## CHAPTER VII.



## CHAPTER VIII.



## CHAPTER IX.

# ADVERTISEMENT.

The following 'History of the Dog' has been written to carry forward the plan announced in the volume of 'The Elephant,' namely, to complete those works which have for their object to furnish very complete details of the three quadrupeds (the Elephant, the Dog, and the Horse) who have been the great instruments furnished by Divine Providence to man, to enable him to "replenish the earth and subdue it;" and who, by their remarkable sagacity, have, in various states of society, deserved to be regarded as his especial friends.

The first of this Series, 'The Elephant,' was written by the Editor of the 'Weekly Volume,' and was originally published in the 'Library of Entertaining Knowledge.' The present volume is composed by Mr. W. C. L. Martin, whose reputation as a Zoologist is well established; and he will also furnish the concluding 'History of the Horse,' which will be shortly published.

C. K.

THE

# STORY OF THE DOG:

## ITS ORIGIN, PHYSICAL AND MORAL CHARACTERISTICS,

AND

## ITS PRINCIPAL VARIETIES.

BY

W. C. L. MARTIN.



LONDON:
CHARLES KNIGHT & Co., LUDGATE STREET.

1845.

London :—Printed by W. Clowes and Sons, Stamford Street.

# HISTORY OF THE DOG.



## CHAPTER I.

### ORIGINAL TYPE OF THE DOG.

It is a singular fact, of which many persons are not aware, that all attempts to ascertain the primitive origin, the wild stock, of our domestic quadrupeds, appear hitherto to have been unsuccessful.* Their primeval condition and characters are lost in the obscure of bygone time, nor know we when, or under what circumstances, or by what nations, the several wild stocks were reclaimed from a state of freedom, and taught to submit to the bondage of man. With respect to our domestic poultry, the case is somewhat different. The primitive root of each species is, we think, fairly determined; yet we are equally in the dark as to the circumstances attending their first subjugation, and their early dispersion throughout various countries often remote from that in which the bird is naturally indigenous. The common fowl, for example, originally from India, existed in our

* The Buffalo used in Asia and Italy, if it can be considered as a *truly domestic* quadruped, is perhaps an exception. We may add the Yak and Gyall.

island before the invasion of Julius Cæsar. It would seem, indeed, as if a record of events and operations bearing intimately on the welfare of the human race, but destitute of that meretricious glare which surrounds the deeds of warriors crimson with blood, or of usurpers laying waste the towns and villages of a ravaged country, were unworthy of the pen of the historian, or even of his notice. So it has been in all ages. History is replete with the mighty deeds, perchance rather crimes, of mighty men;—it speaks trumpet-tongued of war, and the "gaudia certaminis," the "rapture of the fight," and the prowess of heroes,—but it is silent respecting the motives, the attempts, the failures, or the success of those who unobtrusively laboured in the domestication of wild animals, serviceable to our species, and valuable as property;—it is equally silent respecting the rise of metallurgy, the discovery of metallic ores, and of the modes adopted in obtaining and working the pure metal. Yet we know that at a very early period of man's existence upon earth, there was "a keeper of sheep" and "an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron."

As history, then, is silent respecting the primitive stocks of our domestic quadrupeds, the zoologist has nothing to guide him except observations and experiments. To these he has had recourse, but with little success. In the case of the dog, indeed, the difficulty of ascertaining its origin is peculiarly great. Various naturalists of profound research have diligently investigated it, and few have deduced from their labours the same opinion. Some have confidently referred the dog to the wolf in its wild type,—others to the jackal; in both of which the pupil of the eye is circular (linear in the fox). Oth

again, contend that it is a factitious animal, descended from a mixture of various species; and most deny the existence of any aboriginally wild race of dogs at present in existence.

So great is the difference in form, size, hair, qualities, and disposition which the various breeds of the domestic dog exhibit, that it is difficult to believe, interbreed as they may together, that all are the descendants of one common parentage. We are among those who believe that, as there are degrees in the relationship of species to species, some may, although distinct, approximate so nearly as not only to produce, *inter se*, mules incapable of interbreeding, but a progeny of fertile hybrids capable of admixture, perhaps even to the most unlimited extent. That of such a mixed origin is the domestic dog was the opinion of Pallas, and to this circumstance he attributes its extensive varieties; for he observes that those domesticated animals which either do not intermix with other species, or which produce with others an unprolific progeny, are very little changed, however completely and anciently they have been under the dominion of man. Such, then, may be the origin of our breeds of dogs; but we must not forget the modifying effects of climate, diet, training, and domestication on an animal which is evidently peculiarly susceptible of impressions in its physical nature, no less than on its moral (if the term be allowed), from the thousand agencies connected with a state of the most complete subjugation, and those ever in active operation. But if we hesitate to receive the theory of Pallas, still more so do we to receive that of some naturalists who regard the wolf as the sole parent of the dog. This opinion is maintained by many able

zoologists, and among them by Mr. Bell, whose arguments are, it must be acknowledged, entitled to the greatest consideration. "In order," says this eminent naturalist, "to come to any rational conclusion on this head, it will be necessary to ascertain to what type the animal approaches most nearly, after having for many successive generations existed in a wild state removed from the influence of domestication, and of association with mankind. Now we find that there are several instances of dogs in such a state of wildness as to have lost 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 amongst the Indians of North America, and another, also partially tamed, in South America, which deserve attention; and it is found that these races in different degrees, and in a greater degree as they are more wild, exhibit the lank and gaunt form, the lengthened limbs, the long and slender muzzle, and the great comparative strength, which characterize the wolf; and that the tail of the Australian dog, which may be considered as the most remote from a state of domestication, assumes the slightly bushy form of 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 domestic 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 the 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

sential parts; and to strengthen further the probability, the dog and wolf will readily breed together, and their progeny is fertile. The obliquity of the position of the eyes of the wolf is one of the characters in which it differs from the dogs; and although it is very desirable not to rest too much on the effects of habit on structure, it is not perhaps straining the point to attribute the forward direction of the eyes in the dogs to the constant habit for many successive generations of looking towards their master, and obeying his voice." To these remarks is added the fact that the period of gestation with the dog and the wolf is the same, viz., sixty-three days; in the jackal it is fifty-nine days. Now we at once admit that the theory laid down by Mr. Bell is not destitute of much that is worthy our deep consideration; we have consequently given our earnest attention to it; but we cannot say that we adopt it. It is at once conceded that the wolf and the dog will, under some circumstances, breed together,—so will the dog and jackal,—but the progeny of the wolf and dog, if at all fertile, as Buffon seems to prove, is so in a low degree, the mixed race failing and becoming by degrees extinct. With respect to the continuance of hybrids between a dog and jackal race, we have no data to found any assertions upon. But suppose the progeny of the dog and wolf, and of the dog and jackal, were fertile, *inter se*, for ever, what would be proved? This, in the opinion of some naturalists—that the dog, wolf, and jackal were one and the same species; but in our opinion, only that the species, truly distinct, were of very near affinity, as undoubtedly they are, and therefore capable of producing fertile hybrids. The fact, however, is, that no one can bring before

us a pure genuine descendant of the wolf and dog of the second or third generation, though a strain of the wolf and jackal may exist in various breeds. And here we may just glance at the character of the wolf, in order to see if the animal be such as would lead man in the earliest stages of human existence to select it as a guardian of the fold. The wolf is ferocious, but, after all, cowardly, recluse, skulking, and wary. It manifests no attachment to man. We knew a wolf belonging to the late celebrated anatomist Joshua Brookes, which roamed at liberty about his yard, and which while young was caressed by the students; it was familiar enough, and so continued till fully adult, when it showed itself in its wolfish colours, and instead of being docile became an object of terror. Mr. Bell, indeed, records an instance in which a female wolf at the Zoological Gardens was very gentle and familiar, and even brought out her pups to share in the caresses of those to whom she was partial; and he also adverts to the wolf whose history is recorded by M. Frederic Cuvier, and which evinced towards its master the most dog-like affection, displaying at the same time memory and intelligence. These are extraordinary cases, and may be paralleled with similar ones relative to the lion, tiger, hyæna, horse, and elephant; and certainly do not prove that the wolf and the dog, though closely related, are identical with each other. Besides we have yet to be shown (which experiments only can decide) that there is in the wolf that physical pliability, that susceptibility of modification in its organic and moral organization, which will permit its conversion into the mastiff, the hound, the setter, the spaniel, the lapdog, and the pug.

There is another point not entirely to be overlooked, though we would not lay much stress upon it, namely, the inveterate hatred which subsists between the dog and the wolf. It is said, and perhaps with truth, that he who leaves the party with which he was connected, and joins the opposite, is the most rancorous opponent of his former colleagues. But though this may apply to ourselves, we have no right to infer that it holds good with regard to a race of lower animals. The Esquimaux dog, which closely resembles the grey wolf of the high northern regions of America, as far as external appearance goes, dreads the latter animal, to which it often falls a sacrifice; on the contrary, it is eager in the chase of the bear. Captain Parry, in the Journal of his Second Voyage, says:—"A flock of thirteen wolves, the first yet seen, crossed the ice in the Bay from the direction of the huts, and passed near the ships. These animals, as we afterwards learned, had accompanied or closely followed the Esquimaux on their journey to the island on the preceding day; and they proved to us the most troublesome part of their suite. They so much resemble the Esquimaux dogs, that had it not been for some doubt amongst the officers who had seen them, whether they were so or not, and the consequent fear of doing these poor people an irreparable injury, we might have killed most of them the same evening; for they came boldly to look for food within a few yards of the Fury, and remained there for some time." He says in a subsequent page, "These animals were so hungry and fearless as to take away some of the Esquimaux dogs in a snow-house near the Hecla's stern, though the men were at the time within a few yards of them." Nor is it only in the dreary country

of the Esquimaux that this hostility between the wolf and dog exists; it is everywhere the same. Mr. Broke, in his travels in Sweden, says:—"During my journey from Tornea to Stockholm, I heard everywhere of the ravages committed by wolves, not upon the human species or the cattle, but chiefly upon the peasants' dogs, considerable numbers of which had been devoured. I was told that these were the favourite prey of this animal; and that in order to seize upon them with the greater ease, it puts itself into a crouching posture, and begins to play several antic tricks to attract the attention of the poor dog, which, caught by these seeming demonstrations of friendship, and fancying it to be one of his own species from the similarity, advances towards it to join in the gambols, and is carried off by its treacherous enemy. Several peasants that I conversed with mentioned their having been eye-witnesses of this circumstance." Captain Parry asserts the same respecting the Esquimaux wolf, and states that a Newfoundland dog belonging to one of the ships being enticed to play with some wolves on the ice, would have been carried off had not the sailors gone in a body to his rescue. From this it appears that the wolf does not acknowledge the specific identity of the dog with himself; for we believe that few animals habitually, and by preference, make their own species their prey.

If, because of a certain degree of resemblance, we are to regard the Esquimaux dog as nothing more than a domesticated wolf, faithful to his masters, who often treat him with blows and harsh usage, so must we for the same reason regard the Mackenzie River or Hare-Indian dog as a domesticated species of fox. This elegant dog

Australian Dog.

Dingo.

is characterized by an elongated pointed muzzle, sharp erect ears, and by a bushy tail, not carried erect, but only slightly curved upwards, and by general slenderness of contour. In its native country, the banks of the Mackenzie River, and of the Great Bear Lake, traversed by the arctic circle, this variety of the dog never barks; and the pair brought to England by Sir John Franklin and Dr. Richardson never acquired this canine language —this mode of expressing their feelings; but one born in the Zoological Gardens made his voice sound as loudly as any other dog of the same age and size. The hair of the Mackenzie River dog is full, deep, and fine; in summer it is marked by patches of slate grey, but in winter becomes white and more thick and furry. The animal is of great use to the natives of those bleak realms where the moose and reindeer are objects of the chase during the winter. This dog has not indeed strength enabling it to encounter these animals, but, from the lightness of its body and the breadth of its feet, it runs easily over the snow without sinking, if the slightest crust be upon the surface, and can overtake the quarry and keep it at bay till the hunters come up. Dr. Richardson says, that "it was perhaps formerly spread over the northern parts of America, but being fitted only for the chase, it has since the introduction of guns given way to the mongrel race sprung from the Esquimaux Newfoundland and this very breed, with occasional intermixture of European kinds. Now, if we admit, what some have contended for, that this graceful and intelligent dog is a descendant of the arctic or some other species of fox, and that the Esquimaux dog is the progeny of the arctic wolf, it follows that as these dogs breed together, their parent stocks

must be specifically identical. We doubt, however, the imputed origin of either of these dogs, whether from the wolf or fox. It is a remarkable fact that many wild or half-wild dogs, though wolfish in aspect, do not resemble the wolf in colour. They are, we believe, as a general rule, red. A brief notice of these wild or half-wild breeds of dogs may not be here out of place, as we shall find from it that though these animals be wolfish in aspect, they are not truly wolves,—they have sufficient characteristics of their own by which they are to be distinguished,—they are wild *dogs*. Let us look first at the Dingo, or Australian dog. Are we to consider this dog, of which packs roam through the wilds of Australia, preying upon the kangaroo and the flocks of the settler, as descendants of a domestic race, returned to a state of freedom,—or as an original wild race, of which the rude savages have rendered some semi-domesticated? If the former, we must confess that we are ignorant alike of the origin of this dog and of the circumstances attending its introduction. For ourselves we cannot help believing that the dingo is a true wild dog, constituting a distinct species indigenous in Australia. This dog, called by the natives of New South Wales "Warragul," is about as large as a harrier, with the body firmly built, and the limbs very muscular. The head is broad between the ears, and the muzzle is acute; the neck is thick and powerful; the ears are short, pointed, and erect; the tail is moderate, somewhat bushy and pendulous, or at most raised only horizontally. The general colour is sandy red; the eyes are rather small and oblique, and have a sinister expression. The dingo is remarkable for agility and muscular powers, as well as for cunning and

ferocity. It never barks, but howls loudly, and hunts in small companies. Mr. G. Bennett, in his 'Wanderings in New South Wales,' comments on the cunning of the dingo, which he says are the wolves of the colony. They breed in the holes of rocks, and carefully watch their brood. A litter was found near the Yas Plains, which the discoverer failed to destroy, intending to return and catch the mother also, and thus extirpate the whole family; but the female must have been watching him, or ascertained by the scent that her lurking-place had been invaded, for on his returning a short time after, he found all the little dingos had been carried away; and he was never able, though diligent search was made in the vicinity, to discover their place of removal. Of their power of enduring pain, without manifesting any sense of suffering, he gives several instances:—"One had been beaten so severely that it was supposed all the bones were broken, and it was left for dead. After the person had walked some distance, upon accidentally looking back, his surprise was much excited by seeing the dingo rise, shake himself, and march into the bush, evading all pursuit. One supposed dead was brought into a hut for the purpose of undergoing 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 returning, found the animal sitting up, with the flayed integument hanging over one side of the face." The ravages made among sheep and calves by these dogs is in some districts very serious; and as they have in the in-

terior a vast range of unexplored territory, the extermination of the race seems hopeless. Mr. G. Bennett states that the dingo is not met with in Van Diemen's Land.

We have had the opportunity of seeing many specimens of this dog in the Zoological Gardens; and one which was bred there came under our special notice. It was about six weeks old when removed from the mother; and on being put into a room it immediately skulked into the darkest corner, and then, crouching, eyed us with looks of great distrust and aversion: as soon as left to itself it commenced the most melancholy howling, which ceased on any person's entrance. This was for some days its constant practice; and when placed in a kennel, the greater part of the day was so employed. It grew up strong and healthy, and gradually became reconciled to those from whom it received its food, but was shy towards others, retreating into its kennel at their approach. It never barked, nor, like other dogs, gave notice of the approach of strangers, and therefore, as a guard, was perfectly useless. A great part of every day was spent in howling, and that so loudly as to be heard at the distance of nearly half a mile. When the moon rose brightly it would sit and utter for hours its wild lamentations, not a little to the annoyance of the neighbourhood. With all its shyness, it was at the same time savage and cunning: it would never make an open attack, but several times snapped at persons when their back was turned, and immediately retreated to its kennel. So great was its strength, that, having one day got loose, though encumbered with a heavy chain, it leaped a wall of considerable height, and was not secured without difficulty. The dingo, we

believe, does not breed freely with any of our European domestic dogs; experiments in Paris have failed; but Mr. Cunningham notices a hybrid progeny of this race now established in New Holland. Granting the existence of this hybrid race, still we have no proof in it that the dingo is specifically identical with any of our European dogs. According to Pallas and Buffon the offspring of the goat and sheep are prolific. Mr. Hodgson (Proceeds. Zool. Soc. 1834, p. 107) states that the Jhâral goat of Nepâl "breeds with the domestic goat, and more nearly resembles the ordinary types of the tame races than any wild species yet discovered." Moreover, if the ideas of Mr. Eyton be correct respecting the specific distinction between the Chinese hog and the common European breed (founded on important osteological differences), the offspring of which are fertile *inter se*, we have an interesting case in point. See also Proceeds. Zool. Soc. 1831, p. 66, for an account of a hybrid between the hare and rabbit.

We know not on what grounds Mr. Bell regards the wild dogs of various regions as the emancipated descendants of a domestic race: if the wolf is the origin of the dog, might we not expect to find these dogs, no longer under the agency of man, return again to the wolf, and exhibit their genuine characters; might we not, in fact, have some reason to suspect that the wolves of some countries were nothing more than emancipated dogs, which have recovered their typical form and aspect? We think, however, that, setting aside the dingo, as occupying, in the opinion of many, though not in our own, a disputable situation, and a red wild dog stated to exist in Southern China, respecting which little is known,

genuine aboriginal wild dogs—not parials, not the masterless dogs of the villages and towns of the East—may be proved to exist; and though we do not claim any of them as the origin of the domestic dog, we feel the more assured that we have no need of looking to the wolf as the exclusive wild type of our domestic canine race. Besides, "*the wolf*" is somewhat vague, because there are various species of wolves, both in Europe, Asia, and America; and further, if each of these species has given origin to a breed of dogs, in the different countries where they are found, then, as all domestic dogs promiscuously breed together, the advocate of the non-admixture of species is plunged into a dilemma.

In India, wild dogs with specific characters have been discovered, and are tolerably well known. Of these we may notice the Búánsú (*Canis primævus*, Hodgs.), regarded by its describer as the origin of the domestic dog. It is a native of Nepál, the eastern and western limits of its range being the Sutlege and the Burhampootra; but "it seems to extend with some immaterial differences into the Vindya, the Ghauts, the Nilgiris, the Cosiah Hills, and in the chain passing brokenly from Mirzapore, through South Bahar and Orissa to the Coromandel Coast." "Of this race, although so wild as to be rarely seen, Mr. Hodgson has succeeded in obtaining many individuals, some of which lived in confinement many months, and even produced young, having been pregnant when they reached him. . . . . The Búánsú preys by night as well as by day, and hunts in packs of from six to ten individuals, maintaining the chase rather by powers of smell than by the eye, and generally overcoming its quarry by force and perseverance. In hunting it barks like a hound: but

its bark is peculiar, and equally unlike that of the cultivated breeds of dogs and the strains of the jackal and the fox. Adults in captivity made no approach towards domestication; but a young one, which Mr. Hodgson obtained when it was not more than a month old, became sensible of caresses, distinguished the dogs of its own kennel from others, as well as its keepers from strangers; and in its whole conduct manifested to the full as much intelligence as any of his sporting dogs of the same age." Proceeds. Zool. Soc. 1833, p. 111. This dog is stated by Mr. Hodgson to be remarkable for its dentition, there being a deficiency of the second tubercular molar of the lower jaw. In the same volume of the Proceeds., at p. 113, we find the following:—"A letter was read, addressed to the Secretary by W. A. Wooler, Esq., giving an account of a wild dog from the Mahablishwar Hills, now known as Malcolm's Pate, in the Presidency of Bombay: its local name is Dhale (Dhole?). The habits of this dog in a state of nature are described by Mr. Wooler: they accord with those of the Búánsú of Nepâl, as detailed by Mr. Hodgson." Most probably it is the same species.

In July, 1831, Colonel Sykes described a wild dog from the Mahrattas, termed by the natives Kolsun (*Canis Duckhunensis*, Sykes). "This," he says, "is the wild dog of Dukhun (Deccan). Its head is compressed and elongated, its nose not very sharp. The eyes are oblique, the pupils round, the irides light brown. The expression of the countenance is that of a coarse, ill-natured Persian greyhound, without any resemblance to the jackal, the fox, or the wolf; and in consequence essentially distinct from the *Canis Quao* or *Sumatrensis*

of General Hardwicke. Ears long, erect, and somewhat rounded at the top, without any replication of the tragus. Limbs remarkably large and strong in relation to the bulk of the animal; its size being intermediate between the wolf and jačkal." In December, 1833, Colonel Sykes compared specimens of this Kolsun with those of the Búánsú of Mr. Hodgson, "and showed that the two dogs are perfectly similar in their general form, and in the form of the cranium; and that in his specimen, equally with that of Mr. Hodgson, the hinder tubercular tooth of the lower jaw was wanting. The only difference remarkable between the two specimens is in the quality and quantity of the fur; that of the Dukhun dog being paler and less dense than that of the individual from Nepâl. These differences, depending probably on climate and individual peculiarity, cannot be regarded as sufficient to indicate a distinction between the two races. Identical as they are in form and habits, Colonel Sykes considers them as one species. Here, then, we have a genuine wild dog, called, in different mountain districts, Kolsun, Búánsú, and Dhole, of a sandy red or rufous colour. With respect to the absence of the last molar in the lower jaw, though this has occurred in the specimens of some skulls which we have examined, we are much disposed to consider it in general as resulting from age. In all dogs this tooth is very small; and in the skull of an English terrier of about two years old, now before us, it is absent on one side.



Colonel Baber, in a note subjoined to a description of this wild dog, by Colonel Sykes, in the Trans. Asiatic Society, states that it was often seen by him on the Western Coast, and in the Balaghát district, where it is

numerous. "As often," he adds, "as I have met with them, they have been invariably in packs of from thirty to perhaps sixty. They must be very formidable, as all animals are very much afraid of them. Frequently remains of hogs and deer have been brought to me, which had been taken overnight by these wild dogs. The natives assert that they kill tigers and chetahs, and there is no doubt of the fact. It is quite correct that they are found in the Nelageris, though only on the western parts. I myself was followed, while travelling between the Paitera river and Naddibaff, a distance of eight or nine miles, by a pack of them; and had I not repeatedly fired off my pistols they would certainly have carried away three or four terriers and Spanish dogs that were following me at the time. Two or three times I succeeded in getting young ones, but I did not keep them longer than three or four weeks, they were so very wild as well as shy. It was only at night they would eat, and then most voraciously." It would seem from this that the young dogs were captured, and not accustomed from their birth to domestic dogs and human keepers. We may here observe that the terms Dhole, and Quao, or Quyo, or Quihoe, appear to be given indifferently to distinct wild dogs, whence some confusion has arisen. Thus the Quyo or Qyo of Dr. Spry is identical with the Kolsun; but the Quihoe of Dr. Daniel Johnson, the Dhole of Captain Williamson (*Canis* [*Chryseus*] *Scylax*, H. Smith), appears to be distinct: it is more slender in form and higher on the limbs than the Kolsun, and has a sharper muzzle, and a longer and far less bushy tail. It lives and hunts in packs, and gives tongue during the chase, uttering a cry not unlike that of a hound, in-

termixed with snarling yelps. It has been seen to attack the wild boar. There is also a wild dog or dhole in Ceylon (*Canis Ceylonicus*, Shaw), of which, however, little is definitely known. With respect to the Sumatran wild dog (*Canis Sumatrensis*, Hard.), it is of small size, with much of the aspect of a fox, having a sharp muzzle and long black whiskers. Its colour is ferruginous, the eye is oblique, the ears erect and hairy, but considerably rounded at the tip. It is shy and restless. It would appear that a much larger wild dog is also indigenous in Sumatra.

A large wild dog (*Canis Javanicus*) exists in Java, and was brought to Europe by M. Leschenault. It equals an ordinary wolf in size, but has smaller ears; its colour is fulvous brown. There is in central India and the southern provinces a wild dog, or dhole, known under the name of *Wah*. It is robustly made, equal to a harrier in size, but heavier; the head is large, broad, and flat; the muzzle black; the whole expression very ferocious. The tail is rather short, the limbs muscular. The general colour is tanned, with white on the breast and under parts, and dusky at the tip of the tail. It is said to hunt in packs, uttering a deep growling bay.

In Beloochistan, the woody mountains of south-eastern Persia, and extending perhaps even to Caubul, there is found a wild dog, termed Beluch (Beluel of Avicenna?), of a red colour, shy, and very ferocious. It is said to hunt in packs of twenty or thirty, and to pull down and tear to pieces a buffalo or bullock with the greatest ease. Colonel C. Hamilton Smith says that a British officer who traversed this wild region saw a group of these red dogs barking on the edge of the forest, evidently on the

(Nat. Hist. of Aleppo). The animal was one of several that followed the Basrah caravan from Basrah to the neighbourhood of Aleppo. Many persons in the caravan had been bitten, some of whom died in a short time raving mad: it was also reported that some persons in the neighbourhood of Aleppo were bitten and died in like manner; but the Doctor saw none of them himself. Dr. Russell imagines that the sheeb might be a wolf run mad; but this is a hazardous assumption, as it is doubtful that canine madness exists in Western Asia; and unless we conclude with Colonel Hamilton Smith that the sheeb is probably the same as the Thous Acmon, or the wild wolf-dog of Natolia, it is best to await further information on the subject. Burckhardt says that little doubt can be entertained of the existence of this animal, and explains its fabulous origin (between a wolf and a leopard) by stating that the Arabs, and especially the Bedouins, are in the common practice of assigning to every animal that is rarely met with, parents of two different species of known animals."

There is also in Egypt, and especially Nubia, a species of wild-dog, termed Deeb by the natives (*Canis anthus*, F. Cuv.; *Thous anthus*, H. Smith), of which Dr. Rüppel obtained specimens about Bahar-el-Azrak; and also observed a head taken from the catacombs of Syout, which appeared to belong to this species. "The head is rather deep at the jowl, the nose full at the point, the ears erect, the throat and breast dirty white; the body above of a mixed fulvous white, black, and buff, producing a series of small black spots, or pencils, caused by the tips of the longer hairs uniting in meshes." Professor Kretschmar is disposed to consider this as the

original whence the Egyptians derived their domestic dogs; but to this point we shall hereafter refer.

A wild dog exists in India under the name of the Jungle Koola, *Lyciscus Tigris* of H. Smith. "A specimen shot among the rocks on the sea-shore, near Vingovah, in the vicinity of Bombay, was in colour yellowish grey, brindled with blackish streaks; the head was sharp, the under parts dirty white, the tail not very hairy, whitish below; and the markings on the body so distinct that some young officers present conceived it to be a young tiger; but other persons immediately named it a 'jungle koola' (wild dog). It was killed in the act of searching for offals and putrid animal matter cast on shore by the sea."

Whether the species we have mentioned are all distinct from each other, or whether, as in the instance of the Kolsun and Búánsú, several are identical, we have no means of positively determining; but whether they be so or not, we have no reason for regarding them as originating from a domestic race—they are genuine wild dogs, and not marroon dogs (*chien maron*), or feral dogs, as those animals which have run wild from a domestic state are termed, and which always retain their characters of domestication.

Besides the Asiatic wild dogs which we have noticed, other species occur in various quarters of the globe. They exist in Congo, Guinea, and other parts of Africa, hunting in packs, and dwelling in caves and burrows. Clapperton met with them in the country beyond Timbuctoo. A wild dog termed Mebbia is described in the travels of F. Zuchi as resembling the hound, and associating in packs of thirty or forty, giving chase to all

sorts of quadrupeds. We here say nothing of the hunting-dog of the Cape (*Lycaon venaticus; Hyæna venatica*, Burchell), nor of a variety (or perhaps distinct species), the *simir* of Kordofan (*Lycaon pictus*, Temminck, not Desmarest), because, though these ferocious animals are true dogs in the form of the skull and in general contour, they have, as in the hyæna, only four toes on the anterior feet, and the same on the feet behind. These wild hunting-dogs are savage, fierce, and treacherous, of great strength, and hunt in packs, both by day and night. The fur is close and of a sandy red, irregularly clouded, and blotched with black and white. Individuals vary in the disposition of the markings. Height about one foot ten inches, or near two feet.

When America was discovered, from its north to Tierra del Fuego, and in the Caribbean Islands, the natives were found to be possessed of wild-looking domestic dogs, of very different aspect to any of our European races. "Those belonging to the savages of the Antilles," says Buffon, "had the head and ears very long, and resembled a fox in appearance" (see Hist. Gén. des Antilles, par le P. du Tertre: Paris, 1669). He also adds that the Indians of Peru had a smaller kind of dog, which they named Alco; and that those of the isthmus were ugly, with rough long hair and erect ears. "The semi-domesticated native dogs of South America are sufficiently tamed," says Colonel H. Smith, "to accompany their masters to hunt in the forest, without, however, being able to undergo much fatigue; for when they find the sport not to their liking, they return home, and await the return of the sportsmen. In domesticity they are excessive thieves, and go to prowl in the forest.

There is a particular and characteristic instinct about them to steal and secrete objects without being excited by any well-ascertained motive. They are in general silent and often dumb animals; the cry of some is seldom and but faintly heard in the night; and in domestication others learn a kind of barking. None appear to be gregarious, but several are occasionally encountered in families. Although in company with man the domesticated will eagerly join in the chase of the jaguar, we have never heard that they are in the same state of hostility towards the feline race as are their congeners in Asia and Africa. The native Indians who have domestic dogs of *European* origin, invariably use the Spanish term *Perro*, and greatly promote the increase of the breed, in preference to their own, which they consider to be derived *entirely*, or with a cross, from the *Aguaras* of the woods; and by this name of Aguara it is plain, throughout almost all the interior of South America, that the whole group of indigenous canines is understood." Of late years, however, these indigenous tame dogs have been almost entirely replaced by dogs of European breeds, which in many places, as Hayti, and also in several parts of South America, have given origin to a feral or emancipated race, as have the horse and ox. In North America, besides the Hare-Indian dog, the Esquimaux, &c., there is the Techichi or carrier-dog of Mexico; the black wolf-dog of the Florida Indians, the ordinary dog of the North American Indians, with a heavy triangular head, and perhaps several others, decidedly of indigenous extraction. What, it may be asked, is the origin of these animals? With respect to the Aguara dogs, we have the natives' own accounts, viz., from

wild species still existing:—"There are many species," says Buffon, "which the natives of Guiana have named Dogs of the Woods (Chiens des Bois), because they are not yet reduced, like our dogs, to a state of domestication; and they are thus rightly named (viz. dogs), because they breed together with domestic races." These wild aguara dogs, which naturalists generally call foxes, are thrown into a group (*Dasicyon*) by Col. H. Smith, comprising the hoary aguara dog (*D. canescens*); the Falkland Islands aguara dog (*D. antarcticus*); the aguara dog of the woods (*D. sylvestris*), somewhat like a cur, of which he considers the Crabodage or Surinam aguara dog to be a domestic variety; and the Dunfooted aguara dog (*D. fulvipes; Vulpes fulvipes*, Martin). This last is a small stout foxy-looking animal, with short limbs.

With respect to the alco of Peru and Mexico, we know little more about it than what Dampier and Fernandez mention. The latter describes two breeds, viz. the fat Alco, or Michuacaneus, called by the natives Ytzcuinte porzotli; and the broad-footed Alco, or Techichi, which latter is, as we have said, the carrier-dog of Mexico. The fat alco appears to have been very small; a specimen, said to be an alco, was brought to this country from the neighbourhood of Mexico by Mr. Bullock; it was white, variegated with black and yellow, and was stated to have been obtained in the mountains of Durango, where it bore the name of Acolotte. Dogs resembling the alco were seen as early as 1492 in several of the West India Islands by Columbus, and were also found in Martinique and Guadaloupe in 1635 by French navigators. These dogs they de-

scribe as resembling the Barbary dogs without hair, adding that they were eaten by the inhabitants. All trace of them is now lost.

The dog of the North American Indians, called Caygotte by the Mexican Spaniards, is referred to a species termed *Lyciscus cagottis* by Colonel H. Smith, who places in the same genus with it the North American prairie wolf (*Canis* [Lyciscus] *latrans*); both "diurnal canines, not strictly wolves." The latter he regards as the origin of the black wolf-dog of the Florida Indians, on one side at least, the parentage being the Newfoundland dog on the other. "The Indian dogs closely resemble wolves," says Dr. Richardson, "so that it is difficult to distinguish them when seen at a short distance. They breed freely with a wild she-wolf;" but, excepting at certain seasons, "both male and female wolves devour the dogs as they would any other prey."

After this review of the wild dogs (animals neither strictly wolves, nor jackals, nor foxes) of Asia and America, we come with somewhat more precision to the consideration of the origin, or rather origins, of the domestic dogs. It is almost incontestibly proved that the aboriginal aguara tame dogs and others of the American continent, which on the discovery of its different regions were in subjugation to the savage or semi-civilised nations, were not only indigenous, but the descendants of several wild aguara dogs, or chiens des bois, existing contemporary with themselves in the woods or plains; and granting that a European race (as is the case since) had by some chance contributed to their production, the case is not altered, but the theory of the blending of species confirmed.

Now turning to the dogs of the old world: may not there have existed at an early epoch various closely allied species, whence the different races have sprung? Asia has still its genuine wild dogs; but species even more resembling our present dogs, and in fact their progenitors, may have existed; nor do we refuse to admit that in some of our tame races, notwithstanding their habitual enmity against the wolf, a strain of that animal, or even of the jackal, may obtain. Not, we contend, that the wolf has become a dog, and is the sole source of that valuable creature; but we are willing to allow that in some breeds a cross with the wolf may have taken place, whence a chien-loup, or wolf-dog, has resulted. From this chien-loup, or chienne-louve, and a dog of pure breed, a progeny might and perhaps did proceed; the descendants of this again would breed with pure dogs, and so the race would be perpetuated. Even occasionally repeated crossings with the wolf when the breed was established would not prevent its continuation. That such is the fact, and that it has modified the characters of the dog, is corroborated by the statements of Dr. Richardson and other naturalists. This seems to be more particularly evident in the high northern regions; while in the warmer climates of the East it is equally probable that in some of the races the blood of the jackal may be infused. In South and North America the old races were either exclusively derived from several half-wolf, half-dog like animals, or from wild aguara dogs, very like foxes, either directly, or by means of crosses with some foreign race.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE DOG OF ANTIQUITY.

From the earliest periods of time, as far as records go, the dog has existed as the friend and assistant of man. In the primitive condition of society such an animal, with high courage, strength, fleetness, sagacity, docility, and a physical and moral temperament susceptible of modification, would be invaluable; nor need we wonder that the ancients placed it in the starry heavens, or made it the deified symbol of abstract ideas. "The Egyptians," says M. Elzéar Blaze, "seeing in the horizon a superb star, which always appeared at the time when the overflow of the Nile began, gave it the name of Sirius (*Latrator*) because it seemed to show itself expressly in order to warn the labourer against the inundation. The Sirius, it is a dog, they said,—the dog renders us service; —it is a god! Its appearance corresponding with the periodical rise of the Nile, the dog was soon considered as the genius of that river: they represented this genius, this god, with the body of a man and the head of a dog. It had a genealogy,—it took the name of Anubis, son of Osiris; its image was placed at the entrance of the temple of Isis and Osiris, and afterwards on the gate of all the temples of Egypt. The dog being the symbol of vigilance, they thus intended to warn princes of their

constant duty to watch over the good of their people. It was honoured chiefly at Hermopolis the Great (Chemnis, or Ouchmounein, in modern Arabic), and soon afterwards in all the towns of Egypt. Juvenal says,—

'Oppida tota canem Anubim venerantur, nemo Dianam.'*

At a subsequent period, Cynopolis, the city of the dog (now Samallout), was built in its honour; there the priests celebrated to it festivals in great pomp." Anubis, Latrator, was the counsellor of Isis; its statue was of gold, or gilded, and earthly dogs of a black and white colour were alternately sacrificed to it. These were embalmed; and in modern days, mummies of dogs have been found in abundance: we have seen some of a red colour; and dogs and other animals of this colour are said to have been sacrificed to Typhon, as a token of abhorrence of the shepherd or Scythic conquerors, under whose dynasty the Israelites held possession in Egypt, but who were ultimately expelled, when the bondage of the Israelites commenced. Another Egyptian deity, Thoth, or Sothis, the Mercury of that nation, is represented with the head of a dog. "The dog star," says M. Blaze, "was placed on the limit of the northern and southern hemispheres. As the equinoctial line seemed to cut it in two, it was divided into two personages, of which one ascended to heaven, the other descended to the infernal regions." Plutarch says, "The circle which touches and separates the two hemispheres, and which, on account of this division, has received the name of horizon, is called Anubis. It is represented under the form of a dog, because this animal watches during the

* 'Whole cities worship the dog Anubis; no one, Diana.'

the deities Anubis, Sirius, Thoth, &c., that the Hebrew legislator condemned the dog to a place among the unclean animals, and fixed a stigma upon it, in direct contradiction to the honours bestowed upon that animal in various heathen nations; for if we are to trust historians, as Pliny and Plutarch, not only was the dog deified, but a certain tribe or nation in Ethiopia had a dog for their king. In royal vestments, with a crown on his head, his canine majesty, seated on a throne, received the homage of his subjects. He indicated his approbation by wagging his tail; he forbade by barking; he destined to death or punishment by growling; and conferred place and dignity by licking the favourite's hand. He had his priestly interpreters, who were, of course, the persons in whose hands the real power lay, and we may well believe they served their own interests. Among our Saxon forefathers, the wolf, from its powers and the dread in which it was held, was, with certain additions, assumed as a name by various chiefs and nobles, as Ethelwolf, Berthwolf, Eadwolf, &c. It would seem that, among some nations, the names of the dog, synonymous or indicative of power and elevation, were in like manner adopted. Col. H. Smith says, "The root Can, Khan in its acceptation of power, is evidently mixed up with the idea of a dog;" and in ancient Britain, from Cu, a dog, or head, we have the title Cunobelin, or Cynobelin, the head king, the solar king, the dog of the sun, &c. The element Can is found in Canute. The same eminent writer gives numerous examples to prove that the most ancient names of the dog were never confounded with those of the wolf, and adds 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 a real dog."

It was perhaps from the introduction of the dog into the mystic system of religion which prevailed in Egypt, that this animal was accounted unclean by the Israelites, or perhaps from its habits and propensities. Certain it is that the dog was despised by that people after their departure from Egypt, and its name passed into a term of opprobrium, and continues so to be among the Mohammedans of the East, who in their religious ritual have borrowed much from the Mosaic institutions. Still it would appear that throughout the East, time immemorial, there existed a race of masterless dogs, the property of none, which roamed over the country and about the streets, clearing them of offal of every description. Allusions to these dogs occur not only in the Scriptures, but in the classic writers of antiquity. In Exodus xxii. 31, we read, "Neither shall ye eat of any flesh that is torn of beasts in the field, ye shall cast it to the dogs." See also 1 Kings xxi. 19, and 2 Kings ix. 35, and elsewhere. Such passages as these, "In the place where the dogs licked the blood of Naboth, shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine," and "the dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel," are in accordance with descriptive passages in the classics,* in which dogs and birds of carnivorous appetite are pictured as feeding on the dead—

* There is a savage race of wild or half-wild dogs in Madagascar, which frequent all the places where criminals suffer by spearing; their bodies are left there to be devoured, and in a short time nothing of the person executed is to be seen excepting a few half-gnawed bones.

Street-dogs of the East.

"Whose limbs unburied on the naked shore
Devouring dogs and hungry vultures tore."
*Iliad*, Pope's Trans. lib. i. lines 4 and 5.

And again—

"..... πολλοὺς δὲ κύνες καὶ γῦπες ἔδονται
Τρώων. ....."*—*Iliad*, lib. xviii. line 271.

Such scenes bring to mind the forcible lines of a modern poet, who had travelled in the Turkish dominions, and well knew the habits of the masterless dogs that "wander up and down for meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied:"

"He saw the lean dogs beneath the wall
Hold o'er the dead their carnival;
Gorging and growling o'er carcass and limb,
They were too busy to bark at him."
Byron's *Siege of Corinth*.

These dogs are generally termed Pariah dogs, and are peculiar in their habits. Owned by no one, tolerated, sometimes supplied by the compassionate with food, sometimes left entirely to their own resources, these dogs herd together in troops, and keep to their respective districts. They are of mixed breeds, some resembling curs, others mongrel greyhounds; and many, especially in Egypt, are almost destitute of hair, and also to a great extent of their teeth. "Their numbers in the principal towns of Western Asia are very great, and they seem greater in proportion than they really are, from the fact that all which the town contains are seen in the streets, none being, as in Europe, harboured in courts or houses. Indeed, the Moslems of the dominant sects count themselves defiled if a dog but touches their garments;† a fact

* "And dogs and vultures eat many Trojans."

† A law of Flaminius Dialus prohibited touching a dog or goat. An augur of Rome, who happened to touch a dog,

which seems perfectly well known to the animals themselves, at least they know they are not to come in contact with the clothes of persons in the streets, and the careful attention with which they avoid doing this, even in the most crowded streets, is truly admirable. Through this mutual avoidance, the defiling contact occurs too rarely to occasion much annoyance to the inhabitants, from the abounding presence, in their streets, of animals which they consider unclean. Indeed dogs are not by any means excluded from a participation in the kindness which the Turks at least exhibit towards all animals. Some charitable persons assign a regular allowance to the butchers and bakers, to make a daily or periodical distribution of food among the dogs of the district. The fact that they are to receive such donations soon becomes well known to the dogs, who repair with great punctuality to receive them at the appointed times. At Constantinople there was formerly a government officer whose business it was to see the dogs fed at the public expense. Many persons have left money by their wills for providing food for a certain number of dogs. The animals litter generally in the by-streets and in obscure corners, and we have noticed some small provision for the comfort of the mother and her young in the shape of a little straw, or even a rude construction of boards. Food also is sometimes placed near them at such times; they are protected by public opinion, which on different occasions has strenuously opposed all plans contemplated by the govern-

could not assist at the sacrifices without previous purification. Dogs and flies were prevented from entering the temple of Hercules. Formerly in Russia the dog was regarded as unclean and not to be touched.

ment for their removal or destruction. Yet with all this, the peculiar and distinguishing unfitness of the dog to be any *thing less than the real companion* of man and the object of his care, is evinced by the generally miserable condition of the street dogs of Western Asia. From living constantly in the dusty streets, and from feeding on all kinds of offal, the skin of these dogs becomes foul and sordid, and from the supply of food being generally inadequate to their wants, their appearance is lean, starved, and gaunt, and considering that a large proportion are eaten up with a kind of mange which sometimes degenerates into a sort of leprosy, they exhibit upon the whole a truly forlorn and battered appearance. Considering the heat of the summer climate, and the thirst which the dogs then suffer, it seems strange that they are not subject to hydrophobia. Indeed some distrust as to the popular ideas connected with that dreadful disease might be deduced from the fact that hydrophobia is least known in the warmest climates.* In Constantinople cases of this disease sometimes occur, although they are exceedingly rare; but they become increasingly unfrequent as we advance southwards, and in Egypt are altogether unknown.†

"The dogs divide the town which they inhabit into quarters, the right of inhabiting and prowling over which is jealously guarded by the animals born in it; they make

* Hydrophobia is not produced by heat or thirst, as is popularly believed. This disease occurs at all seasons of the year, and seems to be sometimes epidemical. In South America we believe it is not known.

† Hydrophobia was anciently known in Greece and Italy (see Celsus, lib. v. cap. 27, sect. 2). He advises the application, immediately after the bite, of the cupping-glass where

common cause against any presumptuous interloper, who seldom escapes without severe punishment. Franks, whom they distinguish by their dress, and particularly the hat, they seem to regard as much interlopers as strange dogs, and the Moslems are edified and amused by the antipathy they express.

"In warm climates the street dogs render considerable service by the clearance which they make of the offal and carcasses of dead animals which the inhabitants leave in the streets or throw into them. If not prevented, they will devour human bodies under such circumstances.

"Another service which they render without being taught, is the guardianship of our property, which they spontaneously assume. During the night, remarks Sonnini, they are the terror of thieves. Upon the wharfs, boats and timber, and in the interior of towns goods are intrusted to their vigilance. An admirable instinct, a natural inclination to make themselves useful to man, induces them to assume a superintendence which nobody confides to them, nobody points out to them; and it would be impossible to approach the property which these voluntary guardians have taken under their care." ('Phys. Hist. of Palestine.') Colonel Sykes, speaking of the Pariah dogs of the Dukhun, observes that they are very numerous, but are not individual property, and breed in the towns and villages unmolested. "Amongst the

practicable, to draw out the venom, and the actual cautery; should the symptoms of the disease appear, he directs sudden immersion in cold water; and, if the patient can swim, he must be ducked in order to force him to take in the liquid—a useless torture! He calls this horrid disease "miserrimum morbi genus."

Pariahs is frequently found the turnspit dog, long-backed, with short crooked legs. There is also a petted minute variety of the Pariah dog, usually of a white colour, and with long silky hair, corresponding to a common lap-dog of Europe; this is taught to carry flambeaux and lanterns. The last variety noticed is the dog with hair so short as to appear naked, like the *Canis Ægyptius*. It is known to Europeans by the name of the *Polygar dog*."

But besides the Pariah dogs of the towns and villages, there is a Pariah race still more independent existing in the country; these dogs associate in troops, and frequent the jungles of India and the lower ranges of the Himalaya chain, hunting down their prey; they are of a rufous colour, long-bodied, and low on the legs, with erect pointed ears, a sharp nose, and a tail more or less fringed. Their voice is a loud yelping; they are easily tamed, and are doubtless the parent stock of the ordinary Pariahs of the villages. The Sheckarees train the latter for the chase, and find them very intelligent; indeed they display a marked instinctive proneness to attach themselves to man; often uniting with the palanquin bearers, as desirous of entering into the traveller's service.* The wild and village Pariah dogs follow armies,

* "One of my followers," says Bishop Heber, "a poor Pariah dog, who had come with us all the way from Bareilly for the sake of the scraps which I had ordered the cook to give him, and, by the sort of instinct which most dogs possess, always attached himself to me as the head of the party, was so alarmed at the blackness and roaring of the water, that he sat down on the brink and howled piteously when he saw me going over. When he found it was a hopeless case, however, he mustered courage and followed; but, on reaching the other side, a new distress awaited him. One of my faithful sepoys had lagged behind, as well as himself, and, when he found the usual num-

and hover round the encampment; in the colder and mountain districts of India the fur of the wild Pariah dog is both fuller and darker than in the forests of the South. Are we to consider these dogs the descendants of a domesticated breed, as curs returned to a state of independence, or the type of a true and genuine wild race, indigenous in India? It is difficult to answer this question. Their uniformity in size, form, aspect, and colouring are arguments in favour of the latter theory, viz., that they are an aboriginal wild race. Nor does the facility with which they are trained or reclaimed militate against it. In the village or tame Pariahs there is, as might be expected, some admixture with other races, still their origin from the wild breed is evident; nor is the line of distinction rigidly marked out between the village and wild breeds, for of the former there are troops in remote or thinly-peopled localities which are almost as independent as those of the forests and mountains. It appears to us, then, that the Indian Pariah dog is a species; that it exists in a state of primitive wildness, as well as more or less domesticated; and that the domesticated race has proceeded from the former.

From all that we can learn, the original dog of the South Sea Islands (New Zealand, Society, and Sandwich Islands, &c. &c.), which was found there on the arrival

ber of my party not complete, he ran back to the brow of the hill and howled; then hurried after me as if afraid of being himself left behind, then back again to summon the loiterer, till the man came up, and he apprehended that all was going on in its usual routine. It struck me forcibly to find the same doglike and amiable qualities in these neglected animals as in their more fortunate brethren of Europe."—*Narrative of Journey, &c.* vol. ii. p. 206.

of Europeans, was closely allied to the Pariah dog of India. It was of small size, indolent, with short crooked legs, erect ears, sharp muzzle, and of a reddish colour. This dog, the Poé dog (*Canis pacificus*, H. Smith), was fed upon bread, fruit, and other vegetable diet, and its flesh was regarded as a delicacy. It is now scarce, a European race, which from feeding on flesh is not eaten, having usurped its place. According to Mr. Frederick Bennett, whose note is given by Colonel H. Smith, "Amongst the Society Islands the aboriginal dog which was formerly eaten as a delicacy by the natives, is now extinct or merged into mongrel breeds by propagating with many exotic varieties. At the Sandwich group, where the inhabitants have been more remarkable for the use of this animal as food, and where that custom is pertinaciously retained (owing probably to the scarcity of swine and spontaneous fruits of the earth), the pure breed of the Poé dog has been better protected, and although becoming yearly more scarce, examples of it are to be met with in all the islands, but principally as a delicacy for the use of the chiefs. As late as October, 1835, I noticed in the populous and well civilized town of Honoruru, at Oahu, a skinned dog suspended at the door of a house of entertainment for natives, to denote what sumptuous fare might be obtained within."

The late Mr. Williams, speaking of the Samoa or Navigator's group of islands, observes, that in the mountains of Savaii and Upolo there exists a wild dog: "I regretted," he says, "exceedingly, that I could not obtain one; from the description I received, it appears to be a small animal of a dark dirty grey or lead colour, with little or no hair, and large erect ears." We have seen

a small shy red dog, with a sharp nose and long erect pointed ears, which was brought back from Western Africa by the officers of the late Niger expedition; for some time it neither barked nor wagged its tail, but at a subsequent period learned both these modes of indicating its feelings. Mr. Fraser informs us that this breed is kept at Cape Coast, and along the borders of the Niger, for one sole purpose, that of affording a much relished food; and that a fat and handsome English dog belonging to one of the officers was, after many attempts on the part of the natives, and tempting offers, positively stolen; the gentleman missing his dog, went immediately in quest of it, but arrived in time only to see it dead, and preparing for the table of the king at Coomassie.* From this naturalist we learn that there are no indigenous dogs in the island of Fernando Po, but that the natives prize such dogs as are brought over from Europe very greatly, setting great store by them; very few, however, live; they become weak, fevered, and thin, and waste away.

We may here by way of parenthesis state, that it is not only among the negroes, and the natives of the South Sea isles, that the dog is eaten; this taste prevails among many uncivilized people, and even among the Chinese, who fatten dogs for the table on vegetable diet, and sell them in the markets or shops. Among the ancient Greeks and Romans the dog was served up at table, and

* In Guinea dog's-flesh is in high estimation; and we are informed by Capt. Clapperton that this animal constitutes the favourite food of the Beddites, a persecuted tribe in the centre of Africa. Humboldt says, that though the custom of eating the dog is disused on the banks of the Orinoco, it still exists in some parts of Guiana and Mexico.

according to Pliny roasted puppy-dogs were considered exquisite. They were served up at sumptuous feasts, and at the festivals in honour of the consecration of the pontiffs. Dogs were regularly fed by the Romans for the table, and roast dog was one of the dishes most in vogue.*

Though from the earliest period there existed a race of Pariah dogs, either quite wild or masterless, in the East, there were tame dogs of various breeds, which had definite owners, and were regarded as property. Even among the Jews, who, as we have said, regarded this animal as unclean, such was evidently the case. In fact, the services of the dog in the chase render it an indispensable auxiliary. Dr. J. Kitto (Phys. Hist. of Pa-

* In May, 1842, a butcher of Besançon was sentenced by the tribunal of correction to three months' imprisonment for selling *dog* instead of *kid* to his customers.—How the tastes of men differ! Forster, in his 'Voyage round the World,' thus expresses himself:—"In our cold countries, where animal food is so much used, and where to be carnivorous perhaps lies in the nature of man, or is indispensably necessary to the preservation of their health and strength, it is strange that there should exist a Jewish aversion to dog's-flesh, when hogs, the most unclean of all animals, are eaten without scruple. Nature seems to have expressly intended them for this use, by making their offspring so very numerous and their increase so quick and frequent." Mr. Wilson, who transplants the above into his 'Essays on the Origin and Natural History of Domestic Animals,' makes the following remarks:—"There is no reason why it should not be more extensively practised in Europe. We know, for example, that Capt. Cook's recovery from a serious illness at sea, if not entirely owing to, was at least greatly ameliorated by, the broth and flesh of a dog." He might have added, that in cases of blockade, dogs, horses, rats, and other animals have been eaten. Mr. E. Blaze says, "J'ai mangé plusieurs fois à l'armée du chien et du chat: je prefère cette viande à celle du cheval."

lestine) does not consider that the low estimation in which this animal was held by the Jews arose from the circumstance of its being placed among unclean animals, any more than the ass, of whose services that people freely availed themselves, but must be referred to other causes, "and may possibly be founded on the inference deduced from the passage which declares the hire of a harlot and the *price of a dog* to be inadmissible offerings. It is possible that this passage rather refers to men stigmatised as dogs from their vile propensities, than to the animal itself. But, even if literally understood, it intimates that dogs were private property, and objects of value to be bought and sold. With respect to hunting dogs, in particular, we are aware of no passage which expresses the use of them; but their use in hunting is implied in that passage which precludes such game as was in itself fit for food, to be used as such if *torn of dogs*. This shows that dogs were used in hunting, and that game seized on by them might be eaten, but not if they had mangled it. This was less a stigma on the dog, than a consequence of the law against eating blood. It is thus we understand that passage; and our understanding is deduced from the actual Moslem law on the subject, which, with many other laws, is obviously framed on the *practices* of the Jews, and which, therefore, embody Jewish interpretations of the Mosaical law." A passage in the New Testament, describing the dogs beneath the table eating the children's crumbs, shows, moreover, that dogs were admitted even into the house. Still the dog was not a favoured animal; and though the Moslems have hunting-dogs and others, as sheep-dogs, &c., the more bigoted Moslems, and such as are the constant in-

habitants of great towns, "do not much attend to the distinction in their favour."

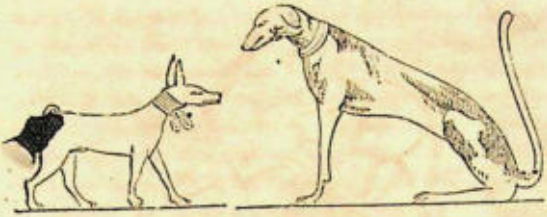
Very differently was the dog, as we have said, estimated in ancient Egypt; and, from various representations of this animal still extant, we are enabled to form a good idea of the prevailing breeds of that country between two and three thousand years ago—

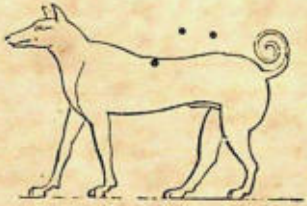
> "When the Memnonium was in all its glory,
> And time had not begun to overthrow
> Those temples, palaces, and piles stupendous,
> Of which the very ruins are tremendous."

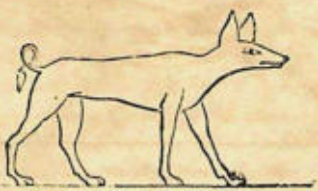
Several good copies of these specimens of Egyptian animal drawing, which is always far superior to their delineations of the human figure, are before us. In a leash are coupled a light tall hound, marked not unlike our hound, with pendent ears, and a greyhound with sharp erect ears and pointed muzzle. Besides these, there is a small dog with erect ears, and a tail curled up like that of a pug-dog, but with a sharper muzzle; it has an ornamental collar round its neck, and was probably a pet or favourite house-dog. There is also the figure of a hound sitting in the usual attitude; and a low, long-backed, short-legged dog, with erect ears, a sharp muzzle, and particoloured dark, or black and white. It resembles the old turnspit of our country, and was most probably of the same breed. There is a tall stout dog, compact and muscular, with high shoulders and broad chest, most probably a watch-dog; its ears are small and sharp, and its tail curled like that of a pug-dog; the muzzle is moderately sharp. There is also a small slender dog, with a narrow sharp muzzle, and large, erect, and pointed ears, broad at the base; the tail makes a single loop or curl,

Egyptian with two Dogs in leash.

Dogs from Egyptian Paintings.







Dogs from Egyptian Paintings.

and the end is somewhat tufted. Sir J. G. Wilkinson says that the mummies of dogs still found are mostly of the *fox-dog;* and we have seen mummies of a small red dog in the British Museum, probably of the breed depicted. In another representation we see fleet hounds in chase of antelopes, wild goats, hyænas, foxes, ostriches, and hares: some of the dogs have a collar armed with spikes. In other representations men are carrying or leading captured antelopes, and porcupines and hares in cages. In some delineations, the tail of the greyhound appears rather full or fringed.

Such, then, were at least some of the domesticated races of Egypt, and doubtless Western Asia; and it will be interesting to see if we can identify any truly tame breeds of the same regions in the present day as exhibiting similar characters. With respect to hunting-dogs, a choice would at first most undoubtedly be made, according to the character of the game, the nature of the country, and the description of weapons employed; and where the face of the country retains its primitive features, and presents the same sort of game, we may expect that, even though the weapons in process of time have undergone modifications, the same kinds of hunting-dogs, more or less improved, or, on the other hand, more or less deteriorated, will maintain their place. In the flat plains of Egypt, a greyhound breed might be expected; so might a fleet hound; and it is not unlikely that these two breeds were used conjointly; and indeed we have a representation of a dog of both these kinds led coupled together. Now we have, in modern Egypt and Arabia, and also in Persia, varieties of greyhound closely resembling those on the ancient remains of art; and it

would appear that two or three varieties exist,—one smooth, another long-haired, and another smooth, but with long-haired ears resembling those of a spaniel. In Persia the greyhound, to judge from the specimens we have seen, is silk-haired, with a fringed tail. They were of a black colour; but a fine breed, we are informed, is of a slate or ash colour, as are some of the smooth-haired greyhounds depicted in Egyptian paintings. In Arabia a large, rough, powerful race exists; and about Akaba, according to Laborde, a breed of slender form, fleet, with a long tail, very hairy, in the form of a brush, with the ears erect and pointed,—closely resembling, in fact, many of those figured by the ancient Egyptians. In Roumelia a spaniel-eared race exists. Colonel Sykes, who states that none of the domesticated dogs of Dukhun are common to Europe, observes that the first in strength and size is the Brinjaree dog, somewhat resembling the Persian greyhound (in the possession of the Zoological Society), but much more powerful. North of the Caspian, in Tartary and Russia, there exists a breed of large rough greyhounds. We may here allude to the great Albanian dog of former times, and at present extant, which perhaps belongs to the greyhound family.

As, then, we can clearly trace the greyhound for full 3000 years, we cannot easily assent to Buffon's opinion that it sprung originally from a cross between the mâtin and sheep-dog (nor, indeed, that the latter is the parent stock of the various breeds of dogs); indeed, we believe that the true greyhound deduces its lineage from an original root, of high antiquity and distinctness—nor do we think we should hazard too much to say *specific* distinctness. Instead of following the quarry by the scent,

which in this race is feeble, it follows by the eye more or less exclusively, and in this respect is alone among dogs of the chase. Nor is such a peculiarity, when we consider how developed the organs of scent are, as a rule, in the canine race, to be disregarded as less important than external characters.

With respect to the dogs represented like slender, tall, deep-chested hounds, with pendent and rounded, but not very large ears, and which were led in a leash, Colonel H. Smith is inclined to believe them identical with the ancient Elymæan race, and known to the classical writers more by report than by personal information. The Elymæi were a tribe of the deserts bordering on Bactria and Hyrcania; but the dogs extended into Egypt, or were introduced either "by the shepherd conquerors" or "by Sesostris after his Asiatic expedition to the Oxus." From the Elymæi, it has by some been conjectured that the modern term "Lyemer" (in French, *Limier*) arose, and which has been applied to hounds formerly used for tracking large game, such as the boar, while held by the huntsman in a lengthened lyemme or leash, from which it was slipped when it came upon the lair of the quarry. We may perhaps consider this Elymæan Lyemer as the parent of the present Oriental hound, used by the chiefs in some parts of Persia,* and which does not differ from the modern hound of Syria. We have already alluded to the representation of a chase in which these Elymæan hounds are conspicuous. According to Sir J. G. Wilkinson, "The Egyptians frequently coursed with dogs in the open plains, the chasseur following in his chariot

* More attention is paid to dogs in Persia than in any other Mohammedan country.

and the huntsman on foot. Sometimes he only drove to cover in his car, and, having alighted, shared in the toil of searching for the game; his attendants keeping the dogs in slips, ready to start them as soon as it appeared. The more usual custom, when the dogs threw off in a level plain of great extent, was for him to remain in his chariot, and urging his horses to their full speed, to endeavour to turn or intercept the objects of the chase as they doubled, discharging a well-directed arrow whenever they came within its range. The dogs were taken to the ground by persons expressly employed for that purpose, and for all the duties connected with the kennel (the κυναγωγοι of the Greeks), and were either started one by one or in pairs, in the narrow valleys and open plains; and when coursing on foot, the chasseur and attendant huntsman, acquainted with the sinuosities and direction of the torrent beds, shortened the road as they followed across the intervening hills, and sought a favourable opportunity for using the bow, or marked with a watchful eye the progress of the course in the level space before them. For not only was the chasseur provided with a bow, but many of those who accompanied him; and the number of head brought home was naturally looked upon as the criterion of *his* good day's sport. Having with eager haste pursued on foot, and arrived at a spot where the dogs had caught their prey, the huntsman, if alone, took up the game, tied its legs together, and hanging it over his shoulders, once more led by his hand the coupled dogs, precisely in the same manner as the Arabs do at the present day. This, however, was generally the office of persons who followed expressly for the purpose, carrying cages and baskets on the usual

wooden yoke, and who took charge of the game as soon as it was caught: the number of these substitutes for our game-cart depended, of course, on the proposed range of the chase, and the abundance they expected to find. Sometimes an ibex, oryx, or wild ox (Bekr el Wash), being closely pressed by the hounds, and driven to an eminence of difficult ascent, faced round and kept them at bay with its formidable horns; and the spear of the huntsman, as he came up, was required to decide the success of the chase. It frequently happened, when the chasseur had many attendants, and the district to be hunted was extensive, that they were divided into parties, each taking one or more dogs, and starting them on whatever animal broke cover. Sometimes they went without hounds, merely having a small dog for searching the bushes; or laid in wait for the larger and more formidable animals, and attacked them with the lance. Besides the bow, the hounds, and the noose (lasso), they hunted with lions, which were trained expressly for the chase, like the cheetah or hunting-leopard of India; but there is no appearance of the panther having been employed for this purpose,* and the lion was always the animal they preferred. It was frequently brought up in a tame state; and many Egyptian monarchs are said to have been accompanied in battle by a favourite lion, as we learn from the sculptures of Thebes and other places, and from the authority of Diodorus."

Turning from the ancient dogs of Egypt to those of

* In a painting in the British Museum, a fowler in a canoe on the marshes appears to have a trained cat in his service: it has seized one bird in its mouth, it holds another down beneath its fore-paws, and another between its hind-paws.

Greece and Italy, we soon find ourselves embroiled amidst a host of the names, without being able in most instances to obtain a clear and definite idea of the characters of the breeds they designate. Some were used in the chase of the wolf and wild boar, others in pursuit of the stag or roe, others as guardians of the flock, and others as watch-dogs in fortresses and citadels. The Greeks appear to have had greyhounds, and wolf-like hounds with erect ears, and watch-dogs of wolfish aspect, with erect ears also. In fact, in the early periods of Greece and Rome, no pendulous-eared dogs appear to have been cultivated by the Greeks and Romans; for it was not till a later age that they became acquainted with the true mastiff; and, accordingly, all the more ancient representations of dogs in statuary or in medals show them with erect ears, sometimes in later periods with ears semi-pendulous; but it is not till the middle of the Roman empire, or its decline, that hounds like the modern race are delineated. Among the more celebrated breeds of great antiquity were the Chaonian and the Molossian: the former, a large kind of dog of a wolfish aspect, and said to be of wolfish origin; the latter, of which its fabulous creation in bronze by Vulcan, and its animation by Jupiter, is humorously described by M. Elzéar Blaze, appears to have been used both for hunting and as a guard. Virgil styles it *acer Molossus*, and Lucretius notices its resounding bark. Most of this breed were of a slate colour. In later days the mastiff or bulldog was called Molossian; but the ancient *acer Molossus* was distinct and very different. There was a race of Arcadian dogs, said to be descended from lions, probably from the circumstance of their being large and

powerful. Certain Spartan and Laconian races, termed Alopecides and Castorides, were said to be of a mixed breed between the dog and fox. There was besides a race of dogs called Cypseli, or footless,—perhaps very swift greyhounds. Aristotle alludes to a hybrid race of Indian dogs, between the dog and tiger. This, if not a large brindled dog, may have been a cheetah or hunting-leopard; but it does not appear that this animal, whatever it might have been, was introduced into Greece, and the same observation applies to the Elymæan hound. The breeds of Greece, as in all countries, though at first distinct, would soon produce numerous mixed races, varying in size, colour, and other qualities; and to these the Romans, as they extended their empire, added from time to time, carefully selecting from other countries the most courageous and powerful, both for the pursuit of game and the sanguinary combats of the amphitheatre.

Of dogs for the chase, the Etruscan and Umbrian were valued. Another celebrated dog was the Gaulish or Celtic, which, according to Pliny, was between the dog and female wolf; it was termed Lycisca, and was a valuable guardian of cattle, and useful in the chase. When we talk of the chase, in ancient Greece and Italy, it must not be supposed that the packs of dogs consisted, as in the present day, all of one breed; they were assemblages of dogs of every sort disposed to hunt, and of various qualities. Look, for example, at Actæon's pack, described by Ovid, and which no doubt was such as was to be seen every day in Italy in the Augustan age:

"——— primusque Melampus
Ichnobatesque sagax, latratu signa dedere:
Gnosius Ichnobates, Spartanâ gente Melampus.

Inde ruunt alii rapidâ velocius aurâ;
Pamphagus, et Dorceus, et Oribasus, Arcades omnes.
Nebrophonosque valens, et trux cum Lælape, Theron,
Et pedibus Pterelas, et naribus utilis Agre,
Hylæusque, fero nuper percussus ab apro,
Deque lupo concepta Nape, pecudesque secuta
Pœmenis, et natis comitata Harpyia duobus;
Et substricta gerens Sicyonius ilia Ladon,
Et Dromas, et Canache, Sticteque, et Tigris, et Alce,
Et niveis Leucon, et villis Asbolus atris;
Prævalidusque Lacon, et cursu fortis Aëllo
Et Thous, et Cyprio velox cum fratre Lycisce,
Et nigram medio frontem distinctus ab albo
Harpalos, et Melaneus, hirsutaque corpore Lachne,
Et patre Dictæo, sed matre Laconide nati
Labros, et Aglaodos, et acutæ vocis Hylactor." *

*Metam.*, lib. iii. Fab. ii.

What would a modern sportsman, proud of his high-bred hounds, endowed with wonderful endurance and courage, say to such a pack? Yet in days not long passed by,

* " and first Melampus
And quick-scented Ichnobates gave the signal by their bark;
Ichnobates of Gnossian, Melampus of Spartan breed.
Then others rush on, swifter than the rapid wind;
Pamphagus and Dorceus and Oribasus, all Arcadians;
Strong Nebrophonos, and savage Theron, with Lælapis;
And Pterelas, useful with his feet, and Agre, with his nostrils;
And Hylæus, lately wounded by a wild boar;
And Nape, sprung from a wolf; and Pœmenis, used to follow cattle;
And Harpyia, accompanied by her two sons;
And Sicilian Ladon, with his compressed flanks;
And Dromas, and Canace, and Sticte, and Tigris, and Alce;
And Leucon with snow-white hair, and Asbolus with black;
And powerful Lacon, and Aello strong in the chase;
And Thous, and rapid Lycisce with his Cyprian brother;
And Harpalos distinguished by a white spot in his black forehead;
And Melaneus, and Lachne with his shaggy body;
And, sprung from a Dictæan father and Laconian mother,
Labros and Agriodos and acute-voiced Hylactor."

Roman Watch-Dog.

such mixtures of dogs were associated in the chase, and are so still in the East.

At Pompeii a mosaic pavement has been discovered on which is represented a Roman watch-dog, with a spiked collar, and fastened by means of a chain; underneath his feet is written *Cave canem*, Beware the dog. It is remarkably stout and muscular, with a tail somewhat fringed, a large head, long and broad muzzle, and sharp erect ears. The general aspect is wild and savage; but if this dog be one of the Chaonian or Molossian breed,

we do not wonder that the Romans confessed the superiority of the dogs obtained in Britain.

With respect to the mastiff race, it would appear that Alexander the Great first made it known in Greece, having met with the breed during his march to the Indus. He received presents of dogs of gigantic stature, which were no doubt Thibetian mastiffs, dogs of the ancient Indi and Seri (the Seri were the people of Afghanistan). To these dogs Aristotle applied the name of Leontomyx. An allied breed, perhaps the same race, existed in England before the Roman conquest, as did also a breed of large bulldogs. These were highly valued in Rome for the combats of the circus. Col. H. Smith, indeed, thinks there was only one of these breeds anciently in England, viz., a large bulldog, nearly equalling the mastiff in size, and that the latter was brought to our island by the Cimbric Celtæ. Probably he is correct. Another foreign dog with which the Romans became acquainted, and to which they were very partial, was the beautiful Maltese, with long silken hair. This is now extinct, or has merged into other breeds. It was a favourite with the ladies. Besides these, the Romans procured a spaniel breed, the Canis Tuscus proles de sanguine Ibero, from Spain; the Phasianian, from Asia; the Petronian, from the Sicambri beyond the Rhine; and the Althamanian, from Macedonia, noticed for its cunning and wiles.

---

## CHAPTER III.

### THE PHYSICAL AND MORAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MODERN RACES OF THE DOG.

From the dogs of ancient Greece and Rome, of which, after all, very little is definitely known, let us now turn to those of the modern day, which have ramified into countless races, and are ever producing new combinations, new varieties, new forms of canine existence. As we look over them, one thing strikes us, namely, that in contradistinction to the dogs of early periods of antiquity, which had, as a general rule, the ears erect, and the head wolfish, our modern breeds are mostly characterized by pendent ears; even in the terrier they are naturally nearly, if not fully, pendent; and, moreover, in all high breeds the eye is large, full, and expressive. With regard to the Esquimaux and similar dogs with sharp ears, we may regard them as almost wild, and we see in them what the dog is when only one step removed from a state of nature. In a certain sense man may be said to be the god of the dog, and according to the civilization of man will be that of the dog, over which both morally and physically he has such influence: the dog of the savage will be a savage also; but the dog of civilized man will be intelligent, open, animated, and in voice, actions, aspect, and manners evince a decided elevation above the prowling dog of the wild man of the forest or

plain. There is something in the dog, wherever we find it, that impels it to attach itself to man; but it is only among civilized races that the dog displays the strength, the exuberance of its attachment, and acquires those varied qualifications which, originally resulting from education, become permanent and characteristic; but which, so far from rendering it more independent, bind it still closer to its imperial master. It is, we say, from education acting upon a moral and physical temperament peculiarly susceptible, that permanent effects have resulted. Here we may be permitted to quote a passage from ourselves. "In taking a review of the various breeds of the domestic dog, we cannot fail to observe that they are endowed respectively with qualifications or habits, certainly not innate, but the result of education, at least originally; which education, continued through a series of generations, has produced permanent effects. For example, no dog in a state of nature would point with his nose at a partridge, and then stand like a statue motionless, for the dog would gain nothing by such a proceeding. Man, however, has availed himself of the docility and delicacy of scent peculiar to a certain breed, and has taught the dog his lesson; the lesson thus learned has become second nature. A young pointer takes to its work as if by intuition, and scarcely requires discipline. Hence, therefore, must we conclude that education not only effects impressions on the sensorium, but transmissible impressions, whence arise the predispositions of certain races. Education, in fact, modifies organization; not that it makes a dog otherwise than a dog, but it supersedes, to a certain point, instinct, or makes acquired propensities instinctive, hereditary, and, therefore,

characteristics of the particular race. The effect of this change of nature is not to render the dog more independent, nor to give it any advantage over its fellows, but to rivet more firmly the links of subjection to man.

"It is not to the pointer alone that these observations apply; all our domestic dogs have their acquired propensities, which, becoming second nature, make them one way or another valuable servants. No one, we presume, will suppose that the instinctive propensities implanted by nature in the shepherd's dog make it not a destroyer but a preserver of sheep. On the contrary, this dog, like every other, is carnivorous, and nature intends it to destroy and devour. But education has supplanted instinct to a certain point, and implanted a disposition which has become an hereditary characteristic, and hence a shepherd's dog of the true breed takes to its duties naturally. But a shepherd's dog could not, delicate as its sense of smell is, be brought to take the place of the pointer in the field, even though it were subjected to training from the earliest age; nor, on the other hand, could a pointer be substituted with equal advantage in the place of a shepherd's dog as the assistant of the drover. Each is civilized, but in a different style, and education has impressed upon each a different bent of mind, a different class of propensities." ('Pict. Mus. of Anim. Nat.' vol. i. p. 199.)

To these remarks we may add that the wild dog and the semi-domesticated dog either never bark, or utter but an imperfect sort of barking, whereas the truly domestic dog not only barks, but gives expression by difference of intonation to its feelings: the bark of joy is easily discriminated from that of warning or of hostility. Thus then

is the very barking of the dog the effect of domestication; it is, in fact, a sort of language, an attempt to indicate feelings by sounds, and is manifested only by the civilized race; it is an acquired, not an instinctive faculty, and results from an intimate association with man. This faculty is lost in dogs reduced by neglect to a state of original wildness, or condemned to associate with savage tribes; but it is speedily regained by their reclaimed young. Man is destined to progressive advances in the scale of social and civil life; and it would appear that at an humble distance the dog is destined also to something like the same progression. Were it not so, though he might be the servant or bondslave, he could not be the friend and companion of man. And here, perhaps, we may be permitted to glance at the moral and physical characteristics of this faithful animal, to which, in the infancy of society, man must have been deeply indebted.

Carnivorous by nature, the dog is formed for a life of rapine; and is fleet, active, powerful, and courageous: unlike the feline tribe, which steal upon their prey by surprise, he chases it down in open day, and in united packs overcomes the most formidable quarry. We believe all wild dogs hunt by the scent, unless their prey is in full view; and so do all domestic breeds, with the exception of the greyhound, in which the sense of smell, so exquisitely acute in many breeds, is at a comparatively low ratio; but in quickness of eye, and in rapidity, the greyhound excels all other dogs. The muscles of the jaws and neck are very voluminous in the dog, and its limbs are vigorous: the larger breeds are serviceable in drawing burdens and sledges; from the flexibility of the spine, however, and the form of the limbs, the dog

is not adapted to carry heavy weights on the back—it is not a beast of burden—and often has our pity been excited at seeing the shafts of a heavily laden dog-cart pressing upon the back a poor animal, which from that very cause could not exert its full strength at the draught. A dog will lift a weight with its jaws which it cannot bear on its back; moreover, the easy progression of the dog is accompanied by gentle flexures of the spine, which, so to speak, works spring-like: now a weight on the back, besides oppressing the creature, prevents this spring-like action, and gives a stiffness to the dog's mode of going along, the spine being prevented from acting in concert with the limbs. It is to be desired that the unsuitability of the dog to bear pressure on the back were more generally known; none but a brute would willingly treat his dog cruelly, and with such it is of no use to reason.

The appetite of the dog is voracious; in a state of nature it has to undergo long fasts, and is therefore endowed with a huge appetite and great powers of digestion. After a full meal the dog curls himself up and lies down, while the digestive process goes on, and at that time he should never be put into violent exercise. In drinking the dog laps: his tongue is smooth, soft, very flexible; along the middle line of its under surface runs what is popularly called "the worm." This is a fibro-cartilaginous substance, slender, pointed at its extremities, and free excepting at its anterior apex, which serves for the attachment of transverse muscular fibres; it is enclosed in a sort of sheath, or canal, and by its elasticity aids very greatly the movements of the tongue. It has been ignorantly considered as the cause of hydrophobia,

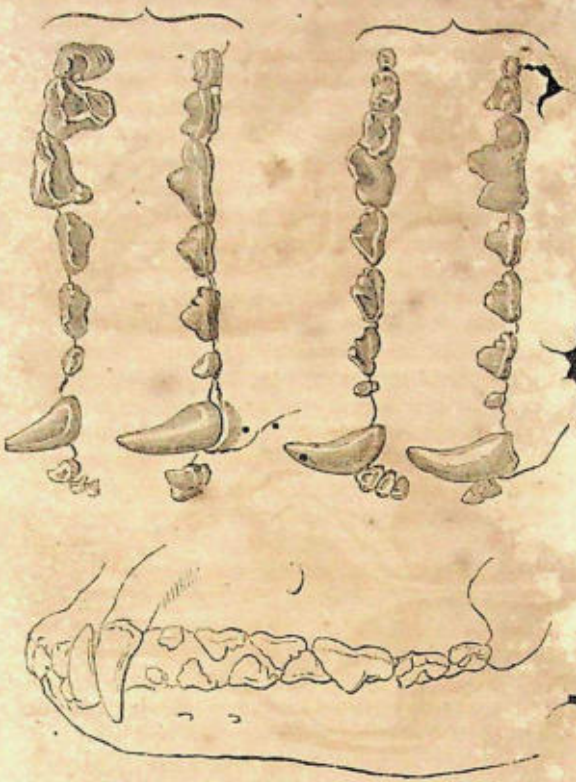
and many dog-fanciers, from this belief, or from some absurd ideas, cruelly remove it. In many dogs the palate is black, but in a breed from China, of which we have seen specimens, the whole of the inside of the mouth is of this colour.

The dentition of the dog may be expressed as follows:

Incisors, $\frac{6}{6}$; Canines, $\frac{1-1}{1-1}$; False molars, $\frac{3-3}{4-4}$

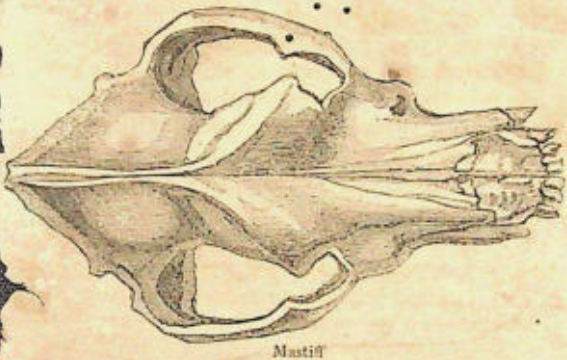
Laniary molars, $\frac{1-1}{1-1}$; Tubercular molars, $\frac{2-2}{2-2}$

Occasionally the last tubercular molar of the lower jaw is wanting; it is very small, and apt to become lost. Between the teeth and the hair of dogs there is a remarkable connexion, which was first pointed out, we believe, by Mr. Yarrell. The following is an extract from the 'Proceeds. Zool. Soc.,' 1833, p. 113:—"A specimen was exhibited of the *hairless Egyptian* variety of the *familiar dog*, which had recently died at the Society's Gardens. The exhibition was made principally with the view of illustrating the apparent connexion between teeth and hair. In this animal, so remarkable for its deficiency of hair, a corresponding deficiency of teeth was observed, there being neither incisors nor canines in either jaw, and the molars being reduced to one on each side, the large tubercular tooth being the only one remaining. Mr. Yarrell stated, in further illustration of this subject, that he had examined the mouths of two individuals of the same variety, still living at the Gardens, in both of which he found the teeth remarkably deficient. In neither of them were there any false molars; one was entirely destitute of canines also, these teeth being in the other short of the usual number; and the incisors were also in both deficient in number. He also exhibited



Teeth of Dog.

Mastiff.



Mastiff

Skulls of Dogs.

from his collection the cranium of a hairless terrier, in which the false molars were wanting." On the face of the dog will be found certain little tubercles or warts, with a few stiff hairs proceeding from them, one on each side, beyond the angle of the mouth, a smaller one often scarcely to be discovered nearer to the ear, and one between the rami of the under jaw, beyond the chin. There is a small glandular patch on the upper surface of the tail about its centre, where the hair often appears deficient. It is most conspicuous in smooth-haired dogs. The anterior feet have five toes, the hind feet four toes, and sometimes a fifth (rudimentary) on the tarsus; the claws are not retractile. The tail is turned upwards, and generally inclined slightly to the left, sometimes considerably; and this is connected with a somewhat oblique mode of progression, the right shoulder being rather more advanced than the opposite. In a state of domestication the dog still retains his liking for carrion, and delights to roll in it when occasion serves; he is prone also to burying bones in the earth, first digging a hole with his nose, in which he deposits the bone, over which, also with his nose, he shovels the earth, and presses it down. A small terrier in our possession is notorious for this procedure; he well remembers his concealed stores, and we have often watched him go deliberately and directly to the spot, disinter his bone, and carry it as a *bonne bouche* to his bed. He will also bury similar articles in snow; the fondness of dogs for ploughing up the snow with their snout has been often remarked. Cowper describes the woodman's dog in very characteristic lines:—

> "Shaggy and lean, and shrewd, with pointed ears
> And tail cropp'd short, half lurcher and half cur,

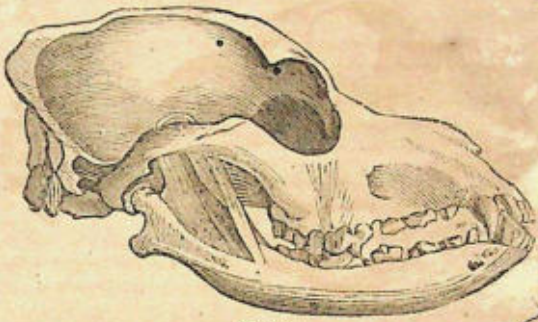
*His dog attends him;* close behind his heel
Now creeps he slow, and now with many a frisk
Wide-scampering snatches up the drifted snow
With ivory teeth, or ploughs it with his snout,
And shakes his powdered coat, and barks for joy."

M. E. Blaze says: "Cet animal est le seul qui hurle en entendant le son d'une cloche, ou d'un instrument de musique."* It is well known that dogs receive disagreeable impressions from certain sounds and musical notes: but all are not similarly affected; some are indifferent to tones which agitate others and excite melancholy howlings. But besides this howling, which seems to express a disagreeable affection of the nervous system through the organs of hearing, somewhat similar, perhaps, to what we feel on hearing the filing of a saw, and other noises, which, to use the common mode of expression, "set our teeth on edge," dogs howl in sympathy with each other, and thus at night often disturb a neighbourhood; nay, even a plaintive and compassionate mode of addressing a dog, especially when young, will make it whine in answer. If a puppy be taken up, and spoken to in a plaintive, commiserating tone of voice, as if to console it under some injury, it will, as we have often seen, utter a plaintive whine in reply. This fact may seem too unimportant to be noticed, but it proves the nervous susceptibility of the dog, and its appreciation even of the tones of compassion in the human voice. In like manner, it knows the voice of reproof, of encouragement, or of playfulness, and that before it has learned the name to which it is in future to answer.

Buffon, always eloquent, often incorrect, says, in a

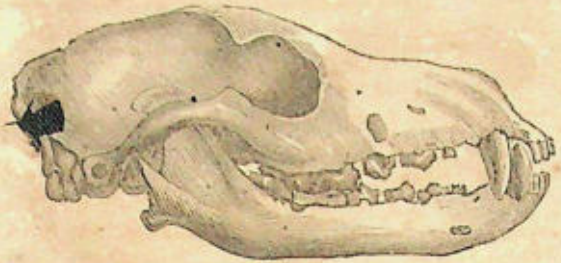
* "This is the only animal that howls on hearing the sound of a bell or a musical instrument."

Dingo.



Spaniel.

Skulls of Dogs.

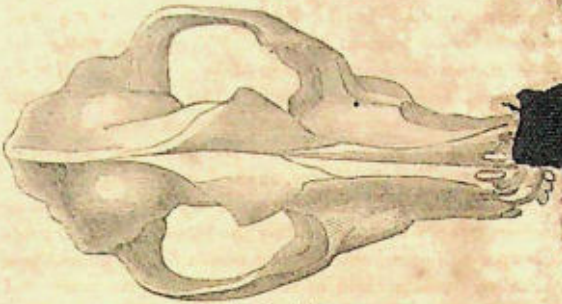


Mâtin.

Mâtin.

Skulls of Dogs.

will lavish caresses in return; he gambols with delight around his master, and loves to accompany him in his walks, and that for the very pleasure of his society. The dog, in the exuberance of his delight, courses the meadows or woods by the road side, yet still keeps attentive to his master, and where the road diverges, there stops to ascertain which of the two ways will be taken. Intelligent and devoted as the dog is, it is perhaps natural that he should be at the same time jealous of a rival. If a new dog be brought home, the old dog will manifest signs of great displeasure, and either sulkily refuse to notice or snarl and snap at the stranger; and even when two dogs are brought up together, and are on the most friendly terms, if one be noticed, the other puts in his claim also. Nor is it only of each other that dogs are jealous; dogs habituated to the parlour, or to much notice, entertain jealousy even towards an interloper of the human species. We knew an instance of this sort in a handsome spaniel belonging to a relative, whose wife had presented him with an infant. The dog manifested the most marked ill-nature towards the child, and growled at it whenever the opportunity occurred, and would, if not prevented, have done it mischief; nor was it till several months elapsed that this fit of resentment subsided; and afterwards they would play together on the rug before the fire, the dog becoming as fond of the child as he had been previously inimical to it. M. E. Blaze alludes to the instance of a dog dying of consumption because its mistress received home an infant which had previously been out to nurse. He growled whenever she kissed the child. Occasionally the jealousy of savage and powerful dogs has led to



Shepherd's Dog.

Shepherd's Dog.

Skulls of Dogs.

serious results. In the Paris papers of 1841 appeared the following tragical narrative: "A dreadful misfortune has thrown the family of Sieur M——, carpenter, Rue de [illegible]augirard, into consternation. The gatekeeper of the [illegible]establishment yesterday evening, towards ten o'clock, according to custom, unloosed the yard-dog, a kind of bulldog, which is always chained up during the day. All at once the animal, after having taken a few turns about the timber-yard, finding the room-door of the gatekeeper half open, entered, and made a furious attack upon the unfortunate child of the latter, aged six years, and which its mother was then engaged in undressing. A horrible struggle then ensued between the mother, endeavouring to extricate her child from the jaws of the dog, and the animal, which had seized his victim by the throat. At the cries of the mother, the proprietor and the gatekeeper ran to her, but could not deliver the child until they cut the dog open; but too late, the little Léon P—— was dead, so violent had been the gripe on its throat. This morning Dr. Payer, surgeon of the Municipal Guard, detailed in the presence of the commissary of the police of the district the numerous and horrible wounds produced by the bite of the dog. It is supposed that the ferocious act of the animal was caused by a fit of jealousy towards the child, which never dared to come near him, but was in the habit of caressing in his presence another little domestic dog, which belonged also to the house."

The dog is intelligent, but some breeds are far more so than others, and some individuals are elevated above their fellows. Greatly indeed does the cerebral development vary in different races (and consequently the cranial capacity relative to the rest of the skull), as may

be seen by comparing the skulls together. The superiority in this respect of the skull of the spaniel over that of the bulldog is most decided,—and it is in the spaniel, and those breeds most nearly related to it, that we observe the greatest intelligence and tractability. In the bulldog and mastiff, on the contrary, the bold interparietal and occipital ridges of the skull demonstrate the force and volume of the muscles of the jaw and neck. It is in these dogs that we find the most indomitable courage and the most combative disposition. M. Elzéar Blaze says, "Le chien est courageux, mais son courage augment beaucoup en la présence de son maître, soit qu'il veuille le défendre, soit qu'il se sente plus forte d'un tel appui, soit enfin qu'il veuille mériter son estime."* The fact is, that so utterly subjugated is the dog and so dependent on man, that he looks to his master for support and encouragement, and even the most pugnacious dogs fight more resolutely when they are encouraged by their master's voice. In South America, the large sheep-dogs which guard the flocks display courage only when in charge of the sheep. The following extract from Mr. Darwin's journal is very interesting:—"While staying at this estancia (in Banda Oriental) I was amused with what I saw and heard of the shepherd-dogs of the country. When riding, it is a common thing to meet a large flock of sheep guarded by one or two dogs, at the distance of some miles from any house or man. I often wondered how so firm a friendship had been established. The method of education consists in sepa-

* "The dog is courageous, but his courage increases in the presence of his master; whether it be that he wishes to defend him, or that he feels himself stronger with such assistance, or that he desires to merit his approbation."

rating the puppy when very young from the bitch, and in accustoming it to its future companions. An ewe is held three or four times a-day for the little thing to suck, and a nest of wool is made for it in the sheep-pen. At no time is it allowed to associate with other dogs, or with the children of the family. The puppy moreover is generally castrated; so that when grown up, it can scarcely have any feelings in common with the rest of its kind. From this education it has no wish to leave the flock, and just as another dog will defend its master, man, so will these the sheep. It is amusing to observe, when approaching a flock, how the dog immediately advances barking,—and the sheep all close in his rear as if round the oldest ram. These dogs are also easily taught to bring home the flock at a certain time in the evening. Their most troublesome fault when young is their desire of playing with the sheep, for in their play they sometimes gallop their poor subjects most unmercifully. The shepherd-dog comes to the house every day for some meat, and immediately it is given him he skulks away as if ashamed of himself. On these occasions the house-dogs are very tyrannical, and the least of them will attack and pursue the stranger. The minute however the latter has reached the flock, he turns round and begins to bark, and then all the house-dogs take very quickly to their heels. In a similar manner a whole pack of the hungry wild dogs will scarcely ever (and I was told by some, never) venture to attack a flock guarded even by one of these faithful shepherds.* The whole account appears to me a curi-

* To these dogs Azara alludes in the following passage:—"Among the dogs, the ovegeros, or sheep-dogs, are particularly

ous instance of the pliability of the affections of the dog race; and yet, whether wild, or however educated, with a mutual feeling of respect and fear for those that are fulfilling their instinct of association. For we can understand on no principle the wild dogs being driven away by the single one with its flock, except that they consider, from some confused notion, that the one thus associated gains power, as if in company with its own kind. F. Cuvier has observed that all animals which enter into domestication consider man as a member of their society, and thus they fulfil their instinct of association. In the above case the shepherd-dogs rank the sheep as their brethren; and the wild dogs, though knowing that the individual sheep are not dogs, but are good to eat, yet partly consent to this view, when seeing them in a flock, with a shepherd-dog at their head." It appears to us that the shepherd-dog in this instance regards the sheep as his supporters and his care, and feels exactly what a house-dog feels when strangers or strange dogs intrude upon the premises. We have frequently seen a large dog under such circumstances retreat before one of inferior power, which he would not

deserving of notice, because in this country, where there are no shepherds, they act in the place of the latter, and take charge of the flocks. Early in the morning they drive the flocks from the fold, conduct them to the plain, accompanying them the whole day, and keeping them united;—and when numerous they surround the flock, defending them from birds of prey, from wild dogs, and other beasts, and even from man, and from every kind of injury. At sunset they conduct the sheep back to the fold, when they lay themselves down upon the ground and sleep, and pass the night in their watchful care over them. If any of the lambs lag behind, they carefully take them up in their mouths, and carry them for a time, returning again and again, if need be, until none remain."

have done otherwise. The wild dogs spoken of by Mr. Darwin are dogs left to themselves, and which, like the horses and cattle, have resumed a life of independence; but perhaps they have not learned the power which union gives, and each thinking only of itself individually, fears to attack a champion who stands so boldly on the defensive. The circumstance of the dog regarding itself as one of a flock of sheep, and as the guard of those sheep, and not the friend and servant of one master, is not without a parallel under other circumstances, in which the animal attaches itself not to one, but to a collective number of individuals, which together constitute a master. We say nothing of the fireman's dog, of which everybody has heard;—there are other examples upon record. "In the first regiment of the Royal Guards," says M. Blaze, "we had a dog called *Bataillon*. Entertained by the soldiers at the guard-house, he always remained there; his masters changed every twenty-four hours; but that gave him no uneasiness. Sure of his pittance, there he stayed. He would follow no one to the barracks: but looked upon himself as the humble servant of twelve soldiers, two corporals, a sergeant, and drummer, whoever they might happen to be; and without being uneasy about the matter. During the night, when it froze hard, the centinel frequently called *Bataillon*, and took his place to warm himself at the stove: the dog would have suffered death rather than have passed beyond the door. When we changed garrison, the dog followed the regiment, and immediately installed himself in the guard-house of the new barracks. He knew all the soldiers, he caressed them all, but would take no notice of those who did not

wear our uniform. To this dog the regiment was a master, an individual whom he loved. His feeling was for blue dresses with amaranth facings,—he despised all other colours."

It is owing to the difference amongst the varieties of the domestic dog in some respects, as in docility, strength, size, speed, keenness of scent, ferocity, &c., and their similarity in others, as attachment to their masters, fidelity, &c., that there is scarcely any purpose to which the dog has not been put. Like man he follows different occupations; the street dogs are the lazzaroni of their race. In the earliest times, the dog, like his master, was a mighty hunter. The chase of the ferocious or of the swift was his occupation; he brought the wolf, the wild boar, and the lion to bay; or tired down the deer and antelope. Soon, however, war became a game at which kings played, and *Væ Victis!* for war in a semicivilized state of society is unmitigated by moderation or humanity. Then was the dog called from the chase, or from guarding against savage brutes the peaceful flocks and herds, to assist human brutes in the destruction of each other; the dog became a warrior, and a most formidable one, either in the citadel, the intrenched camp, or the battle-field. Shakspere's expression put into the mouth of Anthony, "Cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war!" is by no means metaphorical. Dogs of war had long been used before, and were so long after the time of the first bald Cæsar.

Watch-dogs were not only kept within the citadel of Rome, but in all the fortresses of the Greeks. The citadel of Corinth was guarded externally by an advanced post of fifty dogs placed 'en vidette' on the

sea-shore. One night the garrison slept, overcome with wine: the enemy disembarked, but were received by the fifty dogs, who fought with indomitable courage till forty-nine fell. The survivor, named Soter (Σωτηρ)—history has preserved his name—retreated from the field of battle to the citadel, and gave the alarm; the soldiers were roused, and the enemy was repelled. The senate ordained that Soter should wear a silver collar, with this inscription: "Soter, defender and preserver of Corinth." A monument of marble was erected in honour of the dogs which fell, on which their names, with that of Soter, were engraved. According to Herodotus, the Satrap of Babylon kept so many Indian dogs, that four considerable towns in the plain were exempted from all taxes on the condition of providing food for those animals. M. Blaze regards these as war-dogs belonging to Cyrus; but Herodotus does not say so, and it is most probable that they were hunting-dogs. The ancient Cimbri, the Celts, the Gauls, and other tribes made use of trained dogs in war; and when the Cimbri were defeated by Marius, the women and baggage were defended so vigorously by dogs, that a fresh contest had to be commenced.

War-dogs were armed with spiked collars, and sometimes with coats of mail. An antique bronze found at Herculaneum, and now in the museum of Naples, represents mailed dogs attacked by soldiers armed with various weapons. M. Blaze says, "The Knights of Rhodes placed dogs at all the advanced posts, and no patrol set forward without being preceded and followed by a dog. We do the same thing at present in Algeria." The Spaniards, in their battles with the Indians of America, employed fierce dogs. Robertson, speaking

exertions of a cordon of douaniers, gaining at length their home in safety.

It would appear, from official reports, that it was only since the suppression of smuggling by horses, in 1825, that dogs were employed. The first attempts at this extraordinary use of animal sagacity were made at Valenciennes. The system afterwards spread to Dunkirk and Charleville, and subsequently extended to Thionville, Strasbourg, and Besançon. The dogs trained to play the smuggler's part were conducted in packs to the foreign frontier, where they were kept without food for many hours; they were then beaten and laden, and in the beginning of the night started on their travels. They reached the abodes of their masters, which were generally selected at two or three leagues' distance from the frontiers, as speedily as they could, where they were sure to be well treated, and provided with a quantity of food. The dogs engaged were conducted in leashes of from eight or ten to twenty and even thirty individuals; they went very unwillingly, well aware of the starvation and harsh treatment which awaited them. They were for the most part dogs of large size, and as on their return they usually travelled direct across the country, they often did much mischief to agricultural property; and, moreover, according to the Report, from being hunted about by the custom-house officers, and subjected to excessive fatigue and various deprivations, they were very liable to hydrophobia, and frequently bit the officers, one of whom died in consequence in 1829. Tobacco and colonial products were generally the objects of this illicit trade; sometimes cotton twist and manufactures. In the neighbourhood of Dunkirk dogs have been taken with a

value of 2*l*., 25*l*., or even 48*l*. In 1833 it was estimated that 100,000 kilogrammes were thus introduced into France (a kilogramme is equal to 2 lbs. 8 ozs. 3 dwts. 2 grs. troy); in 1825, 187,315 kilogrammes; in 1826, 2,100,000 kilogrammes: but these estimates are reported as being under the mark. The burden of each dog has been regarded as averaging two and a half kilogrammes; but sometimes they carried ten or even twelve kilogrammes. The above estimate supposes that in certain districts one dog in ten got killed, in others one in twenty; but this is a matter of uncertainty, and the officers were of opinion that not above one dog in seventy-five was destroyed, even when notice had been given and the canine smugglers were expected.

Among the measures proposed for the suppression of this mode of smuggling a premium of three francs per head was allowed upon every "chien fraudeur" destroyed; but though the sum paid has been considerable, viz., 440*l*. per annum before 1827, and 600*l*. since that period, when the premium was allowed in the Thionville district, the success was not equal to what was expected. Yet it appears that between the years 1829 and 1830, 40,278 dogs were destroyed, and premiums paid to the amount of 483*l*. Various severe measures of police were at different times proposed, in order to check the exportation of large dogs from France into the Belgian territories, but the plans proved ineffectual. We are not aware as to what extent such smuggling is now carried on, but we have read nothing lately in the public papers concerning it.

Dogs, as we see every day in the streets of the metropolis, are taught to lead the blind, which they do with

great judgment, carrying at the same time a little bowl, by means of a leather thong, in their mouth, to receive the alms of the charitable. The intelligence of these slow-moving melancholy dogs is very remarkable, and we wonder that they should be able to pilot their master so well through crowded thoroughfares. Montaigne says, "I have seen one of these dogs along the ramparts of a town leave a smooth and uniform path, and take a worse, in order to lead his master from the edge. How could this dog have been made to conceive that his duty was to look solely to the safety of his master, and to neglect its own accommodation to serve him? And how came he to have the knowledge that a road broad enough for himself, was not so for a blind man? Can he comprehend all this without a train of reasoning?" At Rome, says M. Blaze, the dogs of the blind conduct their master to the places where the most company is assembled; they visit the various churches; but if on their road they come to a handsome house, where they observe the solemn pomp of a funeral, they never fail to stop there, counting upon the alms which their master will surely receive upon such an occasion. To this he adds the following anecdote:—"I was travelling in a diligence. At the place where we changed horses, I saw a good looking poodle-dog (chien caniche), which came to the coach-door, and sat up on its two hind legs, with the air of one begging for something. 'Give him a sou,' said the postilion to me, 'and you will see what he will do with it.' I threw to him the coin; he picked it up, ran to the baker's, and brought back a piece of bread, which he ate. This dog had belonged to a poor

blind man, lately dead:—he had no master, and begged alms on his own account."

Another work of humanity to which the dog has been trained, is to find out and succour those who have lost their way, and are perishing amidst the Alpine snows. These dogs not only do their utmost themselves to revive the unfortunates, and to conduct them to safety, but by their loud barking they call assistance. How different this duty to the combats of the battle-field or the arena; yet who can doubt but that these large dogs would be terrible in conflict! In their arduous work of mercy these noble dogs display great courage, promptitude, and prescience of impending consequences: nor are these qualities undisplayed by other dogs under different circumstances, either in behalf of human beings or each other. Colonel H. Smith says, that he has personally witnessed a water-dog unbidden plunge into the current of a roaring sluice, to save a small cur maliciously flung in; and also an instance in which a Pomeranian dog belonging to the master of a Dutch bylander vessel, sprang overboard, caught up a child which had fallen into the water, and swam ashore with it, before any person had discovered the accident. As an instance of great intelligence and benevolence towards a companion, M. Blaze relates the following: "Three dogs belonging, two to M. G. and the other to M. P., of Saint-Bonnet sur Galaune (canton de St. Valier, department of the Drôme), went to the chase without their masters: having pursued a rabbit almost to an extremity, which took refuge in a burrow, one of the dogs of M. G., carried forward by eagerness, shoved himself so deeply into this subterranean

asylum, that retreat became utterly impossible. After having scratched to no purpose in the hope of extricating him, the two companions returned home in such a state of sadness and dejection, as to be noticed by their masters, who knew not to what to attribute the cause. The next day came a fresh disappearance of the two dogs, which had found the means of joining each other; they were seen to return in the evening to their respective domiciles harassed with fatigue; to refuse every sort of nourishment, their paws bloody, and their bodies covered with earth and sweat. At first no attention was paid to what took place, but the same procedure being repeated the next and on succeeding days, and M. G. not finding his dog return, the absence of which began to make him uneasy,—surprised, moreover, at the daily disappearance of his second dog, which only came back at night, and that in the most frightful state,—mentioned the circumstance to M. P., who declared to him that his dog had done the same thing for a week. Finally, the day following, M. G. was wakened early in the morning by the cries of several dogs, who scratched at his door; he came down to see what was the matter, and what was his astonishment when he saw his dog which he thought lost, feeble, languid, and like a mere skeleton, escorted by its two liberators to the residence of its master, and which, seeing it in his care, went to sleep tranquilly on a bundle of straw, scarcely able to move their stiffened limbs. M. G. made researches to discover the place where this touching scene occurred. He found, in fact, that the narrow opening into which his poor dog had forced itself was transformed into a large cavity, the working out of which was evidently due to the intelli-

gence of the two other dogs." A gamekeeper to whom this account was related, exclaimed with enthusiasm, "Si j'avais ces deux chiens-là, je les ferais encadrer!"* The dog acts as an assistant to the drover, the ratcatcher, the warrener, and even to the salmon-fisher the dog plays an important part,—nay, there are instances of dogs fishing for their own amusement. Jukes, in his 'Excursions in and about Newfoundland,' says: "A thin short-haired black dog belonging to George Harvey came off to us to-day; this animal was of a breed very different from what we understand by the term Newfoundland dog in England. He had a thin tapering snout, a long thin tail, and rather thin but powerful legs, with a lank body, the hair short and smooth. These are the most abundant dogs of the country, the long-haired curly dogs being comparatively rare. They are by no means handsome, but are generally more intelligent and useful than the others. This one caught his own fish; he sat on a projecting rock beneath a fish-lake or stage, where the fish are laid to dry, watching the water, which had a depth of six or eight feet, the bottom of which was white with fish-bones. On throwing a piece of codfish into the water, three or four heavy clumsy-looking fish, called in Newfoundland sculpins, with great heads and mouths, and many spines about them, and generally about a foot long, would swim in to catch it. There he would '*set*' attentively, and the moment one turned his broadside to him, he darted down like a fish-hawk, and seldom came up without the fish in his mouth. As he caught them he carried them regularly to a place a few yards off, where he laid them

* "If I had those two dogs, I would have them framed."

down; and they told us that in the summer he would sometimes make a pile of fifty or sixty a-day just at that place. He never attempted to eat them, but seemed to be fishing purely for his own amusement. I watched him for about two hours, and when the fish did not come I observed he once or twice put his right foot in the water, and paddled it about. This foot was white, and Harvey said he did it to *toll* or entice the fish; but whether it was for that specific reason, or merely a motion of impatience, I could not exactly decide."

It is not only to useful and beneficent occupations that the dog may be brought up; he can be taught amusing tricks, to pick out letters or numbers at command; to play at dominoes; to act the mountebank; or take his part on the stage. We have ourselves seen some admirable performances by a white poodle in Paris, at the exhibition of the Ombres Chinoises; and, at one of the theatres, the really clever acting of two Newfoundland dogs, in the drama entitled 'Les Chiens du Mont St. Bernard.' But beyond these exhibitions proving the teachableness of the more intelligent races of dogs, these animals have been drilled into histrionic performances of the most complex kind, and in which human actors did not take a part.

Thus, then, is the dog a hunter, a fowler, a fisher, a keeper of sheep, a centinel and soldier, a guardian of property, a dispenser of acts of charity and benevolence, a mountebank, an actor, and, more than all, man's most disinterested friend. Nay, it is not to his master while living only that his attachment is limited; he continues his affection to him when dead and in the grave. Does any one doubt it? Let him take the following confirmation, related by Napoleon, who witnessed the circumstances

were left where they fell, "to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field." Among them was an Irish officer; he was killed and stripped in the battle. But his faithful dog discovered his remains, and guarded the body day and night; and though he fed with other dogs on the slain around, yet he would not allow them or any thing else to touch that of his master. When all the dead bodies were consumed, the other dogs departed; but this used to go in the night to the adjacent villages for food, and presently return to the place where his master's bones only were then left. Thus he continued from July, when the battle was fought, till January following, when one of Colonel Foulk's soldiers, who was quartered in the neighbourhood, happening to go near the spot, the dog, fearing he came to disturb his master's bones, rushed upon the man, who unslung his musket on the instant, and shot the poor animal dead. He expired faithful as he had lived.

Bochart, in 1660, relates an account of a dog which had followed his master's bier to the churchyard of St. Innocent, Paris, and had then remained there for three years: he continued on that grave to the end of his days. In the last half-century a similar case occurred at Lisle. The admiration of the neighbourhood, says Colonel H. Smith, was so great, that a hut was built for the faithful dog on the grave of his master, and food regularly supplied. A most affecting instance of attachment in a spaniel is narrated in Daniel's 'Rural Sports,' as quoted by Mr. Bell. We may be pardoned for repeating it: "A few days before the overthrow of Robespierre a revolutionary tribunal had condemned M. R., an ancient magistrate and a most estimable man, on

pretence of finding him guilty of conspiracy. His faithful dog, a water-spaniel, was with him when he was seized, but was not suffered to enter the prison. He took refuge with a neighbour of his master, and every day, at the same hour, returned to the door of the prison, but was still refused admittance. He, however, uniformly passed some time there, and his unremitting fidelity won upon the porter, and the dog was allowed to enter. The meeting may be better imagined than described. The jailer, however, fearful for himself, carried the dog out of prison; but he returned the next morning, and was regularly admitted on each day afterwards. When the day of sentence arrived, the dog, notwithstanding the guards, penetrated into the hall, where he lay crouched between the legs of his master. Again, at the hour of execution, the faithful dog is there: the knife of the guillotine falls, but he will not leave the lifeless and headless body. The first night, the next day, and the second night alarmed his new patron, who, guessing whither he had retired, sought him and found him stretched on his master's grave. From this time, every morning for three months, the mourner returned to his protector merely to receive food, and then again retreated to the grave. At length he refused food; his patience seemed exhausted; and with temporary strength supplied by his long-tried and unexhausted affection, for twenty-four hours he was observed to employ his weakened limbs in digging up the earth that separated him from the being he had served. His powers, however, here gave way; he shrieked in his struggles, and at length ceased to breathe, with his last look turned upon the grave." We need make no comment upon this nar-

rative, and we pity the man who can read it without emotion.

Wordsworth, in a beautiful poem, has given an affecting instance of the fidelity of a dog whose master had accidentally perished. We have quoted the poem in the 'Pictorial Museum of Animated Nature,' and its repetition here may not be unacceptable:

"A barking sound the shepherd hears,
A cry as of a dog or fox;
He halts, and searches with his eyes
Among the scatter'd rocks.
And now at distance can discern
A stirring in a brake of fern,
From which immediately leaps out
A dog, and yelping runs about.

The dog is not of mountain breed,
Its motions, too, are wild and shy,
With something, as the shepherd thinks,
Unusual in its cry.
Nor is there any one in sight
All round, in hollow or on height:
Nor shout nor whistle strikes his ear—
What is the creature doing here?

It was a cave, a huge recess,
That keeps till June December's snow;
A lofty precipice in front,
A silent tarn below.
Far in the bosom of Helvellyn,
Remote from public road or dwelling,
Pathway, or cultivated land,
From trace of human foot or hand.

There sometimes does a leaping fish
Send through the tarn a lonely cheer:
The crags repeat the raven's croak
In symphony austere.
Thither the rainbow comes,—the cloud,—
And mists that spread the flying shroud,—

And sunbeams,—and the sounding blast,
That if it could would hurry past,
But that enormous barrier binds it fast.

Not knowing what to think, awhile
The shepherd stood;—then makes his way
Towards the dog, o'er rocks and stones
As quickly as he may:
Nor far had gone before he found
A human skeleton on the ground,—
Sad sight! the shepherd, with a sigh,
Looks round to learn the history.

From those abrupt and perilous rocks
The man had fallen,—that place of fear!
At length upon the shepherd's mind
It breaks, and all is clear.
He instantly recall'd the name,
And who he was, and whence he came:—
Remember'd too the very day
On which the traveller pass'd this way.

But hear a wonder now, for sake
Of which this mournful tale I tell;
A lasting monument of words
This wonder merits well.
The dog, which still was hovering nigh,
Repeating the same timid cry,
This dog had been through three months' space
A dweller in that savage place.

Yes, proof was plain, that since the day
On which the traveller had died,
The dog had watched about the spot,
Or by his master's side.
How nourished here through such long time,
*He* knows who gave that love sublime;
And gave that strength of feeling, great
Above all human estimate."

It is about forty years since the fatal accident happened which furnishes a subject for the above poem. The circumstances were recently detailed to a tourist,

by one of the guides who conducts visitors to the summits of Skiddaw and Helvellyn. The unfortunate man who perished in these solitudes was a resident of Manchester, and periodically in the habit of visiting the Lakes; and who, confiding in his knowledge of the country, had ventured to cross one of the passes of Helvellyn late on a summer's evening, in company with his faithful dog. Darkness, it is supposed, came on before his expectation; he wandered from the track, and fell over the rocks into one of those deep recesses where human foot but seldom treads. The body, still watched by the dog, was found accidentally after many weeks' fruitless search. The man who told the story had never heard of the poem; but the sentiment of natural piety with which it concludes was on his lips—"God knows how the poor beast was supported so long!"

The dog dreams; he pursues in sleep his wonted avocation, and gives chase to the fancied game, or gambols around his master. Nor is the dream always dispelled on awaking: Lucretius says,

> "Venantumque canes in molli sæpe quiete
> Jactant crura tamen subito, vocesque repentè
> Mittunt, et crebras reducunt naribus auras
> Ut vestigia si teneant inventa ferarum;—
> Expergifactique sequuntur inania sæpè
> Cervorum simulacra, fugæ quasi dedita cernant;
> Donec discussis redeant erroribus ad se."*
>
> *De Rer. Nat.* iv. 988-994.

---

* "And dogs of the chase, in soft sleep, often
Move their limbs suddenly, and send forth hasty sounds,
And draw in frequent inspirations with their nostrils,
As if they were keeping the tracks of game;
And, aroused, often follow the empty images
Of stags, as if they saw them in flight;
Till, their errors dissipated, they return to themselves."

We shall not attempt to enter into the theory of dreams, further than to observe that they are impressions on the mental part of our mysterious being during sleep, which impressions are believed to have a real and present existence; and they follow each other according to associations over which we have at that time no control. The very circumstance that the dog dreams proves the comparatively great perfection of those powers which we term collectively mind. It remembers, it reflects, it imagines; it is animated by hope or joy, and depressed by fear or anxiety.

Dogs certainly acquire some knowledge of time. Mr. Southey, in his 'Omniana,' relates two instances of dogs which were able to count the days of the week. One of these he says belonged to his grandfather, and was in the habit of trudging two miles every Saturday to cater for himself in the shambles. "I know," he adds, "a more extraordinary and well authenticated example. A dog which had belonged to an Irishman, and was sold by him in England, would never touch a morsel of food upon Friday." We have heard of a dog which was in the habit of attending church with the bailiff of a gentleman in a parish some distance from Edinburgh. When the family resided at Edinburgh, the dog being with them, he would start off on a Saturday to the bailiff's house, that he might not lose his privilege, and would punctually return. M. Blaze says, that a dog belonging to M. Roger set out every Saturday, at two o'clock precisely, from Locoyarne to go to Hennebon (about three miles distant). On arriving, he went straight to the butcher's, because they killed on that day, and he was sure of having a good dinner of offal. At this same gen

tleman's, family worship was conducted every evening, and the dog would listen very quietly to the Paternosters, which, however, did not seem much to edify him, for the moment that the last Paternoster was begun, he would get up and place himself at the door, ready to go out as soon as it should be opened. It was evident that he knew how to count the number of prayers which were ordinarily repeated. Many instances of a similar nature might be collected; but the repetition of such in proof of a point which few acquainted with dogs will contest, is not requisite.

Sir Walter Scott was, we believe, impressed with the opinion that dogs understand, to a great extent, human language or conversation; and we believe it. A dog from his master's conversation will know that he is about to walk out, or take a journey; and if he has reason to believe that his company is not wished for, will make his escape, and join his master on the road when at too great a distance for him conveniently to turn back. We have two dogs, a spaniel and a terrier, both of small size; and if, by way of trial, in the course of conversation we say, in the ordinary tone of voice, and without looking at them, "I am sure there must be a cat somewhere about the house," they are instantly excited, and search in every place for the animal, to which they bear instinctive hatred. Dr. Gall says that dogs learn to understand not merely separate words or articulate sounds, but whole sentences expressing many ideas. In his treatise 'Sur les Fonctions du Cerveau' is the following passage:—"I have often spoken intentionally of objects which might interest my dog, taking care not to mention his name, or make any intonation or gesture which might

awaken his attention. He however showed no less pleasure or sorrow, as it might be; and, indeed, manifested by his behaviour that he had perfectly understood the conversation which concerned him. I had taken a bitch from Vienna to Paris; in a very short time she comprehended French as well as German, of which I satisfied myself by repeating before her whole sentences in both languages." Without going so far as Dr. Gall, we cannot help thinking that dogs understand more of what is said than is generally suspected; not that they can follow out a conversation, or any train of reasoning, but they can pick up a simple sentence here and there which more particularly relates to them. If a sportsman asks his servant whether or not his gun is cleaned, the dog will most probably rise up, in expectation of the sport; and a few orders respecting dress, powder, shot, &c., will be caught up, and received as intimating that his service is about to be required. This is not more unlikely than that the dog should understand the accents of praise or disapprobation. That dogs communicate their ideas to each other, and contrive plans for their mutual benefit, seems to be generally acknowledged; and we read of dogs insulted and tyrannized over by others of superior strength combining with several friendly dogs, or with one of great prowess, to punish the aggressor. The story of a dog, whose broken leg had been set and cured by a benevolent surgeon, bringing to the gentleman's house another dog whose leg had been broken also, has been often told. There are two versions of this story, in one of which the surgeon is described as living at Leeds; in the other, the surgeon was Morand, a celebrated practitioner in France. Two dogs belonging to

M. Blaze, a hound called Triomphaux, and a pointer called Médor, were in the habit of absenting themselves occasionally from home, for several days together, and on their return they were always in good condition, and by no means hungry, but rather overfilled, and desirous of going to rest. On one occasion, when these two canine friends marched off together, their master followed, and at some distance watched their movements. They carried on the business of poaching for their own benefit. Médor crouched in a trench, along which Triomphaux in full cry drove the hare, which the former suddenly seized as it passed; the two then proceeded to make a good dinner.

The dog, and indeed it is the case with other domestic

Lion and Spaniel.

animals, sometimes forms a friendship with other creatures of the lower order, of a different species from himself. Instances, indeed, of this friendship between the dog and the horse are not uncommon, and have come under our own notice; and we have heard of others in which a dog and lion or lioness displayed towards each other the warmest attachment.

In Montagu's supplement to his 'Ornithological Dictionary' is an account of a friendship between a pointer and a Chinese goose, which commenced under rather extraordinary circumstances, at least on the part of the goose. It appears that the dog had killed the mate (gander) of the goose, and was not only severely punished for the misdemeanour, but had the dead bird tied to his neck. The solitary goose, attracted to the kennel by the sight of her dead companion, for the loss of which she was greatly distressed, seemed determined to persecute Ponto by her constant attendance and continual vociferations. By degrees, however, her feelings underwent a change, and in a short time a strict amity and friendship arose between these incongruous animals. "They fed out of the same trough, lived under the same roof, and in the same straw bed kept each other warm; and when the dog was taken to the field, the inharmonious lamentations of the goose for the absence of her friend were incessant."

One of the most extraordinary cases on record of a friendship between two most dissimilar animals, a spaniel and a partridge, is narrated by a writer in whom implicit confidence may be placed:—"We were lately (in 18[illegible] visiting in a house, where a very pleasing and singular portrait attracted our observation: it was that of a young lady, represented with a partridge perched upon her

shoulder, and a dog with his feet on her arm. We recognised it as a representation of the lady of the house; but were at a loss to account for the odd association of her companions. She observed our surprise, and at once gave the history of the bird and the spaniel. They were both, some years back, domesticated in her family. The dog was an old parlour favourite, who went by the name of Tom; the partridge was more recently introduced from France, and answered to the equally familiar name of Bill. It was rather a dangerous experiment to place them together, for Tom was a lively and spirited creature, very apt to torment the cats, and to bark at any object which roused his instinct. But the experiment was tried; and Bill, being very tame, did not feel much alarm at his natural enemy. They were of course shy at first, but this shyness gradually wore off; the bird became less timid and the dog less bold. The most perfect friendship was at length established between them. When the hour of dinner arrived, the partridge invariably flew on his mistress's shoulder, calling with that shrill note which is so well known to sportsmen, and the spaniel leapt about with equal ardour. One dish of bread and milk was placed on the floor, out of which the spaniel and bird fed together. After their social meal, the dog would retire to a corner to sleep, while the partridge would nestle between his legs, and never stir till his favourite awoke. Whenever the dog accompanied his mistress out, the bird displayed the utmost disquietude till his return; and once, when the partridge was shut up by accident a whole day, the dog searched about the house, with a mournful cry which indicated the strength of his affection. The friend-

ship of Tom and Bill was at length fatally terminated. The beautiful little dog was stolen; and the bird from that time refused food, and died on the seventh day, a victim to his grief."

Such, then, is a sketch of the general properties of the dog, so varied in external configuration, so varied in acquired propensities and habits, so uniform in attachment to its master. "The guardianship so trustworthy of dogs, their attachment so devoted to their masters, their general dislike of strangers, their wonderful powers of scent, their singular aptitude for the chase, prove this fact, that they were formed for the service of man." (Cicero, De Nat: Deorum.)

Before entering more fully into the various races of dogs, we may here enumerate a few physical characters we have hitherto omitted. The dog never perspires, but when heated lolls out its tongue, and salivary fluid drips from its mouth; when in health its nose is cool and moist; it turns round and round before lying down in the chosen spot; it is capable of sustaining long hunger, but requires to drink often. The teats in the female vary; some have five pairs, some four; some have one more on one side than on the other. The number of young at a litter varies from four to eight; they are born blind, and the eyes are not opened till the tenth or twelfth day. It is a remarkable fact, and one which we can personally avouch, that the male parent of the first litter produces an influence on the form and external characters of subsequent litters by other fathers; and it often happens that while some of the young resemble the female or male, others will take after the male parent

of the first brood.* A similar fact has been proved in the instance of the mare.

The dog is adult at the age of three years, and seldom lives longer than about fifteen years. Sometimes, however, it attains to twenty; so that Homer's account of the faithful dog of Ulysses, which died at his feet on his return after twenty years' absence, is within the bounds of possibility. The dog has certain subcaudal glands, which exhale a penetrating fetid odour.

* Jaques Savary, a cynegetical poet of Caen, had long ago, in 1665, made the same observations. (See *Album Dianæ Leporicidæ.*)

## CHAPTER IV.

### ON THE VARIETIES OF THE DOG.

We now venture to offer the following as an arrangement of the principal breeds into which the domestic dog appears to be resolvable; from this arrangement we exclude the true wild dogs of India and the dingo of Australia, but retain in it such dogs as have reverted to a life of independence, and which may be termed feral:—

1. Ears, erect or nearly so; nose, pointed; hair, long, often woolly; form, robust and muscular; aspect, more or less wolfish.
   - Feral dog of Russia.
   - Feral dog of Natolia.
   - Shepherd's dog of Natolia.
   - Persian guard dog.
   - Pomeranian dog.
   - Icelandish dog.
   - Siberian dog.
   - Tschuktschi dog.
   - Esquimaux dog.
   - Hare Indian dog.
   - Black wolf-dog of Florida Indians.
   - Nootka dog.
   - Shepherd dog.

2. Ears, narrow, semi-erect, or only slightly pendulous; muzzle, produced; jaws, strong; hair, smooth or wiry; limbs, long and vigorous; power of scent, not highly developed.
   - Ancient German boarhound, the Sau-ruden of Redinger.
   - Great Danish dog.
   - Feral dog of Hayti.
   - French mâtin.
   - Irish wolf-dog.
   - Scotch deerhound.
   - English greyhound.
   - Italian greyhound.
   - Persian greyhound.
   - Brinjaree dog.
   - Albanian greyhound.
   - Lurcher.

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 Ears, moderately large and pendent; muzzle, deep and strong; hair, long, sometimes wiry; form, robust; aspect, grave and intelligent. | Italian wolf-dog.<br>Newfoundland dog.<br>Labrador dog.<br>Alpine dog. |
| 4. Ears, moderately large; sometimes very large, pendent; hair, long and fine; muzzle, moderate; forehead, developed; scent, acute; intelligence at a high ratio. | Spaniel and fancy varieties.<br>Water-spaniel and varieties.<br>Rough water-dog or barbet.<br>Little barbet.<br>Setter. |
| 5. Ears, large, pendent; muzzle, long and deep; nose, large; hair, close; scent, acute; form, vigorous. | Pointer.<br>Dalmatian dog.<br>Beagle.<br>Harrier.<br>Foxhound.<br>Old English hound.<br>Bloodhound.<br>African hound, &c. |
| 6. Ears, moderate, pendent; muzzle, short and thick; jaws, enormously strong; hair, short, sometimes wiry; form, robust; sense of smell variable. | Cuban mastiff.<br>English mastiff.<br>Thibet mastiff.<br>Bandog.<br>Bulldog.<br>Corsican and Spanish bulldog.<br>Pug-dog. |
| 7. Ears, suberect; muzzle, rather acute; jaws, strong; hair, short or wiry; scent, acute; habits, active; intelligence, considerable. | Terrier — smooth and wire-haired.<br>Turnspit.<br>Barbary dog. |

We do not offer this arrangement, which is essentially the same as that which we have elsewhere given, as not liable to objections; indeed so many mixed breeds of dogs of uncertain origin exist, that any attempt to class them under distinct heads would appear hopeless. We must confess, however, that F. Cuvier's arrangement of

all breeds under three heads, viz., Mâtins, Spaniels, and Dogues or mastiffs, is to ourselves by no means satisfactory,—at the same time we would not arrogantly assert that our own is anything like perfect. It will be observed that we have omitted in it any enumeration of the Egyptian, Greek, or ancient Roman dogs, and for one good reason, viz., though much may be learnedly said about them, little after all is positively established.

To commence with the first section of our arrangement of the varieties of the *Canis domesticus*, we may observe that through the whole northern extent of Europe, Asia, and America, several breeds of wolf-like dogs, evidently related to each other, exist. Of these, the Pomeranian dog, or Kees of the Dutch, is tolerably well known in England. Its nose is pointed, the fur is long, the tail bushy and curled over the back: the colour is white, or a mixture of white and brown. They make excellent watch-dogs, and are often seen on the barges traversing the canals. This dog is undoubtedly of more northern origin, and is derived perhaps from the same stock as the Iceland dog, which was carried most probably by the old Norsemen to that island of ice-cliffs and volcanoes. It is singular that a wolf-dog of large size, with pointed nose, erect ears, and a long coat, is to be seen in some parts of Spain. Col. H. Smith, who calls it the Great Wolf-dog, thinks that it was brought to that country by Gothic hordes, and that it is similar to a variety described by Olaus Magnus, which in his time was common to the north of Sweden and Norway. A powerful breed of wolfish watch-dogs of large stature exists in Russia; but besides the truly domestic dogs of that country there is an emancipated or feral race, of wolf-like aspect and

colour, living, like the jungle pariah dogs of the East, in companies. They approach the outskirts of the towns, and even of St. Petersburg, making burrows in the earth, and prowling about at night in quest of food; they are dangerous, especially in winter, to persons travelling alone and unprotected through the country. Col. H. Smith states that a gentleman and his friend, long resident in St. Petersburg, were obliged to go out to the rescue of a boy sent with a message across the ice of the Neva, who was observed to be beset by a troop of these animals. It may be that they are real wild dogs, for very little is known about them.

Throughout Siberia, to its eastern borders, and in Kamtschatka, various arctic breeds of wolf-like dogs exist, which are used in winter for the purpose of drawing sledges over the hardened snow. The Kamtschatka dogs, of surly temper, are often cruelly treated, and forced to draw weights beyond their strength; and to proceed at the stretch of their speed. The ordinary loading of five dogs is about 240 or 250 lbs., exclusive of sledge and driver, and they will travel from 60 to 100 miles in a day. Their perseverance is as great as their speed. Captain King states that a courier with dispatches having occasion to urge his "*team*" forward for four days successively, passed over 270 miles in that space of time. No doubt his sledge was very lightly loaded. During the summer these dogs wander at liberty, obtaining their subsistence principally from such fish as they can catch upon the margin of the sea or rivers, in which operation necessity makes them very skilful. In October they are collected by their owners, or return home, and are fed principally on the bones and

heads of dried fish. The time now arrives for their services in dragging the sledge; and a winter of hard usage is before them. The leading dog of a sledge, whose training is rigidly attended to, if well disciplined and obedient, is of great value. A sum equivalent to ten pounds is the common price for a good leader. The other dogs are harnessed in pairs; but the reins are only attached to the collar of the leader, whom the rest follow. The leader is guided by the voice of the driver, who carries, it is said, a short stick, which he throws at the refractory individuals, and recovers with great address. These dogs pursue game eagerly, and not being well fed, are apt when they come to the tracks of reindeer, or seals, to start off in full chase, when it becomes very difficult to stop them; sometimes, indeed, they overturn the sledge, and dash it to pieces. Among the Tschuktschi, according to the details of Admiral von Wrangell ('Expedition to the Polar Seas') more consideration appears to be shown to the dogs than in Kamtschatka, at least if the ordinary accounts be not overcharged:—

"Of all the animals that live in the high north latitudes none are so deserving of being noticed as the dog. The companion of man in all climates from the islands of the South Sea, where he feeds on bananas,* to the

* That the dog should thrive upon vegetable food is a remarkable fact. A professional gentleman of our acquaintance in Rochford, Essex, possesses a noble and very fierce Newfoundland dog; and during the plum-season, when that fruit is ripe, this dog, if he can possibly get loose, makes his way to the orchard and large kitchen-garden for the sake of the fallen greengages, to which he is singularly partial. A spaniel belonging to one of the same gentleman's family is equally partial to greengages, but with epicurean taste refuses other plums,

Polar Sea, where his food is fish, he here plays a part to which he is unaccustomed in more favourite regions. Necessity has taught the inhabitants of the more northern countries to employ these comparatively weak animals in draught. On all the coasts of the Polar Sea, from the Obi to Behring's Straits, in Greenland, Kamtschatka, and the Kurile Islands, the dogs are made to draw sledges loaded with persons and with goods, and for considerable journeys. These dogs have much resemblance to the wolf. They have long, pointed, projecting noses, sharp and upright ears, and a long bushy tail; some have smooth, some have curly hair (such are the smooth-haired dogs of Newfoundland, noticed previously). Their colour is various; black, brown, reddish brown, white, and spotted. They vary also in size, but it is considered that a good sledge-dog should not be less than two feet seven and a half inches in height (at the head?), and three feet three-quarters of an inch in length (English measure). Their barking is like the howling of a wolf. They pass their whole life in the open air: in summer they dig holes in the ground for coolness, or lie in the water to avoid the musquitoes; in

at least when the greengages are to be procured. On the sideboard in the dining-room are generally kept plates of apples, pears, and the like; and to these, when he has an opportunity, he will help himself, first taking one and eating it, and then returning for another. We never knew dogs with the like appetite; the fox and jackal, however, are, as is well known, fond of grapes, and so we believe is the dog. We have omitted to state that the same spaniel is extremely fond of ripe gooseberries, and will ensconce himself under the bushes, eagerly devouring the fruit; not, however, without sundry scratches on the nose, upon the reception of which he retreats yelping and rubbing the part—but, overcome by the temptation, he returns to the feast.

winter they protect themselves by burrowing in the snow, and lie curled up, with their noses covered by their bushy tails. The female puppies are drowned, except enough to preserve the breed, the males alone being used in draught. Those born in winter enter on their training the following autumn, but are not used in long journeys until the third year. The feeding and training is a particular art, and much skill is required in driving and guiding them. The best-trained dogs are used as leaders, and as the quick and steady going of the team, usually of twelve dogs, and the safety of the traveller, depend on the sagacity and docility of the leader, no pains are spared in their education, so that they may always obey their master's voice, and not be tempted from their course when they come on the scent of game. This last is a point of great difficulty; sometimes the whole team, in such cases, will start off, and no endeavours on the part of the driver can stop them. On such occasions we have sometimes had to admire the cleverness with which the well-trained leader endeavours to turn the other dogs from their pursuit; if other devices fail, he will suddenly wheel round, and by barking, as if he had come on a new scent, try to induce the other dogs to follow him. In travelling across the wide tundra, in dark nights, or when the vast plain is veiled in impenetrable mist, or in storms or snow-tempests, when the traveller is in danger of missing the sheltering powarna, and of perishing in the snow, he will frequently owe his safety to a good leader. If the animal has ever been in this plain, and has stopped with his master at the powarna, he will be sure to bring the sledge to the place where the hut lies deeply buried in the snow;

when arrived at it he will suddenly stop, and indicate significantly the spot where his master must dig. Nor are the dogs without their use in summer: they tow the boats up the rivers; and it is curious to observe how instantly they obey their master's voice, either in halting or in changing the bank of the river. On hearing his call they plunge into the water, draw the towing-line after them, and swim after the boat to the opposite shore; and, on reaching it, replace themselves in order, and wait the command to go on. Sometimes even those who have no horses will use the dogs in fowling excursions, to draw their light boats from one lake or river to another. In short, the dog is fully as useful and indispensable a domestic animal to the settled inhabitant of this country, as the tame reindeer is to the nomade tribes. They regard it as such. We saw a remarkable instance of this during the terrible sickness which, in the year 1821, carried off the greater part of these useful animals. An unfortunate Juhakir family had only two dogs left out of twenty, and these were just born, and indeed still blind. The mother being dead, the wife of the Juhakir determined on nursing the two puppies with her own child, rather than lose the last remains of their former wealth. She did so, and was rewarded for it, for her two nurslings lived, and became the parents of a new and vigorous race of dogs. In the year 1822, when most of the inhabitants had lost their dogs by the sickness, they were in a most melancholy condition; they had to draw home their own fuel; and both time and strength failed them in bringing home the fish which had been caught in distant places; moreover, whilst thus occupied, the season passed for fowling and fur-hunting;

and a general and severe famine, in which numbers perished, was the consequence. Horses cannot be made a substitute; the severity of the climate and the shortness of the summer make it impossible to provide sufficient fodder; the light dog can also move quickly over the deep snow, in which the heavy horse would sink. Having thus described the out-of-door life and employments of the people of this district, let us accompany an individual into his habitation, at the close of summer, when he and his family rest from all these laborious efforts, and enjoy life after their manner. The walls are caulked afresh with moss and new plastered with clay, and a solid mound of earth is heaped up on the outside as high as the windows. This is accomplished before December, when the long winter nights assemble the members of the family around the hearth. The light of the fire, and that of one or more train-oil lamps, are seen through the ice windows; and from the low chimneys rise high columns of red smoke, with magnificent jets of sparks occasioned by the resinous nature of the wood. The dogs are outside, either on or burrowed in the snow. From time to time their howling interrupts the general silence; it is so loud as to be heard at great distances, and is repeated at intervals, usually of six or eight hours, except when the moon shines, when it is much more frequent."

Besides the Hare Indian dog, to which we have already referred at some length, and which is decidedly an aboriginal of the high northern latitudes of America, we may notice the Esquimaux dog and the Nootka dog. The latter is like the dogs of Kamtschatka generally, but is still more woolly, being covered in fact by a thick

deep fleece, of variable colour; this fleece felts so well, that when shorn it rolls up into a sort of bundle like that of the sheep; the natives spin it, and work it with other wool into garments.

The Esquimaux dog is perhaps only a variety of the preceding; it is spread throughout the whole boreal region of America, from Behring's Straits to the eastern coast of Greenland, and appears to be essentially identical with the boreal race of Siberia and Kamtschatka. Some naturalists, it is true, make the Greenland dog a distinct variety, but wherein the difference lies we have not been able to determine. It appears to us that there is one great boreal race of true dogs, varying a little in size, and perhaps still more in the character of the fur, extending throughout Europe, Asia, and America; and that these differences are so trifling that no zoological distinction can be founded thereon; they are not more than might be expected from some differences of climate and diet, or from more or less of the strain of the wolf, with which the breed may have been more crossed in one district or range of country than another. In general aspect the Esquimaux dog and grey wolf of North America so closely resemble each other, that when seen at a little distance it is not easy to distinguish between them. In the Museum of the Zoological Society of London is a fine specimen of the Esquimaux dog (No. 212, *d* of Catal. Mamm. 1838) in contrast with a grey wolf from the northern wilds of America (No. 214, Catal. Mamm.), and any one would suppose, unless informed to the contrary, that the two animals were of the same species. The Esquimaux dog above referred to was procured at Baffin's Bay. It was presented to the Society by Cap-

tain Sir Edward Parry, R.N., and "was one of the faithful companions of our northern voyagers during their stay in Melville Island in the winter of 1819-20, and is the specimen referred to by Dr. Richardson" (see 'Fauna Bor. Amer.,' p. 75). And here we may add to our previous notice respecting the intermixture of the boreal dogs with the wolf, the attestations of Captain Sir E. Parry and Sir J. Franklin. The former assures us that some of his female Esquimaux dogs, during his first voyage, strayed from his ships, and returned after a few days, pregnant by wolves ('Journal,' &c., p. 185). Sir J. Franklin ('Narrative,' &c., p. 172) states, that the Indians attached to one of his expeditions, upon destroying a female wolf, carried away three of her whelps to improve the breed. We learn from the same scientific commander, that in the month of March the female grey wolves frequently entice the domestic dogs from the forts, though at other seasons a strong antipathy seemed to subsist between them ('Narrative,' p. 90).

To the Esquimaux their dogs are of the greatest importance; these animals are devoted servants and companions, to whom their masters look for assistance in the chase of the seal, the bear, and the reindeer. They draw sledges over the trackless snows in winter, and carry burdens while attending their masters in the pursuit of game in the summer. They lead a fatiguing life, and during the winter are often nearly starved for want of provisions. Their situation indeed is the reverse, with respect to sufficiency of diet, to what obtains among the dogs of Kamtschatka; the latter are turned out in the summer to seek their own subsistence, and called home on the approach of winter, when their masters supply them with

Esquimaux Dog.

food. But the Esquimaux dog is not turned adrift during summer, and, as it is the season of plenty, is abundantly supplied with the refuse of the seal and walrus; but in winter their feeding is scanty and precarious; their masters have but little to spare, and they therefore become miserably thin at a time when their energies are most in requisition. Hence, when in harness, they rush out of the road either to give chase to any animal descried or to pick up what seems likely to afford a meal. They creep, when at liberty, into the huts, and steal what they can find; nor are they to be driven back, except by unmerciful blows, accompanied by shouts of the intruder's name. Their hunger is increased by the severity of the winter; and in high northern regions not only is more animal food requisite for the due maintenance of the vital powers, but that food must be of an oily quality. Blubber and seal's flesh form, in fact, a necessary staple of food for the Esquimaux and their dogs; and Captain Sir E. Parry mentions that the Esquimaux dogs will not, when suffering

call forth their ardour when running in a sledge; when thus engaged, should a bear or reindeer come in sight, or should the dogs get upon the scent, nothing can restrain them; off they dash, and though this may be sometimes an inconvenient way of proceeding, it is on the whole highly serviceable, for it seldom happens that the driver has such a stock of provisions that a godsend is not very acceptable; his arrow or knife will enable him to secure the game when the dogs have surrounded it. Two or three dogs, led on by a man, will fasten upon the largest bear; but, though impetuous in the attack on this formidable beast, they have not the same undaunted bravery towards the wolf; indeed, they instinctively avoid a contest with that animal, and though they may be excited to attack it, and certainly when driven to desperation defend themselves to the uttermost, still the approach of the wolf makes them uneasy, and causes them to utter long and loud howls.

During their summer excursions in pursuit of reindeer, the Esquimaux load their dogs with provisions, &c., to the extent of about 30 lbs. each. The mode in which they are laden is similar to that in which the pack-horse was uniformly laden in our country—that is, paniers or bags equally poised are thrown across their backs; but it is not for this mode of exerting its strength that the Esquimaux or any other dog is structurally formed. And this assertion, we think (independently of the reasons previously given), the experiments of Captain Lyon will prove. This officer put to the test the strength of these animals exerted in the proper manner, that is, at the simple pull, and found that three could draw himself on a sledge weighing 100 lbs. at the rate of a mile in six

minutes; his leader, a well-grown dog, singly drew 196 lbs. a mile in eight minutes, and seven ran a mile in four minutes with a heavy sledge full of men. Nine dogs drew 1611 lbs. at the rate of nine minutes per mile; the sledge was neither shod nor iced; had it been so, 40 lbs. more might have been added for each dog.

The mode in which the Esquimaux dogs are employed in drawing the sledge, and the difficulties arising from the imperfect manner in which the animals are harnessed, and from their quarrelsome nature, are well described by Sir E. Parry in his 'Journal of a Second Voyage for the discovery of a North-west Passage:'—"When drawing a sledge the dogs have a simple harness (annoo) of deer or seal skin going round the neck by one bight, and another for each of the fore legs, with a single thong leading over the back and attached to the sledge as a trace. Though they appear at first sight to be huddled together, without any regard to regularity, there is, in fact, considerable attention paid to arrangement, particularly in the selection of a dog of peculiar spirit and sagacity, who is allowed by a longer trace to precede the rest as a leader, and to whom in turning to the right or left the driver usually addresses himself. The choice is made without regard to age or sex, and the rest of the dogs take precedency according to their training or sagacity, the least effective being put nearest the sledge. The leader is usually from eighteen to twenty feet from the fore part of the sledge, and the hindmost about half that distance, so that when ten or twelve are running together, several are nearly abreast of each other. The driver sits quite low on the fore part of the sledge, with his feet overhanging the snow on one side, and having in his hand a whip, of

which the handle, made either of wood, bone, or whalebone, is eighteen inches, and the lash more than as many feet in length; the part of the thong next the handle is plaited a little way down, to stiffen it and give it a spring, on which much of its use depends; and that which comprises the lash is chewed by the women to make it flexible in frosty weather. The men acquire from their youth considerable expertness in the use of this whip, the lash of which is left to trail along the ground by the side of the sledge, and with which they can inflict a very severe blow on any dog at pleasure. Though the dogs are kept in training entirely by fear of the whip, and indeed without it would soon have their own way, its immediate effect is always detrimental to the draught of the sledge; for not only does the individual that is struck draw back and slacken his pace, but generally turns upon his next neighbour, and this, passing on to the next, occasions a general divergency, accompanied by the usual yelping and showing of the teeth. The dogs then come together again by degrees, and the draught of the sledge is accelerated; but even at the best of times, by this rude mode of draught, the traces of one-third of the dogs form an angle of thirty or forty degrees on each side of the direction on which the line is advancing. Another great inconvenience attending the Esquimaux method of putting the dogs to, besides that of not employing their strength to the best advantage, is the constant entanglement of the traces by the dogs repeatedly doubling under from side to side to avoid the whip, so that after running a few miles the traces always require to be taken off and cleared.

"In directing the sledge the whip acts no very essential part, the driver for this purpose using certain words, as

the carters do with us, to make the dogs turn more to the right or left. To these a good leader attends with admirable precision, especially if his own name be repeated at the same time, looking behind his shoulder with great earnestness, as if listening to the directions of the driver. On a beaten track, or even where a single foot or sledge mark is occasionally discernible, there is not the slightest trouble in guiding the dogs; for even in the darkest night, and in the heaviest snow-drift, there is little or no danger of losing the road, the leader keeping his nose near the ground, and directing the rest with wonderful sagacity. When, however, there is no beaten track, the best driver among them makes a terribly circuitous course, as all the Esquimaux roads plainly show; these generally occupying an extent of six miles, when with a horse and sledge the journey would scarcely have amounted to five. On rough ground, as among hummocks of ice, the sledge would be frequently overturned, or altogether stopped, if the driver did not repeatedly get off, and by lifting or drawing it to one side, steer clear of those accidents. At all times, indeed, except on a smooth and well-made road, he is pretty constantly employed thus with his feet; which, together with the never-ceasing vociferations, and frequent use of the whip, renders the driving of one of these vehicles by no means a pleasant or easy task. When the driver wishes to stop the sledge, he calls out "Wo, woa," exactly as our carters do; but the attention paid to this command depends altogether on his ability to enforce it. If the weight is small and the journey homeward, the dogs are not to be thus delayed; the driver is therefore obliged to dig his heels into the snow, to obstruct their progress, and having thus suc-

ceeded in stopping them, he stands up, with one leg before the foremost cross-piece of the sledge, till by gently laying the whip over each dog's head, he has made them all lie down. He then takes care not to quit his position, so that should the dogs set off he is thrown upon the sledge instead of being left behind by them.

"With heavy loads, the dogs draw best with one of their own people, especially a woman, walking a little way a-head, and in this case they are sometimes enticed to mend their pace by holding a mitten to the mouth, and then making the motion of cutting it with a knife, and throwing it on the snow, when the dogs, mistaking it for meat, hasten forward to pick it up. The women also entice them from the huts in a similar manner. The rate at which they travel depends of course on the weight they have to draw, and the road on which their journey is performed. When the latter is level, and very hard and smooth, constituting what in other parts of North America is called 'good sleighing,' six or seven dogs will draw from eight to ten hundredweight, at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour, for several hours together; and will easily under these circumstances perform a journey of fifty or sixty miles a day. On untrodden snow, five-and-twenty or thirty miles would be a good day's journey. The same number of dogs, well fed, with a weight of only five or six hundred pounds, that of the sledge included, are almost unmanageable, and will run on a smooth road, any way they please, at the rate of ten miles an hour. The work performed by a greater number of dogs is however by no means in proportion to this, owing to the imperfect mode of employing the strength of the sturdy creatures, and

the more frequent snarling and fighting occasioned by an increase of numbers."

The Esquimaux dog is surly and obstinate, because his treatment is such as not to develop the nobler parts of his moral nature: he is a slave, ever toiling, and hardly used; subjected to want and blows, to cold and extreme fatigue: seldom, except perhaps by way of excitement in the chase, does he receive a kind word of thankful encouragement; unless indeed from the women, by whom he is uniformly better treated than by the men: it is from the women that this poor animal receives care and attention when sick or helpless, and the consequence is that the women have the complete ascendancy over his affection,—and their words can prevail when the blows and threatenings of the men only excite obstinate disobedience; but let the voice of a female issue the orders, and obedience is promptly and willingly rendered.

The specimens which we have seen in England have been remarkably good-tempered and intelligent, and overflowing with attachment to those who used them kindly. They were noble-looking dogs, with the fine bushy tail curled over the loins; and their breadth of chest, and contour of limb, denoted wonderful strength. In size the Esquimaux dog equals a mastiff, and is very compactly built; the fur is long, and varying in colour, from grey or greyish-white, to brown, or black, and some are parti-coloured, black or brown and white. Crantz, in his 'History of Greenland,' speaking of the dogs says, "They are so stupid that they cannot be used in hunting, excepting to drive the bears into a corner or decoy. They (the natives) use them instead of horses,

harnessing from four to six dogs to a sledge, and in this pompous figure visit one another, or draw home their seals over the ice:" a description which shows no little ignorance and want of discernment, but at which, perhaps, we ought not to be surprised.

Of an allied race of dogs, the black wolf-dog of the Florida Indians, we are unable to state any thing from personal knowledge. Colonel H. Smith describes one which he was enabled to examine in England, and which was sent from Canada, as being higher at the shoulder than a Newfoundland dog (though it was not quite fully grown), but shorter in the body, and in aspect very like a wolf, excepting that the eyes were comparatively nearer the muzzle; the nose rather sharp, the forehead broad and rather arched; the ears erect, pointed, and open; the tail full, like that of a wolf, hanging down, not curled, but not much lower than the heel, no white hairs at the tip; the whole animal being glossy black, excepting a small spot on the breast, and tips of the fore-toes, white. The length of the hair was that of the Newfoundland dog, but somewhat finer. The dog was not vicious; and was extremely active. We did not, he says, hear him, but understood that the voice was more like howling than barking. Colonel H. Smith remarks, and probably with reason, that this dog is evidently intermediate between the original Newfoundland dog and the wolf.

Of the ordinary dog of the North American Indians (*C. Canadensis*, Richardson), and the Techichi, apparently identical with the carrier-dog of Mexico, we really know very little; and do not presume to say in what section they ought to stand.

Colonel H. Smith seems to think the former to be derived from the Caygotte of the Mexican Spaniards (*Canis* [*Lyciscus*] *Cagottis*). Respecting the dog of the North American Indians, we learn from Dr. Richardson that it is in appearance and size between the Esquimaux and the Hare Indian dogs, but is less perfectly reclaimed than either. In their habits these dogs are sneaking and cowardly, biting at the heel, but never making an open attack, unless in packs, upon any animal; and may be singly put to flight by a little Scotch terrier. They assemble at night to howl in unison; particularly when the moon shines brightly. They are employed in the chase at certain seasons, and by some tribes of Indians are used for the purpose of carrying burdens, and also of draught. Their flesh is eaten both by the natives and the Canadian voyagers.

The Techichi is a long-bodied, heavy-looking dog, with comparatively short legs, and smooth close hair; the head is large and broad; the ears are erect. In size this animal equals the European turnspit.

Before leaving the dogs of North America, which we may regard as indigenous, excepting that the Esquimaux is very closely allied to the boreal race of Eastern Siberia and Kamtchatka, we may devote a few observations to the Hare Indian or Mackenzie River dog, and the rather, because the only living pair ever imported into Europe came under our personal notice. This pair was placed by Sir John Franklin in the gardens of the Zoological Society, to which institution they were presented; and they produced, if we remember rightly, two litters. They were very gentle, lively, and familiar, not however without a degree of wildness, for one having been

Dog of Mackenzie River.

permitted his liberty, was not retaken except after a great deal of trouble and an arduous chase. Dr. Richardson states that in their own climate these dogs are very playful and affectionate, and soon gained over by kindness: they are fond of being caressed, and when petted rub their backs against the hand, in the manner of cats. They speedily become acquainted with strangers, but are very mindful of injuries, and do not tamely submit to the lash. When irritated they howl like wolves, but do not attempt to bark. With all their good properties these dogs are by no means remarkably docile, and show but little aptitude for acquiring such arts as are easily taught to the spaniel. The larger dogs of the country frequently fall upon and devour them; yet in proportion

to their size they possess great muscular strength and wonderful perseverance. "A young puppy," says Dr. Richardson, "which I purchased from the Hare Indians, became greatly attached to me, and, when about seven months old, ran on the snow by the side of my sledge for nine hundred miles, without suffering from fatigue. During the march it frequently, of its own accord, carried a small twig, or one of my mittens, for a mile or two." We are sorry to record the fate of this elegant favourite. It was barbarously killed and eaten by an Indian, who pretended that he mistook it for a fox. Dr. Richardson conjectures that this breed was formerly spread over all the northern parts of America, but that, since the introduction of fire-arms, it has gradually given way to a mongrel race, sprung from a mixture of it with the Esquimaux and Newfoundland breeds. When Dr. Richardson visited the boreal regions of America, it was only found in the possession of a certain tribe of Indians, who differed in features, stature, and mode of life from their neighbours the Esquimaux, as much as the dogs of the latter did from those of the former. Probably the pure breed is now extinct.

Leaving the high northern latitudes of the globe, we still find wolf-like races of dogs, differing in the same ratio from the boreal dogs as the wolf of temperate or warm climates does from its boreal representatives,—such are the dogs used in Persia to guard the flocks of sheep; such the shepherd's dog of Natolia; but we must not suppose that they perform the duties of our shepherd's dog, which render it so interesting—on the contrary, they are to be regarded simply as watch-dogs, defending the flocks from wild beasts and strangers, and conse-

quently are more remarkable for other qualities than sagacity and intelligence. In the East, be it remembered, the sheep are not driven—they follow the shepherd—at least in Western Asia, Greece, &c.; but in our country the shepherd's dog acts as drover and gatherer of the sheep together, and takes no little labour from the shepherd, to whom his dog is of the utmost importance. Hence, then, various kinds of dogs are used in the East and in southern and eastern Europe as guards of the flocks; the shepherds employ, for example, a large mastiff in Thibet, and in Calabria a white breed of dogs very similar in appearance to the Newfoundland dog.

In Western Asia the shepherd's dog resembles a wolf in stature and aspect; indeed it is so like the deep yellowish red wolf of Natolia, that a friend of Col. H. Smith absolutely mistook the latter for one of the Turkman dogs; this was on the occasion of a wolf-hunt, which renders the circumstance the more remarkable, nor was it until his Greek guide called out Lyké! when it was too late to fire, that he was sensible of his mistake. The wolf-like Turkoman or Natolian watch-dog, though robust, approaches more to the form of the Irish greyhound than do the northern wolfish dogs, and may perhaps be regarded as an intermediate link. It is rugged and fierce, with erect ears and rather furry tail. Its jaws are very powerful. This race is used by the Turkoman hordes as the guardian of their cattle and tents, and extends from central high Asia to the Bosphorus. It is also employed in Persia by the wandering tribes for the same purpose. In the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society,' 1839, p. 111, there is given a short notice respecting a dog of this breed presented to the Society by

Turkoman Watch Dog.

Sir John M'Neil:—"It is a shaggy animal, nearly as large as a Newfoundland, and very fierce and powerful. The dam of the animal at the menagerie killed a full-grown wolf without assistance."

An interesting describer of Persia from personal observation says, relative to the dogs of that country, that the most common are "strong wolfish-looking animals, which are so exceedingly fierce to strangers, that when near the villages guarded by them, I never thought it prudent to walk about without a heavy stick in my hand,

and never dared approach the villages unless in company with some of the inhabitants. I certainly never saw fiercer dogs than these. They are chiefly found among the people who in summer live in tents, and during winter in villages. In other places a dog that has some resemblance to the mastiff is more common, and not quite so ferocious."

In Natolia a feral race of dogs exists similar to the race of shepherd or guard dogs, but with a more brushy tail and pointed muzzle. The fur is rufous grey. These dogs differ from the wolf in habits, hunting in the open day in packs of ten or twelve; but unless molested, never injure man. If, however, they be assaulted, instead of taking to flight, like the wolf of the country, they hesitate not to rush upon the object of their vengeance, who is then in great peril. Col. H. Smith relates that in 1819 the son of a lady of his acquaintance, in company with another midshipman of H. M. ship Spartan, went on shore to the plain of Troy attended by guides of the country and several seamen. A troop of these dogs came down, and were recognised by the country people, who warned the young officers not to fire at them; but midshipmen are not so easily baulked; one fired and missed his object, when the whole pack came immediately bounding down towards them, and the party found it necessary to run for the shore, where the feral dogs, satisfied with their victory, pursued them no farther.

Let us now turn to the shepherd's dog of our own island and the adjacent parts of the continent, which offers several varieties, more or less differing from each other. One breed from the north is covered with a deep

woolly coat, capable of felting; the colour is generally grey: another breed, that generally depicted, is covered with long flowing hair, and the tail is full and bushy; the colour is in general black, with tanned limbs and muzzle, varied occasionally by white on the breast. In both the muzzle is acute, and the ears erect, or nearly so. There is a third and larger breed, called the drover's dog, to which we shall allude more particularly.

According to Buffon, the shepherd's dog is the nearest to the primitive type or original of the domestic dog; and he observes that in all inhabited countries, whether men be partially savage or civilized, dogs resembling this more than any other are spread: he attributes its preservation to its peculiar utility, and to its being abandoned to the peasantry charged with the care of flocks. In his genealogical tree of the dog it is this which he places at the root. That Buffon's theory is altogether fanciful and erroneous every naturalist of the present day will freely admit; so far from being the nearest to the original type of the dog, if great cerebral development and intelligence are to be received as tests of cultivation, we must regard the shepherd's dog as one of the most remote of our breeds. The forehead rises, the top of the head is arched and broad between the ears, and it is only in the sharpness of the muzzle, and pointed form of the erect or semi-erect ears, that we trace the resemblance of this dog to any of the less perfectly reclaimed races; and these points only indicate purity of breed, unalloyed by admixture with other varieties. No other dogs can be made so useful to the shepherd, and therefore the shepherd is interested in the purity of the race. How this dog can become converted, as Buffon says,

into the hound in temperate climates, into the greyhound and Danish dog in the East, and in the West into the mastiff and bulldog, is beyond our comprehension; for ourselves we look upon the shepherd's dog, when pure, as it is in Scotland and the wild hilly tracts of Northumberland, Cumberland, Derbyshire, &c., as the representative of a breed as distinct as that of the terrier or mastiff. Perhaps even with respect to external aspect and form, it has undergone, on the whole, less change; it has ever been an out-of-door dog, accustomed to the heat of summer and the cold and snows of winter; has known nothing of the luxury of the parlour, or the comforts of the stable or kennel. It is unaccustomed to associate with other dogs than those of its own race, or with other men than those whom it is destined to serve. Its powers of intellect are directed to one object, and like its masters it is shrewd, prompt, and observant. Its eye, often overshadowed by shaggy hair, is bright and sparkling; it understands every signal; it obeys on the instant, and manages its work with marvellous tact and celerity. This done, it returns quietly to its master, with the air of one conscious of having done his duty. The shepherd's dog is of middle stature, or rather low in proportion to its length, slightly but vigorously formed, and quick and active in its movements. Though not quarrelsome, it is very courageous, and will resolutely encounter the fox in defence of the sheep; and though, unlike the spaniel, it is indifferent to caresses, and distant towards strangers, yet to its master it is most devotedly attached. When the labour of the day is over—when the sheep are folded for the night—it returns with him home to his humble cottage, and there curls up underneath his

chair, or sits by his side and partakes of his simple repast. Where flocks are of large extent, and have to be watched during the night, and in cases where several hundred weaning lambs, wild and capricious, demand the care of the shepherd night and day—when winter storms of snow come on, and the scattered sheep have to be hastily collected and brought to a place of security, it is then that the shepherd feels to the full the value of his dog. A circuit of miles on the dreary hills or mountain-side, or over vast and trackless downs, has to be taken, and that without loss of time; to the dog is this duty intrusted, and well does he perform his office; not a sheep belonging to his master's flock is missing—unless, indeed, any have been stolen or killed—the whole are gathered together without intermixture with the sheep of other owners.

The drover's dog, or cur, to which we have already alluded, though closely allied to the shepherd's dog, is longer, more muscular, and generally has the hair short, though in some breeds we have seen it woolly. This dog is mostly of a black and white colour, and the tail, when not purposely cut, appears as if it had been so. Bewick, who was well acquainted with both the drover's and the shepherd's dog, speaking of the former, says:—"Many are whelped with short tails that seem as if they had been cut, and these are called in the north self-tailed dogs." The same writer is disposed to consider this breed as true or permanent, and he informs us that great attention is paid to the breeding of it. It seems to us, however, that the drover's dog is in reality a cross between the shepherd's dog and some other race, perhaps the terrier. It often partakes largely of the shepherd's

dog, but is taller on the limbs. These dogs bite severely, and always attack the heels of cattle, so that a fierce bull is easily driven by one of them. They are singularly prompt and quick in their actions; and, as all who have watched them in the crowded, noisy, tumultuous assemblage of men and beasts in Smithfield must have observed, they are both highly courageous and intelligent. Bewick says of these dogs:—"They know their master's fields, and are singularly attentive to the cattle that are in them. A good dog watches, goes his rounds, and if any strange cattle should appear amongst the herd, he quickly flies, although unbidden, at them, and with keen bites obliges them to depart." Some years since we knew a dog of this breed, or rather nearer the shepherd's breed, belonging to a farm-servant who had a large herd of cows under his charge. During the summer they were depastured on very extensive fields in Cheshire, communicating with one another. Morning and evening, at the bidding of his master, this dog would range the pasturage, collect them together, and gently drive them to the accustomed milking-place. If when he had driven them for some distance he discovered that one was missing, having wandered astray, he would run back and traverse the fields till he had met with the object of his search, which he would conduct to the herd, and then pursue his ordinary duty.

We have often seen the drover's dogs, at their master's bidding, single both sheep and cattle from the drove, and separate them, or drive them to some spot apart from the rest—we have seen them part the droves of two or more drovers travelling in company, which have become mingled together at a halting-place by the road side, and

arrange them in order for continuing the journey—we have seen them turn back the herd from a forbidden lane or gateway, or run before and plant themselves in the way so as to prevent any of the cattle from going astray. During his long, slow journey from the west or the north of our island to the great capital, the drover finds his dog of all-important utility: nor without this assistant could the crowded cattle in Smithfield Market be at all managed. We may here remark that an interesting and really valuable paper on the Drover and his duties is in the 'Penny Magazine,' September 16, 1843.

## CHAPTER V.

### ON THE GREYHOUND GROUP OF DOGS.

We now turn to another group, of which we may take the greyhound as the type. This beautiful dog is regarded by Buffon as the descendant of the French Mâtin, but without any solid grounds: indeed it would appear that the latter was brought into France by the Cimbri or Franks, whereas we have sufficiently proved that a greyhound breed existed in the earliest times in the East, as the monuments of Egypt declare; and greyhound races of great power still exist in Persia and India; while to the north of the Caspian we find the great rough greyhound of Southern Tartary. It is, we suspect, in the western parts of Asia, bordering the Caspian Sea, whence in ancient times Scythic tribes pushed their way into Europe, that our greyhound breed had its original seat. All our old greyhound breeds were rough and wire-haired, sandy red or brindled; and at the present day such dogs are occasionally to be seen.

We may here observe, that three varieties of the greyhound, if not four, appear to have long existed—viz. the wire-haired greyhound, more or less rough in its coat, as that of Tartary and Eastern Russia; a silky-haired breed, as that of Natolia, Persia, and Ancient Egypt; and a smooth-haired breed, now common in England, but which

Arabian Greyhound.

was first introduced into France, and subsequently improved by crossings with dogs from Greece, Italy, and India. Besides these, some of the ancient Egyptian greyhounds were smooth with bushy tails, as are the Bedouin greyhounds of Akaba; and in Roumelia there now exists a breed with smooth hair, but with long ears, like those of the spaniel. We think that these various breeds of greyhounds took their origin from one primitive stock; and that the most ancient race was of a yellow colour, wire-

haired, and with sharp upright ears. Changes of climate and various other circumstances would soon produce minor modifications, and these being sedulously kept up by attention to breeding, varieties would thenceforward be the result.

Major Topham (Egan's 'Sporting Anecdotes') derives one variety of the English greyhound partly from the wolf—namely, the wire-haired race; and he thinks that as the wolf remained long in the wolds of Yorkshire—where, indeed, the last in England was destroyed—the long-haired curly-tailed greyhounds, formerly the common breed of Yorkshire, were of this mixed origin. This supposition is destitute of all proof: for, in fact, as we have said, our smooth greyhound is modern-sprung, and a much smaller and feebler animal than the great rough greyhound brought westward by the various Indo-Germanic hordes, among which we may enumerate the Celts, Goths, Vandals, and other nations. We hear of a dog to which the name of Gazehound was formerly given; and Colonel H. Smith thinks that this term may apply more exclusively to the smooth greyhound, perhaps because it followed even more exclusively by the eye than the rough greyhound, and that in time the name gazehound merged in the term of prior establishment. We know not how far this opinion be correct: it is certainly far from improbable.

Before pursuing our observations on the greyhound, we may allude to two dogs which, contrary to the views of Colonel H. Smith, we regard as forming part of the group of which the greyhound is the type—viz. the Great Danish Dog and the French Mâtin; the latter of which, according to Buffon's theory, is the origin of the

greyhound. Now, though we do not agree with Buffon, we cannot help seeing in these dogs an approximation to the greyhound; and though we would not assert it, we cannot help thinking that one of these two races of dogs may have entered into the breed of the wolf-dogs of Ireland, and of the boar-hounds of Germany as we see them represented by the older masters.

In the great Danish dog and mâtin the head is long, the muzzle more or less produced, the ears small and bent at the tips, the stature tall, the chest deep, the loins arched and muscular. The forehead is rather rounder and the fur smoother in the Danish dog than in the mâtin, and the nose rather less prolonged, and pointed. The Danish dog, when pure, is generally of a slate colour, with white about the breast and limbs: the mâtin is white clouded with brown, or sandy yellow. The latter was the colour of a noble specimen we saw a few weeks since, and which we compared to a gigantic greyhound of athletic contour and proportions. A few years since we accidentally saw in one of the streets in Paris a dog of the mâtin race, certainly the largest which we have ever beheld. It was of a dull black colour, with white about the chest, and, if we remember rightly, a little tan about the limbs: its form and proportions were admirable, and its aspect noble. We did not measure it, but are convinced that its height at the shoulders could not have been less than a yard by more than two or three inches, and we believe it was fully three feet. So surprised and struck were we with the dog, though we have been through the whole of our life accustomed to large dogs, that we went into a butcher's shop, out of which it followed its master, to make some inquiries respecting it.

He told us that it came from the foot of the Pyrenees, and was, he believed, used for the chase, but had no very definite information to give. We were at the time forcibly impressed with the conviction that such an animal must have been the old Irish wolf-dog; and we still cannot help thinking, that though the Irish wolf-dog was rough, and the one we saw smooth, a rough variety of perhaps purer blood might have been imported by the Belgæ or ancient Scoti from Scythia into Ireland.

The Danish dog, principally to be observed in Denmark and Northern Germany, appears to have accompanied the Gothic tribes who in remote ages were led, according to Scandinavian tradition, by Odin from the banks of the Dniester to the shores of the Baltic. By the Visigoths the race may have been carried into Spain; and thus it may have been the origin of the feral breed of Hayti, the emancipated descendants of the war-dogs of Columbus.

In Sweden this powerful dog was used in the chase of the elk, upon which it was started in couples, when the noble beast, roused from its lair by smaller dogs called elk-finders, took to flight. Quickly, however, did these dogs overtake the quarry, and keep it at bay till the hunters came up, or turn it in the direction where they were posted to receive it. Here, then, we see that the Danish dog was employed in the chase of the larger beasts of "venerie;" and it appears to us that the dogs depicted by the old German painters attacking the wild boar were either a rough variety of this kind, or of a strain between it and the rough greyhound.

With respect to the feral dog of St. Domingo or Hayti, and which is perhaps identical with the St. Domingo race

of greyhounds slightly mentioned by Buffon, we know little excepting from the information given us by Colonel H. Smith. It appears that there exists an emancipated race of dogs of large stature in the remote parts of Hayti, descended from the Spanish war-dogs used in the conquest of that island and other parts of the western hemisphere. These dogs occasionally commit great depredations upon sheep and cattle. Colonel H. Smith describes the specimen which he saw as equal in stature to the largest Scottish or Russian greyhound, standing about twenty-eight inches in height at the shoulder, with the head shaped like that of the wire-haired terrier; the eyes large and light brown; the ears small and pointed, and only bent at the tips; the chest very deep; the croup slightly arched; the limbs muscular, but light; and the tail not reaching to the tarsus, and scantily furnished with long dark hair. The muzzle was black, as well as the eyelids, lips, and the whole hide; but the hair generally, which was short, coarse, and scanty, was of a pale bluish ash. "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 hair from the ridge of the nose feathered to the right and left over the eyes, forming two ciliated arches, and the brows appeared very prominent. We were assured that he followed a human track on any scent he was laid on, with *silence* and great rapidity; but, unlike the common bloodhound, it was impossible to prevent his attacking and seizing his victim. According to the owner, who it

seemed was the person the Government had employed to purchase these dogs, the Spanish graziers were equally anxious to destroy all the old dogs of the breed they could find in the country, and to secure all the young for domestication; because when bred up on the farms, they were excellent guardians of the live stock, defending them equally against their own breed and human thieves; and as they attacked with little warning, strangers could not easily conciliate them by any manœuvres."

It is some years since we knew a female dog, said by its owner to be the offspring of the wild race of Cuba, or St. Domingo (we forget which), closely agreeing with the individual described by Colonel H. Smith. It was, however, of a sandy red colour with black lips. The muzzle was long and somewhat pointed, the ears were semipendent, the limbs long but powerful, the chest deep, the loins arched. It was intelligent, but fierce and active. It had no resemblance in aspect to the wolf or dingo, and its nose was broader and less elongated than that of the greyhound, to which in the figure of the body it bore considerable resemblance. It equalled a large greyhound in size, but was more athletic. Colonel H. Smith regards the Molossian race of antiquity as identical with the Danish dog, or great house-dog of the northern German nations. The molossi were slate-coloured dogs (glauci) and prone to barking. We are not so sure of this identity. The term molossus seems to have been very vaguely employed. Nor does it appear that the molossus of the Greeks or Romans was obtained from the German tribes, whose dogs were used in battle, and were renowned for courage.

The French mâtin is supposed to have been brought

into France either by the ancient Cimbri, a Celtic nation, who appear to have migrated westwards from the countries bordering the Sea of Azof; but it may have been introduced at a later period by the Franks,—such at least is the opinion of Colonel H. Smith, who regards it as immediately related to the Danish dogs. Was it by these dogs that the tents of the Cimbri were defended against the soldiers of Marius?

Albania and Epirus were in former times noted for a noble race of dogs: now the Chaonian and Molossian breeds were anciently from Epirus; but the question is, what were these breeds?—certainly not mastiffs. Were they, as Colonel H. Smith contends, identical with the great Danish dog and mâtin? We are not prepared to say. In his road from Arta to Joánnina, Mr. Hobhouse noticed a breed of dogs, not unlike the true shepherd breed in England, but much larger, being nearly as big as mastiffs, with sharper heads, and more curled and bushy tails. Are not these descendants of the old Chaonian or Molossian race?

Colonel H. Smith, who, in his 'Introductory Remarks,' states that the Molossian dog is most probably the source of the French mâtin,—subsequently introduces to our notice a dog which he terms a Suliot dog, and which, he says, "is most likely the true Molossian of antiquity." It is one of the largest breeds known; fierce, coarse in aspect, rugged in fur, but nearly resembling that of the large Danish dog. "We never," he continues, "saw any that had not the ears cropped, and the tail rough with straggling hair; they were tan-coloured, with dark-brown or blackish surfaces on the back and shoulders and about the ears. In the last war between Austria and the

Turks, the Moslem soldiers employed many to guard their outposts; and in the course of the campaigns a great many were captured by the Imperial forces, and secured by the officers as private property, or adopted by the corps as regimental pets. One of these was presented to the King of Naples, and was reputed to be the largest dog in the world, being little less than four feet high at the shoulder. We saw one at Brussels marching at the head of the regiment of Clerfayt, and another belonging to that of Bender, both little inferior to Shetland ponies." The learned writer does not tell why he terms these Suliot dogs. Suli is a district of Southern Albania, about thirty miles in length and twenty miles in breadth; whereas it is very likely that these dogs are natives of the region north of the Balkan, to Wallachia. In fact he subsequently identifies this dog with the watch-dogs of Hungary (which differ principally in their smaller size) and also of Southern Hungary, and regards the boar-hounds (*Canis Sutllus*, Gmel.) figured by Redinger as the same. We have already expressed an opinion that the old boar-hounds of Germany, if we are to trust to the figures given by artists, are between the Danish and the old rough greyhound.

Speaking of the great dog of Albania, which St. Isidorus states to have been more powerful than the lion, we are reminded of Pliny's account of an enormous dog which was presented to Alexander by the King of Albania. When brought up the arena in order to combat with the bear and wild boar, the dog, as if in contempt of such enemies, quietly reposed in their presence. Alexander, mistaking this apathy for fear, ordered the dog to be killed. The King of Albania, on learning the

circumstance, sent another dog to the conqueror, at the same time giving him to understand that bears were too insignificant to merit notice, and that he must be matched with a lion or elephant in order to the display of his prowess. Alexander matched the dog against a lion, and the latter was vanquished. Now, though the story bears the marks of some misrepresentation, yet it proves that Albania was the seat of a gigantic and powerful race of dogs, derived most likely from a Gothic or Celtic root; whence sprung also the mâtin and the Danish. But in these invincible dogs we see little of the Molossian breed, which Gratius admits to have been inferior in the combat to the British bulldog. We suspect the Acer Molossus to have been a fierce, noisy, sharp-eared watch-dog, with no very great share of real courage or resolution.

If from these dogs we turn to the gigantic greyhounds, wolf-hounds, or deer-hounds of old, we see in them but a modification of the form exhibited by the Danish and mâtin; but so far from regarding these as the origin of the greyhound race, we should rather be inclined to look upon them as having branched from it, were we not inclined to the idea that both sprung from some lost or not clearly known original root. Yet, as among races of mankind, the separations and readmixtures of which are so numerous and diversified, that he who endeavours to analyse them becomes bewildered in a maze of confusion, so may the greyhound and mâtin races have commingled at one point, again divaricated and again commingled, till all attempts to retrace their genealogy is utterly hopeless. We have already described the characters of the ancient Egyptian greyhound. Now granting that the Egyptian

race was as pure from its source as possible, still we do not see in it those peculiar traits which the wiry or long and harsh haired greyhound of gigantic size exhibits, and which must have been acquired from other sources.

The Persian, Brinjaree, and Grecian greyhounds appear again to be departures from the ancient Egyptian greyhound;—they have silky hair, feathered tails, and are of large size, especially the Brinjaree dog, which, however, we believe is not remarkable for velocity. The Persian greyhound is very handsome. "One of the finest species of dog I have ever seen," says an interesting writer, "is a sort of greyhound, which the Persians rear to assist them in the chase. They have generally long silken hair upon their quarters, shoulders, ears, and tail, and I think them as handsome and considerably more powerful and sagacious than our own greyhounds. I have sometimes seen a spirited horse break loose, and run away at full speed, when one of these dogs has set after him like an arrow, and soon getting ahead of him, taken an opportunity of seizing the bridle in his teeth, which he held so firmly that, though he was of course not strong enough to stop the horse, yet, as he was dragged along, he continued to pull and confine the horse, so as to hinder him very much, till some person was able to overtake and secure him."

The greyhound of continental Greece, not to be confounded with the great Albanian dog, is of considerable antiquity; it is still used for deer-hunting. This, like the Persian, is often of a slate colour; though we may remark, that the Persian greyhounds we have seen were of a black colour, slightly tanned about the limbs.

In Barbary, in the Greek islands, in Italy, and in

Southern India, the greyhound is smooth, and it is from these sources that the smooth race of the British Islands has been obtained and brought to its present perfection by selection and judicious breeding. As we have said, it is probable that to the smooth breed the term gazehound was formerly limited. It was in the reign of Louis XI that the smooth breed was introduced into France.

We now come to the rough wire-haired race of greyhounds which still extends from Tartary through Russia and Hungary to Germany; and it is to this race of large stature and great strength that we have to look for the origin of the celebrated Irish wolf-dog.

Here we may be permitted to quote a passage from the 'Penny Cyclopædia,' which will perhaps throw some light upon the early history of this dog. The writer of the article Ireland says, "The Scoti, who were in possession of the island at the time of the introduction of Christianity, appear to have been to a great extent the successors of a people whose name and monuments indicate a close affinity with the Belgæ (a Teutonic tribe) of Southern Britain. A people also called Cruithne by the Irish annalists, who are identifiable with the Picts of Northern Britain, continued to inhabit a portion of the island distinct from the Scoti, until after the Christian mission; and it is observable that the names of mountains and remarkable places in that district still strikingly resemble the topographical nomenclature of those parts of North Britain which have not been affected by the Scottic conquest. The monuments and relics which attest the presence of a people considerably advanced in civilization, at some period in Ireland, such as Cyclopean buildings, sepulchral mounds containing stone chambers, mines,

bronze instruments and weapons of classic form and elegant workmanship, would appear to be referable to some of the predecessors of the Scoti, and indicate a close affinity between the earliest inhabitants of Ireland and that ancient people, by some referred to a Phœnician origin, whose vestiges of a similar kind abound throughout the south and south-west of Europe. The Scoti were not builders in stone, at least in their civil edifices, nor did they use bronze implements. Their own tradition is, that they came originally from Scythia, by which is meant the north-eastern part of central Europe; which appears to be confirmed by the fact, that the ancient topography of the country in districts where the Scotic invasion has not wholly obliterated it, points at the Welsh language as the nearest representative of that spoken by the predecessors of the Scoti, and that the chief distinctions which at present exist between the Irish and Welsh languages are referable to a Gothic or northern European source."

From this the writer seems to infer that the Belgæ, or the Irish branch, spoke a dialect similar to the ancient Welsh; and that the Scoti were Gothic. Be this as it may, it appears from Strabo, that a greyhound of great stature was employed by the Pictish and Celtic nations in the chase, and was so highly valued that it was imported into Gaul. Pliny, who details a combat in which the "Canes Graii Hibernici" distinguished themselves in combat, first with a lion, then with an elephant, describes them as greyhounds taller than a mastiff. Silius, who calls this dog a greyhound, says, that it was imported into Ireland by the Belgæ, and is the same with the renowned Belgic dog of antiquity, and that it was, during

the days of Roman grandeur, brought to Rome for the combats of the amphitheatre. Here, then, we have a renowned Belgic dog, common to the Belgæ, Picts, and Celts, people by whom Ireland was confessedly peopled either wholly or in part—a dog undoubtedly of the rough greyhound race, but perhaps crossed with the giant originals of the Albanian or old mâtin stock. It is thus that we imagine the old breed to have been imported into Ireland, where its utility would be fully appreciated, and, moreover, the necessity felt of keeping the strain in perfection. It had the wolf to contend with. There can be no doubt that anciently a wave of colonization flowed from Ireland to Scotland, bearing thither the invaluable wolf-dog. Scotland indeed, to which this term is now exclusively applied, was by the older writers called Scotia minor, and Ireland, the source of its colonization, Scotia major, a name applied to it first in the third century,* and which continued to the twelfth. The venerable Bede and the Scottish historian both agree that Scotland received a large influx of population from Ireland under the conduct of Reuda; and the former states, that even in his own days half of Scotland spoke the Irish language as their mother tongue. It is then easy to understand how the Irish wolf-dog was imported into Scotland, which country at one period might be called an adjunct to Ireland; and if we are rightly informed,—for we confess our ignorance of Celtic or Gaelic dialects,—Fionn MacCumhaill, the Fingal of Macpherson, whose

* St. Patrick landed in Ireland, as a missionary, in the year 432. The most ancient name is Erin,—Iris, Iernis, Iuvernis, Hibernia, &c. Over the Ierni or Hiberni the Scoti seem to have acquired in the fifth century a decided superiority.

dog Bran (the mountain torrent) is so finely described, was an Irish chieftain, and Bran was an Irish wolf-dog. In the disjointed relics of old Celtic poetry, the sources of Macpherson's 'Ossian,' this dog is renowned for the chase of the boar and the wolf, and for might and prowess in the field of battle. It may seem strange, as the wolf and wild boar existed in England, that this powerful dog was not introduced into that country, where the passion for the chase was a marked feature among all classes. The question arises, was not this dog introduced into England? We think that it was. In the Saxon times of England, times involved in more obscurity than many periods of Roman history, the people were serfs, and the chiefs, nobles, and princes alone had power. The bond-slave fed the swine of his master in the woods, and had strong fierce dogs to aid him against the wolf; but a breed so valuable as a wolf-dog of greyhound race would be denied the serf, and reserved only for the sport of the noble: and as the history of Saxon England is a history of wars between rival monarchs, and between Saxons and Danes, any notice of such a dog cannot be expected. When the Saxon power yielded to the Norman, the forest laws were more stringent and sanguinary than before, and the very dogs used by the serfs were so mutilated as to prevent their engaging in the chase. Some of their toes were cut off, or the pad at the base of the toes removed. The greyhound was permitted to the nobles and princes alone. The old greyhound of England was a large rough dog, but inferior to the Irish, which in the early Norman times was both known in this island and prized.

Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, was presented by King

John with a specimen of this breed; and in the Welsh laws of the ninth century we find heavy penalties enacted relative to the maiming or injuring the Irish greyhound (*Canis Graius Hibernicus*), upon which a value was set amounting to more than double that on the ordinary greyhound. England had long been celebrated for dogs of the bull, mastiff, and hound breeds, useful for ordinary purposes, a circumstance which would limit the employment of the Irish wolf-dog more exclusively to the nobles who could afford to keep up an establishment of the choicest dogs for their own pleasure, the spread of which it would be their pride to restrict; nay more, which none of inferior rank were allowed to possess. Thus, then, while a few valued Irish wolf-dogs were in the possession of the privileged few, the breed would not become general.

Smith, who, in his 'History of Waterford' (2nd edition), describes these dogs as much taller than a mastiff, but more like a greyhound, and for size and strength unequalled, adds, "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 gos-hawks and four Irish greyhounds." In the reign of King Richard II. "there were still lands held of the crown; and among others, by the family of Engaine, upon the condition of keeping a certain number of wolf-dogs to hunt that animal." (*Col. H. Smith.*)

Some naturalists have been inclined to believe that these so-called greyhounds were not greyhounds at all,

but large dogs perhaps of the mastiff breed; and they allege that no greyhound is capable of contending with the wolf, the great strength of which is notorious, as well as the severity of its bite. We fully agree that no modern greyhound is capable of contending successfully with a wolf; but our slim, delicate, smooth breeds of the present day are dwarfs to the old rough greyhound of England, such as was used by Percy at Chevy Chase; and this breed again, in size, strength, and courage, fell far short of the Irish race; which, as we have said, had in it, not improbably, a cross from the source of the Danish dog or mâtin.

That the Irish wolf-dog was essentially a rough greyhound, of a sandy yellow, brindled, or white colour, we have abundant evidence. Holinshed says, respecting the Irish, "They are not without wolves, and greyhounds to hunt them, bigger of bone and limb than a colt." Evelyn, describing the sanguinary combats of the bear-garden, says, "The bulldog did exceedingly well, but the Irish wolf-dog exceeded, which was a tall greyhound, a stately creature, and beat a cruel mastiff." Pennant calls these dogs Irish greyhounds; and observes, that they were led to the chase in leather slips or thongs. He also says that they were scarce.

The following letter, addressed by Deputy Falkland to the Earl of Cork in 1623, proves the fact, that the dog in question was a greyhound; and, moreover, that the Scottish deer-hound was of the same stock, though perhaps at that time less pure:—"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," &c. &c.

In a paper read by Mr. Haffield before the Dublin Natural History Society about five years since, he cites the following communication from Sir William Betham, Ulster king-at-arms, an authority of no slight importance:—"From the mention of the wolf-dogs in the old Irish poems and stories, and what I have heard from a very old person long since dead, of his having seen them at the neale, in the county of Mayo, the seat of Sir John Browne, ancestor to Lord Kilmaine, I have no doubt they were a gigantic greyhound. My departed friend described them as being very gentle, and that 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. They were not smooth-skinned, like our greyhounds, but rough and curly haired. The Irish poets call the wolf-dog *cu*, and the common hound *gayer*—a marked distinction, the word *cu* signifying a champion."

Respecting the stature of these dogs (of which the females were, as in the greyhound breed generally, much inferior to the males) we have no definite admeasurements. Ray notices one of these dogs as the "greatest dog" he had ever seen. Goldsmith asserts that he saw several, some of which were four feet high; and, if he means at the head, we dispute not his assertion. We should suppose they stood nearly, if not quite, three feet at the shoulders. Sitting as we now do in our chair, we find that for a dog of this breed to put his head upon our

shoulder, himself standing, his lower jaw must be three feet seven inches from the ground.

The decline and extinction of this noble greyhound breed in Ireland, and its decline, but not total extinction, in Scotland, are easily accounted for. In the former island, as the wolf became extirpated the necessity of keeping up the stock would diminish more and more, till at last the remnants of the breed would be in the possession of a few only; nor was there the opportunity of employing it as a deer-hound; for, if we mistake not, few or no herds of wild-deer or red-deer exist in Ireland, or have existed there—(we speak not of times when the great *cervus mégaceros* wandered over the hills)—for many centuries.* Whereas in Scotland, when the wolf was extirpated, the red-deer still remained the free denizen of his mountain range. Hence the name of wolf-hound would merge into that of deer-hound, and the necessity for keeping up the dog in his original state would cease; and a cross with the old rough greyhound would, sooner or later, take place, with a corresponding degeneracy of size and muscular power. Thus, though the Scottish deer-hound is a noble dog, he is not what the Irish wolf-dog was in his day of power.

Mr. Bell rightly observes, that the figure of Lord Altamont's so-called Irish greyhound, given by Mr. Lambert in the 3rd volume of the 'Linnean Transactions,' bears but a slight resemblance to the greyhound form. The fact is, that Lord Altamont's dogs were smooth-haired; and if any of the old wolf-dog blood was

* As one of the causes of the extinction of this dog in Ireland, we may notice political embroilments and their sad results.

in them, it was obscured by some other cross. Bewick's figure, now before us, appears to represent a fine dog of the Danish race. Colonel H. Smith mentions that Mr. Hamilton Rowan used often to appear in Dublin with two majestic wolf-dogs: a correspondent in Dublin informs us that this is a mistake, for he was assured by a personal friend of Mr. H. Rowan's, that they were large bloodhounds. The Irish wolf-dog has for many years ceased to exist; even the Scottish deer-hound is rare.

The following authentic narrative respecting the destruction of the last wolves in the county of Tyrone, abridged from a note in the biography of a Tyrone family published in Belfast, 1829, may prove not uninteresting:—"In the mountainous parts of 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 these 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, called the Wolf-dog; the animal resembled a *rough, stout, half-bred greyhound*, but was *much stronger*. In the county Tyrone there was then a large space of ground, enclosed by a high stone wall, having a gap at each of 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 wolf-hunter above mentioned, by name Rory Curragh, 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. Curragh, undertaking the task, took with him two wolf-dogs and a little boy only twelve years old, the only person who would accompany him, and repaired at the approach of midnight to the fold in question. 'Now,' said Curragh to the boy, 'as the two wolves usually enter at the opposite extremities of the sheep-fold 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 positively give him the first fall; if, therefore, 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. So, good night.'

"'I 'll do what I can,' said the little 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 by 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 Curragh appeared, bearing the head of the other."

"I have not," says a writer in the Irish Penny Journal, "been able to ascertain with certainty the date of the death of the last Irish wolf; but there was a present ment for killing wolves granted in Cork in the year 1710. I am at present acquainted with an old gentleman between 80 and 90 years of age, whose mother remembered wolves to have been killed about the year 1730-40, in the county of Wexford. And it is asserted by many persons of weight and veracity, that a wolf was killed in the Wicklow mountains so recently as 1770."

For several of the above statements respecting the Irish wolf-dog we have to express our obligations to the writer of an article in the 'Irish Penny Journal,' 1841, whose diligent investigations on the subject merit great praise.

"An eye of sloe, with ear not low,
With horse's breast, and depth of chest,
With breadth of loin, and curve in groin,
And nape set far behind the head—
Such were the dogs that Fingal bred."
*Translation from the Celtic.*

And such, even in these degenerate days, are the Scottish or Highland deer-hounds, immortalized by the pen of Sir Walter Scott and the pencil of Landseer. The courage and energy of these dogs is well depicted in the following communication from Mr. M'Neil to Mr. Scrope, which is highly graphic. We must suppose that after much toil, and many schemes and manœuvres, a favourable position is attained. Scene,—the Island of Jura.

"The dogs were slipped; a general halloo burst from the whole party, and the stag, wheeling about, set off at full speed, with *Buskar* and *Bran* straining after him. The brown figure of the deer, with his noble antlers laid back, strongly 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 footsteps, taking, however, a steeper line of descent than the one by which he ascended. Here the chase became most interesting: the dogs pressed him hard, and the deer getting confused, found himself suddenly on the brink of a small precipice about fourteen feet in height—from the bottom of which there sloped a rugged mass of stones. Here he paused 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 waited 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 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 upon the deer, who was still going at speed, and were 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 restrain him, and succeeded more than once in kicking Bran off." All his efforts, however, were in vain—the terrible struggle for life succeeded, and the gallant deer sank quivering in death.—(Scrope's Deer-Stalking.)

The following picture, worthy of Landseer's pencil, is by W. Scrope, Esq.: 'Art of Deer-Stalking.'—The hart, wounded by the cautious deer-stalker, has darted away,—the dogs are slipped:—"Away they go over moss and rock, steep and level, in and out of the black

mire, unto the foot of a hill, which they ascend with slackened pace. Up the nearest eminence runs one of the hunters, and with levelled glass endeavours to watch their course. The deer-stalker, at his topmost speed, follows the chase, listening anxiously as he runs for the bark of the dogs, significant of their having brought the stag to bay. The wished-for voices soon break upon him; he redoubles his speed, and a sudden opening being entered, there is the magnificent creature, standing on a narrow projecting ledge of rock, within the cleft, in the middle course of the mountain cataract, the rocks closed in upon his flanks, bidding defiance in his own mountain-hold! On the very edge of the precipice the dogs are baying at him furiously; one rush of the stag will send them down the chasm into eternity; yet in their fury they seem wholly unconscious of their danger. Delay would now be fatal; the stalker creeps cautiously round to the nearest commanding spot; every moment is precious; yet the least carelessness on his part, that should reveal his presence to the deer, would cause the latter to break bay, and in all probability precipitate the fate of the dogs. Meantime the stag, maddened by their vexatious attacks, makes a desperate stab at one of them; which the dog, endeavouring to avoid, retreats backwards—loses his footing,—his hind legs slip over the precipice—he is lost!—No! he struggles courageously, his fore feet holding on by the little roughnesses of the bed of the torrent. He rises a little, but slips back again—he gasps painfully—but summons up all his strength and resolution for one last effort! Hurra! the gallant dog has recovered his footing; and, not taking breathing time, rushes at the hart as rash and wrathful

as ever! The stalker is now ready on a mount overlooking the scene; he levels, but a sudden movement brings the dogs within the scope of the gun. Three times is the aim taken and abandoned;—a fourth—crack! the ball is in the deer's head—he drops heavily into the splashing waters."

In the art of deer-stalking, however, the dog plays a comparatively subordinate part; the stalker trusts rather to the unerring accuracy of his rifle, than to the speed and prowess of his canine followers. Hunting the deer with large greyhounds was formerly a favourite diversion in England. Queen Elizabeth was gratified by seeing on one occasion, from a turret, sixteen deer pulled down by greyhounds, upon the lawn at Cowdry Park, in Sussex.

The modern smooth-haired greyhound is a very elegant dog; remarkable for its extreme velocity, in which it is, we believe, superior to the rough-haired dogs of the olden time, though not to some of the modern rough greyhounds, in which a cross of the old rough breed or Scottish deer-hound prevails. No greyhounds used for the hare equal in speed and endurance those of our island; and none, so improved of late years is the breed, equal them in symmetry; every action is light, easy, and elegant, yet firm and vigorous. The greyhound is highly sensitive, and very good-tempered; like the Irish wolf-dog, it is peaceable and affectionate; and fierce only in the chase of its quarry, or when excited to combat. On one occasion only have we ever seen a greyhound fight with another dog; and in that instance the animal, a roughish brindled dog, was set upon by a large dog of a mongrel mastiff breed, and forced to self-defence.

Short indeed was the combat—in a few seconds the aggressor sunk severely torn, and was taken away. Slim as these dogs are, their muscular powers are very great; like the race-horse, they are compact of iron muscle and ivory bone, with no superfluous fat or loose cellular tissue, and are consequently deceptive to the eye, which is in general accustomed to see strength conjoined with massiveness. Yet we have but to consider the chest, loins, and limbs of a greyhound, and regard the "tori" of the arms and thighs, to feel assured of the possession of great power. The smooth greyhound, or gazehound of the older writers, follows exclusively by the eye—whereas all the old rough breeds could recover the track of the game by the powers of smell; but in the modern dog every quality is sacrificed to fleetness—and certainly for sudden and violent bursts of exertion the present breed has never been equalled. Many trials for ascertaining the speed of the greyhound have been undertaken; and Daniel's opinion seems to be on the whole correct, viz. that on flat ground a first-rate race-horse would be superior to the greyhound; but that in a hilly country the greyhound would have the advantage. Much, however, in the latter case would depend upon the dog being habituated to hilly districts; for a greyhound accustomed only to flat plains, though swifter on them than a Yorkshire greyhound, would yield to the latter in a hilly country.

The hare and the greyhound seem to be well matched; the swiftness of both animals is astonishing, and a well-contested run is an animating sight. Daniel records the circumstance of a brace of greyhounds in Lincolnshire running a hare from her seat to where she was killed, a

distance measuring in straight line upwards of four miles, in twelve minutes; but as there were a great many turns during the course, the actual distance was considerably more. The hare ran herself to death before the greyhounds touched her.

From the impetuosity with which the greyhound runs, and the consequent difficulty of suddenly stopping, it is liable to accidents from various causes,—as from precipitating itself down steep quarries of stone or sand—from coming in collision with banks of earth, walls, and the like; and instances are known of the concussion producing instant death.

The etymology of the word greyhound has been much disputed. Some suppose it to be derived from Graius (Grecian) because this dog was in high esteem among the Greeks. Caius regards the name as implying rank among its race—"quod præcipui gradûs sit inter canes." Others refer it to the Dutch, grüp-hund; from grypen, to gripe. Mr. Whitaker draws the name from the ancient British *grech* or *greg*, a dog—and this last is probably the true origin,—though Mr. Bell seems to think the term simply alludes to the prevailing colour of the ancient breed. The query is, was it grey?—We think not; and believe sandy red, brindled, pale yellow, and white, with black-tipped ears and black muzzle, to have been the prevailing colours.

The Italian greyhound, so well known as an elegant attendant of the parlour, need not be particularly described. It is a most beautiful and affectionate little dog, of very nervous temperament—and so delicate as to bear our climate with difficulty.

With respect to the lurcher, it appears to us to be a

mongrel breed between the rough greyhound and the shepherd's dog. Bewick, who figures and describes it, says, that it is less and shorter than the greyhound, with stronger limbs; its body is covered with a coat of rough hair, commonly of a pale yellow colour; its aspect is sullen, and its habits, whence it derives its name, are cunning and insidious. At the same time it must be confessed that this dog is very attached to its master, displays most extraordinary intelligence, and is trained with great facility. As it possesses the advantage of a fine scent, it is often nefariously employed during the night-time in the capture of game; the more especially as it works silently, never giving tongue. When taken to the warren, it steals along with the utmost caution, creeps upon the rabbits while feeding, and darts upon them in an instant; it waylays them as they return to their burrow, where it is ready to seize them, and then brings its booty to its master. Bewick knew a man who kept a pair of these dogs, and who confessed that at any time he could procure in an evening as many rabbits as he could carry home. This dog is equally expert at taking hares, partly by speed, but more by cunning wiles. It will drive partridges to the net with the utmost circumspection and address; and will even seize and pull down a fallow deer, and, leaving it disabled, return to its master and guide him to the scene of its exploits.

The true lurcher is not so often to be seen as formerly; it is essentially a poacher's dog, so that any person known to possess one becomes a suspected character.

We may here observe, that it was customary in England to protect the fierce rough-greyhound-like dogs

used in the boar-hunt with a sort of armour. On some ancient tapestry in Haddon Hall, Derbyshire, is represented a variety of field-sports, and particularly a boar-hunt, in which the dogs are defended by a sort of doublet closely laced on and studded with metallic points.

## CHAPTER VI.

### ON THE CALABRIAN AND NEWFOUNDLAND GROUP OF DOGS.

We now come to a group of dogs which some naturalists have regarded as spaniels, but which we think form a section by themselves; we allude to the Italian wolf-dog, the Newfoundland dog, &c. These dogs certainly are not spaniels: in size and strength they equal the mastiff, while their intelligence and the general expression of the physiognomy, together with the form of the ears and muzzle, show their remoteness from the wolfish breed of dogs spread through the boreal regions.

Of the dogs of this section, we may first notice the Calabrian wolf-dog, or dog of the shepherds of the Abruzzi. These dogs are used by the shepherds of Calabria as guardians of the sheep, and are very beautiful. In general aspect they resemble the Newfoundland, but are scarcely so large; the general coat is long and silky, and the tail is thickly and deeply fringed; the ears of moderate size, pendent, but not floccose or fringed; the colour is generally white. Some time since a fine pair of these dogs were living in the Gardens of the Zoological Society; they were gentle and good-tempered. In the mountains during the summer these dogs are of great service, for the wolves are abundant; nor are they less important during the winter, when the

Abruzzezi shepherds conduct their flocks from the mountains to the vast plain of Apulia, there to remain till the spring. An anonymous writer well acquainted with Calabria thus describes the plain of Apulia, during the winter sojourn of the Abruzzezi:—"Large sheds and low houses, built of mud and stone, that look like stablings, exist here and there on the plain, and have either been erected by the great sheep proprietors, or are let out to them at an easy rate by the factors of the *tavogliere*. Other temporary homesteads are erected by the shepherds themselves, as they arrive, and a few pass the winter in tents covered with very thick and dark coarse cloth, woven with wool and hair. The permanent houses are generally large enough to accommodate a whole society of shepherds; the temporary huts and tents are always erected in groups, that the shepherds of the same flocks may be always near to each other. The sheep folds are in the rear of the large houses, but generally placed in the midst of the huts and tents. On account of the wolves that frequently descend from the mountains and commit severe ravages, they are obliged to keep a great number of dogs, which are of a remarkably fine breed, being rather larger than our Newfoundland,* very strongly made, snowy white in colour, and bold and faithful. You cannot approach these pastoral hamlets, either by night or day, without being beset by these vigilant guardians, that look sufficiently formidable when they charge the intruder, as often happens, in troops of a dozen or fifteen. They have frequent encounters with

* Those we have seen were scarcely so large as a Newfoundland of moderate stature, and far less than the more gigantic specimens occasionally to be met with.

the wolves, evident signs of which some of the old campaigners show in their persons, being now and then sadly torn and maimed. The shepherds say that two them of the *right sort* are a match for an ordinary f." Perhaps two of these dogs might be a match for wolf, but we are very sure that a single dog would not able to endure the combat. They have always appeared to us to want that lacerating gripe of jaw for which the Irish wolf-dog was, and the Highland deerhound is, so remarkable; nor have they that terrible tenacity of tooth characteristic of the mastiff and bulldog. It appears, however, that numbers act in concert, and thus deter the wolf from making his assault.

In the present group we place, provisionally, the Alpine or St. Bernard's dogs, so celebrated for the services which they render to mankind, and to which they e trained by the worthy monks of the Hospice of St. ernard. To the honour of these excellent men be it spoken, that while others have trained the dog for the combat, for the battle-field, for the chase of the naked Indian, or the capture of the runaway slave, they have availed themselves of the power, courage, intelligence, and fine scent of the dog, in rescuing the unhappy traveller from the horrors of death amidst the snows of the mountains.

It would appear that dogs of more than one race are trained by the monks to the labour of mercy. Those which we have seen were equal in size to the largest mastiff; the muzzle was deep, the ears pendulous, the fur rather longer than in a true close-haired dog and somewhat wiry, and the form of the body and limbs indicative of very great strength. The colour of one

which struck us for size and noble aspect was sandy red or tawny, with the muzzle black. Colonel H. Smith says that one race is closely allied to the Newfoundland in form, stature, hair, and colours, with the head and ears like that of a water-spaniel; but that the other has close short hair, more or less marked with grey, liver colour, and black clouds betraying an intermixture with the French mâtin or great Danish dogs. The probability is that more attention is paid to the strength and intelligence of these dogs, than to the maintenance of the breed in purity, if indeed there ever was purity of breed in the stock. We believe that the short-haired breed is now exclusively, or almost exclusively, used—the old Newfoundland-like race being nearly if not quite extinct.

The convent of the Great St. Bernard is situated near the top of a mountain of that name, near one of the most dangerous passes of the Alps between Switzerland and Savoy. In these elevated regions sudden snow-storms often overtake the bewildered traveller, rendering the pass impracticable, or its traces so deceptive, that, after floundering through deep snow-drifts, his powers give way, and he sinks benumbed and torpid; often the thundering avalanche is heard, now at a distance, now more near among the rocks, as it tears its way into the valley, carrying trees and vast crags before it; often has the traveller held his breath, and moved along silently as a ghost, lest the slightest vibration of the atmosphere should loosen the strong masses of ice and hardened snow impending above him, ready on the instant to sweep him to destruction. Often in the midst of these horrors is the traveller benighted; vain are his efforts;

he thinks of home, and all he holds dear; but soon his mind wanders,—the cold is at his heart,—irresistible torpor overpowers him,—and all is oblivion.

> "'Tis sweet to hear the honest watch-dog's voice
> Bay deep-mouthed welcome as we draw near home."

But, oh, how sweeter to the ear of the despairing traveller sounds the deep bark of the dog of St. Bernard through the storm and darkness, proclaiming succour at hand. It is during such seasons that these dogs are sent forth, generally in pairs, one carrying a flask of spirits attached to his neck, the other laden with a cloak for the use of the unfortunate. If the man can walk, they conduct him towards the convent, and by loud barking give warning of their return, and call for assistance; if the traveller be insensible, they hasten for succour, and guide the monks to the spot. So keen is their sense of smell, that though the perishing man lie buried beneath the snow-drift to the depth of several feet, they will not pass by the spot,—he has yet a chance of escape;—they dig away the snow with their feet—they make their voices resound, and exert themselves to the uttermost in his behalf;—and even if life be extinct, their discovery of the body is not without bringing some degree of consolation to the sufferer's friends and relatives. Nor are the duties of these dogs devoid of danger to themselves; many have perished in endeavouring to save the perishing. One noble animal, who thus met his fate, was decorated with a medal, in commemoration of having saved the lives of twenty-two persons, who, but for his sagacity, must inevitably have perished: many travellers who visited the Continent after the peace, saw this dog, and heard from the monks the details of his extraordinary

career. It was in the winter of 1816 that a Piedmontese courier, during a dreadful storm, arrived at the Hospice of St. Bernard; he was on his way to the little village of St. Pierre, in the valley beneath the mountain, where dwelt his wife and children. It was not without extreme labour and difficulty that he had made his way to the Hospice; but the thoughts of home rose painfully in his bosom;—he must, he would proceed. In vain the monks depicted the dangers of the way;—in vain they remonstrated and implored. He could not bear the torture of absence;—his resolution was not to be shaken. At length, as a last resource, the monks gave him two guides, each accompanied by a dog, of which one was the noble bearer of the medal. They set forth on their way down the mountain. In the mean time the anxious family of the poor courier, alarmed at his long absence, commenced the ascent of the mountain, in hopes of

Dog of Mount St. Bernard.

meeting him, or obtaining some information respecting him. Thus at the moment he and his guides were descending, his family were toiling up the icy steep, of [illegible] wned with the snows of ages. A sudden crackling noise was heard, and then a thundering roar echoing through the Alpine heights—and all was still. Courier, and guides, and dogs, and the courier's family were at the same moment overwhelmed by one common destruction;—not one escaped. Two avalanches had broken away from the mountain pinnacles, and swept with impetuous force into the valley below.

We have seen a French print, representing a dog of St. Bernard (of the Newfoundland appearance) bearing a child upon his back to the gate of the Hospice. According to the account given, the child, whose mother had been destroyed by an avalanche, was found unhurt by the dog, and induced by the sagacious animal to mount upon his back, and was thus conveyed to a place of safety.

With respect to the Newfoundland dog, it appears to us that there are several breeds which are included under this denomination. We have already alluded to a smooth, sharp-nosed, intelligent dog, which appears to be the ordinary race of the islands; but there is also another breed, with long hair and a long full-fringed tail, of moderate stature, compactly made, very muscular, and of a black colour. The dogs known in England as Newfoundlands are generally of larger stature, rough, rather loosely made, and apt to be weak in the loins and hinder quarters. A dog of this latter kind, one of the finest of its race, formerly in the possession of a gentleman of our acquaintance, was brought from Labrador: its admeasurements were as follows: 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.

In Newfoundland the dogs are employed in drawing sledges laden with fish, wood, and other articles; and are of considerable importance from their strength and docility. They are admirable water-dogs, make first-rate retrievers, and will boldly tear their way through the thickest and roughest covers of bramble, thorn, furze, and persevere in the recovery of the great resolution. To the water-fowl shooter and reedy lakes, and morasses, they are of the greatest ance. The aptitude evinced by the Newfound in taking to the water, and the courage, devot skill which it manifests in the rescue of persons drown are too well known to be insisted upon; and numerous are the instances on record in which man has owed his life to the intrepidity of this faithful dog. Among others we find the following, to our surprise, narrated by M. E. Blaze, and which we know to be substantially true, but which we did not know had ever found its way into print:—Mr. William Phillips was on a visit at Portsmouth, for the sake of sea-bathing; and on one occasion, having ventured out too far, was in imminent danger of drowning. His two daughters, perceiving the danger he was in, were anxious to send out a boat to his assistance; but the boatmen, taking advantage of their alarm and feelings, began to magnify the importance of their service, and demanded an enormous sum. During this con-

ference the unfortunate gentleman was in great extremity, and had barely strength to keep himself up, when suddenly a Newfoundland dog made his appearance, and, gallantly dashing into the water, swam out boldly to the assistance of the gentleman, whom he succeeded in bringing safely to shore. This dog belonged to a butcher's man. Mr. P., filled with gratitude, bought the animal on the spot for a hundred guineas. Every year, on the 4th of October, he celebrated his deliverance, surrounded by his family—and to the dog was assigned the place of honour at the table, with a good ration of beefsteaks. Mr. P. had a beautiful picture executed, representing the scene and circumstances of his deliverance: this was engraved, and all his friends were presented with a copy. On all his table-linen, napkins, &c., made expressly for him in Ireland, this picture was worked in the tissue, with this legend, "Virum extuli mari."*

A few weeks ago the following appeared in the 'Commerce,' and was copied into several of the English newspapers:—"Ten Newfoundland dogs have been imported into Paris, for the purpose of watching the banks of the Seine; and experienced trainers are every day employed in teaching these magnificent animals to draw from the water stuffed figures of men and children. The rapidity

* To this narrative we may add the following corrections from our relative, Jb. Phillips, Esq., Staffordshire:—"The account you have extracted is in the main correct; the hundred guineas given for the dog were only five. The picture, which was painted by Morland, and engraved by Bartolozzi, is only the dog on the beach couchant, and the sea and a rock or two without any other object. I do not remember the anniversary, though that might be, as the dog died when I was very young; I remember well riding on his back once. He was a dog of dogs!"

that the discovery of Newfoundland is due to some Norwegians, who, before the year 1000, sailed on a voyage of discovery from Greenland; and that, during the tenth and eleventh centuries, the Northmen discovered and visited various parts of North America (Lond. Geogr. Journal, vol. viii.). In 1497, after being forgotten, Newfoundland was re-discovered by John Cabot, then in the service of England, who gave it the name it now bears (inclusive of the adjacent parts of the continent, which have since received other appellations). Immediately after Cabot's discovery, numerous private adventurers proceeded to the spot; and as early as the year 1500 the fishery was carried on by French, Portuguese, Biscayans, and other people. It is perhaps to the European settlers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries that the introduction of the original stock of the Newfoundland dog is owing—unless, indeed, we may venture to assign it to the Norwegians. The Norwegian peasants in the mountains, where wolves and bears are abundant, possess, at the present time, dogs closely resembling the Newfoundland, which they arm with collars set with iron spikes, as a means of protection against the wolves, which frequently attack them, and endeavour to seize them by the throat. It is remarkable that the bear usually retreats before these dogs, which is not the case with the wolf. Wolf-hunting in winter is a favourite amusement in Norway; and in many districts these ravenous animals are extremely numerous, and commit terrible depredations.

## CHAPTER VII.

### ON THE SPANIEL RACES OF THE DOG.

We may now pass to that section of dogs in which the Spaniel, the rough Water-dog, the Poodle, and the Setter are included. These dogs, which form, we think, a very natural group, are all remarkable for intelligence, docility, and their affectionate disposition. Their fur is long and silky, sometimes crisped; the ears are large and pendent; and the expression of the countenance is spirited, yet gentle and pleasing: all are endowed with the powers of scent in high perfection; and many—as the cocking-spaniel, the water-spaniel, the rough water-dog, and the setter—are valuable to the sportsman.

The true spaniel breed is divided into many sub-varieties, derivable from a stock of great antiquity, and which appears to have been prized by the Romans. Of these in our country the most conspicuous are the ordinary spaniel, the cocker or cocking-spaniel, used for covert and woodcock shooting, and the large and small water-spaniel. Besides these, are the Blenheim and King Charles's breed of spaniels, celebrated for their beauty. The author of the 'Sportsman's Cabinet' states that the race of dogs passing under the denomination of spaniels are of two kinds, one of which is considerably larger than the other, and is known by the appellation of the springing-spaniel, as applicable to every kind of game in any

country; whilst the smaller is called the cocker or cocking-spaniel, as being more adapted to covert and woodcock shooting. If this statement be correct, writers have erred in applying the name of springer to a small breed, generally red and white, with a black nose and palate; and we cannot well distinguish between the common and the small water-spaniel. The fact is, that the breeds of spaniels are as multitudinous as fanciers please to make them, and, consequently, very indefinite: and between the elegant Blenheim breed, with abbreviated nose, large full dark eyes, high forehead, and round head, with ample, full-fringed ears, and the spaniel of the sportsman, there are numerous grades of variation. We say nothing of mongrels.

The spaniel of the sportsman, the small water-spaniel of Bewick—the springer of the author of the 'Sportsman's Cabinet' (but not the springer of Bewick)—is celebrated for its intelligence and good disposition. It is active and hardy, and readily takes to the water: it is easily broke in to the gun. "A good spaniel," says an old author, "is a great jewel:" it should range well, never above twenty yards from the gun; chase neither fur nor feather, and never give tongue: but sport with the spaniel requires a quick and sure shot, and the dog is soon discouraged if an unpractised hand disappoint its expectations. A well-bred spaniel is, in fact, devoted to the sportsman, and will even leave its master for a time to render service to a stranger. "I was shooting one day," says M. Blaze, "at the lake of Saclai, near Versailles; my friend Guillemard was with me, or rather I was with him, for he had permission to shoot wild ducks on the preserve. Guillemard had no dog. 'Mine

will serve for both,' said I, in setting off. At the first shot we saw a fine spaniel run up at full speed: he plunged into the water, and, caressing M. Guillemard, seemed to say—Here I am at your service; amuse me, and I will amuse you. We pursued our sport all the day, and the dog proved excellent. M. Guillemard said to me—'I have got a fair godsend; it is a lost dog; if no one reclaims him, I will keep him. He is admirable as a sporting-dog, and is most acceptable to me.' No one appeared to own him: but the sport over, off he set at full gallop, and we saw him no more. I spoke of the circumstance to M. Germain, the sworn guard of the water: 'Sir,' said he to me, 'that dog belongs to a sportsman living two leagues distant, who is at present laid up with the gout: he knows that persons come to shoot here every Sunday, and on that day regularly makes his appearance. Having done duty for the first sportsman whom he meets, he returns to his master.'"

Mr. Yarrell, in his admirable work on British fishes, quotes the following account of the aquatic skill of a spaniel, from the MS. of the late Colonel Montagu:—"Mr. Popham, of Littlecot, in the county of Wilts, was famous for a trout fishery. They were confined to a certain portion of river by grating, so that a fish of moderate size could not escape. To the preserving and fattening these fish much trouble and expense were devoted, and fish of seven and eight pounds' weight were not uncommon. A gentleman at Lackham, in the same county, had a favourite water-spaniel that was condemned to suffer death for killing all the carp in his master's ponds, but was reprieved at the desire of Mr. Popham, who took charge of him, in the belief that so shy and swift a fish

as a trout was not to be caught by a dog. However, in this he was mistaken, for the dog soon convinced him that his largest trout were not a match for him." Mr. Stoddart also, in his 'Scottish Angling' (p. 119), has recorded the propensities of a fish-catching dog.

The springer appears to us, if indeed we must distinguish between it and the spaniel, to be merely a lighter and smaller variety; it is generally red and white, with long silky hair and large ears, and with the nose black or mulberry-coloured, and a black palate.

From King Charles's breed we derive the modern cocker. The colour of King Charles's breed appears to have been black, or black and white, and the hair long and silky. We have seen a beautiful and most valuable pair of cockers of a dark liver-brown colour; they were in first-rate training, and though of small size, were extremely vigorous and active. Still less than the cocker, or King Charles's breed, is the Marlborough or Blenheim spaniel, the race of which is assiduously cultivated in the present day; not indeed for field-sports, but for the parlour, of which it is an ornament. The most prized of this breed are very small, with an abbreviated muzzle, and a round skull arched above; the ears are very large and well fringed, and the hair of the body is long, soft, and silky. The general colour is black and tan, or black and white, with the limbs beautifully spotted, and a tanned mark over each eye.

The elegance, liveliness, intelligence, and affectionate disposition of the varieties of the spaniel race, independent of their value to the sportsman, render them general favourites; and high-bred dogs of the cocker or Blenheim breeds sell for a large sum of money. We have

seen dogs of the latter variety valued at eighty and a hundred guineas. No dog appears to us to become so personally attached to its master or mistress as a spaniel: it cannot endure to be absent; it will come to the room door and scratch and whine to be admitted, and even patiently wait for hours, until entrance be granted. A beautiful Blenheim, of rather large size, in our possession, waits regularly every morning at our bed-room door, and greets our appearance with most lively tokens of joy and attachment.

We had a small high-bred female of the cocker breed a few years since, which displayed towards her mistress the strongest affection. This dog was remarkable for beauty, having long glossy hair like silk, and for admirable symmetry; she was, besides, as spirited as elegant: she would kill a rat in an instant, and attack a cat with the courage of a bulldog. Indeed, on one occasion she was with difficulty prevented from killing a cat as large as herself, which had struck her with its claw; she seized it by the chest. For some time before her death this dog showed symptoms of disease of the lungs, and could not scour the fields as before. One evening we took a walk in the country, accompanied by our favourite; but her difficulty of breathing increasing, we carried her home, and had a bed made for her in the parlour. In the morning we were aroused by the intelligence that poor Fan was dead. On coming down, we found that she had left her bed in the night, opened the door of a closet, and drawn out a morning dress which her mistress had worn for some days previously. The dress was spread on the carpet, and upon it she had died; faithful and devoted even when life was ebbing.

No dog is more observant of the actions of its master than the spaniel, or more readily interprets the meaning of his looks. All are acquainted with the little poem in which Cowper celebrates the intelligence of his spaniel, which plunged into the water and drew to the bank a water-lily which he had previously been endeavouring to procure.

The following statement, for the truth of which we can vouch, refers to the spaniel already noticed for its partiality to fruits:—One morning, as the lady to whom this spaniel belongs was lacing her boots, one of the laces broke. She turned to the dog, and playfully said, 'Oh dear! I wish you would find me another boot-lace;' and having managed with the broken one, thought no more about it. On the following morning, when she was again lacing her boots, her spaniel ran up to her with a new silken boot-lace in his mouth; not only to her great amazement, but that of the family. Where the dog had obtained the boot-lace no one could tell; but, doubtless, he had purloined it from some work-box or similar repository.

Leibnitz (Opera, 1768) reports the case of a spaniel belonging to a Saxon peasant, whom his master, by dint of labour, taught to articulate, with more or less distinctness, about thirty German words. These words were first uttered by the dog's master, and then by the dog.

In the 'Bibliothèque Germanique,' 1720, part ii., p. 214, is published the account of a dog which uttered various words; but in this instance the dog's master, by means of his hand, managed the dog's throat, so as to turn the growling of the animal into something like articulate sounds. "Le maître s'assied à terre, et prend son chien entre ses jambes, d'où il lui tient tout le corps

en sujétion. D'une main il lui tient la mâchoire d'en-haut; et de l'autre celle d'en-bas; et pendant que l'animal gronde selon sa coutume il lui presse des différentes manières, tantôt l'une, tantôt l'autre mâchoire, et souvent toutes les deux; ce qui fait diverses contorsions à la gueule du chien, et en même temps il lui fait prononcer des paroles."* In both cases we believe that the imagination had much to do in prompting the ear to the words which the guttural intonations between a bark and a growl in some degree sounded like. But supposing the words were really uttered, we can draw from the fact no proof of the intelligence of the dogs in question; in both cases the dogs were several years under instruction, and the time wasted in their tuition might have been far more usefully employed.

Bewick gives an excellent figure of the large water spaniel. It is generally liver-coloured and white, with the hair of the body crisped or disposed in little knots. This dog is of moderate size, strong, active, and intelligent, and is of great service to the water-fowl shooter, either along the sea-coast or amidst fens and marshes.

Distinct from the great water-spaniel is the rough water-dog, which perhaps exceeds all dogs in intelligence and docility. It is of rather large size, and very robust, with the cranium remarkably capacious and elevated, the muzzle short, and the hair long, full, and

*. "The master sat himself upon the ground, and placed his dog between his legs, where he had him completely in his power. With one hand he held the upper jaw, and with the other the lower one, and while the animal growled in his usual manner, pressed them in different ways, now the one jaw, now the other, and now both: this produced diverse contortions in the mouth of the dog, and at the same time caused him to pronounce words."

curling. This variety is the Barbet of the French, and is often termed the German or French Poodle. We have seen some of a snowy white, others black, and others black and white.

No dog is so easily taught to fetch and carry, or to find coin or other articles, first shown to the animal and then put into a place of concealment, as the water-dog; while from its acute sense of smell, its sagacity, and aquatic habits, it is invaluable to the water-fowl shooter.

Mr. Bell relates the following interesting narrative relative to a female of this breed, the intelligence of which was scarcely less than human:—"My friend (the owner of the dog) was travelling on the Continent, and his faithful dog was his companion. One day before he left his lodgings in the morning, with the expectation of being absent until evening, he took out his purse in his room, for the purpose of ascertaining whether he had taken sufficient money for the day's occupation, and then went his way, leaving the dog behind. Having dined at a coffeehouse, he took out his purse, and missing a louis-d'or, searched for it diligently, but to no purpose. Returning home late in the evening, his servant let him in with a face of sorrow, and told him that the poor dog was very ill, as she had not eaten anything all the day; and what appeared very strange, she would not suffer him to take her food away from before her, but had been lying with her nose close to the vessel without attempting to touch it. On my friend entering the room she instantly jumped upon him, then laid a louis-d'or at his feet, and immediately began to devour her food with great voracity. The truth was now apparent; my friend had dropped the money in the morning when leaving the room, and

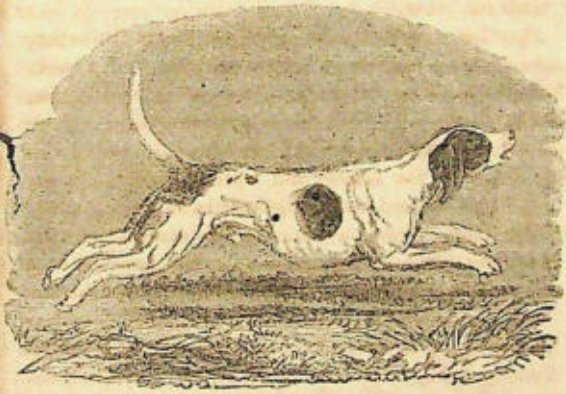
the faithful creature finding it had held it in her mouth, until his return enabled her to restore it to his own hands; even refusing to eat for a whole day, lest it should be out of her custody. I knew the dog well, and have witnessed many very curious tricks of hers, showing extraordinary docility."

A smaller breed of the rough water-dog, the little Barbet, is very beautiful, intelligent, and affectionate; it is generally white. No dog makes a more elegant and interesting parlour companion, or more faithfully guards the house.

Another variety of the present section is the setter, a dog too well known to need description, and remarkable for its beauty, docility, powers of smell, affection, and gratitude. The setter is of ancient descent, and we do not agree with those who regard it as of a mixed origin between the spaniel and Spanish pointer; it has nothing of the old Spanish pointer in its figure, and we believe that dogs of a mixed breed between the setter and pointer are inferior to the genuine breed on each side. The setter was trained to the net by Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, in 1535; but in modern days the use of the fowling-piece has superseded such modes of taking birds. We know not why it is that sportsmen seem generally to prefer the pointer to the setter, the latter being less liable to become foot-sore, and, if we may speak from observation, not more difficult to break in. We have remarked that setters are mostly employed on the moorlands for grouse-shooting. The English setter is generally white, with large marks of red or liver colour; but we have seen very fine dogs of this breed of a dark liver-brown entirely.

# CHAPTER VIII.

## ON THE HOUNDS.



The Beagle.

Another distinct group of dogs is that which contains the hounds, of which several varieties exist, as the stag-hound, the foxhound, the harrier, and beagle. No country equals England in the swiftness, spirit, and endurance of its hounds, and in no country is so much attention paid to the various breeds, of which the beagle is the smallest.

The beagle was once a great favourite, but is now but little used; it is of small stature, but of exquisite scent, and the tones of the pack in full cry are musical. It has not, however, the strength or fleetness of the harrier, and still less so of the foxhound; and hence it does not engage the attention of the sportsmen of the modern school, who, unlike Sir Roger de Coverley, are impetuous in the field, preferring a hard run to a tame and quiet pursuit. The beagle is used only in the chase of the hare, and atones for its slowness by the most enduring diligence, seldom failing to run down the hare, in spite of her speed, shifts, and doublings. The beagle is about ten or eleven inches in height at shoulder; but formerly some sportsmen prided themselves on possessing packs of dogs of even less stature, and which were very efficient. Daniel commemorates Colonel Hardy's "cry of beagles." They amounted to ten or eleven couples, and were always carried to and from the field in a pair of paniers upon a horse's back. They were well matched, and ran together in such close order that they might have been covered with a sheet. This beautiful pack of diminutive hounds was kept in a barn, and one night the door was broken open, and every hound, paniers and all, stolen; nor could the owner ever discover the thieves or their booty.

The Harrier is larger than the beagle, but inferior to the foxhound, and is only used in the chase of the hare. Formerly the harrier was a slow and heavy dog, but of late years the breed has been much improved. Mr. Beckford says:—"The hounds I think most likely to show you sport are between the large slow-hunting harrier and the little fox-beagle. The former are too dull,

too heavy, and too slow; the latter too lively, too light, and too fleet. The first, it is true, have excellent noses, and I make no doubt will kill their game at last, if the day be long enough; but you know that the days are short in winter, and it is bad hunting in the dark. The other, on the contrary, fling, dash, and are all alive; but the cold blast affects them, and if your country be deep and wet, it is not impossible that some of them may be drowned. My hounds were a cross of both these kinds, in which it was my endeavour to get as much bone and strength in as small a compass as possible. It was a difficult undertaking. I bred many years, and an infinity of hounds, before I could get what I wanted. I had the pleasure to see them very handsome—small, yet very bony; they ran remarkably well together; went fast enough; had all the alacrity that could be desired, and would hunt the coldest scent. . . . Harriers to be good, like all other hounds, must be kept to their own game. If you run fox with them, you spoil them: hounds cannot be perfect unless used to one scent and one style of hunting. Harriers run fox in so different a style from hare, that it is of great disservice to them when they return to hare again; it makes them wild, and teaches them to skirt the high scent which a fox leaves; the straightness of his running, the eagerness of the pursuit, and the noise that generally accompanies it, all contribute to spoil a harrier."

The modern English foxhound, in figure, speed, strength, and perseverance, cannot be improved; no other country can produce such a breed. A well-formed dog stands about twenty-one or twenty-two inches in height; the limbs are straight and clean; the feet round, and of

moderate size; the breast wide, and the chest deep; the shoulders thrown back; the head small; the neck thin; the back broad; the tail rather bushy and well carried. The fleetness of some of these dogs is extraordinary: Merkin, a celebrated foxhound belonging to Colonel Thornton, performed four miles in seven minutes. Formerly the foxhound was bred rather for endurance than wonderful speed, and the chase would last for several hours. In January, 1738, the Duke of Richmond's hounds found their fox at a quarter before eight in the morning, and killed him at ten minutes before six, after a chase of ten hours' hard running. Many of the sportsmen tired three horses each; eleven couple and a half of the hounds only were in at the death; and several horses died during the chase. A revolution in hunting, however, has now taken place; and the rapidity of a good run makes it very like a race; so that a fox-hunter of the last century, could he now be present on a good day in Leicestershire, would, after the first burst, find himself alone—the dogs and horses far out of sight.

A larger breed of hounds, now passing into disuse, was employed till within the last few years for hunting the stag. This breed was the result of a cross between the fleet foxhound and the large old English or southern hound, now almost extinct. The Royal, the Derby, the Englefield, the New Forest, and the Darlington packs of staghounds were formerly celebrated; and during the reign of George III., a monarch who was devoted to the chase of the stag, several of the most tremendous runs on record took place; at some of which His Majesty, who was a daring horseman, was present. It often happened that out of a field of upwards of a hundred horsemen, not

more than from twelve to twenty were in at the death or capture of the stag. The following extract from the 'Sportsman's Cabinet' will give some idea of one of these hunts:—"The deer was liberated at the starting-post of Ascot Heath, and, after making Bagshot Park, proceeded, without head or double, over the open country through Finchamstead Woods, Barkham, Arborfield, Swallowfield, Mortimer, across the river Kennett, and over the intervening country to Tilehurst below Reading in Berkshire; where the deer was taken unhurt, after a most incredible and desperate run of four hours and twenty minutes—horsemen being thrown out in every part of the country through which they passed. One horse dropped dead on the field; another immediately after the chase, before he could reach the stable; and seven more within the week. Of such severity was this run, that tired horses in great danger, and others completely leg weary or broken down, were unavoidably left at various inns in different parts of the country." The humanity of such a hunt is very questionable indeed.

Of the old breeds of hounds for which our island was formerly celebrated, we may mention the talbot, the old English or southern hound, and the bloodhound.

The Talbot, the cognizance of the ancient house of Shrewsbury,* was a large hound of a white colour, with a large head, broad muzzle, and large pendulous ears. Colonel H. Smith thinks it to have been allied to the

* A magnificent MS. folio, in fine preservation, in the British Museum, formerly presented by the valiant Talbot to Margaret of Anjou, queen of Henry VI., represents, in the illuminated titlepage, the veteran warrior kneeling before the queen, in the act of presenting that very folio, with his dog in attendance.

white breed of St. Hubert's dogs, anciently of repute on the Continent.

It appears that there were two breeds of St. Hubert's hounds, a black and a white race: the black race was established in the Ardennes in the sixth century, and was brought thither by St. Hubert from the south of France, but is supposed to have been introduced originally by pilgrims from Palestine; subsequently the white race was brought from the same country, and was more prized than the black, which it exceeded in size; and though not introduced by St. Hubert was nevertheless named after the patron of hunting. A third breed of hounds, of considerable stature and with large ears, was brought from Palestine by St. Louis, about the middle of the thirteenth century. This breed was swift, bold, and vehement; the prevailing colour was rufous grey. A large red-haired breed of hounds was employed on the Continent in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries for hunting the wild boar and wolf.

With respect to the talbot, it appears to have merged into other breeds, and so to have become lost; if, indeed, it was really distinct from the old bloodhound.

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

The old English or southern hound, which is described by Whitaker, in his 'History of Manchester,' as the original breed of our island, is now very rarely to

be found in a state of purity. Some years since we saw a fine specimen in Lancashire. It was tall and robust, with a chest of extraordinary depth and breadth, with pendulous lips and deeply set eyes; the ears were large and long, and hung very low; the nose was broad, and the nostrils large and moist. The voice was deep, full, and sonorous. The general colour was black or brownish black, passing into tan about the muzzle and along the inside of the limbs. Shakspere's description of the hounds of Theseus, in the 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' is true to the letter as a delineation of this breed, with which the poet was doubtless well acquainted:—

> "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 dew;
> Crook-kneed, and dew-lapp'd like Thessalian bulls;
> Slow in pursuit, but match'd on mouth like bells,
> Each under each."

Among our forefathers, in the good old times, when the "simple plan" was in operation—viz. "that they may take who have the power, and they may keep who can," the bloodhound, or sleuth-hound of the borderers, was a dog in great request. Its exquisite delicacy of scent, its unwearied perseverance, its courage and power, rendered it extremely valuable. It was not only trained to the chase of the deer, but to be a hunter of men; and was employed in tracking fugitive felons, marauders, and political offenders, whom it would pursue with unflinching pertinacity for days together, over

> "Dry sandy heaths and stony barren hills,
> O'er beaten paths, with men and beasts distain'd,
> Unerring."

The breed in the possession of Mr. J. Bell, of Oxford-

Bloodhound.

street, supposed to be of great purity, is of a reddish tan, darker on the upper parts, and often passing into black on the back. The form is very robust, and the height at the shoulders is not less than twenty-eight inches. "The muzzle," says Mr. Bell, "is broad and full, the upper lip large and pendulous, the vertex of the head prominent; the expression stern, thoughtful, and noble; the breast broad, the limbs strong and muscular; the original colour is a deep tan with large black spots."

We may readily justify the employment of the bloodhound in tracking marauders, deer-stealers, and "lifters"

of cattle—especially in times when the land was lawless—but, to the disgrace of human nature, they were employed for other purposes. They were set on the track of fugitives after a lost battle, and were used in the furious wars between England and Scotland, when Wallace fought for freedom, and Bruce for a throne. Henry VIII. employed them in France, and Elizabeth in Ireland, when the Earl of Essex had no less than eight hundred of them in his army.

Formerly the chiefs and nobles of the border countries kept bloodhounds in all their castles and strongholds, and well has Sir Walter Scott depicted their mode of pursuit; as we read his animated description we fancy ourselves at the scene—we hear the bugle's notes—the cries of the men—the tramp of the horses, and the deep baying of the hounds as they thread the mazy way with undeviating accuracy. In his delineation of the "stark moss-trooper," Sir William of Deloraine, "good at need," he gives as proof of the warrior's merit, that he

> "By wily turns and desperate bounds
> Had baffled Percy's best bloodhounds."

And the same accomplished knight, his stern nature touched by sorrow at the sight of Sir Richard Musgrave slain, thus eulogizes his dead enemy—

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

*Lay of the Last Minstrel.*

In the same poem we have the following vivid description. The young heir of Branksome has lost his way in the forest—

> " ——— Starting oft, he journeyed on,
> And deeper in the wood is gone,
> For aye the more he sought his way,
> The farther still he went astray;
> Until he heard the mountains round
> Ring to the baying of a hound.
> And hark, and hark! the deep-mouthed bark
> Comes nigher still and nigher—
> Bursts on the path a dark bloodhound,
> His tawny muzzle track'd the ground,
> And his red eye shot fire."

Colonel H. Smith says, in reference to the bloodhound:—" This species is silent while following the scent, and thence easily distinguished from other hounds." On the contrary, an able writer in the 'Penny Cyclopædia' says that when in pursuit " the hound opens with a voice deep and sonorous, that may be heard down the wind for a very long distance." Indeed, if the bloodhound did not open with a deep voice, we cannot tell how those whom it pursued could be aware of the chase, and consequently endeavour to baffle pursuit. When in full sight of the dogs and men, all attempts at evading capture, except by force of arms, must be out of the question. Sir Walter Scott, in his Notes to the poem from which we have quoted, says—" Barbour informs us that Robert Bruce was repeatedly tracked by sleuth-dogs. On one occasion he escaped by wading a bowshot down a brook, and thus baffled the scent. The pursuers came up—

> " Rycht to the burn thai passyt ware,
> Bot the sleuth-hund made stenting thar

And waveryt lang time ta & fra,
That he na certain gate couth ga;
Till at the last Ason of Lorn
Perseuvit the hund the sleuth had loine."
*The Bruce*, book vii.

Cuban Blood hounds and Chasseur.

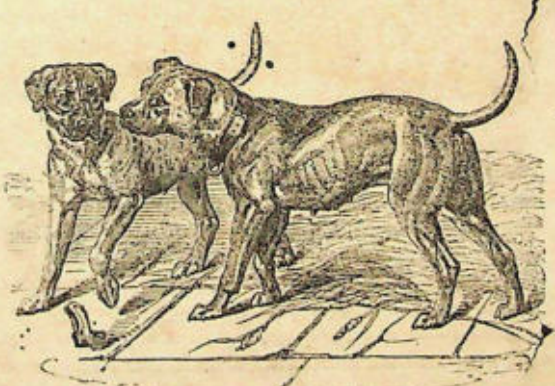
"A sure way of stopping the dog was to spill blood

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-Erne side, 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 farther. Wallace having in vain argued with him, in hasty anger struck off his head, and continued the retreat. When the English came up, their hound stayed upon the dead body." Surely in these instances the baying of the hound must have been heard.

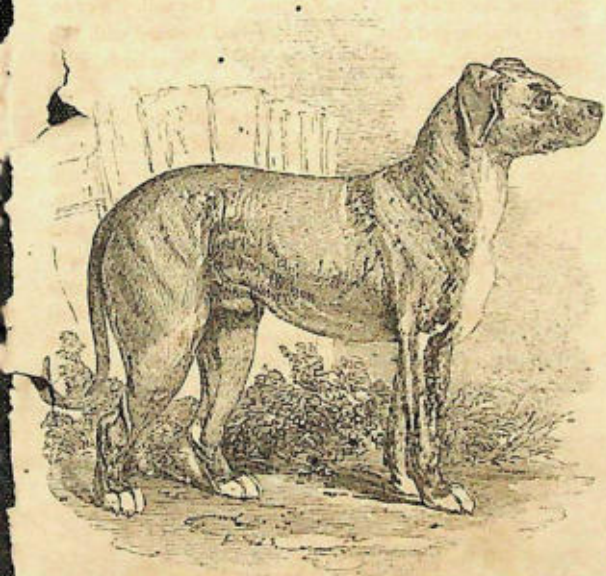
The bloodhound breed, according to Sir Walter Scott, was kept up by the Buccleuch family on their border estates till within the eighteenth century, and not without need. During the last century, when deer-stealing was very common, bloodhounds were kept by the rangers and park-keepers of all the large parks, and were employed successfully in detecting the poachers; and we find it recorded in the 'Sportsman's Cabinet,' about forty years since, that "the Thrapston Association for the prevention of felony in Northamptonshire have provided and trained a bloodhound for the detection of sheep-stealers. To demonstrate the unerring infallibility of this animal, a day was appointed for public trial. The person he was intended to hunt started in the presence of a great concourse of people, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, and at eleven the hound was

laid on. After a chase of an hour and a half, notwithstanding a very indifferent scent, the hound ran up to the tree in which he was secreted, at the distance of fifteen miles from the place of starting, to the admiration and perfect satisfaction of the very great number assembled on the occasion." To the present group has been referred by some naturalists a dog of Spanish descent termed the Cuban bloodhound. A hundred of these sagacious but savage dogs were sent, in 1795, from the Havanna to Jamaica, to extinguish the Maroon war, which at that time was fiercely raging. They were accompanied by forty Spanish chasseurs, chiefly people of colour, and their appearance and that of the dogs struck terror into the negroes. The dogs, muzzled and led in leashes, rushed ferociously upon every object, dragging along the chasseurs in spite of all their endeavours. Dallas, in his 'History of the Maroons,' informs us that General Walpole ordered a review of these dogs and the men, that he might see in what manner they would act. He set out for a place called Seven Rivers, accompanied by Colonel Skinner, whom he 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 general alighted. On his arrival, the commissioner (who had procured the dogs) having paid his respects, was desired to parade them. The Spaniards soon appeared at the end of a gentle acclivity drawn out in a line, containing upwards of forty men, with their dogs in front unmuzzled and held by cotton ropes. On receiving the command *fire*, they discharged their fusils 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, amid 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 expeditiously 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." This terrible exhibition produced the intended effect, the Maroons at once capitulated, and



Cuban Bloodhounds or Mastiffs.



Cuban Bloodhound or Mastiff.

were subsequently sent to Halifax, North America. We might enter, had we inclination, into many details tending to prove the courage and ferocity of these dogs, but such revolting narratives are not to our taste; yet are not the dogs to be condemned, but those who trained them to the vile purpose of hunting down the defenceless Indian or the runaway slave. Many discrepant accounts

respecting these Cuban bloodhounds have been published; some exaggerating their powers, others decrying them. We have had abundant opportunities of scrutinizing the specimens which from time to time have been kept in the Zoological Gardens, and we hesitate not to regard them as mastiffs rather than hounds, though they have not the heavy head and extremely pendulous lips of the English mastiff. Their colour is tawny, with black about the muzzle; the ears are comparatively small, but pendent; the muzzle is shorter, and the jaws thicker than in the hound, yet not so truncate as in the bulldog. The limbs are remarkably powerful, and the general contour is compact, indicating both activity and strength; the chest is very broad; their height at the shoulder is about two feet. In their disposition they are faithful and attached, and, unless irritated, very gentle; they make excellent guard-dogs, and will attack both the bull and the bear with determined resolution. It will be seen that in our arrangement of dogs we place these fine animals in the mastiff group.

There appears to exist a race of most beautiful hounds in Central Africa, of which Colonel (then Major) Denham brought over three, two males and one female, on his return to England from that country, and presented them to the then existing royal menagerie in the Tower, under the care of Mr. Cops. The colonel informed Mr. Cops that he had himself hunted the gazelle with them, and that they displayed great cunning, frequently quitting the circuitous line of scent for the purpose of cutting off a double, and recovering the scent again with ease. They would hit off, and follow a scent after the lapse of two hours from the time when the animal had

been on the spot; and this delicacy of nose had not escaped observation, for they were employed, like the English bloodhound, in tracing a flying enemy to his retreat. We cannot but regret that these dogs, which in symmetry and action were perfect models, were kept in confinement. What a change from scouring the plains of Africa in pursuit of the gazelle to a den in the Tower! No wonder that they never bred, or that their temper became spoiled, which was more particularly the case with the female.

We have hitherto said nothing of the pointer, the sportsman's favourite. The present pointer, of handsome form, is derived from a heavy dog, possessing the sense of smell in wonderful perfection, known as the old Spanish pointer, and decidedly related to the hound. This dog is now seldom seen; like the talbot or the old southern hound, which have merged into our modern foxhounds, the old Spanish dog has passed by degrees into the intelligent, vigorous, and active pointer, the praises of which are in every sportsman's mouth. We believe that a strain of the foxhound obtains in the modern breed, and that to this in a great degree their energy and activity (points deficient in the old Spanish dog) are owing. A well-bred pointer takes to its work almost, we may say quite, intuitively; of course a young dog requires checking, and to have the exuberance of its spirit moderated; but upon drawing near game it stands immoveable; with a similar instinct the setter crouches. Why should the pointer stand, or the setter crouch? Are these actions instinctive in the two dogs—or are they the results of original training, by which, repeated

generation after generation, the very nature of the animals has become modified? We think the latter; and yet there is much worth consideration in Mr. Bell's statement. This eminent zoologist says, "I have heard my father, a man of close observation and an enthusiastic sportsman, offer the opinion that the stand of the pointer and the crouching of the setter are but the natural start of surprise or interest which all dogs give when coming suddenly upon the scent or sight of their natural prey, modified, of course, by cultivation, and by transmission through many generations, each by cultivation improving upon the capabilities of the former." In opposition to this he refers to the instance of the celebrated pointing pig, broken in by Toomer, of the New Forest, the account of which is fully detailed by Daniel. This, indeed, was a singular circumstance, from which, being isolated, no data can be deduced; and the query arises,—do dogs generally start when coming upon the scent of their prey, and as it were recoil? We may be wrong, but we think not. Certainly the hound does not when he first gets upon the track of the fox or hare. Besides, the pointer backs his companion, and both, instead of rushing forward, continue to stand immoveable as statues. In Daniel's 'Rural Sports' is an engraving, after Gilpin, of two pointers, a black dog named Pluto, and a white bitch called Juno, which kept their point during the time in which Mr. Gilpin made the sketch of them, and which occupied an hour and a quarter: all this while they stood as if carved in marble, an instance of steadiness of nerve and muscular endurance most wonderful, and perhaps without a parallel. Still, however, the idea of

Mr. Bell is worth consideration; the point at issue being whether the propensity of this dog in the field to stand before his game be absolutely superadded to the original instinct of the animal, or merely a modification of it produced by discipline.

There is a breed of very handsome dogs called Dalmatian or coach dogs, of a white colour thickly spotted with black, which are classed among the hounds by Buffon, and also by Colonel Hamilton Smith; and though these dogs are not remarkable for fineness of scent and intelligence, the place assigned them by Buffon we think to be correct; our opinion, however, is contrary to that of Mr. Bell. The origin of this dog

African Hound.

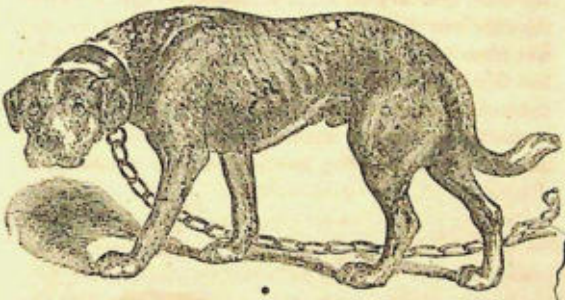
appears to be obscure: the French call it Brague de Bengale, and Colonel H. Smith believes it to be of Indian extraction; but this is not certain. The present dog is generally kept in our country as an appendage to the carriage, and is bred up in the stable with the horses; consequently it seldom receives that kind of trainin which is calculated to call forth its best qualities.

# CHAPTER IX.

## ON THE MASTIFF RACE AND THE TERRIERS.

We now enter upon a group of dogs distinguished by the shortness and the breadth of the head; this latter character resulting not from a corresponding development of the brain, but from the magnitude of the temporal muscles, which are attached to a bony ridge passing down the median line of the skull. The expression of the eyes is lowering; the jaws have enormous strength; the lips are pendulous; the limbs extremely muscular; and the general form thick-set and robust. This group comprehends the mastiff, the bulldog, and their allies. In sagacity and intelligence these dogs are not equal to the spaniel or shepherd's dog; but they possess indomitable courage, and have been from early times celebrated for their prowess in the combat. It is well known that the Romans exported fierce fighting dogs from England, which were matched with wild beasts or men in the amphitheatre, and by most writers these dogs have been regarded as mastiffs. Colonel H. Smith, however, seems to think that they were in reality bulldogs, of larger size than the present breed, there being at the time in which the Romans became masters of Britain but one breed of thick-muzzled dogs; and that the mastiff, originally from the cold regions of Central Asia, has been imported thence into Europe, and ultimately by the Cimbric Celtæ

into Britain. However this may be, certain it is that the mastiff is of old standing in our island, and has been long renowned for its great powers and courage. The English mastiff, when well grown, stands about thirty inches high at the shoulder; the head is thick, the lips pendulous, the ears small but drooping, and the aspect



Mastiff.

grave, stern, and even melancholy. Conscious of their great power, these dogs are quiet, and bear the petty annoyances of snarling curs with cool indifference; but when once roused to combat, they become terrible. Dr. Caius, a naturalist of the time of Elizabeth, who calls the mastiff Canis urcanus, notices its ferocity in combat, its sternness of aspect, its tenacity of tooth, and adds, "nec lupum, nec taurum, ursum, aut leonem reformidat." Stow gives us an account of an engagement between three lions and a mastiff, which took place in the presence of James I. One of the dogs being put into the den was soon disabled by the lion, which took it by the head and neck, and dragged it about. Another dog was

then let loose, and served in the same manner; but the third 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 its hold, and the lion, greatly exhausted in 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; the last survived, 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 different feeling animated Henry VII. when he ordered a mastiff to be hanged, because it had dared

Thibet Mastiff.

singly to engage with a lion, the sovereign of beasts! and when he had one of his falcons killed, because it had overcome an eagle! "Si ces deux faits sont vrais," says M. Blaze, "ils prouvent que Henri VII. était un sot." *

The reis a story related of a mastiff, in the reign of Elizabeth, when Lord Buckhurst was ambassador at the cou of Charles IX., which, unassisted, successively engaged a bear, a leopard, and a lion, and pulled them all down.

Though the mastiff has by no means the keen sense of smell which the hound possesses, it has a finer scent than most persons are aware of; and its hearing is acute. A dog of this breed chained to the premises, and never suffered to wander about, nor treated as a friend and companion, affords but a poor example of what the animal really is. Confinement spoils its temper, and cramps the noble qualities of its mind. We knew a dog of this kind (as purely bred as most in the present day), which, possessing immense strength and indomitable courage, was yet one of the gentlest of animals. He suffered the children of the house and even strange children to pull him about as they pleased; they might sit upon him, or pull his ears, and roughly too, as children will, and yet he never manifested anger or impatience by voice or action, but submitted quietly and good-humouredly; small dogs might snarl and snap at him, but he bore their petulance unmoved. This animal was the guardian of a manufactory, and he knew every person on the establishment. He would permit strangers to come in during the day, merely regarding them with an attentive gaze, but offering them no molestation. At night, when the gates

* "If these two stories are true, they prove that Henry VII. was a fool."

of the premises were closed, he seemed to assume a new character: he was then as fierce as he had been gentle during the day; he would not allow even the ordinary workmen to enter the yard, and several times seized men who attempted, on the strength of knowing him, to pass through, holding them till succour arrived.

A personal friend of the writer's, some time since, on a visit at a gentleman's house in the country, was taking a moonlight walk through the shrubbery and pleasure-grounds, when he was startled by a noise behind him; on turning his head, he perceived a large mastiff, which was ordinarily let loose as evening closed, and which had tracked him through the grounds. The dog with a fierce growl roughly seized him; our friend wisely deemed passive obedience and non-resistance the most prudent if not the most courageous part for him to play, and was unceremoniously led back through the grounds to the hall-door; here he was relieved by the master of the house. Subsequently assured that he had no cause to fear, he repeated his walk; he found the dog again at his side, but the animal walked quietly with him, and acknowledged in the usual way his words of conciliation. On these instances of sagacity (sagacity of a kind very different from that displayed by the shepherd's dog or the setter) there needs no comment.

The Thibet mastiff exceeds the English mastiff in size, and has a still more lowering expression of countenance, from the skin of the eyebrows forming a fold, running to the sides of the face, and from the thick pendulous lips. These huge dogs are the watch-dogs of the table-land of the Himalaya mountains about Thibet. The body is covered with rugged hair, of a black colour,

passing into tawny red about the limbs, over the eyes, and on the muzzle; and the tail is well furred, and arched over the back. To the Bhoteas these dogs are strongly attached, but are stated to be very savage towards strangers, and especially Europeans, whom they attack with great ferocity. Several inferior breeds exi[illegible] in other parts of the Himalaya chain; in fact, this bre[illegible] degenerates if removed to a milder climate; it does not prosper even in Nepâl. A pair brought over to this country by Dr. Wallich, and presented to the Zoological Society, died soon after their arrival. A few years since, we saw a splendid pair in the Jardin des Plantes, at Paris. The Thibet mastiff is noticed by Marco Polo. The Bhoteas, who possess the finest breed of these dogs, "are a singular race, of a ruddy copper colour, indicating the bracing air which they breathe; rather short, but of an excellent disposition. Their clothing is adapted to the cold climate they inhabit, and consists of fur and woollen cloth. The men till the ground and keep sheep, and, at certain seasons, come down to trade, bringing borax, tincal, and musk for sale. They sometimes penetrate as far as Calcutta. On these occasions the women remain at home with the dogs, and the encampment is watched by the latter."

To the Cuban mastiff we have already paid some attention.

The term ban-dog appears to be applicable to any of the fierce animals of the present section, which are, in ordinary cases, kept chained or secured in kennels. Bewick, however, expressly applies it to a dog of which he gives an excellent figure, and which he states to differ from the mastiff in being lighter, more active and vigilant,

but not so large and powerful; its muzzle, besides, is not so heavy, and it possesses in some degree the scent of the hound. Its hair is described as being rather rough, and generally of a yellowish grey, streaked with shades of a black or brown colour. It is ferocious, and full of energy. Bewick says that this dog is seldom to be seen in the present day. We have, however, more than once had occasion to notice varieties of the mastiff so closely agreeing with Bewick's figure and description, as to convince us that he took both these from nature.

One of the dogs of this kind which we knew belonged to a man living near Manchester. It was intelligent, and very much attached to its master; but very savage, and not to be trusted by strangers. Its attack was sudden and impetuous; and once to offend it was to make it an unforgiving foe. On one occasion its master, to show its attachment to himself and its courage in defending him, having secured it properly, asked us to pretend to strike him: we did so. The fury and the struggles of the dog to get at us may be conceived, but can scarcely be described, and dearly should we have paid for our presumption had it broken its fastenings. Previously to that time we had been on friendly terms with the animal; ever afterwards it strove to attack us, and we never ventured near the house without an assurance that the dog was chained up.

Mr. Bell, in his 'History of British Quadrupeds,' does not notice this breed; perhaps because it is not pure. The individual to which we have alluded appeared as if between the mastiff and bulldog, crossed with the drover's dog. This, however, is only a supposition. Its master regarded it as identical with Bewick's ban-dog; and cer-

tainly nothing could be closer than it was to the figure he has given.

Of all the dogs of this section, none surpass in obstinacy and ferocity the bulldog. This fierce creature is smaller than the mastiff, but more compactly formed; the breast is broad, the chest deep, the loins narrow, the tail slender and arched up, and, with the exception of the head and neck, the figure approximates to that of the greyhound, the limbs being, however, shorter and more robust. The head is broad and thick, the muzzle short and deep, the jaws strong, and the lower jaw often advances, so that the inferior incisor teeth overshoot the upper. The ears are short and semi-erect, the nostrils distended, the eyes scowling, and the whole expression calculated to inspire terror. Of the brutal use to which this dog was formerly, nay, recently applied, we shall say nothing: all have heard of the barbarous custom of bull-baiting, so common in some countries, and but lately abolished in England; and all are aware of the manner in which this dog attacks his enemy, and how tenaciously he maintains his hold.

In all its habits and propensities, the bulldog is essentially gladiatorial—it is a fighting dog, and nothing else: its intelligence is very limited; and though we have known dogs of this breed attached to their masters, they exhibited, even in their feelings of attachment, an apathy, in perfect contrast to the Newfoundland, the watch-dog, or the spaniel. These latter dogs delight to accompany their master in his walks, and scour the fields and lanes in the exuberance of delight; the bulldog skulks at its master's heels, and regards with a suspicious glance everything and everybody that passes by; nor, indeed, is it

safe to approach the animal, for it often attacks without the slightest provocation.

A cross breed between the bulldog and the terrier is celebrated for spirit and determination.

The Corsican and Spanish bulldogs closely resemble English breed, but are larger. A Spanish bulldog, which we had very recently an opportunity of examining, was certainly the most powerfully formed dog we have ever seen. In stature it was between the English bulldog and mastiff, but of massive build, with thick muscular limbs, tremendous breadth of chest, and an awful head. It was very gentle, excepting when urged to make an attack, when its ferocity knew no bounds.

It has been usual to consider the pug-dog as a degenerate variety of the bulldog, but we doubt the correctness of this theory. It has, indeed, somewhat the aspect of the bulldog on a miniature scale; but the similarity is more in superficial appearance than in reality. The pug is a little round-headed, short-nosed dog, with a preternatural abbreviation of the muzzle, and with a tightly twisted tail. We cannot help considering it as a specimen of hereditary malformation. Not so the bulldog, in which the bones of the skull and the temporal muscles are finely developed, and in which the muzzle and head are in perfect harmony.

The pug-dog is timid, and by no means remarkable for intelligence. Formerly it was in great esteem as a pet, but is now little valued, and not often kept.

We now come to a group, of which the terrier may be regarded as the typical example. Several breeds of these spirited dogs exist in our island, all celebrated for vigour, intelligence, boldness, and irrepressible ardour

in the destruction of the otter, the fox, the badger, the rat, &c. They bite keenly and hesitate not to attack any enemy. The different breeds of these dogs, which are nowhere found in such perfection as in the British Islands, may be reduced to three, viz., the smooth terrier, the rough wire-haired Scotch terrier, and the long-haired, short-legged terrier of the Isle of Skye. All probably all are descended from one original race, of great antiquity, brought over by some of the earliest colonists of our island. The smooth terrier varies in colour; some are black with tanned limbs and muzzle, a tanned spot over each eye, and a black palate; others are white. The head is carried high, the nose is sharp, the chest broad and the body compact and vigorous. The wire-haired terrier is shorter in the limbs, rather more robustly made, and generally of a white or sandy colour. The Isle of Skye terrier is covered with long coarse hair; its limbs are very short, but muscular; its back is long, its ears erect; the eyes large and bright; the muzzle short and pointed. The colour is sandy brown, reddish, or white. The latter breed is much used for otter-hunting on the wild shores of the western isles of Scotland, and though the dogs are of small size, their courage is equal to any encounter, while from their peculiarity of form they are able to enter the holes between the rocks, into which a larger animal could not manage to force its way. The following description of an otter-hunt in the Hebrides will serve to show the spirit of these admirable dogs:—"It was a fine morning in September. Landing on one of the islands from a boat, the terriers were loosened from their couples, and left to their own instinct to find the otter's den. After

scrambling a considerable distance over masses of rock and loose pebbles, on a remarkably wild and beautiful shore, the dogs, by their eagerness of manner and incessant barking, convinced the party the game was within scent. The gentlemen, with guns cocked, then arranged themselves in convenient situations for intercepting the passage of the otter, should he attempt to take refuge in the sea; some mounted on the tops of rocks, others stood near the water, or in the boat which had accompanied the party from the landing-place. The keepers in the mean-time assisted the dogs in their efforts to discover the lurking-hole of the prey. One of them, a thickset Highlander, displayed very considerable enthusiasm. Addressing the dogs in Gaelic, he set to work with all the fervour of the animals themselves, tearing away large stones from the hole, and half burying himself to enable the dogs to come at their object; they in the mean time ran about, yelping in the greatest excitement, and scratching at every aperture between the stones. While this action was going on at one hole, a large otter poked his head out of another, and looked about with as much astonishment as his countenance was capable of expressing, until catching a glimpse of one of his enemies he suddenly retreated from the light. This incident having been observed, the attention of the party was transferred to the retreat thus betrayed. A large stone was first uplifted and hurled upon the top of the pile, with the intention of either forcing the inmate out by the shock, or of breaking some of the stones. Then a pole was thrust into the crevice, which was enlarged so as to admit a dog. One of the canine besiegers immediately rushed in, and after a few seconds spent in grappling

with his antagonist, an otter was dragged forth, at whom the whole body of dogs ran a tilt. His defence was most heroic, many of his assailants exhibiting evidences of the power of his bite. The battle was continued for several minutes; and to those who delight in the display of animal ferocity, the noise of enraged combatants, the sight of wounds and death, must have afforded an enjoyment. Dogs and otter, involved in one compact group, rolled down a precipitous ledge of crags, at the bottom of which, the power of numbers prevailing, the poor otter yielded up his life, dying very hard, as it is called." The otter is in fact a fearful opponent, and the dogs receive most terrible wounds, which, however, do not daunt their inflexible courage for an instant. All have heard of the Pepper and Mustard breeds celebrated by Sir Walter Scott; and most are familiar with the instructions of Dandie Dinmont respecting the mode of training them.*

A brace of terriers usually accompanies every pack of foxhounds, for the sake of unearthing the game, an act requiring no little courage and resolution. Mr. Daniel, in his 'Rural Sports,' gives the following account of the ferocity and affection of a terrier bitch:—After a very severe burst of more than an hour, a fox was by Mr. Daniel's hounds run to earth at Heney Dovehouse, near Sudbury, in Suffolk; the terriers were lost, but as the fox went to ground in view of the headmost hounds, and it was the concluding day of the season, it was resolved to dig him. Two men from Sudbury brought two terriers for that purpose, and, after considerable labour, the

* 'Guy Mannering.'

hunted fox was got and given to the hounds. While they were breaking the fox, one of the terriers slipt back into the earth, and after more digging a bitch fox was taken out. The terrier had killed two cubs in the earth, but three others were saved from her fury. These owner of the bitch begged to have, saying he should her suckle them. This was laughed at as impossible; the man, however, was positive, and had the cubs: the bitch fox was carried away and turned into an earth in another part of the country.

Mr. Daniel then relates that, as the terrier had behaved so well at earth, he some days afterwards bought her, with the cubs which she had fostered. The bitch continued to suckle them regularly, and reared them until they were able to shift for themselves: what adds to the singularity, Mr. Daniel observes, is that the terrier's whelp was nearly five weeks old, and the cubs could just see, when this exchange of progeny was made. He also states that a circumstance partly similar to the foregoing occurred in 1797, at the Duke of Richmond's, at Goodwood, where five foxes were nurtured and suckled by two foxhound bitches.

The same author states, that in April, 1784, his hounds found at Bromfield-Hall wood. By some accident the whipper-in was thrown out, and after following the track two or three miles, gave up the pursuit. As he returned home, he came through the fields near the cover where the fox was found. A terrier that was with him whined and was very busy at the foot of a pollard oak, and he dismounted, supposing that there might be a hole at the bottom harbouring a polecat or some small vermin. No hole could he discern. The dog was eager

to get up the tree, which was covered with twigs from the stem to the crown, and upon which was visible the dirt left by something that had gone up and down the boughs. The whipper-in lifted the dog as high as he could, and the terrier's eagerness increased. He climbed the tree, putting up the dog before him instant the terrier reached the top the man seize something, and, to his surprise, found chapped with a bitch fox, which he secured, as we four cubs. The height of the tree was twenty-three feet; nor was there any mode for the fox to go to or from her young, except the outside boughs: the tree had no bend to render the path easy. Three of the cubs were bagged, and bred up tame to commemorate this extraordinary case: one of them belonged to Mr. Leigh, and used to run tame about the coffee-room at Wood's Hotel, Covent Garden.

Colonel H. Smith says, in reference to the daring and spirit of the terrier, "It is often noticed in India that, when the bulldog pauses, British terriers never hesitate to surround and grapple with the hyæna, the wolf, and even the panther." With this courage, the terrier is at the same time very affectionate and intelligent, and makes an admirable house-dog. We have seen one guard his master's coat or hat or gloves during his absence, and prevent every one from touching a single article. There are many degenerate mongrel races, in which more or less of the terrier blood prevails; as in some of the drovers' and butchers' dogs, which are often very savage.

To the present group of dogs may be added the old-fashioned turnspit, of mongrel origin; the hairless Bar-

bary dog, also a mongrel; and the skulking mongrel dogs
Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. So valuable to the
vages of those wild and dreary regions are these
imals, that in times of famine they sacrifice the oldest
oman of the tribe, and become cannibals rather than
n single dog. Dogs, say they, catch otters;
are good-for nothing! The dogs of these
ges are of a very mixed race, from various breeds of
European origin; they are strong, fierce, and cunning.
With them the natives guard their huts, hunt otters, or
catch sleeping or wounded birds. Those of Patagonia
have much resemblance to the lurcher; while those of
the Fuegian Indians somewhat resemble terriers, or a
mixture between a terrier and shepherd's dog. They
bark furiously at strangers, and keep a most vigilant
watch.

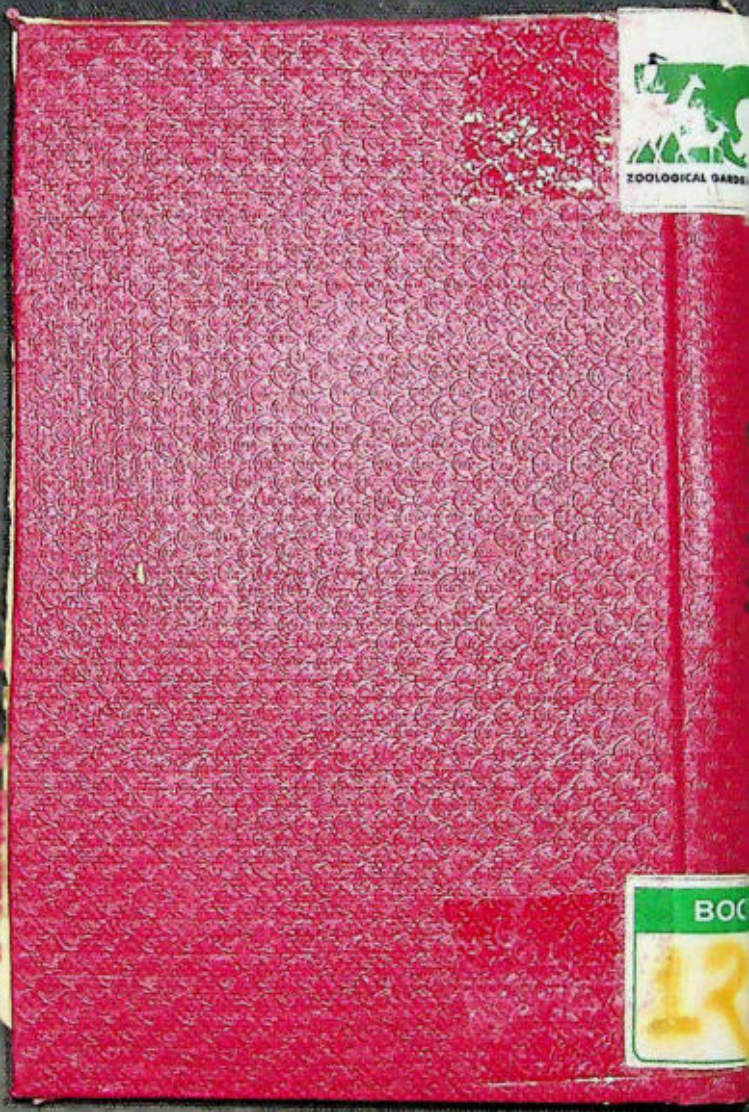
Here, then, we conclude our history of the Dog, an animal given to man to be his assistant and friend. To his service is the dog devoted; by him are its very instincts modified; to him it looks up for encouragement, and his good word or kind caress throws it into a rapture of delight. The dog enjoys to walk out with its master; listens for his footstep, it whines in his absence, and greets his return. Fidelity, courage, and intelligence are its attributes. It is the only animal which from a spontaneous impulse allies itself to the human race, shares with equal devotion the cottage of the peasant and the palace of the noble, and claims a return of the attachment it manifests, a return which every well-bred mind will willingly accord.

In conclusion, we may, perhaps, not improperly add the following characteristics of a high-bred dog, whatever

the race be to which it belongs:—A large full eye, bold and sparkling, not linear or oblique; a neck well raised from the bust; high shoulders thrown back, with the humeral joints prominently marked; the breast broad; the chest deep; the loins arched, broad, and muscular; the tail gradually tapering and rushlike; the limbs clean, sinewy and firm; the feet catlike and rounded; the [illegible] or length from heel to foot, short; the thighs muscular and set back; no superabundant loose skin about the body; no thick joints, disproportionate to muscle. These are points that every well-bred dog, from the shepherd's faithful assistant to the finest setter, hound, or pointer must exhibit. They are the characteristics of strength and energy.

THE END.

London: Printed by W. Clowes & Sons, Stamford Street


ZOOLOGICAL GARDE
BOO
12