unknown, and, rude as the appliances for taking game were, they afforded full play to the capabilities of a good Setter, the clever working of which gave such genuine pleasure to the sportsman.

Whether the modern Setter has been produced from the Spaniel by careful selection, or by a cross with the Pointer or some other breed, it is difficult to decide. Many have supposed the flat coat has been obtained by a cross; but selection would quite account for that, as well as the change in formation, and the style of standing to game instead of crouching or dropping, as the setting dog used with the net was trained to do.

Stonehenge says: "The Setter is, without doubt, either descended from the Spaniel, or both are offshoots from the same parent stock. But," he adds, "when shooting flying came into vogue, breakers made the attempt to assimilate the attitude of the setting Spaniel, or 'Setter,' as he is now called, to that of the Pointer; and, in process of time, and possibly, also, by crossing with that dog, they succeeded, though, even after the lapse of more than a century, the cataleptic condition is not so fully displayed by the Setter as by the Pointer."

I look upon the cataleptic form exhibited by Pointers, and some Setters, when standing to game, as an inherited

habit, the result of education. I do not mean to imply that the dog-breaker who first observed the motionless, statuesque form of his dog when on a point, recognised anything he had had it in his mind to teach, nor that, having observed it, he understood how it had been produced, or intelligently went to work to establish the peculiar fact.

The stop or point voluntarily made by our dogs now is the inherited result of training the breed, generation after generation, to forego the spring on to the game natural to a carnivorous animal, in order to serve the gun.

To induce this practice, check cords, spiked collars, and other implements of torture, were resorted to; and these brought the dog up with such suddenness, and by the infliction of such acute and unexpected pain, just at the moment when his enjoyment was at its height, that the mental impression made must have been deep; and, being so often repeated, memory brought back the fear, and the physical action followed so instantaneously, and with such complete fixity or rigidity of the muscles, as to be pronouncedly cataleptic. That such inherited quality or habit might descend to progeny, even when that was from a cross with a breed not possessing it, is probable enough; but I do not see that such a cross is necessary to account for some Setters standing upright and firm, and almost cataleptic, on a point, for the same causes, though to a modified extent, have, since shooting on the wing became the sportsman's practice, operated on the Setter.

Had another sportsman than Mr. Laverack written a monograph on the Setter twenty years ago, based on personal experience in south, east, or west, quite a different set of kennels, strains, or breeds, would have received the notice and publicity given to those Mr. Laverack met with in his Northern experience; for, although it seems to be generally admitted that the northern of England, and some Scotch, counties have always been

famed for excellent Setters, there can be no doubt there were locally famous strains in all parts of the country, although the published records give no special prominence to them.

Mr. Laverack merely describes strains he personally knew; and as he refers to the Marquis of Bute's Setters at Rothesay, I may say that the Marquis had, twenty years ago, at his place—Dumfries House, near Cumnock—a strain of jet black Setters, kept pure, I was informed, for at least half-a-century.

The institution of dog shows and field trials gave a considerable impetus to dog-breeding, and in the strife for fame none has been so successful as the Laveracks, which, for elegance of outline, are unsurpassed by any breed of dog. These, and crosses from them, are now pretty well spread over the country, and are also very fashionable in America. Sam, late the property of Mr. W. Wardlaw Reid, and the subject of our engraving, was a pure Laverack, brother to Mr. Purcell Llewellyn's Countess and Nellie, by Dash II. out of Moll III., and so going back to Ponto and Old Moll. Sam was a dog showing great quality, and with a good frame, free from the extreme delicacy of appearance which not a few modern Setters have; and I am of opinion that size and stoutness are sometimes a little too much sacrificed to elegance.

Mr. Purcell Llewellyn now claims to have produced a distinct strain of his own; he has been, unquestionably, a large and successful breeder of both good and handsome dogs, and his breed is now well known in the United States of America, to which a great number of them have been shipped as the "Llewellyn Setter." The strain is founded on Laverack blood, and has, on more than one occasion, given rise to discussions which it would be unprofitable for us to enter upon here.

I will submit the tables of pedigree drawn up by Mr. Laverack, and published in his book; and if the reader will

carefully study these, and compare with the pedigree of Count Howard, which follows, taken from the "Kennel Club Stud Book," he will not wonder that there should have arisen controversies on the subject.

That every dog has his day is one of those trite sayings that apply to many things in human experience, and the fortunes of our Setters illustrate its truth.

A sporting writer, in the year 1800, says that in country towns in the North of England there were, in his day, ten Setters for one Pointer; and the North of England has the credit of having furnished the basis of our present stock.

The Setter, however, during the earlier part of this century was for a time out of fashion, being pushed aside to make place for the Pointer; but now he is again in the ascendant, being certainly more generally popular than his companion servant to the gun, the Pointer. Fortune has also shown her usual waywardness in advancing some families of Setters to the highest prominence, leaving others possessed of initial qualities equally good to be lost in the oblivion of the past, or remembered only in traditional gossip, confined to comparatively narrow circles.

Mr. Laverack, who established a strain which will ensure his name being remembered as long as annals of British sport are cherished and preserved, gives, in his *brochure* on the Setter, descriptive notices of eight or ten distinct breeds of Setters known to him in this country. These are rather strains than breeds, in which some characteristics, cultivated for supposed advantage in use, or as a fanciful enhancement of appearance, have, for the most part, lost their individuality, so far as the general public are concerned; and although they may yet, in some few kennels, be kept sufficiently pure as to retain the chief distinctive family characteristics, in the main they have been swallowed up in the general and popular Setter of the day. Even the Laverack, and its close congener, the Llewellyn, have

almost lost their distinctiveness, and, following older strains, are being absorbed in the recognised modern English Setter.

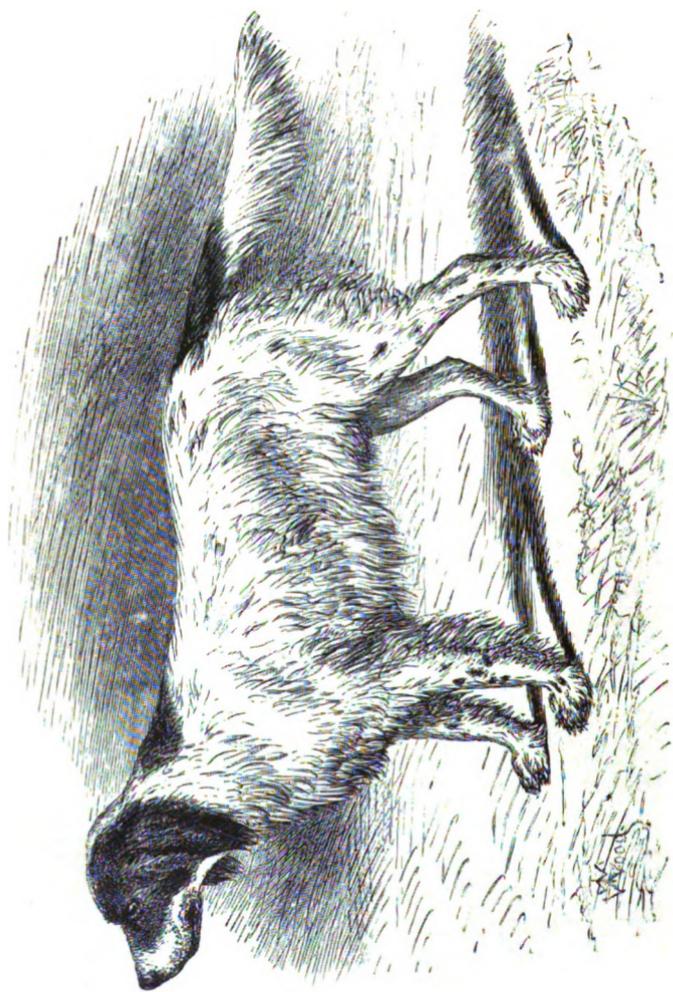
The Naworth Castle strain I have already referred to. I consider it a more distinct variety from all the others than any of them are from each other, not even excluding in this the Irish and the Gordon Setter. Specimens of it are never seen at shows now, and I do not know if the strain is kept up. I think it more worthy of cultivation than many breeds of our modern dogs that have received much attention and had much money invested on them.

Among the other breeds enumerated by Mr. Laverack are Lord Lovat's black white and tan; the Earl of Southesk's black white and tan; the Earl of Seafield's black white and tan, and lemon or orange and white; the Earl of Tankerville's jet black; Mr. Lort's breed, black and white, and lemon and white; and the Llanidloes, a Welsh breed, the original colour of which is said to have been a chalk-white, without admixture.

I do not consider that the slight variations in these kennels are of any importance. In an old dairy country it will sometimes occur that, although the same breed of cattle is kept by all, the herd on one farm will be distinguished from others by some minor peculiarity, inherited from some favourite bull or cow, whose blood has been kept to more than others; and so it is with kennels of dogs. Still, by the mere accident of any one of the possessors of the strains described by Mr. Laverack, "Stonehenge," "Idstone," and others, having been a large and persistent exhibitor at the period of the initiation and during the early years of shows, that particular breed might have been the leading one at the present day, and the model to which breeders looked up.

The Laverack strain has, undoubtedly, been the popular one during the show era, and a handsomer dog than a good Laverack Setter does not exist.

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LAVERACK SETTER.

Mr. Wardlaw Reid's SAM. Sire, Dash II. (K.C.S.B., 1341); Dam, Moll III., by Fred I.,
out of Belle II.

Into the subject of Mr. Laverack's pedigrees I do not minutely go, not possessing the authentic documents necessary to enable me to do justice to the subject. The matter was discussed a year or two back by the Kennel Club, the committee of which were understood to decide that at least some of the pedigrees were wrong. I think it a matter of comparative indifference now whether absolute accuracy was observed. I had a very slight acquaintance with Mr. Laverack, but sufficient to convince me he was not a man who would intentionally mislead. I do not think it likely that all Laverack Setters, so-called, are descended, without admixture of other blood, from Ponto and Old Moll, though these were the main source of all his stock. It is easy to the well-disposed to imagine that, in a large and increasing kennel, facts not recorded at the time they took place might be forgotten, and, if chronicled from memory, mis-stated without intention of wrong.

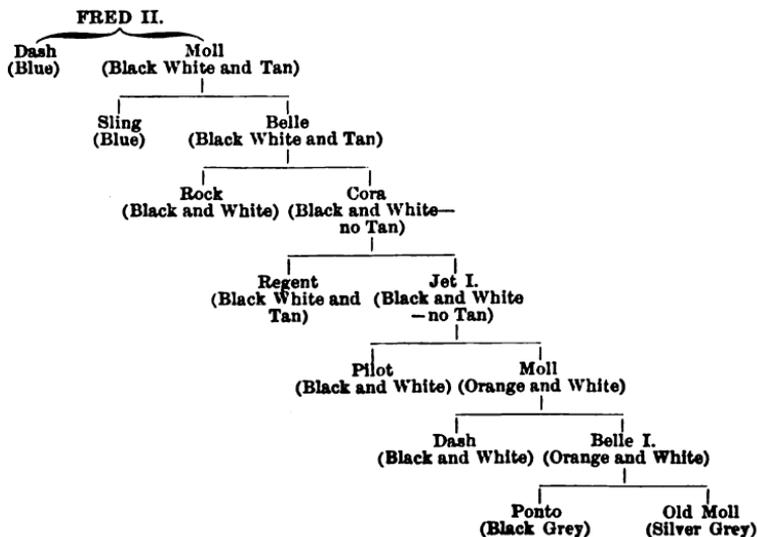
In the discussions on Setters, as on other breeds, feeling has often run rather high, and prejudice has been allowed to usurp the place of argument; and even "Idstone"—a sportsman and a gentleman—in his book, "The Dog," refers to Mr. Laverack, not by name, but as the Manchester Gentleman.

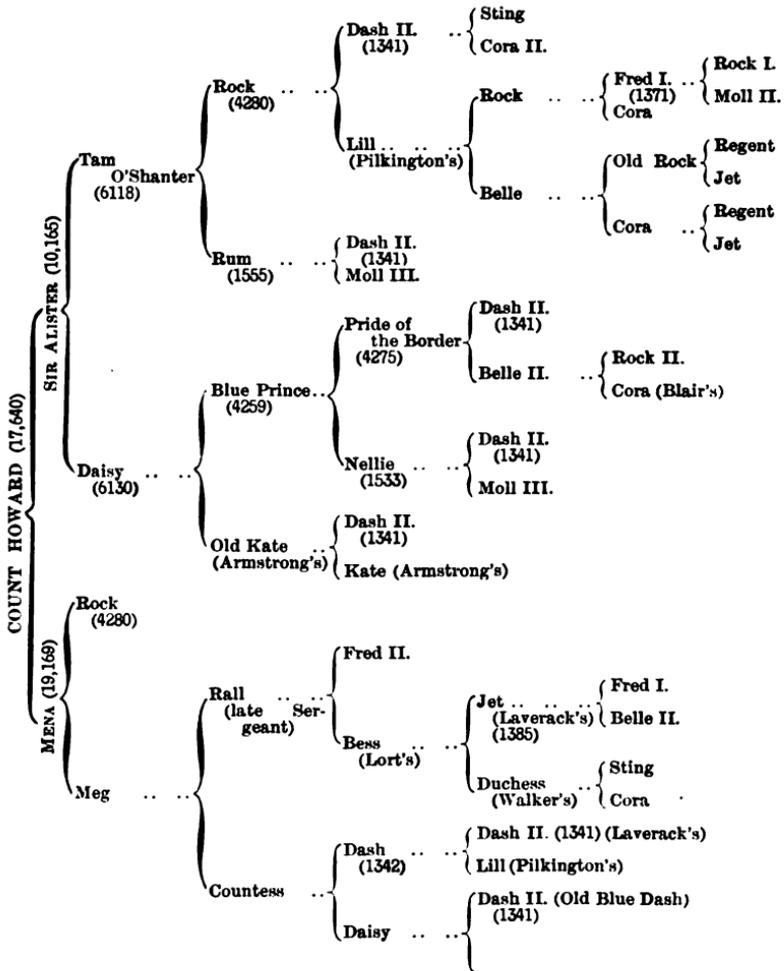
Mr. Laverack obtained his Ponto and Old Moll from the Rev. Mr. Harrison, near Carlisle, in 1825, and the breed was at that time supposed to have been kept pure to itself for thirty-five years; so that now (1887) owners of Laveracks may boast of a pure pedigree for their dogs of a hundred years, for whether absolutely of one blood, the chain of the pedigree unbroken, or with some slight admixture of the blood of some other family of Setters, they are practically pure. Such being the case, the pedigree must be of great interest to many, and I therefore reproduce the tables from Mr. Laverack's book, and, in a third table, the pedigree of Count Howard,

whose life-like portrait, in colours, by Mr. Baker, is given in illustration of the English Setter.

It is brought forward as an argument against Mr. Laverack's pedigrees, that he had laid down the colours of the strain known by his name as confined to "black, greys or flints, blue, or lemon and white Beltons," and yet Pride of the Border, one of his most celebrated dogs, was a liver and white. It is said that Pride of the Border inherited this colour from Edmond Castle blood—a strain closely resembling the Naworth Castle, except in the absence of top-knot; and it is even alleged that Mr. Laverack himself, contradictory to the published pedigree of Pride of the Border, traced him to the Edmond Castle kennels.

I have read all, or nearly all, of the very voluminous correspondence that has from time to time appeared on the subject of Laverack pedigrees, and I have come to consider their absolute accuracy as in the highest degree improbable; but I can understand error without fraud, and I do not forget the fact, more important than pedigree, that we owe much to Mr. Laverack as a breeder of Setters.





In the foregoing pedigrees I have added Stud Book numbers where I could safely do so, in order to give greater precision; for, although contemporary sportsmen might find no difficulty in distinguishing between the numerous dogs named Dash, Rock, &c., yet when these names occur, as they do, in different pedigrees without clear means of identification, a strong element of confusion is

permitted, bewildering to later students of Setter pedigrees. Then, again, the Kennel Club Stud Book refers to the same dog as Dash (1341), Dash II. (1341), Laverack's Dash, and Old Blue Dash; and Mr. Laverack had dogs and bitches which he named alike Jet. Such loose ways of dealing with names in a pedigree were alone likely to result in errors arising in after times.

The general appearance of a well-bred Setter is very pleasing to the eye; he is so nicely put together as to present a well-balanced whole, showing capabilities of speed and endurance; and his expression shows a high order of intelligence, combined with a mildness and solicitude to please, which courts attention and praise. He is in form rather long and low as compared with the Pointer, but not so much so as either the Clumber or the modern field Spaniel, and is altogether of artistic shape, the elegance of form, in which he excels most breeds, being heightened by the richness of his soft, wavy, silky coat, and profuse, though not over-abundant, feathering.

The *head* should be rather lean and long, not so thick as the Pointer's, being narrower between the ears, with plenty of brain room before them. The jaws should be long and level, the teeth meeting evenly; and these should be strong and white—always an evidence of sound health, which should not be overlooked either in judging or in examining with a view to purchase. Little dip below the eyes; the nose wide, slightly raised, and rather spreading—any pinched appearance there gives a mean, almost Terrier look. The colour of the nose black, or dark liver for preference, but it often varies with the colour of the dog, and in orange and lemon marked is often flesh-coloured; the lips should be clean cut—that is, without flew, except a slight looseness or pouchiness at the angles.

The *eyes* should be set straight, and be bright, clear, and animated; they are of various shades of brown,

differing according to the body colour, and in orange and lemon marked dogs are sometimes amber, or almost yellow.

The *ears*, of medium size, should be set on low, fall straight, the leather thin, and covered with fine, silky hair, falling down as a fringe from 2in. to 3in. below the leather.

The *neck* is elegant, sloping gently, with a good curve from the head, and should be free from the tendency to Bloodhound-like throatiness sometimes seen in the Gordon Setter.

The *shoulders* muscular and well sloped, and with plenty of freedom of action.

The *chest* deep, with the fore ribs well sprung and the back ribs deep. What I consider a wide chest—that is, wide across the front, coupled with depth—would make a dog unshapely, and incapable of work. The width should be proportionate to the depth; great narrowness makes a shelly dog, slab-like, and, as kennel men express it, “as though both legs came out of one place.” A dog of such formation could not endure fatigue: a wide and deep chest would make a dog incapable of more than the slowest pace, and cause an ungainly carriage and movement; whilst a wide and shallow chest would represent such a figure as no one is likely to see in a Setter until we breed them with Bulldogs.

I will here quote Mr. Laverack and “Stonehenge” on this point, because there appears a discrepancy, and, it seems to me, an error on the part of “Stonehenge,” which may be easily set right.

“Stonehenge” says: “The chest should be deep rather than wide, though Mr. Laverack insists on the contrary formation, italicising the word *wide*, in his remarks at page 22 of his book. . . . I am quite satisfied that, on this point, Mr. Laverack is altogether wrong. I fully agree with him, however, that the ‘ribs should be well

sprung behind the shoulder,' and great depth of the back ribs should be specially demanded."

Now, on page 4 of his book, Mr. Laverack, describing the English Setter, says: "Chest rather wide, and deep in the brisket, with good, round, well-sprung ribs — a *narrow-chested* dog can never last;" and in a footnote to that remark he adds: "My great object has been to obtain power and strength in the fore quarters, not alone in depth of chest, but wide through the chest, . . . thereby giving greater freedom for the play of the heart and lungs; in fact, a close, compact, well-built dog. This is what I have been endeavouring to obtain for the last fifty years—not a loose, leggy, weedy animal."

In his quotation from page 22, I think "Stonehenge"—unintentionally no doubt—does Mr. Laverack injustice by dismembering his sentence, which runs thus: "Chest deep, *wide*, and ribs well sprung behind the shoulder." Now, it appears to me very clear that Mr. Laverack here merely emphasises his desire for width with depth; and assuredly no dog with ribs well sprung behind the shoulder could be narrow through; and, I think, had "Stonehenge" taken Mr. Laverack's entire sentence, with its context, and especially with the remarks quoted above from page 4 of Mr. Laverack's book, and embodying that gentleman's views of the best shape of that part of the Setter, he ("Stonehenge") would not have thought Mr. Laverack "altogether wrong on that point."

I understand Mr. Laverack to have meant wide, but not broad-fronted, chests; a good depth *through*, as well as a good depth down; and, as I read "Stonehenge," he agrees in that.

The *back stout*, the backbone well lined on each side with muscle, very slightly arched at the loins; thighs muscular, though rather flat; stifles wide, and well bent; hocks strong, and, like the elbows, well let down.

The *fore legs* straight—these, as well as the hind legs,

well feathered; cat-like *feet* are preferred, but if too much so they are apt to be bare, those with an inclination to the hare foot being usually better protected with hair between the toes.

The *tail* should be of fair length, free from curl, but not dragged in the nerveless way some otherwise handsome Setters are seen to do; the proper carriage shows a very gentle curve, and it is well feathered with fine hair, longest about the middle, and tapering off almost to a point.

The *coat* is of a soft, almost silky, texture, wavy, but free from absolute curl; longest on ears, fore legs, hams, and tail.

The *colours* are various, ranging from black, black and white, with large patches and flecked, called Blue Beltons, red, orange, or yellow, and white patched or flecked, and black and white, with a little tan, and pure white. Some whites have a brownish-creamy colour, with sprinklings of dark hair, almost approaching to a roan.

In addition to these, Mr. Laverack mentions a self-coloured pale fawn, and an all liver, among the Setters he had known. I have never seen either of these colours in the Setter, but I once owned one of the Bute strain, a pure black, which I sold to a gentleman near Solihull, Warwickshire, about the year 1866. "Stonehenge" recognises the liver and the red or yellow. The latter colours I have not observed in English Setters.

I have much pleasure in giving here the views of a thorough sportsman, of the sporting county of Cornwall, Mr. Thomas Webber, a gentleman whose experience, and keen and accurate observation of nearly forty years, entitle his observations to weighty consideration.

Mr. Webber, it will be noted, is not quite satisfied with the glare and glitter of dog shows, and the too often meretricious honours won in the ring, and duly advertised with a single eye to the improvement of the breed, with-

out so much as a glance at, or the ghost of a consideration of, possibly contingent profits to the purse. There is, undoubtedly, much force in Mr. Webber's remarks; but as my own views of shows and their influence will find a place in a future chapter, I now leave Mr. Webber to express himself on that and other phases of the subject under consideration. Mr. Webber's leanings to the Gordon may have been unconsciously influenced by the fact that, in the field trial picture, he appears with his brace of Gordons that won first in single dog, and also first in the braces, at Devon and Cornwall field trials—possibly about the best Gordons that ever ran.

Mr. Webber says:—

The Setter, be he Gordon, Irish, or English, is *par excellence* the dog for sport; of course there are good, bad, and indifferent of each breed. Some people, and genuine sportsmen too, assert that the English Setter is not—in shape, style, size, or endurance—equal to the dogs of thirty to forty years ago. In my opinion, they certainly are not so lasting; they are faster, but their nose is not equal to the pace. One hears but little of exhibition dogs being really reliable in the field; this is owing, no doubt, to the breeding—pampered when puppies; fed on the best of everything, with a view to abundance of coat; education neglected in their youth; little or no exercise; never allowed to rough it, as in the days of old. The one idea of the owner is that the dog may look well at an exhibition, carry off prizes, and fetch a big figure, or go to the stud at five or ten guineas. It pays in some cases; but it has a most deteriorating effect on the progeny, who are weakly from their birth. A third, or more, die with the slightest touch of disease; many are gunshy; few, very few, are of value to the sportsman of the old sort, who prefers a brace or two of birds killed over dogs to ten times the number of driven birds.

The English Setter should be of good size: weigh, in *working condition*, if a dog, 55lb.; if a bitch, 50lb. *at least*; 23in. to 24in. at the shoulder for the dog, 1in. or 2in. less for the bitch. Colour no object, but the fashion just now is the lemon and blue Belton. Some of the best Setters I ever shot over were liver and white, and orange white; the latter colour were often seen in the North of Devon. Sir Arthur Chichester had some magnificent ones years ago. The Laverack cross has done wonders in so far as coat and general outline of appearance; but for field work they do not excel. What is wanted, and was easily to be had thirty to forty years ago, is a long and low animal, with a long, lean head; ears low set on; skull broad, with plenty of room for brains, so deficient in the majority of Setters seen now; feet cat-like—*open* feet is fatal to work in the stubble; fore legs straight as an arrow, and with plenty of bone; strong and powerful shoulders; not over wide chest, but yet room enough to enable him or her to gallop with freedom and style; neck long. Many *throaty* dogs are seen at shows, and win prizes; nothing can be worse in a Setter—it tells plainly of bad breeding. The body should be straight-ribbed; back thoroughly powerful; loins strong; thighs giving plenty of propelling power. Tail not long, and without a *twist* or *curl*; yet how many we see at shows with this glaring fault! There should be, and there used to be, a free use in the field of this ornament to a Setter long ago; but not one in fifty shows the least sign of gay carriage now. I remember the merry working of some Gordons that I shot over for several seasons; tail action was a sight to see and admire. Most Setters now drag—I can't say carry—their tails along in anything but a pleasant manner. The eyes of a Setter should be set straight, and beam with intelligence. A bright, clear, beautiful eye sets off the countenance, and makes the face most attractive. Not enough attention is

given, in this day, to the formation—the frame of a Setter—in awarding prizes. Judges undertake too much, and the work is got through hastily; there is not time to examine carefully, and to find out the faults fatal to his doing the work, for, after all, dog shows are *intended* to improve the breed for work. We see loaded shoulders, broad chest, open feet, want of one or more ribs, slack in loin, short neck, thick, heavy throat, want of bone, coarse stern, long, draggling *flag*, with no action whatever when he moves. These and other faults are covered up with a profusion of silky coat, and the prize goes to a dog useless to the sportsman.

Gordon and Irish Setters do not play so active a part in the field as heretofore; the former are said to be difficult to break, and often show a want of nose. It is not my experience. Thirty years ago or more I began with Gordons, and many a good one I have had—lasting, steady, stylish, and always handsome to look it; and no breed of Setter stands to his game with more grandeur than the black and tan. The Irish are also gone out of fashion to some extent; we don't see or hear much of them. They have not done so much at field trials as the Gordon.

Mr. Lort, in a note dealing generally with the subject, believes it to be the common opinion of sportsmen that our show Setters exhibited deterioration during the last quarter of a century.

Another sportsman and Setter breeder writes to me: "It is quite apparent to all observers of modern English Setters that, instead of making improvement, they have been making lee-way. The long, low, strong, workmanlike, true-to-type animals of twenty years or so ago are now seldom met with. Even in small groups of this breed the greatest diversity of type is observable. Such kennels as those owned by Laverack, Withington, Lord Anglesey, George Jones, Dickens, Lord Arbutnot, Garth,

Statter, Bishop, Lort, and others, could not now be found. The defects of the modern Setter give one the idea that the breed has been subjected to experiments that have not succeeded. Some specimens have the heavy, modern, Gordon head; others the narrow head and legginess of the Irish; while sadly too many show unmistakably the Colley taint, which of all crosses is perhaps the worst for looks and work. Undoubtedly our best Setters came from the North, and it may safely be said that our best kennels of the breed are still to be found there."

I cannot say I have ever seen many Setters exhibited that have given me the impression of being tainted by a Colley cross, except in the rather too dense coat and the heavy flag, carried so low as almost to trail. A free and merry tail action in the field has always been prized by sportsmen, and with many dogs it was a pretty sure index to the sportsman of what to expect. The absence of this in some modern strains is strongly objected to, and properly so; and it should certainly be the practice of show judges to penalise in dogs a tail of such low carriage, and so heavy in action, as to remind one of the lines of Ingoldsby, in the "Lay of St. Medard," although applied to an old dog that had been hunting very different game to that forming the object of pursuit of the Setter, and who, after a long day, found that

His wings were weary, his hoofs were sore,
 . And scarce could he trail
 His nerveless tail
 As it furrowed the sands on the Red Sea shore.

It may be argued, however, that it is the nose, not the tail, the Setter finds his game by; and St. Medard's further observation on the hunter referred to, might be quoted to show that a good bag may be made in defiance of a nerveless tail:—

For though he'd gone over a good deal of ground,
And game had been scarce, he might well report
That still he had got
A decentish lot,
And had had, on the whole, not a bad day's sport.

There is, undoubtedly, far too little attention paid to the feet of Setters by those who judge them at shows. This breed, like some others, has suffered in the hands of men who are not sportsmen at heart, but seek for notoriety and gain through the medium of exhibitions, and make a primary object of profits to be made out of their dogs. Such men breed to please the eye, not of sportsmen, but of amateurs; and, in doing so, sacrifice essential qualities to what they consider prettiness.

The pampering and over-feeding of any dog weaken the constitution, unfit for active work, and also for production of healthy, vigorous progeny. The gentle walk given in lieu of hard exercise, for fear of damaging condition—as fleshiness is falsely called—is worthless for developing and strengthening muscle, and hardening the feet, in preparation for active work on the moors and stubbles.

The following are weights and measurements of some dogs of note:—

Count Howard, the property of Mr. George Potter, Wetheral, Carlisle, and the subject of the coloured illustration, weighs 58lb., and stands $23\frac{1}{2}$ in. high at the shoulder. He has been very successful as a show dog, and promises to be of value as a sire, some of his stock being already known for their excellence. *Count Howard* is a well-broken dog, a fast and free ranger, very enduring, and possessed of excellent nose.

Mr. A. P. Heywood-Lonsdale's *Fred V.*: Age, 3 years; weight, 51lb.; height at shoulder, 24in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 16in.; girth of chest, 28in.; girth of loin, $21\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 16in.

girth of forearm, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 13in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

Mr. H. Prendergast-Garde's *Royal Dan*: Weight, 40lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 38in.; length of tail, $12\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 26in.; girth of loin, $19\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, $15\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

Mr. F. J. Staples-Browne's *Fancy*: Age, 1 year 4 months; weight, $46\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 17in.; girth of chest, 26in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth of head, $14\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Mr. T. Webber's *Moll III.*: Age, 1 year; weight, 47lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, $12\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 25in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, $15\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of forearm, $6\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $8\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Mr. T. B. Bower's *Bandit*: Age, 8 years; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 38in.; length of tail, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 28in.; girth of loin, 23in.; girth of head, 16in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.; ears when extended (measurement taken across the head), 17in.

Mr. T. B. Bower's *Blue Belle II.*: Weight, 40lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 33in.; length of tail, $12\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of chest, 26in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of arm 1in. above elbow, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of head from occiput to tip

of nose, 9in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9½in.

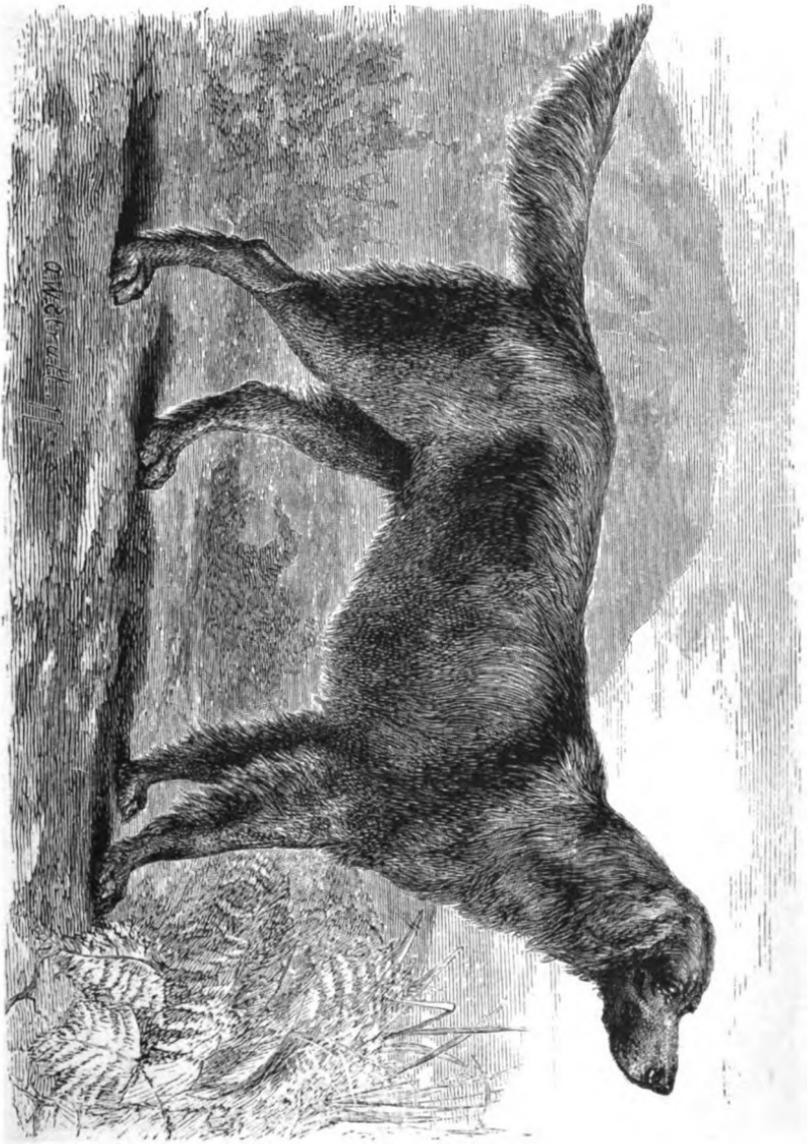
Mr. J. H. Salter's *Daisy*: Age, 4 years; weight, 50lb.; height at shoulder, 21in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 35in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 27in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 8½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

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CHAPTER XXIV.

THE IRISH SETTER.

“A VETERAN SPORTSMAN,” author of “A Correct Delineation of the Canine Race,” writing in 1803, says: “The sporting gentlemen of Ireland are more partial to Setters than Pointers, and probably they are better adapted to that country. Setters, it is presumed, cover more ground than Pointers, are not so liable to be footsore, and can bear the changes of weather much better than the latter, which they term the Smooth Spaniel. The fields in many parts of Ireland are large, very rugged, and stony; the rains sudden, sharp, severe, and driving. Setters, therefore, particularly suit the country they go over; to this may be added the grouse-shooting, which is excellent, and it is a universally-received opinion that this species of dog only is equal to the fatigues of it.” The writer I have quoted from does not attempt any description of the Setter in use in Ireland in his sporting days, nor dwell on his points after the manner of our modern dog-show critics; but, instead, he gives briefly the fact that the dog selected by Irish sportsmen was one specially adapted to the circumstances of the country and climate in which he had to work—a most important fact, which I think dog-show promoters, judges, and others cannot have too often brought under their notice, for there is undoubtedly an evil tendency in our dog-show system to forget the fitness of the dog for his work—which should exist, and, indeed, should be made a *sine quâ non*—and to exalt far above



IRISH SETTER.

Mr. J. Fletcher's GROUSE (K.S.C.B., 7269). Sire, Mr. Erwin's Rant; Dam, Mr. Morton's Kate.

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their legitimate value points of beauty and arbitrary standards of perfection, giving undue weight to matters of comparatively little moment, such as the existence of a few dozen white hairs, more or less, the colour of the eye-lashes, and the precise carriage of the tail to a line minutely described and insisted on. I by no means say that beauty and utility may not be combined, but great care should be exercised that in setting up a fancy standard we do not sacrifice to it absolutely essential or even desirable characteristics. I, for one, have little faith in the fabulous pedigrees I hear of, and as little in the assertions that a shade of colour is a proof of long descent in this or any other breed. Such a thing as well-kept stud books must, at least, have been rare indeed, as so far as I know, there is not a dog living of any breed whatever, if we except hounds, whose pedigree can be traced in a manner that could be considered as proven for even one hundred years; and it would still further mightily surprise me to find that the points of all, or even one of the progenitors, had been as minutely described as modern fanciers require. Hence, I fall back on general facts, and firmly believe, with the writer I have quoted, that Irish sportsmen chose the Setter as best adapted to their purposes, and no one who has seen Irish Setters, especially as they are to be seen at Irish shows, will doubt that the selection was a wise one, whether the originals were red or white and red, for it is the general characteristic of both; but I must say, to my mind especially, of the reds, they impress one with their powers of hardihood and endurance and defiance alike of rough country and rough weather; they have a "devil-may-care" look about them which plainly says, "It is neither hard work, hard weather, nor hard living that will stop us"—although, at the same time, this same look creates a suspicion, if not of actual stubbornness, at least of a willful, rollicking disposition, impatient of too close restraint.

Colour is *the* point which has been most warmly discussed since shows were introduced, and, without going through the arguments and assertions *pro* and *con*, I will merely observe that, so far, at least, as English shows and English judges go, the deep blood-red, free from any black on ears, ridge of back, or tail, and with as little white as possible—a mere line down the face and star on chest—has gained the day, and any dog with much white would in prize competition, judging from decisions of the last few years, be very heavily handicapped, if not absolutely disqualified; and I doubt very much if Dr. Stone's grand old dog Dash were to visit the scenes of his former triumphs, whether that "white snake round his neck" would not mar his prospects. Our Irish friends provide separate classes at their shows for the reds and red and whites, they being two distinct types of the Irish Setter breed—a course highly to be approved; for, however little faith may be placed in a vague tradition that would rest purity of blood in a shade of colour, the very existence of such traditions proves that such points had existed in good dogs, and had been, consequently, noted and valued by old breeders. Speaking personally, I prefer the blood red, with as little white as possible, as it gives to the dogs a more distinct character, or, rather, it adds to their pronounced family character; and I can see no reason why such a point cannot be bred up to without a sacrifice of higher and more essential qualities.

In general appearance the Irish Setter is rather lighter and more wiry-looking than the English. The head is long and narrow, the nose wide, not snipey or terrier-like; the ears set on well back, rather narrow, hanging close, and lightly feathered; the eye should be brown, corresponding with the dark flesh-coloured nose; the lips deep, but not so much so as to be hound-like; the neck neat, light, and well-placed; the shoulders sloping; the chest deep but not wide, as a wide chest indicates slowness;

the fore ribs deep, the sides rather flat, loins strong and very muscular, and the flank slightly tucked up; hind quarters strong and muscular, but not heavy; the tail set on rather low and well carried, fine in bone, and the feathering rather lighter in colour than the body; coat rather fine, but more wiry than that of an English Setter; the feather is longest about the middle of the tail, tapering off gradually towards the point; the legs straight, feet hare-like, and fairly feathered between the toes; the hocks strong, stifles well bent; the feathering on the legs abundant, fine in texture, and same shade as on the tail; the body-coat is harder, of a wet-resisting texture. Many of the Irish Setters of the day can be traced back, with more or less certainty, to kennels of renown during the early part of the century, and the number of good dogs, it is reasonable to assert, has increased since the advent of shows gave an impetus to the breeding of them; and now it is a rare thing to find an English show where this breed is not represented. In the United States of America this dog is a great favourite, almost as much as the Laverack, and specimens are constantly being sent across the Atlantic from Irish kennels. The most celebrated dogs of this breed of recent date which have been exhibited are Mr. Hilliard's Palmerston, Dr. Kennedy's Dick, Mr. Macdona's Plunket, Mr. Nuttall's Maybe, Mr. M'Haffie's Mina, Miss Lizzie Warburton's Lily, Dr. Stone's Dash, Mr. Lipscomb's Shawn Bragh, Mr. Jephson's Dash, Major Hutchinson's Bob, Major Cooper's Ranger, and others too numerous to mention.

Among the most successful breeders I may mention Miss Warburton, Mr. Cecil Moore, and Mr. Henry Jephson; and these and several other breeders trace the pedigree of some of their dogs to the beginning of the present century, going back through the kennels of Messrs. Evans and Lloyd, of Dungarvan, to the kennels of Lords Antrim and Enniskillen, and a noted breeder, Mr. Hazard, of

Fermanagh; and of other old strains there is the La Touche, Lord Clancarty's, and the Marquis of Waterford's. Mr. Jephson was the breeder of Lilly II. and Eily (both first prize winners at Birmingham and Crystal Palace), Nell (second Crystal Palace), Sheelah (ditto, 1876), March (champion cup, Dublin, 1875), Rufus (first puppy class, Crystal Palace), and other good ones less well known.

Since the foregoing remarks were written in 1877, the fortunes of the Irish Setter, as a show dog at least, have fluctuated considerably, and for some time there was evidence that the demand for America had drained their native country of the best specimens rather exhaustively. The state of Ireland, politically and socially, interfered with such agreeable objects as dog shows and field trials. That American sportsmen, those of Irish descent and others, highly appreciate the excellencies of the Irish Setter I have seen proof in the very superior classes—great in number of exhibits, and marked by the highest quality in individual and collective character—exhibited at shows in the United States, at which I acted as judge, in the year 1880 and again in 1885. In the latter year more especially the truly magnificent collection brought together for competition at New York, excelled any exhibition of these Setters I have seen in Ireland or England, and furnished ample proof that with the appreciation of the good qualities of these dogs, there is no lack in our kinsmen beyond sea of skill and care in keeping up the high prestige of the race, by the systems of breeding, rearing, and training they follow.

The partially lost position of the Irish Setter has been regained, and, under the fostering care of the Irish Red Setter Club, classes at exhibitions show a decided improvement, and the institution of competitive field trials in Ireland, mainly for the benefit of this breed, is a hopeful sign that working qualities will not be sacrificed

to mere good looks. The Club was established in 1885, with its headquarters in Dublin, Mr. J. J. Giltrap acting (as he continues to do) as honorary secretary. The red and white variety is never now seen at English shows; and it will be seen the Club marks its disapproval of the bicolour by having adopted the name it has.

With the picture of long rows of red-and-white Irish Setters of handsome appearance at past Irish shows, I think it a pity the variety should be altogether left out of the consideration and care of an Irish National Setter Club. It will be observed the Club does not deny the existence of other than Irish Red Setters, but, in fact, whilst ignoring its claims to support, by its own name seems to admit that there are other Irish Setters than red; otherwise, the word "red" in its title is superfluous.

As the Club has published a description and standard of points by which, it holds, these dogs should be judged, I here give it, with the table showing the numerical value allotted to each point:—

DESCRIPTION OF THE IRISH RED SETTER.

Head should be long and lean. The skull oval (from ear to ear), having plenty of brain room, and with well-defined occipital protuberance. Brows raised, showing stop. The muzzle moderately deep, and fairly square at end. From the stop to the point of the nose should be long, the nostrils wide, and the jaws of nearly equal length, flews not to be pendulous. The colour of the nose dark mahogany or dark walnut, and that of the eyes (which ought not to be too large) rich hazel or brown. The ears to be of moderate size, fine in texture, set on low, well back, and hanging in a neat fold close to the head.

Neck should be moderately long, very muscular, but not

too thick, slightly arched, free from all tendency to throatiness.

Body should be long—shoulders fine at the points, deep, and sloping well back. The chest as deep as possible, rather narrow in front. The ribs well sprung, leaving plenty of lung room. Loins muscular, and slightly arched. The hind quarters wide and powerful.

Legs and Feet.—The hind legs from hip to hock should be long and muscular; from hock to heel, short and strong; the stifle and hock joints well bent, and not inclined either in or out. The fore legs should be straight and sinewy, having plenty of bone, with elbows free, well let down, and, like the hocks, not inclined either out or in. The feet small, very firm; toes strong, close together, and arched.

Tail should be of moderate length, set on rather low, strong at root, and tapering to a fine point; to be carried in a scimitar-like curve on a level with or below the back.

Coat.—On the head, front of legs, and tips of ears, should be short and fine, but on all other parts of the body and legs it ought to be of moderate length, flat, and free as possible from curl or wave.

Feathering.—The feather on the upper portion of the ears should be long and silky; on the back of fore and hind legs long and fine; a fair amount of hair on the belly, forming a nice fringe, which may extend on chest and throat. Feet to be well feathered between the toes. Tail to have a nice fringe of moderately long hair, decreasing in length as it approaches the point. All feathering to be as straight and as flat as possible.

Colour and Markings.—The colour should be a rich golden chestnut, with no trace whatever of black; white on chest, throat, or toes, or a small star on the forehead, or a narrow streak or blaze on the nose or face, not to disqualify.

STANDARD OF POINTS FOR JUDGING.

	Points.
Head	10
Eyes	6
Ears	4
Neck	4
Body	20
Hind Legs and Feet	10
Fore Legs and Feet	10
Tail	4
Coat and Feather	10
Colour	8
Size, Style, and General Appearance	14

100

Without criticising the description too minutely, I think it will be admitted by most readers to be rather a crude production. Fourteen per cent. of points is allotted for size, style, and general appearance; yet the description is silent on each of these matters. The Club was probably influenced in advocacy of the self-coloured dog alone, by the generally accepted opinion that red was the predominant colour in all the oldest kennels of Irish Setters; and the deep red certainly is a strongly distinguishing feature, and, although I admire the all-red above the red and white dog, I still think it a pity that our Irish Setter Club, by repudiating the variety, should depreciate their value to all but sportsmen who are indifferent to bench shows. I am of opinion the Club has, in the field trials, instituted a more powerful factor, in the improvement of the Irish Setter, than in anything it can do in the way of giving prizes for appearance only; and if Irish Red and White Setters are excluded from competitive trials in their legitimate work, the means of improving Setters in Ireland is at once circumscribed, whereas there is no

apparent reason why the improvement of the two varieties should not go on *pari passu*.

In reference to the history and genealogy of Irish Setters, I have been unable to discover much additional information to that which appeared in the first edition of this work.

For some reason or other not now to be ascertained, red and red and white Setters, were cultivated at an early day in Ireland; but how—whether by some cross between the setting dog and another breed, or by selection—cannot be absolutely determined. I am disposed to think the latter the most probable means by which the breed became established.

Red or liver is a common colour in the Spaniel, and it varies very much in shade; and as the Spaniel is the breed the Setter was made from, selection—and, possibly, both climatic and breeding influences—first affected, and afterwards fixed, the hue.

The history of the race cannot be a long one, but the life of the dog is short, and his powers of reproduction great; so that we have only to suppose the existence of one or more dogs of a deep red colour, distinguished by superior excellence, to see a reasonable foundation of the breed. The best dogs would undoubtedly be selected by sportsmen for the stud; and the accident of the best at any one period in the early history of the breed being red would cause that colour to rapidly stamp itself on a large preponderance of the progeny, and soon the colour would become an accepted indication of high breeding, and a sign of probable excellence.

“Idstone,” who was a great admirer of the Irish Setter, says, writing in 1872: “They have been jealously protected from any mongrel crosses for many years, by their native breeders.” On the other hand, Mr. Edward Laverack, writing in the same year, says: “So highly do I value the true blood belonging to the Irish, that I have

visited Ireland four times, for the express purpose of ascertaining where the true blood was to be found, with a view of crossing them with my Beltons. I very much regret to say that, after all my trouble and efforts, I found that this fine and magnificent old breed has degenerated, owing to the carelessness and negligence of the Irish in not having kept it pure."

Mr. Laverack must, I think, have been singularly unfortunate, for certainly the "magnificent old breed" has been kept practically pure, through the noted kennels I have already mentioned, and, doubtless, others also.

Tabulated pedigrees were not a requisite of dog-breeding success in pre-show days, and the excessive value placed on pedigrees now may easily lead to degeneration, if not corrected by other and yet more weighty considerations. The wiry form, the endurance, coupled with general smartness and stoutness of constitution, which has hitherto characterised the Irish Setter, and so largely contributed to make it a favourite with sportsmen, may all be easily lost by a blind confidence in pedigree and the honours of championship in the show-ring.

That "blood will tell" is, however, undeniable, and most of our present-day winners, like those of the past, owe much of their excellence to the old kennels, wherein stud books were rarely kept. The blood of the celebrated Palmerston is strong in many of our best dogs of to-day, and to assist present readers, and to form a useful future reference, I give a table of the pedigree of a young dog (Kinsale), the property of Mr. S. G. Wallis Adams, Hoo, Rochester, and bred by the Rev. R. O'Callaghan, a most successful breeder, exhibitor, and judge of the Irish Setter.

Kinsale's pedigree, read with that of Mr. J. J. Giltrap's Garryowen—a champion among champions, and perhaps equalled only in his day by Ganymede—will show how closely inbred our best show Irish Setters are.

28in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of arm, 7in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.

Mr. T. Hilliard's *Palmerston*: Age, 11 years; weight, 65lb.; height at shoulder, 23½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 44in.; length of tail, 15in.; girth of chest, 30in.; girth of loin, 24in.; girth of head, 16in.; girth of arm, 9½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

Mr. T. Hilliard's *Count*: Age, 2 years 9 months; weight, 54lb.; height at shoulder, 23in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37½in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, 28½in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 15½in.; girth of arm, 10in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8½in.

Mr. T. Hilliard's *Tilly*: Age, 4½ years; weight, 45lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 27in.; girth of loin, 20½in.; girth of head, 14½in.; girth of arm, 8½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8½in.

Mr. F. A. Bird's *Belle*: Age, 3 years 3 months; weight, 47lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 35in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 28in.; girth of loin, 21in.; girth of head, 16in.; girth of forearm, 7½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

CHAPTER XXV.

THE GORDON OR BLACK AND TAN SETTER.

WHETHER the dog under consideration should be called the Black and Tan Setter or the Gordon Setter is a subject open to controversy, but of one thing there is no doubt, as the authentic records of breeders prove, that many of the best modern Black and Tan Setters have a large commixture of that Gordon Castle blood which became, half a century ago, so famous as to stamp the generic name of Gordon Setters on its possessors. What the original colour of the Gordon Setter was is still a disputed point, which was ably argued in the *Field* some years back, the weight of evidence produced being decidedly against the black and tan, and in favour of the black, white, and tan, as the prevailing colours in this celebrated kennel; but if it was difficult to get a unanimous consent as to the colour of dogs distributed thence at comparatively so recent a date, it becomes a still more difficult problem to solve how the breed was first established. Many hold that it was originally a cross of our English Setter with the Irish Red Setter, and, in support of this view, advance the fact that in many litters pure red puppies are met with. This does not occur so often now as we get further from the source of the red blood, but it is fair presumptive evidence of the cross having taken place. On the other hand, it has been asserted that many of the good qualities of the Gordon Castle Setter were inherited from a celebrated Colley of poaching pro-



Mr. T. H. Scott's BANG IV. Sire, Mr. Powell's Bruce; Dam, Mr. T. Trigg's Bess, K.C.S.B. \$1,000.
GORDON SETTER.
out of Duchess.

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clivities: and there are more unlikely things than that such a cross might be tried, for no one seeing the sagacity of the Sheepdog, as displayed in his management of his charge, can fail to be impressed by it; and if that wonderful sense could be infused into a setting dog, and undesirable points bred out whilst retaining it, it might be a consummation devoutly to be wished. And such an attempt is far from unlikely to have been tried, so that it is not at all improbable that the Gordon and our modern Black and Tan have both Irish Setter and Colley blood in them. This pre-supposes that the Irish Setter has been longer in existence as a distinct breed than the Gordon, and this is well established, although that breed, like all others, has probably been considerably modified.

As it is generally—I may say, universally—admitted that the Spaniel is the foundation on which all our varieties of Setters have been built, and there is no means of proving positively the *modus operandi* adopted, it is a fair field for conjecture to those so disposed; but one thing is clear—the lines followed in breeding, whether as regards crossing or selection, must have differed to create three varieties with such distinctive features as the English, Irish, and Black and Tan Setters, and it is with the latter I have at present to do; for, although I take black, white, and tan to have been the prevailing colours of the Gordon, those so marked have been elbowed off the show-bench by their darker brethren for good or ill, for by all recent judging a dog with a white frill even would stand no chance at shows, where the class is still described as Black and Tan or Gordon Setters; and, under these circumstances, I think it is a great pity that a class is not provided for the handsome tricoloured dog. Certainly, the tendency of the day is to multiply varieties, and this is done where less reason for it exists.

It is a fact worth noting that Black and Tan Setters took the prizes against all comers at the first two shows

for Setters ever held, these being Mr. J. Jobling's Dandy, first at Newcastle, 1859, and Mr. F. Burdett's Brougham, first at Birmingham in the November following. Dandy's grandsire was the Duke of Gordon's Grouse, and both his stock, and that of Brougham, have since frequently appeared in the prize lists.

As a working dog the Black and Tan is excellent; he is possessed of a fine nose, with staunchness; he is not so fast as the Laverack, and, in the opinion of many, not so enduring; but on this latter point I have a different opinion, having known dogs of this breed work constantly in rough hill shooting without being knocked up, and for this kind of work his superior bone and muscle seem to adapt him better than the lighter and more elegant Laverack.

The Black and Tan differs from the English, and especially the Laverack, in presenting a rather heavier appearance; the head is decidedly heavier, with a nearer approach to the Bloodhound type, the lips in many good specimens showing some depth of flew, but in general points the two varieties should agree, colour, of course, excepted. This should be an intense yet brilliant black—not a dead, absorbing black—relieved by a very rich, warm, mahogany red, and as free from white as possible. This deep tan could not be inherited from a Colley cross, the prevailing colours in which are black and white, those that are tan marked having that colour very pale. The tan should appear clear and distinct on the feet, feather of the leg, under the stern, on the vent, cheeks, lips, and in spots over the eye, as in Black and Tan Terriers.

As I do not believe in the wisdom, utility, or good taste of making a decision in judging sporting classes depend so exclusively on colour and markings, and consider it bad policy to exclude, as in this case, Black White and Tan, which many think the legitimate colour of the breed, and prefer both for beauty and work, I hope to see a class

formed for them. There might, after the damaging effects of show judging on them for years past, be few exhibited at first, but in a few years this really handsome variety of the Setter would take a foremost place. It was some years after shows were started that a class for Fox Terriers was instituted, and now they are the most numerous variety at all shows.

The main points of difference between the Black and Tan and the modern English Setter, after colour, are that the former are heavier built, larger in head (which is added to in appearance by tendency to throatiness and *flew*), a rather harsher quality of coat, and shorter stern. The hind quarters should be particularly strong, and the stifles wide apart and well bent. A dog that appears tied in the hams, as Toy Spaniels are, is of no use for work.

Kent, the property of the Rev. Thomas Pearce ("Idstone"), gave rise to much discussion in his day; his pedigree was attacked; he was styled mongrel, Bloodhound, and other things not complimentary to a Setter. At the same time, according to his owner, the detractors of Kent overlooked the dog's worst faults, of which he says, "these were his weak hind quarters and thick shoulders." The pedigree of Kent was, however, proved to the satisfaction of "Stonehenge," who is not a man to be satisfied on a disputed point without a clear balance of evidence in favour of the view he adopts; and in his work, "Dogs of the British Islands," he states that "there is little doubt that Kent was descended, on the sire's side, from Mr. Jobling's kennel, and on the dam's, from that of Mr. Adamson."

Mr. Jobling was, in conjunction with Mr. John Short-hose, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, the projector of the first public dog show in this country, and, at that show at Newcastle, 1859, won first prize with his Black and Tan Setter Dandie.

It is not easy to trace pedigrees until we get into the stud-book era, and the records these contain are necessarily imperfect, from the inherent difficulties of the work, and imperfections and sources of error continue to be multiplied by very careless editing; for there is no excuse for mistakes an editor commits when the material for its correction exists in his own previously published work.

In 1836, a sale of the Duke of Gordon's Setters took place at Tattersall's, on July 7th, but, as that consisted of only eleven dogs, it could scarcely be the whole kennel. As the breed had long been famous, it is most reasonable to suppose that many sportsmen friends of the Duke would, from time to time, become possessors of specimens, either to continue the breed in such purity as it existed, or with a view to improve their own kennels, by the introduction of Gordon blood.

"Idstone" says that he had heard that some of the Gordons went to the Duke of Abercorn, and a team of nine to the Duke of Argyll. Neither of these gentlemen was among the buyers at the sale at Tattersall's, and I can remember, at a date not many years after the distribution of the Gordons, the Black and Tan Setters at The Holm, Sanquhar, one of the kennels of the Duke of Buccleuch, and I always understood these to be from dogs originally obtained from Gordon Castle. In this I may be wrong, as I am trusting to memory. These were black and tan without white, and the strain is still, or was until very lately, kept up by Mr. Gavin Lindsay, head gamekeeper over that part of the Duke of Buccleuch's estates on the upper reaches of the Nith, bordering on Ayrshire. An alliance of this Buccleuch kennel blood, through Suwarrow (1633), with Mr. Joblin's, through Old Moll and Kent on the dam's side, with an additional infusion of Mr. Joblin's Dandie, through Milo, produced that grandest dog of his time, Mr. Coath's Lang.

I have no doubt that many strains of Black and Black and Tan Setters have helped to form the variety once known as Gordon, but now, in the Stud Book and show catalogues, simply called Black and Tan. In reference to the suggested Colley cross theory, which has been previously remarked upon, I must say, in justice to several gentlemen of great experience, and whose judgment I value highly—and in the number is included our veteran judge, Mr. William Lort—that such a cross is held to be destructive of the true Setter character, and that certain strains of English Setters prove it.

In presuming to differ from such practical and thoughtful authorities, I at once admit that the first and second, and, it may be, the third, cross would show evidence in favour of their view; but in this particular instance, as in all other crosses between recognised varieties, I have a very firm opinion, based on many and widely different instances, that it is easy to breed out the objectionable features introduced by the foreign cross, and also, by the same process of careful and intelligent selection, to retain the characteristics which it is desired to engraft on a breed.

It will be convenient to those who consult this work that I should give a table of pedigrees for reference, selecting such as include dogs likely to live in future generations of the breed; this the full pedigree of Bellmont will be seen to do.

The subject of our illustration, Mr. T. H. Scott's Bang IV., is an instance showing how the blood of our older prize-winners runs in the veins of champions of the present day; for Bang IV. (whose sire was Bruce), through his dam (Mr. T. Triggs' Bess), traces back through Blossom (5090), and Duchess (6167), to Lang (1601), Reuben (1615), Old Kent (1600), Regent (1675), &c.

Measurements, &c., of *Bang IV.*: Weight, 64lb.; height at shoulder, 25in.; length from shoulder to set-on of tail, 21in.; length of tail, 13in.; length of head, 10in.; length of head from nose to corner of eye, 4½in.; girth of chest, 31in.; girth of loin, 24in.; girth of fore arm, 8½in.

The following measurements of Black and Tan Setters—all celebrated dogs in their time—will be interesting:

Mr. E. L. Parsons' champion, *Floss*: Age, 5 years; weight, 59lb.; height at shoulder, 22½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, 15in.; girth of chest, 27½in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 16in.; girth of forearm, 6½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9½in.

Mr. J. H. Salter's *Rex II.*: Age, 5 years; weight, 71½lb.; height at shoulder, 25in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 42in.; length of tail, 18in.; girth of chest, 32in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 18in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 11in.

Mr. T. Jacobs' *Marquis*: Age, 2 years 3 months; weight, 55lb.; height at shoulder, 22in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 38in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 29in.; girth of loin, 22½in.; girth of head, 15½in.; girth of forearm, 7½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9½in.; colour and markings, black and tan, correctly marked, free from white.

Mr. T. Jacobs' *Earl*: Age, 2 years 3 months; weight, 65lb.; height at shoulder, 23½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 38½in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 30½in.; girth of loin, 23½in.; girth of head, 16½in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.; colour and markings, black and tan, correctly marked, free from white.

Mr. H. B. Gibbs' *Young Lorne*: Age, about 5½ years; weight, 61lb.; height at shoulder, 23in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 41in.; length of tail, 15in.; girth of chest, 30½in.; girth of loin, 22½in.; girth of head, 18in.; girth of arm 1in. above elbow, 10in.; girth of leg 1in. below elbow, 8½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10½in.; colour and markings, black and rich sienna tan, correctly marked, free from white.

Mr. H. B. Gibbs' *Norah*: Age, about 3½ years; weight, 47lb.; height at shoulder, 21in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 34in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 26½in.; girth of loin, 20½in.; girth of head, 15½in.; girth of arm 1in. above elbow, 9in.; girth of leg 1in. below elbow, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.; colour and markings, black and tan of a rich sienna colour, correctly marked, free from white.

CHAPTER XXVI.

FIELD TRIALS OF POINTERS AND SETTERS.

COMPETITION is said to be "the soul of business"; but, like many proverbs and other trite sayings, this very partially and inadequately expresses the truth. It has its obverse when its influence lowers business aims to gaining an end by unworthy means, in which case business would be better without its putative soul.

Competition is, however, an essential of life. Nature enforces that fact upon us by example in all her works. We see it everywhere in the great and never-ceasing struggle for life, and we are imbued with its spirit; and, when regulated by higher laws, it may be largely credited with all human advancement that is noble and good. Not only does a well-regulated competitive spirit help forward our material interests, but, without it, much of the pleasure of life would be lost to us. And it is not confined to man. Lambs, as well as children, enter into the spirit of a race, and in youthful joy emulate each other. Dogs are strongly impregnated with the spirit of rivalry, as may be seen exemplified any day when puppies, left to themselves, are watched at play.

Many of the most popular sports are of a competitive character, and when we submit animals to these, we find they often enter keenly into the spirit of them; and so strong is this in dogs, that jealousy is frequently developed,

so far as to cause a usually obedient dog to break rules we lay down for the guidance of the sport, and that when he has shown, by previous conduct, he perfectly understands them. There is, probably, no sphere of usefulness in which the dog is employed that gives so many opportunities for the emulative spirit—so excellent when kept within bounds—to grow into jealousy, and spoil the work, as sport.

Man has for ages taken pleasure in testing, by competitive trials, the qualities of domestic animals and birds; and such trials between dogs must be classed among the oldest, and include many forms, as, indeed, the wide variation between classes of dogs renders a necessity. Hence we have, or have had, bear and badger baiting, rat-killing with Terriers, duck-hunting; and, above and beyond all in historical importance, conservative rules, popularity, and purely competitive character, stands coursing with Greyhounds.

The idea of instituting similar competitive trials between dogs used with the gun seems to come in the nature of things, and, equally so, that it should be peculiarly a British institution, native born, and with the qualities and the faculty of securing its approbation and adoption by others. Originating in England, field trials have been adopted by several of our Continental neighbours; whilst our American kinsfolk, with the energy which characterises them, early took hold of the notion, and have worked out the system, and carried it on on such a gigantic scale as to quite overtop us. No doubt American opportunities far exceed and excel ours, but that does not lessen the merit of the great work they have accomplished in carrying out Setter and Pointer field trials, and every true British sportsman will give the Americans ungrudging praise for a success so well deserved.

The first competitive trial of Pointers and Setters in the field took place so recently as 1865, at Southill, on

the manor of Mr. S. Whitbread, M.P., the judges on that occasion being the late Rev. Thomas Pearce, and the late Mr. John Walker, of Halifax, both being gentlemen well known in connection with dog shows, as well as sport, and the former as a popular writer, under the *nom de plume* of "Idstone." These trials were carried out on the "point system"—of which more hereafter—and Mr. R. Garth, Q.C.'s, Pointer Jill and Mr. J. N. Fleming's Gordon Setter Dandy were each allotted a total of 100 marks—that is to say, each made the highest possible score, and were, therefore, pronounced by the judges to be absolutely perfect. This is a very important fact to be borne in mind in considering the different systems of judging, which we shall come to presently.

The judges decided, in the Southill trials, on the following points:

Nose	40
Pace and range	30
Temperament	10
Staunchness before	10
Staunchness behind	10
	100
Total	100

The year following, trials on grouse took place on Cannock Chase, over the manors of the Earls of Shrewsbury and Lichfield, and on partridge over the lands of the same noblemen near the town of Stafford. Trials again took place at Stafford in 1867 and 1868; and these, still known as the National Pointer and Setter Trials, were transferred to Shrewsbury in 1869, and have been continued from year to year ever since, and, for the most part, over the manor of Sir Vincent Corbet. In 1867, successful trials took place on partridges, at Bala, on the grounds of Mr. R. Ll. Price, of Rhiwlas; and year by year these trials

increased, gentlemen in other localities providing facilities for them. Thus, in 1870, the short-lived National Dog Club, founded mainly by the exertions of Mr. R. F. Bevan, of Weston Grove, near Southampton, carried out these tests of Pointer and Setter abilities over that gentleman's manors. These were repeated in 1871 and 1872. In the years 1870, 1871, and 1872, trials took place at Vaynol, over the shooting grounds of Mr. Duff Assheton Smith. In 1872, 1873, and 1874, the Devon and Cornwall field trials were successfully carried out; and in 1873, Bala again made its appearance in the list, and three days' excellent work was done over the moors of Mr. R. J. Ll. Price, of Rhiwlas.

In the year 1873, the Kennel Club established its field trials, the first of them taking place at Ipswich, on the estate of Colonel Tomline, M.P.

Up to this date it seemed as though practical tests, by public competition, of the working abilities of dogs, would grow in ratio with bench shows, where dogs are judged by appearance only. Any such hope was, however, doomed to disappointment, for from that date Pointer and Setter field trials ceased, with the exception of those of the Kennel Club and the National, both of which continue to be held annually; and to these I must now add the trials instituted by the Irish Red Setter Club, which I hope may be a permanent annual fixture.

I have given the points by which the dogs' merits were judged at the first of these trials, and pointed out that, by the fiat of the judges, two dogs—Jill, a Pointer, and Dandy, a Gordon Setter—were absolutely perfect. Under the same scale of points, at Bala, the Rev. F. W. Adey acting as judge, no dog scored more than 90 out of a possible 100.

At the Stafford and Shrewsbury trials, Mr. Brailsford's scale was used, which differs from the other, and is as follows:

Pace and range	20
Obedience	20
Style in hunting	15
Game-finding abilities	20
Style in pointing	15
Merit in backing	10
	<hr/>
Total	100

As an improvement on these, "Stonehenge" drew up the following scale, which was used with ease, success, and general satisfaction at each of the Vaynol trials:

Nose	30
Pace, and style in hunting	20
Breaking, as shown in working to hand and dropping to wing and shot	20
Style and steadiness in pointing	15
Backing	10
Drawing on game, or roading	5
	<hr/>
Total	100

This, as a standard or gauge of positive merit, is an improvement on both Mr. Brailsford's, as used at Shrewsbury, and the "Idstone," as applied at Southill and Bala.

The essential difference between the plan of "Stonehenge" and the others, consists in the application of penalties, in the form of "Negative Points," which he places against a dog for demerits, and deducts from the total of his positive, or meritorious points. Thus, if a dog that backed steadily, receives to his credit 10 marks, or, backing fairly well, receives 5 marks, he would penalise a dog that committed so grave an offence as altogether to refuse to back, not merely by withholding marks, but by placing against his account the full 10 marks allowed for steady backing, and deduct it from the dog's total score.

The great difficulty, it appears to me, in the practical use of "Stonehenge's" method is, that it does not apply with equal force to the other qualities in the dog which it is sought to test.

The two systems now in operation—one at the National, the other at the Kennel Club trials—differ far more essentially than the several point systems referred to do from each other. Although both systems in vogue are capable of being governed by a scale of points, the latter is not so, the Kennel Club having adopted the "heat" system, modelled on Greyhound coursing. Under this, the dogs are drawn, by tally numbers, to run against each other, and the defeated dog in each pair is thereby placed entirely out of further competition for the stake. The winners in the first round then compete, pair by pair, until, by this process, the winning dog of the last two competing is declared the absolute winner, the minor prizes falling to those left longest in the stake, according to order.

The system adopted at the National Pointer and Setter Trials, on the other hand, admits of a dog defeated in the first round still, by merit displayed, being given another trial; and if he sustains the high qualities exhibited in the heat in which he was defeated, he may still gain a prize—even the first prize—if in the after work he shows greater merit throughout the trials than the dog that first defeated him, and also than all other competitors.

As the object is to test the working abilities of each dog by a well-understood standard, in which a numerical value is given to each point or working quality, it appears to me that, under able judges, this is a far more exhaustive, fair, and satisfactory method than the heat system.

Suppose the case of A. against B., the former in the first round making—so far as a single trial enables the judges to say—90 points in 100, B. working with A. so well as to make 85. C. and D. are then put down, D. being

awarded 85 points, C. showing no merit. E. and F. are then hunted, E. scoring 80 against F.'s 70. G. and H. then compete, with a result of 75 for the former against 60 to the latter. In these four brace, B., although defeated by A. is equal to D., and superior to the other two winners, E. and G.

By the heat system, which the Kennel Club adopts, B. is dead; whilst by the Shrewsbury system he would be again called upon, and tested, certainly against D., and, as the work done by him and others in the after trials called for, he might again meet and then defeat his first opponent, A.

The heat system looks the most simple, and, it may be said, it is fair to all alike. No doubt the contention may be granted; but the argument does not meet the case on its merits, if the object of these trials is, by exhaustive tests, to find out the most meritorious worker—and that is the only worthy object, as a main one, we can conceive of such trials. In practice, the heat system does not even economise time, as it might be expected to do; but, on the contrary, in the hands of able judges, the exhaustive process by measured merit—that is, by a standard of points—beats the plan of selection by the accident of the draw. The advocates of the heat system seek to draw a parallel between the working of Setters and Pointers and the coursing Greyhound. Those practically acquainted with both sports must admit there is no true parallel, for the cases will not apply both ways.

The work of each dog in a Pointer or Setter stake may be, and, indeed, practically is, equal, and therefore the dogs engaged in competition No. 1 are on equal terms in after engagements; but in coursing this can never be so, for it is impossible to call a Greyhound off his hare, as a Pointer may be called off his point; and therefore, after the first round in a coursing match, Greyhounds often meet on very unequal terms, whereas in

Pointer and Setter trials the dogs meet in subsequent competitions, as in the first, on exactly the same terms.

The promoters of field trials have, in this country, great difficulties to contend with, notwithstanding the generous sporting spirit displayed by many gentlemen in placing their manors at their disposal. Respecting such trials, I have nothing but praise to write, recognising in them a real check to the dangers of the show ring, where the extravagant folly of fanciers, possessed of the most narrow view and conceited spirit, tend, in every useful class of dog, to make it unfit for its natural duties, in obedience to some idle whim.

As the rules of the Kennel Club regulating the whole procedure of field trials have now remained unaltered for a good many years, being in that respect in contrast to their dog-show rules, and being of interest and importance to sportsmen in general, I subjoin them here:—

THE KENNEL CLUB FIELD-TRIAL RULES

FOR THE GUIDANCE OF FIELD TRIALS OF SPORTING DOGS.

(Revised October, 1879.)

Management of a Meeting.

1. The management of a meeting shall be entrusted to a committee, in conjunction with field stewards, the latter of whom shall be appointed by the committee before the time of running.

The stewards shall decide any disputed question by a majority of those present, subject to an appeal to the committee.

No steward shall vote, during a meeting, in any case relating to his own dogs.

Election of Judges.

2. The judge or judges shall be elected by the committee, and their names shall be announced as soon as possible after their election. When a judge, from ill health, or any other unexpected cause, is prevented attending a meeting, or finishing it, the committee shall have the power of deciding what is to be done.

Description of Entry.

3. Every subscriber to a stake must name his dog at or before

the draw, giving the names of the sire and dam of the dog entered, and also, in puppy stakes, the name of the dam's owner. The secretary shall publish on the card the names of those who are subscribers, but do not comply with these conditions. These nominations shall not be drawn, but must be paid for.

Disqualification.

4. For puppy stakes, the names, pedigrees, ages, colours, and distinguishing marks of the puppies shall be detailed in writing to the secretary of a meeting at the time of entry. Any puppy whose age, markings, and pedigree shall be proved not to correspond with the entry given, shall be disqualified, and the whole of its stakes or winnings forfeited.

Definition of Puppy.

5. No dog is to be considered a puppy that was whelped before the 1st of January of the year preceding that of his competing.

Payment of Stakes.

6. All money due for nominations taken must be paid on or before the draw, whether the stakes fill or not, and although, from insufficient description, or any other cause, the dogs named may be disqualified.

No entry shall be valid unless the amount due for it has been paid in full.

For all produce and other stakes where a forfeit is payable, no declaration is necessary; the non-payment of the remainder of the entry money at the time fixed for that purpose is to be considered a declaration of forfeit. The secretary is responsible for the entry money of all dogs whose names appear on the card.

Alteration of Name.

7. If any subscriber should enter a dog by a different name from that in which it shall have last been known in public, he shall give notice of the alteration to the secretary at the time of entry, and the secretary shall place on the card both the late and present name of the dog. If notice of the alteration be not given, the dog shall be disqualified.

Prefix of "NS."

8. Any subscriber taking an entry in a stake, and not prefixing the word "names" to a dog which is not his own property, shall forfeit that dog's chance of the stake. He shall likewise, if requested, deliver in writing to the secretary of the meeting the name of the

bonâ fide owner of the dog named by him, and this communication is to be produced should any dispute arise in the matter.

Death of a Subscriber.

9. The death of a subscriber shall only affect his nomination if it occur before the draw, in which case, subject to the exceptions stated below, it shall be void, whether the entries have been made or not, and any money received for forfeits or stakes shall be returned. If he has parted with all interest in the nominations, and dogs not his property are entered, paid for, and drawn, in ignorance of his being no longer alive, such entries shall not subsequently be disturbed. When dogs who have been entered in produce stakes change owners, with their engagements, and with their forfeits paid, the new owner, if otherwise entitled to run them in these stakes, shall not be prevented from doing so by reason of the death of the former owner.

Power to Refuse Entries.

10. The committee or stewards of any meeting may reserve to themselves the right of refusing any entries they may think fit to exclude; and no person, who has been proved, to the satisfaction of the committee of the Kennel Club, to have misconducted himself in any way in connection with dogs, dog shows, or dog trials, will be allowed to compete in any trials that may be held under the Kennel Club Rules.

The Draw.

11. Immediately before the dogs are drawn at any meeting, and before 9 o'clock on every subsequent evening during the continuance of such meeting, the time and place of putting down the first brace of dogs on the following morning shall be declared. A card, or counter, bearing a corresponding number, shall be assigned to each entry. These numbered cards, or counters, shall then be placed together, and drawn indiscriminately. This classification, once made, shall not be disturbed throughout the meeting, except for the purpose of guarding, or on account of byes. Dogs whose position on the card has been altered in consequence of guarding, or of byes, must return to their original in the next round, if guarding does not prevent it.

12. The stakes shall be run in the order they are given in the programme, unless the whole of the competitors or their representatives in the various stakes may agree otherwise, in which case the order may be changed with the consent of the stewards or committee.

Guarding.

13. When more than one nomination in a stake is taken in one name, the dogs, if *bonâ fide* the property of the same owner, shall be guarded throughout; this is always to be arranged, as far as possible, by bringing up dogs from below to meet those which are to be guarded. This guarding is not, however, to deprive any dog of a natural bye to which he may be entitled, either in the draw or in running through the stake.

Byes.

14. A natural bye shall be given to the lowest available dog in each round. No dog shall run a second such bye in any stake, unless it is unavoidable. When a dog is entitled to a bye, either natural or accidental, his owner or nominator may run any dog he please with him.

Postponement of Meeting.

15. A meeting appointed to take place on a certain day may, if a majority of the committee and stewards (if appointed) consider the weather unfit, be postponed from day to day; but if the running does not commence within the current week, all nominations shall be void, and the expenses shall be paid by the subscribers, in proportion to the number of nominations taken by each. In the case of produce stakes, however, the original entries shall continue binding if the meeting is held at a later period of the season.

Running in Order.

16. Every dog must be brought up in its proper order, without delay, under a penalty of £1. If absent for more than a quarter of an hour, its opponent shall be entitled to claim the trial, and shall, in that case, run a bye. If both dogs be absent at the expiration of a quarter of an hour, the judge or judges shall have the power to disqualify both dogs, or to fine their owners any sum not exceeding £5 each.

By Whom a Dog is to be Hunted.

17. An owner, his keeper or deputy, may hunt a dog, but it must be one or the other; and when once the dogs are down, an owner must not interfere with his dog if he has deputed another person to hunt him.

Method of Hunting.

18. The person hunting a dog may speak, whistle, and work him by hand if he thinks proper; but he can be called to order by the judges for making any unnecessary noise, and if he persists in

doing so, they can order the dog to be taken up, and he will be out of the stake. An opponent's dog may not be purposely interfered with or excited, or an appeal can be made to the judges; and if the opponent's dog points game, the other dog is not to be drawn across him to take the points; but if not backing of his own account, he must be brought round behind the other dog.

Dogs must be hunted together, and their keepers must walk within a reasonable distance of one another. After a caution, the judge or judges may have the power to disqualify the dog whose keeper persists in neglecting this rule.

Control of Dogs Competing.

19. The control of all matters connected with the dogs under trial shall rest with the judge or judges of the meeting, assisted in case of peculiar difficulties by the stewards.

Wearing Collars.

20. All dogs when necessary shall wear collars—the red for the highest dog on the card, whose place shall be on the left; the white for the lowest dog, whose place shall be on the right side.

The Judge or Judges.

21. The judge or judges shall be subject to the general rules which may be established by the Kennel Club for his or their guidance. At the termination of each trial, he or they shall immediately proclaim his or their decision, either by word of mouth or by the exhibition of a colour corresponding to that worn by the winning dog. No recalling or reversing of that decision shall be afterwards given, on any pretext whatever.

Length of Trials.

22. The length of a trial shall be determined by the judge or judges. When he or they are satisfied that decided superiority has been exhibited by one of the contending dogs, the trial should end.

Injuring a Dog.

23. If any subscriber or his servant shall, wilfully or by carelessness, injure, or cause to be injured, an opponent's dog during a trial, the owner of the dog so injured shall (although the trial be given against him) be deemed the winner of it, or shall have the option of allowing the other dog to remain and run out the stake, and, in such case, shall be entitled to half its winnings, if any.

"No-Trials" and "Undecideds."

24. A "no-trial" is when, by accident or some other unforeseen cause, the dogs are not tried together.

An "undecided" trial is where the judge or judges consider the merits of the dogs equal. If either is then drawn, the owners must at the time declare which dog remains in.

A "no-trial" or an "undecided" may be run again immediately, or at such a time during the meeting as the judge or judges may direct. If it stands over until the next day, it shall be the first trial run.

Withdrawal of Dog.

25. If a dog be withdrawn from a stake on the field, its owner, or someone having his authority, must at once give notice to the secretary or stewards. If the dog belong to either of these officials, the notice must be given to one of the others.

Impugning the Judge.

26. If any subscriber openly impugns the decision of the judge or judges on the grounds, he shall forfeit not more than £5 or less than £2, at the discretion of the majority of the stewards.

Stakes not Run Out, and Arrangement made thereon.

27. When two dogs remain in for the deciding trial, the stake shall be considered divided, if they belong to the same owner, or to confederates; and also if the owner of one of the two dogs induces the owner of the other to draw him for any consideration; but if one of the two be drawn without consideration (from lameness, injury, or from any cause clearly affecting his chance of winning), the other may be declared the winner—the facts of the case being clearly proved to the satisfaction of the stewards. The same rule shall apply when more than two dogs remain in at the end of a stake which is not run out; and in case of a division between three or more dogs, of which two or more belong to the same owner, these latter shall be held to take equal shares of the total amount received by their owner in the division. The terms of any arrangement to divide winnings, and the amount of money given to induce the owner of a dog to draw him, must be declared to the secretary.

Objections.

28. An objection to a dog may be made to the secretary, or to any one of the stewards of a meeting, at any time within ten days of the last day of the meeting, upon the objector lodging in the

hands of such steward or secretary the sum of £5, which shall be forfeited if the objection prove frivolous, or if he shall not bring the case before the next meeting of the Kennel Club Committee, or give notice to the secretary, previous thereto, of his intention to withdraw the objection. The owner of the dog objected to must deposit equally the sum of £5, and prove the correctness of his entry or case. All expenses in consequence of the objection shall be borne by the party against whom the decision is given. Should an objection be made which cannot at the time be substantiated or disproved, the dog may be allowed to compete under protest, the secretary or stewards retaining his winnings until the objection has been withdrawn, or heard and decided. If the dog objected to be disqualified, the amount to which he would otherwise have been entitled shall be divided equally among the dogs beaten by him; and if a piece of plate or prize has been added, and won by him, only the dogs which he beat in the several rounds shall have a right to contend for it.

Defaulters.

29. No person shall be allowed to enter a dog, in his own or any other person's name, who is a defaulter for either stakes, forfeits, or bets in connection with field trials or dog shows; or for money due under an arrangement for a division of winnings; or for penalties regularly imposed for the infraction of rules, by the stewards of any meeting; or for any payment required by a decision of the Kennel Club; or for any subscriptions due to any club entitled to acknowledgment by the Kennel Club. As regards bets, however, this rule shall only apply when a complaint is lodged with the secretary of the Kennel Club within six months after the bet becomes due. On receipt of such complaint, the secretary shall give notice of the claim to the person against whom it is made, with a copy of this rule, and if he shall not pay the bet, or appear before the next meeting of the Kennel Club, and resist the claim successfully, he shall be considered a defaulter.

Ineligible Persons.

30. Any person who is proved, to the satisfaction of the Kennel Club committee, to have been guilty of any fraudulent or discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, may, in addition to any pecuniary penalty to which he may be liable, be declared incapable of entering a dog in his own or any other person's name during any subsequent period that the Club may decide upon.

Unfitness to Compete.

31. Should any dog be considered by the judges of a meeting unfit to compete, by reason of being on "heat," or having any contagious disease, or any other cause, which clearly interferes with the safety or chance of winning of his opponent, such dog shall be disqualified.

N.B.—In the foregoing rules, the term "dog" is understood to mean both sexes.

The Irish Red Setter Club has held its third trials (September, 1887), over the lands of Earl Powerscourt. All the competitions were open, instead of being restricted in most instances to members, as on the previous occasions. The committee also gave the judges freedom to select the winners by the Kennel Club "tie" system, or the "spotting" plan of the National Club, and the adjudicators adopted the latter, with satisfactory results to all, so far as the trials could be so under strongly adverse circumstances of weather and other conditions.



GROUP IV.

Dogs used with the Gun in Questing and Retrieving Game.

INCLUDING :

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. <i>The Clumber Spaniel.</i> | 8. <i>The Flat or Wavy-coated Retriever.</i> |
| 2. <i>The Sussex Spaniel.</i> | 9. <i>The Curly-coated Retriever.</i> |
| 3. <i>The Norfolk Spaniel.</i> | 10. <i>The Norfolk Retriever.</i> |
| 4. <i>The Black Field Spaniel.</i> | 11. <i>The Russian Retriever.</i> |
| 5. <i>The Cocker.</i> | |
| 6. <i>The Irish Water Spaniel.</i> | |
| 7. <i>English Water Spaniel.</i> | |

In conformation of head this group agrees closely with the preceding one. The Spaniels and Retrievers, although not so closely allied as the Setters and Spaniels, are grouped together on the plan already explained. Youatt thus describes the head characteristics of the Spaniel family: "The head moderately elongated, the parietals not approaching from their insertion, but rather diverging, so as to enlarge the cerebral cavities and the frontal sinuses, consequently giving to these dogs greater power of scent and intelligence."

HISTORY OF THE GROUP.

SPANIELS.

THE Spaniels, as we now understand the term, are a numerous family, having by modern breeding become split up into many divisions, most of them pretty clearly defined, but, in some instances, more by arbitrary selection of the few for special honours from the great body of the family, on account of one special property, than from general excellence; as, for instance, the Black Field Spaniels, for whom modern fashion reserves all bench honours, to the exclusion of particoloured dogs.

The wisdom of this I have always thought doubtful, and, indeed, rather more than doubtful; and, in my opinion, our present classification—the classification adopted at our shows—and the standard of excellence required in dogs to win, ignore the important, and, indeed, absolutely essential point of view to a sportsman—that of apparent working capacity. We have allowed the arbitrary and ornamental points to supersede the useful, and this is especially so in the rage for Black Spaniels, to the exclusion of others in the class now known as “Field Spaniels.” Even the name is not over happily chosen; for, in the wood, the covert, the brake, or the hedgerow, the Land Spaniel, as he was originally called, is still more at home than in the field, unless we use the term Spaniel in the wider sense adopted by our fathers, as applied to the Setter, and even the Pointer, which was frequently known as the Smooth Spaniel.

That covert hunting has, however, for many generations, ever since the introduction of fowling-pieces, been the Spaniel's great *forte*, there can be no denying, useful as he often proves at different work. The poet Somerville writes on this topic in terms as emphatic as they are stirring to the soul of a sportsman:—

But if the shady woods my cares employ
In quest of feathered game, my Spaniels beat,
Puzzling the entangled copse; and from the brake
Push forth the whirring pheasant; high in air
He waves his varied plumes, stretching away
With hasty wing. Soon from the uplifted tube
The mimic thunder bursts, the leaden death
O'ertakes him, and, with many a giddy whirl,
To earth he falls, and at my feet expires.

With this in view, we have to consider whether the modern Spaniel, as encouraged by, and bred for, dog shows, is an improvement or otherwise, or whether the plan followed by those who have the management of such shows has not done a direct injury to the breeding of a very large, widespread, and most useful class of dog, simply because they do not accord with the distinctions of colour and other minor points arbitrarily set up.

First, let us briefly glance at the history of the Spaniel, or, rather, at a few of the very meagre notices of him which we get at wide intervals. When I wrote the first edition of this work, I said I believed the first notice of the Spaniel, by that name, in English, occurs in "The Mayster of Game," by Edmund de Langley. He says: "The houndes for the hawke cometh out of Spayn," and describes him as white and tawny, with large head and body, not too rough in coat, and with a feathered tail; he further describes their general character and action, and their use in the netting of partridge, &c., and also refers to their use in the pursuit and capture of waterfowl.

I have, since the first edition appeared, discovered two earlier notices of the Spaniel. One of these is by William Twici, or Twety, who was "Maister of the Game" to King Edward II., and the author of a treatise on the "Crafte of Huntynge." This takes us back to probably the second decade of the fourteenth century, about three-quarters of a century earlier than De Langley, Edward II. reigning from 1307 to 1327. Even this is, however, far from the

earliest notice of the Spaniel as a recognised breed in these Islands, and for that we have to go to the Principality of Wales.

In the Laws of Howel Dda, who died in the year 948, there is a specification of "The Worth of Dogs," in which the following occurs: "The Spaniel of the king is a pound in value. The Spaniel of an uchelior, a pound. The Spaniel of a free-man is six score pence in value. The Spaniel of an aillt, fourpence—the same value as his cur."

In the later codes of Welsh laws, the Spaniel is also distinctly mentioned, and valued as above. We have, therefore, proof of the existence of this breed in Wales centuries before there is any mention of the dog in England—indeed, clearly a century and a half before the Norman Conquest. There may be some reference to the Spaniel in early Saxon records, but my endeavours to discover any such have proved fruitless.

This is a matter, I am well aware, that has no interest to many whose names appear in our fanciers' papers as the most ardent admirers of, and best friends to, the dog; but there are others, true lovers of the Spaniel, whether he lies on the hearthrug or is busy

"Thridding the somber bosage of the wood,"

who delight in every scrap of his ancient history that can be gathered together for their delectation.

Of the introduction of the Spaniel into this country nothing certain seems to be known. No writer I am acquainted with has included the Spaniel among the indigenous dogs of Britain. On the contrary, all, or nearly all, have distinctly recognised him as of Spanish origin, and taking his name from Hispaniola.

Some have supposed the Spaniel was brought to England by some of our warriors engaged in the Crusades; but the Welsh laws seem conclusive that he was so well known here as to be in the possession of everyone,

from the commoner to the king, long anterior to the first Crusade.

“Stonehenge” says merely: “Among the earliest records of venerie in England, the Spaniel is alluded to as used for hawking and netting; and he claims, with the Greyhound, the Bulldog, and the Mastiff, the honour of having been the first of his species introduced into this country. I do not pretend to settle this moot point.”

“Idstone” merely quotes “The Mayster of Game” as to the origin of the Spaniel, to the effect that the dog is called “a Spaynel because the nature of him cometh from Spain; notwithstanding that they are to be found in other countries.”

The question rises naturally to the mind, How did the Spaniel reach Wales, and become a breed of the country so plentiful as he is shown to be by the distinction given to him in the Welsh Laws? That the dog came from Spain, all writers seem to agree, and the name seems to give strong support to that view on first consideration; but it is not without an element of confusion when required to tally with historical facts. The Welsh had no direct communication with Spain, but the Irish had subjugated Wales, and held it for a long period, although minimised, by some Welsh traditions, to twenty-nine years. But the invasion of Britain by the Gaels from Ireland was long anterior to the Christian era, as is proved by Mr. Brash, in his work, “The Ogam-inscribed Monuments of the Gael,” which can be read in Irish, and bear the clan names of Siol-Ebher. Julius Cæsar, B.C. 55, describes the inhabitants of South Wales as Sil-ures; and although no date has been fixed for the earliest occupation by the Irish, it existed for many centuries, and came to an end when the overthrow of the Gaelic tribes by Cunedda (a Strathclyde British Prince) took place, an event which is variously stated to have occurred in the sixth or seventh centuries.

To go back in the history of the Gaels, who invaded and conquered Wales, Devon, and Cornwall, we find, on the authority of McCarthy, that they peopled Ireland about 900 B.C. This branch of the Celtic race came from Spain; and of these, the clan Ebher, or Ivor, a numerous and warlike race, of an advanced civilisation, played an important part in the history of Ireland. That such a race, coming from Spain, should import their dogs with them, seems so extremely probable, that it may, I think, be assumed as a certainty, when we remember the devotion of the Celts of all times to sports of the chase. It seems equally certain that they would take their dogs with them to Wales, Devon, and other parts of Britain, when they, by conquest, settled there; and in this way it appears, to my mind, reasonable to assume the Welsh got their breed of Spaniels.

It will be seen that, from the expulsion of the Irish from Wales, to the time of Howel Dda was a period of only about 300 years. A difficulty in accepting this theory arises when we put together the invasion of Ireland from Spain, and the earliest use of the name Spain, as applied to that country, the older name of which was Iberia, etymologically allied to the Gaelic Ebher.

As to the origin of the name Spain, the following, from Smith's "Classical Dictionary," throws light on our present subject: "Hispania, or Iberia; Spain. The Greeks and Romans had no accurate knowledge of the country until the date of the Roman invasion [B.C. 218-201] in the second Punic war. It was first mentioned by Hecataeus, about 500 B.C., under the name of Iberia; but this name only indicated, originally, the East coast; the West coast, beyond the pillars of Hercules, was called Tartessus; and the interior of the country, Celtica. At a later time, the Greeks applied the name of Iberia, which is usually derived from the river Iberus, to the whole country. The name Hispania, by which the Romans call the country, first occurs at the time of the Roman invasion under

Scipio. It is usually derived from the Punic (Carthaginian) word 'span,' a 'rabbit,' on account of the great numbers of rabbits that the Carthaginians found in the peninsula; but others suppose the name to be of native origin, and to be the same as the Basque 'españa,' an edge or boundary."

The difficulty in regard to the name to which I have alluded is, that the Irish Celts left Spain 900 B.C., that is, 700 years before the name Spain was applied to that country. I am, of course, going on the presumption that the Irish carried their dogs from Spain with them at the period of their invasion of Ireland, and, consequently, before the name Spain was used. Now, if we may presume that the Welsh had this dog—which is universally admitted to be of Spanish origin—through the Irish, we may reasonably presume the name Spaniel, or its equivalent in Irish, being descriptive of a breed of dog brought from Iberia, to have been gradually adopted at a later period, seeing that there is no reason to suppose that the Clanna Eibher—who were essentially a maritime race, and occupied a seaboard of 300 miles, from Kerry Head, on the Shannon, to Carnsore Point, on the Leinster coast—would cease all connection with the country they had left.

On the whole, I am strongly disposed to think that, in the absence of any evidence, that the Spaniel was known to the Saxons; that the dog is specially mentioned in the Welsh laws of the early tenth century; that the Irish had held Wales in subjection for centuries; and that the Irish had come to Ireland from Spain, the recognised, or, at least, supposed, native home of the breed; we are justified in assuming it as probable that the Welsh and English are both indebted to the Irish for the Spaniel.

I do not, of course, look upon this conclusion as demonstrated, but I think the idea will prove interesting and suggestive, and may lead to research by scholars learned

in Welsh and the Gaelic languages, which may add to our knowledge of the subject.

We must not forget the possibility that, without a thought of Spain as a country, we may have adopted a modification of the Carthaginian "span," and applied it to this breed on account of their use in the warren, and that Spaniel may merely mean a "rabbit dog."

The Spaniel also occurs in the list of breeds of dogs given by the Sopewell Prioress, in the "Booke of St. Albans," published 1486; but she gives no description of it. A century later, Dr. Johannes Caius, in his book, "Englishe Dogges," says of Spaniels, there are two sorts—one "that findeth game on land," and one "that findeth game on the water;" and the same distinction is observed by all later writers, up to the present century.

Nicholas Cox, in "The Gentleman's Recreation," published 1677, copying Markham, I believe, describes the Land Spaniel as "of a good and nimble size, rather small than gross, and of a courageous mettle; which, though you cannot discern being young, yet you may very well know from a right breed which have been known to be strong, lusty, and nimble rangers, of active feet, wanton tails, and busy nostrils, whose tail was without weariness, their search without changeableness, and whom no delight did transport beyond fear or obedience."

Spaniels were in olden times also known by the name of the game they were kept to, as "a dog for the partridge," "a dog for the duck," "a dog for the pheasant," as in our own day we still have the Cocker, or dog for the woodcock; but at what date the term "Springer," or "Springing Spaniel," was introduced, I do not know, but presume it must have been when the qualities of the Setter, or "Setting Spaniel," became fully developed and permanently fixed by breeding Setters from known Setting Spaniels only, and keeping the breed of questing Spaniels distinct. The term Springer was probably given to them on

account of their natural disposition to rush in and flush, or spring, their game.

In the "Sportsman's Cabinet," 1802-3, Spaniels are treated by "A Veteran Sportsman" under three divisions—the Springing Spaniel, the Cocker Spaniel (in which latter class he includes the Duke of Marlborough's Blenheims, now only recognised as Toys), and Water Spaniels. The Springers are described as differing but little from the Setter of that day, except in size, being about two-fifths less. The engravings given in illustration, from drawings by Reinagle, do not, however, bear out this statement, the Setter's muzzle being truncated, and the flews deep, as though crossed with the Spanish Pointer; while the Springer, although shown with open mouth, is evidently comparatively pointed in muzzle, and also shorter in the back, and, indeed, very much more like the comparatively leggy, but compact, active, merry-looking dogs still seen in numbers throughout the country, and turning up in plenty at some West of England shows, than the Black Field Spaniel of the show-bench, which is very long-backed, and excessively long in head and muzzle.

I do not wish to be understood as objecting to the Black Spaniel; his beauty is undeniable, and the colour is no innovation, black having always been recognised. Black and tan is also mentioned by old writers, but I say that, in length of body and stamp of head, our show-bench Black Spaniels are a departure from the old type, and, for working qualities, a departure in a wrong direction. If we take the average long, low dog of the show-ring, with his excessive length of ear, and abundance of silky feathering, it must be admitted he does not look like a dog suited for a day's hard work in a rough country, although he might do to potter about the outside of a hedge, or put up a rabbit in turnips.

What we want is a dog more compact, with shorter and stronger muscles coupling the back ribs and hind

quarters; and if the present fashion is to be maintained—the prejudice in favour of black colour, long backs, and Setter-like heads—I plead for two classes at all shows, if the purpose of these institutions is to improve the various breeds of dogs for sporting purposes: one class for other than self-coloured dogs, representing the old Springer, most generally diffused throughout the country, and weighing over, say, 25lb.; and a corresponding class for Cockers, weighing from 18lb. to 25lb.; and I think it would not be difficult for sportsmen to agree as to a standard of points by which they should be judged.

The Spaniel is not only the oldest breed we have that has been kept to the hunting of fur and feather, as a help to hawking, netting, and the gun, but he is still the most generally useful of our game dogs, as he is the most universal favourite. In field or covert no dog works so close as a well-bred and well-broken Spaniel: neither fur nor feather can escape him; no hedgerow is too thick, no brake too dense for him to penetrate and force out to view of the sportsman the reluctant game; he is a most active, ardent, and merry worker; his “wanton tail,” ever in motion while he quests, increases in rapidity of action with that tremulous whimper that tells so truly that he is near his game, and says to his master, in tones that never deceive, “Be ready; it is here.”

The Spaniel is no less a favourite as a companion and house dog, for which his watchfulness, sagacity, and fidelity, equally with his gentleness of manners and handsome appearance, eminently fit him.

The present classification of Spaniels according to the Kennel Club Stud Book is—Field Spaniels (in which, as already observed, Blacks almost invariably usurp the whole of the prizes), Clumber Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Water Spaniels other than Irish, and the now purely toy varieties, Blenheim and King Charles Spaniels.

In 1886 the Spaniel Club was formed, and has pub-

lished a standard of points and description of the several varieties of Spaniels, founded on the opinions of the principal breeders and judges of the day. The Club does not use the term Springer in regard to any breed, but classifies them as English Water Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Clumbers, Sussex, Norfolk, Black Field Spaniels, Any Other Variety of Field Spaniels, Black Cocker Spaniels, and Any Other Variety of Cocker Spaniels. The Kennel Club, on the other hand, in the fourteenth volume of the Stud Book (1887), classes them with the following differences: Sussex and other liver-coloured ones exceeding 25lb.; Spaniels (Field) other than liver-coloured ones; and Cockers, any colour, not exceeding 25lb.

I do not suppose there is any man, outside the clubs referred to, with a mind of orderly tendency and habits of classifying facts, who will fail to wonder at the unmeaning and absurdly arbitrary jumble represented by the extraordinary arrangements quoted. The Kennel Club's divisions and singular combinations, marked by a narrowness of viewing the whole subject, and the indefinite weakness of purpose said to peculiarly represent a lost Greyhound, must create astonishment in the reflective mind, considering the position the Club assumes. No one who seeks information in the Stud Book respecting dogs in the classes included in the titles quoted, can learn from it what particular breed of dog any one of those registered may be.

Having referred to the older style of Spaniel, the parti-coloured specimens of which (and these are in a large majority of the whole) are practically excluded from bench show honours, I shall proceed with a description of the several varieties, after first referring to such history as exists of the lesser branch of this group,

RETRIEVERS.

THE Retriever, as recognised by show authorities, has a very short history. Dogs have long been bred for the

special work of recovering lost game, and many crosses resorted to for the production of those suitable. This, of course, was regulated by the kind of game, the nature of the country hunted, and often, also, by the caprice or fancy of the sportsman. The Terrier and Beagle, Terrier and Pointer, Terrier and Spaniel, Newfoundland and the various breeds of Setter, and many other crosses, have been tried, and the Labrador, or Lesser Newfoundland, has often been used uncrossed.

With that large portion of the British public whose knowledge of dogs is general, not specific, every big black or brown dog that is not a Colley is a Retriever. The modern show Retriever is, however, well defined in both its varieties of Flat-coated and Curly-coated, and the dog that passes muster as a Retriever in the street would at once be put aside in the show ring.

At the first show at Birmingham, 1859, a class was made for Retrievers, and ever since then the breed has been cultivated to correspond more and more with the now recognised standard. The changes, or stages in this progressive work will be noticed in dealing with each variety.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE CLUMBER SPANIEL.

No sycophant, although of Spaniel race;
And though no hound, a martyr to the chase.

THE Clumber is unquestionably the aristocrat of the Spaniel family, in comparison to whom his modern Black brother of the benches is a mere *parvenu*, and the Irish Water Spaniel as an unkempt kerne to a polished gentleman. The grave and somewhat weird Sussex cannot compare with him in dignity of demeanour, and the busy little Cocker, with his fussy usefulness, neat and taking though he be, is commonplace in comparison with the Clumber, whose manners, solemn, slow, and almost dull, are yet stamped with that repose which the least imaginative may easily conceive rests on the proud consciousness of his long descent.

How the variety of Spaniel under consideration came into being I have failed to discover. That the present characteristics he presents have for several generations of men been preserved by in-and-in breeding appears pretty certain, and for long the breed was confined to the Newcastle family, from one of whose seats they take their name.

But how a dog differing so considerably from other Spaniels first originated is a puzzle to me, which I would like solved. His long barrel, short legs, general heavy and inactive appearance, differ widely from the sprightly Cocker and ordinary Springer; and then, again, his big,

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CLUMBER SPANIEL.

Mr. W. Arkwright's LAPIS. Sire, Duke of Portland's Bob ; Dam, Floss (K.C.S.B., 4397).

heavy head, large, truncated muzzle, deep eyes, sometimes showing the haw, suggest a cross with a short-legged hound, which the fact of his being mute in questing seems to contradict. But, as I must have a theory of his origin, I content myself with imagining that the introduction of French Bassets to the Clumber kennels may have produced the form, and stamped him with many of the peculiar features which distinguish him from other breeds of Spaniels. Daniels states that the breed was imported into this country by a Duke of Newcastle, who obtained them from the Duc de Nouailles. This throws the date of their importation back to, probably, the early part of last century, and rather strengthens the Basset cross theory, which the form of the Clumber so strongly suggests.

The breed, if pure bred, invariably hunt mute. They have excellent noses. From their low build, great strength, thick, flat coats, and close-lying ears, they are extremely well fitted to force their way through and under the thickest tangles of briar, whin, or bramble; but it is not now in such work that they are mostly used, but in the battue, where their silence, docility, and excellent retrieving qualities make them valuable. They are easily broken to retrieve, and work steadily and with a plodding and untiring patience. Many of them prove excellent water dogs, although that is not their *forte*; and, well entered, they prove equally useful and steady on snipe, pheasants, or rabbits. In packs they work splendidly together, showing less jealousy and disposition to copy than many breeds; and this lends support to the view that they have Basset blood in them, individuality and independence in work being a strong characteristic of the Basset: and to the single-dog sportsman the Clumber proves a useful, reliable, and, although a rather sedate one, an intelligent and pleasing companion.

The breed of Clumbers has been guarded with great jealousy by several of the noble families in whose kennels

it has long held a place; of these, the principal are the Dukes of Newcastle, Norfolk, and Portland, and Earl Spencer.

Mr. Foljambe's name is intimately associated with our best specimens. Mr. R. S. Holford, in the earlier days of dog shows, exhibited some very grand specimens. Mr. W. Arkwright, of Sutton Scarsdale, is also an enthusiastic admirer of the breed, and a successful exhibitor and breeder; and among the more celebrated Clumbers exhibited of late years, we may include his Lapis, Mr. Phineas Bullock's celebrated Old Nabob, Mr. James Fletcher's Beau, and Mr. T. B. Bowers' Belgrave.

A correspondent who has lately visited the Welbeck Kennels, celebrated for their ancient and stainless pedigree, writes me he saw about a score specimens, every one fit to grace a show-ring.

Mr. James Farrow, who has been an enthusiastic Spaniel breeder for many years, and has paid very close attention to the breeds as exhibited at our best shows, makes the following remarks on the Clumber:

Better specimens of this beautiful and very useful variety of Spaniel existed ten or fifteen years ago than we have to-day. I know of no Clumber Spaniel now being exhibited showing so distinctly the head properties—so much valued by Clumber breeders—as did Nabob, a Clumber that did a lot of prize-winning about the year 1872, exhibited by Mr. P. Bullock, and bred by Mr. Foljambe, a name often found connected with many of our best Clumbers. Beau was another good Clumber, bred by Mr. J. Douglas, of Clumber, and exhibited by Mr. Fletcher. At the Kennel Club Shows in 1874 and 1875, Beau was often placed over Nabob, but, although a good dog, he was certainly not equal to Nabob. Another good Clumber, and a great prizewinner—a better dog than anything now being exhibited—was Trusty, bred by Earl Spencer, and exhibited for years by Mr. H. B. Spurgin, Northampton. About the year

1872, the Rev. T. Marshall exhibited, at several shows held in the East of England, a grand Clumber dog, named Bruce. Very little was seen of this Clumber at exhibitions; had he been in some hands, however, this dog would have made a name in the Clumber world. Another good Clumber, and bred from some of Mr. Foljambe's dogs, was Rock, bred by Mr. Parlett, who, although not a heavy prize-winner, was fairly successful at exhibitions. He was, perhaps, a little short in body, and a little too long on his legs, but a good Clumber nevertheless; and I have seen him placed over what I take to-day to be the best Clumber now being exhibited—I refer to Psycho, a heavy prize-winner, and first in the Challenge Class at the Kennel Club's Show in January, 1887.

In 1885 I was very much afraid we were about to lose, or give up, in the head properties of the Clumber, some of our oldest acknowledged points. Boss III., a Clumber bred and exhibited by Mr. J. Allen, Ampthill, was, in 1885, awarded, and by some of our oldest Spaniel judges, first prize in the Challenge Class at both the Kennel Club's winter and summer exhibitions; and at Warwick, in the Challenge Class, he was placed over Psycho by our old, recognised Spaniel judges, the Rev. A. L. Willet and Major Willet. Now there is just as much difference between the head of the Clumber and the head of the ordinary Field or Springer Spaniel as there is between black and white; and Boss III.'s head is certainly more of the ordinary Field Spaniel type than that of a Clumber, and that simply at once destroys the Clumber expression.

At the winter show of the Kennel Club, in 1886, Boss III. once more met Psycho, and Boss III. was put back, and Psycho again brought to the front. I acted as judge on that occasion, and I put Boss III. back simply because of his want of Clumber expression, or, in other words, because his is not a Clumber's head. In the descriptive particulars of the Clumber Spaniel, in the standard of

points and description of the different varieties of Spaniels just published by the Spaniel Club, the head of the Clumber is very fairly handled, and reads as follows: "Large, square, and massive, flat on top, ending in a peak at occiput, round above eyes, with a deep stop; muzzle heavy and freckled, lips of upper jaw slightly overhung; skin under eyes dropping, and showing hair."

I hope our Spaniel judges in future will go for this class of head, and thus save the expression of this beautiful Spaniel from being something between those of the ordinary Field Spaniel and the Clumber. A friend informed me, after judging of Spaniels at the Birmingham Show of 1886, that the judges, the Rev. A. L. Willet and Major Willet, told him they would no longer recognise the long, Field Spaniel character of Clumber head. This fact, with the description issued by the Spaniel Club, should, and I hope will, destroy the fear I had, in 1885, about the head of the Clumber of the future. Two of the best Clumbers now being exhibited are Mr. Holmes' (Lancaster) Tower and Mr. J. A. Parlett's (Edgware Road) Trust. Referring to Trust reminds me of another point in which we have lost ground, of late years, in our Clumber, and that is colour. Trust certainly has little colour; nevertheless, what there is is nearly a liver colour—a most objectionable colour for a Clumber. Trust is, however, not alone, for very many of the Clumbers now being exhibited are far too dark in the colour of their markings, and judges will do well to make a stand against this.

The colour of the Clumber is very important, and I regret to see that the Spaniel Club, in describing the colour, have certainly not handled this point so clearly and strongly as I think they ought to have done.

The Club's description is as follows: "Plain white, with lemon markings; orange permissible, but not so desirable; slight head markings with white body preferred." Now, in judging to this description, unless the work is placed

in most careful hands, we shall see the colour of our Clumbers gradually become too dark a shade of lemon. I would have added to this description of colour issued by the Spaniel Club the following: "A decided liver-coloured marking to be a disqualification."

Going from the question of colour, I may mention a few of the best dogs now being exhibited: Two good young dogs were shown, by Mr. Holmes, at the Kennel Club's show in January, 1887—Holmes' Hotpot, and Holmes' Honesty; they were placed by the judge first and second; Honesty, second, I think the best. Hotpot is a very good Clumber, but has certainly not a Clumber's eye, which weakens his Clumber expression. A good Clumber bitch is very rare, and we seldom indeed see one in the challenge classes. Cherie, exhibited by Captain Moreton Thomas, is very nice, but she is much too small for a Clumber. I think Hilda, exhibited and bred by Mr. Holmes, and sired by a good Clumber, John o' Gaunt, is about the best bitch now being exhibited. His Grace the Duke of Portland has, now and again, during the last ten or twelve years, exhibited a good bitch or two, and in his Fairy II. we have certainly one of our best Clumber bitches. A bitch named Doll, exhibited by Mr. J. Allen, of Ampthill, won several first prizes, and at our most important shows, in 1885. She is a large, fine bitch, but her head is of the same class as that of Champion Boss III., which used to be exhibited by the same gentleman—a dog I have previously referred to. It is said that the best kennel of Clumbers in England is at Welbeck (the Duke of Portland's). I have never seen the Welbeck Kennels, but I remember, at the Kennel Club's winter show of 1883, fourteen Clumbers were exhibited by his Grace, and a very fine team of Spaniels they were. One of the dogs, Damper, had many excellent Clumber points; and one of the bitches, Fairy III., was a grand specimen, and was

awarded the first prize in the Open Bitch Class. I am afraid, however, judging from a draft of Clumbers from the Welbeck Kennels that was sold at Aldridge's, St. Martin's Lane, on 20th November, 1885, that the Duke is losing size and colour in his Spaniels. I noticed at this sale that all the young dogs were small, with orange markings, and that in the old ones only were the colour and size fairly good. The points in the Clumber Spaniel that require the most attention from our breeders to-day are head, size, and colour.

The *general appearance* of the Clumber is that of a long, low, heavy dog, somewhat slow and dull looking.

The *head* is large, long in skull, with the muzzle broad, and cut off square.

The *eyes* are large, often rather deeply set, with a quiet, thoughtful expression.

The *nose* is liver or flesh-coloured.

The *ears* are large, lying close to the cheek, free from curl, but covered with short, close hair, with rather longer hair at the edges.

The *neck* is long, thick, and muscular.

The *shoulders* are very thick through, giving a heavy appearance.

The *chest* and *body* are deep and round, the ribs well sprung, wide apart, and extending well back; the back ribs deep.

The *back* is very long, straight; and both it and the loins are strong.

The *hind quarters* are not much bent in stifle; the *fore legs* are straight, with immense bone; the *forearm* very thick and strong; the *feet* large, rather flat; and these and the legs are well feathered.

The *tail* is generally docked, but not very short, feathered, and with a downward carriage.

The *coat* is thick, flat, and soft—a curly coat is objectionable; the *colour* is white and lemon, which should be

nically distributed: the lemon should come down the head to below the eyes, and be divided by a line or narrow blaze of white up the forehead.

As the standard set up by the Spaniel Club is presumed to be that by which judges are guided at most of the important shows now, I give it *in extenso*:

<i>Positive Points.</i>	<i>Negative Points.</i>
Head and jaw 25	Light nose 10
Eyes 5	Curled ears 10
Ears 5	„ coat 20
Neck 5	
Body 20	
Fore legs 5	
Hind legs 5	
Feet 5	
Stern 5	
Coat and feather . . . 10	
General appearance . . 10	
Total positive points . 100	Total negative points . 40

Head.—Large, square, and massive, flat on top, ending in a peak at occiput, round above eyes, with a deep stop; muzzle heavy and freckled, lips of upper jaw slightly overhanging; skin under eyes dropping, and showing haw.

Eyes.—Dark brown, slightly sunk, and showing haw.

Ears.—Large, well covered with straight hair, and hanging slightly forward, the feather not to extend below the leather.

Neck.—Very thick and powerful, and well feathered underneath.

Body (including Size and Symmetry).—Very long and heavy, and near the ground. Weight of dogs, 55lb. to 65lb.; bitches, 45lb. to 55lb.

Nose.—Square, and flesh-coloured.

Shoulders and Chest.—Wide and deep; shoulders strong and muscular.

Back and Loin.—Back straight, broad, and long; loin powerful, and well let down.

Hind Quarters.—Very powerful, with thighs placed well at back of body.

Stern.—Set very low (whilst retaining the more important point of a straight back), well feathered, and carried about level with the backbone.

Feet and Legs.—Feet large and round, well covered with hair; legs short, thick, and strong; hocks low.

Coat.—Long, plentiful, soft, and straight.

Colour.—Plain white, with lemon markings; orange permissible, but not so desirable; slight head markings, with white body, preferred.

General Appearance.—Should be that of a very long, low, heavy, massive dog, with a thoughtful expression.

In reference to some apparent discrepancies between my description, written ten years ago, and that of the Club, I would point out that the skull, from occiput, is long in proportion to muzzle, if we compare the Clumber with, for instance, the Black Field Spaniel. The haw is conspicuous in dogs with eyes deeply, not slightly, sunk.

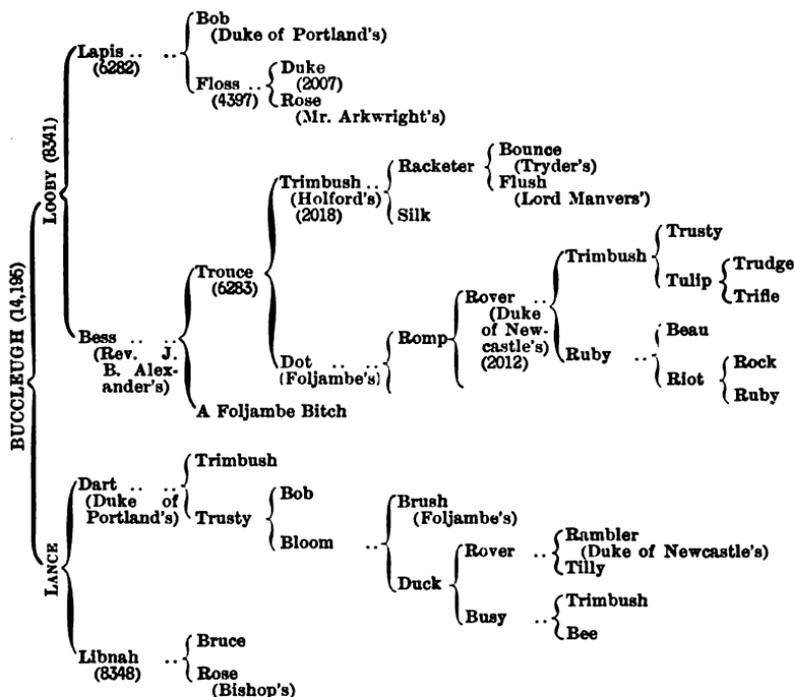
I confess to a puzzled feeling on reading “thighs placed well at back of body.” The wisdom of the Club is here unfathomable to one who has never seen a dog’s thighs anywhere else than at the back of his body.

If by nose the Club mean the soft cartilage which forms the framework of the nostrils, the roof, alæ, and septum, then the nose is not square; and if, on the other hand, they mean by nose the muzzle, then it is not flesh-coloured.

The Club’s description of the stern I do not pretend to understand. I do not think the coat of the Clumber can be fairly described as long, even if it is intended to be taken as relatively so to that of other varieties of Spaniel.

The subject of our engraving is Mr. W. Arkwright's Lapis, winner at the Crystal Palace Show, 1877; his sire was the Duke of Portland's Bob, and his dam Mr. Arkwright's Floss, by the celebrated Duke, out of Arkwright's Rose.

The table of pedigrees given below shows a combination of the best known strains. It has, however, often occurred, in this breed, that a splendid specimen is brought forward, and reigns supreme on the show-bench, whose pedigree cannot be traced. Mr. Holmes' John o' Gaunt is an instance of this.



The following are the weight and measurements of Lapis and other good specimens. Lapis is higher at the shoulder than many of the breed.

Mr. W. Arkwright's *Lapis*: Weight, 62lb.; height at shoulder, 18in.; length from tip of nose to set-on of stern, 42½in.; length from occiput to between eyes, 6in.; thence to tip of nose, 4¾in.; length of tail, 6½in.; girth behind shoulders, 29in.; girth of head, 18½in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; girth of loin, 25in.

Mr. W. Arkwright's *Busy*: Height at shoulder, 16in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 45in.; length of tail, 7in.; girth of chest, 26in.; girth of loin, 25in.; girth of head, 17½in.; girth of over-arm, 7½in.; length of head, from occiput to between eyes, 5¾in.; length from eyes to nose end, 3½in.

Mr. W. Arkwright's *Looby*: Length from nose to set-on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, 6in.; girth of chest, 23½in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of over-arm, 7¾in.; length of head, from occiput to between eyes, 6in.; length from eyes to nose end, 4½in.



CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE SUSSEX SPANIEL.

A Spaniel, a woman, a walnut-tree—
The more they be beaten, the better they be.

OLD PROVERB.

I AM disposed to ask, Has the Sussex Spaniel become extinct? The reason I put the question is that, in the last two volumes of the Kennel Club Stud Book, I find the name, but only as heading a heterogeneous mass described as "Other Liver-coloured Ones." Why this is I do not know, for in Vol. XII., issued in 1885, the Sussex had a class to themselves, and numbered twenty-one entries.

As there seems to be no doubt that a very distinct variety of Spaniel has for long been recognised as peculiar to Sussex, and known by the name of that county, it is a pity that it should not be encouraged; but the action of the Kennel Club appears to be taken with a reverse object. It is to be hoped that the Spaniel Club will remain in vigorous existence, and counteract this policy, which tends to the extinction of a very handsome and useful variety; and this, by having published a descriptive standard of the breed, they seem desirous of doing.

Although "Castra," who wrote the article for the first edition of "British Dogs," quoted Youatt as though that author had written of Sussex Spaniels, I do not think Youatt's language justifies the view taken by him, but that it referred to the Spaniel as a breed, and not to

any one of its modern sub-varieties. Youatt says: "The Spaniel is evidently the parent of the Newfoundland dog and the Setter; while the Retriever, the Poodle, the Bernardine, the Esquimaux, the Siberian, and the Greenland dogs, the shepherd and drover's dog, and every variety distinguished for intelligence and fidelity, have more or less of his blood in them." Whatever we may think of this theory (and I for one do not accept it), the writer does not refer to a golden, liver-coloured dog, such as all writers—"Castra" included—have recognised the Sussex to be; but, on the contrary, goes on immediately to describe this parent of such markedly opposite varieties as "varying in colour, but most commonly white, with brown or black patches."

The only reference by Youatt to the Sussex, by that name, which I have met with in his writings is when he, describing "the Springer," says: "The largest and best breed of Springers is said to be in Sussex, and is much esteemed in the wealds of that county."

"Castra" is a gentleman who, years ago, took an enthusiastic interest in the true Sussex Spaniel, and did much to save it from annihilation by absorption into more modern strains. Not only was he a successful breeder and exhibitor, but many winning dogs of this strain, at the present day, are descended from his kennels. I regret that he appears to take less interest in them, or that his influence with the Kennel Club appears to be less than it was; for surely, were it not so, his favourite variety would not be classed in the schedule with every crossbred dog that happens to be brown in colour.

I wish I could give, with greater elaboration, "Castra's" own opinion of the breed, based on his long experience, but have only to offer to my readers the following brief and general observations: "This variety of Spaniel is one of the oldest known breeds of English sporting dogs, and is probably the one from which the Setter has been pro-

duced, by the simple process of selection; such appears to be the opinion of 'Idstone,' and such was the opinion of the king of Setter breeders—I refer, of course, to the late Mr. Laverack—who went so far as to admit that, in breeding the animals for which he became so justly famous, he always aimed at producing an enlarged Spaniel, and maintained that the formation of a pure Sussex Spaniel was perfection for the purposes of endurance."

"Castra" offers no sound basis for his theory that the Sussex is the variety of Spaniel from which the Setter has been produced, and I think it an extremely improbable one, against which numerous facts and opinions of authoritative writers, given in previous chapters of this work, may be arrayed by the reader with very little trouble. I will briefly state two strong arguments against "Castra's" view: The North is generally accepted as the home of our main Setter varieties, whilst the golden, liver-coloured Spaniel was practically confined to the one Southern county. Secondly, the Sussex being a dog that gives tongue. I have seen in writing, or heard "Castra" describe, as a special peculiarity of them, their deep, bell-toned voices.

Although known among sportsmen of the county, and to some beyond it, "Stonehenge" was the first to minutely describe the Sussex Spaniel, and, for the benefit of all sportsmen, to publish the information in his book "The Dog in Health and Disease." He says: "The Sussex is a distinct and a very old-established breed. He divides the honours of old family with the Clumber, and he always has been, and always will be, in demand." The present state of what may, not inaptly, under the circumstances, be called the Sussex fancy, shows how unsafe it is to prophecy anything about dogs, since they have been bred for the bench, and not for work, for the Sussex is certainly not now in the demand he was years ago.

"Stonehenge," in his work published 1857, selected a

brace of the Rose Hill Spaniels as representing the true type of the Sussex. These were bred by Mr. A. E. Fuller, of Rose Hill, Brightling, Sussex, and descended from the celebrated stock of Mr. Money Penny, of Rolvenden; and one of the brace, named George, "Stonehenge" has retained in his later works, because he so perfectly represents the breed.

Writing in 1872, "Idstone" declared the Sussex to be nearly, if not quite, extinct, and makes a statement regarding them that I have not seen supported by any other authority—namely, that "these dogs were as silent as Clumbers; but, as a rule, they would fling their tongue under strong excitement, and especially on view, unless they were broken to drop to game." The full and bell-like note of the Sussex has usually been considered a special characteristic, and as distinguishing that breed from mute-working Spaniels, although most, if not all, dogs will give tongue under strong excitement.

The Rose Hill strain was in great force at our shows for a number of years, Mr. T. B. Bowers, Mr. Marchant, Mr. Saxby, and a few others, doing much to popularise the variety by the excellent specimens bred and exhibited by them.

Mr. Jacobs, who is a large breeder of Spaniels, has crossed the Sussex and the Black Spaniel, his object being, as he states, "to improve the type of both. I wanted to get more bone, longer body, and shorter legs in the Blacks, and longer heads in the Sussex." I do not think the plan or the object commendable, and consider the desire for "more bone" a modern fancier's craze.

The formation of the Spaniel Club, and its issue of a description of the breed, by which it must be judged at shows supported by the Club, bids fair to save this valuable variety from absorption in the general body of liver-coloured Spaniels unrecognised as of any special strain or variety. The following is the scale of points and description published by the Club:

<i>Positive Points.</i>	<i>Negative Points.</i>
Head and jaw 15	Light eyes 5
Eyes 5	Narrow head 10
Ears 5	Weak muzzle 10
Neck 5	Curled ears or high set- on 5
Body 15	Curled coat 15
Fore legs 10	Carriage of stern 5
Hind legs 10	Topknot 10
Feet 5	White on chest 10
Stern 5	Colour (too light or too dark) 10
Coat and feather 10	Legginess, or light of bone 5
General appearance 15	Shortness of body, or flat-sided 5
	General appearance— sour or crouching 10
Total positive points 100	Total negative points 100

Head.—Should be moderately long and massive, with depth in proportion, to obviate a flat appearance; skull broad, and forehead prominent.

Eyes.—Hazel colour, fairly large and languishing, not showing the haw overmuch.

Ears.—Thick, fairly large, and lobe-shaped, set moderately low, but relatively not so low as in Black or other varieties of Spaniels; carried close to the head, and furnished with wavy hair.

Neck.—Muscular, and slightly arched.

Body (including Size and Symmetry).—Long, with well-sprung ribs, and a fair depth behind the shoulders.

Nose.—Liver-colour; muzzle large and square, with lips somewhat pendulous, and nostrils well developed.

Shoulders and Chest.—The shoulders should be oblique, and the chest deep and wide.

Back and Loin.—Back level and long, and loin broad.

Hind Quarters.—Strong; thighs muscular, and hocks low down.

Stern.—Docked from 5in. to 8in., set low, and not carried above the level of the back.

Feet and Legs.—Legs short and strong, with immense bone, and a slight bend in the forearm. Feet large and round, and moderately well feathered, with short hair between the toes.

Coat.—Body-coat abundant, flat, or slightly waved, with no tendency to curl; moderately well feathered on legs and stern, but clean below the hocks.

Colour.—Dark golden liver, not a light ginger or snuff-colour, but rather of a rich bronze tinge, not puce; the colour will vary and go darker when the dog is kept out of Sussex, especially in those parts where the climate and soil differ materially from those of Sussex.

General Appearance.—Rather massive and muscular, but with free movements and nice tail action, denoting a tractable and cheerful disposition. Weight, from 35lb. to 45lb.

This description is very full and clear, and is quite in accord with the description originally given by "Stonehenge."

There is one point calling for observation—that the colour of this dog should "vary and become darker when the dog is kept out of Sussex, especially in places where the soil and climate differ materially from those of Sussex." I presume the Club making this statement do so on facts within their observation; but the theory that the slight difference between soil and climate of our counties alters the colour of this dog is certainly startling, and we may well ask for proof before accepting such an astonishing declaration. Do the soil and climate of Sussex affect

the colour of its cattle, sheep, rabbits, and hares? These are under the same climatic influence, and more directly supported by the soil. Or does the Club contend that there is something peculiar in the nature of the Sussex Spaniel which is specially affected by the soil of Sussex, producing a golden liver colour in the hair?

I have no doubt those who are responsible for the theory have observed changes in the shade of colour of Sussex Spaniels in other parts of the country, but I cannot help thinking they are wrong in attributing the change to the cause they do; and to establish it they must, among other things, show that these dogs never vary in colour in their native county, which would be a fact as marvellous as the climatic theory of the Club. Changes in the colour of the skin and hair are common; and in this matter, I know of no instances so puzzling as the changes often observed in the colour of the nose in Pugs, Pomeranians, and other Toys.

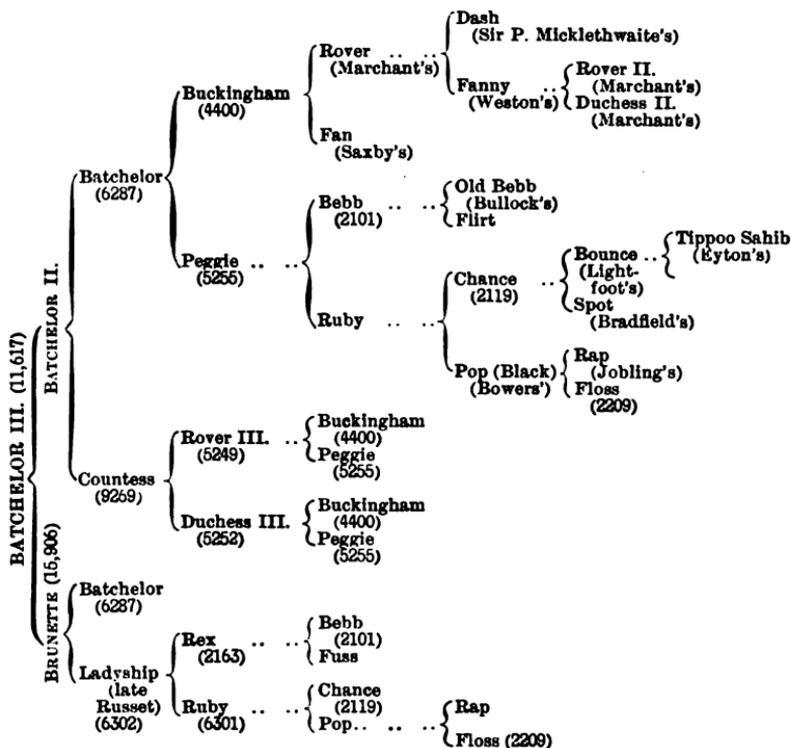
Among breeders and exhibitors of Sussex Spaniels, in addition to those already named, the following gentlemen have been, and some of them still are, conspicuous: Dr. H. B. Spurgin, Mr. H. D. Brandreth, Dr. J. H. Salter, the late Mr. Langdale, Mr. T. Jacobs, Mr. George Parsons, Captain S. Moreton Thomas, and Messrs. Holley Brothers.

My personal knowledge of the Sussex is confined to such as have been exhibited, and of these I have known all that have been distinguished winners.

A good team of them seen out together—such as I have looked upon at The Bars, Chester, when Mr. J. B. Bowers had his kennels there—was a sight to impress the mind of any lover of dogs. I do not think that kennel has ever been surpassed, or even equalled, in its excellence, although it may have been surpassed in numbers. Mr. Bowers' shrewd and matured judgment secured a large team of well-balanced merit, of a high order, and the near equality

of excellence in his dogs was the great charm of his kennel.

The names of many of the best dogs will be found in the pedigree table given, and it will be seen that it shows a preponderance of Rose Hill blood.



The ordinary expression of the Sussex is sedate and thoughtful—almost dreamy in repose; but the slightest appeal quickly wakes them to life and activity. They are highly spoken of as workers, being keen, steady, and enduring, and excellent for thick gorse and brushwood, from their strength, determination, and keenness in the pursuit of their game; and the different notes given out when on “fur” and on “feather” are readily distinguished by the sportsman who regularly hunts them.

The following are measurements of some good Sussex Spaniels:—

Mr. George Parsons' bitch, *Mouse*: Age, 3 years; weight, 26½lb.; height at shoulder, 12½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 33½in.; length of tail, 6in.; girth of chest, 23in.; girth of loin, 19½in.; girth of head, 14in.; girth of forearm, 6½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.; from elbow to toe nail, 7½in.; from elbow to ground when standing, 6in.; ears, tip to tip, 19in.

Mr. George Parsons' *Noble*: Age, about 2½ years; weight, 45lb.; height at shoulder, 16in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 40in.; length of tail, 8in.; girth of chest, 26in.; girth of loin, 19in.; girth of head, 20in.; girth of forearm, 9in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 10½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.; elbow to toe, 10in.; elbow to ground, 9in.; ears, tip to tip, 23in.

Mr. George Parsons' *Puzzle*: Age, 1 year; weight, 26lb.; height at shoulder, 13in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 34in.; length of tail, 6in.; girth of chest, 22in.; girth of loin, 18in.; girth of head, 14½in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8in.; elbow to toe, 7¾in.; elbow to ground, 6¾in.; ears, tip to tip, 19in.

Mr. T. Jacobs' champion *Batchelor* (K.C.S.B., 6287): Age, 3½ years; weight, 46lb.; height at shoulder, 15in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 32in.; length of tail, 6in.; girth of chest, 25in.; girth of loin, 23in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9¼in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9½in.; length of front leg, from elbow to toe nail, 9in.; when standing, from elbow to ground, 7¾in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 22in.

Mr. F. C. Barton's bitch, *Countess*: Age, 10 months;

weight, 40lb.; height at shoulder, 13in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 31in.; length of tail, 5½in.; girth of chest, 24in.; girth of loin, 22½in.; girth of head, 15½in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9in.; length of ears from tip to tip, 17in.; colour, golden liver.



CHAPTER XXIX.

THE NORFOLK SPANIEL.

It's an ill dog that is not worth the whistling.

—RAY.

THE Norfolk belongs to the Springer branch of the family, and is rather a leggy dog, of an average weight of about 40lb., and generally liver and white in colour.

This variety is stated to have been produced by a cross with a Black and Tan Terrier, and was often so marked, and was bred and kept by a late Duke of Norfolk.

Neither "Idstone" nor "Stonehenge" give countenance to the idea of the Terrier cross in this Spaniel; neither do they recognise it as black and tan. The appearance of these colours is so common that the appearance of the combination in a Norfolk Spaniel would not prove descent from a dog of these colours of any breed, but rather, as Darwin recognised the case of black and tan Greyhounds—which is most unusual—as a recurrence to an original character. The specimens I have seen at Eastern Counties shows, and represented to be pure Norfolk, were free from tan markings. My observations are in accordance with the views, as to colour, of the two eminent writers quoted above.

Vero Shaw says this dog "formerly had a great deal of black in him," but gives no authority; and, so far as I have been able to discover, Youatt is the only writer of consequence who has described the breed as black and tan, and as the result of a Terrier cross.

They are stated to be very staunch dogs, and, from their height and strength, useful in high turnips and other cover, in beating which a smaller and weaker dog would be lost sight of, and soon tire.

Except that they are considerably higher on the leg, the ears long and lobular, deeply fringed with soft hair, the description of the modern Spaniel applies to this variety.

The Spaniel Club has drawn up the following description and table of points:—

<i>Positive Points.</i>	<i>Negative Points.</i>
Head, jaw, and eyes 20	Carriage of stern 5
Ears 10	Topknot 5
Neck 10	
Body 10	
Fore legs 10	
Hind legs 10	
Feet 5	
Stern 5	
Coat and feather 10	
General appearance 10	
Total positive points 100	Total negative points 10

Head.—Skull long, and rather narrow; a stop; the muzzle long, and broad to the end.

Eyes.—Rather small, bright and intelligent.

Ears.—Long, low set, and lobular.

Neck.—Long, strong, slightly arched.

Body (including Size and Symmetry).—Fairly heavy body; legs rather longer than in other Field Spaniels, but not so long as in Irish. Medium size.

Nose.—Large and soft.

Shoulders and Chest.—Shoulders long and sloping; chest deep, and fairly broad.

Back and Loin.—Back flat and strong; loin rather long, flat, and strong.

Hind Quarters.—Long; hocks well let down; stifles moderately bent, and not twisted inwards nor outwards.

Stern.—Docked; low carried, *i.e.*, not above the level of the back.

Feet and Legs.—Strong-boned legs, inclining to shortness; feet large, and rather flat.

Coat.—Hard, not woolly; not curly, but may be broken.

Colour.—Liver and white, and black and white.

General Appearance.—An active, useful, medium-sized dog.

In the above description we have the contradictory statements that the legs are rather longer than in other Field Spaniels, and that the legs are strong-boned, and inclining to shortness. It would have been better had the Club given the average weight and height.

“Stonehenge” says they should stand 17in. to 18in.; and Youatt states that the Norfolk of his day was larger, stouter, and stancher than the common Springer.

Classes for Norfolk Spaniels have not yet been made at our shows, but if the Spaniel Club would be more clear and definite in its description, and encourage classes, a strain of Spaniel corresponding to that description could soon be raised.

CHAPTER XXX.

THE BLACK FIELD SPANIEL.

Spaniels that fawn when beaten will never forsake their masters.

—OLD ADAGE.

THIS variety of the Spaniel has achieved great prominence since the establishment of dog shows, the principal breeders and exhibitors of them in the earlier exhibition days having been the late Mr. Burdett, of Birmingham; the late Mr. Jones, of Oscott, near Birmingham; Mr. Phineas Bullock, of Bilston, Staffordshire; and Dr. Boulton, of Beverley, in Yorkshire; and the strains of these several gentlemen's kennels are now in the hands of a considerable number of exhibitors and others throughout the country. The general appearance is that of a long, low-set dog, legginess being looked on as a great fault; the general contour, enhanced by the bright, glossy, jet black coat, is very pleasing. To take the points *seriatim*:

The *head* is long, both in skull and muzzle; the latter must not be pointed, but rather deep than square, the skull standing up well above the ears, the forehead fairly shown, and the occiput well-developed.

The *ears* are set-on low—as above inferred—lobe-shaped, long, and well-feathered, with straight and silky hair.

The *eye* is dark in colour, pretty full, but not prominent or watery, as in the Toy varieties.

The *neck* is long, pretty muscular when examined; covered thickly with longish hair.

The barrel is rather long, with a tendency to too much

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BLACK SPANIELS.

Mr. J. Farrow's OBO (K.C.S.B., 10,452). Sire, Mr. Farrow's Fred; Dam, Mr. Farrow's Betty.
Mr. P. P. Phelps' Miss OBO (K.C.S.B., 12,745). Sire, Mr. J. Farrow's Obo (K.C.S.B., 10,452); Dam, Mr. J. Farrow's Nellie.
(These Spaniels have, under Kennel Club Rules, won Prizes as Field Spaniels, and also as Cocker Spaniels.)

space between back ribs and hind quarters, which is a fault. The chest should be deep, ribs moderately sprung, the back ones well let down, the back muscles along the spine strong.

The *shoulders* should be moderately sloped, and well clothed with muscle; *fore legs* straight, *hind legs* strong in stifle, and moderately bent; they must be strong of bone.

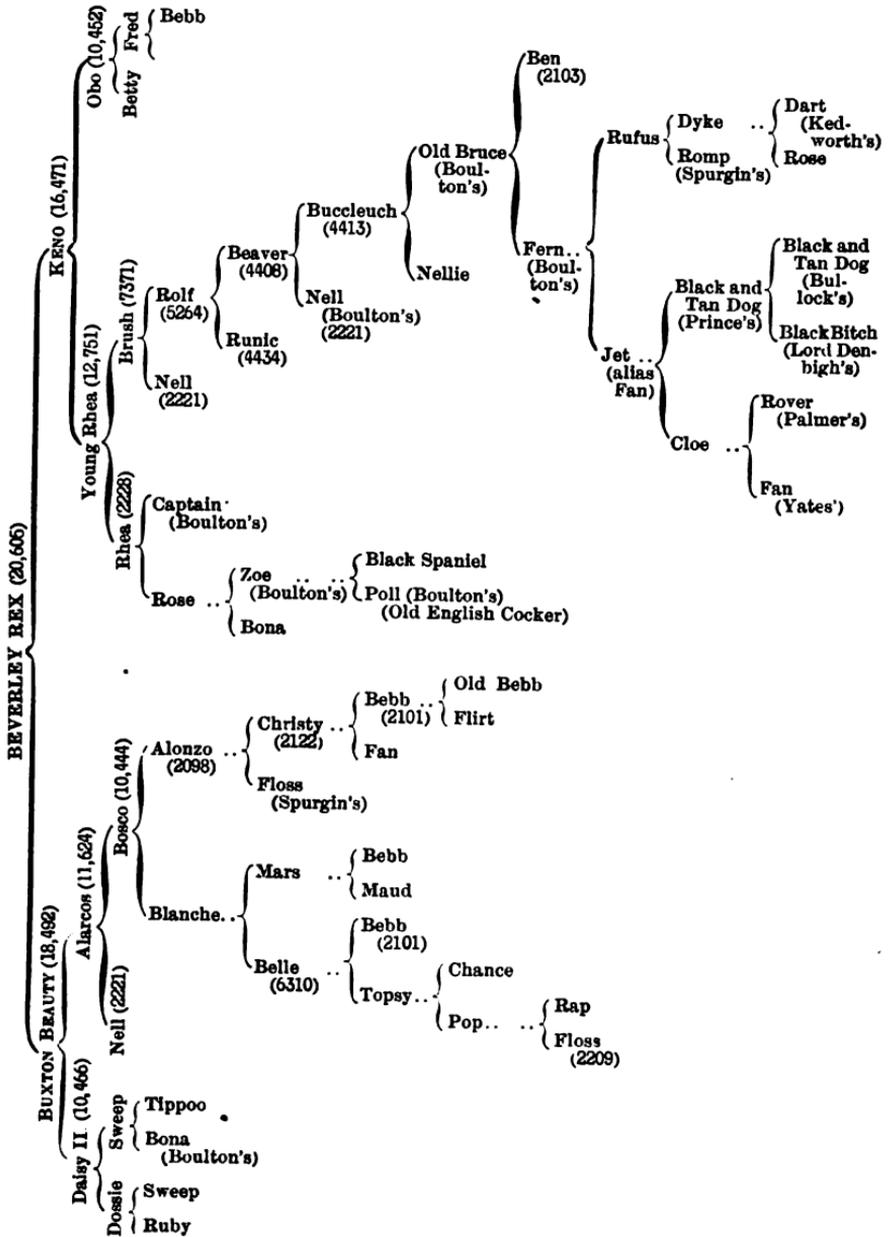
The *feet* should be moderately round, and the sole thick and hard; but the show specimens have so much feathering that it gives them the appearance of having a long, flat foot. The knuckles are not much sprung; the whole foot should be a good size.

The *tail*, which is invariably docked, should be well feathered, and not carried higher than on a level with the back.

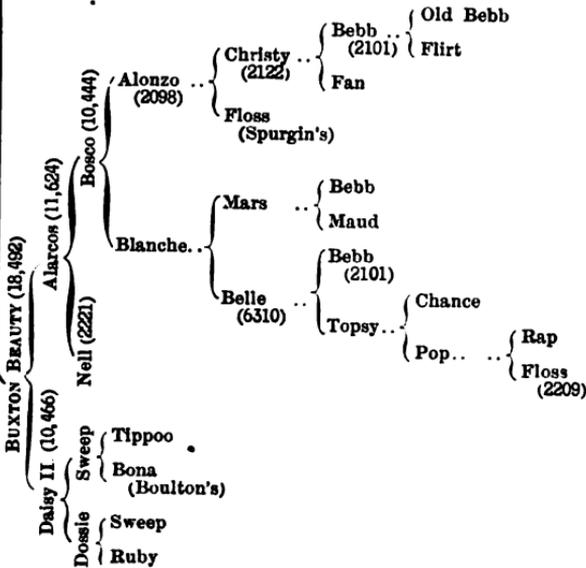
The *coat* should be a jet, glossy black, free from rustiness and from white, although a few white hairs on the chest are no detriment; in texture, the coat is soft and silky, of good length, and free from curl, longest on the breast, tail, ears, and legs, which are all well feathered.

I recognise the foregoing to be, like all written descriptions of dogs, sadly wanting alike in accuracy and fulness of detail. The differences in almost trivial features which exist in animals, and constitute those minute differential characters which, collectively, we recognise as distinctions marking off one variety from another, are by no means easy of clear expression in words. This difficulty is, in my opinion, the cause of that spurious language which is the peculiar property of dog fanciers, and by which those of higher culture are apt to be infected, and the general adoption of which tends to place the dog-exhibiting world in a ridiculous position.

The Black Spaniel is the result of artificial selection in breeding, a fact clearly shown in the pedigree of Beverley Rex, which I have given in tabular form, some of his progenitors having been of various colours, including liver, liver and white, and black and tan.



BEVERLEY REX (20,606)



Dr. W. W. Boulton, of Beverley, author, conjointly with Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier, of a pamphlet on "Breeding for Colour," set himself the task of producing a strain of jet black Spaniels, in which that colour should be so firmly established as a trait in the breed as to be always reproduced in the puppies, generation after generation. How well he succeeded is seen in the family of Spaniels recognised as the Beverley strain, and which have been kept up, since Dr. Boulton ceased to be a breeder, by Mr. A. H. Easten, of Hull, and now by Mr. W. R. Brydon, of Buxton.

Many of the Beverley and other strains of Black Spaniels furnished both large-sized Field Spaniels, or Springers, and also small Black Cockers, or cocking Spaniels; but I do not quite agree with the division by weight only, as I do not think the formation of the Black Field Spaniel gives that activity which should characterise the Cocker.

I here subjoin the scale of points and description issued by the Spaniel Club:

<i>Positive Points.</i>	<i>Negative Points.</i>
Head and jaws . . . 15	Light eyes 10
Eyes 5	„ nose (fatal) . . . 25
Ears 5	Curled ears 10
Neck 5	„ coat 10
Body 10	Carriage of stern . . . 10
Fore legs 10	Topknot (fatal) . . . 25
Hind legs 10	White on chest 10
Feet 10	
Stern 10	
Coat and feather . . . 10	
General appearance . . 10	
Total positive points . 100	Total negative points . 100

Head.—Should be quite characteristic of this grand

sporting dog, as is that of the Bloodhound or Bulldog; its very stamp and countenance should at once convey the conviction of high breeding, character, and nobility. Skull well developed, with a *distinctly elevated occipital tuberosity*, which, above all, gives the character alluded to; not too wide across *muzzle*, long and lean, never snipy nor squarely cut, and in profile curving gradually from nose to throat; *lean beneath eyes*—a thickness here gives coarseness to the whole head. The great length of muzzle gives surface for the free development of the olfactory nerve, and thus secures the highest possible scenting powers.

Eyes.—Not too full, but not small, receding, or overhanging; colour, hazel or brown; grave in expression, and bespeaking unusual docility and instinct.

Ears.—Set *low down as possible*, which greatly adds to the refinement and beauty of the whole head; moderately long and wide, and sufficiently clad with nice Setter-like feather. If the ear be *well set-on*, it need not be very long in feather, which is a practical disadvantage.

Neck.—Very strong and muscular, so as to enable the dog to retrieve his game without undue fatigue; *not too short*, however.

Body (including Size and Symmetry).—*Long and very low*, well ribbed up to a good strong loin, straight or slightly arched, *never slack*; weight from about 30lb. to 40lb.

Nose.—Well developed, and with good, open nostrils, thoroughly well developed, and always black in colour.

Shoulders and Chest.—Former sloping and free, latter deep and well developed, but not too round and wide.

Back and Loin.—Very strong and muscular, and slightly arched; long in proportion to the height of the dog.

Hind Quarters.—Very powerful and muscular, wide, and fully developed.

Stern.—Well set-on, and carried *low*, if possible *below the level of the back*, in a perfectly straight line, or with a

slight downward inclination; never elevated above the back, and in action always kept low; nicely fringed, with wavy feather, of silky texture.

Feet and Legs.—Feet not too small, and well protected between the toes with soft feather; good strong pads. Legs straight, and immensely boned, strong and short, and nicely feathered, with flat or waved Setter-like feather; feathering below hocks objectionable.

Coat.—Flat, or slightly waved, and never curled; sufficiently dense to resist the weather, and not too short; silky in texture, glossy and refined in nature, with neither duffelness on the one hand, nor curl or wiriness on the other; on chest, under belly, and behind the legs there should be abundant feather—but never too much—and that of the right sort, namely Setter-like. The tail and hind quarters should be similarly adorned.

Colour.—Jet black throughout, glossy, and true. A little white on chest, though a drawback, not a disqualification.

General Appearance.—That of a sporting dog, capable of learning and doing anything possible for his inches and conformation. A grand combination of beauty and utility.

In considering the Club's scale of points, it will be observed that a light nose or a topknot are said to be fatal. This, of course, means that either of these defects disqualify a dog from successfully competing for a prize. That being so, it appears contradictory to assess the negative points for such faults at 25 in each case.

I may here observe that the Spaniel Club nowhere state how the negative points are to be applied—whether merely withheld, or deducted from the total of good or positive points, but I presume the latter; and in that case, as no points are specially given for the required black nose, instead of being fatal to a dog's chance of winning, the deduction of 25 points for a light-coloured nose might only reduce the dog's standard to 70, out of a possible

100, if we allow 5 for nose out of the 15 points allotted to head and jaws.

It will be seen that the Club's description does not materially differ from the one I gave in the first edition of this work, and which is reproduced above.

I cannot endorse the rather high-flown description of character which the enthusiasm of the Club has led it to adopt, and which abounds in redundancies and positive errors. The expression, which the Club emphasises with italics, "*distinctly elevated occipital tuberosity*," is more ponderous than correct. Of course, the occipital protuberance is elevated, and it is more distinctly so in some breeds of dogs than in others; but it no more gives the character of high breeding and nobility to a Black Spaniel than it does to a black Colley; and a well-defined occipital protuberance is a common feature of many varieties. The parietal protuberance in the dog is characterised by great development, and that is in part constituted by the occipital bone. These are generic characters, and, although it may be desirable to cultivate the development of this common feature in a strain of dogs, there is danger in making too much of it, and decidedly so in claiming it as specially characteristic.

Again, when describing the eyes, the Club says they bespeak unusual instinct. That is sheer nonsense, and will not bear further criticism. On reading it, the intelligent reader must wonder what the Club's novel and peculiar ideas of instinct may be. It is usually defined as an instinctive act when the blind puppy seeks the teat of its dam. Are we to understand that the Black Spaniel puppy expresses that particular instinct? Are puppies of this breed whelped with their eyes open? If not, then what does the Club mean by instinct?

One more note on the description authorised by the Club. In regard to the coat, it is said it should be "silky in texture, glossy and refined in nature, with neither duffel-

ness on the one hand, nor curl or wiriness on the other." I can imagine a dog's outer and artificial garment or clothing being made of duffel (which, for the benefit of the inquiring reader, I may say is a kind of coarse woollen cloth, called after the town of Duffel, near Antwerp, where it was first made); but to say a Spaniel's hair, or natural coat, is without duffelness, is to needlessly introduce the slang of Shoddydom, where the Spaniel Club has its head-quarters, in a way to puzzle most Spaniel owners. I protest here, as elsewhere, against the jabber and jargon of fanciers, which gives artificial meanings to misused words, supposed only to be understood by the initiated. Naturalists do not require an English augmented by slang, to make their descriptions clear; and, if dog "fanciers" do, then, as Stephenson said of the cow on the track of the railway train, "it's an ill job for the coo."

The opinion of Mr. James Farrow is deserving of high consideration, from his great experience as a breeder and judge; and, as he has followed the exhibition of Spaniels very closely almost since the commencement of shows, his views of dogs of the past and present will be valued, and stand as a landmark in the future. I have, therefore, pleasure in giving his thoughts on show specimens of the day:

The Black Spaniel, or perhaps I should say the black variety of Springer, is, if one may judge from the entries at our dog shows, the most popular, and is a very useful dog for general work in the field, but certainly no more so than some of the other varieties of Spaniels. Some sportsmen object to his colour for field work. I must say, however, that I have never found any difficulty in this, and I think a Black Spaniel is every bit as easily seen when at work as a Sussex or liver-coloured one; indeed, I give the black colour the preference. In head properties the Black Spaniel of to-day, in my opinion, has much deteriorated, when compared with the Black Spaniel of

some dozen years ago. The head of so many of those now seen is a something between the Sussex head and the beautiful head of the Black Spaniel of years ago, being too heavy in one part or the other, too wide and short in many instances, coarse, and, indeed, not the quality in head throughout as of old. If, for instance, asked now to name a Spaniel with the head and expression or character of Nellie or Flirt, two Black Spaniels bred by Mr. Bullock, and exhibited so successfully about a dozen or fifteen years since, I certainly could not do so. In fact, we have, in our black-coloured Springer, lost the beautiful head of old, and it is a question with me if the gentlemen who have only taken an interest in Spaniels, say, during the last four or five years, will ever know what it was like; for to explain (so as to be perfectly understood) the heads of such Spaniels, for instance, as the two mentioned is an impossibility. This change in the head of our black Springer, in my opinion, has been brought about to a very great extent by the using to our Black Spaniel bitches, directly and indirectly, such grand dogs as the Sussex champions Buckingham (4400), Batchelor (6287), Rover III. (5249), and others. The loss of head by this cause has, however, improved other important points in the variety of Spaniel in question, notably bone and straightness of coat, and perhaps, to a certain extent, shortness of leg. In body, speaking generally, I do not think our Black Spaniels are so good as twelve or fifteen years ago. We have so many now that are tucked or cut up under the loin, without a good middle, which is a bad fault in a Spaniel. In the action or carriage of the stern we have not improved. I, however, do not think we have deteriorated in this respect much, as from some cause or the other twelve years ago down to the present date certainly 50 per cent. of our exhibition Spaniels have not the correct carriage or action of stern. It is a great pity, for a Spaniel with his tail put on and stuck up like a Fox

Terrier's, however good in all other respects, is a bad one, the beautiful outline of the Spaniel being simply destroyed by this fault. It is a fact, I believe, that more Black are registered than any other variety of Spaniel. This being so, it is somewhat strange how few good ones are produced: and to-day, judging from the results of recent exhibitions, Solus, a dog whelped in July, 1880, is still at the top of the tree in the dogs, and Squaw, a bitch whelped in April, 1879, is the best in the bitches; and if these two old Spaniels can be kept in form they look like still winning. Solus improved somewhat late in life, and he has done and looked better in Mr. Royle's kennel than in that of his breeder, Mr. Schofield. At Warwick this year (1887) Mr. Jacobs brought out a very nice young dog, Newton Abbot Shah, whelped February, 1886, and I think I may mention my own young dog, Gipping Sam, whelped March, 1886. These two young dogs are certainly above the average, and I have seen nothing from Mr. Jacobs' kennel so good since the Crystal Palace Show in June, 1870, when that gentleman brought out Kaffir (10,452) and Zulu (10,459). Gipping Sam is, I think, the best large Black Spaniel I ever bred, and in the opinion of more than one of our very oldest Spaniel breeders and exhibitors Sam is the best Black Spaniel dog seen for many years. The best young Spaniel in the bitch division is, perhaps, Cloisonne, whelped in 1885, and bred by an old Spaniel breeder, Mr. Dexter. She, however, was easily beaten at Warwick this year by Squaw. Mr. Bryden brought out a nice young bitch, and which he was very unfortunate to lose so early, in Beverley Domino, whelped July, 1885. This bitch was considerably above the average, and must have done a lot of winning had she lived. She beat Cloisonne, under Mr. Shirley, at the Kennel Club's Summer Show last year (1886). Kingston Jet, whelped May, 1885, bred and owned by Mr. Fred Smith, is a useful young bitch; and the same may be said of Staley Belle, whelped July, 1885,

bred by Mr. Brydon, and now owned by Mr. W. Dyson. Gipping Floss, whelped November, 1885, and bred by Mr. P. P. Phelps—present owner of the small Black Spaniel champion Miss Obo, bred by myself, and selected and drawn by Mr. R. H. Moore, the Strand, at the request of the Kennel Club, for an illustration for the *Kennel Gazette*—is a Black Spaniel possessing extra Spaniel quality. She is, however, a little undersized. I bought her off her dam, Coy (15,840). Coy died a young bitch—a great pity, as she was the best Black Spaniel ever sent out from the famous Northampton kennel of Spaniels owned by Mr. H. B. Spurgin. The three young bitches I have named—*i.e.*, Kingston Jet, Staley Belle, and Gipping Floss—although above the average, must have some luck if either of them win the title of champion.

Mr. T. Jacobs, of Newton Abbot, who owns a large kennel of Spaniels, must be held responsible for the crossing of the Sussex and Black Spaniel in the winning show-dogs of to-day to a greater extent than any other breeder, and he states his reasons for doing so in the following terms, communicated to me: "I crossed the Sussex and Black Spaniel, thinking to improve the type of both. I wanted more bone, longer body, and shorter legs in the Black variety, and longer heads in the Sussex." Mr. Jacobs is of opinion that there are no real Sussex Spaniels now existing worth notice, and he contends that the name Sussex should be dropped, and classes for liver-coloured Spaniels take their place; for he holds that all Sussex pedigrees and blood have been lost in the crosses that have produced the present golden-liver-coloured show dogs, which he considers far better in shape, longer in head, and better—because straighter—in leg, than the Sussex shown during the palmy days of this breed at our exhibitions. I am glad to give Mr. Jacobs' views, although I cannot adopt them.

The following Table gives the measurements of well-known Black Field Spaniels:

Age ...	2½ years	3½ years	8½ years	20 months	2 years	—
Weight ...	40 lb.	54 lb.	45 lb.	44 lb.	35 lb.	48 lb.
Height at shoulder ...	15 inches	15½ inches	14½ inches	14 inches	12½ inches	14½ inches
Girth of chest ...	26 "	27 "	24½ "	24½ "	23 "	25 "
Girth of loin ...	24½ "	25 "	23½ "	23 "	21½ "	22½ "
Girth of head ...	16 "	18 "	16 "	16 "	15 "	15½ "
Girth of muzzle ...	9 "	9½ "	11½ "	11 "	10½ "	10½ "
Length from tip of nose to occiput ...	9½ "	9½ "	9 "	8½ "	8½ "	8½ "
Length from tip of nose to set-on of stern ...	38 "	41 "	35½ "	36½ "	34½ "	35½ "
Length from corner of eye to tip of nose ...	—	—	4 "	4 "	3½ "	4 "
Length of stern ...	5 "	6 "	4 "	5 "	5 "	5 "
Length of elbow to front toe nail ...	—	—	10 "	9½ "	8 "	10 "
Girth of forearm ...	7 "	8 "	7½ "	7½ "	7½ "	7 "
	Mr. A. H. Easton's BRUSH (K.C.S.B. 7371).	Mr. J. W. Dennison's BREVETAC (K.C.S.B. 5256).	Mr. T. Jacobs SQUAW (K.C.S.B. 10,480).	Mr. T. Jacobs NEWTON ABBOT BRAH.	Mr. T. Jacobs NEWTON ABBOT DARKIE (K.C.S.B. 20,623).	Mr. T. Jacobs BLOSSOM.

The first four dogs described in this Table were in their prime eight to ten years ago; the last four—all the property of Mr. T. Jacobs—are now living. The measurements have, in each case, been furnished by the owners. It will be understood that in all instances the tail is docked.

Mr. Farrow's champion dog Obo, and Mr. P. P. Phelps' champion bitch Miss Obo, although their weight—24lb. and 22lb. respectively—places them in the Cocker class, are typical of our modern Black Spaniels of all sizes. They are, however, the best examples I know of the Cocker Spaniel that are recognised as correct by our show judges. I have, consequently, deferred to prevailing opinion, whilst still holding to my own views that the Cocker was, and still should be, a lighter made dog, and that the stamp now prized are miniature Field Spaniels.



CHAPTER XXXI.

THE COCKER SPANIEL.

The neat and uniform shape of Spaniels, their cleanly habits, their insinuating attention, incessant attendance, and faithful obedience, insure their universal favour.—A VETERAN SPORTSMAN.

SMALL-SIZED Spaniels, weighing from 20lb., or even less, to 24lb., and of all colours—liver, black, white with liver or black, and in these flecked or mottled on face, legs, &c.—are still pretty numerous throughout the country, and many of them are as good as they are handsome, but at dog shows they are the exception, as they have been neglected for the larger Springers.

As one of the most beautiful, intelligent, and clever dogs, most useful, bustling, and merry in covert or hedge-row, they should receive more encouragement—indeed, when we consider the wide field of usefulness the Spaniel fills, and the great number of very distinct varieties into which the family is subdivided, it is not too much to ask for still more classes for them at our shows.

I think we should have classes for liver-coloured Cockers, to include the Welsh and Devon varieties, and also one for those of mixed colours, the maximum weight for each class to be 24lb.; and I would take the points of the Black Spaniel with the following differences:

The nose is not so square at the end—*i.e.*, it is very slightly tapered. The ears are smaller, lobe-shaped, and well fringed. The length of back is decidedly less in proportion to height at the shoulder than in the modern Field

Spaniel. The coat is soft, silky, abundant, not quite flat, but showing a slight waviness, not curly.

The Spaniel Club has, since the above was penned, published its standard by which Cockers are to be judged at shows, and it will be seen to be, in the main, an elaboration of my more general and shorter description.

The Club recognises a special class of Black Cockers, and a class which it calls "Any Other Variety of Cocker Spaniel"; but as the description and scale of points are the same, except as regards colour, I have put the two together, thus varying, without altering, the sense in which the Club evidently wishes its description to be read. It will be noted, not without surprise by many, that whereas the Black Springer or Field Spaniel and the Cocker may each have 100 negative or bad points, the more fortunate and perfect Norfolk is supposed never to have more than 10 negative points.

In the description of the eye, the word "gozzled" is used, but that I presume to be a misprint for "goggled"—prominent, or staring—as there is no English word "gozzled," so far as I know.

<i>Positive Points.</i>		<i>Negative Points.</i>	
Head and jaw	10	Light eyes (undesirable, but not fatal)	10
Eyes	5	Light nose (fatal)	15
Ears	5	Curled ears (very unde- sirable)	15
Neck	5	Curled coat (curly, woolly, or wiry)	20
Body	15	Carriage of stern (crooked or twisted)	20
Fore legs	10	Topknot (fatal)	20
Hind legs	10		
Feet	10		
Stern	10		
Coat and feather	10		
General appearance . . .	10		
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total positive points . .	100	Total negative points . .	100

Head.—Not so heavy in proportion, and not so high in occiput, as in the modern Field Spaniel, with a nicely-developed muzzle or jaw; lean, but not snipy, and yet not so square as in the Clumber or Sussex varieties, but always exhibiting a sufficiently wide and well-developed nose. Forehead perfectly smooth, rising without a too decided stop from muzzle into a comparatively wide and rounded, well-developed skull, with plenty of room for brain power.

Eyes.—Full, but not prominent, hazel or brown-coloured, with a general expression of intelligence and gentleness, though decidedly wide-awake, bright, and merry; never gozzled or weak, as in the King Charles and Blenheim kinds.

Ears.—Only moderately long, and rather broader than in the large Field Spaniels, for when too long they are practically a hindrance in dense coverts; and also set rather higher than in the before-mentioned variety, nicely protected with a sufficiency of wavy feather (never curled). Indeed, this merry and most useful old-world sporting dog should carry only a truly *sporting ear*.

Neck.—Strong and muscular, and neatly set on to fine sloping shoulders.

Body (including Size and Symmetry).—Not quite so long and low as in the other breeds of Spaniels, more compact and firmly knit together, giving the impression of a concentration of power and untiring activity; the total weight should not exceed 25lb.

Nose.—Sufficiently wide and well-developed to insure the exquisite scenting powers of this breed. Colour black in the black, and in others dependent on the colour of coat and markings.

Shoulders and Chest.—The former sloping and fine; chest deep and well-developed, but not too wide and round to interfere with the free action of the fore legs.

Back and Loin.—Immensely strong and compact in pro-

portion to the size and weight of the dog; slightly drooping towards the tail.

Hind Quarters.—Wide, well rounded, and very muscular, so as to insure untiring action and propelling power under the most trying circumstances of a long day, bad weather, rough ground, and dense covert.

Stern.—That most characteristic stamp of *blue blood* in all the Spaniel family may, in the lighter and more active *Cocker*, although *set low down*, be allowed a slightly higher carriage than in the other breeds, but never cocked up over, but rather in a line with the back, though the lower its carriage and action the better, and when at work its action should be incessant in this, the brightest and merriest of the whole Spaniel family.

Feet and Legs.—The legs must be well boned, feathered, and straight, for the tremendous exertions expected from this grand little sporting dog, and should be sufficiently short for concentrated power, but not so short as to interfere with its full activity. Feet firm, round, and cat-like, not too large, spreading, and loose-jointed. This distinct breed of Spaniel does not follow exactly on the lines of the larger Field Spaniel, either in lengthiness, lowness, or otherwise, but is shorter in back, and rather higher on the legs.

Coat.—Flat or waved, and silky in texture, never wiry, woolly, or curly, with sufficient feather of the right sort—viz., waved or Setter-like—but not too profuse, and never curly.

Colour.—Jet black; a white shirt frill should never disqualify; but white feet should not be allowed in any specimen of self-colour.

General Appearance.—Confirmatory of all indicated above—viz., a concentration of pure blood and type, sagacity, docility, good temper, affection, and activity.

The other colours are black and tan, liver and tan, black tan and white, liver tan and white, lemon and

white, roans, and, in fact, nearly any combination or blending of colours.

The Club—with, I think, good judgment—recognises that, in colour the eye and nose vary to some extent in the different coloured Spaniels, corresponding with the colour of coat.

I have quoted the description of points *verbatim*, and disclaim responsibility for the language used, which is in several instances—notably in the description of stern—so complicated as to be rather puzzling. If we compare the somewhat inflated language used to describe the head of the Black Field Spaniel, with its “distinctly elevated occipital tuberosity,” which is said to “convey the conviction of high breeding, character, and nobility,” with the description of the head of the Cocker, which is “not so high in occiput,” one would naturally infer that the head of this variety does not convey the conviction of high breeding and nobility. But against that, we are told that the Cocker’s stern, when it is a proper stern, is a “most characteristic stamp of *blue blood*”; and the Cocker is said to be “the most useful old-world sporting dog,” which is, perhaps, after all, a better quality for a dog than blue blood and nobility. It strikes me as very curious that the Club should say that the Cocker “should carry only a truly *sporting ear*,” for the natural inference is that other breeds of Spaniel may carry a truly non-sporting ear. Of course, we must presume the Club to mean, by a sporting ear, such an ear as, from its formation, is calculated to help, not to hinder, a sporting dog in its work; and this being so specially referred to as a characteristic of the Cocker, I am disposed to agree with the sporting Devon parson whom I heard declare of certain prize Field Spaniels, that they would leave their ears behind them in the first furze-bush they attempted to go through.

It is fortunate that the valuable breed of Cocker

Spaniels is dependent on practical sportsmen, and not on shows and clubs, else might we say, in the style of Touchstone, "Thou art in a parlous state, Cocker."

There is a craving for large, heavy, big bones, very general in the exhibiting world, and it is demanded in place and out of place. A heavy-boned dog cannot be the active, merry, untiring worker it is desired a Cocker should be. It would be as reasonable to expect a dray-horse, however compactly built, to do the work of a hunter.

The following are the weights and measurements of Obo, selected to illustrate the Cocker as recognised at our shows, and also of a son of Obo:

Champion *Obo*: Length from nose to eye, 2½in.; length from nose to occiput, 7½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 29in.; girth of head, 12½in.; girth of chest, 21½in.; girth of loin, 20in.; girth at forearm, 6in.; height at shoulder, 10in.; height at loins, 10in.; height at elbow, 7½in.; spread of ears, across head, 20in.; weight, 22lb.

Bob Obo (K.C.S.B. 18,491): Length from nose to eye, 3in.; length from nose to occiput, 8in.; length from nose to tail, 29in.; girth of chest, 21½in.; girth of loin, 20in.; height at elbow, 8in.; height, 12½in.; weight, 25lb. This dog was bred and is owned by Mr. J. F. Farrow. He has taken first prize, Crystal Palace, 1885; first prize, Aquarium, London, 1886; first prize, Warwick, 1886.

In the first edition of this work, measurements of Mr. Pain's Nell and Flo were given; but as an error occurred in length and height, which cannot now be corrected, I omit them in the present edition.

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IRISH WATER SPANIEL.

Mr. W. W. Thomson's BARNEY O'TOOLE, K.C.S.B. 14,084. Sire, Barney. Dam, Biddy.

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL.

Red were the rags his shoulders bore,
And a high red wig on his head he wore.

PRAED (*slightly altered*).

No one, I believe, has ever ventured to call this unkempt tyke handsome. For this lack of praise those who have been most prominent as exhibitors of Irish Spaniels are chiefly responsible, for it has been a constant practice to show them with portions of the previous season's coat sticking in uncarded locks among the new hair, giving the dog somewhat the appearance of an old ewe whose fleece has escaped the last year's shearing. Why it should be thought desirable to have lumps of dead hair mixed with the growing coat I never could understand. The practice has nothing to commend it, and I believe it has been a hindrance to the advance of the breed in popular favour, for it gives a ragged, uncouth appearance; and the dirty, rusty, red lumps of dead hair render Praed's lines from the "Red Fisherman," quoted at the head of this chapter, not an altogether inapt description of the Irish Spaniel as he often appears on the show bench.

I do not think that is the sole cause of this breed not making headway; and it is a fact that it has not done so, for there are fewer entries in the Stud Book for last year than in the volume for ten years ago, although there are now a very great many more shows. One

cause of the decadence of the breed was the too free export of our best dogs to the United States. At the Cincinnati Show, 1885, I judged a better class of Irish Spaniels than I had seen in England for some years previously, and most of them had been bred in America from stock sent out from this country. I think we are now regaining our position, and that the stock is improving in numbers and quality. A splendid lot were reported to be at the Glasgow Show, April, 1887.

So far as increase in exhibited specimens go, that can be easily attained by increase of the number and value of the prizes; and the way this is usually done is by those subscribing the prizes who have a shrewd guess that they will themselves win them.

A valued correspondent suggests that the decline of the wildfowler's art has to do with the scanty number of Irish Spaniels now met with; but I cannot adopt that view. I doubt very much whether there are not now more wildfowl shooters than ever there were; but most of these men are content with a dog of any kind that will do the work required, and cannot afford or do not care to give the high and quite artificial prices asked for dogs of show renown, or those bred from such.

Mr. J. S. Skidmore, who stands at the head of successful breeders of this variety, and whose opinion is well entitled to respect, contributed to the first edition of this work the following remarks on the breed, which are fair, free, and full, with just the flavour of favouritism towards a dog he has made his special hobby:

“To a sportsman of limited means, or one who has not accommodation to keep a team, the Irish Water Spaniel is the most useful dog he can have, inasmuch as he can be made to perform the duties of Pointer, Setter, Retriever, and Spaniel; but, as his name implies, he is peculiarly fitted by temperament, and by a water-resisting coat, for the arduous duties required by a sportsman whose pro-

clivities lie in the direction of wildfowl shooting. In this branch of sporting these dogs have no equal, being able to stand any amount of hardship; this, combined with an indomitable spirit, leads them into deeds of daring from which many dogs would shrink. Many are the feats recorded of their pluck, sagacity, and intelligence. To a well-bred and trained specimen no sea is too rough, no pier too high, and no water too cold—even if they have to break the ice at every step they are not daunted, and day after day they will follow up such work, being of the ‘cut-and-come-again’ sort. As companions for a lady or gentleman they have no equal, whilst a well-behaved dog of the breed is worth a whole kennel of toys to the children: he will allow the little ones to pull him about by the ears, will roll over and over with them, fetch their balls as often as thrown for him, and act as their guard in times of danger.

“When I first commenced to keep Irish Water Spaniels, many years ago, there were three strains, or rather varieties—one was known as the Tweed Spaniel, having its origin in the neighbourhood of the river of that name. They were very light liver colour, so close in curl as to give me the idea that they had originally been a cross from a smooth-haired dog; they were long in tail, ears heavy in flesh and hard like a hound’s, but only slightly feathered; fore legs feathered behind, hind legs smooth; head conical; lips more pendulous than M’Carthy’s strain. The one I owned, which was considered to be one of the best of them, I bred from twice, and in each litter several of the puppies were liver and tan, being tanned from the knees downward, and under the tail. I came to the conclusion that she, at any rate, had been crossed with the Bloodhound. In Ireland, too, there exist two totally distinct varieties, which are now known as the North and the M’Carthy strains; the former are in appearance like a third-rate specimen of their southern relation, but are

generally much smaller, have less feathering on legs, ears, and head, often a feathered tail, and oftener still are inclined to be crooked on their fore legs. The M'Carthy strain are very much more aristocratic-looking animals than either of the aforementioned, and are now found in greater perfection on this side the Channel than on their native soil. Capt. E. Montresor, Rev. A. L. Willett, Mr. Robson, and the writer, are the oldest English breeders; and in later years, Mr. Lindoe and Rev. W. J. Mellor, went into the breed for a short time. Mr. Engelbach and Lieut.-Col. Verner should also be classed amongst the older breeders. I have derived benefit from crossing with the strains both of Mr. Engelbach and the late Sir Wm. Verner, and also from that of Mr. W. S. Tollemache, who, for a period of over thirty years, kept the breed in its purity; and, although he never exhibited them, Mr. Tollemache has owned some of the finest dogs of the breed it has ever been my lot to look upon. Mr. Morton, of Ballymena, Ireland, has for a long time been foremost in this breed in his own country, and he is the most formidable opponent I have had to meet at our shows. We have rung the changes repeatedly in crossing, to our mutual advantage.

"It has been argued that the Irish Water Spaniel is too impetuous and hard-mouthed to be worth much as a field dog. To this I must say that the dogs which have caused this remark to be applied to the whole breed have either been crossbred animals, or else have had a defective education. With true-bred dogs the reverse is the case, they being tender-mouthed enough to please the most fastidious; and if they are taken in hand young enough, and trained properly, the libel will die out. When Blarney was a puppy, I had her and her brother Fudge (who died of distemper), and I trained them to retrieve by means of a tame pigeon, which, from some cause or other, could only fly a short distance. I used to put it in my pocket when I took the

puppies out for a run, and for a period of at least three months they each retrieved it some dozen times nearly every day, without injuring the pigeon in the least. I have seen one of them (the dog, I think) so afraid of harming it as to take hold of it by the wing and fairly lead it to me. Can any other breed of retriever beat that for tender mouths? Their dam, Juno, was also as tender-mouthed and as clever a retriever as any sportsman could wish to be master of; but I will freely admit that some of the breed have been made hard-mouthed, and so also have hundreds of Retrievers, from the same cause. The Irish Water Spaniel, as everyone knows who has owned one, is never satisfied unless he is doing something to please his master; for this reason he is kept as a companion, and taught to carry a stick, fetch stones, balls, &c. This kind of education it is which causes them to be hard-mouthed, especially if this is done before they have been taught to retrieve game. They are high-couraged, like the Irish Setter, and, like them also, when well broken cannot be beaten.

“There is considerable diversity of opinion as to their points for exhibition purposes; and since Mr. M’Carthy brought them to what he considered perfection, there has been a great confusion, brought about by judges (who have never been breeders) giving prizes to a class of dog that was far from correct. For instance, Mr. M’Carthy, in his description in the *Field* in 1859, says the head should be capacious, forehead prominent, whilst his dogs, and the dogs of his day, were all square in the muzzle. A dog with a head of this description would be ignored nowadays, but I am by no means disposed to say that the snipe-nosed ones, which certain of our judges go in for, are correct; it is the fashion to call a weak, bitch-faced dog, ‘full of quality.’ This so-called quality in the Irish Water Spaniel cannot be got without a corresponding loss of bone, and, in my opinion, constitution.

“The *head*, from the apex to the eye, is large and capacious, giving the appearance of being short, which is by no means the case, only appearing so from its being so heavily furnished with topknot; the dog, which looks long as a puppy, loses it as he gets older. The topknot is one of the chief characteristics of the breed, and it does not arrive at perfection, as a rule, until the dog attains the age of about two-and-a-half years; it should not grow straight across the face to between the eyes, like a wig, but from the front edges of the ears should form two sides of a triangle, meeting in a point between the eyes. The head should be well covered with this topknot, the hair of which should be, in a dog in full coat, 4in. or more long, the forelocks hanging gracefully down the face; but I very much admire the topknot when about half grown, and when standing straight up all over the head, giving the dog a wild appearance.

“The *face* is long, and is the most remarkable feature of the breed to my mind, being, in a good specimen, quite smooth, the hair no longer than that upon a smooth Terrier; this short hair should extend to the cheeks. I know of no other dog which carries the same quantity of hair on its head, legs, and ears, that has not also a rough face; and however remote may be the cross of Poodle or Russian Retriever, it will show itself upon the face and cheeks as moustachios and whiskers. This is a point which judges should specially make a note of. I have named it to several, who all have made light of it; not so, however, with Mr. M’Carthy and other breeders. The *nose* is large, and with a slight squareness of muzzle. The *eyes*, too, I have never seen taken into account by any judge, and yet it is the eye that gives character to the face; this should be a deep, rich brown, which in the dark or shade is beautiful—not to be described, but seen. A light yellow or gooseberry eye is my detestation, and is always accompanied by a coat which, before moulting

time, assumes a very light sandy hue; whilst the dark-eyed ones are many shades darker at the same period of coating.

"The *ears* are about 18in. long in the flesh, lobe-shaped, not pointed, and, when well furnished with hair, should be from 26in. to 30in. from tip to tip, when measured across the head. Old Doctor measured, when he won the last time at the Crystal Palace, 31in.

"The *chest* should be deep, and the ribs well sprung, so that the body appears round rather than deep. The *shoulders* are inclined to be a bit thick, as the dog all over should appear cobby.

"The *back* and *quarters* are as strong as those of a waggon horse.

"The *legs* should be straight, with good feet, well clothed with hair, both over and between the toes; the fore legs are heavily feathered at the sides and behind, with a curled or rough appearance in front. The hind legs are smooth in front, from the hocks downwards, whilst it is essential that they should be feathered behind down to the foot. In crossing with certain breeds, such as the Retriever, this is one of the first points lost.

"The *tail* is, like the face, a sure indication of the breeding; and, at the risk of repeating myself, I assert that no other breed of dog exists with a smooth tail which carries as much hair elsewhere as does the Irish Spaniel. These characteristics—viz., tail, face, and topknot—stamp him, in my opinion, as the purest of pure-bred dogs. The tail is shorter than in most other dogs, thick at the root, and tapering to a sting at the point. For about 3in. from the body it is covered with small curls, the remaining portion being smooth.

"The *coat* should consist of innumerable hard, short curls, free from woolliness. These curls get felted, or daggled, before moulting time. A woolly coat shows the Poodle cross, which may also be detected in the head.

A silky coat, with an inclination to waviness instead of curl, indicates a cross with Land Spaniel or Setter; this cross also shows itself in the quality of the leg-feather. The colour is that dark shade of liver called puce, having a rich plum-coloured hue when seen in the sun. The best-coloured dog of the breed I ever saw was my old champion Duck, when she was in the prime of life. A patch or star of white is often seen on the chest, and should not be regarded as fatal to a dog's winning, as it is met with in the best strains; in fact, in a litter of puppies, if there is one with more white on than the rest, it, as a rule, is the largest. Whether white is a sign of strength or not I am not prepared to say.

“In respect to *symmetry*—by which I mean the general appearance of the dog, his carriage, style, &c.—he should be judged as you would judge a cob. Many of the dogs of the present day are too leggy. A leggy Spaniel, of any breed, I dislike. The best dogs we have seen of late years of this breed have been: Doctor and Rake, bred by Mr. Robson, Hull; Pilot and Sailor, breeder Rev. A. L. Willett; Blarneystone and Chance, bred by Mr. Salisbury; Mr. P. J. D. Lindoe's Blarney, Mr. Engelbach's Pat, Mr. Fletcher's Young Doctor, Mr. Morton's Paddy and Shamrock, Mr. C. Pilgrim's Barney, and Bridget and Patsey, all bred by myself.”

To these celebrated specimens of the breed there must now be added Barney and Mickey Free, also bred by Mr. Skidmore; Young Larry Doolan, owned by Mr. C. J. Doyle; Mr. Skidmore's The O'Donoghue, and Mr. W. W. Thomson's Barney O'Toole; and in the bitch class, Capt. S. Moreton Thomas' Colleen Bawn, and Mr. G. S. Hockey's champion Lady and his Young Hilda.

I have selected Barney O'Toole to illustrate the breed, the spirited portrait, in colour, being by Mr. W. Lydon.

The Spaniel Club has drawn up the following scale of points for judging Irish Water Spaniels:



IRISH WATER SPANIEL.

Mr. C. H. Mason's PARSEY. Sire, Young Doctor (K.C.S.B., 2062); Dam, Bridget (K.C.S.B., 2056).

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<i>Positive Points.</i>	<i>Negative Points.</i>
Head and jaw	Feather on stern 10
Eyes and topknot	White on chest 3
Ears 5	
Neck 5	
Body 10	
Fore legs 10	
Hind legs 10	
Feet 5	
Stern 10	
Coat 15	
General appearance 10	
Total positive points 100	Total negative points 13

Head.—Skull medium length, rather broad, with very little “stop”; muzzle long, and broad to the end.

Eyes.—Dark brown, and very intelligent-looking.

Ears.—Long, and covered with curls.

Neck.—Long, slightly arched, and muscular.

Body (including Size and Symmetry).—Fair-sized; barrel well rounded, and well ribbed up.

Nose.—Liver-coloured, large, and well developed.

Shoulders and Chest.—Shoulders long and oblique; chest deep, but not very wide.

Back and Loin.—Back strong and flat; loin strong, fair length, and a trifle arched.

Hind Quarters.—Long, hocks well let down, and the stifles straighter than in other varieties of Spaniels, neither turned inwards nor outwards.

Stern.—Strong at the root, and tapering to a fine point; the hair on it must be quite short, straight, and close lying.

Feet and Legs.—Legs well boned and quite straight, somewhat long; feet rather large.

Coat.—All over little curls, hard but not woolly. The

topknot of long hair should fall over the eyes in a peak, and the legs should have as little feather on them as possible.

Colour.—A rich dark liver; white on toes or breast a defect, but not a disqualification.

General Appearance.—That of a strong, somewhat leggy dog.

The Club is certainly wrong in describing the topknot as falling over the eyes, for these organs should not be hidden; in fact, Mr. Skidmore's description is so much the best that it would have been well if the Club had followed it more closely.

I can fully endorse Mr. Skidmore's praise of the Irish Water Spaniel as a tender-mouthed retriever. One I had broken by a gamekeeper in Scotland was returned to me at a time when I had no accommodation for the dog, and I sent him to be kept for a few weeks by Bill Page, who had a dog and bird shop in Leadenhall Market; and Page daily exhibited the dog carrying a live pigeon all round the market, and which he invariably brought back without a feather having been injured.

Mr. M'Carthy, in an article in the *Field*, in 1859, says the Irish Water Spaniel will not stand a cross with any other breed; but I have had two instances of a cross with the Black Retriever, and the dogs I allude to were both perfect and clever workers, and they were certainly as good-looking as their dam, the Irish Spaniel. In each case the colour was jet-black, the coat consisting of short, crisp curls. The topknot was, however, only partially developed.

I mention this with a special object. Irish Water Spaniels are often shy breeders, and there is a difficulty in rearing pups, common in all varieties that have been long inbred. Now, I do not hesitate to recommend for the correction of these evils a cross with a good black Curly-coated Retriever, or, if obtainable, a liver-coloured one, such as the

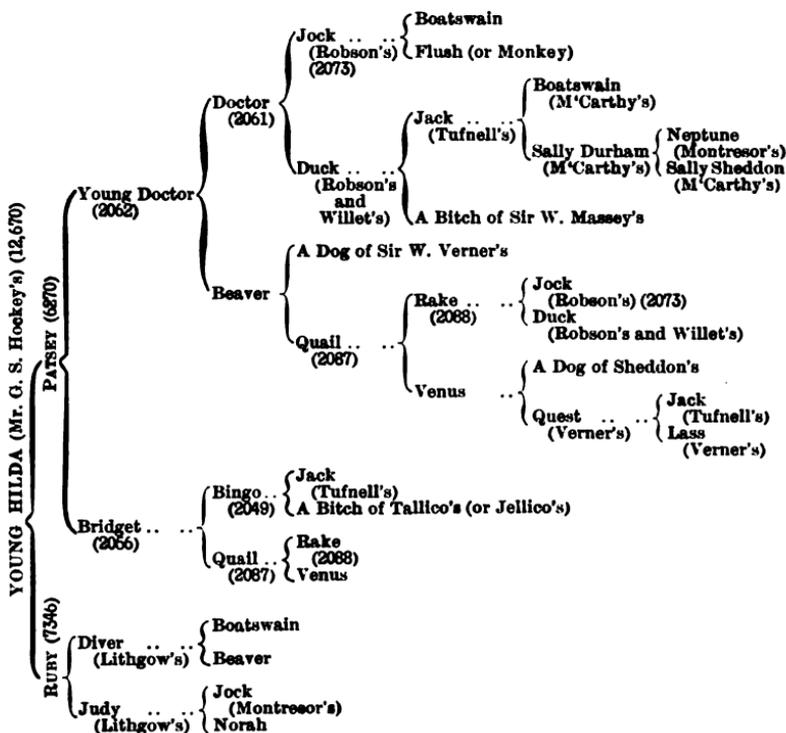
beautiful Sir Garnet that was shown a few years ago. It is needless to add that such a course, having the definite object of instilling more vitality and fruitfulness, and giving more stamina, is not one to be followed by men who breed merely to show; for a resort to a cross requires patient waiting and the judicious elimination of the external evidences of the foreign element for several generations.

The Irish Water Spaniel, like all or most of our breeds, doubtless originally resulted from a cross, although I have entirely failed in tracing him back from M'Carthy's strain, no one I have applied to being able to give me information beyond a date covered by forty or fifty years; and it is very doubtful if Irish Water Spaniels then resembled those of to-day. I do not know whether this is the Spaniel owned by the Irish in remote times, and originally brought by them out of Spain, as historical evidence seems to show was done; for it is clearly established that the Irish of the earliest centuries of our era owned Spaniels.

Elridge, in his "Antiquities of Ireland," quoting from Smith's "Kerry," tells us that the O'Sullivans were a Waterford clan that had been pushed westward by the pressure of Danes and Northmen; and, at the time of the laws to which I am about to refer, they were situated on and round Bantry Bay, where, with the O'Driscols, they maintained the famous "long ships," with which they traded and kept up much intercourse with Spain. Ireland was then divided into several kingdoms, which were again subdivided. Of these, Munster was divided into Thomond, Desmond, &c. The Ard-righ, or King of Desmond, was of the line of the M'Carthy More. The principal chiefs or "Tiarns" under him were Clanna O'Keefe, O'Donoghue, O'Callaghan, and O'Sullivan. The last-named—the O'Sullivans—were in three septs: O'Sullivan Beare, M'Finien Duff, and M'Gillicuddie. The conditions of tenure of these O'Sullivans under M'Carthy More are given by Smith, in his "Kerry," as seven in number, and the

seventh is "To find the King (Ard-righ) hounds, Grey-hounds, and Spaniels, and to pay a certain sum to the huntsman." What these Spaniels exactly were it is now impossible to determine, but the facts just quoted, read together with statements made in the chapter introductory to the group of dogs with which we are dealing, seems to leave little room for doubt as to our Irish friends having been the introducers of Spaniels to these islands.

The following pedigree is wanting in that definiteness and accuracy which should characterise such Tables, but I could find nothing better in these respects; and as Young Hilda is a champion winner, and as fashionably bred as any of her variety, I think the pedigree will be of interest and use:



The pedigrees that are registered show, by their scantiness of detail, that little care or interest was taken in the breeding of these dogs before dog shows were instituted. Even Mr. M'Carthy, who is so constantly referred to in terms almost suggestive of the idea that he originated the breed, was silent as to their origin and genealogy, and, indeed, says nothing of the pedigree of his own famous dog Boatswain, contenting himself with saying that "the true breed has become very scarce"—a phrase used so often, and in reference to so many breeds, that readers of this book must be familiar with it, and may be excused for the heresy of thinking there is no longer a "true breed" of any dog.

There is a point on which Mr. Skidmore lays great stress, namely, the smooth tail, but the Spaniel Club says the hair on tail must be quite short, straight, and close-lying, and the tail is often described as a "rat tail." That fine sportsman, Col. Hutchinson, in his work "Training Dogs," depicts the Irish Water Spaniel with a tail as bushy or well fringed as a Setter.

The following are measurements of Irish Water Spaniels:

Mr. H. E. C. Beaver's *Captain*: Height at shoulder, 20½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37½in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, 27½in.; girth of loin, 23in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 7½in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 8in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 8½in. This dog has been twice round the world with his master. *Captain* is a very good specimen of the breed.

Mr. W. Beddome Bridgett's *Young Duck* (K.C.S.B. 8337): Age, 5 years 3 months; weight, unascertainable; height at shoulder, 20in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 38in.; length of tail, 14in.; girth of chest, 25in.; girth of loin, 19in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 6in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose,

8½ in.; length of ear in leather, 18 in.; length of ear with feather, 25 in.

Mr. W. W. Thomson's *Barney O'Toole* (K.C.S.B. 14,084): Age, unknown; weight, 37 lb.; height at shoulder, 21½ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37 in.; length of tail, 14 in.; girth of chest, 29 in.; girth of loin, 22½ in.; length of head, from occiput to tip of nose, 10 in.



CHAPTER XXXIII.

THE ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL.

Now, if the crystal stream delight thee more,
Sportsman, lead on, where through the reedy bank
The insinuating waters filter'd stray
In many a winding stream. The wild duck there
Gluts on the fattening ouse, or steals the spawn
Of teeming shoals, her most delicious feast.

SOMERVILLE'S "FIELD SPORTS."

In the Kennel Club Stud Book will be found a list of about two dozen Spaniels, classed as "Water Spaniels other than Irish."

I have often pondered over this, wondering what it was meant to include, and why the Irish Water Spaniel should be distinguished by a class to itself, whilst the much older breed, the English Water Spaniel, is ignored. I suppose it will not be denied that the English Water Spaniel is at least historically older than the Irish. Every writer on dogs from the fourteenth century to the present date has referred to the breed, and more or less minutely described it.

Dr. Caius says the Water Spaniel is "that kind of dog whose service is required in fowling upon the water, partly through a natural towardness, and partly by a diligent teaching, is endued with that property. This sort is somewhat big, and of a measureable greatness, having long, rough, and curled hair, not obtained by extraordinary trades, but given by Nature's appointment."

In the "Gentleman's Recreation" a very similar descrip-

tion occurs. In the "Sportsman's Cabinet" (1802), he is described as having "the hair long and naturally curled, not loose and shaggy," and the engraving which accompanies the article—from a drawing by Reinagle, engraved by Scott—represents a medium-sized liver and white curly-coated Spaniel, with the legs feathered but not curled. The woodcut in Youatt's "Book on the Dog" is very similar; and in his first work on the dog "Stonehenge" copied this from Youatt's book, and did not hesitate, in addition, to give the points of the "Old English Water Spaniel." It is, therefore, the more astonishing to find him saying in his most recent work, "I do not pretend to be able to settle the points of the breed."

The Kennel Club at their shows have, as has been already said, a class for "Water Spaniels other than Irish," and the title of the class is well deserved, for a more heterogeneous collection than generally composes it could scarcely be found outside the Dogs' Home; and in the judging the description of the old English Water Spaniel, as given by all our writers on the subject, is utterly ignored. Had the Kennel Club set up a standard of their own which sportsmen and exhibitors could read and understand, there would be at least something tangible to deal with, something to agree with or condemn; but they ignore the only descriptions we have of the breed, and give us nothing but chaos instead, for dogs have won as Water Spaniels of every variety of Spaniel character except the right one.

It is true Youatt says: "The Water Spaniel was originally from Spain, but the pure breed has been lost, and the present dog is probably descended from the large water dog and the English Setter;" but whilst all seem to agree that our Spaniels came originally from Spain, no one has ever contended that they exist as imported without alteration by selection or commixture with allied varieties; and from all descriptions I have met with, the "large water

dog" referred to by Youatt was in great part Water Spaniel, whilst our English Setter, it is very generally agreed, springs from the Land Spaniel.

As already said, from the earliest times we have the Old English Water Spaniel described as differing from the Land Spaniel. Edmond de Langley, in "The Mayster of Game," writes of the Land Spaniel "white and tawny in colour, and not rough-coated," whereas the Water Spaniel is by every writer described as rough and curly-coated, but not shaggy, and this very decided characteristic is ignored in the judging of Water Spaniels at our shows. Youatt says: "The hair long and closely curled." "Stonehenge," in "The Dog in Health and Disease," says, "head and tail covered with thick curly hair," and gives, as an illustration of the breed, a woodcut of a dog with a distinctly curly coat.

I do not believe the breed is lost, but that scattered throughout the country there are many specimens of the Old English Water Spaniel, and that it only requires that amount of encouragement to breeding which it is in the power of show committees to give to perpetuate the variety and improve its form.

I have come across many specimens, and owned one many years ago, which would fairly represent the breed as described and portrayed by our older sporting writers.

The duties of a Water Spaniel require that he should be under the most perfect command, obedient to a sign; for silence in fresh-water shooting is absolutely necessary to success, waterfowl of all kinds being peculiarly wary and timid. The dog should even be taught to slip into the water noiselessly, and not with a rush and plunge, if the bag is to be well filled; he must quest assiduously and in silence, keeping well within range and working to signal; and he must be a thorough retriever, as bold and persevering as obedient.

Two sizes are generally referred to, but for the fresh-water fowler a large dog is not required, and one weighing from 30lb. to 40lb. will work the sedges, reeds, willows, &c., of river sides, pools, and lochs, with greater advantage than a big one.

The points of the English Water Spaniel I would describe as follows :

The *general appearance* strong, compact, of medium size, leggy by comparison with the Clumber, Sussex, or Black Field Spaniel, and showing much greater activity.

The *head* rather long; the brow apparent, but not very great; jaws fairly long, and slightly, but not too much, pointed; the whole face and skull to the occiput covered with short smooth hair, and no forelock as in the Irish Water Spaniel.

The *eyes* fairly full but not watery, clear, brown-coloured, with intelligent, beseeching expression.

The *ears* long, rather broad, soft, pendulous, and thickly covered with curly hair of greater length than on body.

The *neck* short, thick, and muscular.

The *chest* capacious, the *barrel* stout, and the *shoulders* wide and strong.

The *loins* strong, the *buttocks* square, and the *thighs* muscular.

The *legs* rather long, straight, strong of bone, and well clothed with muscle; and the *feet* a good size, rather spreading, without being absolutely splay-footed.

The *coat* over the whole upper part of the body and sides thick and closely curled, flatter on the belly and the front of the legs, which should, however, be well clad at the back with feathery curls; the prevailing colour is liver and white, but whole liver, black, and black and white, are also described by some writers.

The *tail* is usually docked, rather thick, and covered with curls.

I believe there is nothing to alter in the foregoing,

which appeared in the first edition of this work, and not very much to be added to it.

The Kennel Club Stud Book has only increased its list in the class for Water Spaniels other than Irish by fourteen in twelve years. This does not seem a very creditable performance on the part of a body of men possessing the great power and influence of the Kennel Club, the avowed object of which is the encouragement and improvement of every breed of dog. The reason is not far to seek. But surely a dog club occupying the position of a national institution, whether self-assumed or not, ought to encourage the indigenous and long-established breeds of dogs of Britain; and the Water Spaniel has a title to be included in the list superior to many that are made much of whilst it is neglected.

I have said the English is older than the Irish Water Spaniel, and, as far as written evidence goes, that is so; but this fact by no means militates against the theory referred to in the preceding chapter, that the Irish people were the introducers of all our sporting Spaniels into this country from Spain.

For many years the dogs awarded prizes as Water Spaniels at our shows have been Spaniels with coats almost as flat as that of a Clumber, but with a bit of longish hair about the top of the skull. This was, perhaps, the reason why "Idstone" wrote: "English Water Spaniels are simply crosses and modifications of the Irish race. In many cases they are imperfect examples of that for which Mr. M'Carthy and Captain Montresor are celebrated—neither better nor worse." If "Idstone" meant that the dogs to which he and other judges had given prizes were such as he describes in the above quotation, I am prepared, from my knowledge as critic of dogs at shows for the *Field* and the *Country*, to endorse his words. I must, however, add that "Idstone," for a man of considerable learning and wide experience, was apt to adopt narrow

and superficial views, and he was prone to dogmatise, as dog judges are very apt to do. Clearly, if the dog was a cross or modification of another breed, and not what he was called, he should not be recognised by his pretensions; but "Idstone" begs this question, for there is no reasonable assumption that English sporting writers during centuries, who described the English Water Spaniel, were writing of that of which they knew nothing. There is no evidence that the Irish Water Spaniel had any existence as a distinct breed so recently even as the early decades of the present century; yet it is on the supposition that the Irish Water Spaniel is an older variety than the English Water Spaniel that "Idstone's" whole argument rests.

Taking the principal writers from the beginning of this century we find that they mostly favour two varieties of dog used in wildfowling, the larger of which they call the Water Dog, the smaller the Water Spaniel. Both of these are described as curly-haired, and various theories of their production by crosses of other breeds are suggested. It does not appear to me at all needful to fix on some special cross to produce either.

Our sporting forefathers were practical men, and showed that they were so in their selection of dogs suited to the work to be done; and although it is true they held peculiar notions as to the relations between the colour of the coat and the courage of the beast, such weakness of analogical argument was more excusable in them than some of the freaks of fancy laid down *ex cathedra* by self-elected law-givers—such, for instance, as that an Irish Water Spaniel *must* have a stern, or caudal, vertebra covered with skin only, and as bare of hirsute ornament as a mop-handle.

I conceive that a large and a small Water Spaniel, or Water Dog, would naturally result from the different requirements of the sportsman. He who follows sea birds

requires a bigger and stronger dog than the sportsman who seeks his pleasure in the pursuit of ducks, coots, moorhens, and dabchicks, in marsh pools, rivers, and sedgy ponds. Shakespeare's Water-rug was probably a Water Spaniel, which he may have used in hunting the water-fowl on the Avon, and the tributary streams about Wootton-Wawen and Henley-in-Arden, as no doubt the poet of field sports, Somerville, did in that charming part of Warwick where he lived, wrote, and lies buried.

The Spaniel Club has taken upon itself to say what a Water Spaniel should be without troubling itself as to where it came from or how it came to be; and, as in most respects I concur in the description, and consider it a great step in advance of the uncertainty and ignorance that have prevailed, I have much pleasure in giving the Club's description, without tying myself to its acceptance in full. The following is the published scale of points, with the description of the principal parts and the special features of the breed:

<i>Positive Points.</i>	<i>Negative Points.</i>
Head and jaw } 20	Feather on stern 10
Eyes } 20	Topknot 10
Ears 5	
Neck 5	
Body 10	
Fore legs 10	
Hind legs 10	
Feet 5	
Stern 10	
Coat 15	
General appearance . . 10	
Total positive points . 100	Total negative points . 20

Head.—Long, somewhat straight, and rather narrow; muzzle rather long, and, if anything, rather pointed.

Eyes.—Small for the size of the dog.

Ears.—Set in forward, and thickly clothed with hair inside and out.

Neck.—Straight.

Body (including Size and Symmetry).—Ribs round; the back ones not very deep.

Nose.—Large.

Shoulders and Chest.—Shoulders low, and chest rather narrow, but deep.

Back and Loin.—Strong, but not clumsy.

Hind Quarters.—Long and straight, rather rising toward the stern than drooping, which, combined with the low shoulder, gives him the appearance of standing higher behind than in front.

Stern.—Docked from 7in. to 10in. according to the size of the dog, carried a little above the level of the back, but by no means high.

Feet and Legs.—Feet well spread, large and strong; well clothed with hair, especially between the pads. Legs long and strong; the stifles well bent.

Coat.—Covered either with crisp curls or with ringlets; no topknot, but the close curl should cease on the top of the head, leaving the face perfectly smooth and lean-looking.

Colour.—Black and white, liver and white, or self-coloured black or liver. *The pied for choice.*

General Appearance.—Sober-looking, with rather a slouching gait and a general independence of manner, which is thrown aside at the sight of a gun.

I think the neck should be more carefully described. A straight neck, if the expression is to be literally understood, is not a desirable feature, even if it were a possibility. Again, "nose large" is too indefinite, and how large should be more clearly indicated. I further dispute the statement that the ears should be "thickly clothed with hair inside."

I cannot give a Table of pedigree, for the breed has hitherto been left outside the influence of pedigree-mongers, and wildfowlers are notoriously careless as to what sort of tyke may have been the dog's grandfather, if the dog himself is good.

The two great shows of the year 1887—that of the Kennel Club, at Barn Elms, Surrey, in the summer, and of the National Club, at Birmingham, in December—prove the state of neglect into which this breed has fallen as an exhibition dog. At Barn Elms the schedule provided classes for Water Spaniels without distinction of variety, with the consequence that but few were shown—only eight in three classes, although money prizes to the value of £17 were offered—and these were all Irish Spaniels. At Birmingham there were two classes for English and Irish Water Spaniels conjointly, and only seven entries to compete for £11 prize money; and of these only one was an English Water Spaniel.

I am strongly of opinion that the classification of dogs at shows requires thorough revision and reformation, in the direction of the greater encouragement of valuable breeds—which, left to fashion, suffer very greatly—if the avowed object of shows, which is to improve every breed by wholesome competition, is to be attained.



CHAPTER XXXIV.

THE FLAT OR WAVY COATED RETRIEVER.

Retrieve the covey with my busy train.

—FIELD SPORTS.

THERE is, perhaps, no name that is applied to dogs of so many different characters by the general public as Retriever, and if it can be correctly used to describe the amazing varieties of mongrelism so designated, it must indeed be a most elastic and accommodating term. In fact, every big black, brown, or black and white dog, with a roughish curly or a wavy coat, is dubbed a Retriever. If we go to the Dogs' Home, where so many of the canine street-sweepings are always waiting to be claimed, we are sure to find twenty to thirty animals of most opposite and incongruous types, all classed under the generic name of Retriever. Open a daily newspaper, and we are sure to find a greater or less number of big black or brown dogs lost described as Retrievers, although probably not one of them bears more than a remote resemblance to the Retriever proper, as seen in such perfection at our dog shows and field trials.

There are, however, dogs justly named Retrievers, of a common type, neither wanting in good looks or pretension to good breeding, that, though denied recognition by our show authorities, are by many much valued as intelligent companions and reliable guards of person and property. In this class Mr. Arthur Nicols' Carlo would be placed by fanciers; yet, as the excellent portrait of this dog—



RETRIEVER.

Mr. G. Thorpe Bartram's ZEISTONE (K.C.S.B., 19,358),

Sire, Mr. E. G. Farquharson's Ben (K.C.S.B., 8296) ; Dam, Mr. E. G. Farquharson's Bridget.

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which I give—shows, he is a very good-looking fellow. As Carlo is an old friend of mine, I can further say for him that I doubt if there is a dog exhibited, with no matter how long a pedigree, that is his equal in intelligence, and I am pretty confident none excel him.

At the trial of water dogs at Maidstone, in 1876, the dog that excelled all others in recovering from the water—both surface and bottom—was a black and white Retriever that would be turned ignominiously out of a show-ring; yet his boldness and intelligence were marvellous. This should warn us not to go too far in breeding dogs of any sort, except Toys, to arbitrary standards of external beauty.

Readers who have had experience with dogs will be able to add to the two cases given of high intelligence, similar instances without limit, and where the practically useful overbalanced the lack of physical attractions, as arbitrarily determined. The breeding of our several varieties to a standard has great advantages when care is taken not to sacrifice essential qualities to mere appearance.

By a Retriever is now understood a dog used with the gun, and which recovers and brings in to the gun lost, wounded, or dead game; and in that sense it is not applicable to the Deerhound, who, although he has been termed a Retriever, is only so to the extent of recovering and tracing the lost trail of the wounded deer, but manifestly cannot retrieve it in the sense that the Retriever proper does smaller game.

If the definition of the Retriever stopped there, there would be more justification for the general loose application of the term than there is, for it would be impossible to deny a dog's right to the name until we had proved his incapacity for the work; but it is one of the good things which modern dog shows have done that, by the discussions they provoke, we have had defined, more or

less clearly, not only what the working capacities of a good Retriever should be, but the external appearance and all the points and physical attributes of the breed; so that a Retriever proper, whether good at his business or not, is, from his *tout ensemble*, as easily recognised as is either the Pointer or the Setter.

The Retriever of the present day is quite of modern production, and is the result of intelligent selection and careful breeding up to a standard, which reflects the greatest credit on the skill and unwearied patience of those who have worked at it, and now see their labours crowned with success. Those who, visiting a show, admire the beautiful symmetry, fine, intelligent countenances, and jet-black coats of the Retrievers, whether Wavy-coated or Curly-coated, and go away with the idea that the fine collection, every one of which bears the unmistakable family stamp, is a mere fortuitous assemblage of dogs accidentally alike, would be very far from the truth. The idea of which these dogs are the embodiment was conceived in the minds of certain sportsmen years ago, and has been slowly worked out, every succeeding year seeing some fault bred out and desirable points developed, till I am strongly of opinion that, if the breed has not reached perfection, it is about as near it as human effort is likely to attain; yet it is not many years since a dog in white stockings won a first prize at the Crystal Palace. In the early days of dog shows, when it was more the custom to cry out that these institutions were ruining the various breeds than is the case now, there was much discussion as to Retrievers then in the course of manufacture, and it was clearly enough proved—if, indeed, it needed proof—that dogs to do the work of Retrievers could be made by a combination of almost any breeds; even a half-bred Bulldog has been known to do it. A cross with the Foxhound was bound to give power of steady and persistent questing;

the Bloodhound, the Beagle, the Terrier, and the Colley were all suggested. But with the advent and progress of shows came the desire, which has continued to grow ever since, to combine in the same animal good looks and good qualities; and in no breed has this been better attained than in the Retriever *proper*, as he is sometimes called, in distinction to the retrieving Spaniel, Setter, or other distinct breed that may be used to perform his special work.

When "Stonehenge" published his first edition of the "Dogs of the British Islands," about sixteen years ago, he wrote anent Retrievers that they must be either "black or black and tan, or black with tabby or brindled legs," pointing out that the brindled legs were indicative of the Labrador, to which breed we owe many of the best qualities the Wavy-coated Retriever possesses; but in the present day a black and tan or a brindle-legged dog, however good, would stand no chance in competition, because the self-coloured dogs have been brought to such perfection that they would equal, if they did not excel, the marked ones in all points, and possess the desired jet-black colour in addition, having thereby something in hand to win with over their handicapped competitors. One of the best working Retrievers I ever saw in my life was a black and tan dog, the property of the late Mr. Gavin Lindsay, The Holm, Sanquhar, and, in point of symmetry and good looks, fit to compete with anything I ever saw exhibited, but his markings would have thrown him out. These tan markings are, no doubt, got from the Gordon Setter, and are easily enough bred out. I speak confidently, and from personal knowledge, of the Gordon Setter cross in the dog referred to; for Mr. Lindsay, who was head keeper for more than forty years—indeed, until his death, in November, 1887—over the Upper Nithsdale part of the Duke of Buccleuch's estate, always had a team of Gordon Setters, and trained them, as well as crosses of them with,

I believe, Labradors, as retrievers. The one I have spoken of as handsome in looks was as good as good-looking. He was perfect in nose, wonderfully intelligent, and his education left nothing to desire. He was taught to "carry" as well as to retrieve; and by carrying I do not here mean the common trick of merely carrying a stick, glove, or other article, but carrying his game to the person he was ordered to take it to. One instance, which came under my own observation, will exhibit the dog's qualities as a retriever and carrier. I was, some fifteen years ago, one of a party hare and partridge shooting, late in January, over the farms of Glenwharrie, The Rigg, Dumfriesshire, and others adjoining, and our party was at one part of the day parted by a distance of about half a mile, a swollen burn pouring its brown flood down the hollow between us. I was with Mr. Lindsay, who shot a hare, and at the same time my brother, who was with the under-keeper on the opposite "braeside," knocked over a partridge. The Retriever, who was perfect at his "down-charge," when at last given the order, went and retrieved the hare. But his work was not over, for the partridges were carried by our party, and the hares by the other. The Retriever was therefore ordered to take the hare to "Sandy," that being the under-keeper's name. This he did, crossing the swollen torrent and a stone dyke, and very soon returned to us with the partridge in his mouth.

I have introduced this anecdote to show how much of pleasure and usefulness can be had in return for the bestowal of a careful and judicious education, for that is often either totally neglected or of a kind to spoil rather than improve the dog. The Wavy Retriever is now kept by many as a companion; and I wish to impress on all such that they lose much they might enjoy through want of knowledge how to train their dogs, or carelessness in permitting and encouraging bad habits.

I know of no breed of dog that supplies a better com-

panion for town or country than the Wavy-coated Retriever, being of middle size—not too big for the house, but big enough to carry some dignity in appearance, and also to be a useful protector, should such service be required of him. Then he is eminently handsome, of the highest range of doggy intelligence, and almost invariably of a most amiable temper. Such a dog is worth taking some pains to teach—and they are easily taught such lessons as to retrieve from land very long distances. “Seeking lost”—whether the article has been accidentally lost or intentionally hidden—comes easy, almost natural, to them; and they become equally expert on and in water, diving, and recovering articles from great depths.

A very common error in their education is letting them play and carry, when puppies, things too hard for them, which spoils them should they be afterwards wanted for work on game, making them hard-mouthed. They should never be given a piece of useless stick to carry, but always something you take from them when they have done enough, and keep for another lesson, so that they may learn to know the article, and to recognise that it is something you value. Then, to teach to carry to a certain place or person, it is only necessary to let the dog carry some special article—you going with him for a few times—and to impress his mind by repeating the name of place or person the object of your visit, when very soon it will only be necessary to give him the article he is to take, repeat the name, and tell him to go.

This is a tempting subject, and might be greatly elaborated; but for details of lessons I must refer to “*Breaking and Training Dogs*,” by “*Pathfinder*,” to the last published edition of which, at the request of the publisher, I added a few chapters.

In the first edition of this work I wrote: “The coat has undergone very considerable modifications in this strain. In Wyndham (Meyrick’s), the wave became a ripple—almost

a surge—over the hips; and a grandson of his that I now own, and who greatly resembles Wyndham in other respects, has this peculiarity in a very marked degree. Now, however, we have many with coats as flat almost as that of a smooth-coated dog, which I think an excess in the opposite direction; and personally, I think, as a point of beauty, there is nothing to compare with a nice and regular wavy coat." And now, writing in 1887, I have to record that the tendency in favour of a flat coat has increased; and I must admit, despite my preference, that, taken all round, I think the beauty of this dog has been increased.

Perhaps the sires that have exercised most influence in stamping the character of the present generation of Retrievers under discussion are: the two Wyndhams—the one the property of that well-known and successful breeder Mr. J. D. Gorse, the younger dog of the name owned by Mr. T. Meyrick, M.P., and much used by that other most successful of Retriever breeders the late John D. Hull; Paris, owned by Mr. S. E. Shirley, M.P., and bred from imported Labrador parents; Major Allison's Victor, and Mr. Chattock's Cato, both without known pedigree. The late Dr. Bond Moore paid considerable attention to this breed some years ago; his kennels were principally of Hull's strain, and he had some remarkably fine specimens. I remember seeing a litter of Midnight's, if I mistake not, in his kennels, in which were two fine pups of a pale liver colour, although both parents and grandparents were jet-black.

The strains of the various breeders are now pretty well commingled, and Mr. Shirley, who has long been the foremost of Retriever breeders, has in his well-established strain the blood of nearly all the old notabilities, in conjunction with his own special blood through Paris and Lady Evelyn.

In the Table of the pedigree of Harvester, all, or nearly all, of the noted dogs of early show days are brought in;

The *ears* should be small, and lie close to the head, set on well back and low, quite free from fringe, but covered with soft, silky hair.

The *eye* large, dark in colour, mild in expression, and the *haw* never exposed.

The *neck*, although muscular, is longer than in the Labrador, and has that more supple appearance and freer action meant to be expressed by the term "airy."

The *shoulders* slope well, and are well clothed with muscle; and the *fore legs* should also be muscular, straight, and of moderate length, giving an average height at shoulder of 23in. to 24in.

The *chest* should be broad, but not to the extent of pushing out the elbows from the straight line with the body, which would rob the dog of his speed.

The *back*, *loins*, and *hind quarters* should all be strong, in keeping with the fore quarters, without positive heaviness, so that the dog may with ease carry a hare a distance over rough ground, stone dykes, or field gates.

The *feet* should be of moderate size, compact, and with good hard soles, and the interstices between the toes protected with hair; a splay foot, with spreading toes, is very objectionable.

The *coat* should be abundant and close, and long enough to fall in gentle and regular waves, which is preferable to a perfectly flat coat. The *colour* should be a glossy jet-black, and quite free from tan, brindled, or white markings; but as I do not think there are many dogs whelped without more or less white hairs on the chest, it is better, in my opinion, not to allow a trifle of that kind to weigh for so much as to offer an inducement to plucking.

The *stern* should be strong and gaily carried, but not curled over the back; it should not be so strong or so bushy as that of the Newfoundland, but plentifully furnished with feather.

The illustration in the first edition of this work repre-

sented S. E. Shirley, Esq., M.P.'s Thorn, for which I have now substituted a portrait of Mr. Thorpe-Bartram's Zelstone, because it is better executed, and therefore gives a truer idea of the breed, although Zelstone is of a different and less fashionable pedigree. Thorn was not only very successful in the show-ring, but good in the field, and he has proved eminently useful at stud, his stock including Loyal, first at Birmingham and Alexandra Palace; Wave, winner of first and also champion prize at Birmingham; Transit, first at Crystal Palace and Oxford; Trace, first at Alexandra Palace; Raven, first and cup at Warrington. To these might now be added many other names, as will be seen from the tabular pedigree of his great-grandson, already given. Mr. Shirley informs me that whilst Thorn's stock are, as a rule, good workers, he has found the cross with the Paris blood better for work than the Thorn and Lady Evelyn blood.

Mr. Thorpe-Bartram's Zelstone is the sire of many good dogs, and bids fair to make a pillar of the stud. He is a remarkably handsome specimen, and all will allow that Mr. Baker has produced a beautiful and lifelike portrait of the dog.

The following particulars of weights and measurements of Wavy-coated Retrievers have been furnished by the owners:

Mr. S. E. Shirley's *Thorn*: Age, 5 years; height at shoulder, 22½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 37in.; length of tail, 15in.; girth of chest, 29½in.; girth of head, 16½in.; girth of forearm, 9in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

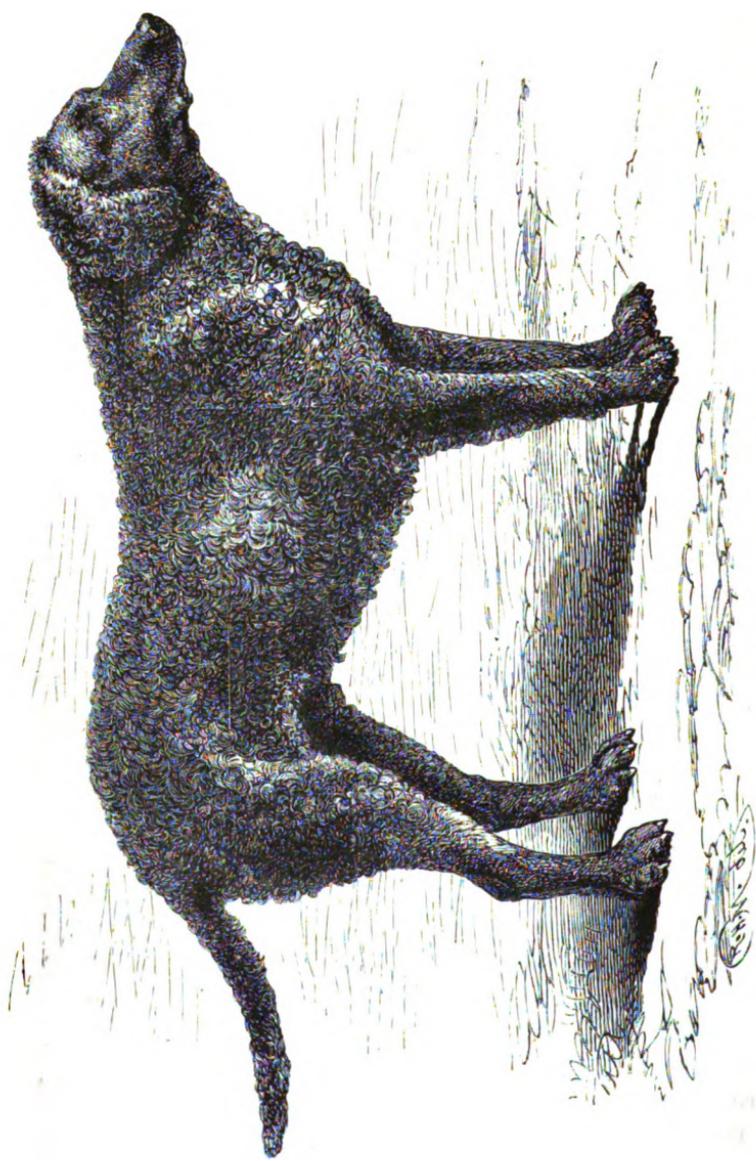
Mr. G. Thorpe-Bartram's *Bonnie Lassie*: Age, 3½ years; weight, 54lb.; height at shoulder, 21in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36in.; length of tail, 13in.; girth of chest, 28in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 17½in.; girth of forearm, 7½in.; length of head from occiput to

tip of nose, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.; girth of neck midway between head and shoulders, $16\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of nose from eye to tip, 4in.; length from elbow to top of shoulder, 11in.; length of ear from tip to set-on at skull, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Mr. G. Thorpe-Bartram's *Bogle*: Weight, 73lb.; height at shoulder, $25\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, $41\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length of tail, $15\frac{1}{4}$ in.; girth of chest, 32in.; girth of loin, $24\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of head, 20in.; girth of forearm, 9in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.; girth of neck midway between head and shoulders, 19in.; length of nose from eye to tip, $4\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length from elbow to top of shoulder, $12\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of ear from tip to set-on at skull, $6\frac{1}{4}$ in.



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CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER.

Mr. W. H. How's Tony. Sire, Sweep (K.C.S.B., 1876); Dam, Mr. Cotton's Nell.

CHAPTER XXXV.

THE CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER.

Let the best dog leap the stile first.

—RAY.

THERE are few handsomer dogs than a good specimen of this breed, such, for instance, as Toby, True, X L, Muswell Butterfly, Chicory, Doctor, Smike, Gloom, or Don Juan, with their compact forms, neat clean legs, and coats of jetty black, perfectly regular, crisp little nigger curls, level, thick, and clustering over every part from ears to end of tail, as though clothed with the heads of so many prize piccaninnies.

How the variety originated I do not pretend to say with any degree of certainty, for if we turn to the pedigrees of our most noted specimens, we find ourselves very soon at the end of a blind alley—even their immediate progenitors being, as a rule, identified by their owners' names only, and not by pedigree.

That they are compounded of several elements that are only just becoming so thoroughly commingled as to breed with any certainty of result, I have the experience of breeders to warrant me in believing; for, however good two specimens may be in that great desideratum coat, for instance, the percentage of their produce equally good in that respect has been small. This, however, the further we get from the different sources originally resorted to, and the closer we keep to those having in a high degree the properties in common which we desire to propagate,

becomes altered; and soon, if not now, we shall be able to rely on securing good and level litters, with merely an occasional pup throwing back, which should in all cases be carefully weeded out.

I am of opinion that the crisp, curly coat has been obtained from the old close-curved English Water Spaniel, which one looks for in vain now in the classes set apart at our shows for this breed. Their place is now usurped by a class of dog with a coat I should call "irregular" for want of a better term, for it is neither flat, wavy, nor curled, and in other points as well as coat the dog widely differs from the Old English Water Spaniel as described by Youatt and "Stonehenge." In body, carriage, as well as in coat, the old Water Spaniel much resembled the modern Curly Retriever, making due allowance for the improvements produced by careful breeding for competition for twelve or fifteen years.

There are, I know, many who think this Retriever owes his remarkably curly coat to the Irish Water Spaniel; against this we have the recorded opinion of that high authority on Irish Spaniels, Mr. M'Carthy, that these dogs will not bear a cross with other breeds, and that the cross with the Setter, Spaniel, Newfoundland, or Labrador, which would be the most likely to be resorted to to produce the Retriever, "completely destroys the coat, ears, tail, and symmetry."

From Mr. M'Carthy's experience his opinion must have great weight, and yet a case came under my personal notice which, as far as a single case can do, controverts that opinion. About twenty years ago, I sent to my brother, a farmer in the West of Scotland, a pure-bred Irish Spaniel maiden bitch; she proved a most excellent all-round dog, good alike at questing and retrieving, and just the thing for a one-dog sportsman, and that led to the desire to breed from her; but as there were no dogs of the same breed in the locality, she was sent to a Re-

triever with a considerable amount of Gordon Setter blood in him. I some years afterwards saw two of the produce; both were jet-black, and with most perfect curly coats, and one, kept and worked by my brother, was as clever as he was in some points good looking; but I cannot claim for him excellence in symmetry—a point in which, with all respect to my friend Mr. J. S. Skidmore, and other partisans of the Irish Spaniel, I think that dog remarkably deficient.

Among the exhibitors of this Retriever that were prominent as winners, in the early years of dog shows, were: Mr. J. W. Morris, Rochdale; Mr. F. J. Staples-Brown, Brashfield; Mr. J. H. Salter, Tolleshunt D'Arcy; Mr. G. Thorpe-Bartram, Braintree; Mr. W. Arkwright, Sutton Scarsdale; Mr. E. Ellis, Doncaster; Mr. S. Darby, Tiverton; and Mr. W. A. How, Whitwick—all of whom possessed first-class specimens. Mr. Morris's True and X L often properly figured at the head of their respective champion classes. True was closely matched by Mr. How's champion Toby, the subject of our illustration; and Mr. Thorpe-Bartram's Nell, in the opinion of many judges, was quite equal, if not superior, to X L; while Mr. Tom B. Swinburne's bitch Chicory, by Mr. Salter's King Koffee, maintained a high position throughout her show career, justifying the good opinion I expressed of her when first exhibited. She was a well-built bitch, of nice size, without waste or coarseness, well ribbed, with excellent back and loins, a good chest, and legs that were simply faultless; her coat, too, was first-rate, and even her tail to its end, both upper and under side, was thickly covered with small, perfect curls.

Mr. How's Toby was before the public as early as 1874, when he began what proved to be an extraordinarily successful career by taking first at both the Nottingham and the Birmingham shows. He was described in the *Country* report of Brighton show, 1876, in these terms: "His head is nearly faultless; he is good in limbs, well formed in

body, and seems just made for his business, being neither too light for hard work nor too clumsy to clear a dyke or a gate with a hare in his mouth; and to this I may add that his coat is very good." Toby kept in the front rank of exhibited dogs for several years.

The Curly-coated Retriever has never been so generally popular as his Wavy-coated brother. Exhibitors have greater difficulty in keeping the coat of this variety in such condition as is required in winning specimens. Even the drenching of the coat from the watering-can, before taking the dog into the judging-ring—which is a common practice—does not make up for shortness of coat or openness of curl attendant on moulting, although the wetting intensifies the colour and seems to show the curl better.

The points differ from the Wavy-coated as follows:

In the *head* the skull is less wide throughout, and the muzzle rather narrower at the nose.

The *coat* is entirely different, consisting of short, crisp curls all over the body and tail; the face covered with short, smooth hair—there must be no topknot.

The *eye* should be hazel-brown or darker—a yellow eye, which I have seen in otherwise good specimens, mars the appearance of the dog, and is very objectionable.

The *tail* should be thick at the root and tapering to a fine point, carried straight and stiffly, and covered with small curls, not feathered or bushy; but many good dogs of the breed show a tendency to this fault.

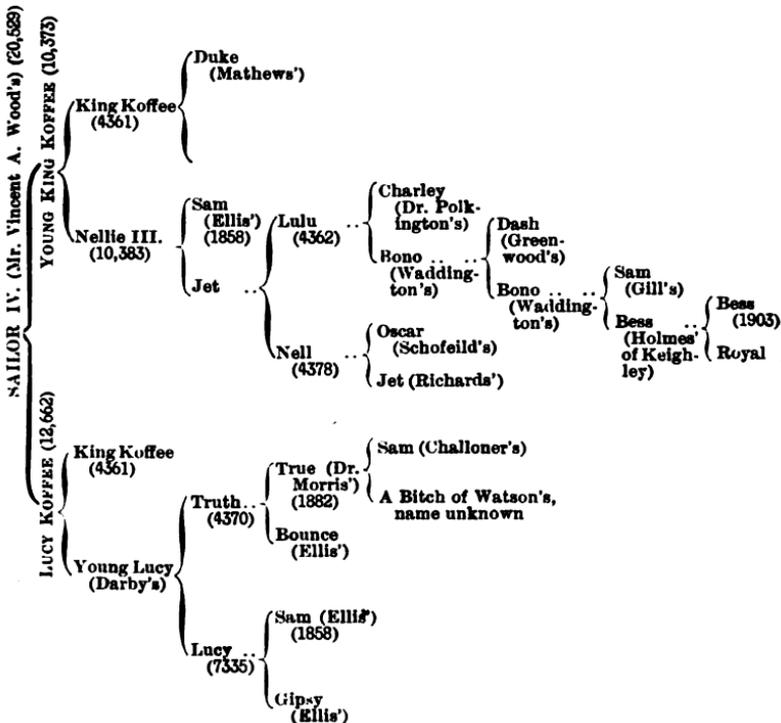
The *colour* should be all black, but a small, white spot on the chest ought not to disqualify.

In all Retrievers temper and tractability are to be considered, but indications of the first only can be seen in the show-ring; and to test their ability in seeking and retrieving, in which a good nose, perseverance, pluck, and a soft mouth are requisite, we must see them in the field.

So far as my own experience and observation go, the

Curly-coated is, as a variety, inferior to the Wavy-coated in intelligence, and more uncertain in temper. This latter trait, of course, militates against his education, and as a sportsman's dog he is apt to be too impetuous and headstrong, and also hard-mouthed. In this opinion I have the concurrence of many gentlemen of experience and judgment, with whom I have conversed on the subject.

I subjoin a Table of pedigrees, which, I may say, shows at once the strength and weakness of Curly-coated Retriever genealogy. It will serve the purpose of showing a combination of the best strains, in which the principal traits sought for in the variety are most firmly fixed by persistent breeding for them, and therefore most likely to be inherited by their progeny.



In the pedigree of Sailor IV. the blood of the kennels of Mr. Ellis, Doncaster, and of Dr. Morris, of Rochdale, is strongly represented. These two gentlemen, and Mr. Darby, of Tiverton, have been among the most prominent breeders of this variety; but the names of the two former have long been absent from show catalogues.

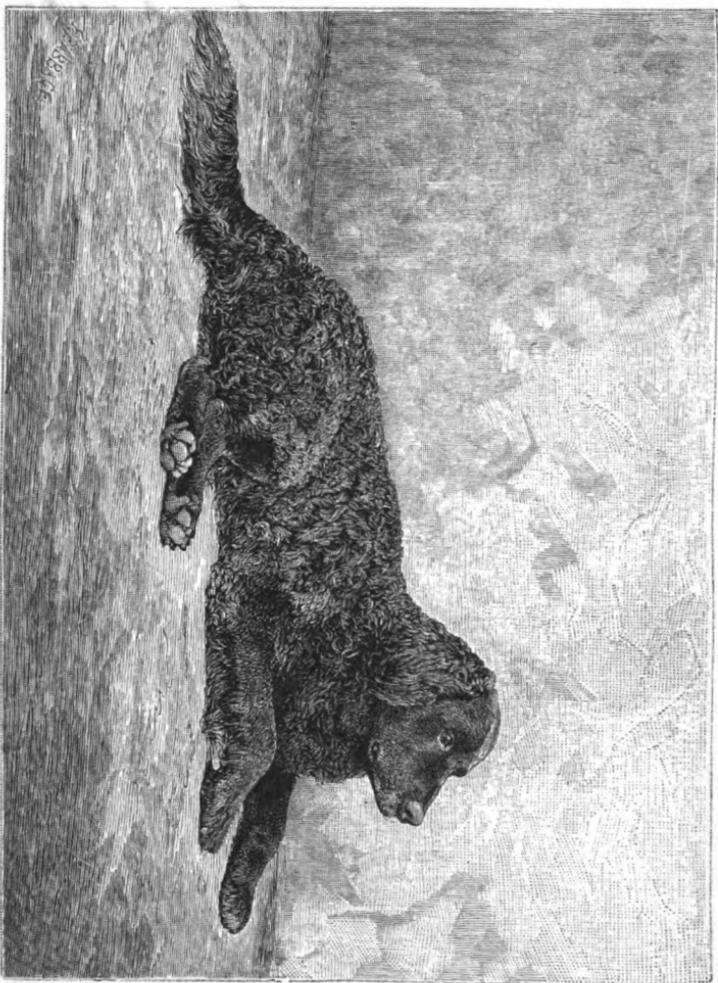
Chicory—already referred to—was of much the same blood; so also is Mr. Darby's champion Doctor; and, indeed, most of the winning dogs, and those at stud, claim descent, more or less pure, from the Doncaster and Rochdale kennels.

The following are particulars of the measurements, &c., of good specimens of the breed:

Mr. W. H. How's *Toby*: Age, 5½ years; weight, 89lb.; height at shoulder, 24½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 40in.; length of tail, 17½in.; girth of chest, 35in.; girth of loin, 30in.; girth of head, 19in.; girth of forearm, 9½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 12in.; length of ear, 4in.; width of ear, 3in.

Mr. W. H. How's *Soot*: Age, 2½ years; weight, 81lb.; height at shoulder, 23in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 39in.; length of tail, 15½in.; girth of chest, 33in.; girth of loin, 29in.; girth of head, 16in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 9½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10½in.

Mr. Thorpe-Bartram's *Lulu*: Age, 6 years; weight, 75lb.; height at shoulder, 26½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 40½in.; length of tail, 17½in.; girth of chest, 33in.; girth of loin, 28in.; girth of head, 20½in.; girth of forearm, 8½in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.; length from corner of eye to end of nose, 4½in.; length from elbow to top of shoulder-blade, 13½in.; length of ear from tip to set-on at skull, 5½in.



CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER.

Mr. Arthur Nicols's Carlo II.

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Mr. Thorpe-Bartram's *Nell*: Height at shoulder, 22½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 36½in.; length of tail, 15in.; girth of chest, 28in.; girth of loin, 23in.; girth of head, 17in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10½in.; length from corner of eye to end of nose, 4in.; length from elbow to top of shoulder-blade, 12½in.; length of ear from tip to set-on at skull, 5½in.; girth of neck, 16in.

Mr. S. Darby's *Pearl*: Age, 3 years; weight, 80lb.; height at shoulder, 24½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 43in.; length of tail, 16½in.; girth of chest, 31½in.; girth of loin, 25½in.; girth of head, 18½in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 12in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

Mr. Tom Swinburne's *Chicory*: Age, 2 years; weight, 76lb.; height at shoulder, 24½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 41in.; length of tail, 15¾in.; girth of chest, 30½in.; girth of loin, 22in.; girth of head, 15in.; girth of forearm, 7in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10¾in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 9½in.

Mr. J. H. Salter's champion *King Koffee*: Age, about 5 years; weight, 75lb.; height at shoulder, 27in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 39½in.; length of tail, 18in.; girth of chest, 33¾in.; girth of loin, 26in.; girth of head, 18¾in.; girth of forearm, 7¾in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 10in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10½in.

Of modern Retrievers there are, in addition to the Black Flat or Wavy-coated and the Black Curly-coated, Brown or Liver-coloured ones corresponding to those in coat.

At very few shows now is a class for Liver-coloured dogs

provided, the Black variety having so grown in public estimation as to have pushed the Liver almost out of sight; and this I, for one, regret, for there are many very excellent specimens of the Reds. And I think it should be one of the objects of dog-show promoters to encourage, not discourage, the production and propagation of varieties having distinct character, no matter if for the time being they should be unpopular. "Every dog has his day," says the proverb; and the time may yet come when Brown Retrievers will be as fashionable as Blacks are now. I think it is a pity they should now be so entirely ignored.

Of the Liver or Red-coloured Flat-coated variety, I have seldom seen a good specimen exhibited, most of those shown being apparently half-bred Spaniels.

Of the Curly-coated Liver-coloured sort, good specimens have from time to time appeared at shows, the best I have seen being Nero, the property of Mr. Bullock, Prescott, Lancashire. Mr. R. J. Ll. Price, of Rhiwlas, Bala, has shown several good ones; and later, Mr. McKenzie's Curly-coated Garnet took the premier position in this variety. The following are his measurements:

Mr. L. McKenzie's *Garnet*: Age, 18 months; weight, 78lb.; height at shoulder, 24½in.; length from nose to set-on of tail, 43in.; length of tail, 17in.; girth of chest, 30in.; girth of loin, 25in.; girth of head, 18in.; girth of forearm, 8in.; length of head from occiput to tip of nose, 11½in.; girth of muzzle midway between eyes and tip of nose, 10in.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

THE NORFOLK RETRIEVER.

He who keeps another man's dog shall have nothing left him but the line.—GREEK PROVERB.

AN esteemed correspondent—"Saxon," a Norfolk sportsman—claims a special variety of Retriever as peculiar to his county. Of the correctness of so doing, however, I have some doubt, for although Retrievers answering his description may be more plentiful in Norfolk than elsewhere, they are met with often enough in all parts of the country. The dog described by "Saxon" is, however, held by others to be a distinct and well-established strain, and I therefore include it as one of this group. He says:

"There is no doubt that dog shows have done much towards improving the various breeds of dogs; but there are still some counties which are, so to speak, outside the magic circle of shows, and in these counties the improvement is not so manifest. Norfolk is one of them, and though it is a first-rate county for shooting of all kinds, yet at the same time, from a show point of view, its dogs are not up to the mark.

"It is well known that the Retriever is not a distinct breed, and purity of blood, therefore, can only exist so far as the strain is concerned. In spite of this, there is a strong family likeness visible in most good specimens of the so-called Norfolk Retriever.

"For many a long year Norfolk has been celebrated for its wildfowl shooting. On broad, river, sea-coast, and

estuary, wildfowl abound during the winter months, and unassisted by boat or dog, the gunner would lose by far the greater part of the fowl he shot. In rough weather, when the fowl are most easy of access, the use of a boat in many instances becomes difficult, not to say dangerous and impossible, and some kind of dog, therefore, became necessary to the fowler of olden times. The old-fashioned Pointer, so steady and good after partridges in the long hand-reaped stubbles, failed signally in most instances when the thermometer hung feelingly in the neighbourhood of Zero, and the beard of the shooter was white with icicles and hoar frost. It was not his trade, and he knew it. A hardier dog was necessary, and one with a rougher coat. The old-fashioned English Water Spaniel was undoubtedly good at flushing the birds from reed-beds and the like, but for all-round work his impetuosity would be against him. Something more sedate than all Spaniel blood was required, and yet the dash and resolution of the genuine Spaniel should be retained. By continual crossing—frequently accidental, and still more frequently injudicious—by a strong infusion of Irish Water Spaniel blood, with here and there a tinge of the Labrador, the necessary animal was by degrees manufactured.

“Such is my theory concerning the origin of the Norfolk Retriever. Now for a description of the dog. The colour is more often brown than black, and the shade of brown rather light than dark—a sort of sandy brown, in fact. Coat curly, of course, and the curls hardly so close and crisp as in the show Retriever of the present day, but inclined to be open and woolly. The coat is not long, however, and across the back there is often a saddle of straight, short hair. In texture the coat is inclined to be coarse, and it almost invariably looks rusty, and feels harsh to the touch. This, however, may in some measure be due to neglect. The head is heavy and wise-looking, the muzzle square and broad; ears large, and somewhat thickly

covered with long, curly hair. The limbs stout and strong, with large and well-webbed feet. The tail is usually docked like a Spaniel's, but not so short. This seems to be quite a keeper's custom, and probably originated from the fact that, to an inexperienced eye, the tail of a puppy generally appears too long for the dog. However, although docking the tail improves the appearance of a Spaniel, in my opinion it completely spoils the symmetry of a Retriever. I remember once asking a Norfolk keeper's opinion of a very handsome Flat-coated Retriever I had. After examining the dog carefully, the man said: 'Well, sir, he would be a rare nice-looking dog if you only cut half-a-yard off his tail.' I need hardly add that I did not act on the suggestion.

"When white appears on the chest, it is more frequently in the form of a spot or patch than a narrow streak.

"These animals are usually rather above than below the medium size, and are strong, compact dogs. As a rule, they are exceedingly intelligent and tractable, capable of being trained to almost anything, both in the way of tricks and with the gun. In temperament they are lively and cheerful, making excellent companions; and it is very rarely that they are found sulky or vicious. When only half-trained they are apt to be headstrong and impetuous, and though naturally with a strong retrieving instinct, are often a little inclined to be hard-mouthed. This defect can be traced to two causes. It may be the result of injudicious breeding from hard-mouthed parents, or it may arise from careless or slovenly handling in their young days. However, when they are wanted almost exclusively for wildfowl shooting, this failing is not of so much moment, for they will be principally used for retrieving birds that fall in the water, and, as fowl are for the most part very tough birds, the rough grip as a dog seizes a duck will not cause much mischief, and while swimming the most inveterate 'biter' will seldom give his birds a second nip.

For wildfowl shooting they are admirable. Their resolute nature renders them most determined in hunting coots, moorhen, and half-fowl, as the gunners call many of the smaller members of the *Anas* tribe, for which their too limited knowledge of natural history cannot supply a name. When accustomed to sea-shore shooting, they will face a rough sea well, and they are strong swimmers, persevering, and not easily daunted in their search for a dead or wounded fowl."

CHAPTER XXXVII.

THE RUSSIAN RETRIEVER.

Every dog has his day.—OLD ADAGE.

A DOZEN years ago the Russian Retriever was often met with at our shows, and Mr. E. B. Southwell's Czar scored a good number of first prizes in the variety classes; but for some years past I do not recollect to have seen a specimen at any show.

I believe "Idstone's" is the only book on the dog in our language that has deigned to notice this breed. And "Idstone" very summarily dismisses him thus: "I recollect seeing one of them at a battue, which attempted to fetch a hare from a thick brake, and became so entangled amongst the thorns and 'burs,' that the beaters had to cut away a quantity of his coat to liberate him, and in the confusion the hare was lost. Further comment on the Russian Retriever for this country is needless."

A single glance at the dog would show anyone that he is of no use in a thick brake of thorns, briars, or whins, but it does not follow that he is of no use in this country; and the anecdote related by "Idstone" seems to me rather to reflect on the man who put the dog to work for which he was so evidently unsuited, than on the dog. We have, unquestionably, dogs far better fitted for retrieving under any conditions in wood or wild, on land or from water, than the Russian Retriever, but as a distinct variety we have room for him, if only as a companion and guard, using him as a retriever under suitable conditions when required.

I have said that in "The Dog," by "Idstone," alone is he referred to; but "Stonehenge" gives a woodcut of a Russian Setter crossed with English Setter, which appears to me a modification of the Russian Retriever.

The Russian Retriever is a large, leggy dog, very squarely built, with an excess of hair all over him, long, thick, and inclining to curl; a large, short head, round and wide in the skull, rather short and square in the jaw, not unlike that of a Poodle. The ears are medium-sized, pendulous, and heavily covered with hair. The legs are straight, covered with long hair front and back, like those of an Irish Water Spaniel. The eyes and whole face are covered with long hair, like those of a modern Skye Terrier, but more abundantly. The coat throughout is long and dense, and requires great care to keep it in anything like order, as it readily gets felted.

Russian Retrievers are generally extremely docile, very intelligent, show great power of scent, and for "tricks" of retrieving from land or water are excellent; they make good watch-dogs, and it is only as companion dogs they are likely to take a place in this country. I have known three that I consider good specimens, namely, Mr. E. B. Southwell's Czar; one the property of Mr. Pople, of the British Hotel, Perth; and one that met with a tragic end, having been burnt to death in a fire which destroyed the house of his owner, in Villiers Street, Strand, London. I should say the height of each referred to would be about 26in. at shoulder, and the colour throughout a grey.

This breed still continues in disfavour, new home-made and imported varieties having for some years held, one after another, the public fancy. Sooner or later the wheel will have revolved, and the Russian again be in vogue.

Foreign Breeds Occasionally Exhibited.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

OUR dog shows have brought to public notice many foreign breeds, of which, however, so few specimens are exhibited that we are left with somewhat uncertain ideas, for we want the experience of them, and means of comparison, to decide the correct size, shape, and other points of the most perfect representatives of each variety.

We are, however, in our taste for dogs, much the same as when Dr. Caius wrote the first published book on dogs, in which he, writing of a newly-imported variety of dog, declared that we English are greedy after novelties, and covetous of things that are rare, strange, and hard to get.

Of such occasional foreign visitors as yet unclassified at shows or in stud books, some brief notice will be useful. I shall here confine myself to such as are allied to one or other of the groups forming the first division of this work.

THE KANGAROO HOUND.

Dogs by this name have occasionally been exhibited in England, and those I have seen were of the Greyhound type. I remember one, a fine animal, shown at Northampton some years ago, of a reddish colour, and in conformation a strong, heavy Greyhound—too heavy, in fact, for the work of an English Greyhound. Judged from an

English standpoint, the Kangaroo dog looks a Greyhound, with a slight admixture of some more massive breed; but in the one specially referred to, the action in running was very different, and not so graceful as that of our coursing dogs, and was more a succession of leaps than the smoother, undulatory motion of a Greyhound. This I consider may be a habit contracted from the pace and style of going adapted to the peculiarities of the ground over which the dogs are hunted.

THE EASTERN GREYHOUND.

We occasionally see specimens of Greyhounds from the east of Europe shown under various names — as Greek, Turkish, or Albanian Greyhounds. These are of larger size than the Persian, and although possessing the general characteristics of the *Canes celeres*, yet no specimen I have seen shows that care in breeding which so distinguishes our own Greyhounds. They vary in colour, as ours do, and generally, if not invariably, have the tail fringed with long, soft hair. This is an interesting feature, for the great Greek courser, who has left us such a minute description of the Celtic Greyhound, gives the tail rough with hair, and most so towards the tip, as one of the points. I look on all Greyhounds as from a common stock, and see in the Eastern varieties this peculiarity of a feathered tail preserved, which, by our system of breeding, has been lost.

THE RAMPUR HOUND.

This is an Indian breed, two of which were exhibited by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at several shows during the year following the visit of his Royal Highness to India.

The Rampur is of the Greyhound type, but not so elegant in outline; indeed, it is more like a rather

clumsy Lurcher. It is almost hairless, and the skin dark, and sometimes marbled like the hairless Mexican or crested Chinese dog, but free from light, flesh-coloured spots.

THE SWEDISH BEAGLE.

This is one of the true hounds, as that term is now restricted in its application to such as hunt by the nose only. A remarkably handsome specimen, named Valborg (K.C.S.B. 8809), was exhibited, and won many prizes, at our best shows. Valborg was larger than our English Beagle, of true hound character, being possessed of a nice head; long, folding, soft ears; good dewlap; and being in colour black and tan, with a little white. Such a well-made and attractive hound, very distinct from our own varieties, would be well worth cultivating in England, to swell our already numerous breeds.

THE ELKHOUND.

Specimens of this Norwegian breed were brought to England by Mr. Alfred Strutt, who went as a special artist to Norway on the occasion of the Prince of Wales' visit to that country. One bred by Mr. Strutt is now the property of Mr. Herbert Dicksee, of London.

Elkhounds are, I believe, used to find and start the game, and are not kept to Elk only, but also for rousing the bear; but they are too small for the attack when such large game is at bay, as the following measurements of Mr. Dicksee's hound will show:

Height at shoulder, 16in.; length of head, 8in.; length of body from tip of nose to set-on of stern, 30in.; girth of chest, 22in.; weight, about 31lb.

The colour of coat is red, shaded at the points of the hair into black, and with white on face, feet, and chest—not unlike a St. Bernard in markings. These hounds

have large and strong dew-claws—a feature claimed by many as a distinguishing peculiarity of the St. Bernard; and this fact, coupled with the resemblance in form of head and colour distribution, may suggest some remote relationship between the two breeds.

THE RUSSIAN SETTER.

Russian Setters are rarely seen in England, although highly praised by sportsmen who have shot over them. For excellence of nose, and close ranging, and also for retrieving wounded and lost birds, the late Mr. Joseph Lang, who was a noted sportsman, considered the Russian superior to our English Setter.

Mr. William Lort also speaks very highly of the Russian Setter; and both of these sportsmen exalt the qualities of a cross between them and our native Setters.

Mr. Purcell Llewellyn, for several consecutive years, offered a prize of ten guineas for the best brace of Russian Setters which might be exhibited at the Birmingham show; but his offer brought no entries to compete for the prize, so that the breed would seem to have lost even the partial favour in which it at one time stood with a section of British sportsmen.

No dog is much more unlike our English Setter than is the Russian. In general appearance he is more like some specimens of the old Water Dog, and that may be described as a compound of old English Sheepdog, Terrier, and Spaniel.

He is comparatively a leggy dog, which his shaggy coat, to some extent, prevents being very noticeable. The head is round, and the muzzle obtuse; the colour is often a dirty fawn, with more or less of white. Whatever good qualities this dog may possess as a worker, I cannot think it would be at all advisable to cross him with any one of our British Setters, or other variety of the Spaniel tribe, for the result could not, except in some

accidental instances, be a handsome dog. A dog wanting in symmetry, and with a broken coat, would be a poor exchange for a beautiful Laverack—and these are capable of as high training as any dogs in the world.

THE RUSSIAN SPANIEL.

Some few years ago a dog was frequently shown in the class for foreign sporting dogs—which most of our large shows provide—as a Russian Spaniel, and won many prizes as such, under experienced judges. The dog appeared to me—and I saw and examined him many times—far more a Terrier than a Spaniel in general character. He was not so large as many Airedales, nor quite so high in leg as those Terriers; but his hard, broken coat, and rough muzzle, seemed alone to remove him from the Spaniel family.



Standards of Excellence.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

IN the following Tables of Valuation of Points, I have given those adopted by the special Clubs, where such exist, without regard to their concurrence with my own views, as expressed in the several articles.

The question of placing a numerical value on the several points, and the judging of dogs by these, will be fully discussed hereafter, in the chapter on "Judging at Shows."

I.—THE GREYHOUND.

	POINTS.
Head	15
Neck	10
Chest and fore quarters ...	20
Loin and back ribs	15
Hind quarters	20
Legs and feet	10
Tail	5
Colour and coat	5
Total	100

II.—THE SCOTCH DEERHOUND.

Head	10
Ears and eyes	5
Neck	10
Chest and shoulders	15
Back and ribs	10
Hind quarters	10

THE SCOTCH DEERHOUND (*continued*).

	POINTS.
Legs and feet	15
Tail	5
Colour and coat	10
Symmetry	10
Total	100

III.—THE IRISH WOLFHOUND.

Head (skull and jaw)	15
Neck, chest, and shoulders ...	15
Back, loins, and ribs	15
Hind quarters	10
Legs and feet	10
Colour and coat	10
Size and symmetry	25
Total	100

**IV.—THE SCOTCH ROUGH-
HAired GREYHOUND.**

Same as Greyhound.

V.—THE LURCHER.

Not shown or encouraged.

VI.—THE WHIPPET.

Same as Greyhound.

**VII.—THE SIBERIAN WOLF-
HOUND.**

	POINTS.
Head	10
Eyes	5
Ears	5
Neck	10
Chest, shoulders, and ribs ...	15
Back and loins	15
Hind quarters	10
Legs and feet	10
Tail	5
Colour and coat	5
Symmetry	10
Total	100

X.—THE PERSIAN GREYHOUND.

Head	10
Eyes	5
Ears	5
Neck	5
Chest, ribs, and shoulders ...	10
Back and loins	10
Hind quarters	10
Legs and feet	10
Tail	5
Colour and coat	10
Symmetry and elegance ...	20
Total	100

XI.—THE BLOODHOUND.

	POINTS.
Head	15
Ears and eyes	10
Flews and dewlap	10
Neck	5
Chest and shoulders	10
Back and back ribs	10
Legs and feet	20
Stern	5
Colour and coat	5
Symmetry	10
Total	100

XIII.—THE FOXHOUND.

Head, &c.	15
Neck	5
Shoulders and arms	10
Chest and ribs	10
Back and loins	10
Hind quarters	15
Legs and feet	15
Colour and coat	5
Stern	5
Symmetry and condition ...	10
Total	100

XIV.—THE OTTER-HOUND.

Skull	10
Jaws	10
Eyes	5
Ears	10
Chest and shoulders	15
Body and loins	15
Legs and feet	10
Coat	10
Stern	5
Symmetry and strength ...	10
Total	100

XV.—THE HARRIER.

Same as Foxhound.

XVI.—THE BEAGLE.

	POINTS.
Head	20
Ears	10
Neck and throat	5
Shoulders	15
Back and loins	10
Hind quarters	10
Legs and feet	10
Colour and coat	10
Condition and symmetry	10
Total	100

XVII.—THE BASSET-HOUND.

Head, skull, eyes, muzzle, and flews	15
Ears	15
Neck, dewlap, chest, and shoulders	10
Fore legs and feet	15
Back, loins, and hind quarters	10
Stern	5
Coat and skin	10
Colour and markings	15
“Basset character” and symmetry	5
Total	100

XVIII.—THE DACHSHUND.

Head and skull	12
Ears	6½
Jaw	5
Chest	7
Legs and feet	20
Skin and coat	13
Loin	8
Stern	5
Body	8½
Colour	4
Symmetry and quality	11
Total	100

XX.—THE POINTER. POINTS.

Skull	10
Nose	10
Ears, eyes, and lips	4
Neck	6
Shoulders and chest	15
Back, quarters, and stifles	15
Legs, elbows, and hocks	12
Feet	8
Stern	5
Coat	3
Colour	5
Symmetry	7
Total	100

XXIII.—THE ENGLISH SETTER.

Skull	10
Nose	5
Ears, lips, and eyes	4
Neck	6
Shoulders and chest	15
Back, quarters, and stifles	15
Legs, elbows, hocks	12
Feet	8
Flag	5
Texture of coat and feather... ..	5
Colour	5
Symmetry and quality	10
Total	100

XXIV.—THE IRISH SETTER.

Head	10
Eyes	6
Ears	4
Neck	4
Body	20
Fore legs and feet	10
Hind legs and feet	10
Tail	4
Coat and feather	10
Colour	8
Size, style, and general appearance	14
Total	100

XXV.—THE GORDON, OR BLACK AND TAN SETTER.

	POINTS.
Head, including ears, eyes, and nose	20
Neck	5
Shoulders	10
Chest	10
Barrel, back, and loins	15
Quarters and stifles	10
Legs and feet	10
Flag	5
Coat and colour	5
Symmetry	10
Total	100

XXVII.—CLUMBER SPANIEL.

Positive Points.

Head and jaws	25
Eyes	5
Ears	5
Neck	5
Body	20
Fore legs	5
Hind legs	5
Feet	5
Stern	5
Coat and feather	10
General appearance	10
Total	100

Negative Points.

Light nose	10
Curled ears	10
Curled coat	20
Total	40

XXVIII.—THE SUSSEX SPANIEL.

Positive Points.

Head and jaw	15
Eyes	5
Ears	5
Neck	5
Body	15

THE SUSSEX SPANIEL (continued).

Fore legs	10
Hind legs	10
Feet	5
Stern	5
Coat and feather	10
General appearance	15
Total	100

Negative Points.

Light eyes	5
Narrow head	10
Weak muzzle	10
Curled ears, or high set-on	5
Curled coat	15
Carriage of stern	5
Topknot	10
White on chest	10
Colour (too light or too dark)	10
Legginess, or light of bone	5
Shortness of body, or flat-sided	5
General appearance (sour or crouching)	10
Total	100

XXIX.—THE NORFOLK SPANIEL.

Positive Points.

Head, jaw, and eyes	20
Ears	10
Neck	10
Body	10
Fore legs	10
Hind legs	10
Feet	5
Stern	5
Coat and feather	10
General appearance	10
Total	100

Negative Points.

Carriage of stern	5
Topknot	5
Total	10

XXX.—THE BLACK FIELD SPANIEL.*Positive Points.*

Head and jaws	15
Eyes	5
Ears	5
Neck	5
Body	10
Fore legs	10
Hind legs	10
Feet	10
Stern	10
Coat and feather	10
General appearance	10

Total 100

Negative Points.

Light eyes	10
Light nose (fatal)... ..	25
Curled ears	10
Curled coat	10
Carriage of stern	10
Topknot (fatal)	25
White on chest	10

Total 100

XXXI.—THE COCKER SPANIEL.*Positive Points.*

Head and jaws	10
Eyes	5
Ears	5
Neck	5
Body	15
Fore legs	10
Hind legs	10
Feet	10
Stern	10
Coat and feather	10
General appearance	10

Total 100

THE COCKER SPANIEL (continued).*Negative Points.*

Light eyes (undesirable, but not fatal)	10
Light nose (fatal)... ..	15
Curled ears (very undesirable)	15
Curled coat (curly, woolly, or wiry)	20
Carriage of stern (crooked or twisted)	20
Topknot (fatal)	20

Total 100

XXXII.—THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL.*Positive Points.*

Head and jaws, eyes, and top-knot	20
Ears	5
Neck	5
Body	10
Fore legs	10
Hind legs	10
Feet	5
Stern	10
Coat	15
General appearance	10

Total 100

Negative Points.

Feather on stern	10
White on chest	3

Total 13

XXXIII.—THE ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL.*Positive Points.*

Head, jaws, and eyes	20
Ears	5
Neck	5
Body	10
Fore legs	10
Hind legs	10
Feet	5

ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL (*continued*).

Stern	10
Coat	15
General appearance	10
Total	100

Negative Points.

Feather on stern	10
Topknot... ..	10
Total	20

XXXIV.—THE FLAT OR WAVY-COATED RETRIEVER.

Head, muzzle, and nose	20
Ears and eyes	5
Neck and shoulders	10
Chest	10
Back, loins, and hind quarters	15
Legs and feet	15
Tail	5
Coat and colour	10
Symmetry	10
Total	100

XXXV.—THE CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER.

	POINTS.
Head and muzzle	15
Ears and eyes	5
Smallness and closeness of curl in coat	15
Neck	5
Chest and shoulders	15
Back and loins	15
Hind quarters	10
Stern	5
Legs and feet	15
Total	100

XXXVII.—THE RUSSIAN RETRIEVER.

Judged by shape, size, coat, and colour. Points have not been given.



INDEX.

A.

- Allied nature of the Deerhound and Irish Wolfhound, 18
- Ancients, dogs used for hunting by, 139
- Anecdotes of dogs, reason for excluding, from scheme of work, 4

B.

- Barzoi, the, 129
- Basset Club, establishment of, 243
- Basset-hound, 231
 - as a hunting dog, 244, 248
 - as a truffle-dog, 240
 - as a vermin-killer, 240
 - cautionness of, 239
 - excellence of, for purposes of shooting, 239
 - importation of the, 242
 - increasing popularity of the, 241
 - Mr. E. Millais' essay on the 250, 252
 - Mr. F. W. Blain on the, 244
 - Mr. Krehl's scale and description of the points of, 258
 - Mr. T. Pick on the, 248
 - pluck of the, 239
 - scale and description of points of, as accepted by the Basset Club, 258
 - sensitive nature of, 245
 - "Snapshot" on the, 232
 - value of the points of, 258
- Basset-hounds, Mr. E. Millais' division of English, 251
 - packs of, 246, 247
 - points of, according to Mr. E. Millais' classification of the breed, 254

- Basset-hounds, "Snapshot's" classification of, 232
 - suggestions to breeders of, 246
- Bassets à jambes demi-torses, 235
 - à jambes droites, 237
 - à jambes torses, 233
- Beagle, 216
 - antiquity of the, 224
 - black and tan, 228
 - description of the, 226
 - diminutive size of the, 224
 - doubtful etymology of the word, 223
 - Kerry, 228
 - measurements, 229
 - Mr. Edward Sandell on the, 227
 - Oppian's description of the, 225
 - points of the, 228
 - Swedish, 485
 - weights, 229
- Beagles, classification of, 226
 - great variation in size of, 223
 - packs of, in England, 230
- Beckford on hare-hunting, 212
- Berners', Dame Juliana, description of the Greyhound, 32
- Black and Tan Setter, 356
 - Field Spaniel, 416
- Blome on hunting with the pole, 212
- Bloodhound, 151
 - affectionate nature of, when well trained, 168
 - as an aid to the detection of crime 161
 - as a protector, 169
 - as a tracker of humankind, 156
 - breeding the, 173
 - celebrated specimens of, 169
 - colour in the, 166
 - delicacy of, 173

Bloodhound, Dr. Caius and the, 152
 Dr. Caius on the use of the, 162
 hunting the, in packs, 172
 measurements, 170
 measurements of leading prize-winners, 172
 modern exhibition specimens of, 169
 points of the, 166
 Sir Walter Scott on the, 165
 the modern, 164
 uncertainty as to origin of, 151
 value of the points of, 167
 "Brach," definition of the term, 157
 Breeds, foreign, occasionally exhibited, 483
 worthy of being added to the list of British dogs, 9

C.

Caius, Dr. Johannes, on the classification of dogs, 5
 on the Englishman's love of novelty, 9
 Canes celeres, 7
 pugnaces, or bellicosi, 7
 sagaces, 7
 Cataleptic form of Pointers an inherited habit, 324
 Characteristics, general, of dogs that find their game by scent, and index it for the advantage of the gun, 287
 general, of dogs that hunt their game by scent, and kill, 137
 general, of dogs that hunt their game by sight, and kill, 15
 general, of dogs used with the gun in questing and retrieving game, 380
 Circassian Wolfhound, 133
 Classification adopted in this work, 10
 and arrangement adopted by the principal writers on the dog, 5
 of dogs adopted by Greek and Roman cynegetical writers, 7
 of dogs, Cuvier on, 6
 of dogs, Dr. Johannes Caius on, 5
 of dogs, Lient.-Col. C. Hamilton-Smith on, 7
 of dogs, Mr. C. Linnæus Martin on, 7
 of dogs, "Stonehenge" on, 6
 of dogs, system of, adopted by Blaine, 7

Classification of dogs, system of, adopted by Youatt, 7
 of dogs, unsatisfactory nature of system of, adopted by dog-show committees, 5
 Clumber Spaniel, 392
 Cocker Spaniel, 429
 Colour as affected by soil and climate, 408
 as a test of purity of blood, 167
 Common source of Wolfhound, Deerhound, and Greyhound, 21
 Competition, healthy influence of, 365
 Course, description of a, 29
 Ovid's description of a, 31
 what a dog is required to do in a, 28
 Coursing, 27
 a fashionable sport in the time of Elizabeth, 20
 for wagers, first mention of, 19
 hare, 20
 modern, 21
 Covert-hunting, Spaniels and, 381
 Crossing the Pointer and Setter, 297
 Curly-coated Retriever, 469
 Cuvier on the classification of dogs, 6

D.

Dachshund, 264
 as a draghound, 283
 Club, formation of, 270
 Club, object of, 270
 faults in the, 273
 increasing popularity of the, 265
 measurements, 277
 points of, as settled by the Dachshund Club, 274
 points of, drawn up by the Hanover Kennel Club, 271
 "Stonehenge" on the points of, 270
 "Vert" on the, 266, 267
 weights, 277
 Dansey's account of the tripartite division of dogs adopted by Greek and Roman writers, 7
 Darcus' description of Spartan hounds, 140
 Deerhound, ancestors of our, 18, 47
 and Greyhound, common origin of, 46
 identical with Staghound in Scotland, 47
 Sir Walter Scott's description of, 48

- Deerhound, Scotch, 46
 causes for the disuse of, in the Highlands, 55
 difference in size of dogs and bitches, 72
 earliest allusion to, 58
 famous modern strains of, 60
 how used, 71
 Malcolm Clarke's kennel of, 56, 57
 measurements, 74
 Mr. Hickman's treatise on, 49
 points of, 67
 reasons for deterioration in quality of, 49, 57
 size required for work, 53
 successful breeding of the, 62
 weights, 74
- Deerhounds as companionable animals, 72
 celebrated, 64
- Deer-hunting by Staghounds, 177
 "Dropper," 297, 320
 "Idstone" on the, 320

E.

- Eastern Greyhound, 484
 Elkhound, 485
 English Setter, 321
 English Water Spaniel, 449
 Everett's, Charles Dundas, Harriers, measurements of, 207

F.

- Faculties, special, called into play and encouraged according to work required of the dog, 3
- Fashion in sport, varying, 290
- Field Spaniel, Black, 416
- Field sports, dogs used in, 13
- Field trial rules, Kennel Club, 372
- Field trials by Irish Red Setter Club, 368, 379
 establishment of Kennel Club, 368
 exhaustive process of judging at, 370
 heat system in, 371
 negative points in, 369
 of Pointers and Setters, 365
 on grouse, 367
 on partridges, 367
 scale of points adopted by judges at Southill, 367

- Field trials, system of judging adopted at National Pointer and Setter, 370
 system of judging adopted by Kennel Club at, 370
 various scales of points used at, 367-369
- Flat-coated Retriever, 458
- Foreign breeds occasionally exhibited, 483
- Foxhound, 181
 breeding and training the, 190
 points of the, 194
 qualities essential in the, 193
 the late Mr. John Fisher on the, 181
 "trencher" packs of, 183
- Foxhounds, American, 182
 establishment of first pack of, 183, 184
- Fox-hunters, some celebrated, 184
- Fox-hunting, 183
 a reserved sport, 183
 cost of, 186

G.

- Gordon Setter, 356
- Gratius and the Lymehound, 140
- Greyhound, 22
 antiquity of, 23
 Caius' description of, in "Englishe Dogges," 20
 conformation necessary in a, 30
 correct points of, 26
 crossing the, for courage, 41
 Dame Juliana Berners' description of, 32
 introduction of, into Britain, 16
 King John and the, 19
 measurements of prize-winning, 44
 measurements of show dogs, 45
 modern, summary of points of, 41
 modifications undergone by, 24
 origin of name, 23
 points of, 32
 qualities necessary in, 27
 the, and coursing, 25
- Greyhound, Eastern, 484
- Greyhound, Persian, 136
- Greyhound, Scotch rough-haired, 113
- Greyhounds at shows, 43
 colour in, 39
- Grouping of dogs, difficulties in the way of, 8

H.

- Hare-Beagles, 226
 Hare-coursing, 20
 Hare-hunting, 208
 advantages of early meets for, 210
 antiquity of, 208
 Beckford on, 212
 in the classic ages, 209
 Sancho Panza's question as to, 208
 Somerville on, 214
 Harrier, 201
 essential qualities in the, 206
 origin of name, 201
 points of the, 205
 "Stonehenge" on the, 204
 Harriers, packs of, in England, 207
 Welsh, 207
 History of the group including dogs that find their game by scent, and index it for the advantage of the gun, 287
 of the group including dogs that hunt their game by scent, and kill, 137
 of the group including dogs that hunt their game by sight, and kill, 16
 of the group including dogs used with the gun in questing and retrieving game, 380
 Holcombe Harriers, measurements of some of the, 206
 Hound, Kangaroo, 483
 original, of Britain, 143
 Rampur, 484
 Hounds, Dame Juliana Berners' list of, 216
 English writers on, 142
 indigenous to Britain, 141
 Hunting with the pole, Blome on, 212

I.

- Introductory, 1
 Irish Red Setter, points of the, 349
 Red Setter, standard of points for judging, 351
 Red Setter Club, 348
 Irish Setter, 344
 Irish Water Spaniel, 435
 Irish Wolfhound, 76
 Wolfhound Club, 78
 Wolfhound Club, standard of points adopted by, 112

J.

- Judging by points, difficulty in the way of, 31

K.

- Kangaroo Hound, 483
 Kennel Club field trial rules, 372
 Club field trials, establishment of, 368
 Kill of merit, 30

L.

- Laverack Setter, 328
 pedigrees, 330, 331
 Laws of the leash, Duke of Norfolk's, 20
 Liver-coloured Retrievers, 475
 Lurcher, 115
 how produced, 115
 retrieving qualities of the, 117
 wonderful intelligence of, 116

M.

- Martin, Mr. C. Linnæus, on the classification of dogs, 7
 Measurements :
 Basset-hound, 261
 Beagle, 229
 Black Field Spaniel, 427
 Bloodhound, 170
 Clumber Spaniel, 401
 Cocker Spaniel, 434
 Curly-coated Retriever, 474
 Dachshund, 277
 English Setter, 341
 Flat or Wavy-coated Retriever, 467
 Gordon Setter, 363
 Greyhound, 45
 Harrier, 206, 207
 Irish Setter, 354
 Irish Water Spaniel, 447
 Liver-coloured Retriever, 476
 Otter-hound, 199
 Pointer, 311, 312
 Scotch Deerhound, 74
 Sussex Spaniel, 411
 Modern coursing, 21

N.

- National Pointer and Setter trials, 367
 Norfolk Retriever, 477
 Norfolk Spaniel, 413

O.

- Opinion of a dog, forming an, 31
 Origin of varieties of the dog, author's speculation as to, 2
 Orloff Wolfhound, 133
 "Oasian" and the dogs of Fingal, 18
 Otter-hound, 196
 list of packs of the, 197
 measurements, 199
 origin of, 196
 points of the, 199
 weights, 199
 Otter-hunting, 197
 a royal pastime, 197

P.

Pedigrees:

- Black Field Spaniel, "Beverley Rex," 418
 Clumber Spaniel, "Buccleugh," 401
 Curly-coated Retriever, "Sailor IV.," 473
 English Setter, "Count Howard," 332
 Flat or Wavy-coated Retriever, "Harvester," 465
 Gordon Setter, "Bang IV.," 361
 Gordon Setter, "Bellmont," 362
 Irish Setter, "Garryowen," 354
 Irish Setter, "Kinsale," 354
 Irish Water Spaniel, "Young Hilda," 446
 Laverack Setter, "Dash," 331
 Laverack Setter, "Fred. II.," 330
 Pointer, "Naso of Upton," 317
 Pointer, "Special," 312
 Sussex Spaniel, "Batchelor III.," 410
 Persian Greyhound, 136
 Poacher's dog, the, 115
 Pointer, 290
 a celebrated, 316
 American sportsmen and the, 311
 circumstances militating against the use of the, 301
 Club, formation of, 293
 crossing the, 296
 deterioration in scenting powers of, 297
 essential qualities of a, 309
 fanciful and arbitrary nature of scale of points for, 302
 Foxhound cross in the, 292

- Pointer, influence of shows and field trials on the improvement of the, 293
 intelligence and sagacity of the, 301
 introduction of, into England, 291
 Mr. G. Thorpe-Bartram on the, 295
 Mr. William Lort on recent improvements in the, 294
 pedigrees, 312, 317
 points of the, 304
 Sir Walter Scott and the, 290
 the ideal, 303
 working capacities of the, 307
 Pointer, Spanish, 319
 Pointers, a celebrated prize-winning strain of, 310
 and Setters, field trials of, 365
 and Setters, first competitive trial of, 366
 and Setters, relative merits of, 299
 Dr. Caius on, 291
 famous strains of, 293
 leading show, 294
 measurements of celebrated, 312
 measurements of prize-winning, 311
 model, 309
 prejudice as to self colours in, 292
 Pointing a communicated habit, 296
 predisposition theory of, 296
 Point or stop, how to induce the, 325
 Points:
 Basset-hound, Mr. Krehl's scale and description of, 258
 Bassets, according to Mr. E. Millais' classification of the breed, 254
 Beagle, 228
 Black Field Spaniel, 416
 Black Field Spaniel, Spaniel Club's standard of, 419
 Bloodhound, 166
 Clumber Spaniel, 398
 Clumber Spaniel, Spaniel Club's standard of, 399
 Cocker Spaniel, 429
 Cocker Spaniel, Spaniel Club's standard of, 430
 Curly-coated Retriever, 472
 Dachshund, 271-275
 English Setter, 333
 English Water Spaniel, 452
 English Water Spaniel, Spaniel Club's standard of, 455

Points :

- Flat or Wavy-coated Retriever, 465
- Foxhound, 194
- Greyhound, 32
- Greyhound, summary of, 41
- Harrier, 205
- Irish Red Setter, 349
- Irish Water Spaniel, Mr. J. S. Skidmore's description of, 440
- Irish Water Spaniel, Spaniel Club's standard of, 443
- Irish Wolfhound, 111
- Norfolk Retriever, 478
- Norfolk Spaniel, Spaniel Club's standard of, 414
- Otter-hound, 199
- Pointer, 304
- Russian Retriever, 482
- Schweisshund, 285
- Scotch Deerhound, 66
- Sussex Spaniel, Spaniel Club's standard of, 407
- "Properties of a good Grehound," Dame Juliana Berners on the, 32
- Purity of blood, colour as a test of, 167
- Pyrenean Wolfhound, 131

Q.

- Questing and retrieving game, dogs used with the gun in, 380

R.

- Rabbit-Beagles, 226
- Rabbit-coursing with Whippets, 124
- Rampur Hound, 484
- Retriever, Curly-coated, 469
 - celebrated specimens of the, 471
 - coat of, 470
 - measurements, 474
 - pedigree, 473
 - points of the, 472
 - prominent exhibitors of the, 471
 - weights, 474
- Retriever, Flat or Wavy-coated, 458
 - measurements, 467
 - pedigree, 465
 - points of the, 465
 - weights, 467

- Retriever, Liver-coloured, 475
 - celebrated specimens of, 476
 - measurements, 476
 - weights, 476
- Retriever, Norfolk, 477
 - points of the, 478
 - "Saxon" on the, 477
- Retriever, present-day, of modern production, 460
 - present-day, production of, 460
- Retriever, Russian, 481
 - points of the, 482
 - unsuitability of, for ordinary work of Retrievers, 481
- Retriever, the, as a companion, 463
 - what is understood by the name, 459
- Retrievers, 390
 - celebrated, 464
 - education of, 463
- Retrieving and questing game, dogs used with the gun in, 380
- Ross's, Captain, Scotch Deerhound, "Oscar," 56
- Rough-haired Greyhound, Scotch, 113
- Royal lovers of the chase, 19
- Running or rabbit dogs, 118
 - under canvas, 126
- Russian Retriever, 481
 - Setter, 486
 - Spaniel, 487

S.

- Scales of points used at field trials, various, 367-369
- Scent, dogs that find their game by, and index it for the advantage of the gun, 287
 - dogs that hunt their game by, 137
- Schweisshund, 284
 - faults in, 286
 - points of, 285
 - size of, 284
- Schweisshunds at the Hanover Show, 1879, 284
- Scotch Deerhound, 46
- Scotch Rough-haired Greyhound, 113
- Setter, English, 321
 - Colley cross in the, 340
 - general agreement as to derivation of, from Spaniel, 321
 - measurements, 341
 - Mr. Lort on the, 339
 - Mr. Thomas Webber on the, 337

- Setter, English, pedigree of, 332**
 points of, 333
 weights, 341
- Setter, Gordon, 356**
 and English Setter, differences
 between, 358
 as a working dog, 358
 Duke of Gordon's strain of the,
 360
 Gordon Castle blood in the, 356
 measurements, 363
 original colour of, 356
 pedigrees, 361, 362
 weights, 363
- Setter, Irish, 344**
 "A Veteran Sportsman" on, 344
 celebrated specimens of, 347
 colour in the, 346
 general appearance of, 346
 improved status of, 348
 in America, 347, 348
 measurements, 354
 pedigrees, 354
 points of the, 346
 successful breeders of, 347
 weights, 354
- Setter, Laverack, pedigrees, 330, 331**
 strain of, 328
- Setter, Llewellyn, 326**
- Setter, Russian, 486**
- Setters and Pointers, field trials of,**
 365
 and pointers, relative merits of,
 299
 Naworth strain of, 322, 328
- Setting dog, how to select a, 323**
- Siberian Wolfhound, 129**
- Sight, dogs that hunt their game by, 15**
- Somerville on hare-hunting, 214**
- Southern Hound, 212**
- Spaniel, Black Field, 416**
 Beverley strain of the, 419
 measurements, 427
 Mr. James Farrow on the, 423
 Mr. T. Jacobs on the, 426
 pedigree, 418
 points of the, 416
 Spaniel Club's standard of points
 of the, 419
 the result of artificial selection
 in breeding, 417
 weights, 427
- Spaniel Club, formation of, 389**
- Spaniel, Clumber, 392**
 best specimens of the, 396, 397
 importance of colour in the, 396
- Spaniel, Clumber, jealous guarding of**
 the breed, 392
 measurements, 401
 Mr. James Farrow on the, 394
 origin of, a mystery, 392
 pedigree, 401
 points of the, 398
 Spaniel Club's standard of points
 for, 399
 the head of the, 395
 weights, 401
 work of, 393
- Spaniel, Cocker, 429**
 measurements, 434
 points of the, 429
 Spaniel Club's standard of points
 for, 430
 weights, 434
- Spaniel, early historical notices of the,**
 382
- Spaniel, English Water, 449**
 coat of, 453
 origin of the, 450
 points of the, 452
 Spaniel Club's standard of points
 for, 455
 work of, 451
- Spaniel family, the aristocrat of the,**
 392
 history of the, 381
 introduction of the, into Britain,
 383
 introduction of the, into Wales,
 384
- Spaniel, Irish Water, 435**
 best specimens of, 442
 crossing the, 444
 diversity of opinion as to points
 of, for exhibition purposes,
 439
 measurements, 447
 Mr. J. S. Skidmore on the, 436
 origin of, 445
 pedigree, 446
 points of the, Mr. J. S. Skidmore's
 description of the, 440
 Spaniel Club's standard of points
 for the, 443
 weights, 448
- Spaniel, Norfolk, 413**
 how produced, 413
 Spaniel Club's standard of points
 of the, 414
- Spaniel, Russian, 487**
- Spaniel, Springing, 387**
- Spaniel, Sussex, 403**

Spaniel, Sussex, "Castra" on the, 403
 has it become extinct? 403, 406
 measurements, 411
 pedigree, 410
 Rose Hill strain of the, 406
 Spaniel Club's standard of points
 of the, 407
 weights, 411
 Spaniels, "A Veteran Sportsman's"
 classification of, 388
 Kennel Club's classification of,
 389
 names given to, characteristic
 of the purpose required of
 them, 387
 Spaniel Club's classification of,
 390
 Spanish Pointer, 319
 comparison between English and,
 319
 Sporting literature, development of,
 292
 Staghound, 174
 list of packs of the, kept in
 England and Ireland, 174
 Staghounds, description of Her
 Majesty's pack of, 175
 Standards of excellence:
 Basset-hound, 490
 Beagle, 490
 Black and Tan Setter, 491
 Black Field Spaniel, 492
 Bloodhound, 489
 Clumber Spaniel, 491
 Cocker Spaniel, 492
 Curly-coated Retriever, 493
 Dachshund, 490
 Deerhound, Scotch, 488
 English Setter, 490
 English Water Spaniel, 492
 Flat or Wavy-coated Retriever,
 493
 Foxhound, 489
 Gordon Setter, 491
 Greyhound, 488
 Greyhound, Persian, 489
 Greyhound, Scotch Rough-haired,
 489
 Harrier, 489
 Irish Setter, 490
 Irish Water Spaniel, 492
 Irish Wolfhound, 488
 Norfolk Spaniel, 491
 Otter-hound, 489
 Persian Greyhound, 489
 Pointer, 490

Standards of excellence:
 Retriever, Curly-coated, 493
 Retriever, Flat or Wavy-coated,
 493
 Retriever, Russian, 493
 Scotch Deerhound, 488
 Scotch Rough-haired Greyhound,
 489
 Setter, Black and Tan, 491
 Setter, English, 490
 Setter, Gordon, 491
 Siberian Wolfhound, 489
 Spaniel, Black Field, 492
 Spaniel, Clumber, 491
 Spaniel, Cocker, 492
 Spaniel, English Water, 492
 Spaniel, Irish Water, 492
 Spaniel, Norfolk, 491
 Spaniel, Sussex, 491
 Wavy-coated Retriever, 493
 Whippet, 489
 Wolfhound, Irish, 488
 Wolfhound, Siberian, 489
 "Stonehenge" on the classification of
 dogs, 6
 Stop-hunting, 212
 Stop or point, how to induce the, 325
 Sussex Spaniel, 493
 Swedish Beagle, 485

T.

Tripartite division of dogs by the
 Greek and Roman cynegetical
 writers, 7
 Tumbler, Blome's description of, 148

V.

Varieties not strictly British, why
 included in this work, 8
 of the dog, author's speculation
 as to, 2
 "Vert's" article on the Foxhound, 181

W.

Waterloo Cup winners, measurements
 of, 44
 Water Spaniel, Dr. Cain's on the, 449
 English, 449
 Irish, 435
 Wavy-coated Retriever, 458

Weights :

- Basset-hound, 261
 Beagle, 229
 Black Field Spaniel, 427
 Bloodhound, 170
 Clumber Spaniel, 401
 Cocker Spaniel, 434
 Curly-coated Retriever, 474
 Dachshund, 277
 English Setter, 341
 Flat or Wavy-coated Retriever,
 467
 Gordon Setter, 363
 Greyhound, 44
 Harrier, 206, 207
 Irish Setter, 354
 Irish Water Spaniel, 447
 Liver-coloured Retriever, 476
 Otter-hound, 199
 Pointer, 312
 Scotch Deerhound, 74
 Sussex Spaniel, 411
 Welsh Harrier, 207
 Whippet, 118
 breeding the, 124
 feeding the, 119
 fleetness of the, 123
 Mr. Angus Sutherland on the, 122
- Whippet, uncertainty as to origin of
 word, 118
 Whippet-racing, rules for, 121
 Whippets, description of racing by,
 119
 rabbit-coursing with, 124
 running, under canvas, 126
 Wolfhound, Circassian, 133
 M. Zambaco on the, 134
 Wolfhound, Irish, 76
 absence of tangible proof as to
 great size of, 90
 Caledon breed of, 87
 Capt. Graham's views on the 77,
 79, 87
 description of, by naturalists. 98,
 99
 exaggerated statements as to size
 of, 77
 Lord Altamont's specimens of the,
 110
 Mr. Frank Adcock and the, 86
 Mr. Hickman on the, 92
 O'Toole's specimens of, 105
 Rowan's specimens of, 103
 Standard of points of, 111
 Wolfhound, Pyrenean, 131
 Wolfhound, Siberian, 129





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