THE DOG:
Its Origin, Natural History, and Varieties,
WITH
DIRECTIONS FOR ITS GENERAL MANAGEMENT,
And Simple Instructions as to its Treatment under Disease.

BY H. D. RICHARDSON,

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THE DOG:
ITS ORIGIN, NATURAL HISTORY, AND VARIETIES.

WITH

Directions for its General Management;

AND SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS AS TO ITS TREATMENT UNDER DISEASE.

BY H. D. RICHARDSON,

NEW EDITION.

LONDON:
W. M. S. ORR & CO., AMEN CORNER.
DUBLIN: J. McGlashan, Sackville Street.
PREFACE.

In the former editions of this little work, the Author did not consider it necessary to offer anything in the form of a Preface; nor should the Publishers consider one necessary in the present edition, if it were a mere reprint; but many illustrations having been added, and the volume being much enlarged, since the lamented death of the Author, it becomes the duty of the Editor, in laying before the public the present edition, to assume the responsibility thereby incurred.

Mr. Richardson was induced to present this book to the Public from the conviction that no work on dogs which has yet appeared has emanated from the pen of a dog-fancier, and that no other person was capable of satisfactorily handling the subject.

It is not necessary, perhaps, to enter into any detail; but it may be stated, in general terms, that Mr. Richardson's work has been retained almost entire, and that the additional matter was considered necessary, in the judgment of the present Editor, to complete the subject. He trusts that this will not detract from but rather add to the popularity and usefulness of the work.

London, August, 1851.

Since the above Preface was written, a large impression has been disposed of; and another edition being called for, such alterations and improvements have been introduced as were considered necessary.

June, 1853.
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THE DOG.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION—ORIGIN OF THE DOG.

It is in far remote ages of "The Earth and Animated Nature" that we have to seek for traces of the origin of this sagacious and generous animal, which has enjoyed the especial privilege and well-merited honour of being, par excellence, the FRIEND OF MAN. I should be disposed to award to this animal the next successive place to man in the scale of moral being. True that, in physical formation, the various tribes of Simiae and Orans would appear to approximate the most closely to humanity; but in intellectual development they will be generally allowed to be inferior to our noble friend the Dog.

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

"Twixt that and reason, what a nice barrier!
For ever separate, yet for ever near;"

but Pope has also furnished a very remarkable illustration, from its beauty, its celebrity, and, above all, the wideness of its scope, of those high prerogatives of the dog, of their universality, and also of their repute—I allude to that far-famed passage in the Essay on Man:—

"Lo! the poor Indian, whose untutor'd mind
Sees God in clouds, and hears him in the wind,
And thinks, admitted to that equal sky,
His faithful dog shall hear him company."
The poets of different ages and of various lands would seem to have delighted in commemorating the virtue of this favourite animal, perhaps, in part, as though they recognized, with poetic force of perception, in their devotion to man, something of the primal love with which man once looked up to his Heavenly Father and Almighty friend.

It would appear that for some time there has been a strange infatuation among natural historians for withholding from the dog his claims to originality of creation—for, in short, an "attainder of his lineage." Nearly all who have of late written upon this subject have zealously endeavoured to trace his descent to the treacherous, cowardly, and rapacious wolf, to that skulking, scavenger-like marauder, the jackal, or to the crafty and plotting fox; some even referring, for his primitive type, to the surly hyena, with that animal's unsocial and indomitable congener.

Some writers, on the other hand, go so far as to admit, that a true and genuine dog was, indeed, originally created among the other tribes of animals; but they, at the same time, maintain him to have been formed with a wild, unsocial, and savage disposition; tracing his present position, as the faithful and valued friend of man, to the reclaiming power of "human reason," and to a train of adventitious circumstances long subsequent to the creation of the animal world, and consequently to the era of his primitive existence. But let us examine some of these opinions.

Cuvier has said, speaking of the dog and his supposed subjugation, "C'est la conquête la plus complète, la plus singulière, et la plus utile que l'homme a faite," &c.; which his translator and commentator, Mr. Blyth, has thus rendered: "The domestic dog is the most complete, the most singular, and most useful conquest ever made by man,—the whole species having become his property. Each individual is devoted to its particular master, assumes his manners, knows and defends his property, and remains attached to him until death; and all this, nether from constraint nor want, but solely from gratitude and pure friendship. The swiftness, strength, and scent of the dog have rendered him a powerful ally to man against other animals, and were even, perhaps, necessary to the establishment of society." On the subject of the origin of the dog Mr. Blyth adds as follows, in a note to his translation of Baron Cuvier's Règne Animal*:

* "The Animal Kingdom arranged after its organization," by Baron Cuvier. Translated and adapted to the present state of knowledge, by Messrs. Blyth, Mudie, Westwood, and Dr. Johnson, with additions by Dr. Carpenter. One large volume. Wm. S. Orr and Co., London.
"If the idea, which I conceive there is every reason to entertain, respecting the origin of the domestic dog be well founded, it is clear that a recurrence to a single wild type would be impossible. The dog is apparently a blended race, derived principally from the wolf, and partly from various other allied species. In the Museum of the Zoological Society of London, there is a specimen of an Esquimaux dog (C. nubilus), which resembles the large American wolf so closely, that there can scarcely be any doubt of the connexion which subsists between them; and it is well known, of the American wolves in particular, that if a young animal be surprised by a hunter, and suddenly menaced by his voice and manner, it will crouch to him, and implore his mercy in precisely the manner of a spaniel; so that only a little encouragement and kindness are required to gain it permanent attachment. Indeed many of them are killed to obtain a proffered reward, by taking this (assuredly unworthy) advantage of their natural submissiveness. That the wolf possesses the mental qualities, and is capable of the same strong attachment to man as the most faithful dog, has been abundantly proved by the observations of M. F. Cuvier and others; and the unremitting persecution to which it has been necessarily subjected in Europe, for so many years, will sufficiently account for the savage and distrustful character which it exhibits when unreclaimed; though even then the germs of a better disposition are traceable in the permanent attachment of the male and female, and sociality of the young, till urgent necessity, or the annual period of dominant sexual excitement, subdues every milder propensity and acquired sentiment of friendship or disinterested affection.

"Instances occasionally happen of the dog returning by choice to a state of wildness, and assuming then, of necessity, the character ascribed to the wolf. I have known this to occur in a male pointer, and in a female greyhound: the latter was so fine a specimen of the breed, that on being entrapped, it was thought desirable to obtain a litter from her, which was accordingly effected; but, while her puppies were very young, she managed to escape to the woods, and never returned: three of her progeny grew to be excellent hounds; but two others proved quite irreclaimable; and escaping from servitude, like their dam, were finally shot, for their destructive poaching propensities."

Dr. Carpenter, in his "Zoology," thus shows the advantage of a knowledge of classification exemplified in the dog:—

"The common dog," he says, "is a species of the genus canis,
belonging to the family canidae, of the order carnivora, of the class mammalia, and sub-kingdom vertebrata. The information conveyed to us, in the term vertebrata, we learn that it has an internal skeleton, with a jointed back-bone and skull, containing the spinal marrow and brain, the centres of the nervous system; and that it has five senses, four extremities, and red blood. The knowledge that it is among the class mammalia, implies that it is a warm-blooded animal, breathing air, possessing a heart with four cavities, a complete double circulation, produces its young alive, nourishes them afterwards by suckling, and has the body, more or less, covered with hairs. By referring it to the order carnivora, we know that it is in its natural state a beast of prey, adapted by the formation of its teeth, and the digestive apparatus, to feed upon animal flesh, and by the structure of the extremities, to pursue and attack the animals which serve as its prey. As one of the family canidae, we know that it resembles, in some respects, the wolves, foxes, jackals, and hyænas, as well as the cats, in being digitigrade (that is, in walking on the ends of the toes), and that it differs from the cat in not being so much adapted to destroy its living prey, as to feed upon animals already killed; the mouth not being formed so exclusively for cutting and tearing as is the cat's, and in the claws being neither so long and sharp, nor capable of being pushed forth or withdrawn, as in the feline tribes. Again, the dog differs from the fox and hyæna in certain peculiarities in the form of the teeth; but his relationship to the wolf is so close, that many naturalists have regarded them as sprung from the same stock. Then, while the dog belongs to a genus distinct from the hyæna and fox, it is identical with the wolf and jackal in generic character, and it may be that it does not even constitute a species distinct from the wolf. But while some characters are constant in each race, others may undergo great variation; so that, within the limits of one species, we may have a large number of varieties, or breeds, marked by differences much greater than those which, in other cases, are held to distinguish species. This is especially the case in domestic animals; and in none is it shown more strongly than in the dog. How different, for example, are the greyhound, the mastiff, and the blood-hound! [whose heads are represented in the next page.] We should scarcely imagine that any period of time, or external influence, could ever convert one of them into the other. Yet the zoologist has no hesitation in affirming that they had one common origin; since it is found that their distinct forms are preserved only so long as they are matched in breeding with forms of the same kind.
Hence there is no difficulty in reconciling the diversities actually existing among the various races of dogs with the idea of one common origin, of which they are modifications. When and how the several breeds arose, is less easily determined."

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

Perhaps the most concise view of the side of the question from which I dissent is thus given by Mr. Bell in his British Quadrupeds:

"It is necessary to ascertain to what type the animal approaches most nearly after having, for many generations, existed in a wild state removed from the influence of domestication and association with
mankind. Now we find there are several instances of the existence of dogs in such a state of wildness as to have lost even that common character of domestication, variety of colour, and marking. Of these, two very remarkable ones are the Dhole of India and the Dingo of Australia. There is, besides, a half-reclaimed race among the Indians of North America, and another partially tamed in South America, which deserve peculiar attention; and it is found that these races, in different degrees, and in a greater degree as they are more wild, exhibit the lank and gaunt form, the lengthened limbs, the long and slender muzzle, and the great comparative strength, which characterise the wolf; and that the tail of the Australian dog, which may be considered as the most remote from a state of domestication, assumes the slightly bushy form of that animal. We have here, then, a considerable approximation to a well-known wild animal of the same genus, in races which, though doubtless descended from domesticated ancestors, have gradually assumed the wild condition; and it is worthy of especial remark, that the anatomy of the wolf, and its osteology in particular, does not differ from that of dogs in general, more than the different kinds of dogs do from each other. The cranium is absolutely similar, and so are all, or nearly all, the other essential parts; and to strengthen still farther the probability of their identity, the dog and wolf will readily breed together, and their progeny is fertile. The obliquity of the position of the eyes in the wolf is one of the characters in which it differs from the dog; and although it is very desirable not
to rest too much upon the effects of habit or structure, it is not, perhaps, straining the point to attribute the forward direction of the eyes in the dog to the constant habit, for many succeeding generations, of looking forward to their master, and obeying his voice."—In my opinion this mode of accounting for the direction of the eye is, to say the least, rather imaginative than philosophical. But to continue:

"Another criterion, and a sound one, is the identity of gestation. Sixty-three days form the period during which the bitch goes with young; precisely the same elapses before the wolf gives birth to her offspring. Upon Buffon's instance of seventy-three days—or rather the possibility of such a duration in the gestation of a particular she-wolf—we do not lay much stress, when opposed to the strong evidence of the usual period being sixty-three days. The young of both wolf and dog are born blind; and at the same time, or about the same time (the expiration of the tenth or twelfth day), they begin to see.

"Hunter's important experiments prove, without doubt, that the wolf and the jackal would breed with the dog; but he had not sufficient data for coming to the conclusion that all three were identical as species. In the course of these experiments he ascertained that the jackal went fifty-nine days with young, while the wolf went sixty-three; nor does he record that the progeny and the dog would breed together; and he knew too well the value of the argument to be drawn from a fertile progeny not to have dwelt upon the fact if he had proved it—not to have mentioned it at least, if he had heard of it.

"Upon the whole, the argument in favour of the view which I have taken, that the wolf is probably the original of all the canine races may be thus stated.

"The structure of the animal is identical, or so nearly as to afford the strongest a priori evidence in its favour. The dog must have been derived from an animal susceptible of the highest degree of domestication, and capable of great affection for mankind, which has been abundantly proved of the wolf. Dogs having returned to a wild state, and continued in that condition through many generations, exhibit characters which approximate more and more to those of the wolf, in proportion as the influence of civilization ceases to act. The two animals will breed together, and produce fertile young. The period of gestation is the same."

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

I positively deny this assumed identity of structure. The inte-
times of the wolf are considerably shorter than those of the dog, evidently marking him as an animal of more strictly carnivorous habits. The orbits are placed higher and more forward in the skull. The proportion between the bones of the hind legs differs; so does the number of toes. The structure of the teeth is different, these being in the wolf much larger, and the molar teeth of the upper and under jaw being adapted to each other, in the wolf, in a peculiar scissors-like manner, rendering them infinitely more serviceable for breaking bones—a structure not found in the dog.

The wolf is not “susceptible of the highest degree of domestication, and capable of great affection for mankind, which has been abundantly proved of the wolf.” When has it been proved? I have seen many so-called “tame wolves,” but never one that might be trusted; or that did not, when opportunity offered, return to his fierce nature and wild habits. The whelps, too, produced by these partially domesticated wolves, are not in the smallest degree influenced by the domestication of their parents. The Royal Zoological Society of Ireland had, some years ago, in their garden in the Phoenix Park, a pair of very tame wolves. These produced young, which became tame likewise, and in their turn produced cubs. The society very kindly presented me with one of the last-mentioned cubs, which, though only five weeks old when I took him from his dam, was as fierce and violent in his own little way as the most savage denizen of the forest. I brought up this animal among my dogs; for them he conceived a considerable degree of affection, or respect, perhaps; for submission was the most striking feature of his conduct towards them; and was doubtless induced by the frequent and substantial castigations he received. He never, it is true, exactly dared to attack me in front, but he once showed a disposition to do so when I pulled him down by the tail as he was endeavouring to get over the garden wall. He, however, on several occasions charged at me from behind, when he thought my attention was otherwise engaged: He once only succeeded in inflicting a severe bite; and by this time I had utterly despaired of making anything of him—he was about eighteen months old—I sent him about his business. He subsequently fell into the hands of a showman, and assumed his proper character in the caravan.

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

How does it happen that the dog is to be met with in every quarter of the globe to which man has penetrated, while the true wolf has never yet been met with south of the equator? Further, are not several distinct species of wolf admitted to exist? Is there not more than one distinct species of wolf admitted by naturalists to exist in North America alone? It has not even been attempted to be proved that these species are identical; their distinctness has been more than tacitly admitted. Yet they resemble each other far more closely than any wolf does the dog. Has the dog, then, been derived from each and all of these wolves; or has the original wolf, origin alike of wolf and dog, been yet properly indicated? Should not this fact be duly ascertained prior to that in question?

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

Neither is the simple breeding together of animals, and the fertility of their offspring, a sufficient proof of identity of species. Mr. Hodgson (Proceedings of Zoological Society, 1834) has shown that the capra tharal—the goat of Nepal—and the domestic goat breed together. The hunchbacked zebu of India will breed with our common cattle, and the offspring is prolific. Pallas has stated that in various parts of Russia the sheep and the goat have bred together. The Chinese and the European pigs, differing, according to Mr. Eyton, in important osteological particulars, will do so likewise; and in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society, 1831, we find the same related
of the hare and rabbit. The mule, the offspring of the horse and ass, has also produced foals. Now, as to fertility of offspring, it will not prove identity of species, but merely a close alliance, unless indeed when that fertility exists, inter se, between the hybrids themselves. That the wolf and dog, jackal and dog, fox and dog, if proper pains be taken, breed together, I know, for I have proved it; but I also know that, unless in the case of the wolf and fox, the progeny are sterile; and also that even in those cases, although capable of reproducing with either dog, fox, or wolf, they are not capable of doing so inter se: this is an important fact, and one that I have not yet seen noticed.

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

Many naturalists, and these natives of different countries, have advanced this theory, and still they have all employed the one designation in indicating their favourite type, viz., the shepherd's dog. I must here first take the liberty of inquiring, what shepherd's dog?—for shepherd's dogs differ most materially from each other. Buffon stood up for the originality of the matin, or shepherd's dog of his own country. Later writers, copying more or less from him, have adhered to the theory of the sheep-dog origin, while they have forgotten the difference which exists between their own national sheep-dogs and those indicated by Buffon. Truly there exists but little similitude between the tailless, woolly-looking animal, the sheep-dog of England, the fox-like colley of Scotland, the gaunt and short-haired cur of Ireland, the matin of Buffon, the noble, stately, and powerful sheep-dog of the Pyrenees, the guardian of the flocks of the Abruzzi, the gigantic mastiffs, the herd-dogs of the Himalaya mountains, and, in short, between various other sorts of sheep-dog, used for tending flocks in as various portions of the known world. Shall we assume the original type to have been the sheep-dog or matin of France, or the more graceful colley of Scotland? Are we to believe that a brace of either of these dogs were the progenitors of the entire canine race? Did the gigantic boar-dog, the noble Newfoundland, the courageous and powerful mastiff, the slender and rapid greyhound, the stunted yet formidable bulldog, the diminutive and sensitive Blenheim spaniel, and the still more diminutive, and now almost extinct, lion-dog of Malta—all arise from a brace of curs? If they did, to what now are we to attribute the varieties at present existing? We are told, to climate and breeding. As to breeding, how could it operate when there was
but a single pair to breed from? How, if the varieties of the dog proceeded but from one original type, could development thus be produced extending beyond the limits of the faculties and powers proper to that type? Will change of climate ever convert a greyhound into a bull-dog? Will it truncate the muzzle, raise the frontal bones, enlarge the frontal sinuses, or effect a positive alteration of the posterior branches of the lower maxillary bones? Or will change of climate, on the other hand, operate to convert a bull-dog into a greyhound, produce a high and slender form, diminish the frontal sinuses, deprive the animal of the sense of smell, at least comparatively, together with courage and other moral qualities depending on organization? I say nothing: I only ask my intelligent readers,—do they believe this possible? Thus far, a very eminent naturalist, Colonel Hamilton Smith, goes with me, hand in hand; all that I have adduced he admits; but here we unfortunately part company. Colonel Smith seeks to account for these differences by calling in the intervention of a supposed admixture of wolf, fox, or hyâna, &c. He admits an originally-formed dog, and one variety only; and refers for the alterations that have taken place in him to crossing with these wild animals. Now I consider this theory as even less tenable than that of the wolfish or vulpine origin of the dog, as the Colonel is obliged to bring several races of wild dogs to his aid; and, may I venture to inquire, where is their origin? Besides this, we have to refer to the decided antipathy subsisting between these animals in a state of nature, and thus effectually precluding intermixture, unless through human intervention and agency, which clearly was never exerted in that condition for this purpose. For my own part I am satisfied to admit that an impenetrable veil of mystery appears to hang over the subject.

CHAPTER II.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE DOG.

The Dog, Canis, is a genus of carnivorous mammalia, and one of the most interesting of the whole class. It consists, as we have seen in the last chapter, of several genera or sub-genera: viz., the dog, properly so called, the wolf, the fox, the jackal, and the hyâna, all of which produce with each other, under certain circumstances. Of these the dog and wolf have the pupil of the eye
round, and both are social in their predatory huntings. They are found in all climates, and appear to have considerable facilities for adapting themselves to different climates, being almost destitute of hair in warm latitudes, but becoming clothed with remarkably thick hair when carried to colder regions. This change, not in the same species merely, but in the same individual animal, is so remarkable, that some of the dogs which were carried out by our voyagers and travellers to the polar regions of North America, and wintered in the extreme cold there, acquired a fur of so remarkable a thickness, that while they crouched by the winter fires their fur was burnt in holes half way down to the skin without their being at all sensible of the heat.

The characters of the genus are, that they are digitigrade in their walking, or walk upon their toes, the claws of which are not retractorile, or used in any way as prehensile instruments for the capture of their prey, which in these animals is uniformly captured by speed, and followed either by sight or on the scent, the strength of the prey determining whether it shall be hunted singly or by a combined pack. The teeth are, six incisors in each jaw, and one strong canine in each side of each, with six teeth above in each jaw, and seven in each below. The first three behind the canines in the upper jaw, and the first four in the lower, have trenchant or cutting edges, adapted for bruising flesh. The great carnivorous teeth which follow these have two points in the upper jaw, with a small tubercle on the inner side. The two last teeth in each side of both jaws are also tuberculated at the summits. In those varieties which are found in a state of nature the muzzle is generally elongated, and the gape wide, the effect of the jaws in killing the prey being that of a snap, in which the rapid motion of the jaw gives effect to the weight; and in these varieties the ears are generally erect.

No specific form or character of covering can be taken as generally characteristic of dogs; for though their characters are always expressive of the family, as distinguished from every other race of animals, they differ so much from each other, in this and other respects, that they have absolutely nothing of external character which will apply to the whole race. The length of their jaws and muzzle, and the shapes of their ears, are exceedingly variable; but the tongue is always smooth, and instead of lacerating, like that of the cat family, its application to wounded or diseased parts, when the animal is in a healthy state, has rather a healing tendency; they have five toes on the fore-feet, and generally four on the hind ones, though in some of
the varieties there is a partial development of the fifth one. The females go sixty-three days, and the litter consists usually of three, four, or five, though sometimes as many as ten or a dozen. The puppies are always produced with the eyes closed, and do not open them for ten or twelve days after. They live on the average about fourteen or fifteen years; but there are great differences arising from climate, breed, and other circumstances.

If we take the domesticated races, to which our attention is more especially directed, there are no animals which show so much attachment to man; and the anecdotes which are recorded of the fidelity of dogs would fill many volumes. Perhaps justice is nowhere more effectually done to their characters than in the following passage, which we quote from Mr. Burchell's Travels in Africa:

"Our pack of dogs," says Mr. Burchell, "consisted of five-and-twenty of various sorts and sizes. This variety, though not altogether intentional, as I was obliged to take any that could be procured, was of the greatest service in such an expedition, as I observed that some gave notice of danger in one way, and others in another. Some were more disposed to watch against men, and others against wild beasts; some discovered an enemy by their quickness of hearing, others by that of scent; some for speed in pursuing game; some were useful only for their vigilance and barking; and others for their courage in holding ferocious animals at bay. So large a pack was not indeed maintained without adding greatly to our care and trouble, in supplying them with meat and water, for it was sometimes difficult to procure for them enough of the latter; but their services were invaluable, often contributing to our safety, and always to our ease, by their constant vigilance, as we felt a confidence that no danger could approach us at night without being announced by their barking. No circumstances could render the value and fidelity of these animals so conspicuous and sensible as a journey through regions which, abounding in wild beasts of almost every class, gave continual opportunities of witnessing the strong contrast in their habits, between the ferocious beasts of prey, which fly at the approach of man, and these kind but too often injured companions of the human race. Many times, when we have been travelling over the plains where these have fled the moment we appeared in sight, have I turned my eyes towards my dogs to admire their attachment, and have felt a grateful affection toward them for preferring our society to the liberty of other quadrupeds. Often, in the middle of the night, when all my people have been fast asleep around the fire, have I stood to contemplate these
faithful animals lying by their side, and have learnt to esteem them for their social esteem of mankind. When wandering over pathless deserts, oppressed with vexation and distress at the conduct of my own men, I have turned to these as my only friends, and felt how much inferior to them was man when actuated only by selfish views.

"The familiarity which subsists between this animal and our own race is so common to almost every country of the globe, that any remark upon it must seem superfluous; but I cannot avoid believing that it is the universality of the fact which prevents the greater part of mankind from reflecting duly on the subject. While almost every other quadruped fears man as its most formidable enemy, here is one which regards him as its companion, and follows him as its friend. We must not mistake the nature of the case; it is not because we train him to our use, and have made choice of him in preference to other animals, but because this particular species feels a natural desire to be useful to man, and from spontaneous impulse attaches itself to him. Were it not so, we should see in various countries an equal familiarity with various other quadrupeds, according to the habits, the taste, or the caprice of different nations. But everywhere it is the dog only takes delight in associating with us, in sharing our abode, and is even jealous that our attention should be bestowed on him alone; it is he who knows us personally, watches for us, and warns us of danger. It is impossible for the naturalist, when taking a survey of the whole animal creation, not to feel a conviction that this friendship between two creatures so different from each other must be the result of the laws of nature; nor can the humane and feeling mind avoid the belief that kindness to those animals, from which he derives continual and essential assistance, is part of his moral duty."

The breeds of the dog, in a state of partial or complete domestication, are so numerous, and the propensities of different breeds, and of different individuals of the same breed, so varied, that even a judicious selection of the tales of their biography would fill many volumes. It is impossible not to admire the sagacity and the strength of attachment which many animals of this genus evince; and as they appear, when properly domesticated, to merge all their own attachments and interests in devotedness to the cause of their masters, it is exceedingly difficult to account for their conduct upon any one of the known principles of animal physiology.

That there is nothing approaching to what we call reason, or a process of judgment, as men judge of cause and effect, in the sagacity
of dogs, is certain; because instances are recorded of the effects of their sagacity, which totally surpass all reason, and absolutely appear as if they were the results of some occult principle, to the nature of which we have no clue. The power of sensation in these animals, especially of the sense of smell in such of them as make use of that sense in following their prey, is perfectly wonderful; for they appear to know not only the slot or scent left by an animal, when there is no impression upon the ground in the least degree cognisable by human senses; but they appear to recognise a difference of scent, not only in different animals of the same species, but absolutely in different inanimate substances: and, what is more wonderful, they appear to know the direction in which that which they pursue or follow has proceeded, even when it has long passed by. We have well authenticated instances of dogs having been carried within carriages, over long distances, where they had no means of examining a hit of the road, and yet of their returning when liberated, with the most unerring certainty, to the places from which they were originally carried in this manner. A dog, again, who has had any experience in following on the scent, will not continue for any length of time on the hack scent, or direction opposite to that which the chase has gone, but after a trial or two with his nose, will double round and follow the forward scent or direction which the animal has taken. This is, perhaps, the most extraordinary case of animal sensation with which we are acquainted; and it shows how admirably nature can adapt the qualities of animals to the necessities of their modes of life; and also how economical nature is in the distribution of even these wonderful endowments. Dogs which find their prey by sight never have this wonderful acuteness of smell; and those which have this in perfection have not the powerful sight of those which are without it; neither are they, generally speaking, so swift-footed. But those which have the sense of smell most powerful are, generally speaking, more persevering and staunch than the others, and can follow their game over longer distances, and find it also much more readily in the case of losing it.

Dogs are, generally speaking, social to some extent or other, even in those conditions which we may consider as more nearly approaching to a state of rude nature; and, in the formation of their social unions, for the accomplishment of particular purposes, their instincts are not less wonderful than in the acuteness of their sense of smelling. We shall mention one instance of this, the authenticity of which may, I believe, he relied on; though it is not easy to account for it upon
any known principle either of instinct or of reason, or of that imaginary principle which those who seek to explain what in animals is not explainable, are in the habit of gratuitously endowing them with.

A gentleman residing in the county of Fife was in the possession of a very fine Newfoundland dog, which was alike remarkable for its tractability and its trustworthiness. At two other points, distant about a mile from each other, and at the same distance from this gentleman's mansion, there were two other dogs, of great power, but of less tractable breeds than the Newfoundland one. One of these was a large mastiff, kept as a watch-dog by a farmer, and the other a staunch bull-dog that kept guard over the parish mill. As each of these three was lord-ascendant of all animals at his master's residence, they all had a good deal of aristocratic pride and pugnacity; so that two of them seldom met without attempting to settle their respective dignities by a wager of battle.

The Newfoundland was of some service in other domestic arrangements, besides his guardianship of the house; for every forenoon he was sent to the baker's shop in the village, about half a mile distant, with a towel containing money in the corner, and he returned with the value of the money in bread. There were many useless and not over civil curs in the village; but on ordinary occasions the haughty Newfoundland treated this ignoble race in that contemptuous style in which great dogs are wont to treat little ones. When the dog returned from the baker's shop he used to be regularly served with his dinner, and went peaceably on house duty for the rest of the day.

One day, however, he returned with his coat dirtied and his ears scratched, having been subjected to a combined attack of the curs, while he had charge of his towel and bread, and could not defend himself. Instead of waiting for his dinner as usual, he laid down his charge somewhat sulkily, and marched off; and, upon looking after him, it was observed that he was crossing the intervening hollow in a straight line for the house of the farmer, or rather on an embassy to the farmer's mastiff. The farmer's people observed this unusual visit, and they were induced to notice it from its being a meeting of peace between those who had habitually been belligerents. After some intercourse, of which no interpretation could be given, the two set off together in the direction of the mill; and, having arrived there, they in brief space engaged the miller's bull-dog as an ally.

The straight road to the village where the indignity had been offered to the Newfoundland dog passed immediately in front of that
dog's master's house; but there was a more private and circuitous road by the back of the mill. The three took this road, reached the village, scoured it in great wrath, putting to the tooth every cur they could get sight of; and having taken their revenge, and washed themselves in a ditch, they returned, each dog to the abode of his master; and when any two of them happened to meet afterwards, they displayed the same pugnacity as they had done previous to this joint expedition.

It would seem that in this case there was a mere momentary concert for the accomplishment of one object among three dogs differing considerably in their habits, and that when this momentary purpose was accomplished, the wonted animosity of the three returned, and they fought as readily with each other as ever. But it does not appear that all casual, or apparently casual, interferences of dogs, for the benefit of each other, pass off in this momentary way; for there is another well authenticated anecdote of two dogs at Donaghadee, in which the instinctive daring of the one on behalf of the other caused a friendship, and, as it would seem, a kind of mourning for the dead, after one of them had paid the debt of nature. This happened while the government harbour, or pier, for the packets at Donaghadee was in the course of building, and it occurred in the sight of several witnesses.—The one dog in this case also was a Newfoundland, and the other was a mastiff. They were both powerful dogs; and, though each was good natured when alone, they were very much in the habit of fighting when they met. One day they had a fierce and prolonged battle on the pier, from the point of which they both fell into the sea; and, as the pier was long and steep, they had no means of escape but by swimming a considerable distance. Throwing water upon fighting dogs is an approved means of putting an end to their hostilities; and it is natural to suppose that the same effect would take place from two combatants of the same species tumbling themselves into the sea. Accordingly, each began to make for the land as he best could. The Newfoundland being an excellent swimmer very speedily gained the pier, on which he stood shaking himself; but at the same time watching the motions of his former antagonist, which, being no swimmer, was struggling exhausted in the water, and just about to sink. In dashed the Newfoundland dog, took the other gently by the collar, kept his head above water, and brought him safely on shore. There was a peculiar kind of recognition between the two animals after this. They never fought again; they were always together; and when the Newfoundland dog was accidentally killed by the passage of a stone waggon over him, the other languished and evidently lamented for a long time.
Buffon has given us an admirable and most accurate description of
the dog, the substance of which is here given.

"The dog," says Buffon, "independently of the beauty of his
form, his vivacity, force, and swiftness, is possessed of all those
internal qualifications that can conciliate the affections of man, and
make the tyrant a protector. A natural share of courage, an angry
and ferocious disposition, renders the dog, in its savage state, a for-
midable enemy to all other animals: but these readily give way to
very different qualities in the domestic dog, whose only ambition
seems to please: he is seen to come crouching along, to lay his force,
his courage, and all his useful talents at the feet of his master; he
waits his orders, to which he pays implicit obedience; he consults his
looks, and a single glance is sufficient to put him in motion; he is
more faithful even than the most boasted among men; he is constant
in his affections, friendly without interest, and grateful for the slight-
est favours; much more mindful of benefits received than injuries
offered, he is not driven off by unkindness; he still continues humble,
submissive, and imploring; his only hope to be serviceable, his only
terror to displease; he licks the hand that has been just lifted to strike
him, and at last disarms resentment by submissive perseverance.

"More docile than man, more obedient than any other animal, he
is not only instructed in a short time, but he also conforms to the dis-
positions and the manners of those who command him. He takes his
tone from the house he inhabits; like the rest of the domestics, he is
disdainful among the proud, and churlish among clowns. Always
assiduous in serving his master, and only a friend to his friends, he is
indifferent to all the rest, and declares himself openly against such as
seem dependent like himself. He knows a beggar by his clothes, by
his voice, or his gestures, and forbids his approach. When at night
the guard of the house is committed to his care, he seems proud of the
charge; he continues a watchful sentinel, he goes his rounds, scents
strangers at a distance, and gives them warning of his being on duty.
If they attempt to break in upon his territories, he becomes more
fierce, flies at them, threatens, fights, and either conquers alone, or
alarms those who have most interest in coming to his assistance.
However, when he has conquered, he quietly reposes upon the spoil,
and abstains from what he has deterred others from abusing; giving
thus at once a lesson of courage, temperance, and fidelity.

"From hence we see of what importance this animal is to us in a
state of nature. Supposing, for a moment, that this species had not
existed, how could man, without the assistance of the dog, have been
able to conquer, tame, and reduce to servitude every other animal? How could he discover, trace, and destroy those that were noxious to him? In order to be secure and become master of all animated nature, it was necessary for him to begin by making a friend of part of them; to attach such of them to himself, by kindness and caresses, as seemed fittest for obedience and active pursuit. Thus the first art employed by man was in conciliating the favour of the dog; and the fruits of this art was the conquest and peaceable possession of the earth.

"The generality of animals have greater agility, greater swiftness and more formidable arms, from nature, than man; their senses, and particularly that of smelling, are far more perfect: and having gained, therefore, a new assistant, particularly one whose scent is so exquisite as that of the dog, was the gaining a new sense, a new faculty, which before was wanting. The machines and instruments which we have imagined for perfecting the rest of the senses, do not approach to that already prepared by nature, by which we are enabled to find out every animal, though unseen, and thus destroy the noxious, and use the serviceable.

"The dog, thus useful in itself, taken into a participation of empire, exerts a degree of superiority over all animals that require human protection. The flock and the herd obey his voice more readily even than that of the shepherd or the herdsman; he conducts them, guards them, keeps them from capriciously seeking danger, and their enemies he considers as his own. Nor is he less useful in the pursuit; when the sound of the horn, or the voice of the huntsman, calls him to the field, he testifies his pleasure by every little art, and pursues with perseverance those animals which, when taken, he must not expect to divide. The desire of hunting is, indeed, natural to him, as well as to his master, since war and the chase are the only employ of savages. All animals that live upon flesh hunt by nature; the lion and the tiger, whose force is so great that they are sure to conquer, hunt alone and without art; the wolf, the fox, and the wild dog, hunt in packs, assist each other, and divide the spoil. But when education has perfected this talent in the domestic dog, when he has been taught by man to repress his ardour, to measure his motions, and not to exhaust his force by too sudden an exertion of it, he then hunts with method, and always with success."

The dog rarely, if ever, forgets either an enemy or a benefactor. The well-known meeting of Ulysses and his dog, after an absence of twenty years, testifies that this is no modern discovery. The inter-
view of the disguised monarch with Eumæus, his ancient and faithful attendant, is thus translated in Pope's *Odyssey*:

"Near to the gates, conferring as they drew,
Argus the dog his ancient master knew,
And, not unconsious of the voice and tread,
Lifts to the sound his ears, and rears his head.
He knew his lord, he knew, and strove to meet;
He strove in vain to crawl and kiss his feet:
Yet, all he could, his tail, his ears, his eyes,
Salute his master, and confess his joys."

Among other well authenticated anecdotes, showing the fidelity and sagacity of the dog, may be given the case of the traveller who lost his life by falling down one of the precipices of Helvellyn. Three months afterwards, his remains were discovered at the bottom of the cliff, and his faithful dog, almost reduced to a skeleton, still guarding them. In the words of Sir Walter Scott—

"Nor yet quite deserted, though lonely extended,
For faithful in death, his meek favourite attended,
The much-loved remains of her master defended,
And chased the hill-fox and the raven away.
How long didst thou think that his silence was slumber?
When the wind moved his garments how oft didst thou start?
How many long days and long weeks didst thou number,
Ere he faded before thee, the friend of thy heart?"

Another affecting trait of the affectionate nature of the dog is told in Daniel’s “Rural Sports.” A nobleman had been absent two years on foreign service. On his return his dog was the first to recognise him as he entered the house. He sprang upon him; his agitation and joy knew no bounds; and at length, in the fullness of his affectionate nature, he fell at his master’s feet and expired. But how numerous are the instances of a similar if not so fatal a kind, which present themselves!

The most gentle of dogs, however, are unforgiving when injured, especially if the injury is attended with indignity. A small cocker spaniel, belonging to the editor, had a habit, when very young, of getting into the strawberry-beds, much to the disgust of the gardener, and on one occasion he assaulted her with his garden syringe. This had the effect of driving her from her favourite haunt; but the gardener was never forgiven; if he entered the house a most vociferous barking was the consequence; and if Beauty had her mistress, or any other person at hand, whom she thought likely to protect her, she
would bite the poor gardener, as well as bark at him. The insulting nature of the assault evidently dwelt on her mind, and aroused her anger; for otherwise she was the gentlest of dogs.

Both the origin and the progressive history of the dog are matters which, as we have seen, defy all investigation; neither can it be said whether all the varieties now existing are, or are not, from one original stock. It is useless, however, to enter upon an investigation of this question; for the data are too few for warranting a conclusion either one way or the other. Dogs appear to be the most obedient of all animals, both to natural circumstances and to artificial treatment; and so there is no knowing how far the differences which are observed among them are owing to the one of those causes or the other. Of those dogs which are left, as it were, in a state of nature, or which are not bred or trained in any particular way, there are even greater differences than there are among those which are trained and kept with care. So much is this the case, that those who are in the habit of travelling much in the wilder parts of the country, know the different districts as well from the appearance of the dogs as from anything else.

Dogs often appear to be imbued with the general manners of those with whom they associate, as may be observed even in common society. Dogs kept by the vicious, whether they are kept for fighting, poaching, or other ruffianly practices or not, are invariably vicious; and, on the other hand, dogs which live with persons of mild manners and regular habits are always mild, especially when not chained up, which is a species of slavery to which dogs are very adverse.

No doubt, much depends upon the breed when in a state of domestication; but there is a wonderful disposition to accommodate themselves to circumstances, in the greater number of the race; and when we refer to other countries, in which dogs are either in a state of nature, or have been neglected and allowed to run wild, we find that they also partake of the characters of the places where they reside. It is this readiness with which this genus of animals yields to every kind of circumstance, whether that circumstance tend to improvement or deterioration, which renders the progressive history of the dog so utter an impossibility; for though we meet with wild breeds in various parts of the world, which are savage in their dispositions, and exceedingly difficult to be tamed, yet these are just as likely to be the descendants of races that were once tame, as the best bred dogs are to be the descendants of races once wild.
That the dog was one of those animals which did not, at the "Fall," swerve from their allegiance, but maintained their fidelity to man, can scarcely be questioned. The earlier portions of the sacred writings make frequent mention of him, but ever as a settled, domestic animal,—as one that had ever been so from the beginning, and never once hint at his having been reclaimed from a wild state.

In Genesis, we find Jacob, when blessing his sons, employing the ferocity of the wolf as a familiar simile. In the account of the departure of the Israelites from Egypt,—an event which occurred about two hundred years afterwards,—we find the dog familiarly mentioned, and his watchful powers and barking clearly recognized as things of course: "Nor shall a dog open his mouth."

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

The few graphic touches with which Solomon, in Proverbs xxx. 31, has described a renowned and noble animal, translated a "greyhound" ("A greyhound, an he-goat also, and a king, against whom there is no rising up," ) invite special notice, in addition to their appropriateness, from the recollection of that celebrated monarch's fame for knowledge of God's works, as has been recorded in 1 Kings iv. 33—"And he spake of trees, from the cedar-tree that is in Lebanon, even to the hyssop that springeth out of the wall; he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes,"—from which has been taken the beautiful description of him in "Heber's Palestine:"—

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

From the above passage, we may infer that the dog had, by Solomon's time, arrived at many varieties. The familiar uses of the dog
are likewise shown forth in Isaiah lvi. 10, 11, and in the account of Tobit's dog, in the Apocrypha.

From sacred we may, however, turn to profane history. From the very earliest ages the Egyptians held the dog in particular estimation. "The Egyptians," says M. Eleazar Blaze, "seeing in the horizon a superb star, which appeared always at the precise time when the overflowing of the Nile commenced, gave to it the name of Sirius [the Barker], because it appeared to show itself expressly in order to warn the labourer against the inundation. 'This Sirius is a god,' said they; 'the dog renders us service; it is a god!' Its appearance corresponding with the periodical overflow of the Nile, the dog soon became regarded as the genius of the river, and the people represented this genius, or god, with the body of a man and the head of a dog. It had also a genealogy, and took the name of Anubis, son of Osiris. Its image was placed at the entrance of the temple of Isis and Osiris, and subsequently at the gate of all the temples of Egypt. The dog being the symbol of vigilance, it was thus intended to warn princes of their constant duty to watch over the welfare of their people."

The dog was worshipped principally at Hermopolis the Great, and soon afterwards in all the towns of Egypt. Juvenal writes.—

"Oppida tota canem (Anubim) venerantur; nemo Dianam." [Whole cities worship the dog (Anubis); no one Diana.]

At a subsequent period, Cynopolis, the "City of the dog," was built in its honour, and there the priests celebrated its festivals in great splendour.

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

"Nos in templis tuam Romana accepius Isin, Semitanesque deos." [We have received into our Roman temples thine Isis, and half-dog divinities.]

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

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

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

Seldom has the dog brought down obloquy upon his name; but even he, with all his noble qualities, has had his moments of frailty. Cerberus himself listened to the promptings of sordid appetite, and, like many another sentinel, accepted of a bribe and betrayed his trust. The watch-dogs, too, of the Roman capitol once slept upon their post, when, but for the alarm given by the wakeful and clamorous geese, devoted Rome had been surrendered to the ruthless arm of invading Gaul. A similar failure of duty is noticed in Scripture, as occurring among the Jewish dogs:—"His watchmen are blind; they are all ignorant; they are all *dumb dogs*; they cannot bark—sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs, which can never have enough." Isaiah lvi. 10, 11.

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

"Nee tibi cura canum fuerit postrema; sed unà
Veloces Spartæ Catusos acremque Molossum
Passeo sero pingui: munquam custodibus illis
Nocturnum Stabulis furem, incursusque luporum,
Aut impacatos a tergo horribis Iberos."
From the earliest periods the dog has commanded attention and respect—in many instances even worship; and in no instance do we find his name confounded with that of the wolf, jackal, or fox. Such has not only been the result of my own inquiry, but I am happy to be able to adduce the very high authority of Colonel Hamilton Smith, who states that “a thorough philological inquiry would most assuredly show, that in no language, and at no period, did man positively confound the wolf, the jackal, or the fox, with the real dog.”

The dog is an old and very generally-distributed inhabitant of Europe; for their bones are found in those deposits which contain the remains of the rhinoceros, the tiger, and the hyena. Both in Greece and Rome the dog was highly prized. Lord Faversham possesses a rare piece of sculpture said to represent the favourite dog of Alcibiades, the production of Myron, one of the most skilful of the ancient sculptors. Arrian, a writer of the second century, commands fair hunting by the dog in preference to snaring animals of chase, which seems to have been a practice with the Greeks. Nor does the bulldog of our times excel in description the one presented to Alexander, which boldly seized a ferocious lion.

Among the ancients dogs seem to have been divided into fuggaces, or fighting dogs, which were assigned to Asia; the sagaces, or intelligent dogs, generally assigned to the Greeks; and the celeres, or dogs of speed, which are allocated to the Celtic nations. “Among the savage dogs of ancient times,” says Mr. Martin, in his account of the dog, “were the Harcanian, said, on account of their extreme ferocity, to have been crossed by a tiger; the Locrian, chiefly em-
ployed in hunting the boar; the Pannonian, used in war as well as in the chase, and by whom the first charge on the enemy was always made; and the Molossian of Epirus, likewise trained to war as well as to the horrors of the amphitheatre, and the dangers of the chase. This last breed had one quality—inviolable attachment to their owners—which was reciprocal, for the Molossi are said to have wept over their faithful quadrupeds slain in battle.”

CHAPTER IV.

VARIETIES OF THE DOG.

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

The most remarkable of the wild dogs are, the Dingo of Australia; the Karârahé; the Dhole and Jungle Koola of India; the wild dog of China; the bush-dog, or Aguara of South America; the Deeb of Egypt. Of the so-called wild dogs of Southern Africa, the Canis pictus, I shall say nothing in the present volume, as these are not at all to be considered as dogs, being far more nearly allied to the hyena.

THE DINGO.

The Dingo, called by the natives of Australia “Warragal,” is about the size of a middling foxhound, or from twenty-three to twenty-four inches in height at the shoulder. In form he partakes of many of the characteristics of both dog and wolf, and is not very unlike the cross produced by the intermixture of these two animals. His ears are erect, his muzzle pointed, his tail bushy, his coat of moderate length, and his colour usually a buff or bay. Many authors assert that the Dingo never erects his tail, but always carries it in a pendant position. This is not always so. The Dingo ordinarily carries his tail curled over his back. It is only when irritated,
alarmed, or his attention roused, that he lowers it. I had many opportunities of observing a fine specimen in the gardens of the Royal Zoological Society of Ireland, Phoenix Park, and I found that a lowering of the tail invariably denoted mischief—that member being usually carried over the back. The Dingo seldom growls, and never barks; although I must say, that I have known captive specimens chained near domestic dogs to acquire a sort of half howl or yelp, which, apparently, a little tuition would have converted into a genuine "bow wow."

The Dingo is easily rendered tolerably tame; but is never to be trusted. If he escape from confinement he will forget in a moment the lessons of years, and slaughter and rapine will follow in his mad career. He is a great scourge in his native country, and is carefully exterminated whenever he approaches a settlement. He is most remarkably tenacious of life, and is a very obstinate fighter. Instances are related of the Dingo sustaining a combat with four or five stout hounds, and ultimately getting away from them. Very few dogs can kill a Dingo single-handed. Like the wolf they fight in silence. They utter no cry of pain, but, like that grim felon, die as hard as they have lived. Of their power of endurance I may give the following instances, related by Mr. George Bennet, in his "Wanderings in New South Wales":—

"One had been beaten so severely that it was supposed all its bones were broken, and it was left for dead. After the person had walked some distance, upon accidentally looking back, his surprise was much excited by seeing the Dingo rise, shake himself, and march into the bush, evading all pursuit. One supposed dead was brought
into a hut, for the purpose of undergoing decortication: at the commencement of the skinning process upon the face, the only perceptible movement was a slight quivering of the lips, which was regarded at the time as merely muscular irritability. The man, after skinning a very small portion, left the hut to sharpen his knife, and, on returning, found the animal sitting up, with the flayed integument hanging over one side of the face."

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

THE Dhole.—Canis Primævus.

The Dhole is a native of India, over which peninsula it extends in great numbers, and bears different names in different parts. It was originally described by Mr. Hodgson as the Btánsú, and by him given the title of Canis primævus—original or primæval dog,—as, in his opinion, it was the origin of the domestic dog [Zool. Proceed., 1833]; and in the same volume of proceedings we read a communication addressed to the Secretary, and describing a wild dog by the name of dhol, as found in the Presidency of Bombay. The locality of Mr. Hodgson's dog was Nepaul, the eastern and western limits of its range being the Sutlej and Burhampootra.

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

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

In habits, these dogs present all the characteristics of ferocious beasts of prey. They prowl by night and by day indiscriminately, and hunt in packs of from ten to sixty. While in pursuit they utter
a peculiar yelp, and it is on scent, and not on sight, that they mainly depend for success. Their speed, however, is considerable, and their savage courage and endurance render them a terror to the most formidable rangers of the wild. Bishop Heber says of this dog, "They are larger and stronger than the fox, which in form and fur they resemble. They hunt in packs, give tongue like dogs, and possess an exquisite scent. They make, of course, tremendous havoc among the game in these raids, but the mischief is said to be repaired by destroying wild beasts." The panther, the wild bull, the tiger, the elephant, fall an easy prey before a pack of dholes. On they sweep, coming upon their game with the force of an avalanche, and overwhelming their victim in a living torrent. The hunted animal may, indeed, kill many of his enemies; but he has little time afforded him for exertion or display of prowess; for the dead or wounded are hardly missed ere others have rushed into their places.

**THE WILD DOG OF CHINA.**

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

**THE DEER OF EGYPT.**

This animal principally inhabits Nubia and Abyssinia. It has ears erect, muzzle not sharpened at the point, lips semi-pendulous, tail short and hairy, colour a mixture of dirty white, black, and buff, producing a series of small black spots, caused by the union of the tips of the longer hairs. This dog has likewise been, by some naturalists, regarded as the origin of our domestic dog; and it is certainly of very ancient origin, as has been proved by heads of dogs taken from the catacombs, which evidently belong to a similar variety. Its height is about eighteen inches.

**THE AGUARI, OR SOUTH AMERICAN DOG.**

When America was first visited by Europeans, the Indians, both
of the south and the north, were in possession of dogs in a half tamed state, and agreeing in many of their characters with those dogs of the eastern continent which have been described. Since then the numbers both of Indians and of dogs have been very much thinned in all the better known parts of the country; but they are still to be met with; and in the wilder places, where the Indians have retained their old habits, they are still in possession of the dogs.

The South American dog resembles the wild dogs of India rather more than those of the Asiatic isles, of Australia, or of Africa. The muzzle is rather slender, the ears short and erect, and the hair pretty long, especially that on the tail. The prevailing colour is grey, with a tinge of brown on the back, a yellowish tinge on the under part, and ochro-yellow spots on the flanks. In the South American forests, where peccaries and other small mammalia are plentiful, these dogs abound in the wild state, lodging during the day in burrows, which they dig in the ground, and seeking their food in the night. It is hunted for its skin; and such of its brethren as may have been reclaimed by the natives make no scruple of joining in the chase. They are very silent and great thieves, which they appear to be from an innate propensity to thieving, for they steal and hide articles for which they can have no possible use. The old ones are not susceptible of attachment, but those which are taken young can be so far tamed that they are not disposed to join their fellows in the woods; yet they are not very sagacious or very tractable. The temptations are so great, owing to the abundance of food, and the close and cool cover during the burning heat of the day, in the thick forests of America, that it is difficult to keep any predatory animal out of these forests; and in Surinam and the adjacent settlements, where, in consequence of the number of rats that infest the sugar manufactories, cats are in much request as domestic servants, the people are obliged to cut their ears close by the head in order to keep them at home. This has the desired effect both in the dry weather and in the rain, as the leaves and branches tickle the inside of the ear in the one case, and the rain gets into it in the other, both of which is very much disliked.

We now arrive at the main subject of this volume—

THE DOMESTIC DOG.

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

The dog belongs, as we have seen, to the class Mammalia, or
animals possessing teats for the nourishment of their young; to the
Carnivora, or flesh-eaters—for flesh forms the chief article of his
diet. He is digitigrade, for in walking he supports himself on the
extremities of his toes, or digits. He is usually grouped with the
wolf, fox, jackal, &c., under the generic appellation of Canis, and is
more particularly separated from these animals by the name Canis
familiaris—the familiar or domestic dog.

The dentition of the dog is as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{In the upper jaw,} & \quad \begin{cases} 
\text{six incisors, or cutting teeth;} \\
\text{two canine teeth, or tusks;} \\
\text{six molars, or grinders, on each side.}
\end{cases} \\
\text{In the lower jaw,} & \quad \begin{cases} 
\text{six incisors;} \\
\text{two canines;} \\
\text{seven molars on each side.}
\end{cases}
\end{align*}
\]

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

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

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

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

By this arrangement, all the varieties of the domestic dog are readily divisible into three great classes, as follow:

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

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

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

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

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

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

ROUGH.

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

SMOOTH.

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

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

CHAPTER V.

CLASS I.—THE GREYHOUND.

THE IRISH WOLF-DOG—CANIS GRAIUS HIBERNICUS.

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

The great point at issue, relative to the natural history of the Irish wolf-dog, may be stated as being whether he belonged to the greyhound race, or was of more robust form, approaching that of the mastiff. There are, indeed, individuals who, without a shadow of ground on which to base their opinions, deem him to have been a mongrel, bred between mastiff and greyhound.

In support of the mastiff doctrine we have one single modern authority. About fifty years ago, the late Aylmer Burke Lambert, Esq., read a paper before the Linnaean Society, subsequently published in the third volume of that Society’s Transactions, descriptive of a dog in possession of Lord Altamont, son of the Marquis of Sligo, and stated to have been the old Irish wolf-dog. The dog described and figured by Mr. Lambert is a middling-sized, and apparently not very well-bred specimen of a comparatively common breed of dog, called the Great Dane,—an animal that shall be treated of in this volume in his proper place. Had this been the Irish wolf-dog, it were absurd to speak of his scarcity, far less of his extinction!

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

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

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

I may here observe that, some six years ago, I published an article on this subject in the "Irish Penny Journal," which every writer on dogs that has published since that time has done me the honour of appropriating,—some with full and fair acknowledgment, others with only such a partial acknowledgment as was calculated to mislead the reader. I now lay claim to my own property, and finally embody it in the following pages, with many additions, the result of subsequent investigations. In justice, I must here state that the account in question was only subscribed with my initials.

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

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

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

Hollinshead says of the Irish—"they are not without wolves, and greyhounds to hunt them, bigger of bone and limb than a colt."

Campion also speaks of him as a "greyhound of great bone and limb."

Evelyn, describing the savage sports of the bear-garden, says—"The bull-dogs did exceedingly well; but the Irish wolf-dog exceeded, which was a tall greyhound, a stately creature, and did beat a cruel mastiff." Here we have an actual comparison of powers, which marks the dog to have been a greyhound, and quite distinct from a mastiff.
In the second edition of Smith's History of Waterford, the Irish wolf-dog is described as much taller than a mastiff, and as being of the greyhound form, unequalled in size and strength. Mr. Smith writes:—“Roderick, King of Connaught, was obliged to furnish hawks and greyhounds to Henry II. Sir Thomas Rue obtained great favour from the Great Mogul, in 1615, for a brace of Irish greyhounds presented by him. Henry VIII presented the Marquis of Dessarages, a Spanish grandee, with two goshawks and four Irish greyhounds.”

In the reign of Richard II., lands were still held under the crown, and, amongst other families, by that of Engaine, on condition of the holders keeping a certain number of wolf-dogs fitted for the chase.

Sir James Ware, in his Antiquities of Ireland, has collected much information relative to this dog, from which I give the following extract:—

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

“We see in the public records an earlier instance of the desire foreigners have had for hawks and wolf-dogs of Irish growth. In a privy seal from King Henry VIII. to the Lord Deputy and Council of Ireland, wherein his Majesty takes notice, ‘that at the instant suit of the Duke of Alberkyrke of Spain (of the Privy Council to Henry VIII.), on the behalf of the Marquis of Desarrya, and his son, that it might please his majesty to grant to the said marquis, and his son, and the longer liver of them, yearly out of Ireland, two goshawks and four greyhounds; and forasmuch as the said duke hath done the king acceptable service in his wars, and that the king is informed that the said marquis beareth to him especial good-will, he therefore grants the said suit, and commands that the deputy for the time being shall take order for the delivery of the said hawks and greyhounds, unto the order of the said marquis and his son, and the longer liver of them yearly; and that the treasurer shall take the charges of buying the said hawks and hounds.’

“It is true that British hounds and beagles were in reputation among the Romans, for their speed and quick scent. Thus Nemesian, in his Cunegetics:—

‘— Divisa Britannia mittit
Veloces, nostrique orbis venatibus aptos.’

‘Great Britain sends swift hounds,
Fittest to hunt upon our grounds.’

And Appian calls the British hound σκυλάξ ἰχνευτής, a dog that scents the track of the game. But this character does not hit the Irish wolf-dog, which is not remarkable for any great sagacity in hunting by the nose.

“Ulysses Aldrovandus, and Gesner, have given descriptions of the Canis Scoticus, and two prints of them very little different from the common hunting-hound. ‘They are,’ says Gesner, ‘something larger than the common hunting-hound, of a brown or sandy spotted colour, quick of smelling, and are employed on the borders between England and Scotland to follow thieves. They are called sleut-hounds.’ In the Regiam Majestatem of Scotland is this passage:—‘Nullus perturbet aut impediat Canem trassantem aut, homines trassantes cum ipso ad sequendum latrones, aut ad capiendum latrones.’—(Nobody shall give any disturbance or hindrance to tracing-dogs, or men employed
with them to trace or apprehend thieves or malefacors.) This character no way agrees with the Irish wolf-dog; and the reader must observe, that when Gesner and Aldrovandus wrote, in the sixteenth century, modern Scotland was well known by the name of Scotia, which it was not in the fourth century, when Symmachus wrote the aforesaid epistle; and therefore the Canis Scoticus, described by Aldrovandus and Gesner, were dogs of different species."

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

We find that the smooth greyhound was, on its first introduction, known as the "gaze-hound," being remarkable solely for sight and speed. In process of time the new appellation became forgotten, and merged into the original and well-known one of greyhound, up to that period given exclusively to the long-haired variety (H. Smith). We may then infer, that not only was the Irish wolf-dog a greyhound, but also long-haired. Whence he originally came, would, perhaps, be difficult to determine with any precision; but I should refer his origin to Western Asia, where we find a distinct representative of him still existing. From thence he was brought by the Scythi, the progenitors of the Scoti, or ancient Irish. Perhaps the best mode of defining the true character of the ancient wolf-dog, will be to point to his modern representative; and this can, I conceive, be done without difficulty. I may here quote a writer in the Penny Cyclopaedia (Art. Ireland) *:\n
* My friend, George Petrie, the celebrated Irish antiquary, who has published an interesting account of Cyclopean Architectural Remains found in Ireland, is disposed to connect these ancient remains with the mysterious Pelasgi of Horodotus, which has given rise to many Pelasian theories. He has also found many curious traces of Greece in Ireland. Now the Irish annalists, &c., trace these colonies, as well as the Tuatha Danaans (Danal?) from Greece. Is not Mr. Petrie's opinion, therefore, (that to this country we owe the dog,) deserving of attention? and will not this afford some sort of plausibility, at least, to my own derivation of the name of the greyhound: Canis Graius—Graius—sive Graecus—Greek hound?
"The Scotti, who were in possession of the island at the time of the introduction of Christianity, appear to have been, to a great extent, the successors of a people whose name and monuments indicate a close affinity with the Belgae (a Teutonic tribe) of Southern Britain. A people also, called Cruithore by the Irish annalists, who are identifiable with the Picts of Northern Britain, continued to inhabit a portion of the island distinct from the Scotti, until after the Christian mission; and it is observable, that the names of mountains and remarkable places in that district, still strikingly resemble the topographical nomenclature of those parts of North Britain which have not been affected by the Scotic conquest. The monuments and relics which attest the presence of a people considerably advanced in civilization, at some period in Ireland—such as Cyclopean buildings, sepulchral mounds containing stone chambers, mines, bronze instruments and weapons, of classic form and elegant workmanship, would appear to be referrible to some of the predecessors of the Scotti, and indicate a close affinity between the earliest inhabitants of Ireland and that ancient people."

We may infer, then, that as Ireland was peopled by the Belgae, the Belgic dog of antiquity was the source whence we derived our Irish greyhound.

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

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

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

“My Lord,—I have lately received letters from my Lord Duke of Buccleugh, and others of my noble friends, who have entreated me to send them some greyhound dogs and bitches out of this kingdom, of the largest sort, which, I perceive, they intend to present unto divers princes, and other noble persons; and, if you can possibly, let them be white, which is the colour most in request here. Expecting an answer by the bearer, I commit you to the protection of the Almighty, and am

“Your Lordships faithful and attached Friend,

“Falkland.”

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

—— “A tawny torrent
Like the mane of a chestnut horse.”

† Fingal, or Fion Mac Comhal, son-in-law of Cormac, monarch of Ireland,—of whom we read that he was “the most accomplished of all the Milesian princes, whether as legislator, soldier, or scholar—was, according to the general report of all his historians, the monarch and general of the famed Fianna Eiriann, or Ancient Irish Militia.”—(Moore’s Ireland, I, pp. 130-133.)
Moryson, secretary to Lord Deputy Mountjoy, likewise dwells on the excellence of our Irish greyhounds, while he, at the same time, pays a compliment to the physical qualities of our men. He observes:—"The Irishmen and greyhounds are of great stature." Lombard says that the "best hunting-dogs in Europe" were produced in Ireland.

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

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

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

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

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

The Irish greyhound, although very scarce, and evidently much degenerated, has existed in Ireland until within a few years—and that in well-authenticated purity. Amongst other possessors of the breed, I may mention Robert Evatt, Esq., of Mount Louise, county Monaghan—specimens of whose stock have passed into the hands of Francis Thorp, Esq., of Vicar's Field, county Dublin. Mr. Carter has been most assiduous in keeping up the breed, by crossing it with the best Scotch and Welsh dogs he could obtain; and I never could perceive
any difference between them, except that the Irish dogs were thicker, and not so high on their legs as either the Scotch or Welch.

As to the size to which the Irish wolf-dog attained, Goldsmith says that he "saw above a dozen, and one was about four feet high, or as tall as a calf of a year old." Buffon says he never saw more than one, and that it was five feet high when sitting. Ray calls it "the greatest dog he had ever seen." In the communication from Sir W. Betham, made to Mr. Haffield, in 1841, which I have already quoted, that gentleman says—"Sir J. Browne allowed them to come into his dining-room, when they put their heads over the shoulders of those who sat at table."

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

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

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

\[10 : 29 : 14 : 40.6\]

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

It has been asserted that the large dogs in possession of the late celebrated Hamilton Rowan were Irish wolf-dogs—an assertion which I find contradicted by Mr. Martin (Knight’s Weekly Volume—History of the Dog), on the authority of a “Dublin Correspondent,” who has informed him they were not wolf-dogs, but large bloodhounds. The truth is, Mr. Rowan possessed several fine dogs, of the breed called the great Dane, animals of a slaty blue mottled colour; but Mr. Rowan was well aware of their proper designation, and never by any chance called them by a wrong name. Mr. Rowan also possessed a wolf-dog, and knew him to be such, calling him the “last of his race.” This dog was a very large rough greyhound, of an iron grey colour, perfectly similar to our Highland deerhound. Mr. Rowan subsequently presented this wolf-dog to Lord Nugent. I suppose this is the dog that Mr. Jesse mentions as having possessed so wondrous a power of detecting, by the scent, the presence of the Irish blood royal!
The Irish wolf-dog forms the subject of several traditions. The following, relating to "Bran," the favourite hound of Fingal, the hero of Macpherson's "Ossian," may not prove uninteresting. There are two accounts of this transaction, one given by Mr. Grant, in his work on the Gael, and the other by Mr. Scrope, in his delightful volume on Deer-stalking. They differ in the result of the encounter. The following is Mr. Scrope's account:

"Fingal agreed to hunt in the forest of Sledale, in company with the Sutherland chief, his contemporary, for the purpose of trying the comparative merits of their dogs. Fingal brought his celebrated dog Bran to Sutherland, in order to compete with an equally famous dog belonging to the Sutherland chief, and the only one in the country supposed to be any match for him. The approaching contest between these fine animals created great interest; White-breasted Bran was superior to the whole of Fingal's other dogs, even to the 'surly strength of Luath;' but the Sutherland dog, known by the full-sounding name of Björp, was incomparably the best and most powerful dog that ever eyed a deer in his master's forests.

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

"'With your nine great dogs,
With your nine smaller game-starting dogs,
With your nine spears,
Unweildy weapons!
And with your nine grey, sharp-edged swords,
Famous were you in the foremost fight.'

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

"'The hind leg like a hook or bent bow,
The breast like that of a garron,
The ear like a leaf.'

"Such would Fingal, the chief of heroes, select from amongst the youth of his hunting-dogs. Björp was black in colour, and his points are thus described:

"'Two yellow feet, such as Bran had;
Two black eyes;
And a white breast;
A back narrow and fair,
As required for hunting;
And two erect ears of a dark brown red.'
“Towards the close of the day, after some severe runs, which, however, still left the comparative merits of the two dogs a subject of hot dispute, Bran and Phorp were brought front to front, to prove their courage; and they were no sooner untied than they sprang at each other, and fought desperately. Phorp seemed about to overcome Bran, when his master, the Sutherland chief, unwilling that either of them should be killed, called out, ‘Let each of us take away his dog.’ Fingal objected to this; whereupon the Sutherland chief said, with a taunt, that ‘it was now evident that the Fingalians did not possess a dog that could match with Phorp.’

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

In a work published at Belfast, in the year 1829, entitled “The Biography of a Tyrone Family,” there is a note in page 74, narrating the mode of the destruction of the last wolves in Ireland. That note is here given in an abridged form:—

“In the mountainous parts of the county Tyrone, the inhabitants suffered much from the wolves; and gave, from the public fund, as much for the head of one of these animals as they would now give for the capture of a notorious robber on the highway. There lived in those days an adventurer, who, alone and unassisted, made it his occupation to destroy those ravagers. The time for attacking them was in the night; and midnight was the best time for doing so, as that was their wonted time for leaving their lair in search of food, when the country was at rest, and all was still. Then issuing forth, they fell on their defenceless prey, and the carnage commenced. There was a species of dog for the purpose of hunting them, resembling a rough, stout, half-bred greyhound, but much stronger. In the county Tyrone there was then a large space of ground inclosed by a high stone wall, having a gap at the two opposite extremities, and in this
were secured the flocks of the surrounding farmers. Still, secure though this fold was deemed, it was entered by the wolves, and its inmates slaughtered. The neighbouring proprietors having heard of the noted wolf-hunter above mentioned, by name Rory Carragh, sent for him, and offered the usual reward, with some addition, if he would undertake to destroy the two remaining wolves that had committed such devastation. Carragh, undertaking the task, took with him two wolf-dogs, and a little boy, the only person he could prevail on to accompany him, and, at the approach of midnight, repaired to the fold in question.

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

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

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

We possess no accurate information as to the date of the destruction of the last Irish wolf. There was a presentment for killing wolves granted at Cork, in 1710.

THE HIGHLAND DEERHOUND.

The Highland deerhound presents the general aspect of a high-bred greyhound, especially in all the points on which speed and power depend; but he is built more coarsely, and altogether on a larger and more robust scale. The shoulder is also more elevated, the neck thicker, the head and muzzle coarser, and the bone more massive. The deerhound stands from twenty-eight to thirty inches in height
at the shoulder; his coat is rough, and the hair strong; colour usually iron grey, sandy yellow, or white; all colours should have the muzzle and tips of the ears black. A tuft or pencil of dark hair on the tip of the ear is a proof of high blood.

This is a very powerful dog, equally staunch and faithful; and when the Scottish mountains swarmed with stags and roes, it was held in high estimation, as being capable of following the deer over surfaces too rough and fatiguing for the ordinary hounds of the low country. The general aspect of the Highland hound is commanding and fierce. His head is long, and muzzle rather sharp; his ears pendulous, but not long; his eyes large, keen, and penetrating, half concealed among the long, stiff, and bristly hair with which his face is covered; his body is very strong and muscular, deep-chested, tapering towards the loins, and his back slightly arched. His hind-quarters are furnished with large prominent muscles, and his legs are long, strong-boned, and straight—a combination of qualities which gives
him that speed and long duration in the chase for which he is so emi-

tently distinguished. His hair is wiry and shaggy, of a reddish sand
colour, mixed with white. His tail is rough, which he carries some-
what in the manner of a staghound, but not quite so erect. This is
the dog formerly used by the Highland chieftains of Scotland in their
grand hunting parties; and is, in all probability, the same noble dog
used in the time of Ossian. The Scottish Highland greyhound will
either hunt in packs or singly. A remarkably fine and large dog of
this description was a long time in the possession of Sir Walter Scott,
Bart., and was a most appropriate guardian for his unique and mag-
nificent seat at Abbotsford. This splendid dog, Maida, was presented
to Sir Walter, as a mark of the highest respect and esteem, by the late
chieftain, Macdonell of Glengarry. He preserved this race of dogs
with much care; and, in order to prevent the degeneracy which
arises from consanguinity, he was in the habit of crossing the breed
with the bloodhound from Cuba, and also with the shepherd’s dog of
the Pyrenees, which is distinguished for its size, beauty, and docility.
Sir Walter Scott’s Maida was the offspring of a sire of the latter
species, and a dam of the Scottish Highland race, and certainly was
one of the finest dogs ever seen in that country of the kind, not only
on account of his symmetry of form and dignified aspect, but also from
his extraordinary size and strength.

This fine specimen of the dog probably brought on himself prema-
ture old age, by the excessive fatigue and exercise to which his natural
ardour inclined him; for he had the greatest pleasure in accompany-
ing the common greyhounds; and although, from his great size and
strength, he was not at all adapted for coursing, yet he not unfre-
quently turned, and even ran down hares. Maida lies buried at the
gate of Abbotsford, which he long protected. A grave-stone is placed
over him, with the figure of a dog cut on it by Mr. John Smith, of
Melrose, and bears the following inscription:—

“Maida, tu marmoreâ dormis sub imagine Maidæ
Ad Januam domini. Sit tibi terra levis!”

“At thy master’s gate here, Maida,
Lowly dost thou rest.
Light the low-relievo marble
Lie upon thy breast!”

This powerful and splendid variety of dog was, in the olden time,
employed in hunting the wolf, as well as the deer; but the circum-
stances of the Scottish Highlands have changed; the wolf is no more,
and the deer is so rare in most places that it ceases to be an object of
sport, except to the few who have it as property. The stocking of the hills with sheep has also dislodged the deer, and rendered the deer-dog a forbidden visitor. Gentler sport has succeeded, and the soft sportsman of the south, with his pointer and his Joe Manton, have come instead of the driving dog and the daring Highlander.

Many attempts have been made to improve the deerhound by crossing him with other breeds, such as the Pyrenean wolf-dog, the bloodhound of Cuba, and the British bloodhound; but all these attempts have failed of their object, and produced only deterioration. The cross with the Cuban bloodhound, as was the case with Sir Walter Scott's Maida, has proved least objectionable. The Persian greyhound, or a very similar greyhound at present used in the hills of Macedonia, would be found a really valuable cross, and would improve, instead of deteriorating, this valuable breed, which we may otherwise expect soon to degenerate, if not wholly disappear, from the baneful effects of breeding within too close consanguinity, or as it is called, "in and in."

Her Majesty possesses a magnificent specimen of deerhound, called "Bran." This noble animal stands over thirty inches in height at the shoulder, and is supposed to be the finest specimen of the breed in existence.

The following description of deer-coursing, extracted from Mr. Scrope's admirable volume, will be read with interest, from the picturesque account of the mode of using the deerhound in the Highlands:

"No time was to be lost; the whole party immediately moved forward in silent and breathless expectation, with the dogs in front, straining in the slips, and on our reaching the top of the hillock, we got a full view of the noble stag, which having heard our footsteps, had sprung to his legs, and was staring us full in the face, at the distance of about sixty yards.

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

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

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

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

"From the high position in which we were placed, the chase was
visible for nearly half a mile. When some rising ground intercepted
our view, we made with all speed for a higher point, and on reaching
it we could perceive that the dogs, having got upon smooth ground,
had gained on the deer, which was still going at speed, and were now
close up with him. Bran was then leading, and in a few seconds was
at his heels, and immediately seized his hock with such violence of
grasp, as seemed in a great measure to paralyse the limb, for the deer's
speed was immediately checked.

"Buskar was not far behind, for soon afterwards passing Bran, he
seized the deer by the neck. Notwithstanding the weight of the two
dogs which were hanging to him, having the assistance of the slope of
the ground, he continued dragging them along at a most extraordinary
rate, in defiance of their utmost exertions to detain him, and succeeded
more than once in kicking Bran off. But he became at length ex-
hausted; the dogs succeeded in pulling him down, and though he
made several attempts to rise, he never completely regained his legs.
On coming up we found him perfectly dead."
I have seen smooth deerhounds in Scotland, but they were not
deerhounds properly so called, being merely a cross between the ordi-
nary greyhound and foxhound. In such case it is better that the
greyhound should be father, as you will thus be more likely to obtain
size and power, combined with swiftness. This is more particularly
to be attended to when it is the rough greyhound to which you resort,
for amongst all the rough greyhounds, and more especially those of
Ireland and Scotland, there exists a greater disparity of size between
male and female than between the sexes of any other member of the
canine family. For instance, of a litter of pups—a dog shall grow to
the height of, say, thirty inches at the shoulder—and not a female of
the same litter shall exceed twenty-four inches.

The bloodhound has been employed as a cross; but the progeny are
too slow and heavy for deer-coursing. It is a pity that the deerhound
should be so scarce; if suffered to become extinct, we may seek in
vain for any dog that shall combine so many valuable qualities as he
possesses.

The Scotch Greyhound is but a degenerate deerhound—inferior
in size, less shaggy in coat, less ardent and courageous in the chase,
less powerful, and therefore less serviceable for deer-coursing, by the
effects of breeding too long within the degrees of consanguinity, or,
perhaps, from having been crossed with some other breed, most pro-
hably the lurcher, or the smooth greyhound. His height seldom
exceeds twenty-seven inches; his colour is usually white, or grey,
though often brindled.

The Lurcher is a mongrel, bred from the greyhound and any other
dog, usually the shepherd's dog, or terrier; though for deer-stalking
often the bloodhound or foxhound. They are not creditable followers,
being in greater demand by poachers.

The Russian Greyhound.

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

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

This is the same as the Tartarian dog; the same with that men-
tioned by Dr. Clarke, as having been met with by him on the confines
of Circassia; it is, without question, derived from the ancient dogs
of Epirus and Albania—the same source whence we perhaps obtained
our Irish wolf-dog.

*THE PERSIAN GREYHOUND.*

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

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

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

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

The following lines, written at the latter part of the fifteenth century, are here quoted, as being descriptive of the greyhound of that period, and published in "The Treatise Perteyninge to Hawkinge, Huntinge," &c., printed by Wynkin de Worde, in 1496. There could not be a finer description of the greyhound of the present day:

"A greyhound should be headed lyke a snake,
And neckyd lyke a drake,
Fotyd lyke a cat,
 Tayled lyke a ratte,
Syded lyke a teme,
And chyned lyke a bream.
The fyreste yere he must learme to fide,
The seconde yere to fild him lide,
The thyrde yere he is felon lyke,
The fourth yere there is none syk,
The fifth yere he is goode ynough,
The sixth yere he shall hold the plough,
The seventh yere he will avayle
Grete bitches for to assayle ;
But when he is come to the ninth yere,
Have him than to the tannere ;
For the best hounde that ever bytch had,
At the ninth yere is full bad."

CHAPTER VI.

THE GREYHOUND.

SMOOTH GREYHOUNDS—COMMON BRITISH GREYHOUNDS.

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

In height, the greyhound stands from twenty-six to twenty-eight inches at the shoulder, and the female does not present that very striking disparity of size so remarkable in the deerhound. In disposition, the greyhound is gentle and affectionate. Indeed he exhibits the latter quality perhaps too indiscriminately.

The greyhound was brought to the highest state of perfection by Lord Orford and Major Topham. Those celebrated sportsmen owed their unparalleled success to the introduction of a cross with the bull-dog; and though the two dogs may appear very different from each other at first view, a very little reflection will show, that from the bull-dog the greyhound could derive all the wished-for excellence—courage, small ear, whip-tail, large and deep chest, and general firmness of muscle. The course pursued by Lord Orford was as follows: He selected a bull-dog, smooth and rat-tailed, with which he crossed one of his greyhound bitches. He kept the female whelps, and crossed them again with some of his fleetest dogs. In the sixth generation there was not the slightest trace of the bull-dog. This cross is now universally adopted by breeders for the course. On the other hand speed was found to be recovered undiminished, while all the above points were retained, at the seventh remove from the bull-dog.

Snowball, which was perhaps the fastest dog that ever ran, sprang from this stock. He won four cups, and thirty-two or thirty-three matches, at Maxton, and on the Yorkshire wolds.

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

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

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

"The reiterated success of this old dog (Gilbertfield) may well excite a smile at those who would talk or write him down as a third-rate, or stigmatise him as a lurcher! If he be a third-rate, the march of intellect among the knights of the long-tails must verily be retrograde; and if he be indeed a lurcher, it becomes necessary to know by what name are to be called the ninety unsuccessful competitors for the Glasgow Gold Cup. Perhaps, after all, it will turn out that these seeming detractions are but a cunning device of the friends of Gilbertfield, intended to impress the public with the idea, that the achievement of a reputation, greater than that of any other dog in the United Kingdom, is but a small part of his victory, and that the greater part is the accomplishment of an absolute change in language; so that henceforth the word lurcher is to designate superiority instead of, as heretofore, inferiority of blood; and the word third-rate to apply to the ascending scale in degrees of comparision; or, in other words, to denote the superlative degree of excellence. But be this as it may, we are happy in being enabled to be the first to publish the pedigree of Gilbertfield, supplied us, at our request, by his owner. We give only three generations, both because these carry us to the common ancestors of his sire and dam, and because the ancestors of Blucher and Tickler never ran in public. Gilbertfield (brindled and rough) was pupped in June, 1831; and is, First by Giraffe (brindled and smooth), out of Venus (yellow and rough).—Second, Giraffe was by Capilly (brindled and smooth, brother to Oscar), out of Puzzle (brown and smooth, sister to Mr. Crum's well-known Charles James Fox). Venus, by Mr. Hamilton, of Greenbank's, Alfred (white and red, and smooth, sire of Captain, May, Serpent, Pomni, Lady Mary, &c.), out of Marion (brindled and rough, sister to Capilly, Oscar, Orlando Furioso, and Burr).—Third, Capilly and Marion were by Blucher (black and smooth), out of Sir William Maxwell's, of Calderwood, Tickler (white and rough). This pedigree runs counter to many of the pet theories of breeding, which would seem to be the mere 'idols of the kennel,' as Lord Bacon would have styled them, rather than the conclusions of reason, or the result of experiment.

"Bred from first cousins, and sprung from three successive crosses betwixt the smooth and the rough, Gilbertfield, himself rough, is a great public winner, notwithstanding, it is said, that breeding in destroys spirit, and that every cross after the first, betwixt the smooth and rough, more and more banishes the good qualities of the greyhound.
“Opinion, or rather caprice, even among those friendly to one cross with the rough, is diverse as to which parent should be rough. It so happens, that in this pedigree the dams were the rough. But this cannot be held to establish much, when it is remembered, that Gilbertfield’s own progeny, out of a smooth bitch (Black-eyed Susan), have distinguished themselves more than any other puppies of this season, part of which are thoroughly smooth, and part thoroughly rough. The running of him and his lurcher race equally confute two opposite sayings; the one, that rough dogs are not fast, but last long; the other, that they can get out of the slips, but want bottom. First, Lord Eglinton’s Major is the only dog he meets which makes Gilbertfield look not singularly fast up to his hare. Second, the race with Dusty Miller, on the last day of the gold cup running, put an end to all scepticism as to Gilbertfield’s bottom. The performances of his ancestors, Oscar, Capilly, and Charles James Fox, in the Lancashire and Renfrewshire Club, and of Orlando Furioso, Burr, and Giraffe, in East Lothian—his own success, during four seasons, in every club to which he belongs, viz., the Ardrossan, Biggar, Clydesdale, Dirleton, and the Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire (being rough, he is excluded from running at Winchburgh), and his triumph at Eaglesham—and the commenced career of his offspring, viz., Ocean, Goth, Mandal, Capilly, Harp, Guitar, and Lilly (one litter), supply the best of all evidence that Gilbertfield not only inherits, but can transmit winning blood—the great aim, it is to be presumed, of every sagacious breeder of greyhounds.”

The greyhound is the very model of animals for symmetry; and while his limbs are particularly muscular, though lightly made, there is no dog, and perhaps no animal, which has such elasticity of the spine. In many of the cat tribe that organ can be powerfully exerted for a short time; and in some of the eiverride it acts powerfully for a continuation of leaps; but in no animal do the spine and the limbs play so beautifully to each other as in the greyhound. The general character of the animal agrees with this elasticity of motion; for there are few which are so actuated by fits and starts. In ancient times the greyhound was reckoned a very valuable present, by the ladies especially, who regarded it as a very gratifying compliment. As far back as the time of King Canute, it was enacted by the forest laws, that no person under the degree of a gentleman should presume to keep a greyhound; the sovereign regarding that animal as being peculiarly suited only to a person of elevated rank. In Charles the First’s reign, greyhounds were held in very high estimation. The
Isle of Dogs, which is now converted into the reservoir for the West India shipping, derives its name from being the receptacle of spaniels and greyhounds of Edward the Third. It was thus selected on account of its contiguity to Waltham and the other royal forests.

The points of the greyhound are,—a peculiarly long attenuated head and face; length of muzzle; ears small, close, sharp, and drooping; neck long, and corresponding with the length of the legs; chest capacious, but more in depth than width; shoulders broad and deep; fore-legs set on square, with plenty of bone, the fore-arm being strong, straight, and muscular; the back and sides long and strong for flat land—shorter, but still strong, for hilly ground; the ribs well arched, with good haunches and muscular ribs—for, as Mr. Blaine observes, “On the extent of the angles formed between the several portions of the hinder limbs, depends the extent of the span passed over at each bound.”

In breeding it is important to select the best dogs, both male and female, that can be got, and both should be in their full vigour. Breeding from young dogs should be avoided. Older dogs, both male and female, have produced, in their ninth and tenth years, a staunch and speedy progeny.

THE SCOTCH GREYHOUND.

Is in all probability the gazehound of England. It is larger than the smooth greyhound of England and the warmer parts of Europe, although it is not so elegant, and, probably, for a short distance, not so fleet. It is generally understood that this was the dog employed in driving the deer in the moors of the south and north of Scotland, at the time when that was a principal occupation of the Barons; but, in the pure state, this hound is now comparatively scarce.

THE ITALIAN GREYHOUND.

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

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

THE TURKISH GREYHOUND.

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

THE TIGER HOUND OF SOUTH AMERICA.

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

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

CHAPTER VII.

THE HOUND.

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

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

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

The Great Dane.

This is a dog of gigantic stature. He is, indeed, perhaps one of the very largest dogs with which we are at present acquainted. He stands from thirty to thirty-two inches in height at the shoulder, or even more. In form, the Dane is very powerful, but yet graceful; his head is elongated, but the muzzle does not taper to a point: it is, on the contrary, somewhat truncated, looking as if it had been originally intended to be longer, but had been abruptly cut short within an inch of what should have been the muzzle. The coat of the Dane is close and short, and its colour, although occasionally yellow, is more frequently a bluish slaty white, marked with spots, or rather blotches, of brown and black. The ears are short, and droop slightly.
In its native country the Dane is employed chiefly in boar-hunting. It was also formerly used in the chase of the elk. It is not improbable that the Danes brought this dog with them to Ireland when they invaded that country, and that it was employed as an auxiliary in wolf-hunting. In a regular grapple, few dogs could have proved more serviceable; and few could have afforded a better cross with our own ancient wolf-dog. That such crossing did actually take place, is more than probable; and hence the many misconceptions that have since arisen relative to the real characters of our genuine Irish wolf-dog. Hamilton Rowan had some very fair specimens; so had Lord Altamont—also Lord O'Neil; but by far the finest I ever had the good fortune to see was "Hector," the property of his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch. Hector stood a trifle more than thirty-two inches in height at the shoulder, notwithstanding, that when I measured him, he was close upon his twentieth year, and consequently much drooped. In a communication from the Duke respecting him, his Grace stated, that Hector had been purchased by his brother, Lord John Scott, from a student at Dresden, and that the breed were called in Germany and Saxony "boar-dogs." His Grace also informed me that Hector was the tallest dog he had ever seen.

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

I had a son of Hector's, not, however, true bred, but produced from a South American dam, of the so called tiger-hound breed. In attachment and sagacity he more than equalled the spaniel, and his courage was of the most indomitable kind. Often have I seen him engaged in conflict with two or three large Newfoundland dogs, and have rushed to the rescue, but have generally found him victorious ere I could interfere. Lincoln's only fault was a propensity to kill cats; and of this he was eventually cured by one of those animals (at whom he rushed with an open mouth) mistaking his fury for play, and rubbing herself, purring, against the very jaws that were open to crush her.

I must here record an instance of this noble dog's sagacity. I was
in the habit of bathing every morning at the extremity of the chain-pier of Newhaven, about the distance of a mile from where I dwelt. At this time I was a student of medicine, and, during the summer months, attended the botanical lectures of Dr. Graham, delivered in the Botanic Garden, Inverleith Row, on my way home from the sea. I used to take Lincoln with me on those occasions, and, on my return, used to dismiss him at the garden gate, and go into lecture. On one occasion, I recollected, when about half-way home, that I had forgotten my towel, and left it in the shed appropriated to the accommodation of bathers at the pier-end. More in jest than earnest, I turned to the dog and said, showing my empty hands, "Lincoln, I have lost my towel; go and seek it." To my surprise, the sagacious creature, after looking for an instant, first at my empty hands, and then at the towel of my companion, turned and set off at a rapid pace back towards Newhaven. When I left the gardens, I found the faithful and intelligent animal waiting for me with my missing towel in his mouth.

**THE SPANISH BLOODHOUND.**

This is the dog rendered so infamous by its employment in the chase of runaway negro slaves in South America and the Spanish West Indian Islands. In form it is intermediate between the mastiff and the greyhound, but approximates more closely to the latter than to the former. Its colour is usually tan or liver colour; when pied, the purity of the breed is susceptible of doubt; the coat is extremely fine; the ears are semi-erect; when the animal is excited, they are pricked somewhat forward; the muzzle and tips of the ears are dark; the tail is fine as a rush.

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

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

GENUINE BLOODHOUND.

Neither of these dogs are, however, properly entitled to the epithet of bloodhound. They appear to have acquired it only from their employment, and probably owe their origin to a cross at some remote period between the true, long-eared bloodhound of Britain and the more eager and active greyhound. I am the more confirmed in this opinion from the fact, that both these dogs closely resemble the cross-bred deerhound, sometimes used in the Highlands of Scotland, where that animal is thus bred. It is only fair that that gentle and affectionate animal—the GENUINE BLOODHOUND, a dog far from being either cruel or ferocious—should be distinctly separated from these,
his disreputable namesakes. He is the best on the scent of all the coursing dogs, and perhaps, also, the most staunch and persevering in pursuit of his game. When his human associates happen to be of mild dispositions, and content themselves with using him only in the legitimate way in which a sporting dog should be used, he is mild tempered and exceedingly tractable; but the very virtues of this dog have been perverted through the vices of his masters; and down to a comparatively recent period, and perhaps in some places even at the present time, the bloodhound has been trained to hunt human beings, and so add to the horrors of war, and the relentless cruelties of extermination. This dog has been used for these purposes in different parts of the world; so that of the few that remain there are several apparent varieties.

At one period of the world's history, the commencement of which was in ancient times, bloodhounds were much used in Britain, and the breed is said to have been very superior. According to Strabo,
for such monsters of the human race as could not be done justice to by any epithet drawn from the worst vices of mankind.

The following particulars will throw some light upon the character of an animal now little known, and also the uses to which this animal was applied:—In old times, when possessions were insecure, the bloodhound was employed to trace out the thief and recover the stolen goods; so that he would swim a river in course of the pursuit, and immediately recover the footsteps of the culprit on the other side, never ceasing to follow him until he was taken. Thus this animal is put under the protection of the most ancient laws, which enact "that no person should stop or disturb a bloodhound or man passing with him, to follow thieves or take malefactors." Theft was also so common in this island, that a person denying access to the hound was held participant in the crime. There is little doubt that it was known on the Continent, and also in England; but the Scottish bloodhound, which is said to have been of large size and elegant proportions, was the most celebrated of all. Conrad Gesner, who wrote nearly three hundred years ago, has preserved a figure of the Scottish bloodhound, which, he says, was transmitted to him by Henry Sinclair, Dean of Glasgow, a distinguished character of his era; and Hector Boyce affirms that it was of a red colour, or black with small spots. There was some difference between it and the English bloodhound, though the properties of the latter were also eminent.

Of the atrocities which were committed in ancient times by using bloodhounds against the human race, no accounts have come down to us; but, unfortunately, we have specimens enough of what can be perpetrated in this way, in perhaps the blackest page in a volume of human history, no part of which is very bright. This is the history of the conduct of the Christian white men of Europe towards the unmolested red men of some parts of America, and, more so, to a few of the hapless sons of Africa who had been captured and carried away to endure all the miseries of colonial slavery. Even the great Columbus himself, as we have seen, in order more completely to subdue the lawful owners of the island of Hayti or St. Domingo, carried out with him bloodhounds as auxiliaries in his unjustifiable war upon the harmless and newly-discovered natives. It is possible that all the occasions upon which bloodhounds have been used against negro slaves which have taken refuge in the mountains have not been recorded; but a single specimen of their use by the French, some time previous to the island being wrested from their power, will suffice:—
In the last war carried on against the revolted negroes, or Maroons, as they were called, they employed bloodhounds regularly trained against them, and they are even said to have had the barbarity of throwing their captives to the dogs to be devoured alive. In training the hounds to this inhuman pursuit, we are told that they were confined in a kennel sparrowed like a cage, and sparingly supplied with the blood of other animals. The figure of a negro in wicker-work, stuffed with blood and entrails, was next provided as they grew a little older, and occasionally exhibited in the upper part of the cage. The dogs ferociously struggled against their confinement, and, as their impatience increased, the effigy was brought nearer and nearer, while their usual subsistence underwent still greater diminution. At length it was resigned to them, and while voraciously tearing it up, and devouring the contents, the caresses of the keepers encouraged their perseverance. Thus their animosity to black men was excited in proportion to their attachment to the whites; and they were sent out to the chase when their training was considered complete. The miserable negro had no means of escape. He was either hunted down and torn to pieces (his wife and children sharing perhaps his calamity), or, if taking refuge on a tree, he was betrayed by the yelping of the bloodhounds into the power of his more savage pursuers. This, however, was not the full extent of the evil. "But, indifferently kept in the neighbourhood of Cape François, the dogs frequently broke loose, and infants were devoured in an instant from the public way. At other times they proceeded to the neighbouring woods, and surprised a harmless family of labourers at their simple meal, tore the babe from the breast of its mother, or devoured the whole party, and returned with their horrid jaws drenched in the gore of those who were acknowledged, even in the eyes of the French army, as innocent, and therefore permitted to furnish them with the produce of their labours."

In hunting, which in those days was the legitimate work of the bloodhound (when much of the country was in the condition of forest and chase, deer numerous, oxen few, and sheep not introduced in many places), his proper function was to find the game rather than to run it down; and it was because he could find the scent or slot, as well as keep it till he came on the game, that he was called the slot-hound, or sleuth-hound. He was also called the slow-hound, in which the epithet slow may have in part been a corruption of sleuth, though it is also related to the rate of his following as compared to that of the deerhounds, which, as keeping more on the view than on
the slot, run with much more velocity. The stanch perseverance and continued following of the bloodhound compensated for his inferior swiftness, as without him the deer could not, in many cases, have been found; and if the deer threw the staghounds out, the bloodhound was ready to find him again. The perfection to which he could be trained for the slot was very wonderful, and forms a very curious portion of the doctrine of the sense of smell. To prepare him for his labour, his nose was either rubbed against the kind of animal in quest of which he was to go, or with the hand of a man which had been so rubbed. This being done, the hound was let slip; when he instantly began beating for a slot; and, though the scents of ever so many animals lay on his beat, he never followed except on the right one. It was in this that the great superiority of the bloodhound consisted. Many other dogs of the chase can be trained to one kind of game; but there were none which could be trained to any kind in a summary manner like the bloodhound.

It would be very desirable to know upon what this capacity of being able to distinguish species in scent depends; but the question is, we fear, beyond the possibility of solution.

**THE FRENCH MATIN.**

Many contradictory descriptions of this dog are given by naturalists, some of whom describe him as a smooth dog, similar to the Dane; others as a rough and lurcher-like mongrel. Buffon, the first who brought the mâtin into anything like notice, describes and figures him as a sort of rough-coated greyhound, of only moderate stature, and not remarkable for any physical or moral quality.

Colonel Smith describes this dog as equaling the Dane in stature, but having a flatter forehead, a more pointed nose, rugged hair, colour usually white, with one or more clouds of brown; “the ears, also, are more triangular, and the tips bent down, showing upon the whole a certain intermixture of the older Gallic dog. It is fierce, but not remarkable for daring.” Against this description I have nothing to object, except as to stature. The great Dane usually, as I have already stated, exceeds thirty inches in height at the shoulder, and I do not think anybody ever saw a mâtin that stood over twenty-eight; indeed I should say that twenty-six inches is about the average height. Buffon has put forward the mâtin as the origin of the dog, and, in his very fanciful genealogy, derives many noble and valuable breeds immediately from him.
THE FERAL DOG OF ST. DOMINGO.

This dog appears to be a sort of wild hound, approaching closely to the form of the greyhound, but somewhat coarser, and to be the descendant of the bloodhounds formerly used by the Spaniards to effect their conquests in the western hemisphere. In stature, Colonel Smith describes this dog as “at least equal to the largest Scotch or Russian greyhound, or about twenty-eight inches high at the shoulder, with the head shaped like the wire-haired terrier; large light brown eyes; small ears, pointed and only slightly bent down at the tips; the neck long and full; the chest very deep; the croup slightly arched; the limbs muscular, but light; and the tail, not reaching to the tarsus, scantily furnished with long dark hair; the muzzle was black, as well as the eyelids, lips, and the whole hide; but his colour was a uniform pale blue ash, the hair being short, scanty, coarse, and apparently without a woolly fur beneath. On the lips, inside of the ears, and above the eyes, there was some whitish gray; and the back of the ears was dark slate colour. The look and motions of this animal at once told consciousness of superiority. As he passed down the streets, all the house curs slunk away. When within our lodging, the family dog had disappeared, although he had neither growled nor barked. His master said he was inoffensive, but requested he might not be touched.”

THE CATTLE DOG OF CUBA.

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Ft.</th>
<th>In.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From the top of head to ground</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height from ground to fore shoulder</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length from nose to tail</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girth round chest behind fore leg</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girth of fore leg</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length from occiput to muzzle</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girth of head over the ears</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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This dog was remarkably fierce and treacherous. On one occasion he attacked myself, and I was so dreadfully torn in the conflict, that I was laid up for many weeks, while it was months before I recovered the use of my right hand and arm.

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

THE MEXICAN DOG.

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

THE WOLF-DOG OF FLORIDA

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

THE PARIAH, OR EGYPTIAN STREET DOG.

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

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

Nor is the Pariah devoid of courage. I recollect an anecdote,

* The dogs of Lisbon, described by Surgeon Wylde, present a similar trait of character.
told by Captain Brown, on "Oriental Field Sports," of a Pariah that was cast into a tiger's cage, to serve that animal for a meal, seizing his monstrous enemy by the nose whenever he approached, and by his spirited conduct inspiring the tiger with such respect, that it not only ceased attempting to destroy, but actually conceived a strong attachment for the dog.

CHAPTER VIII.

HOUNDS PROPERLY SO CALLED.

The Talbot. The Beagle.
The Bloodhound. The Kerry Beagle.
The Staghound. The Otter Hound.
The Oriental Hound. The Spanish Pointer.
The Foxhound. The Portuguese Pointer.
The Harrier. The French Pointer.

TERIERS.

The Russian Terrier. The English.
The Scotch. The Maltese.
The Isle of Skye. The South American.

THE TALBOT

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

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

THE BLOODHOUND

It is probable that the bloodhound sprang directly from the preceding dog, having originally been merely individual hounds selected from the pack of Talbots, on account of their superior scent or speed; or
perhaps, their accidentally being dark in colour and less noisy of
tongue, and from these circumstances less liable to be detected by the
felon of whom they were in pursuit. The bloodhound is a tall, showy
hound; but, in a state of purity, seldom attains, and certainly never
exceeds, twenty-eight inches in height at the shoulder—the average
height is twenty-six inches for females, and twenty-seven for males.
The ears are singularly long and pendulous, and should, in a perfect
specimen, be within an inch or two of the animal’s height, from tip to
tip across the head. Landseer has immortalized the bloodhound in
many of his paintings. Among others, I may mention his “Dignity
and Impudence,” representing a bloodhound looking out from his
kennel, in grave and dignified majesty; while a little wire-haired
terrier is at his feet, apparently impudently growling at some approaching intruder. Those who have seen the originals of this painting
have pronounced “Malvina,” a beautiful animal of the breed bred by
me,—and recently in my own possession, but now the property of
Robert Sproule, Esq., of Kildevin,—to be greatly superior to the blood-
hound portrayed by Landseer. Malvina’s sire, “Bevis,” figured
above, was likewise transferred to canvas by my friend Charles Grey,
R.H.A. Malvina stands twenty-six inches in height, and her ears
measure twenty-five in extent, and upwards of five in breadth. The colour of the bloodhound is tan, or black and tan, like an English terrier; if white be present, the breed is impure. The jowl of the bloodhound is deep, and his air majestic and solemn. The vertex of the head is remarkably protuberant, and this protuberance is characteristic of high breeding. The bloodhound is not silent while following the scent; but he is less noisy than other hounds, and only opens occasionally, and even then his bay is easily distinguished, after having been once heard, from that of any other description of dog.

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

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

Mr. Boyle, in his "Treatise on Air," informs us that a person of quality, in order to ascertain whether a young bloodhound had been well trained, caused one of his servants to walk to a town four miles off, and then to a market-town three miles from thence. The dog, without seeing the man he was to pursue, followed him by the scent to the above-mentioned places, notwithstanding the multitude of market people that went along the same road, and of travellers that had occasion to cross it; and when he came to the chief market-town he passed through the streets without taking any notice of the people there. He ceased not till he had gone to the house where the man he sought rested himself, and where he found him in an upper room, to the wonder of those who had accompanied him in his pursuit.

The only modes of escaping the unerring scent of the bloodhound were crossing water or spilling blood upon the track. In the notes to the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," Sir W. Scott says—"Barbour informs us that Robert Bruce was repeatedly tracked by sleuth-dogs.*

* From sleuth, or slot—track, especially of blood.
On one occasion he escaped by wading a bowshot down a brook, and thus baffled the scent. The pursuers came up—

"'Rycht to the tum thai passyt ware,
But the sleuth-hound made slanting there,
And waverty lang time ta and fra,
That he na certain gait south ga;
Till at the last John of Lorn,
Perseuvit the Hund the sleuth had borne.'

_The Bruce, Book VIII._

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

**THE STAGHOUND.**

As the breed of English horses increased in swiftness, sportsmen found that it became necessary to increase in an equal ratio the speed of their hounds. From this circumstance we have acquired the staghound, a cross from the Talbot, or old southern hound or bloodhound with some lighter stock, probably the greyhound—carefully bred back to the desired standard.

In stature, individual staghounds frequently equal the bloodhound. Few packs, however, are to be met with exceeding an average of twenty-six inches; and twenty-five inches at the fore-shoulder is more near the general mark. In appearance, the staghound is a half-bred bloodhound, and he certainly possesses one very striking peculiarity in common with that dog—viz., of pertinaciously adhering to the first scent on which he is laid. In all probability this is the gazehound of England, said by some authors to possess the faculty of recovering its lost prey, and selecting it from a whole herd of its companions. Of the gazehound Tickell says:—

"Seest thou the gazehound how, with glance severe,
From the close herd he marks the distressed deer."
The true staghound has gradually died away since the days of George III., and has been replaced by a dog more nearly allied to the foxhound, and that for the very reason already adduced as having produced the staghound itself—viz., a further increase of speed in the horses employed in the chase. Hunting having subsequently become steeple-chasing in disguise, even the old staghound became too slow for modern taste, and he has accordingly been laid on the shelf. The foxhound has now become, literally, the "hound of all work."

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

THE ORIENTAL HOUND.

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

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

In Wilkinson's "Manners and Customs of the Egyptians," there is a representation given of a pack of these dogs, from which Mr. Jessie takes occasion to argue that the latter dog is identical with the eastern hound, and consequently of very ancient, instead of, as he actually is, of comparatively modern origin. It is from this dog that the red hounds of the Continent, used in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries for hunting the wolf and boar, originally sprang. They had been brought thither from Palestine by St. Louis, in the thirteenth century. Their principal characteristics were speed, bottom, and high courage. In general aspect they seem to have resembled our bloodhounds, but were rather lighter, and more like the staghound.

THE FOXHOUND.

This hound appears to have been produced from the staghound, by a cross of greyhound, and probably also of a terrier. He is less in size than the staghound; has smaller and less hound-like ears, which are also usually rounded off when young. The foxhound was unknown
to us until within the last two hundred years. In the account of Queen Elizabeth's hunting establishment, no mention is made of the foxhound; and the first mention of him of which we read, is rather within the above period than beyond it.

He is a bold, dashing hound, up to all sorts of sport, and having "more of the devil" in his composition than any of his congeners. He is now found so useful that he is made to supersede all other hounds, and is bred to size, &c., according to the sport for which he may be required. Great attention has been paid to the breeds; so that, whether in private kennels, or in subscription or country packs, there is perhaps no country in which this variety of dog has been brought to so much perfection as in England. These dogs have a keen scent, and the style of their running is very fine, and especially the air with which they carry their heads. Where the ground will admit of it, foxhounds run more in rank than any other dogs, and sometimes the column presents a pretty long front in line. The nose of the foxhound is rather long, and, in proportion to his body, his head is small; his ears are pendulous and long, but not so much so as those of either the staghound or bloodhound. His chest is deep, his legs are very straight, and his feet round and well proportioned, his breast wide, his back broad, his shoulders placed well back, his neck thin, and his tail bushy and thick, which he carries high when in the chase. His colour is generally white, variously patched with black, brown, and livid colour in different parts of the body. Foxhounds, and indeed all hounds which are kept for hunting in packs, can be regarded as in only a state of partial domestication. They are, as it were, the military of the race, take the field in squadrons, live apart in their kennels or barracks, and do no civil duties.

THE HARRIER.

This was a smaller hound than the preceding, exhibiting an appearance of higher breeding, and resembling a miniature of the old Talbot. Its height averaged about eighteen inches. It was remarkable for possessing a delightful melody of voice, and for the leisurely and methodic manner in which it pursued its game. Hare-hunting was, when managed thus, an amusement, of almost a philosophic character, in following which, the mind had time to contemplate the efforts of one animal to elude pursuit, and of the other to frustrate those efforts. The harrier is now wholly superseded by the foxhound; a dwarf variety of which dog is now bred for hare-hunting—an amusement which, I must add, is itself rapidly falling into disrepute, as not
being sufficiently exciting. Fox-hunters are in the habit of characterizing hare-hunting as an amusement only fit for ladies and elderly gentlemen!

THE BEAGLE.

The beagle, the bratch of olden time, is the smallest of our hounds, and the most melodious in voice. The beagle rarely exceeds fourteen inches in height, and, if less, is so much the more highly valued. These little hounds were well known in Queen Bess's days, and that sovereign lady had little beagles, called singing beagles, so small that they could be placed in a man's glove! It was then quite of common occurrence that an entire pack of them should be carried to the field in a pair of panniers.

THE KERRY BEAGLE.

I introduce this hound here, although he should more properly have followed in the immediate steps of the stag-hound, in order to point out the absurdity of his name. The Kerry beagle is a fine, tall, dashing hound, averaging twenty-six inches in height, and occasionally individual dogs attaining to twenty-eight; has deep chops; broad, full, and pendulous ears; and, when highly bred, is hardly to be distinguished from an indifferent bloodhound. In Ireland alone do we find this hound. We have two packs—both in the south—one belonging to John O'Connell, Esq., of Killarney, and the other to H. A. Herbert, Esq., M.P., of Mucross. They appear to be genuine descendants of the old southern hound, bred somewhat lighter, to suit modern taste, and are used exclusively for deer-hunting.

THE OTTER-HOUND.

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

As the otter is no longer hunted with such form and ceremony as of old, the genuine otter hounds are fast becoming lost, and their place is supplied by the rough Scotch terrier, especially that breed called Skye terrier. A cross of a bull-dog is an improvement; and even ordinary bull-terriers are not to be despised; for when it comes to the death tussel, the otter requires a game antagonist.
Attempts have frequently been made to breed or make otter-hounds, resembling the ancient smooth-headed, rough-bodied sort, but without success; it having been found impossible to produce any but such as were either all rough, or all smooth. Otter-hunting certainly requires resolute dogs; but as the pursuit is now only followed to destroy this piscatory marauder, those who desire his destruction need not be so very particular as to the modus operandi. The otter is, however, an inoffensive animal, and harmless save to those who keep fish preserves.

THE SPANISH POINTER.

This is a large, big-boned hound, standing high on its legs, with very heavy ears, and a deep jowl. The Spanish pointer is usually white, with occasionally some brown or red patches. He is remarkable for his stanchness, and for the facility with which he can be taught his duty. It appears to admit of no doubt that the pointer, and other setting-dogs, were originally hounds accustomed to trace their game by the scent, and then, rushing in, secure it; but previous to this rush, it was natural to them to pause for a second or so, to collect their energies for the spring. This momentary pause has been, by training, converted into a decided stop; and the dog has been taught to suspend his intended rush, as it is the privilege of his master, and not himself, to finish the work the dog has only begun. Such is the hereditary instinct of the highly-bred Spanish pointer, that a whelp, not more than five months old, has been known, when, without any previous training, brought for the first time into the field, to point steadily at lying game.

I heard one instance, indeed, related of a whelp of this age, and under such circumstances as I describe, actually backing its dam in her point.

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

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

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

THE FRENCH POINTER

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

THE ITALIAN POINTER.

This is a perfect miniature variety of a very highly-bred English pointer, seldom exceeding one foot in height. I saw one about twelve years ago, in possession of Stewart Monteith, Esq., of Closeburn, Dumfriesshire, and another about the same time, in possession of Mr. Mather, an artist, resident in Edinburgh. These little dogs had exquisite noses, and would set game as stanchly as any other pointer, but were, of course, too small for field use.

THE ENGLISH POINTER.

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

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

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

The following anecdote proves the perfection of training to which pointers may be brought by proper discipline:—A friend of Mr. Jesse's "went out shooting with a gentleman, celebrated for the goodness of his breed. They took the field with eight of these dogs. If one pointed, all the rest immediately backed steadily; and if a partridge was shot, they all dropped the charge."

A pointer hates a bad shot: Captain Brown relates the following capital anecdote on this subject:—"A gentleman having requested the loan of a pointer dog from a friend, was informed by him that
the dog would behave very well so long as he could kill his birds; but if he frequently missed them, the dog would run home and leave him. The pointer was accordingly sent, and the following day was fixed for trial; but, unfortunately, his new master happened to be a remarkably bad shot. Bird after bird rose and was fired at, but still pursued its flight untouched, till at last the dog became careless, and often missed his game. As if seemingly willing, however, to give one chance more, he made a dead stop at a fern bush, with his nose pointed downward, his forefoot bent, and the tail straight and steady. In this position he remained firm till the sportsman was close to him, with both barrels cocked; then moving steadily forward for a few paces, he at last stood still near a bunch of heather, the tail expressing the anxiety of the mind by moving regularly backwards and forwards. At last, out sprung a fine old blackcock. Bang, bang, went both barrels—but the bird escaped unhurt. The patience of the dog was now quite exhausted, and, instead of dropping to the charge, he turned boldly round, placed his tail between his legs, gave one howl, long and loud, and set off as fast as he could to his own home."

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

THE DALMATIAN, OR CARRIAGE DOG.

This is a very handsome dog, in every respect similar to the pointer. It is not, in its present state, remarkable for sagacity or fineness of scent; but these deficiencies may have arisen from the disuse of its natural powers through so many generations. One instance of a Dalmatian having been broken to the gun fell, some years ago, under my own observation, and the dog proved himself worthy of his training.

THE RUSSIAN POINTER.

This dog is covered with coarse, wiry hair, like the Russian terrier. He is somewhat less in stature than the ordinary pointer, and is lower in the shoulder. His nose is cleft, hence he is frequently called the "double-nosed pointer." He is very stanch, and is held in deservedly high estimation; but I have been given to understand that his temper is unyielding, and that he requires great care and caution in training. When a good dog of this breed is well and thoroughly broken in, he is considered very valuable, and fetches a long price.
The prevailing opinion among sportsmen is, that the Russian pointer requires fresh training, to a certain extent, at the commencement of each season; but so, indeed, do most of his smooth-coated brethren.

The terriers are a very hardy race of dogs, full of courage and spirit. They will face anything, no matter what may be the disparity of size, and will fight with the greatest vigour and fury. The terriers are, generally speaking, a small breed, but strongly made, more courageous, better mouthered, and, along with great sharpness of bite, possessing no inconsiderable share of the bull-dog property of retaining their hold. We believe they are not used in packs, or much in the chase in any way, their chief use being to bring burrowing animals out of their earths; and so stanch are they at this that a terrier will often draw a badger of more than his own weight. Terriers attack all wild animals indiscriminately; and they are not to be turned from their purpose either by largeness of size or by rankness of smell. They are, properly speaking, the vermin dogs; and though they are very expert at unearthing, and very forward in attacking foxes, hares, and rabbits, they are equally efficient against badgers, polecats, weasels, rats, and mice. On account of their latter propensity, they are very much used about farms, and about houses generally; and, though they are somewhat irritable, they make most efficient watchdogs, as they are not only very forward to attack, but very formidable, and exceedingly difficult to be vanquished. There is no doubt that a sufficient number of them would be able to overcome the largest wild animal; and they have a sort of natural propensity to the hog tribe, and might, even in smaller number than some dogs of larger size, be efficient against the wild boar. I knew a gentleman who had a very fine Scotch terrier, which not only cleared a large farm, and also the farm-yard, of all vermin, but acted as cattle-dog or sheep-dog, as occasion required. He was so vigilant and so formidable a guardian, that no intruder could with impunity either invade the house or trespass on the farm. He used successfully to repel the inroads of a very powerful and fierce boar, which was wont to come in a furious and formidable manner; so much so, indeed, that he often threw the labourers in the field into the greatest alarm; but if Trap happened
THE DOG.

to get notice of the invasion, the boar, though very large (much in the shape of a wild boar, and of that brindled colour which indicates the nearest approach to that formidable animal) paid severely for his temerity. The dog, which had been trained to keep animals in their right places, but to kill nothing except game and vermin, made no direct attack on the life of the boar. He laid hold of him by the ear; and that hold he kept till the boar, though much stronger and far heavier than the dog, was so completely subdued, that Trap could lead him by the ear to his own place of abode. The dog had seldom occasion to lead him half way; but he used to watch his motions, and if the boar offered to return, the dog instantly went to meet him, and so punished his other ear, that there was no need for a second warning, at least during the next week.

One of the principal uses of the terrier, as a hunting dog, is to accompany the foxhounds; and in cases where all the earths are not carefully stopped (a labour which it is not easy to perform in places where there is much cover), the terrier is indispensable, because his assistance is necessary in unearthing the fox.

THE RUSSIAN TERRIER.

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

There are three varieties of the common Scotch Terrier. One which stands rather high on his legs, is usually of a sandy-red colour, and very strongly made—he stands about eighteen or twenty inches in height, and is commonly called the “Highland terrier.” This dog has a strong muscular body, and short stout legs. His ears are small and half erected. His head is large in proportion to the size of his body, with the muzzle considerably pointed; he has an exceedingly acute scent, so that with certainty he can trace the footsteps of all other animals. They are variously coloured, but generally of a sand colour, or black. Those which are thus coloured are certainly the most hardy, and can be depended on more. When pied or white, it is a sure sign of the impurity of the breed. The hair of the terrier is hard, long, and matted, over almost every part of the body. His bite is extremely keen.

There are, as we have said, three varieties of the Scotch terrier, viz., the one above described; another about the same size as the former, but with the hair somewhat flowing, and much longer, which gives a short appearance to the legs. This is the prevailing breed of the western islands of Scotland. The third variety is lower, long-backed, and short-legged; hair more wiry and curled, but not so long as in the former; mouth also not so broad, and muzzle longer. This latter variety is the dog celebrated by Sir W. Scott as the Pepper and Mustard, or Dandie Dinmont breed.

THE SKYE TERRIER

Is so called from its being found in greatest perfection in the Western
Isles of Scotland, and the Isle of Skye in particular. It somewhat resembles the Highland terrier, but is even longer in the body, and lower on the legs. It is covered with very long but not coarse hair, rather of a silky nature; on the head and chest the colour is of a silver gray, mixed with pale tan; the ears erect, and tufted at the extremities. The Skye terrier is the second variety of the Scotch terrier. All the Scotch terriers are "varmint" in the extreme, and on this account are great favourites with such as are troubled by the depredations of rats, mice, stoats, &c., being equalled by no other breed of dog in the ardour with which they hunt and destroy every description of four-footed vermin.

THE ENGLISH TERRIER.

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

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

THE MALTESE TERRIER.

This is by some naturalists classed with the spaniels; but in the form of its skull, in its erect ears, rough muzzle, and determination in the pursuit of vermin, it presents characteristics sufficient to induce me to place it in the present group. It is usually black, but sometimes white—in any case, it should be but of one colour.

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

Is something like the preceding, but less hairy, and with a more pointed muzzle. It is remarkable as being a keen destroyer of serpents—avoiding their bite, and with a rapid spring seizing the reptile by the back of the head, and crushing it in an instant. If an eel be shown to one of these dogs, he will act in the same manner as if it were a serpent, and will speedily despatch it. I have only seen one of these dogs, and saw nothing about it to recommend it, except as being somewhat rare in Britain.

THE MEXICAN PRAIRIE DOG.

This is about the smallest of the canine family. In aspect he resembles a minute English terrier, but his head is somewhat disproportional to his general bulk. I have been told that these animals burrow in the prairies of their native land, like marmots. I am not, however, satisfied as to the fact, and would, at all events, observe, that these dogs are on no account to be confounded with the little animals so common in North America, and known (of course erroneously, as these latter animals do not belong to the dog tribe at all) under the same name.

THE TURNSPIT TERRIER.

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

THE HARLEQUIN TERRIER.

Whatever be the origin of this little dog, it is now a recognised variety; and from its extreme beauty, both of form and colour, combined with all such qualities as terriers should possess, developed in the highest degree of perfection, it is richly deserving of being culti-
vated. In form, it is a perfect English terrier; and in colour it is bluish slate, marked with darker blotches and patches, and often with tan about the legs and muzzle. It is one of the most determined of its race, and is surpassed by none in the skill and activity with which it pursues and catches its game, and the resolution with which it battles with and destroys it.

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

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CHAPTER IX.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND GROUP, OR WOLF-DOG.

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

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

THE NEWFOUNDLAND DOG.

The true breed of Newfoundland is a dog of moderate stature, seldom exceeding twenty-six or twenty-seven inches in height; long-bodied, broad-chested, a shaggy coat, a pointed wolfish muzzle, ears small, and inclined to be semi-erect; colour usually black, with a shade of brown through it, and occasionally some white. There is
another breed of dog peculiar to Newfoundland; short-coated, and sharp-nosed—an excellent water dog, by some mistaken for the true Newfoundland breed.

The large dogs usually known as Newfoundlands in this country, are evidently the result of a cross with the mastiff. They are a fine showy animal, but less sagacious, less active, and more apt to display irregularity of temper than the original breed; they often attain the height of thirty inches. These large dogs are rapidly becoming the peculiar breed of Newfoundland; and dogs of this sort are gladly imported there, whereas our Newfoundland friends have now little or nothing but curs to offer in return.

In his native country the Newfoundland dog meets with indif-

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

The origin of this dog is questionable; but I am disposed to trace him to a large European variety, still in use among the Norwegians, for the chase of the bear and wolf. It is now well known that the
original discovery of Newfoundland is to be attributed to the Nor-
wegians, who, before the year 1000, sailed from Greenland on a voyage
of discovery, and that the same people discovered North America
some time between the tenth and eleventh centuries.—Lond. Geogr.
Jour., vol. viii.

The Newfoundland dog has long been famed for his aquatic powers,
and many human lives have, from time to time, been saved by him.
With the exception of the water spaniel, it takes the water much more
readily than almost any other dog. The feet are webbed. Indeed,
when of pure blood, the Newfoundland is the prince and honour of
the race. His size and strength are great, and his look dignified, so
that those who are not accustomed to them are apt to be afraid of his
approach; but he is exceedingly mild, and has at once the most beauti-
ful and expressive eye of all the race. Unless under very extraordi-
nary circumstances of provocation and necessity, he is never the
aggressor; and though many large dogs are very prone to tyrannise
over the smaller ones, he has no such habit; but will bear considerable
indignity rather than fight with any dog of insignificant appearance.
A full grown Newfoundland dog of the pure breed, and that has
received proper treatment, measures six feet and a half from the nose
to the tail, the length of that appendage being two feet, and very hand-
some both in its form and in the style in which it is carried. From
the one fore foot to the other, over the shoulders, five feet eight inches;
girth behind the shoulders three feet four inches; round the head
across the ears two feet; the upper part of the leg measures ten
inches; the length of the head fourteen inches; and from his feet
being webbed, he can swim with great ease, and for a very consider-
able time. His body is covered with long shaggy hair; his legs are
feathered, and he has an extreme villous tail which is curvilinear.
The Newfoundland dog is but of recent introduction into this country
from the island whose name it bears, and may be considered as a dis-
tinct race. He is docile to a very great degree, and nothing can
exceed his affection. Being naturally athletic and active, he is ever
eager to be employed, and seems delighted in performing any little
office required of him. From the great share of emulation which
nature has given him, to be surpassed or overcome would occasion
great pain to him. On every emergency he is active, the friend of
all, and is naturally without the least disposition to quarrel with other
animals. He seldom or never offers offence, but will not receive an
insult or injury with impunity. Such is the capacity of his under-
standing, that he can be taught almost anything that man can incul-
cute, of which his own strength and frame are capable. His sagacity can only be exceeded by his energies, and he perseveres with unabated ardour in whatever manner he is employed. While he has a hope of success he will never slacken in his efforts to attain it. The amazing pliability of his temper peculiarly fits him for man's use, and he never shrinks from any service which may be required of him, but undertakes it with an ardour proportional to the difficulty of its execution. He takes a singular pride in being employed, and will carry a bundle, stick, or basket, in his mouth, for miles; and to deprive him of either of these is more than a stranger could with safety accomplish. Sagacity and a peculiarly faithful attachment to the human species,

are characteristics inseparable from this dog, and hence he is ever on the alert to ward off impending danger from his master, and to free him from every peril to which he may be exposed. From the astonishing degree of courage with which he is endowed, he is ever ready to resent an insult or to defend his friends, even at the hazard of his own life. Inclined habitually to industrious employment, such dogs are as useful to the settlers of the coast, from which they are brought, as our galloways and ponies are to us. It is easy to accustom them to daily labour. From three to five of them are harnessed to a sledge, or other vehicle, containing a load of wood or lumber amounting to twenty or thirty stones, which they will draw very steadily for miles with ease, and will do this without the aid of a driver, when ac-
quainted with the road; and having delivered their burden, they return home to their masters, and receive, as a reward for their labour, their accustomed food, which generally consists of dried fish, of which they are said to be extremely fond.

The qualifications of this dog are very extensive. As a keeper or defender of the house he is far more powerful and intelligent, and more to be depended upon than the mastiff, and has been much substituted for him in England of late years; he may indeed with great propriety supersede that breed. For his services upon navigable rivers and as a watch dog, none can come in competition with him; and many sportsmen have introduced him into the field with great success as a pointer, his sagacity and kindness of disposition rendering it an easy task to train him.

Although this variety is styled the Newfoundland dog, there is reason to believe that it was not found in that island when first visited by Europeans. In corroboration of this it may be observed that it does not resemble the Arctic dog properly so called, which are dogs with very shaggy hair, and much more ferocious in their dispositions. Although, like this one, they are employed in labour. It has been said that this is a cross between some sort of English dog and a she-wolf of Newfoundland; but what species of English dog would, with a she-wolf, have produced a dog of the size, shape, and disposition of the Newfoundland dog, and at the same time web-footed, it is not easy to say; and therefore we strongly suspect that the origin of this highly interesting breed must remain for ever doubtful.

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

I shall close this account of the Newfoundland with the follow-
ing lines from Lord Byron's beautiful epitaph on his favourite "Boatswain:"—

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

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

THE LABRADOR DOG.

This is a much larger animal than the preceding, standing from twenty-eight to thirty inches in height; his muzzle is shorter and more truncated, the upper lip more pendulous, the coat coarser, and

the whole dog presenting far more marks of great strength than the Newfoundland.

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

The finest specimen of the Labrador dog that I have ever seen, is Rollo, the property of Lady Bellew, of Barmeath. Rollo stands about
twenty-nine inches in height at the shoulder. As we have given a faithful portrait of him on the preceding page, description is unnecessary.

**THE LABRADOR SPANIEL, OR LESSER LABRADOR DOG.**

This dog presents an appearance intermediate between the Newfoundland dog and the Land Spaniel. He is generally called by the above name; but whether, or not he is fully entitled to it, is, in my judgment, at least questionable. These dogs are remarkable for their diving powers. I saw one some years ago with an officer, who was quartered at Portobello Barracks, Dublin, which dived repeatedly to the bottom of the canal, between the locks, when full of water, and fetched up such stones, &c., as were thrown in. I subjoin the following anecdote, on the authority of *Saunders's News-Letter*, in which paper it appeared, of date September 1, 1846. I can only observe, that, if strictly true, it places the sagacity and gratitude of this dog in a most interesting light:—

"**Peeler, the Dog of the Police.**—During a recent investigation relative to the manner in which the policeman came by his death at Kingstown, a little active and inquisitive dog, of the Labrador breed, was seen from time to time during each day running in and out of the room, as if he took a personal interest in the inquiry. The dog was admired, and a gentleman in the police establishment was asked to whom it belonged. 'Oh,' said he, 'don't you know him? we thought every one knew Peeler, the dog of the police.' The gentleman then proceeded to give the interrogator the history of this singular dog. It appeared from the story that, a few years ago, poor little Peeler tempted the canine appetite of a Mount St. Bernard, or Newfoundland dog, and was in peril of being swallowed up by him for a luncheon, when a policeman interposed, and, with a blow of his baton, levelled the assailant and rescued the assailed. From that time Peeler has united his fortunes with those of the police; wherever they go, he follows; whether pacing with measured tread the tedious 'beat,' or engaged in the energetic duty of arresting a disturber of the public peace. He is a self-constituted general superintendent of the police, visiting station after station, and, after he has made his observation in one district, wending his way to the next. He is frequently seen to enter a third-class carriage at the Kingstown Railway, get out at Black Rock, visit the police station there, continue his tour of inspection to Booterstown, reach there in time for the train as before, and go on to Dublin to take a peep at the 'metropolitans;"
and having satisfied himself that 'all is right,' return by an early
evening train to Kingstown. He sometimes takes a dislike to an
individual, and shuns him as anxiously as he wags his tail at the
approach, and frisks about the feet, of another for whom he has a
regard. There is one man in the force for whom he has this anti-
pathy; and a day or two ago, seeing him in 'the train,' he left the
carriage and waited for the next, preferring a delay of half an hour
to such company; and when the bell rang, with the eagerness with
which protracted joy is sought, he ran to his accustomed seat in 'the
third class.' His partiality for the police is extraordinary; wherever
he sees a man in the garb of a constable, he expresses his pleasure by
walking near him, rubbing against and dancing about him; nor does
he forget him in death, for he was at his post at the funeral of Daly,
the policeman who was killed in Kingstown. He is able to recognize
a few in plain clothes; but they must have been old friends of his.
Wherever he goes, he gets a crust, a piece of meat, a pat on the head,
or a rub down upon his glossy back from the hand of a policeman;
and he is as well known amongst the body as any one in it. We
have heard of the dog of Montargis, the soldier's dog, the blind beg-
gar's dog, and the dog of the monks of St. Bernard, and been delighted
by stories of their fidelity and sagacity, but none are more interest-
ing than 'Peeler, the dog of the police,' 'whose heart, enlarged with
gratitude to one, grows bountiful to all.'

THE ITALIAN OR PYRENEAN WOLF-DOG.

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

THE POMERANIAN DOG,

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

There is a small Chinese variety of dog, so closely resembling the
Pomeranian (except in colour, being usually yellow or black), that
they cannot be distinguished from one another.

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

THE HARE-INDIAN DOG.

This dog was first described by Doctor Richardson, and found by
that eminent naturalist on the Mackenzie River. It is of small size
and slenderly made, with broad, erect ears, sharp at the tips; the
tail is pendent, with a slight curve upwards, near the tip. These
resemble the preceding dog in size and somewhat in appearance, and
their resemblance to the fox is also considerable. One which Dr.
Richardson had in his possession, and which was accustomed to fol-
low his sledge, was killed and eaten by one of his Indian guides, who
stated that he mistook it for a fox. The feet of this dog are large,
spread, and thickly clothed with fur, in consequence of which he can
run upon the snow with rapidity and ease, without sinking. In their
native country, these dogs never bark; in confinement they do.

THE "MAILED" DOG.

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

THE ESQUIMAUX DOG.

About the size of a large Newfoundland; hair long, straight, and coarse; tail bushy, curling over the back; ears erect and pointed—in general aspect he closely resembles the wolf. This is a remarkably good tempered and intelligent animal. In his native country he answers the purpose of a horse, being employed in draught. These animals are active, swift, and enduring.

THE SIBERIAN DOG.

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

THE KAMSCHATKA DOG.

Is like the preceding, but smaller, and the tips of the ears droop. These dogs are remarkable for instinctively returning to their master at the period when they are annually required for the sledge. They are in general badly used by their unfeeling masters, and appear conscious of it; for, as if anxious for vengeance, they often purposely overturn the sledge.

THE ICELAND DOG.

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

THE GREENLAND DOG.

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

THE LAPLAND DOG.

Is thus described by Clarke ("Scandinavia," vol. i., page 432):—

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

PASTORAL DOGS.

Though these have not the same strength as the dogs which are used for draught, and are far from being the most handsomely-formed of their race, they are intelligent, tractable, faithful, and highly useful in every situation where their services are required. There are many breeds and climatal varieties of them in different countries. In Britain there are two principal ones—the one of them a sheep-dog, and the other more of a cattle-dog; but as these dogs are kept very indiscriminately by the country people in the less cultivated districts, there are many mongrel breeds which want the more valuable qualities of the true one. In the case of both of these breeds, too, there are two divisions, tending dogs and driving dogs, which have been perhaps separated from each other by the different labours in which they are employed.

In the richer parts of the country, where the land is divided into inclosures, the tending dogs are less wanted; but in the wild parts, where the land is pastured in breadth, and where the labour of the shepherd or the herdsmen, in attending to all the individuals of the herd, would he intolerable, or even impossible, they are of the greatest value; and neither the proper care of the flock nor that of the herd could he rightly managed without them. They are not so much wanted in those places where sheep and cattle are fattened, because there it is desirable that the animals should he subjected to as little motion as possible, in order that they may he fit for the table in the shortest time possible. In the breeding districts it is different. Proper exercise is necessary to the full development of the animal, and to that soundness of constitution by means of which alone it can he of the best quality when fattened; and as the pastures there are wide, the dogs are indispensable for fetching in strays, and keeping the flock together.

There is a peculiarity of structure in the feet of these dogs which is worth attending to, as an instance of how beautifully nature adapts every creature for the office which it has to perform; though this
peculiarity is not confined to these dogs, but belongs to them in common with the spaniel, the pointer, and all dogs which have the habit of preying upon ground game without running it down in the chase. This peculiarity consists of a greater or smaller number of supplemental toes or appendages at the posterior part of the foot, technically known by the name of "dew claws." These are soft and pendent, but do not act by means of muscles, like the toes properly so called, but are a sort of fringe to the back part of the foot. In walking on hard surfaces they are of no use; and as they are liable to be torn and lacerated in beating among bushes, and thus to cripple the animals—for wounds in the feet of dogs are more injurious to them than in any other part of their bodies—they are cut off in sporting dogs when very young; but in shepherds' dogs, and in pastoral dogs generally, they are allowed to remain; and in the hill pastures especially, which are interspersed with bogs, and places between the hummocks of grass which consist of soft and sludgy peat, these dew-claws, by spreading out to their whole length by a little pressure, greatly extend the surface of the foot, and thus enable it to bear up the animal in situations where it otherwise would sink, in the same manner as people furnished with snow shoes can walk over snowy surfaces, in which, if they had not these means of protection, they would sink knee-deep. This peculiarity is found wanting in all the coursing dogs, and in all those which, in a state of nature, find their prey upon the firm ground.

THE SHEPHERD'S DOG, OR COLLEY.

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

This animal is remarkable for his sagacity; and his disposition to tend sheep appears to be inherent and hereditary. The late lamented Hogg, better known as the "Ettrick Shepherd," had a dog of this breed, named Sirrah, to whom, from his extraordinary intelligence, one would almost be disposed to allow the possession of reason. Mr. Hogg has immortalized his favourite; and the following anecdote may not prove uninteresting to the reader:—

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

It was too dark for dog and master to see each other at any distance apart; but "Sirrah" understood him, and set off after the fugitives.

The shepherd's dog, or colley.

The night passed on, and Hogg and his assistants traversed every neighbouring hill in anxious but fruitless search, but could hear nothing of either lambs or dog; and he was returning to his master with the doleful intelligence that his charge was lost. "On our way home, however," says he, "we discovered a lot of lambs at the bottom of a deep ravine, called the 'Flesh Cleuch,' and the indefatigable Sirrah standing in front of them, looking round for some relief, but still true to his charge."

In the shepherd's dog the ears are erect, as they are in the wild dogs; and, as in these, the muzzle is sharp. The character of the coat, too, indicates that they are mountaineers, or tempered to abide the severity of the weather. In the shepherd's dog an accumulation of the fur is most conspicuous on the under part of the tail, the hack, and the fore legs; but the production of hair varies considerably in different places; the shepherd's dog of the mountains being much more shaggy than the same animal in the plains. This intelligent and useful animal is one of the most obedient, serene, and placid
members of the canine race. He is ever alive to the slightest indication of his master's wishes, prompt and gratified to execute them; and he appears to enjoy the greatest delight when employed in any useful service. By nature formed with an instinctive propensity to industry, he is never more pleased than in exerting his talents for the benefit of man, and in giving constant proofs of his inviolable attachment. The patience, native calmness, and devoted faithfulness of the shepherd's dog, render him insensible to all attractions beyond the arduous duties connected with the flock under his care. When once properly trained, he not only becomes perfectly acquainted with the extent of his beat, but also with every individual in the flock; he will very correctly select his own, and drive off those that approach on his boundary. This will appear the more extraordinary when we consider the vast extent of country and the numerous flocks committed to a single shepherd's charge, which duty he could not possibly perform but for the invaluable services of this very sagacious animal. A word or signal from him will direct the dog so as to conduct the flock to any point required, and that signal he will obey with energy and unerring certainty. The labour of a shepherd, with the assistance of a dog, is comparatively an easy task; but without one we can hardly suppose an occupation more arduous. Without, indeed, the aid of this animal, it would be next to impossible to collect the flocks in those extensive and precipitous tracks of mountain-land where sheep delight
to graze, and which are in many places quite inaccessible to man. The shepherd’s dog, from being inured to all weathers, is naturally hardy; and, accustomed to hunger and fatigue, he is the least voracious of the species, and can subsist upon a scanty allowance. If a shepherd is travelling with his flock to a distance, his dog will only repose close to his feet; and should he wish to leave them for the purpose of taking refreshment, he has only to intimate his intention to his dog, and he will guard the sheep in his absence with as much care, and keep them within due bounds as well as he himself could have done. Although left alone for hours, a well-trained dog always keeps the flock within the limits of a made road, even should there be no fences; he watches every cross path and avenue that leads from it, where he posts himself until they are all past, threatening every one who attempts to move that way; and should any of them escape, he pursues them, and will force them back to their companions without doing them any injury. The breed of this dog is preserved with the greatest attention to purity in the north of England, and in the Highlands of Scotland, where his services are invaluable. The shepherd’s dog of this country, with all his good qualities, in point of size and strength, is still greatly inferior to those of the Alps, and of that extensive range of mountains which divide France from Spain, as well as to the variety which is found in the neighbourhood of the Caucasus.

**THE SHEPHERD'S DOG OF ENGLAND**

Is larger and stronger than the preceding, and has much the appearance of a cross with the great rough water-dog. It is coarser in the muzzle and the coat, and is destitute of tail. In sagacity, however, I believe it is fully equal to its more northern relative. About London and in many parts of England, the drover’s dog, which is chiefly used in driving sheep, is without any tail: this, however, is not the natural form of the animal; for the tail is destroyed when very young, not by cutting off, but by extracting the bone, an inhuman practice technically called “stringings,” generally performed by pulling out that part with the teeth. After this the fleshy part of the tail contracts to a mere tubercle, and is wholly concealed among the shaggy hair of the animal. Dogs which are treated in this manner are said to endure much more exertion with less fatigue than those in which the tail is entire; and whether this be the fact or not, the degree of fatigue which those dogs can undergo is truly astonishing. Nor is their sagacity less wonderful, for they can divide the drove into any sections that may be required, drive one section one way, and another
another way, whatever may be the number; and after the sections are once parcelled off to the purchasers, they can bring back again, with the most unerring certainty, any individual which has left its section, and joined another. These offices are generally performed by barking and manoeuvring alone, without touching the sheep with the mouth; or if that operation be necessary, the dogs merely lay hold of the sheep, and force them into the intended direction by holding the wool, without biting the skin, or even separating that portion of the wool of which they take hold.

THE SHEPHERD'S DOG OF FRANCE.

This dog is not to be confounded with the matin. He resembles in form, size, and disposition the common sheep-dog of England, and, like that animal, usually possesses little or no tail.

THE DROVER'S DOG

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

THE CUR-DOG

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

CHAPTER X.

THE SPANIELS.

The beautiful race at which we are now arrived is one of especial celebrity, and is peculiarly endeared to us from the many intellectual and moral qualities by which it is characterised, and from its sagacity and affection. As the shepherd's dog is the faithful friend of those in the humbler walks of life, so are the spaniels to "chiefs and ladies bright"—to the gentler sex, *par excellence*, and to those high in "honour and in place." Examples of the good qualities of these dogs
are everywhere notorious. As the shepherd's dog represents the *utilis*, so may these represent the *duces*. The former, the rough and honest comrade of the rough and honest peasant—the latter, the associate of luxurious courtiers and of powerful princes; but still, though moving amidst tinsel and falschood, never losing the primitive honesty and purity of intention which characterise his disposition.

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

**THE SETTER, OR LAND SPANIEL.**

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

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

The Scotch setter stands high on his legs; is usually black-and-tan in colour; has the apex of the skull very prominent; the hair long and silky; the tail well fringed and fan-like; and is altogether a very beautiful dog. He is somewhat quarrelsome, however, and of a forgetful disposition; whence he is very hard to break.

The black setter is a scarce dog, very beautiful and very stanch. The setter is by some sportsmen preferred to the pointer, and where water is to be got at occasionally, during a day's shooting, there can be no doubt of his superiority. He cannot, however, work
without a drink so long as the pointer can, although, if he can obtain a sufficient supply, he can work still longer than that dog. In disposition, the setter is more affectionate, and more attached to his master individually, than the pointer is. He requires more training than the latter dog; but that training must be of a very mild and gentle description, lest the dog be blinded or spirit-broken. The setter will always work best in cold and wet weather. The pointer cannot, from his short hair, which makes him very susceptible of cold; but will stand out a day’s shooting much better than the setter in very warm weather. However, the setter is decidedly the best dog for general use.

The genuine water-spaniel is strongly and compactly formed; the nose fine; the forehead high; apex of the head very prominent, and

furnished with a tuft or top-knot of hair; ears very long and deeply fringed; colour brown; coat curled all over the body, in close, crisp curls; the tail not fringed, but covered with close curls to the point. The smallest speck of white may be regarded as indicative of foul breeding. There is also a black water-spaniel. I saw several in Edinburgh, but I do not find them common anywhere else.

The water-spaniel is much improved in beauty by intermixture
with the land variety. A female of this kind, named "Duck," which we have figured on the preceding page, is in possession of Mr. Maeneil, the musical instrument maker, Capel Street, in this city, and is one of the most beautiful and affectionate creatures I have ever seen. Many prefer a medium, or even small-sized water-spaniel, and I confess that I am of this number, as I conceive them better suited to work, and more active as retrievers. Some, on the other hand, conceive that small size is incompatible with strength; these accordingly take pains to breed large dogs, and some have even resorted to a cross with the Newfoundland to effect this object. A cross is, however, unnecessary—all that is requisite being care in the selection of such whelps as are to be reared, and judicious pairing. The water-spaniel is, I think, the most docile and affectionate of the canine race, and the best dog that such as require him as a companion could possibly keep. He can be trained to do anything but speak—an accomplishment itself, indeed, that was, to a limited extent, possessed some years ago by a spaniel in Germany (Leibnitz, Opera, 1768).

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

Some years ago this dog was in great repute in Dublin. In those days, duck-hunting was a favourite amusement; it used to be practised in the "brackish canal," near the North Wall, and the brown water-spaniel was found superior to all other dogs at this sport; further, he was soft-mouthed, and did not injure the duck when he succeeded in capturing her, consequently the same unfortunate bird answered for a second hunt. Among many other improvements that have characterised the present generation, I may observe that this inhuman sport is no longer permitted.

**THE COCKER**

Is in appearance a diminutive land-spaniel, but with a shorter muzzle, a more rounded head, and longer ears. He is a lively, amusing little dog. The use of the cocker is to spring woodcocks and pheasants in copses and thickets, where larger dogs cannot enter. They are very hardy, and are never tired; you may hunt them for days together,—but they are difficult to keep under command, and give tongue loudly.

**THE SPRINGER**

Is the same with the cocker, but of somewhat larger size and heavier
THE KING CHARLES SPANIEL. 111

form. He is less lively in his movements, and takes matters more coolly.

THE BLenheim SPANIEL.

Blenheim Palace, near Woodstock, Oxfordshire, was formerly the estate of King Ethelred, and since that of Henry II., as also the birthplace of several princes of the royal line of England; subsequently the prison of Queen Elizabeth, during a portion of Queen Mary's reign; and afterwards granted by Queen Anne to John Duke of Marlborough, with the present palace, for his great victory over the French and Bavarians, at the village of Blenheim, in Suabia,

A. D. 1704. In this superb mansion has been preserved, for the last century and a half, the small red-and-white spaniel or comforter, the "Pyrame" of Buffon—the Blenheim spaniel of the present day. Except for their beauty and attachment, they are of but little use, although some of the breeds bring a long price. From their restlessness, and proneness to give tongue on the least alarm, they make excellent watch-dogs inside a house.

THE KING CHARLES SPANIEL

Is distinguished by the shortness of the muzzle—the round and bullet-like shape of the head—the prominence of his eye—the length of his ears—and his colour, which must be black and tan. These were the favourite companions of King Charles II., and the breed has since been carefully preserved by the Duke of Norfolk. The present duke possesses two varieties of the King Charles breed, one black and tan, and of a middling size, like the ordinary field cocker; these latter some-
times occur black and white; they are kept at Arundel Castle, the ancient seat of the Howard family. They are admitted to the apartment in which the duke dines; and the duke has been known to select the first cuts for them off the joints of which he himself was partaking. They are introduced into nearly all the family pictures. It is also on record that James II. was particularly attached to these spaniels, so that they are justly entitled to the appellation of the "ROYAL RACE."

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

Several "Spaniel Clubs" have been formed with the view to promote the careful breeding of these dogs, and of some of these His Royal Highness Prince Albert is patron, both her Majesty and the Prince being enthusiastic admirers of these beautiful little creatures. His Royal Highness has, at no sparing outlay, erected a superb kennel for them at Windsor.

The members of the Spaniel Clubs subscribe a small sum each, and with the amount contributed a handsome collar of silver, with gold entablature, is purchased; a particular day is then named, and judges are appointed, when each member brings to the club-room a dog of his own rearing, and that dog adjudged to possess the greatest number of good-points attains the collar as a prize.
King Charles and Blenheim Spaniels have been known in London to fetch the price of from 150 to 200 guineas! I have already detailed the points on which excellence depends.

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

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

THE WATER DOG.
THE GREAT ROUGH WATER DOG.

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

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

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

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

In a most amusing paper, entitled "Sketches of Burschen Life," published in The Dublin University Magazine for July 1846, is the following laughable anecdote of a poodle and a short-sighted Professor:—

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

"One wet morning, the lecture-room, never at any time remarkable for its fulness, was deserted, save by the student who owned the poodle. The dog, however, had somehow happened to remain at home."
"'Gentlemen," said the short-sighted professor, as he commenced his lecture, "I am sorry to notice that the very attentive student in the white coat, whose industry I have not failed to observe, is, contrary to his usual custom, absent to-day!"

THE LITTLE BARBET

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

THE SILKY DOG—CHIEN DE SOIE.

Like a very small poodle, but covered with a long and silky coat; a favourite with the ladies of France.

THE LION DOG

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

CHAPTER XI.

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

THE MASTIFFS.

The Dog of Thibet, The Bulldog.
The Dog of St. Bernard, or Alpine The Pugdog.
Mastiff. The British Mastiff.

The Spanish, or Cuban Mastiff.

THE DOG OF THIBET.

The mastiff of Thibet is a dog of vast size, standing from thirty to thirty-three inches in height at the shoulder, and being bulky in proportion. His head is large and broad, and the divergence of the parietal bones is very strongly marked. His lips are very full and pendulous, and the skin from the eyebrows forms a fold towards the outer edge of the eyes, ending in the jowl; the neck is remarkably
full, and the chest is furnished with a *devlap*. The usual colour of this dog is black and tan; the coat is large and rugged; the tail very bushy, and carried up over the back.

In disposition, the Thibet dog is said to be very fierce, but much attached to his master. They were originally noticed by Marco Polo, who described them as being "as large as asses," a description contradicted by some subsequent travellers, but since amply confirmed.

The probable cause of these discrepant accounts is, that the Thibet mastiff degenerates rapidly if removed to a milder climate, and several inferior, though similar breeds, exist in different portions of the Himalaya chain of mountains.

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

**THE DOG OF ST. BERNARD, OR ALPINE MASTIFF.**

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

existing dogs, and the verbal accounts of such faithworthy persons as have actually seen them.

Colonel Smith classes the St. Bernard dog with the wolf-dog group; but he, at the same time, informs us, that more than one description of dog is trained by the monks of the Great St. Bernard, for their pious and charitable purposes. One sort he describes as being long-coated, and resembling the Newfoundland, and the other as being short-coated, and resembling the great Dane in colour and hair.

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

The dog originally trained to this service was a large and powerful mastiff, short-coated, deep-jowled, of a yellow colour, with a long, fine tail. L'Ami, who was brought, in 1829, from the convent on the Great St. Bernard, was of this description. He was exhibited in both London and Liverpool to many thousand people, at the charge of one shilling admission. I was favoured by Mr. Clarke of Holborn with a full account of the true dogs of St. Bernard, obtained by him from the very best authorities. A good many years ago a pestilence made its appearance amongst the dogs of the convent, and all were destroyed save one single specimen. Under these circumstances, the monks had no alternative but to cross the breed, which they did with the Spanish or Pyrenean wolf-dog—the most likely cross to which they could have resorted; hence arose the race of dogs ordinarily known as St. Bernards. Some of the true race have now been restored; but they are very scarce, and are not to be possessed under enormous prices; in fact, not to be had from the convent at all; Mr. Clarke being acquainted with a nobleman who offered one hundred guineas for a brace of puppies, without success. Hence the mistakes arising from spurious dogs, supposed to be original, merely because they came from the mountain. Perhaps the finest of this breed in existence is the dog recently kept at Chatsworth. It was a dog of amazing stature, of a yellow colour, with a black muzzle. There is also one at Elvaston Castle, in Derbyshire, for which Lord Harrington gave fifty guineas. In Dublin, these dogs used to be common. They
were introduced by a Frenchman named Casserane, in Ormond Market; he had a male and female, and their whelps were eagerly purchased at five guineas each, as soon as weaned. W. Flood, Esq., of Stillorgan, possesses a noble specimen, of which we give a figure; and there was also, until lately, a beautiful specimen, named "Donna," in possession of John Richardson, Esq., of Newington Terrace, Rathmines. Donna was one of the best water-dogs I ever saw. She was gentle; but very wild and playful, and her tremendous size rendered her romping caresses anything but agreeable. Mr. Richardson went on one occasion to bathe, accompanied by Donna, who watched the progress of unrobing with much apparent curiosity. No sooner had her master plunged into the water, however, than Donna sprang after him, and, doubtless uneasy for his safety, seized him by the shoulder, and dragged him, in spite of all his resistance—and he is both a powerful man and a capital swimmer—with more zeal than gentleness, to land; nor could he ever enter the water in Donna's presence.

Mr. Otley, of Rathmines, possesses a noble dog of this breed, of remarkably large size and striking appearance; and Mr. Bryan has a fine dog, which was brought some years ago from the Alps direct.
The Spanish or Cuban mastiff is a very powerfully-built dog, of from twenty-six to twenty-eight inches in height, with extraordinary development of bone and muscle. His head is of prodigious size, even apparently too large in proportion to his body; his eyes are placed very far apart; his upper lip pendulous, but not so much so as in the preceding dog; the ear is small, and not perfectly pendulous, being erect at the root, but the tip falling over; colour usually tawny or light rufus; the under jaw is also undershot, and I do not think I can give my readers a better idea of the dog, than by describing him as a gigantic bull-dog, occupying precisely the same position with regard to the prodigious mastiff of the Alps, which our own British bull-dog does in reference to the English mastiff. The Spanish or Cuban mastiff is a dog of great courage; in Spain he is used in the combats of the amphitheatre, and is commonly known on the Continent as the "Spanish bull-dog." The dogs procured from Spain or Portugal will be found to answer my present description more fully than such as we may now procure from Cuba; the latter breed having, in many instances, undergone much alteration and deterioration by crossing with the Cuban bloodhound. J. Aylmer, Esq., of 5, Bachelor's Walk, Dublin, has the finest of the breed, perhaps, in Britain. He is frequently importing new and perfect specimens from Cadiz.
Colonel H. Smith conceives this race to have been identical with the broad-mouthed dogs for which Britain was celebrated during the Roman era; and certainly as this race answers to ancient description far better than our common bull-dog, I am disposed fully to concur with him.

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

**THE BULL-DOG.**

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

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

The bull-dog is remarkable for the obstinacy with which he keeps his hold, suffering himself to be dismembered—and the merciless experiment has, to the disgrace of human nature, been tried more than once—rather than quit it. He is an excellent water-dog, very faithful to his master; but, unfortunately, has become too notorious, from the inhuman and blackguard sports for which he has been generally used, to be suffered to follow the heel of any man who does not desire to be set down as a patron of ruffianism and infamy.

The bull-dog is not wholly destitute of good qualities, as some writers have represented him to be. Besides his courage, he possesses strong attachment to his master. Mr. Jesse relates an anecdote of a bull-dog which, having been accustomed to be his master's travelling companion in his carriage for several years, on his place being allotted to a new favourite, refused to eat, sickened, pined, and died.
A bull-dog saved a shipwrecked crew by towing a rope from the vessel to the shore, after two fine Newfoundland dogs had perished in the attempt. I should attribute his success to his indomitable courage, which prevented him from giving up his exertions while life remained.

The British Mastiff.

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

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

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

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

MONGRELS.

The principal Mongrels are —

The Lurcher.

The Bandog.

The Kangaroo Dog.

The Dropper.

The Bull-terrier.

These mongrel races may be quickly enumerated: —

THE LURCHER

I have already treated of among the rough greyhounds.

THE BANDOG

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

THE DROPPER

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

THE BULL-TERRIER.

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

THE KANGAROO DOG.

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

CHAPTER XII.

GENERAL TREATMENT OF THE DOG.

Those who desire to breed dogs of peculiar excellence for themselves will be certain of success, if they attend to one or two simple directions. Do not be satisfied with the appearance alone of either parent. Ascertain the pedigree as far as possible; for it not infrequently happens that a whelp, having all the appearance of high breeding, will be accidentally produced when one parent is absolutely of a different breed, or haply a common cur. From such stock, however, it would be unsafe to breed, as the probability is, in such cases, in favour of the whelps, more or less, taking after the bad blood, or, as it is called, throwing back. Ascertain the pedigree, therefore, for at least four generations.

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

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

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

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

DEWCLAWS.

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

CROPING AND TAILING.

Some persons like to crop the ears of a terrier; others like them
to be left in their natural condition. Mr. Youatt objects to cropping:
so do many. I say nothing either for or against, although humanity
urges many arguments against it; but if you be resolved on cropping,
do it humanely; let three cuts suffice. Draw the ears over the head
until the points meet; with a very sharp scissors cut both points off to
the length you desire; then with a single cut to each, from below
upwards, cut away the hinder portion of the flaps of the years up to
the point; or, which is both a more certain and a far more humane
process, have a stamp made, with sharp edges, place the ear upon a
block, and a single stroke will suffice.

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

**TRAINING.**

The educational training of the dog should be very carefully attended to, if you would have him either as a servant or companion, and the first lesson should be to teach him obedience. By adopting a somewhat strict discipline at first, much future unpleasantness will be avoided. The dogs usually made the companions of man possess in a high degree the qualities of attention, memory, imagination, and comparison, and, by careful cultivation, most interesting qualities may be developed. In other parts of this little work we have given many instances, which need not be repeated here, showing how nearly canine instinct is allied to reason, and how capable is the dog of something like mental civilization, in addition to

"Many a good
And useful quality, and virtue too:
Fidelity that neither bribe nor threat
Can move nor warp; and gratitude for small
And trivial favours, lasting as the life,
And glistening even in the dying eye."

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

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

"Two fine dogs, of the Spanish breed, were introduced by M. Léonard, with the customary French politesse—the largest, by the name of M. Philax; the other, as M. Brac (or Spot). The former had been in training three, the latter, two years. They were in vigorous health, and having howed very gracefully, seated themselves on the hearth-rug side by side. M. Léonard then gave a lively description of the means he had employed to develop the cerebral system in these animals; how, from having been fond of the chase, and ambitious of possessing the best trained dogs, he had employed the usual course of training—how the conviction had been impressed on his mind, that by gentle usage, and steady perseverance in inducing the animal to
repeat, again and again, what was required—not only would the dog be capable of performing that specific act, but that part of the brain, which was brought into activity by the mental effort, would become more largely developed; and hence a permanent increase of mental power be obtained. This reasoning is in accordance with the known laws of the physiology of the nervous system, and is fraught with the most important results. We may refer the reader, interested in the subject, to the masterly little work of Doctor Verity, 'Change produced in the Nervous System by Civilization.' After this introduction, M. Léonard spoke to his dogs in French, in his usual tone, and ordered one of them to walk, the other to lie down, to run, to gallop, halt, crouch, &c., which they performed as promptly and correctly as the most docile children. Then he directed them to go through the usual exercises of the manège, which they performed as well as the best trained ponies at Astley's. He next placed six cards of different colours on the floor, and, sitting with his back to the dogs, directed one to pick up the blue card, and the other the white, &c., varying his orders rapidly, and speaking in such a manner, that it was impossible the dogs could have executed his commands, if they had not a perfect knowledge of the words. For instance, M. Léonard said, 'Philax, take the red card and give it to Brac; and Brac, take the white card, and give it to Philax.' The dogs instantly did this, and exchanged cards with each other. He then said, 'Philax, put your card on the green, and Brac, put yours on the blue,' and this was instantly performed. Pieces of bread and meat were placed on the floor, with figured cards, and a variety of directions were given to the dogs, so as to put their intelligence and obedience to a severe test. They brought the meat, bread, or cards, as commanded, but did not attempt to eat or to touch, unless ordered. Philax was then ordered to bring a piece of meat, and give it to Brac, and then Brac was told to give it back to Philax, who was to return it to its place. Philax was next told he might bring a piece of bread, and eat it; but, before he had time to swallow it, his master forbade him, and directed him to show that he had not disobeyed, and the dog instantly protruded the crust between his lips.

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

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

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

The company was divided into two groups: one half appearing in dresses of a red colour, and the other being attired in blue. The blues occupied the model of a fortress, which the red troop attacked, drawing up their artillery in front, and opening a heavy fire upon the enemy, which the blues returned with their cannon from the fortress. The reds were, however, at length victorious; the fortress tottered, and the reds dashed across the defences. Suddenly the works blew up with a tremendous crash, and several dogs, on both sides, lay motionless as they fell, apparently severely maimed, if not entirely dead. When the effects of the explosion had died away, the proprietor advanced, and pulled the performers about as dead dogs, to the no small horror and amazement of the spectators; but immediately on the dropping of the curtain, the apparently wounded or dead dogs sprang to their feet, and resumed their proper places.
The next scene introduced one of the dogs a captive between two of his comrades, all attired in military costume. The captive, being condemned as a deserter, was sentenced to be shot, and the sentence carried forthwith into execution by his canine comrades. On being fired at he fell, struggled convulsively for a few seconds, then apparently died; in this state he was dragged about the stage; his comrades then placed him in a barrow, and wheeled him away. He subsequently appeared placed in a bier drawn by dogs, with likewise a canine driver, who flourished a whip over his companions, and with a procession of the whole company, attired as soldiers, moved slowly to the solemn dead march, deposited their comrade in the grave, and thus concluded their performance. These dogs were of various descriptions—pugs, poodles, mongrels.

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

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

CHAPTER XIII.

DISEASES OF THE DOG.

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

Rabies, or Canine Madness.

Sometimes Improperly Called Hydrophobia.

Hydrophobia, a term expressing fear of water, is, when applied to this malady as occurring in the dog, grossly incorrect, a dog labouring under rabies drinking water not only willingly, but greedily, to the very last. Dogs labouring under rabies never have fits. A knowledge of this fact may set many fears at rest, and save the life of many a poor dog.

I need scarcely say that no curative treatment will avail, once a dog has been seized with this terrible disease: my duty, therefore, merely consists in describing the symptoms which indicate the approach of danger, that the affected animal may be timely destroyed; and also to point out the treatment to be pursued in the event of a fellow-creature having been bitten. One of the earliest symptoms of rabies in a dog is restlessness. He is constantly turning round and round before he will lie down; his countenance becomes anxious; his eyes bloodshot; he fancies that he sees objects around him which have no real existence, and he snaps at the empty air; his fondness for his master increases, and with it his propensity to lick the hands and face—a filthy practice at any time, and one most dangerous—for the virus generated under the influence of rabies is deposited on the surface, and acts as if the person had been inoculated by it. Children should never be suffered to indulge dogs in this filthy habit. In a state of confirmed rabies the appetite becomes depraved, his natural food is neglected, and at the same time every sort of filthy trash is greedily devoured. Eating his own excrement is an early symptom, and so sure a one, that the moment a dog is seen doing so he should be destroyed, or, at all events, carefully confined.

Rubbing the paws against the sides of the mouth. If this be done to remove a bone, the mouth will remain open; but when it takes place as the precursor of rabies, the jaws close after the rubbing ceases.
Soon follows an insatiable thirst; so insatiable that the poor animal often plunges his whole muzzle into the water; and here you may observe spume left upon the surface. Soon the dog falls or staggers, and sometimes, but not invariably, becomes delirious. Death speedily ensues under these symptoms.

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

The following singular account of the discovery of a supposed antidote to this terrible disease appeared some years ago in several continental newspapers, as an extract from the Berlin State Gazette. As the frightful malady to which it relates has, in these countries at least, been unanimously pronounced by the medical faculty to admit of no cure, if, indeed, even of a mitigation of its horrors, during the passage of the wretched patient from the appearance of its first symptoms to that, to him blissful, moment when death closes the scene, I feel convinced that I shall not be deemed guilty of presumption, if I suggest that, authenticated as appears to be its professed success, it is, at the very least, deserving of a trial should a case unhappily present itself. I may also add, that I have diligently examined all the works relative to the dog that have hitherto been published, and have not found the following particulars detailed in any:—

In the year 1813, when Maraschetti, an operator in the Moscow hospital, was visiting the Ukraine, fifteen persons applied to him for relief on the same day, all having been bitten by a rabid dog. Whilst the surgeon was preparing such remedies as suggested themselves, a deputation of several old men waited upon him, with a request that he would permit a peasant, who had for some time enjoyed considerable reputation for his success in treating cases of hydrophobia, to take these patients under his care. The fame of this peasant and his skill were known to M. Maraschetti, and he acceded to the request of the deputation on certain conditions: in the first place, that he himself should be present and made cognizant of the mode of treatment employed; secondly, that proof should be given him of the dog that had injured the sufferers being really rabid—and then that he, the surgeon, should select one of the patients to be treated by himself.
according to the ordinary course adopted by the medical profession. This might, at a hasty view, be deemed an improper tampering with human life on the part of the Russian surgeon; but when the admitted hoplessness of all remedies is recollected the reader will refrain from animadversion. M. Maraschetti selected, as his own patient, a little girl of six years old; the other condition was duly complied with; no doubt could exist of the genuine rabies of the dog, who perished shortly afterwards in extreme agony.

The peasant gave to his fourteen patients a decoction of the tops and blossoms of the broom plant (Flor. Genistæ lutæ tinctoriæ), in the quantities of about a pound and a-half daily; and twice a-day he examined beneath their tongues, where, he stated, small knots, containing the virus, would form. Several of these knots did eventually appear, and as soon as they did so, they were carefully opened and cauterised with a red-hot wire, after which the patients were made to rinse their mouths, and gargle with the decoction. The result was, that all the patients,—two of whom only, and these the last bitten, did not show the knots,—were dismissed cured, at the expiration of six weeks, during which time they had continued to drink the decoction. The poor little girl, who had been treated according to the usual medical formula, was attacked with hydrophobic symptoms on the seventh day, and died within eight hours after the accession of the first paroxysm. M. Maraschetti saw, three years afterwards, the other fourteen persons all living, and in good health.

In 1818, five years after the above occurrences, M. Maraschetti had another opportunity afforded him, in Podolia, of testing the value of this important remedy, in the treatment of twenty-six persons, all of whom had been bitten by rabid dogs. Of these persons, nine were men, eleven were women, and six were children. He used the decoction of broom, as before, and a careful examination of their tongues gave the following results:—Five men, all the women, and three of the children, exhibited the knots—those most severely bitten on the third day, others on the fifth, seventh, and ninth; and one woman, who had been bitten only superficially on the leg, not until the twenty-first day. The remaining seven showed no knots, but all continued to drink the decoction; and in six weeks all the patients had recovered.

From these cases, M. Maraschetti was led to the opinion, that the rabid virus, after remaining a short time in the wound, becomes absorbed, and, for a certain time, resides beneath the tongue, at the orifices of the submaxillary glands, where it develops itself in the
small knots observed by him. The average time for the appearance of these knots would appear to be from the third to the ninth day after the bite—that if not opened within twenty-four hours after the first formation, the virus is reabsorbed into the system, and the patient is lost beyond all hope of cure. On these accounts, Maraschetti recommended that the patient should be at once examined beneath the tongue, which examination should be continued for six weeks, during which period they should take one pound and a half of the decoction of broom daily, or a drachm of the powder four times a day. If, during this time, no knots appear, there is nothing to be apprehended; but if they do appear, they should be freely opened and cauterized, using the gargle afterwards, as already described.

Since the above statement appeared in the *Berlin State Gazette*, an official report was made to the Prussian government, and published in a subsequent number of that paper, representing that knots, similar to those described by M. Maraschetti, had been formed beneath the tongue of a rabid dog, in Westphalia. It is possible that the above account may be familiar to most, if not all, of my medical readers, and that many of them may regard it as resulting from either imposture or error; but, as one and all of them admit that they cannot cure this dreadful disease, surely any suggestion is worth acting upon, if a melancholy opportunity should occur.

This is a subject, indeed, on which owners of dogs cannot be too particular, and therefore we shall add to these remarks a few cases for the benefit of the incautious. A spaniel belonging to a lady became rabid; it was rarely out of her sight; she was not conscious of its having been bitten, and her servant denied all knowledge. The animal died, and in a few weeks the man was taken ill. He now confessed that one morning the dog had been attacked and rolled in the mud by another dog, and that he had washed it before taking it into the drawing-room. The dog that attacked it was rabid, and some of the saliva must have remained on the coat, by which the servant was inoculated.

Another case must be named.—A dog, much attached to its owners, had been missing, and returning home covered with dirt, it slunk to its blanket, would attend to no one, and Mr. Youatt was sent for. The dog was lying on his mistress’s lap, every moment shifting his position and starting at every noise. Mr. Youatt at once pronounced it rabies. The dog had been licking both their hands; he stated the nature of the case, and urged them to
send for a surgeon—the surgeon was sent for, he did his duty, and they escaped.

On the treatment of this most dreadful of all maladies, Mr. Youatt thus remarks:—"The veterinary surgeon, when operating on the horse, cattle, or the dog, frequently has recourse to the actual cautery. I could, perhaps, excuse this practice, although I would not adopt it, in superficial wounds; but I do not know the instrument that could be safely used in deeper ones. If it were sufficiently small to adapt itself to the tortuous course of small wounds, it would be cooled and inert before it could have destroyed the deepest portions of the wound." He proceeds to state a case in which several horses had been bit, caustic being applied to one which was saved—the hot iron to the others, which were lost, mentioning other cases in which caustic was efficacious—cautery perfectly useless. The caustic recommended is lunar caustic, this being perfectly manageable, and capable of being sharpened to a point, and applied to all the sinosities of the wound. Liquid and other applications of a soft or semi-fluid mass are apt to aggravate the disease by re-inoculating the injured parts, while by the effects of lunar caustic, it being dry, hard, and insoluble, this danger is avoided, and the virus wrapped up in the compound.

**Dumb Madness**

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

**Canker in the Ear.**

This is a disease to which all water-dogs are very subject, probably produced by a determination of blood to the head, resulting from that part not sharing in a general immersion. The treatment should therefore commence with keeping the affected dogs from water. The earliest symptoms are, shaking the head, holding it to one side, and violent scratching of the ear. When these are perceived, the ears should be well washed with warm water and soap; and then syringed out with a solution of sugar of lead, in the proportion of about a teaspoonful of the lead to one pint of distilled water. If distilled water cannot be procured, use rain water. Besides this, the washing should be repeated twice or thrice daily, and the bowels of
the dog kept open by a daily laxative; if these remedies fail, a seton must be run through the back of the neck, and strong doses of aloe given every second day. If you can, apply to a veterinary surgeon.

JAUNDICE.

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

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

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

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

WORMS.

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

The teos, like the earth-worm in form and appearance, but of a white colour. The tenia, or tape-worm, several inches in length, and flat for nearly its whole extent. There is also another description of worm that is peculiar, I think, to very young puppies, and which appear to be generated in their intestines in great quantities. This worm is from two to four inches in length, of a dirty white colour, round, and pointed at both extremities. Sometimes these worms collect in balls or masses, to the number of a dozen or more in each mass. Many young puppies fall away in flesh, until they actually
reach the extreme of emaciation; fits supervene, and death soon carries them away. The deaths are attributed to distemper; worms are the true cause, and these of the description I have indicated.

I have found the following treatment most efficacious; and I have had very great experience in rearing puppies:—Give, say on Monday, a small pill formed of Venice turpentine and flour, from the size of a very minute pea to that of a small marble, according to the size and age of the pup. The former will suffice for Blenheim or King Charles pups, Italian greyhounds, &c.; the latter for bloodhounds, Newfoundland, mastiffs, &c. On Tuesday, give a small dose of castor-oil; a teaspoonful to the smaller, a tablespoonful to the larger breeds; in neither case, however, quite full. On Wednesday, give nothing; on Thursday, give the turpentine as before; on Friday, the oil; on Saturday, nothing; and so on.

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

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

**MANGE**

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

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

<table>
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<th>Ingredient</th>
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<tr>
<td>Train Oil</td>
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<td>Turpentine</td>
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<td>Naphtha</td>
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<td>Oil of Tar</td>
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And — Sulphur, in powder, sufficient to make the stuff of a proper consistence.

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

When a dog is very bad, the skin or soles of the feet, and sometimes the claws, will come off, in which case I would recommend steeping them in a decoction of strong oak-bark and alum. It can be best done by tying the feet up in thick cloths, kept wet with the above mixture.

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

Change of feeding is serviceable in the treatment of mange; but it is a mistake to suppose that this must always be to a reduced regimen. In many cases, mange is only the offspring of filth and hunger; and in these cases the change must be to clean bedding and generous diet. The change of food, however, should not be sudden; otherwise not only may the existing disorder be aggravated, but other and less manageable affections may be superinduced.

**DISTEMPER.**

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

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

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

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

**DIARRHEA.**

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

**COSTIVENESS.**

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

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

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

**BROKEN LEGS.**

In cases of broken legs, tie the part up with thick canvas, covered with tar, which will adhere to the hair, previous to putting on splints.

**MEDICINES.**

Dogs labouring under disease should be treated with great gentleness: they should be kept perfectly clean, and a warm bed provided for them. The medicines used by the veterinary surgeon for the dog are very numerous, and as a general rule they should only be administered under the direction of a surgeon. They are used as a pill or bolus, or in a liquid form, and are most conveniently given by two persons—one sitting and holding the dog between his knees, while the other forces open the mouth by pressure on the lips of the upper jaw.

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**LIST OF MEDICINES.**

**Alum.**—A powerful astringent: ten to fifteen grains may be given in obstinate cases of diarrhoea. **Antimony** in the form of James's powders, used to produce gentle perspiration. **Alternatives** are intended to produce a slow change in the system without interfering with other arrangements. Five parts sublimate of sulphur, one of nitre, one of linseed meal, and two of palm oil, is a useful alternative. **Barbadoes Aloes.**—An excellent aperient, consists of eight parts of powdered aloes, one part antimonial powder, one part ginger, four parts palm oil, well heat up together, and made into balls of about half a drachm. Mr. Blaine says the smallest dog may take from fifteen to twenty grains, administered in half drachm balls every four or five hours. **Bark Bark**—An infusion of two ounces of campharides in a pint of oil of turpentine, kept on for several days, is a gentle blister, maintaining sufficient irritation and inflammation without blistering the skin to remove certain causes of lameness. **Calomel.**—A dangerous medicine, but useful in small doses in cases of liver complaint, and combined with aloes in doses never exceeding three grains in cases of virulent mange. **Castor Oil** (Oleum Ricini) possesses the best properties of the fixed vegetable oils. Three parts of the oil, two of syrup of buckthorn, and one of syrup of poppies, form a useful medicine where a narcotic stimulant is requisite. **Catechu.**—Extract of the acesia tree (Acacia Catechu), and possesses a powerful astringent property. Mixed with opium, chalk, and powdered gum, it stops diarrhoea. As a tincture it assists the healing principle in hounds. **Chalk** (Oreia preparata) is useful in combination with ginger. Catechu and opium in all cases of purging, particularly in the purging of distemper.
CHLORIDES of LIME should be sprinkled from time to time in the kennel or dog-house for purposes of cleanliness. It is useful for washing ill-conditioned wounds.

CLYSTERS.—Applied when the nature and progress of disease renders necessary a quick evacuation of the contents of the bowels. It usually consists of warm water, rendered more stimulating, when necessary, by adding salts, oil, or aloes; for killing worms in the rectum, or larger intestines, using oils. For diarrhoea, using astringents; for nourishment, using gruel.

DIGITALIS.—Dried leaves of the foxglove, which yield their virtues both to water and to alcohol. It is a powerful sedative narcotic, and is useful in all inflammatory and febrile complaints.

Epsom Salts.—A mild and effective aperient for most animals; but for the dog the castor-oil mixture is preferable.

GENTIAN.—The root of Gentiana lutea is valuable as a tonic, febrifuge and stomachic. It has little or no smell, but is bitter to the taste.

GINGER is considered an aromatic, and is less heating to the system than might be expected from its pungent taste. It is antispasmodic and carminative. It is also useful for dogs as a cordial and tonic.

Hog's Lard.—The basis of all ointments used in dog medicines.

IODINE.—A new medicine, found how-ever to be very universally diffused throughout the vegetable and mineral kingdoms; it is rapidly superseding the cantharides and turpentine blister.

Lunar Caustic (Nitrate of Silver).—Recommended by Mr. Youatt as superseding all other caustics, and preferable in cases of rabies to the knife.

Nitrate of Potash.—A mild and cooling diuretic, given in doses of eight to ten grains.

Nitrate of Silver is applied for the same purpose.

Nitric Acid destroys warts and excrescences, by being dropped on the part and bandaged.

Palm Oil.—An excellent emollient when unadulterated, being milder than common lard.

Peruvian Baked is an excellent tonic in distemper, combined with iodide of iron.

Prussic Acid allays the irritation of the skin in dogs: it requires care, and may be fatal when the skin is abraded.

Sulphur.—An excellent alternative, and, combined with antimony and nitre, particularly useful in mange, surfeit, grease, and for dogs out of condition.

Turpentine.—An excellent diuretic and antispasmodic. It is also a most effective sweating blister, and highly recommended in strains.

Vinegar.—Useful for sprains, bruises, and fomentations.
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