



## CHAPTER IX.

### THE IRISH TERRIER.

“THE Irish terrier is a cheap dog, is it not?” said a friend to me the other day. “I do not know about its cheapness,” I replied; “but if you have a really good one it will bring a hundred pounds any time you want to sell it.” And such is the fact. A first-class Irish terrier is worth almost as much as a fox terrier, and as a so-called marketable canine commodity ranks only after the latter, the collie, and the St. Bernard in value. He is a favourite dog, hence his worth.

His popularity has only come about during the past fifteen years or so; dog shows have been his fortune, and the Irish Terrier Club has no doubt assisted him to his high position. It was as far back as about 1882 that I was judging dogs at Belfast, and was then very much struck with the extraordinary character possessed by sundry Irish terriers which were brought into the ring; they included Mr. J. N. R. Pim's Erin, perhaps the best

all-round specimen of her race that ever lived, her progeny Poppy and Playboy, and there were several other typical terriers whose names do not occur to me. I became enamoured of the variety, and then prognosticated a popular future for them should they only breed fairly true to character and type, and be produced with ears that did not require cutting. That I was not far wrong is plainly in evidence, as the Irish terrier must certainly be placed as the second terrier in popularity at the time I write.

The early volumes of the "Kennel Club Stud Book" did not contain special classes for Irish terriers, they being grouped with the wire-haired fox terriers. However, in 1876 they had a division for themselves, in which there were nineteen entries, five of which were owned by Mr. G. Jameson, of Newtownards. To prove how the variety has increased since then, attention need only be called to the two hundred and twenty names of Irish terriers that appear in the most recent volume of the Stud Book, published in 1893. In 1878 and 1879 Birmingham first arranged classes for Irish terriers, and in the latter year, when there were fifteen entries, Messrs. Carey, W. Graham, A. Krehl, and G. R. Krehl were amongst the exhibitors in the two divisions provided.

Before the dates named we look in vain for classes for Irish terriers at the leading shows out of

Ireland. Such dogs were then, excepting by a few persons who knew them and kept them in their native country, considered mongrels, and so no doubt they would have continued had not their gameness and general excellence been suddenly discovered by the general public. That they are admirable companions cannot be denied, and one I have in the house now, a relative of champions, and by no means a bad-looking dog himself, is about as perfect a specimen of a dog of the London suburbs as can be imagined. But perhaps more of him anon, and any further remarks of my own shall be preceded by the opinions of one or two gentlemen who have given more attention to the Irish terrier than I could possibly have done, but that they are more ardent admirers of him I will not allow.

Mr. W. J. Cotton, of Blessington, co. Wicklow, who has bred and kept Irish terriers for a great number of years, writes characteristically of their origin as follows :

“To Sir Walter Raleigh, through potato skins, the Irish cottier, and hardships, we owe the Irish terrier. When Ireland was more thickly inhabited, there were small parties of cottiers grouped together ; each had his cabbage and potato garden badly fenced, and each family spent the greater portion of their time round the turf hearth, watching the



murphies boil. The circle was incomplete, and liable to be disturbed in their beloved indolence, without a dog, which was hissed on when the neighbouring pig or goat invaded the boundary of the estate. A large dog required too much support ; one with some spice of pluck was, however, required in order to enforce its authority. The combination of Pat, pig, and potatoes, was conducive of rats—and rats of sport and rivalry. As such terriers were indiscriminately bred, and all ran wild, the dog with the most pluck exercised the largest influence on the breed.

“ We can thus imagine the pups bearing the greatest resemblance to any particular champion were selected ; hence in this respect the survival of the fittest. During the day, as described, these terriers lay at the fire, and at night, though the pig might be given a corner of the cabin, the terrier was shown the outside of the door to guard the larder, which was the potato pit, look after the general safety of the estate, and to find a bed in the ditch or butt of the haycock. Generations of this treatment developed them into the ‘ pine knots ’ they are.

“ Driving along the roads any hour of the night, this state of things you will find still to exist, and it is a matter of wonder how the inmates sleep and quite ignore the choruses of howls on moonlight

nights. I believe myself that the Irish garrisons distributed over the country the bulldog, which was used for crossing. As many native fanciers say, to this day, there is nothing like a "cras" of the bull, and I think the Irish terriers' disposition largely shows it. You find them still of all types, long in leg, short on leg, and long in body, and crooked in legs, and of all colours, red, black, blue, brindle, and those with tan legs often have the best coats. I know at the present time brindles showing more of the modern type as regards length of leg and general conformation than the other colours.

"There is a glen, Imaal, in the Wicklow mountains that has always been, and still is, justly celebrated for its terriers. It would be hard to specify their colour in particular—the wheaten in all shades to that of bright red. In Kerry I think the black blue is most prevalent; quite black very uncommon, and I hardly ever saw a good specimen that colour. Mr. Chas. Galway, of Waterford, the breeder of the celebrated greyhound Master McGrath, for years, long before the Irish terrier came into fashion, always kept and bred the variety, and I am told there was no getting one from him. I am also informed the coats of his terriers were rather inclined to curl, and that the dogs themselves were undeniably game.

“ The father of the present pedigree family was Killiney Boy, bred by Mr. Burke, of Queen’s-street, Dublin. He passed from him to a Mr. Flannigan, residing at Castlenock, which place was purchased by Mr. Donnegan, Dane-street, Dublin, who found Killiney Boy running about deserted. The dog was duly adopted, and afterwards given to Mr. Howard Waterhouse, with whom he died a short time ago ; his dam was a rough black and tan bitch, the type now accepted as the Welsh terrier, hence the black and tan puppies so often found in the strains descended from him.” It has been said that Killiney Boy was worried and almost eaten by a litter of puppies of which he was the sire.

Mr. C. J. Barnett, of Hambleden, whose name is a household word in connection with Irish terriers, says : “ There is no doubt that the Irish terrier was the common terrier of Ireland a century ago, and is to this day the friend and companion of the native. Before railways were introduced, interbreeding in certain localities caused a type which might have varied slightly in different districts, and as colour was a minor consideration, we so often find puppies even to the present day black and tan, grey or brindle in colour. This does not show bad breeding, but rather the contrary, to continue the colour through so many generations, for these dogs,

like the Welsh ponies, no matter whatever they are crossed with, appear to perpetuate their peculiar characteristics. I have heard it stated that the pure Irishman was originally a large terrier, and to reduce the size a cross with a Manchester terrier was used, hence the black and tan puppies that are so often produced.

“I am happy to say I cannot find the slightest foundation for this statement; I have myself tried such a cross carefully and it quite failed, and I am convinced it would take years to breed out the black and tan strain, with its sleek coat, and get back to the somewhat rugged outline and water-proof jacket of the Irish terrier.

“At an early Irish show, in 1874, there were classes given for Irish terriers under 9lb. weight, clearly showing that small terriers were fashionable then. In my rambles through Ireland I have generally asked for the man who kept the best terriers in the village, and, on hearing where he was, I went to see his dogs. He was always anxious to show me not only his own but those of his neighbours as well. I have seen good terriers which would get a prize at many of our English shows, but which were kept so out of sight, partly through fear of the ‘corner boys,’ that resident fanciers who regularly show were ignorant of their

existence. These were owned by cottiers in the small towns and villages. I noticed that the majority of such dogs had a few grey or black hairs in their coats, but as a rule they were inclined to be a light red in colour and very hard in texture ; the ears are also larger as a rule than is fashionable in England, but well carried.

“ At a small public house near Sion Mills, Strabane, is an Irish terrier dog, now 16 years of age, not at all the fashionable type, as he is very low on the leg and rather thick in front, but he has a charming head, with a most intelligent expression, and a good pair of ears. Wherever the Irish terrier may have got his type, there is no denying his real native expression and general characteristics, which have made him so popular in England.

“ The foundations of the present generation of show terriers are nearly all descended from Mr. Waterhouse's Killiney Boy, and it is a difficult matter to find one that has not some drop of his blood in his veins. The red or yellow are now considered the correct colour, and the dark puppies are usually destroyed, but as the dam of Killiney Boy was a rough black and tan, colour is merely a question of fashion. When red puppies are born in the same litter as black and tans, the former are nearly always a good bright red ; but the black and tan have the



better coats, invariably as hard as pin wire. I am by no means certain that by not using the latter to breed from we are losing the hard, wiry coats, and brighter red colour; and were it not for the art of trimming many of our winning terriers would have coats almost as shaggy as are found on some mountain sheep.

“ When Irish terriers were first shown it was the fashion to crop their ears to a point, making them look very sharp. As they were often used as fighting dogs in the good old days, this might have been of some service, but of late years a strong feeling has grown up against it, and acting on the advice of the Irish Terrier Club, the Kennel Club passed a rule that no cropped Irish terrier born since Dec. 31, 1889, can compete at shows under their rules.

“ Although nearly all our best terriers are, as already stated, descended from Killiney Boy, many trace their pedigree back to a union of that dog with a bitch named Erin, bought by Mr. W. Graham, of Belfast, before being shown at Dublin in 1879. This bitch was perhaps the best Irish terrier ever seen, and I very much doubt if any terrier of to-day is her superior, if her equal. Both Killiney Boy and Erin were cropped, but in their first litter there was a puppy born whose ears were so good that they were allowed to remain as nature made

them. This puppy was afterwards named Play Boy ; the others in the litter were Poppy, Pagan II., Gerald, Pretty Lass, with Peggy, who later was dam of Garryford. This must be acknowledged as a most extraordinary litter, and such a one has seldom been produced at one time.

" Erin was afterwards mated with another dog named Paddy II., and Garryowen and Glory were two of their puppies, and a bitch named Jess, who, put to Killiney Boy, threw a dog called Gripper. The latter was not successful at the stud, and bitches by him when put to dogs by either Killiney Boy or dogs descended from him, are very apt to throw black and tan, brindle, or grey.

" Of the earlier terriers none came up to Erin, who, bar her feet and cropped ears, was nearly perfect, and, until her own celebrated litter, was unrivalled. Mr. W. Graham, Newtownbreda, who has bred and owned a large number of winners, and is one of the leading authorities on the variety, is of opinion that she was the best Irish terrier he has yet seen.

" The competition between the brother and sister, Play Boy and Poppy, was always very keen, the bitch being cropped ; but the dog carried a pair of beautiful ears. Poppy was the richer in colour, and when young had a very keen and intelligent

expression. Play Boy possessed the more substance, but his eyes were somewhat too full, which made him look somewhat quiet and hardly sharp enough.

“ Play Boy was not a success at the stud, though he sired a dog named Bogie Rattler, owned by myself, who took after him in looks and good ears, but was lower on the leg, more cloddy, and not of Play Boy’s quality. Bogie mated with Biddy III., by Gripper and Cora (drop ears), produced first Champion Bachelor, and, in the next litter, Benedict, which I sold to Mr. Graham. Benedict became the most celebrated stud dog of the day, for he is sire or grandsire of more winners than any other Irish terrier.

“ Bachelor was very successful in the show ring, and took after his sire and grandsire in having a good pair of ears. He had also a very hard coat, of good colour, yellow tipped with red, a long neck, which was very muscular, and a well-shaped head, which never grew too thick ; his hind quarters were rather short, and his shoulders somewhat coarse, the latter no doubt caused by the amount of work he did. Benedict was a darker colour, with a lot of coat on his fore quarters, but little on his loins or hind quarters, and of rather a lighter make than Bachelor. It may interest my readers to know that in the litter which included Bachelor there were three red, one

grey, and five rough black and tan coloured puppies, and in that in which Benedict was produced, there were three red and five rough black and tan in hue.

“A noted rival of Bachelor’s on the show bench was Mr. Graham’s Extreme Carelessness (afterwards sold to Mr. Graves, of Liverpool), a bitch that when a puppy was almost black, or rather, nearly every hair was more black than yellow. At four years of age the tips of a few hairs only were black, and two years ago, just before she died, I saw the old bitch in Ireland, looking very fit and well, but of a beautiful yellow-red colour, and entirely free from any black tinge. She was given back to Mr. Graham after she had finished her show career. Extreme Carelessness was cropped, her head rather heavy, and she had a slight slackness behind the shoulders, otherwise she was a charming bitch of great character and of good quality. She and Bachelor had many hard struggles for ‘specials,’ their successes being about equal.

“Erin, two years after her celebrated litter, again visited Killiney Boy, and threw a bitch, Droleen, who, put to a long-headed dog named Michael, by Pagan II., a grandson of both Killiney Boy and Erin, threw for her owner, Mr. E. A. Wiener, the best dog since Bachelor’s days, Brickbat by name, who has had a most successful show

career, winning the Challenge Cup given by the Irish Terrier Club twelve times, without once being defeated, and finally he secured it outright.

“Brickbat is unfortunately cropped, and his expression requires greater smartness; he is rather too big, and has a mere apology of a stern. Otherwise this excellent terrier is pretty nearly perfect.

“Poppy, to the best of my recollection, only bred one good puppy, called Poppy II., very like her dam, but of a lighter build, and too leggy. I think the above a rough outline of the earlier generation of Irish terriers, bringing them down to the present time, for, although Brickbat has retired from the show bench, he is still alive and vigorous, and in Mr. Wardle’s studio the other day he looked quite fresh as he was standing for his picture.

“Although so popular on the show bench, it is as a companion that the Irish terrier has won his way into the hearts of those who own a dog for the house and to keep down vermin. I am glad to say that the show bench has not yet spoiled their good qualities; although many are ‘kennel fools,’ this is their misfortune, not their fault. I have entered my terriers to all kinds of vermin, except otter, at that they have not had the chance; but one small terrier, bred by a friend from my dogs and given to Mr. Harry Clift, when hunting the otter hounds he



kept at Newbury, Berks, was one of the gamest little terriers he ever owned, almost too keen, and quite fearless.

“I remember turning out a badger to see if Bachelor, when he was under a year old, would seize and hold it. At first they fought until almost tired out, then the dog got the badger by the cheek and there held him until they were both quite exhausted. The badger earths in our Buckinghamshire chalk hills are not large, but run very deep, often 16ft. to 18ft., so one cannot dig, and it is little short of cruelty to put a terrier in, as he may get blocked; it is too deep to hear a sound, and Irish terriers are not noisy enough, fighting and taking their punishment in silence, nor do they ‘bay’ their game like other terriers. I have often run two of my terriers, Boundary and Birthright, into small earths, and found them of no use, as we could not hear where they were, unless the badger grunted or they whined, and they have come out fearfully mauled and bitten.

“I accounted for one fox with an Irish terrier, and this was by accident, as I did not think the dog would kill it in less than half a minute or so, but he rolled it over, bit it through the brisket, and the fox was dead before I had time to get the dog off.

“It is in the water that Irish terriers excel, as they take to it as naturally as a duck, and as a

rule retrieve well therefrom. I have a bitch that will dive many yards after a rat, or rather run in shallow water with her head under, trying to grab it. She will also, if about to kill in the river and the rat dives, dive under and kill; but often she has to leave go and come up for breath, when the rat sinks. In clear water I have seen her do this, and afterwards get the rat up, so there is no doubt she often kills under water.

“My terriers sometimes spend a day in digging out a rat; they go in hammer and tongs, and make a great show of having it out at once, but there is a method in their madness, as they keep an eye on the bolt holes, and after a vigorous scratch, jump up every now and then to see if the rat is trying to escape at the holes either above ground or those below the water line.

“The Irish terrier is of little use in rabbit shooting; it is dangerous for the dogs, as they are too near the same colour as the rabbit, and as a rule run mute. I myself have more than once put up the gun at one of the terriers, mistaking it for a hare. They are also too large to penetrate the rabbit runs in the brambles, and the meuses in our white-thorn laid hedgerows often check them. I have killed ten couples in a day by blocking the holes up and hunting the rabbits down. Irish terriers are keen

enough and dead game, try their hardest to kill, but much as I love them I am compelled to say that they are not so good for rabbiting as beagles or small fox terriers, chiefly on account of their size and colour.

“I have seen it stated that an Irish terrier could catch a hare; so it perhaps might if the hare had a trap to a leg, or was sick and poorly, but as there are some hares that a greyhound cannot kill on their own ground, it is not likely an Irish terrier could run down even an ordinary hare. Nor is it part of his duty to do so. Here is an account of a trial or two between an Irish terrier and a fox terrier noted for its skill in rabbit coursing:

“We slipped them in a stubble field. Just at the end the hare stopped to pick her run, and was out of sight when the terrier got through. The next slip was on a fallow, the hare having about ten yards start, at the end of the field there was a considerable slope up-hill. After ‘puss’ had got about 150 yards ahead, we saw her look round and wait until the terriers got to within a yard or so, and then jump on one side and quietly jog away out of sight.

“I do not know a better companion for the man or woman who only keeps one dog than an Irish

terrier, as he is easily trained, and in the house is most affectionate and thoroughly cleanly. To see him play with children, or guard them, is a pleasure. I have had some scores of Irish terriers, and I never yet saw one turn on or snap at a child. I had six out with me one day, and called at a friend's house where a children's party was being held. The dogs ran on the tennis lawn, and the little ones caught them and rolled them over. One dog, recently bought, had always been kennelled until he came to me, so I was afraid he might resent being pulled about, as he was of rather a quick temper, but to my surprise he enjoyed the romp, which was more than some of the mothers of the children did."

Mr. Barnett does not allude at length to the natural tendency some of the Irish terriers have to retrieve and fetch and carry. Barney, my dog in the house at Brixton, is never happier than when bringing the daily paper into the sitting-room from downstairs, where the boy has left it. A curious habit, too, he has. He may be waiting at the gate, and, seeing me in the distance, he will pick up any little piece of newspaper he finds in the roadway, and fetch it, though a mere scrap, but brought so tenderly between the lips as to leave not the slightest mark or dampness.

Barney, however, excelled himself one day when he brought into the house a teacup containing an egg. The former was carried by the rim, and carefully deposited into the hands of my house-keeper, the egg uncracked, the feat a record. One of the neighbours had given them to the dog, who evidently thought he could not do better with the presents than hand them over to his best friend. He was never trained to retrieve and fetch and carry; the accomplishment is a natural one.

I can also speak personally of the capabilities of the Irish terrier as a water dog, for I have seen puppies at four months old swim across a strong stream fifty yards wide, follow the older ones hunting, and as keen "on rats" as the fully grown dogs could possibly be. These juveniles would also kill rabbits, and generally their precocity was quite astonishing. But it must be borne in mind that these young "Irishmen" had not been reared in kennels, they, on the contrary, having a free range in which to play, and where they could hunt either rats or rabbits when so inclined.

Mention may be made here of an Irish terrier who, perhaps, rejoiced in the name of Rags. Anyhow, he was a performer on the stage, his great feat being turning somersaults, which he did backwards, and, as a variety, turned "double somersaults," the latter



I fancy about as difficult a feat as any dog ever attempted and performed successfully.

Before proceeding to the description and points of the Irish terrier, the following notes by Mr. W. C. Bennett, of Dublin, will perhaps be interesting, although they go over much the same ground as that which we have already traversed.

“From what I have been able to gather from those who, like myself, are interested in this variety of the canine-race, and from what I can recall of early specimens, I have come to the conclusion that the present show terriers are a more or less ‘made up’ breed, though doubtless a variety of terrier existed, resembling the present dogs, somewhat as a half-bred filly resembles a thoroughbred mare.

“My first recollection of the breed dates back some thirty years, to a brace of bitches owned by a relative residing in Parsonstown, who procured them from a trainer on the Curragh. They were high on the leg, somewhat open in coat, and wheaten in colour, and this latter is, I have always considered, the proper shade for the jacket of any Irish terrier. Most of the earlier specimens exhibited were of this hue, the bright red now, or recently, so fashionable being almost unknown. About the same time, or a few years later perhaps, I made the acquaintance of a rare old stamp of bitch, which was brought from

the North of Ireland, and many a day's outing we had together; she was harder and closer in coat than those mentioned above, coloured bright wheaten, and nearer in shape and character, and in all respects, to the present show type than anything else I saw at that period.

"Few people in those early days gave much attention to the appearance of their terriers, and if they were game, and good at destroying rats and other vermin, they would be kept and bred from, and as these terriers were principally owned by farmers and cottiers, who kept one or two roaming about their houses and farms, they were hardly likely to be very select in the matter of breeding. Even to this day, in parts of the country, one comes across this old breed, as often as not with tails undocked, and sometimes, alas, showing a dash of greyhound blood. Many of them, too, are brindled in colour, and certainly smart terrier-like animals.

"I have several times been assured by those from whom I sought information, that a special strain of Irish terriers was kept in their families for generations, and they usually described them as wheaten coloured, open coated, with long, punishing jaws, and I was shown by a friend of mine (lately deceased) a game-looking wheaten coloured bitch, long and low on the

leg, with a very open coat, long, level head, with little or no stop visible. The owner claimed to have had her breed for over thirty years in his family. I can vouch that she would fight until nearly killed, if once provoked.

“County Wicklow lays claim to a breed of what were so-called Irish terriers; they frequently showed a blue shade on the back, were long in body, and rather short on leg, and even so recently as the year 1887 a class was given at the show held in Limerick, for silver-haired Irish terriers, the specimens exhibited being a slate blue colour. They were not to my mind a distinct variety, nor very terrier-like in appearance, and I believe the difficulty in getting a uniformity of type when breeding from the very best blood obtainable is proof positive that more than one strain was used in producing the present fashionable dog.

“In the first collection I saw in the Exhibition Palace Show, held in Dublin early in the seventies, there were scarcely two of the same size or weight exhibited, and with few, very few, exceptions they were a rough lot.

“Mr. P. Flanagan, of Dublin, had many of the old sort, and game ones they were. He used them for badger drawing, and in the National Show alluded to, he exhibited a bitch, Daisy, which

was described in the catalogue as 'well known to be of the purest and gamest breed in Ireland.' Mr. Cotton, of Blessington, also possesses terriers descended from stock for many years in his possession, and owned by him before classes were given at shows for them. His Cruisk (who won prizes in Dublin and elsewhere) is, however, as unlike the earlier sort as possible, as he is a neat terrier-like dog, with beautifully carried ears, and a hard, crisp coat—a charming dog brimful of character.

"I have seen and owned puppies by the celebrated Killiney Boy, and by dogs tracing from him, with short coats and black hairs. The old dog was open in coat, with a grand terrier head, straight in hocks, but a game little tyke, and died fighting—being killed in a kennel row. He had grown quite white in face and chest when last I saw him; and many of his strain, earlier in life than is the case with most other dogs (like the Palmerston strain of Irish setters), grow grizzled about the head.

"A glance at the pedigree of almost any of the noted winners of the day will serve to show how much Killiney Boy did to bring the breed to its present form, as few pedigrees are without his name, and many of them on both sire and dam side trace back to him. Curiously enough, the short-haired mahogany-

coloured specimens often prove very serviceable when bred from, and throw pups with plenty of coat, and this I have proved myself, and heard other breeders assert. Mr. Barnett's Benedict (brother to Champion Bachelor) was a notable instance of this, being very short in coat on body and sides, and he probably got as many winners on the bench as any dog of this variety.

"The north of Ireland was the stronghold of the Irish terriers for many a day, and still holds its own, with Mr. William Graham to aid it. Even there I should doubt if a pure descent of Irish terrier could be traced back for thirty years, as so long ago no one cared to go to the trouble of breeding them to one uniform type, and those who used them for fighting purposes crossed them with the bull terrier to increase their gameness and punishing power.

"Wexford, Dublin, and other parts had strains of their own, and when classes were formed at shows, and good prizes offered, fair specimens of the old sort were to be had, which, with judicious mating, produced a level and neat terrier, but these, as before observed, frequently threw back to the old stock, and sometimes a rough, open coated puppy still appears in the best bred litters, differing from all his brothers and sisters. Strange to say the



freedom from stop, which is one of the characteristics of the present dog, was highly thought of in the dogs bred in former days, and as the ears were almost invariably cropped it mattered little how they came, but if uncut were usually heavy and carried low on the head.

"A glance at the earlier show catalogues confirms what I have written above as to the doubtful breeding of the earlier terriers.

"Take the Exhibition Palace Show at Dublin in 1874. Here classes were divided as 'dogs and bitches exceeding 9lb., and dogs and bitches under that weight;' in the former class ten competed, and half that number had no pedigree assigned to them; in the latter class only three competed, one of these, the second prize winner, having no pedigree. The following year three classes were provided, including a champion class 'for winners of a first prize at any show.' Dogs over 9lb. and bitches over 9lb. Four champions (save the mark) competed; two had pedigrees and the other two had none. In dogs over 9lb. six competed, two only having pedigrees. Four bitches over 9lb. were entered, half that number having pedigrees and half not.

"At the Dublin show in 1878 there were even fewer competitors, a dog and bitch class being

given, with no restrictions as to weight. In the former there were four entries, and in the latter three, but only two of the lot appear to be able to boast of a pedigree.

“Does not the above prove that pedigrees in those days were little attended to, otherwise surely they would be stated if known. Some of the entries in these old catalogues are amusing, one entry being described as ‘Pedigree terrier, well bred;’ another, appropriately named ‘The Limb, this bitch has jumped off all the highest bridges in and about Dublin.’ Needless to say she was entered as ‘not for sale.’ ‘Jack’ appears to have been a favourite name, and three with this cognomen competed in one class, and, oh, ‘the grumbling’ at the awards, for everyone thought his tyke the only true and only genuine article, and owners were by no means loth to express their opinions in words.”

A year or so later good ones appeared, such as Messrs. Carey’s Sport, Spuds, and Sting, Mr. Waterhouse’s Killiney Boy, and Mr. Wm. Graham’s Erin, the latter brace when mated producing such good ones as Pagan II. and Play Boy, the particulars of which are fully given in what Mr. Barnett has contributed earlier on.

Some of the best Irish terriers have already been

mentioned, but omission should not be made of dogs so good as Gripper; Major Arnand's Fury II.; Phadruig; Dr. Carey's Sting; Peter Bodger (Mr. Waterhouse); Mr. H. A. Graves' Glory (the smallest Irish terrier that attained champion honours); Mr. W. Graham's Gilford; Mr. Backhouse's Buster, Bumptious Biddy, and Begum; Nora Tatters, a great favourite of mine, with Droleen and Bencher, all Mr. Wiener's; Mr. Sumner's St. George and B.A.; Dan'el II., Breadenhill; Mr. F. Breakell's Bonnet; Mr. Mayell's Chaperon and Mr. A. E. Clear's Breda Mixer. Still another youngster that I opine will not be long in becoming a champion is Mr. C. J. Barnett's Black Sheep, a dog of 24lb. weight, about the size the best of them have been. His dark face may be objectionable, and he is perhaps a mere trifle long in back, but, all round, I have never seen a better terrier, and I fancy that, assisted by his excellent pair of natural ears, he will be the first dog to lower the colours of Mr. Wiener's so long successful Brickbat, if his owner has the temerity to place the latter on the bench again.

Another favourite Irish terrier of mine is Mr. Barnett's Birthright. She weighs 18lb., and has been kept out of many prizes because some judges consider her small. Her character and general

form are exquisite. Other typical Irish terriers up to date are Mrs. Butcher's Bawnboy and Ted Malone; Mr. T. Yarr's Poor Pat; Mr. F. Parkyn's Firefly; Mr. Jowett's Crowgill Sportsman; Mr. C. B. Murless's Magic; Mr. Krehl's Bishop's Boy; Mr. T. Wallace's Treasurer; whilst from time to time Mr. James Sumner, Mr. J. W. Taylor, Dr. Marsh, Mr. F. W. Jowett, Mr. H. Benner, Mr. C. R. Norton, Mr. C. M. Nicholson, and Mr. T. C. Tisdall, have all owned Irish terriers of more than ordinary excellence.

The Irish Terrier Club was established in 1879, and proving unusually liberal in supporting certain shows, has no doubt done much to popularise the variety over which it looks. Its challenge cup is valuable and handsome, which, as already stated, was won outright by Brickbat, but two cups of equal value will shortly be offered by the club.

Considerable difference of opinion has been expressed as to the description of the Irish terrier as issued by the club, it evidently being modelled on that of the fox terrier. The following, compiled by an "up to date" admirer and successful breeder of the variety, will give an idea of the "points" of an Irish terrier; at any rate, when assisted by Mr. Wardle's drawings, they will do so.

“*Head*.—Long and flat, not pinched or lumpy, and not too full in the cheek; showing but a very slight stop in profile. Jaw strong, of a punishing length and of good depth. A thin, weak jaw is objectionable, as is a short, thick head.

“*Teeth*.—Level, white, and sound; both over or undershot objectionable and disqualifying.

“*Nose*.—Black.

“*Eyes*.—Brown, dark hazel, or black, the latter however, are apt to give the dog a curious expression. They should be small, keen, and more almond-shaped than round, set in the head and not on the head. Light eyes very objectionable.

“*Ears*.—Fairly thick, V-shaped, and set on to fall to the corner of the eye and close to the cheeks, but not at a right angle to the head; they should not be set on too high or point to the nose.

“*Neck*.—Long, clean, and muscular, slightly arched, free from throatiness and nicely placed in the shoulders, not set on the top of them.

“*Shoulders*.—Strong and fine, nicely sloping to the back and firm to the hand, the dog should feel strong when pressed on the shoulders, the withers narrow, and gracefully joining the neck and back.



“ *Chest*.—Of good depth, wide enough to give the heart and lungs free play, but not wide when viewed in front.

“ *Back*.—Straight and strong.

“ *Loin*.—Very slightly arched.

“ *Stern*.—Docked or shortened, set rather high, must be gaily carried but not curled; the stern should be placed on in a line with the back, if too low it gives the dog a mean and unsymmetrical appearance behind.

“ *Body*.—Of good depth, well ribbed up, but not too far back, or it will make him seem too thick-set and cobby, and detract from his appearance of liberty; flank slightly tucked up, but not enough to make the dog look shelly or light. Ribs inclined to flatness and not too much arched or sprung.

“ *Legs and Feet*.—The legs should be strong, straight, and muscular, but not too upright in the pasterns, which should be slightly springy; elbows set strongly to the shoulders, moving freely, not tied too closely under him; the feet thick and hard, toes arched; open, long, or thin feet most objectionable.

“ *Hind quarters*.—Very strong and muscular, long from hip to hock, not too wide but thick through, with no appearance of weakness, legs fairly

under the dog, the hocks must move straight, cow hocks or hind legs bent outwards most objectionable.

“*Coat*.—Hard, straight, and wiry, free from silkiness anywhere; about  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long on body, shorter on the head and ears, save a beard on the chin, short and hard on the legs, on no account curly; a soft, curly, or open coat objectionable.

“*Colour*.—Red-yellow, wheaten, or light brown inclining to grey; the best colour is orange tipped with red, the head slightly darker than the body, and the ears slightly darker than the head. The colour should not run out on the legs a dirty or dull dark red; a mahogany shade is objectionable.

“*Size*.—Height, dogs 16in. to  $16\frac{1}{2}$ in., bitches  $15\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 16in.; length from shoulder to set on of stern, dogs  $14\frac{3}{4}$ in. to  $15\frac{1}{2}$ in., bitches 14in. to 15in.; girth of chest,  $20\frac{1}{2}$ in. to  $21\frac{1}{2}$ in.; weight for dogs 20lb. to 24lb., bitches 18lb. to 22lb.

“*General appearance*.—The Irish terrier should appear to be of good constitution, somewhat rough in outlook, but thoroughly symmetrical. As the stern is high set on it gives the hind quarters a somewhat jumped-up look; the movements are rather jerky behind, as if the hind quarters possessed the power of moving quicker than the fore-end—almost a hare-like movement; the expression should be wicked, but

intelligent, altogether a rough, merry, but game-looking terrier, not cobby nor too coarse.

"*Temperament.*—Temper very good, often shy, but always game. When at work, utterly without fear, and rather headstrong; when in the house, quiet, affectionate, and loving. It is a characteristic of the Irish terrier to thrust his nose into his master's hand, or rest the head on his foot, or against his legs."

POSITIVE POINTS.		NEGATIVE POINTS.	
	Value.		Value.
Head .....	10	White on toes or feet...	5
Teeth and eyes .....	10	Mouth undershot or	
Ears .....	10	overshot .....	20
Neck .....	5	Very much white on	
Legs and feet.....	15	chest .....	5
Chest and shoulders ...	10	Coat curly or soft .....	20
Back and loin and			
hind quarters .....	15		
Coat .....	10		
Colour .....	5		
General outline .....	10		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	100		50

#### DISQUALIFYING POINTS.

Brindled in colour, nose cherry or flesh-coloured; white legs—indeed any white, either on the feet, chest, or elsewhere, is objectionable. At four or five years old a few white hairs, giving a grizzly appearance about the muzzle, is not detrimental.

The following is the description issued by the Irish Terrier Club :

POSITIVE POINTS.		NEGATIVE POINTS.	
	Value.		Value.
Head, jaw, teeth, and eyes.....	15	White nails, toes, and feet.....	<i>minus</i> 10
Ears .....	5	Much white on chest .....	„ 10
Legs and feet.....	10	Ears cropped ...	„ 5
Neck .....	5	Mouth undershot or cankered ...	„ 10
Shoulders and chest ...	10	Coat shaggy, curly, or soft...	„ 10
Back and loin .....	10	Uneven in colour	„ 5
Hind quarters and stern	10		
Coat .....	15		
Colour .....	10		
Size and symmetry ...	10		
	<hr/> 100		<hr/> 50

DISQUALIFYING POINTS : Nose cherry or red. Brindle colour.

#### DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

“ *Head.*—Long ; skull flat, and rather narrow between ears, getting slightly narrower towards the eye ; free from wrinkle ; stop hardly visible, except in profile. The jaw must be strong and muscular, but not too full in the cheek, and of a good punishing length, but not so fine as a white English terrier’s. There should be a slight falling away below the eye, so as not to have a greyhound appearance. Hair on face of same description as on body, but short (about a quarter of an inch

long), in appearance almost smooth and straight; a slight beard is the only longish hair (and it is only long in comparison with the rest) that is permissible, and that is characteristic.

“*Teeth*.—Should be strong and level.

“*Lips*.—Not so tight as a bull terrier’s, but well-fitting, showing through the hair their black lining.

“*Nose*.—Must be black.

“*Eyes*.—A dark hazel colour, small, not prominent, and full of life, fire, and intelligence.

“*Ears*.—When uncut, small and V-shaped, of moderate thickness, set well up on the head, and dropping forward closely to the cheek. The ear must be free of fringe, and the hair thereon shorter and generally darker in colour than the body.

“*Neck*.—Should be of a fair length, and gradually widening towards the shoulders, well carried, and free of throatiness. There is generally a slight sort of frill visible at each side of the neck, running nearly to the corner of the ear, which is looked on as very characteristic.

“*Shoulders and Chest*.—Shoulders must be fine, long, and sloping well into the back; the chest deep and muscular, but neither full nor wide.

“*Back and Loin*.—Body moderately long; back should be strong and straight, with no appearance of slackness behind the shoulders; the loin broad



and powerful and slightly arched ; ribs fairly sprung, rather deep than round, and well ribbed back.

“ *Hind Quarters*.—Well under the dog ; should be strong and muscular, the thighs powerful, hocks near the ground, stifles not much bent.

“ *Stern*.—Generally docked ; should be free of fringe or feather, set on pretty high, carried gaily, but not over the back or curled.

*Feet and Legs*.—Feet should be strong, tolerably round, and moderately small ; toes arched, and neither turned out nor in ; black toe-nails are preferable and most desirable. Legs moderately long, well set from the shoulders, perfectly straight, with plenty of bone and muscle ; the elbows working freely clear of the sides, pasterns short and straight, hardly noticeable. Both fore and hind legs should be moved straight forward when travelling, the stifles not turned outwards, the legs free of feather, and covered, like the head, with as hard a texture of coat as body, but not so long.

“ *Coat*.—Hard and wiry, free of softness or silkiness, not so long as to hide the outlines of the body, particularly in the hindquarters, straight and flat, no shagginess, and free of lock or curl.

“ *Colour*.—Should be ‘whole-coloured,’ the most preferable being bright red ; next wheaten, yellow, and grey, brindle disqualifying. White sometimes

appears on chest and feet ; it is more objectionable on the latter than on the chest, as a speck of white on chest is frequently to be seen in all self-coloured breeds.

“ *Size and Symmetry.*—Weight in show condition, from 16lb. to 24lb.—say, 16lb. to 22lb. for bitches and 18lb. to 24lb. for dogs. The most desirable weight is 22lb. or under, which is a nice, stylish, and useful size. The dog must present an active, lively, lithe, and wiry appearance ; lots of substance, at the same time free of clumsiness, as speed and endurance, as well as power, are very essential. They must be neither ‘cloddy’ nor ‘cobby,’ but should be framed on the ‘lines of speed,’ showing a graceful ‘racing outline.’

“ *Temperament.*—Dogs that are very game are usually surly or snappish. The Irish terrier, as a breed, is an exception, being remarkably good-tempered, notably so with mankind, it being admitted, however, that he is, perhaps, a little too ready to resent interference on the part of other dogs. There is a heedless, reckless pluck about the Irish terrier which is characteristic, and, coupled with the headlong dash, blind to all consequences, with which he rushes at his adversary, has earned for the breed the proud epithet of ‘The Dare-Devils.’ When ‘off duty’ they are characterised

by a quiet caress-inviting appearance, and when one sees them endearingly, timidly pushing their heads into their masters' hands it is difficult to realise that on occasion, at the 'set-on,' they can prove they have the courage of a lion, and will fight on to the last breath in their bodies. They develop an extraordinary devotion to, and have been known to track their masters almost incredible distances."

This "club description" has given rise to a considerable amount of controversy, but I believe it was drawn up by the leading admirers of the Irish terrier a few years ago, and if fault may be found with one or two of the items, such are of little importance so far as the general delineation of the dog is concerned. Unlike the Bedlington terrier, the Irish terrier is progressive so far as public estimation is concerned, and as I conclude this article I am told of a *bonâ-fide* offer of £220 for a couple of young dogs which have not yet been placed as the best of their variety.

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## CHAPTER X.

### THE WELSH TERRIER.

THIS terrier is our most modern introduction, and one is apt to wonder how it was that for so long his merits have been overlooked. The dog of which I write as a Welsh terrier was unknown until some eight years or so ago. Then he appeared in some of our shows; he was given a place in the Stud Book; a club was formed in 1886 to look after his welfare, and at some modern exhibitions, to wit, at Liverpool, in 1893, there were no fewer than ninety-three entries made of Welsh terriers, or dogs that passed as such. When he was first introduced, a rather short stumpy head, with considerable terrier character generally, were considered to form the correct type; now the head has been "improved," or otherwise, until it is as long and fox terrier-like as those Mr. Wardle draws on another page, who, following the dictates of fashion, gives us the Welsh terrier, which is perhaps not Welsh at all, as he is to-day. To proceed with my story.

However reluctant I may be to agree with all that has been said and done to popularise the so-called Welsh terrier, one must give way to the majority. The Kennel Club now acknowledges this variety of terrier by the name which heads this chapter, and, in addition, there is a well-established and flourishing club that looks carefully after its interests. So let it be. Still, there is no gainsaying the fact that some of the very best terriers of this variety have been produced from parents that never had a drop of Welsh blood in their veins, that had never seen the Principality, and had no more connection therewith than the black and white fisherman's dog of Newfoundland has with the dog treasured by the monks of St. Bernard's hospice. About eight years ago the newly popularised black and tan hard-haired terrier suddenly appeared on the show bench, and, although then claimed as a native of Wales, or to have originally sprung therefrom, there was other evidence to prove that this identical dog had long flourished in the north of England, and in some districts was still to be found uncrossed with the modern fox terrier, and, so far as could be discovered, of comparatively pure blood.

When the Kennel Club authorities at Cleveland-row consented to its entry in their Stud Book in 1886, the classification of "Welsh or old English wire-

haired black and tan terriers" was given, a title which, though rather long, was the correct one to adopt as likely to suit both parties concerned; for already there had been a division in the camp; the north of England fanciers of the variety wished their rights acknowledged, and the Welshmen did likewise. The former attempted to establish a club to promote the old English hard-haired black and tan terrier, and failed so to do; the latter proved successful in forming a similar coterie to look after the interests of the Welsh terrier, and to see that its merits were appreciated by dog show committees and the public at large. So successful did the latter body prove, that, not contented with obtaining all they required for their own favourite, they contrived to persuade the Kennel Club to abolish the name of old English terrier altogether; and, be the animal of Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Durham, Devon, or Yorkshire extraction, his nativity has no *locus standi*, and Welsh he must be to the end of his days. It was in 1888 that the Welsh terrier, as such, first appeared in the Stud Book. Such is a brief history of the popular progress of this dog.

Not very long ago I was in conversation with a native of the Principality, where his ancestors had lived for generations on their own estate—a sporting one, occupied by a sporting family.

Here came a chance to obtain some information about his native terrier. "Welsh terriers?" said he; "why, bless me! there isn't such a thing, unless you mean all the little cross-bred creatures to be seen in any of our country towns." This was a floorer at the very set-off for the man in search of knowledge; but not long after, I had the good fortune to travel for some distance with a well-known authority on all matters canicular, whose residence was likewise in Wales. "You wish to learn something about Welsh terriers," said he; "why, I am sorry to say the dog show judges are going in altogether for the wrong type." "Then there is a breed of real Welsh terriers?" said I. "Oh, yes; most certainly," said my friend; "but they are big dogs—25lb. weight or more, with shortish, close, hard coats; active, hardy-looking fellows; black and tan in colour, and particularly useful in working very rough covert on mountainous ground, such as is found in so many of the hilly and wild districts. But," continued my informant, "points of beauty are not considered of such importance as gameness and ability to work. Their ears are usually large, and the skull is generally rounder between the ears than is quite orthodox in the modern fox terrier." Here was another opinion.

A dozen years ago I myself bought what was said

to be a Welsh terrier, which proved to be a moderate specimen of the ordinary white and tan marked wire-hair of the present day. The standard adopted by the judges at all recent shows appears now to be generally uniform. The dog of which we write must, according to them, be not more than about 18lb. weight, black and tan in colour, quite free from white, though white on the breast or feet does not amount to absolute disqualification; coat hard, close, and water and weather resisting; head, jaw, ears, build, and general appearance identical with the modern fox terrier; but the crisper coat and darker colour give the Welsh terrier a more dare-devil and determined appearance than the fashionable beauties of the present time, such as are shown by Mr. R. J. Vicary and others.

Now I have known dogs of the above description since my boyhood in the north of England; specimens as good as anything seen nowadays I came across long before ever the Welsh terrier was even thought of as it is now, and some of the leading winners to-day, especially in the dog classes, are probably descended from the same strain, for they have come from the north of England. Most of those of Welsh origin that appeared at the earlier shows were lighter and weaker in jaw than the English variety, finer or lighter in bone, and with



more than a tendency to be round or domed on the skull. This was especially to be noticed in Dau Lliw, a smart little bitch, about 15lb. in weight, I should say, who for some time was at the head of her race, but her teeth were not quite level. Mr. C. H. Beck's Fan was another excellent bitch of similar stamp, but scarcely so round between the tops of the ears as the one previously mentioned. Major Savage more recently showed some first rate terriers that were much of the same style.

We have thus quite four diverse opinions, let alone two or three more which emanated from the decisions of modern show bench judges who had awarded prizes to narrow-chested, flat-ribbed abortions, soft in coat, and minus all character, animals certainly dear at one-fourth the sum that has been paid as their entry fees. "We must encourage the breed," said one judge, in reply to my strictures for his award of a prize to such a creature. "Right enough," replied I; "but you encourage no breed when you award a prize to a mongrel like that." Nor did he, although the specimen in question was shown from the kennels of a well-known member of the Welsh Terrier Club.

Failing, then, to obtain much uniformity of opinion orally, I had recourse to letter-writing, and from Wales, the northern portion thereof, where these

terriers find most favour, in due course my reply came. Certainly it was altogether in favour of the identity and purity of the breed, and, being from an ardent admirer of the type, and one who knows what that type is, the opinion expressed must be of that value I take it to be. Twenty years ago my informant possessed "two rare, nice terriers of the type shown now. Common enough then, they were generally used in the country for the ordinary terrier purposes. At Dolgelly a strain had been kept in the family of Mr. J. G. Williams for three generations. Mr. Griffith Williams, Trefeilar; Mr. Owen, Ymwlch; and Mr. Edwards, Nanhorn Hall, Pwllheli, had all owned Welsh terriers for fifty or sixty years; and Mr. Jones, of Ynysfor also, the latter gentleman never being without a few couples running with his scratch pack of hounds upon and about the wild, rough country surrounding Beddgelert. Again, the late Mr. J. Rumsey Williams, of Carnarvon, was an ardent admirer of this variety, and several of the earlier strains which have won show bench prizes can be traced from his stock—Mr. Dew's Topsy, Mr. J. E. Jones's Tansy, and Mr. C. W. Roberts's Welsh Dick being the most notable examples." Leaving North Wales and going southwards, the same correspondent says that Welsh terriers have been known there for one

hundred and fifty years in connection with the Glansevin Hunt, and likewise with the Abererch Hunt for almost as long a period. Now all these dogs, of somewhat different strains, were produced of similar type. Some were larger than others, some shorter and thicker in head, nor were they all identical in build and height from the ground ; still, a similarity in appearance ran throughout, which plainly betokened a common origin.

In addition to this practical argument in favour of the Welshness of these terriers, classes were first made for them at Welsh shows, the one held at Carnarvon in July, 1885, I believe, being the earliest of all ; but it was at Bangor, in the following August, that the meeting took place which inaugurated the club, following a suggestion made by a correspondent in the columns of the *Field* some short time earlier.

Returning for a moment to the various animals exhibited as Welsh terriers, it is remarkable that by far the three best dogs up to a certain date were English-bred ones, and of English extraction, and two of them came from the district of South Durham and North Yorkshire. The latter were the Welsher, first shown by Mr. A. Maxwell, Croft, near Darlington, and the puppy Mawdwy Nonsuch, purchased from the same gentleman at an enormous

price by Mr. E. W. Buckley, who for a long time showed an unbeaten certificate. The third was the well-known terrier General Contour, whose pedigree is unknown, but he is credited with being an Englishman so far as blood is concerned.

Another good dog about that time was little Bob Bethesda, a true Welshman, and such dogs as Lieut.-Col. Savage, Mr. W. S. Glynn, Mr. W. J. M. Herbert, and other exhibitors now show, are for the most part "pure Welsh;" at any rate for some few generations back.

A fairly, and not more than fairly, distinguishing type has been produced, of which Mr. J. H. Harrowing's Brynhir Joe, his sister, Dolly; Mr. W. Hassell's Nan; Mr. W. S. Glynn's Dim Saesonaeg; Mr. W. J. M. Herbert's Cymro Dewr II.; Miss Parker's Mona Fach and Lady Cymraeg; Mr. Roberts' Lady Ceredwen, and Lieut.-Col. Savage's Sir Launcelot are perhaps about the best that are being shown at the present day. But I am sadly afraid if one went very carefully into the pedigrees of some of the Welsh terriers entered as such, one would find little Welsh about them beyond their names. Just now there are many energetic admirers of the Welsh terrier, including Miss Parker, Mr. Rotherham Cecil, Mr. W. B. Davenport, Mr. W. C. Roberts, Mr. F. Bouch, Mr. W. J. M. Herbert, Mr. M. T.

Morris, Mr. W. S. Glynn, Mr. R. Hartley, and others, who as a rule are strong supporters of the club.

I think that the introducers of the Welsh terrier as a variety of its own claimed a little too much for their speciality, and in the *Field* of Aug. 15, 1885, there is an account of how they can hunt the otter and kill it too. I have seen an ordinary smooth-coated fox terrier, which had been kennelled with hounds, speak on the drag of an otter; but that a terrier, even a Welsh one, can pick up a cold scent by the riverside in early morning and hunt it out from pebble to pebble and rock to rock, now this side the river and now on that, until the otter is marked in some hover in the bank, I must see before I can believe. And when the otter is found and swum, and killed by a dozen little terriers with weak jaws, without the aid of the poles and spears and staves of the hunters, a climax is reached which ought to make the Welsh terriers, that are said to do so, the most popular breed of modern times. But no terrier can do this, nor will anyone who has seen otter hunting with hounds, and knows what punishment the otter can take and give, believe it of any small dog. Indeed, nature never intended them for such work. That the Welsh terrier is a game, plucky terrier, smart and active on land, at home



in the water, and free and kind in his disposition, I have no manner of doubt. His blood, too, may be of the bluest. Unfortunately, until lately, he has been neglected and overlooked. A pedigree for over a hundred years is good enough for any dog, and such, I am told, some of our Welsh friends are supposed to have. This, with the varied accomplishments he possesses, and his sprightly presence, should enable him to sustain the position in public favour he has so quickly reached.

I have no doubt that the so-called Welsh terrier will retain his popularity, because he is a nice little dog of a handy size, and, having usually been reared out of kennels, that is, brought up in the house, is affectionate, kindly, and desirable as a companion, nor is he fond of fighting, and his colour is pleasing. Judges, however, should not lay too much stress upon the rich tan and deep black to the sacrifice of more useful qualities. It is in the matter of colour in dogs where trouble has been caused, and an easy path laid for dishonest practices. I am certain that had not so much been thought of the blue colour in the Bedlington terrier, he would have been a more popular dog to-day, the same with the black and tan English terrier likewise. Colour was required in both, and when nature did not give it, such was produced

artificially. Now that the Welshman is well established, let his admirers keep to one type and one type alone. Discountenance all trimming and plucking; show your dog naturally and he will be far better than when trimmed, and plucked, and singed, and dyed. To prove how he has prospered I need only draw attention to the Stud Book, where in 1886 there were but half a dozen entries registered, in 1893 there are fifty-one, and signs are not wanting that the latter number will be increased in the near future.

The Welsh Terrier Club is quite a powerful and representative body, and it has issued the following description of the dog it has under its wing:

“*Head.*—The skull should be flat, and rather wider between the ears than the wire-haired fox terrier. The jaw should be powerful, clean cut, rather deeper, and more punishing—giving the head a more masculine appearance than that usually seen on a fox terrier. Stop not too defined, fair length from stop to end of nose, the latter being of a black colour.

“*Ears.*—The ear should be V-shaped, small, not too thin, set on fairly high, carried forward and close to the cheek.

“*Eyes.*—The eye should be small, not being too

deeply set in or protruding out of skull, of a dark hazel colour, expressive, and indicating abundant pluck.

“*Neck.*—The neck should be of moderate length and thickness, slightly arched, and sloping gracefully into the shoulders.

“*Body.*—The back should be short, and well ribbed up, the loin strong, good depth, and moderate width of chest. The shoulders should be long, sloping, and well set back. The hindquarters should be strong, thighs muscular, and of good length, with the hocks moderately straight, well let down, and fair amount of bone. The stern should be set on moderately high, but not too gaily carried.

“*Legs and Feet.*—The legs should be straight and muscular, possessing fair amount of bone, with upright and powerful pasterns. The feet should be small, round, and cat-like.

“*Coat.*—The coat should be wiry, hard, very close, and abundant.

“*Colour.*—The colour should be black and tan, or black grizzle and tan, free from black pencilling on toes.

“*Size.*—The height at shoulder should be 15 in. for dogs, bitches proportionately less. Twenty pounds shall be considered a fair average weight in

working condition, but this may vary a pound or so either way."

Numerical points, not issued by the club :

	Value.		Value.
Head, ears, eyes, jaw...	20	Coat .....	15
Neck and shoulders ...	10	Colour .....	10
Body .....	10	General appearance and	
Loins and hind quarters	10	character.....	10
Legs and feet.....	15		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	65		35

*Grand Total, 100.*

White in patches on the body or on breast, or elsewhere, to any great extent, and teeth not level, either undershot or overshot, disqualifications.







## CHAPTER XI.

### THE SCOTTISH TERRIER.

FROM all I have been told, and from what I have read, I believe that this little dog is the oldest variety of the canine race indigenous to North Britain, although but a comparatively recent introduction across the border and into fashionable society, at any rate under his present name. For generations he had been a popular dog in the Highlands, where, strangely enough, he was always known as the Skye terrier, although he is so different from the long-coated, unsporting-like looking creature with which that name is now associated. Even Hugh Dalziel, in the first edition of his "British Dogs," published so recently as 1881, gives an excellent illustration of the Scotch terrier which he calls a Skye terrier.

Our little friend has, perhaps, been rather unfortunate so far as nomenclature is concerned, for, after being called a Skye terrier, he became known as the Scotch terrier, the Scots terrier, and the

Highland terrier ; then others dubbed him the Cairn terrier and the Die Hard, whilst another move was made to give him the distinguishing appellation of the Aberdeen terrier. Now he has been thoroughly wound up, and, I suppose to suit those persons of teetotal proclivities who connected the word "Scotch" with the national liquor called whiskey, has developed into the "Scottish" terrier ; as such he is known in the Stud Books, and is acknowledged as of that name by the leading Scotch, or Scottish, authorities on the variety. Well, he is a game, smart, perky little terrier, and I do not think that his general excellence and desirability as a companion are likely to suffer from the evolutions his name has undergone. Years ago, before dog shows were invented, any cross bred creature was called a Scotch terrier, especially if he appeared to stand rather higher on the legs than the ordinary terrier ; if he were on short legs he was an "otter" terrier.

In an old "Sportsman," a three halfpenny little magazine published in 1833, there is a wood engraving, by no means a bad one, of "The Scotch terrier." This is a big, leggy, cut-eared dog with a docked tail, evidently hard in coat and very game looking ; were such a dog to be shown to-day he would be most likely to take a prize in the Irish

terrier classes. The letterpress description does not, however, tally with the picture, for after saying that the Scotch terrier is purest in point of breed, it proceeds to state that "the Scotch terrier is generally low in stature, seldom more than 12in. or 14in. in height, with a strong muscular body and stout legs; his ears small and half pricked; his head is rather large in proportion to the size of his body, and his muzzle is considerably pointed. His scent is extremely acute, so that he can trace the footsteps of other animals with certainty; he is generally of a sand colour or black, dogs of this colour being certainly the most hardy and most to be depended upon. When white or pied, it is a sure mark of the impurity of the breed. The hair of this terrier is long, matted, and hard over almost every part of his body. His bite is extremely keen." This is not a bad description of a Scottish terrier of the present day, excepting that the matted coat is not required, that the semi-erect ears are not fashionable, and that a white specimen of pure blood crops up occasionally.

However, the same writer goes on to state that "there are three distinct varieties of the Scotch terrier, viz., the one above described; another about the same size as the former, but with hair much longer and more flowing, which gives the legs the



appearance of being very short. This is the prevailing breed of the western isles of Scotland." This, of course, will answer for a description of our ordinary Skye terrier. Then of the third variety, which may be taken to be the ordinary or mongrel variety, the writer in the "Sportsman" says this "is much larger than the former two, being generally from 15 to 18in. in height, with the hair very hard and wiry, and much shorter than that of the others. It is from this breed that the best bull terriers have been produced."

Whoever wrote the above I do not know, but Thomson Gray, in his "Dogs of Scotland," makes a similar quotation, which he says is from "Brown's Field Book," also published in 1833. However, I take the description to be interesting.

What to me appears to be the strangest part of all, is that even the Highland sportsmen of that time, and a little later, called their native terrier the Skye terrier. St. John in his "Highland Sports" (1846) alluded to some of his terriers as Skyes, when they were undoubtedly our "die-hards." The long silky-coated dogs of the western isles would have been no use to a sportsman such as he, and although game enough in their way, they, the Skyes, did not possess the activity nor the power to tackle the wild cat, the marten, and other vermin found in the wilds of



Sutherlandshire, where Charles St. John lived. Moreover, he also calls them "Highland terriers."

He says, "Why do Highland terriers so often run on three legs—particularly when bent on mischief? Is it to keep one in reserve in case of emergencies? I never had a Highland terrier who did not hop along constantly on three legs, keeping one of them up as if to rest it.

"The Skye terrier has a great deal of quiet intelligence, learning to watch his master's looks and understand his meaning in a wonderful manner. . . . This dog shows great impetuosity in attacking vermin of all kinds, though often his courage is accompanied by a kind of shyness and reserve; but when once roused by being bit or scratched in its attacks on vermin, the Skye terrier fights to the last, and shows a great deal of cunning and generalship as well as courage. Unless well entered when young they are apt to be noisy, and yelp and bark more than fight. The terriers I have had of this kind show some curious habits, unlike most other dogs. I have observed that when young they frequently make a kind of seat under a bush or hedge, where they will sit for hours together crouched like a wild animal. Unlike other dogs, too, they will eat (though not driven by hunger) almost anything that is given them, such as raw eggs, the

bones and meat of wild ducks or wood pigeons and other birds that every other kind of dog, however hungry, rejects with disgust. In fact, in many respects their habits resemble those of wild animals. They always are excellent swimmers, taking the water quietly and fearlessly when very young."

My favourite author then proceeds to write of their use in taking his master quickly up to a wounded deer, but, irrespective of the latter, no one can say that St. John's description does not altogether tally with that of the Scotch terrier. It is nearly twenty years since the late Captain Mackie gave me a small, semi-prick eared dog he had got from the north of Scotland, from which the above description might have been taken. It ran at times on three legs, was slow to be the aggressor, but was a terrible punisher for a fourteen pound dog when he did start; and he, too, was at times shy and reserved, and would eat grouse and pigeon as freely as he would any butchers' meat.

Long before I owned this dog a friend of mine had a similar one sent out of Caithness-shire, which was called a "Skye terrier," but again he turned out to be just a Scottish little fellow, short on the legs, hard in coat, and as game as possible. Both these were brown brindles in colour, which I fancy were at that time more plentiful than the black brindles or

almost black dogs, oftener seen on the show bench to-day.

It was about the year 1874 that a newspaper controversy brought the Scottish terrier prominently before the public, and the Crystal Palace shows and the one at Brighton the following year, viz., in 1876, provided classes for them, which, however, failed to fill. Then there came a lull, a club was formed, and in 1879 Mr. J. B. Morrison, of Greenock, was invited to the Alexandra Palace show to judge the Scotch terriers in a class which had been provided for them. A few months later divisions were given them at the Dundee show, when the winner, though a pure "Scottie," was called a Skye terrier, and came from that island. Birmingham provided a class in 1881, and with an incompetent judge the prizes were withheld, though such men as the late Captain Mackie, Mr. Ludlow, and Mr. J. A. Adamson were exhibitors. The Curzon Hall show appears to have been rather unfortunate in this sort of thing, for previously the leading prize in wire-haired fox terriers was withheld when there was as good a specimen of the variety as we ever saw on the bench or in the ring at any time. However, another year things went better with the Scottish terriers, as in 1883 Messrs. Ludlow and Blomfield, of Norwich, to whom much of the credit for the popularisation of the

breed is due, again made entries and won chief honours with their little dogs Rambler and Bitters. Two years later Captain Mackie was the most successful competitor, securing the leading prizes with his historical Dundee and his lovely little bitch Glengogo, and so we are brought right down to the present time.

Much has been written of the various strains of the Scottish terrier, but such are of little account, as, although they were kept by many of the Highland sportsmen on their estates, and used for hunting purposes and for killing vermin, all had sprung from a common origin. They had not sufficiently distinguishing features from each other to merit a separation, though every laird said his own breed was the best and the only one to be found in its original purity. However, be this as it may, there is no doubt in my mind that this terrier had inhabited Scotland long before modern writers told us what they knew about dogs, and that all the stories about the Skye terriers being in reality a half-bred poodle or Maltese, made so by one of the breed washed up from a shipwrecked vessel on the coast of Skye, is all nonsense—a traveller's tale and no more. The so-called Aberdeen terrier is the Scottish terrier pure and simple, and the Poltalloch terrier, mentioned in "*Dogs of Scotland*," is a yellowish



white variety kept by the Malcolms at Poltalloch, in Argyllshire, where the strain is carefully preserved. These terriers only differ in colour from the ordinary Scottish terrier. A white puppy occasionally appears in a litter of the latter as it does sometimes in deerhounds. Of course, if these white puppies were reared and bred from, a strain of that colour would eventually be perpetuated, and probably this has been the case in the first instance at Poltalloch. Some years ago Mr. Thomson Gray procured a white bitch of pure pedigree for Captain Keene, a well-known member of the Kennel Club. I have a portrait of her by me now, and she is certainly a Scottish terrier in every particular, and a great favourite with her owner, who entered her in the "Stud Book" as White Heather. From her, Captain Keene has had three litters to ordinary coloured dogs of the breed, but not one of the puppies has yet taken after their dam, all of them, strangely enough, being either black or very dark brindle.

It is a somewhat remarkable fact that this white Scottish terrier is occasionally produced in the ordinary course from dark coloured parents; the Scottish deerhound likewise, but not frequently, throws a similar puppy in the same way, and Mr. J. Pratt has been successful in breeding two or three Skye terriers pretty nearly pure white. In alluding



to these off coloured specimens one must not forget that fawn or sandy Scottish terriers are by no means infrequent, and two or three years ago Mr. A. Maxwell, of Croft, near Darlington, won several prizes with a dog of this colour, and a very good specimen of his race too. We all know that the fawn colour in deerhounds and in Skye terriers, although not so prevalent as once was the case, is still by no means uncommon.

The allusion to the Paltalloch terrier in the "Dogs of Scotland" elicited the following communication from Col. Malcolm, R.E., to the author of the work in question: "The Paltalloch terriers still exist in the Paltalloch Kennels, and I hope that your recognition of them may make it more possible to keep them up. They are not invariably white, but run between creamy white and sandy. A good one at his best looks like a handsome deerhound, reduced in some marvellous way. They are gameness itself, and terrible poachers. They love above all things to get away with a young retriever, and ruin him for ever, teaching him everything he ought not to know. As for wisdom, make one your friend and he will know everything and do it. I have known one whose usual amusement was rat-killing, and who had never retrieved, go into a hole in tender ice and bring out a wild duck, because,

I suppose, he thought it a shame to waste it when his master had shot it. This chap had a great friend, a mastiff bitch, and he used to swim along water-rat infested streams, and she applying her nose to the landward hole would snort a rat out of his wits into the water, and into the terrier's jaws, who, silently swimming, was keeping pace with his friend. They are said in the kennels to have a trick of suddenly turning upon one of their number and putting it to death, and when they do this they leave but little mark of their work, as they eat their victim. They are kept for work—fox and otter hunting. They have consequently to be kept small, and without the power which seems to be of such value on the show bench. This could easily be got by feeding up, but then the dogs would be of no use in the fox cairns. As it is, they often push in between rocks they cannot escape from, and so the best get lost."

Of the original Scottish terriers some there were with semi-erect ears, others with prick ears, as so admirably produced in Mr. Wardle's picture at the commencement of this chapter. The prick ears are acknowledged now as the more fashionable, though I fancy years ago the semi-prick ear was the more common. I have seen some excellent little dogs with semi-erect ears, as good as those

with erect ears, but the tyrant Fashion at present holds only the latter the correct article, and by his opinion we have to abide. Classes have been provided for each of the varieties at some of the leading Scottish shows, but those for dogs with their ears "down" have never been well supported. However, the fact must not be overlooked that as puppies the ears are usually carried thrown back or forwards, some even not attaining the correct and erect position until six or eight months old. The hard, crisp coat, too, does not always appear until the puppy is casting its first set of teeth. And this hard coat is a *sine quâ non*, and no prize ought to be given to any Scottish terrier unless the coat is thoroughly hard and strong and crisp and close—it is the hard-haired Scottish terrier, a fact which some judges have sadly overlooked. Another defect too common and often over-looked is to be found in the bat-like ears with round tips, which some breeders consider to point to a cross with an impure strain. However, they are very unsightly, and ought to act as a very severe handicap on dogs possessing such aural appendages.

There is no denying the fact, even if anyone wished to do so, which I do not believe is possible, that during the last half dozen years the Scottish terrier has advanced very much in popularity. It

might have done so even to a greater extent had there not been the Irish terrier and the fox terrier, who had preceded him in the field. So far there has not been much change in his make and shape, although every now and then a cry out has been made about big dogs winning. The gradation to cause this is extremely simple and easy, and I believe that the climatic, domestic, and other surroundings of the Scottish terrier in the south have more than a tendency to make him grow bigger than he really ought to do. Originally few or any of the best strains ran to more than 18lb. weight at most; the majority of terriers were 4lb. below that standard. Still, when a dog is brought into the ring that in show form is 20lb., and he is good in all respects, it is a difficult matter to discard him on account of size. Thus he wins. Perhaps some time later he meets a still bigger dog, one that may run to 22lb. or 24lb., and it would be very difficult to, as it were, disqualify the latter on account of size alone. And so we have bigger dogs than many people believe to be the correct size, winning prizes.

Dundee, perhaps, when owned by Capt. Mackie, and after, did as much winning as any Scottish terrier. I fancy he of late years when on the bench, having grown wide in front and thick, would



weigh not less than 24lb., and other dogs equally big have repeatedly been put into the prize lists at our leading shows. Indeed, one well-known English admirer of the variety says the great difficulty he has in breeding these terriers is to keep them small enough. In the show ring the only way would be for the club to make a hard and fast rule as to weight, and put each dog in the scale before awarding it a prize or a card of honour.

Another matter to guard against is the production of an inordinately long body and crooked fore legs. Now, it is all very well for Scotsmen to say that their terrier should have crooked fore legs, but why should he have them? There is no reason in the world why such a pretty little dog ought to be malformed, and crooked fore legs are a malformation. Until recently no trouble had been taken to have them as straight as they might be, and so the crooked legs cropped up, as they always have done and always will do with long heavy bodies to support—bodies indeed quite out of proportion to the limbs.

A well-known scientist at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, on being asked his opinion as to the crooked legs now found on many varieties of the dog, said "the outward curve of the fore limbs of the dachshund (and I suppose



of the Scottish terrier, although I do not know them so well) is an inherited deformity unlike anything in nature."

Mr. H. J. Ludlow, one of our oldest admirers of the variety, is likewise of my opinion as to the deformity of the crooked legs, and, in allusion to the above, says this statement from South Kensington is more of an argument in favour of straight fore legs in a Scottish terrier than all the asseverations that have been made by breeders of dogs crooked fronted, that a straight front means ruination. "I take it that if Nature thought bent fore legs were a necessary formation for animals that depend upon burrowing for their safety, nay, for their very existence, she would have produced the requisite curve in at least some of them. I am satisfied to have Nature for my guide in breeding, and so long as I produce terriers that have to follow and do to death these straight-legged diggers, I shall be content with the spades that I find she has supplied her creatures with rather than run after the 'inherited deformities' that some prejudiced persons go rabid over. Looking at the question from a show point of view, there can be no doubt that a terrier with straight fore legs is a far more taking animal than one with crooked limbs, and, if for that reason alone, Scottish terriers are, sooner or later, bound to be bred with fronts

as straight as those of the animals they are taught to look upon as their hereditary foes."

We do not want the Scottish terrier as unwieldy as the Dandie Dinmont or as the dachshund. A more active animal than either is required—one that can climb over rocks both above and below ground, and follow hounds in his kind of fashion. We want him an active, symmetrical little dog, on short legs, with a deep chest, not too long in body—in fact, just such an animal as is produced on another page. Mr. Wardle has drawn me two Scottish terriers which, to my mind, in make, shape, character, length of head, &c., are perfection.

There has of late been a tendency to give prizes to dogs with unusually long and narrow heads. Now this is again wrong, for with undue length of head or face, the character of the dog is lost quite as much, even more than it would be were the head short and round and of the bull terrier type. Craze for long heads has done harm to the modern fox terrier, and I think no one will require attention drawn to the injury the collie has sustained by the introduction of long heads, which are quite foreign to the breed.

That I do not not stand quite alone in my opinion as to the size and weight of the Scottish terrier will be inferred from the following description, which Mr.

Thomson Gray gives in "Dogs of Scotland": "The greatest difficulty is to get straight legs and ears tight up. My idea of a first-class specimen is a very game, hardy-looking terrier, stoutly built, with great bone and substance; deep in chest and back rib, straight back, powerful quarters, on short muscular legs, and exhibiting in a marked degree a great combination of strength and activity. In several terriers shown the body is too long. This I consider a grave fault, and by no means to be encouraged. . . . Terriers built on such lines are very active in their movements, and for going a distance or taking a standing leap I do not believe there is any short-legged breed of terrier can equal them.

"The coat should be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, thick, dense, lying close, and very hard, with plenty of soft undercoat; tail straight, carried well up, well covered with hair, but not bushy. The ears should be as small and as sharp pointed as possible, well carried forward, and giving the dog a "varmint" appearance. The skull should not be too narrow, being in proportion to the terribly powerful jaw, but must be narrow between the ears, these being carried well up. If carried sluggishly they spoil the appearance of the dog's head. The eyes should be small and deep-set, muzzle long and tapering, and, as already

stated, very powerful; teeth, extra large for size of dog, and level.

"In colour I prefer a dark grey brindle, or warm red brindle. Lately very dark colours have been preferred, but, I think, this is a mistake, as they are not so readily seen in the dark, and with advantage a little lighter shade might be introduced. Still I would certainly prefer a very dark colour dog to one too light in hue. 15lb. or 16lb. bitches and 17lb. to 18lb. dogs are the weights I like best."

Mr. Thomson Gray further says, in a letter recently written: "While I am in favour of having the legs as straight as possible, I would not sacrifice bone and muscle to get this point, or make it a *sine quâ non* in judging, as most, if not all, of the best terriers of this breed are a little bent, and any really straight-legged specimens I have seen have been deficient in bone, inclined to be leggy and shelly in build. Now it must be kept in mind that the Scottish terrier is first of all a compact, firmly-built terrier, showing extraordinary strength for his size, and to lose these attributes is to lose the strongest points in the breed. Straight legs may be made a fad as much as any other point, and fanciers are apt to run on one point to the detriment of the rest, thus spoiling the even balance of the whole dog. Keeping what I have said in view, I see nothing to

prevent these dogs being bred with straight legs, at least so straight as not to be an eyesore to look at."

The Scottish terrier in character and disposition is charming, as a companion most sensible and pleasant. He has no unpleasant smell from his coat, nor does he carry so much dirt into the house from the streets of the town and from the country lanes as a Dandie Dinmont terrier. Another advantage he possesses is that he is not so quarrelsome with other dogs as many terriers are. He will fight, and punish freely, too, when he is attacked and really has to defend himself, but the few that I have owned were slow to set about it. But when they did! I never saw such little dogs with such big teeth, and which could make such big holes in the legs and ears of a bigger opponent. They will go to water well and to ground likewise, and for hunting rough gorse coverts for rabbits are as useful as any other dark-coloured terriers, but personally I prefer a white dog for the latter purpose, as not so likely to be taken for a rabbit and shot accordingly.

Some of the best Scottish terriers at the present time are owned by Mr. H. J. Ludlow, Gorleston, and Capt. Wetherall, Kettering, both of whom are most successful breeders and exhibitors, such dogs as the former's Brenda and Kildee, and the latter's



Tiree II., Buccleuch, and Queen of Scots being all excellent specimens. Mr. J. N. Reynard's Revival (a dog whose dam died during or just after whelping, and was brought up by hand); Mr. E. Thompson's Ivanhoe, Mr. D. Cellar's Dundyyan, Mr. R. Chapman's Heather Prince, Mr. Morton Campbell's Stracathro Vision, Mr. A. MacBrayne's Corrie Dhu and Cairn Dhu, are all quite in the first flight, and equal to anything in the same line that has preceded them. Then Mr. J. D. McColl, Glasgow; Mr. G. H. Stephens, Aberdeen; Mr. D. J. Thomson Gray, Dundee; Mr. John A. Adamson, Aberdeen (one of our very oldest exhibitors and admirers of the breed, and whose Ashley Charlie was only beaten on two occasions), Mr. J. F. Alexander, Kerriemuir (who bred Whinstone, The Macintosh, and Argyle in one litter); Mr. W. McLeod, Maryhill; Mr. H. Blomfield; are all names well-known in connection with this charming variety of terrier, which I hope fashion will never change in character or displace.

The Scottish Terrier Club, established in 1889, has for its secretary Mr. A. McBrayne, Irvine, and there is also a Scottish Terrier Club for England, the older establishment of the two, of which Mr. H. J. Ludlow is secretary. The description of the dog issued by the former is as follows:

“*Skull* (value 5).—Proportionately long, slightly domed, and covered with short, hard, hair, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. long or less. It should not be quite flat, as there should be a sort of stop, or drop, between the eyes.

“*Muzzle* (value 5).—Very powerful, and gradually tapering towards the nose, which should always be black and of a good size. The jaws should be perfectly level, and the teeth square, though the nose projects somewhat over the mouth, which gives the impression of the upper jaw being longer than the under one.

“*Eyes* (value 5).—Set wide apart, of a dark brown or hazel colour; small, piercing, very bright, and rather sunken.

“*Ears* (value 10).—Very small, prick or half prick (the former is preferable), but never drop. They should also be sharp pointed, and the hair on them should not be long, but velvety, and they should not be cut. The ears should be free from any fringe at the top.

“*Neck* (value 5).—Short, thick, and muscular; strongly set on sloping shoulders.

“*Chest* (value 5).—Broad in comparison to the size of the dog, and proportionately deep.

“*Body* (value 10).—Of moderate length, not so long as a Skye's, and rather flat-sided; but

well ribbed up, and exceeding strong in hind quarters.

“*Legs and Feet* (value 10).—Both fore and hind legs should be short, and very heavy in bone, the former being straight or slightly bent, and well set on under the body, as the Scottish terrier should not be out at elbows. The hocks should be bent, and the thighs very muscular; and the feet strong, small, and thickly covered with short hair, the fore feet being larger than the hind ones, and well let down on the ground.

“*Tail* (value  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ).—Which is never cut, should be about 7 inches long, carried with a slight bend, and often gaily.

“*Coat* (value 15).—Should be rather short (about 2 inches), intensely hard and wiry in texture, and very dense all over the body.

“*Size* (value 10).—About 16lb. to 18lb. for a bitch, 18lb. to 20lb. for a dog.

“*Colours* (value  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ).—Steel or iron-grey, brindle or grizzled, black, sandy, and wheaten. White markings are objectionable, and can only be allowed on the chest, and that to a small extent.

“*General Appearance* (value 10).—The face should bear a very sharp, bright, and active expression, and the head should be carried up. The dog (owing to the shortness of his coat) should appear

to be higher on the leg than he really is ; but, at the same time, he should look compact, and possessed of great muscle in his hindquarters. In fact, a Scottish terrier though essentially a terrier cannot be too powerfully put together. He should be from 9 inches to 12 inches in height.

### FAULTS.

“ *Muzzle*.—Either under or overhung.

“ *Eyes*.—Large or light coloured.

“ *Ears*.—Large, round at the points, or drop. It is also a fault if they are too heavily covered with hair.

“ *Coat*.—Any silkiness, wave, or tendency to curl, is a serious blemish, as is also an open coat.

“ *Size*.—Specimens over 18lb. should not be encouraged.”

### SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Skull .....	5	Legs and feet.....	10
Muzzle .....	5	Tail.....	2½
Eyes .....	5	Coat .....	15
Ears .....	10	Size.....	10
Neck .....	5	Colours .....	2½
Chest .....	5	General appearance ...	10
Body .....	15		
	—		—
	50		50

Grand Total, 100.

I need scarcely say that the teeth must be large, powerful, and white, and being undershot even in the slightest degree should ensure disqualification. An overshot or pig-jawed mouth ought to be a severe handicap, and if very pronounced, likewise disqualification. An uneven mouth in any terrier I consider a terrible fault, one so serious that all puppies which have their teeth uneven in the slightest degree would, if in my possession, be destroyed. Usually one can tell as soon as the puppy is born how its "mouth" will be, but in some cases it is as well to keep the youngster until it has got its adult teeth before discarding him, as, if the unevenness is not great in the first set of teeth, it may altogether disappear with the second growth.

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## CHAPTER XII.

### THE DANDIE DINMONT TERRIER.

A COMMON belief prevails that Sir Walter Scott invented the Dandie Dinmont terrier. Such was, however, not the case, and long before 1814, when "Guy Mannering" was written, and in which Scotland's greatest novelist and poet introduced the character of Dandie Dinmont with his terriers Auld Pepper and Auld Mustard, Young Pepper and Young Mustard, and Little Pepper and Little Mustard, similar dogs had been kept amongst the sporting farmers, gipsies, tinkers, and potters who resided about the Borders, or travelled there, extending their peregrinations well into the south of Scotland, and even to below Carlisle.

Sir Walter was, however, responsible for the name this quaint variety of terrier bears at the present time. One of his characters in the story alluded to, is "Dandie Dinmont," who, without being drawn from any particular individual, was no doubt intended to represent a type of farmer at that time common

enough on the Borders—strong, burly agriculturists, with a passion for sport of all kinds, and perhaps never more pleasantly employed than, with the aid of their terriers, digging out and killing some fox that had been making reprisals on their flocks. Such men were but a part of the times, and there was no need to draw upon the imagination for so fine a character as “Dandie Dinmont” of Charlieshope, with which the variety of dog of which I write has become so strongly identified.

After the publication of “Guy Mannering” the character of “Dandie Dinmont” was by common consent applied to one James Davidson of Hyndlee, of whom, however, Sir Walter Scott had never heard. Still, the description appeared to fit him well, and although he had never read the story himself, his friends would, out of sheer fun, repeat passages to him, over which it has been said Jamie was wont to fall asleep.

This Davidson occupied a farm on Lord Douglas’s estate at Hyndlee, Roxburghshire, bordering the Teviots, and in addition to being a keen sportsman bore a character for his rough “outspokenness” and honesty, as well as being a strong, powerful man, and quite as hard in constitution as men reared and brought up as he had been usually are. He possessed an extra good strain of terriers, and

although he sometimes had as many as ten and twelve couples of them, they had but two names amongst them, the blue or grey ones all alike being called "Pepper," whilst those of a sandy or fawn hue were known as "Mustard."

From these dogs of James Davidson's, it is generally supposed the best strains of the modern Dandie Dinmont terriers are descended, and here I must at the outset draw attention to the practice now so common of calling these dogs "Dandies," leaving out the Dinmont and terrier. This custom has become so prevalent that it is used not only in speaking of them but by some persons in writing of the variety.

I do not know whether to consider the Dandie Dinmont terrier fortunate or unfortunate in having so many chroniclers. No variety of dog has had so much written about him in the newspaper, and, moreover, Mr. Charles Cook, of Edinburgh, wrote his monograph, a remarkably handsome volume, beautifully illustrated, published by David Douglas in 1885, and which I believe is now out of print. About twenty-two years ago the columns of the *Field* were pretty well inundated with letters concerning this dog, many of them written with considerable feeling, and I fancy more with the idea of puffing a particular strain than with any intention of



arriving at what was the correct type, or what the origin of the dog had been.

Of the latter many peculiar ideas had been promulgated, one writer urged that the odd shape and long body were originally obtained by a cross at some remote period with the dachshund; and, strangely enough, this idea is still believed in some quarters. Others suggested a cross between the otter hound and some kind of terrier; whilst from another quarter the more correct solution of the mystery would come, that the Dandie Dinmont terrier had been originally produced in the same way as other varieties of the dog. He was like Topsy, "he had growed," and no one was old enough to bring proof as to when he did "grow" or how. As some writers might say, and with exceeding truth, "the origin of the Dandie Dinmont is lost in the mists of obscurity," and the less I tell about him before he became known on the show bench, the better for my readers and for future generations.

As I have said, the Border farmers and others kept a hardy race of short-legged terriers, answering to the description of the Dandie Dinmont, even before the end of last century. They assisted the hounds to kill the otters, and of themselves were hardy enough to destroy foxes in their holes, and the sweetmart and the foulmart whenever they were come across.

The dogs, as hardy as their masters, notwithstanding their short legs and long bodies, were fairly active. But the original Dandie Dinmont terrier stood a little higher on the leg and was shorter in the body than the modern article. This may be observed by reference to early pictures of this dog, notably to that by Landseer in his well known portrait of Sir Walter Scott. Here a "mustard" dog is introduced, said to have been painted from a terrier then at Abbotsford, and which originally came from James Davidson.

As to how he became crooked in front is more a matter for scientists than for an ordinary writer about dogs, but, more likely than the dachshund theory, I would suggest that at some earlier period in his history a terrier had been born with his or her fore legs pretty well crooked, and somewhat stunted thereon, as all terriers with unduly heavy bodies undoubtedly must be. He proved, though slow, to be a good hand at vermin, better indeed than others of the same strain. Then he was freely bred from, and his descendants were bred from, and so the strain of crooked legs and long backs became perpetuated. I am no believer in foreign crosses, and have often smiled to find how often they crop up at most convenient periods, and, as I have said before, these unduly crooked fore legs are deformities, and Nature of

herself never intended them to be on any dog. We must not forget that the original Dandie Dinmont was a smaller dog than the modern one; perhaps in an endeavour to obtain greater bone, larger heads, and stronger jaws, a cross with big terriers was introduced, and as heavier bodies were procured the legs gave way, which deformity, at first but tolerated, eventually became hereditary.

Terriers and hounds were, a century or two ago, kept in considerable numbers in the north of England, and in Scotland, by the farmers and others, who required them to kill the foxes which at certain seasons of the year were extremely destructive to the hill flocks. Some of the farmers would keep a hound or two, another a few terriers, and so on, such animals being great favourites, and forming part and parcel of the family household. There is a story told of one old Cumbrian, who, owing to the bad times, had to leave his farm, and ultimately he came to a state of extreme poverty. Friends who had known him when in better circumstances relieved him occasionally, but going from bad to worse he was compelled to seek relief from the parish. An officer called to see the poor old chap, whom he found sitting in a broken-down chair with an aged and grizzled foxhound at his feet. The official told him that he could not receive any

assistance so long as he kept the hound, and asked that it might be destroyed. This the hungry farmer, with tears in his eyes, would not allow; "Nea," he said, "me an' Bellman has leeved tagither an' we'll dee tagither," and, notwithstanding the protestations of friends, he refused to part with his dog, and continued to starve and starve, sharing his crusts with his faithful canine companion until the old hound died. The master was not long in following it to the grave.

Men such as the above kept the dogs on the Borders; so much per head was given for each fox killed, the amount, which varied from sixpence to a shilling each, no doubt going to pay for the refreshment of the farmers and their servants when out on such hunting expeditions, the whole of the hounds and terriers kept in the district banding themselves together on such occasions. The gipsies, too, were a sporting lot then as they are now, and they had their dogs too. Many of them, even as recently as forty or fifty years ago, kept a couple or so of otter hounds in addition to their terriers, and they were keen at the sport.

About twenty years since I was otter hunting in the north; an otter had been bolted, which we had lost for a short time, and our hounds were making casts to pick up the lost scent. On the high road close



by were a couple of gipsies' vans, from one of which stepped out a comely "Romanie." The weather was cold even for the end of April. "Eh! young man," said she to me, "be careful wi' those hounds; both my father and grandfather became crippled wi' rheumatiz before they were forty-five years old through wading in the water when otter hunting." I can see the young woman now as I saw her that day, when, leaning on my pole, I watched old Rally (young Rally then) trying every little stone by the beck to find the missing scent, and I often wondered why she so addressed me. Happily, wading in the water, after either hounds or fish, has not yet "crippled me wi' rheumatiz," although I heeded not the gipsy's warning.

Perhaps some of our terriers were descended from "Piper Allan's," who was immortalised in Dr. Brown's "*Horæ Subsecivæ*" (1858), where he said of one of his dogs that it was "of the pure Piper Allan breed." Piper Allan (Thomson Gray says, in "*Dogs of Scotland*," 1891) was the son of William Allan of Bellingham, Northumberland, who was born in 1704. This William "had much shrewdness, wit, and independence of mind, and in early life he became a good player on the bagpipes. For a livelihood he travelled about the country mending pots and pans, making spoons, baskets, and brooms,



and was an excellent fisherman. He married a gipsy girl, and had six children, James (the "Piper") being the youngest, and born in 1734.

Dr. Brown says: "This Piper Allan lived in Coquet Water, piping, like Homer, from place to place, and famous not less for his dogs than for his music, his news, and his songs. The Earl of Northumberland of his day offered the piper a small farm for one of his dogs, but after deliberating for a time, Allan said, "Na, na, ma lord, keep yir ferum; what wud a piper do wi' a ferum?"

No doubt this dog was one of the same strain with which the piper's father had hunted the otter, about a dozen of which he kept for the purpose. It was he who said of one of his crack dogs, "that when Peachem gives mouth I dare always sell 't otter's skin!" Another well-known dog of his was called Charlie, which, after doing some excellent work in assisting to kill otters in a fish pond of Lord Ravensworth's, at Eslington Hall, the steward wished to buy at Allan's own price. This was, however, refused with the expression that "the whole estate wad nae buy Charlie." These stories certainly favour the supposition that there was a strain of hound in such terriers—otter hound, of course, and, judging from their appearance and characteristics, I believe this was the case.

But I have already wandered too much in Borderland and enjoyed myself in the realm of supposititious history, and must advance into the region of fact; this I will commence with a summary of an interesting letter from Mr. James Scott, of Newstead, writing to the *Field* in 1869, under the *nom de plume* of "A Border Sportsman." This letter was brought about by others that had previously appeared in the same journal, just at that period when the Dandie Dinmont terrier was becoming popularised.

In 1800 James Davidson (he died in 1820) was presented by Dr. Brown, Bridgeward, with a bitch called Tar and a dog named Pepper, both very small and very short in the leg, with long bodies, large and long heads, ears large and pendant, like a hound's or beagle's, but a little more pointed in the lower end. About this time Mr. Davidson took the Hyndlee farm, and shortly afterwards Mr. Stephenson, the tenant in Plinderleigh, procured for him another of those small terriers. It was no relation to those he already had, being from Rothbury, where that peculiar small breed was to be found in the greatest perfection, and bred by the Allens, Andersons, and Anguses. This Rothbury specimen was very dark in colour and rough in coat. The descendants of these three form the first of the

pepper and mustard, or Dandie Dinmont, race of terrier.

The true breed, proceeds Mr. Scott, was quickly spread amongst Mr. Davidson's friends ; but next to Davidson himself for keeping up and distributing the pure race at the early period of its history were the Rev. H. G. Baillie, of Mellerstans, and Mr. Home, of Carrolside. I think from this we get as much about the early history of the breed as is possible, and it certainly is strong proof that it existed in the last century, had certain otter hound-like characteristics, and that there were, at any rate, some of the strain considerably larger in size than others.

A rather noteworthy letter appeared much later in the *Field*, viz., in 1878, as to the origin of Mr. James Davidson's Dandie Dinmonts. This was written by Mr. J. Davison, then residing at Andover, Hampshire, who proceeds to say : " I, as rather more than a sexagenarian, and a Border man, and one who in almost his childhood took up with dandies, can, I think, throw some light on the origin of those possessed by Mr. Davidson. The Border ' muggers ' were great breeders of terriers—the Andersons on the English side, the Faas and Camells on the Scotch side. In their perambulations they generally met once or twice a year at Longhorsley, Rochester (the ancient Bremenium of the Romans),

Alwinton, or some other Border village. If they could not get a badger they got a foulmart, wild cat, or hedgehog, at which to try their dogs. The trials generally ended in a general dog-fight, which led to a battle royal amongst the tribes represented.

“This afterwards led to a big drink and exchange of dogs. Jock Anderson, the head of the tribe, had a red bitch which, for badger drawing, cat, foulmart, or hedgehog killing, beat all the dogs coming over the Border. Geordy Faa, of Yetholm, had a wire-haired dog terrier, the terror of not only all other terriers in the district, but good at badger, fox, or foulmart. They met at Alwinton, where Willie and Adam Bell (noted terrier breeders) had brought a badger they had got hold of at Weaford, near the Cheviots. Both the red bitch and the dog of Faa’s drew the badger every time they were put in. ‘Jock Anderson,’ said Geordy, ‘the dogs should be mated; let us have a grand drink, the man first doon to lose his dog.’ ‘Done,’ says Jock. They sent for the whisky, which had never paid the king’s duty, to Nevison’s, at the little house, having agreed to pay 2s. a quart for it. Down they sat on the green, fair drinking; in eighteen hours Jock tumbled off the cart-shafts, and Geordy started off with the terriers. The two dogs were mated, and produced the first pepper and mustards, which were presented by

Geordy to Mr. Davidson (Dandie Dinmont of 'Guy Mannering'); strange to say, the produce were equally the colour of pepper and mustard. The last pair I saw of what I consider perfect dandies were Robert Donkin's, at Ingram, near Alnwick, just before I left the north in 1838. I have been at shows, but never could identify any dandies shown as at all like the original breed belonging to the Telfords of Blind Burn, the Elliots of Cottonshope, the Donkins of Ingram, and other Border farmers. I am not a doggy man, but like to see all old breeds kept distinct."

Prior to the letter of 1869 dog shows had come into favour, and already classes had been provided for Dandie Dinmont terriers, even at such an early date as at Manchester in 1861, and at Birmingham the following year. As a rule these divisions were poorly represented, although in 1863 Mr. Aitken, of Edinburgh, sent a dog to Cremorne, where it was awarded but a third prize, the higher honours being withheld. For some time the variety made little progress, until an eventful show at Birmingham in 1867, where the two judges withheld all the prizes, much to the consternation of the exhibitors, one of whom, the Rev. W. J. Mellor, who showed his Bandy, which had been placed first at the same show the previous year, and usually won whenever



he was benched during three or four subsequent seasons.

The Rev. Tenison Mosse was now on the scene with his little dog Shamrock ; the newspaper correspondence was having its weight, and the Dandie Dinmont terrier was increasing in popularity. The very heavy Sir Douglas came into the ring, much to the chagrin of Scottish exhibitors, who said he was too big, and that his sire Harry was a mongrel, which he was not. Sir Douglas was a handsome, sensible dog of my own ; he was too big, scaling 27lb., but he won a considerable number of prizes, including first at the Border show, held at Carlisle, in 1871, the Rev. J. C. Macdona and Mr. S. Handley judging ; a dog called Punch, also by Harry, and owned by Mr. Coulthard, being second. The general public were satisfied with the awards, but not so many of the Scottish fanciers, who were terribly cut up at the defeat of their own cracks.

At this show Mr. Bradshaw Smith, of Blackwood House, Ecclefechan, had four dogs and bitches entered ; for about thirty years he had paid considerable attention to the Dandie Dinmont terrier, usually having a score or so of them in his kennels. Some of these were very good ; his dog Dirk Hatterick, for instance, who had been written of as the "incomparable Dirk." Shem was another good dog ; he

had a bitch or two even better than either of these, and no doubt the whole of the inhabitants of his kennel were extremely well bred. They had been "boomed" somewhat, and it came as a great disappointment to many that at the Border Counties Show they were passed over altogether, owing to bad condition. Dirk was one of the batch entered. As a matter of fact, the Blackwood House kennels had for years required a change of blood, they having become so inbred as to be delicate, weedy, and generally unsatisfactory. This was greatly to be deplored, as I believe they had originally been excellent dogs in every way, and Mr Cook tells us, in his monograph on the breed, that some of them would kill a badger outright. On an occasion when their courage was put to a severe test it was the custom to slip a terrier at two badgers at once, when the dog would "pin" the one and at the same time the other badger was inflicting severe punishment, which was borne without a murmur. The same authority says that in 1880 five of the Blackwood House Dandie Dinmonts were wilfully poisoned, and unfortunately the miscreant who did the deed was never discovered. When Mr. Bradshaw Smith died in 1882 the kennel consisted of thirteen terriers, which with a single exception were dispersed.

About this time Messrs. Robert and Paul Scott, of Jedburgh, who tramped their district as pedlars or hawkers, were well known for the excellent Dandie Dinmonts they possessed, and right proud were the two brothers of their strain, and of their dog Peachem. Robert brought his favourite southwards on one or two occasions, winning first at the Crystal Palace Show in 1872, and he also had second given him at Birmingham. Peachem was to my idea an ideal of his race—not too big, not too little, good in coat, colour, and top knot, nicely domed in skull, shapely, well arched in body, and not too crooked in front. Robert Scott was wont to say, “Eh, eh! Its ainlie the joodges can beat Peachem.”

Dr. Grant's, of Hawick, Dandie Dinmonts and hounds are pleasantly alluded to by “The Druid” in *Turf, Field, and Farm*. Mr. Nicol Milne, of Faldonside; Mr. F. Somner, West Morriston; Mr. James Atkins, Maryfield; Mr. Hugh Purvis, Leaderfoot; Mr. Nisbet, Rumbleton; with some few others, had leading kennels of this variety when it first came to be recognised by the wily southerners as a desirable dog to keep. They and others bred a good many of them, with which the market was soon supplied, and of such we find those that are with us at the time I write.

A somewhat noteworthy show was held at Carlisle

later in the seventies, viz., in 1877, when it was announced that the awards would be made by points, the judges being Messrs. Pool and J. B. Richardson. There was the largest entry which had hitherto been brought together, eighty-five of the Dandie Dinmont terriers competing. There was no particular uniformity in the awards of prizes after all, and two of the chief honours went to animals of quite distinct type—the one to Shamrock, already alluded to, who then weighed 20lb. and was given seventy-eight points out of the possible hundred ; the other to Mr. W. Carrick's mustard dog Harry Bertram, who weighed 27½lb., and was given fifty-nine points out of the possible hundred. This, I fancy, was the beginning and ending of judging Dandie Dinmonts by points, and there were some odd awards made by the Scotsmen in those days, whatever they might say about those made by English judges. One of the latter had written that a Dandie Dinmont should have erect ears !

The terrier of which I write was, at this period, in the hey-day of his popularity. Leading exhibitors and the chief shows were supporting him. The late Mr. J. H. Murchison, the Rev. J. C. Macdona, Mr. James Locke, Selkirk ; Mr. W. Carrick, Carlisle ; Mr. James Cook, Edinburgh ; Mr. A. Irving and Mr. Pool, Dumfries ; Capt H. Ashton, Mr. A. H. T.

Newcomen, Kirkleatham; Mr. W. Dorchester, Reading; Mr. Slater, Carlisle; Mr. J. Finchett, Wales; and Mr. Coupland at one time or another were working in the dog's interests. Following them, or almost contemporary with them, came Mr. Archibald Steel, the Earl of Antrim, Capt. Keene, Mr. R. Stordy, Mr. D. J. T. Gray, Mr. A. Weaver, Mr. A. Kemball Cook, Mr. W. Walker, Mr. J. Sherwood, jun., the Rev. S. Tiddeman, Mr. Houleston, Mr. T. Maxwell, Mr. J. Clarke, Mr. G. Shiel, Mr. J. E. Dennis, Mr. E. W. Blogg, and Mr. G. A. B. Leatham, of Tadcaster, Yorkshire; Mr. J. Flinn, Portobello; and Dr. Hadden, Melrose. All have at one period or another owned excellent specimens, and for a time the Earl of Antrim was a most enthusiastic admirer of the variety. He tried various crosses, and was so fortunate that at one of the south country shows about eight years ago he made entries in both the Dandie Dinmont and Bedlington terrier classes, obtaining a prize or honourable mention in each with two dogs out of the same bitch and by the same sire. This can really be called successful breeding, and it certainly shows how nearly allied are these two strains of terrier. It must not be forgotten that both varieties sprang pretty much from the same locality.

Mr. Leatham, at Thorp Arch, Boston Spa, who



has kept the breed for over twenty years, has at the present time the largest and best kennel of Dandie Dinmont terriers ever owned by one man, and has seldom less than ten couple running about, not counting the young puppies. The catalogues and the Kennel Stud Books show their winnings, and so even an entry can Mr. Leatham turn out that on more than one occasion he has won the prize for the best team of terriers in the show, and so recently as 1893 his entry was awarded the special at Edinburgh for the best team of non-sporting dogs in the show. However, more than this the Thorp Arch Dandie Dinmonts are properly trained and educated in all the duties which a good terrier ought to perform. Mr. Leatham, with the pride of an enthusiast, says "they are the gamest terriers on land or in water he ever saw." He proceeds to say "that they are first-rate ratters; he has bolted foxes with them when hounds have run them to ground, and they do their duty willingly. But," says Mr. Leatham, "the best test is with badgers," which he has every opportunity of utilising in their wild state, as there are several earths in the neighbourhood in which he resides. He has never known one of his Dandies show the "white feather, though he has seen fox terriers bolt directly the badger came in sight. On the contrary, the Dandies will

stand terrible punishment, and Ainsty King, a well-known bench winner, had an hour and a half with one badger and received a severe mauling ; one bite through the shoulder incapacitating him from further work for a long time. King, though not more than 19lb. in weight, will tackle a badger and never leave go until compelled to do so."

Mr. Leatham also uses his terriers for rabbiting, and finds them particularly handy in the prickly gorse coverts through which an ordinary terrier will not work, and he likewise trains them to hunt the hedgerows, and generally for doing the work of an all-round dog. He concludes his eulogy of his favourite breed by pronouncing them excellent house dogs, kindly with children, and he considers them as game as ever they were even when the border gipsies had them as assistants in killing otters in the ponds and the rivers of their "patrons."

Latterly a considerable amount of discussion has been going on relative to the reputed trimming of the coat and face of the Dandie Dinmont. That this has been done, and is still done in many instances, I have had ample proof, and I always have blamed the judges for not putting it down with a strong hand. This they could easily do by disqualifying any dog where the hair had been removed off the face, and where the top knot had been

artificially whitened. Dogs with uneven mouths, either overshot or undershot, ought likewise to be firmly dealt with, and kept altogether out of the prize lists. Of course, there are some exhibitors who do not so "trim" their dogs, as there are others who deny that anything of the kind is done to any unfair extent. But the fact remains, and at least two owners of good dogs to my knowledge discontinued exhibiting, their chief reason for so doing being the prevalence of plucking and general trimming of the coat and face.

Whether the best specimens of to-day are as good or better than those of twenty years and more ago is rather a difficult problem to solve. Our judges do not always quite stick to type, and some of the southern bred dogs that have done a great deal of winning of late are to my mind too light in bone and generally weak, unterrier-like, and constitutionally puny in appearance. Though the Dandie Dinmont is not, as a rule, used by the "show man" as a working terrier, he must not be allowed to degenerate into a ladies' pet. Remember that the border farmer and gipsies used them for work long before Sir Walter Scott christened them Dandie Dinmonts and made them fashionable dogs.

A writer in the *Scottish Fancier*, about twelve months since, gave his opinion, in very strong

language, that the Dandie Dinmont was degenerating. He said :—" Dandie Dinmont terrier fanciers talk of the great improvement that has taken place in their favourite breed during the last decade. We fail to see it. Our opinion is that we are fast losing the points that go to make a good Dandie Dinmont. The large, full, dark expressive eye, which displays so much affection and strength of character—some would call it 'dourness'—is unfortunately too seldom seen ; the large full-domed skull is equally rare ; and for one that has a good arched back there are dozens that are as flat as a Skye terrier. Bone, legs, and feet are also in need of improvement. These cannot be made by the aid of finger and thumb, so are allowed to go from bad to worse. The cause of the degeneracy we cannot tell. Faulty judging has certainly something to do with it, and if something is not done the strong-boned, small-sized, big-eyed, silver-domed terrier will be a thing of the past." Words like these from an authority on the breed must have weight, and ought to be borne in mind, but dog breeders are almost as obstinate in their fancies as a woman is in the choice of a bonnet or mantle.

As a companion, the Dandie Dinmont terrier is quite satisfactory. He is game, intelligent, as a rule free from vice, and no more addicted to a fight than



other varieties of the terrier. His long body and short legs enable him to carry a considerable amount of street dirt into the house when he is made a part and parcel of the family. Otherwise he is a good family quadruped, being fond of children and amiable in his disposition. To my mind, he is not so useful as an assistant to hounds as a fox terrier, or as a longer-legged, more active dog. Nor is he fast enough for rabbit coursing. The latter is, no doubt, an advantage to them from a moral point of view, because coursing matches with bagged rabbits are not likely to be made in his favour, as is unfortunately the case with the modern fox terrier. The Dandie Dinmont, a hard bitten, determined terrier, is liable to kill his fox underground, if he can get to him, rather than drive him into the open, nor is he of that form likely to make him an active water dog, though fond enough of a swim. He is quaint in appearance, by no means unornamental on the hearthrug before the dining-room fire, and will repay in affection for anything that he eats when kept as a dog in the house.

No better dog as a "friend" could possibly have been than the writer's Sir Douglas, alluded to earlier on. Often the companion of my fishing excursions, he knew when to hunt rats and when not to do so. He struck up an acquaintance with a



family who lived near some gunpowder works, with whom I used to leave a salmon rod to use as occasion required. Douglas liked the people there, he liked the children. In the winter season, when we did not go fishing, Douglas paid weekly visits on his own account, walking quietly along the foot-paths through the fields, never leaving the "trod" though rabbits might be on both sides of him. He was petted by the youngsters, wagging his great tail the while, and in an hour was off on his return, taking the same route as he had on the outward journey. Again, if I left him at home when I had gone out angling, in nine cases out of ten he would meet me on the road back, two miles or so out of the town, especially at night time. Poor dog! he had a sad failing, he loved killing a cat, but knew well enough he ought not to do so. Let "pussy" spit at him, her life was soon over. He liked to go out to afternoon tea with the children and their nurse who were our neighbours. On one occasion a large and ferocious brown retriever flew at one of the youngsters, Douglas was at the dog's throat in an instant, and it was generally believed he saved the child from being worried to death, as the brute was, a short time afterwards, destroyed by magisterial orders for almost killing a little girl. The same afternoon Douglas was in

disgrace, because he killed the cat in the house where his family party were taking tea.

I could name the date and the show, but I will not do so for reasons that are no doubt apparent. More than twenty years since a semi-tame fox was on view as an additional attraction at one of our canine exhibitions in the north of England. Some of the keepers and committee who were on duty during the night having an idea that they could have a bit of sport, unbenched two or three of the wire-haired terriers, said to be "good at badger, fox, or fighting," and one by one let them at the poor fox. However, sport there was none, for the terriers would not tackle their game at any price. "Try Sir Douglas" (who was benched at the same show) said one fellow, and Sir Douglas was at once brought upon the scene, and, licking his lips—as was his wont under such circumstances—made a dash at the fox, immediately pinning it by the throat, much to the chagrin of those who were in charge of the show. Somehow or other they managed to get the dog off before the fox was quite killed, though the poor thing died just after the show—it was thought from distemper contracted thereat.

What the above favourite dog of mine was as a companion, no doubt any ordinary Dandie Dinmont would prove to be under proper training, and, even

at the risk of being considered egotistical, I have ventured to give the above particulars of a dog once well known on the show-bench, and the mention of whose name to some people would have much the same effect as a red rag is said to have upon a bull.

Although it is always very much a matter of opinion as to what are or have been the best Dandies of modern and of recent times, it may be as well to give a list of a few I have known, as such might perhaps come in useful for future reference. There was Capt. Lindoe's Dandie (who won at Cremorne in 1864), Mr. W. Dorchester's Cloudie and Jock, Mr. J. H. Murchison's Melrose, Mr. Macdona's Kilt, Mr. P. Scott's Peachem and Nettle, Rev. T. Mosse's Shamrock and Vixen, Mr. Bradshaw Smith's Dirk, Mr. J. Locke's Sporrán and Doctor, Mr. J. A. Mather's Warlock, Mr. W. F. A. B. Coupland's Border Prince, Mr. D. Bailie's Border King, the mustards Mr. Steel's Edenside and Mr. Clark's Heather Sandy; Mr. G. Graham's Maud II., Mr. Leatham's Heather Peggy, his Little Pepper II. and Ainsty Belle, Mr. J. T. Gray's Philabeg, Mr. W. T. Barton's May Queen, Mr. Stordy's Rab, Mr. T. F. Slater's Tweedmouth, and an excellent bitch which came out at Manchester in 1894, Mr. J. Brough's Belle Coota.

A club to look after the interests of the Dandie Dinmont terriers in England was formed in 1875, only a year after the Kennel Club was established. In 1885 came a Scottish club, and in 1889 the South of Scotland Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club was duly formulated, and at once took a leading position. The points and description of their special terrier appear to have been most carefully drawn up, its members and committee are thoroughly representative, and because such is the case I give their description here. This is as follows :

*Head.*—Strongly made and large, not out of proportion to the dog's size, the muscles showing extraordinary development, more especially the maxillary. Skull broad between the ears, getting gradually less towards the eyes, and measuring about the same from the inner corner of the eye to back of skull as it does from ear to ear. The forehead well domed. The head is *covered* with very soft, silky hair, which should not be confined to a mere topknot, and the lighter in colour and silkier it is the better. The cheeks, starting from the ears proportionately with the skull, have a gradual taper towards the muzzle, which is deep and strongly made, and measures about 3in. in length, or in proportion to skull as three is to five. The muzzle is covered with hair of a little darker shade than the topknot, and of the



same texture as the feather of the fore legs. The top of the muzzle is generally bare for about an inch from the back part of the nose, the bareness coming to a point towards the eye, and being about 1 in. broad at the nose. The nose and inside of mouth black or dark-coloured. The teeth very strong, especially the canine, which are of extraordinary size for such a small dog. The canines fit well into each other, so as to give the greatest available holding and punishing power, and the teeth are level in front, the upper ones very slightly overlapping the under ones. [All undershot and overshot specimens will not be recognised by the society.]

*Eyes.*—Set wide apart, large, full, round, bright, expressive of great determination, intelligence, and dignity; set low and prominent in front of the head; colour, a rich, dark hazel.

*Ears.*—Large and pendulous, set well back, wide apart and low on the skull, hanging close to the cheeks, with a very slight projection at the base, broad at the junction of the head, and tapering almost to a point, the fore part of the ear tapering very little—the taper being mostly on the back part, the fore part of the ear coming almost straight down from its junction with the head to the tip. They are covered with a soft, straight, brown hair (in some cases almost black), and have a thin feather of light hair



starting about two inches from the tip, and of nearly the same colour and texture as the topknot, which gives the ear the appearance of a *distinct point*. The animal is often one or two years old before the feather is shown. The cartilage and skin of the ear should not be thick, but rather thin. Length of ear, from 3in. to 4in.

*Neck.*—Very muscular, well-developed and strong, showing great power of resistance, being well set into the shoulders.

*Body.*—Long, strong, and flexible, ribs well sprung and round, chest well developed and let well down between the fore legs; the back rather low at the shoulder, having a slight downward curve and a corresponding arch over the loins, with a very slight gradual drop from top of loins to root of tail; both sides of backbone well supplied with muscle.

*Tail.*—Rather short, say from 8in. to 10in., and covered on the upper side with wiry hair of darker colour than that of the body, the hair on the under side being lighter in colour, and not so wiry, with a nice feather about 2in. long, getting shorter as it nears the tip; rather thick at the root, getting thicker for about 4in., then tapering off to a point. It should not be twisted or curled in any way, but should come up with a regular curve like a scimitar,

the tip, when excited, being in a perpendicular line with the root of the tail. It should neither be set on too high or too low. When not excited it is carried gaily, and a little above the level of the body.

*Legs.*—The fore legs short, with immense muscular development and bone, set wide apart, the chest coming well down between them. The feet well formed, and not flat, with very strong brown or dark-coloured claws. Bandy legs and flat feet are objectionable, but may be avoided—the bandy legs by the use of splints when first noticed, and the flat feet by exercise, and a dry bed and floor to kennel. The hair on the fore legs and feet of a blue dog should be tan, varying according to the body colour, from a rich tan to a pale fawn; of a mustard dog they are of a darker shade than its head, which is a creamy white. In both colours there is a nice feather, about 2in. long, rather lighter in colour than the hair on the fore part of the leg. The hind legs are a little longer than the fore ones, and are set rather wide apart, but not spread out in an unnatural manner, while the feet are much smaller; the thighs are well developed, and the hair of the same colour and texture as the fore ones, but having no feather or dewclaws; the whole claws should be dark, but the claws of all vary in shade according to the colour of the dog's body.

*Coat.*—This is a very important point ; the hair should be about 2in. long, that from skull to root of tail a mixture of hardish and soft hair, which gives a sort of crisp feel to the hand. The hard should not be wiry ; the coat is what is termed pily or pencilled. The hair on the under part of the body is lighter in colour and softer than on the top. The skin on the belly accords with the colour of the dog.

*Colour.*—The colour is pepper or mustard. The pepper colour ranges from a dark blueish black to a light silvery grey, the intermediate shades being preferred, the body colour coming well down the shoulder and hips, gradually merging into the leg colour. The mustards vary from a reddish-brown to a pale fawn, the head being a creamy white, the legs and feet of a shade darker than the head. The claws are dark, as in other colours. [Nearly all Dandie Dinmont terriers have some white on the chest, and some have also white claws.]

*Size.*—The height should be from 8in. to 11in. at the top of shoulder. Length from top of shoulder to root of tail should not be more than twice the dog's height, but, preferably, 1in. or 2in. less.

*Weight.*—From 14lb. to 24lb., the best weight as near 18lb. as possible. These weights are for dogs in good working order.

The relative values of the several points in the standard are apportioned as follows :—

	Value.		Value.
Head .....	10	Legs and feet.....	10
Eyes .....	10	Coat .....	15
Ears .....	10	Colour .....	5
Neck .....	5	Size and weight.....	5
Body .....	20	General appearance ...	5
Tail.....	5		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	60		40

*Grand Total, 100.*

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## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE SKYE TERRIER.

THE question which is now agitating those who are most concerned in the welfare and well-being of the Skye terrier is a peculiar one. "What is it? Is it to be a toy or a sporting dog?" is the question for discussion, and, as usual where a controversy is concerned, there are at least two parties who seemingly hold different opinions.

We all know that of late years at any rate, the Skye terrier has been produced to such perfection, so far as length of coat is concerned, that it would be actually impossible for him to perform the proper duties of a terrier. Then, too, the coat is soft, not so hard and wiry as it ought to be, and, of course, more suitable for carrying wet and dirt than for getting rid of it. Strangely, there are modern writers who have identified the description of the "Iseland" dogges mentioned by Caius as identical with the Skye terrier. I am pretty well certain that the hardy, warlike, matter-of-fact Scots who lived

and fought and robbed before and during Caius's time never owned a dog of any kind that could not be made useful. This could never be the case with the modern Skye terrier, with his long coat and shaggy head. In the sixteenth century, and earlier, there was, no doubt, a Scottish terrier, but he was the "die hard" of the present day rather than the Skye. In proof of this one of the leading writers on dogs so recently as 1881 confounds the two varieties, so far as to give us an excellent illustration of a hard-haired Scottish terrier which he is fain to call a Skye terrier. Perhaps the learned writer, Hugh Dalziel, is not so much to blame for this as the person who led him into the error, which was, of course, rectified in later editions. I mention this in order to show that even in modern times it were possible for confusion to be caused between the Skye terrier, which is quite a recently manufactured variety, and the Scottish terrier, which I have said in an earlier chapter is probably the oldest of all varieties of Scotia's dogs.

Between 1870 and 1880 a number of letters appeared in the *Field* newspaper, in which interested writers, as they did later on, tried to make out that there were several strains of these Skye terriers; but again they mixed up the die hards, and the more they wrote the more confusion was caused. Nor did

“Stonehenge,” in his “Dogs of the British Isles,” simplify matters much. He might have done so for he knew well enough the difference between the two varieties, but his coadjutors in the article followed the line of complication, and we were no better off than before, so far as our knowledge of the Skye terrier was concerned. That its name as such is of comparatively modern origin I have no doubt whatever, but I have doubts as to the truthfulness of the story which ascribes the original Skye terrier as the result of a *mésalliance* between the native dogs of the Western isles and some “Spanish white dogs which were wrecked on the Island of Skye at the time when the Spanish Armada lost so many ships on the western coast.”

Ever since the terrier of which I write has had an identity of its own, the coat which covered it was long, even shaggy, but not to the same extent as is seen on the bench winners of the present day. How he first came to have that coat there is not a particle of reliable evidence to be found. Maybe it was natural, as the mountains and lochs are to the island the name of which it bears; maybe it, like Topsy, “grewed.” Anyhow, here is the strain which is as distinct from that of the ordinary hard-haired Scottish terrier as a Pekin duck is from a Rouen. That they were able to hunt and kill

rats, and possessed unusually good noses I know, but careful tending to the coat, nursing and petting, and the sacrifice of every useful point for a long coat have wrought a complete change in the animal, and he is now nothing more than a toy or pet dog. And his long, trailing jacket does not prove a recommendation when he goes into the house from the streets on a dirty day and rests in the drawing or dining room. I am told that an attempt is being made to place the modern Skye terrier on his proper footing, and that in future he will have to be first of all a terrier and a long-coated ladies' dog afterwards.

Mr. Thomson Gray, in his "Dogs of Scotland," gives particulars of an interview he had with George Clark, who had for fifty years been head game-keeper on the Mull Estate of the Duke of Argyll. Mr. Gray writes: "When Mr. Clark left the duke's Mull Estate for Inverary he took with him three of these terriers to infuse fresh blood into the Inverary kennel, where the old Skye had been carefully bred from time immemorial, and on leaving there twenty years later for Roseneath he brought this breed of terrier with him, and by constantly introducing dogs unrelated to his own has kept the blood pure, and of exactly the same type from that day till now. They were kept for the purpose of bolting from cairns and



burrows the foxes, polecats, and numerous vermin which infested the wilds of the Argyllshire highlands.

“Mr. Clark states that such was the condition of the districts with which he was associated, that even within his own knowledge sheep could not be kept at large on the hills, until the landlords and farmers clubbed together in each district and appointed a man as foxhunter, who was paid a sum by each farmer according to the number of sheep kept. This functionary kept a pack of small terriers of from 12lb. to 16lb. weight, and a couple of *luath-choin* (swift dogs), either staghounds or foxhounds.

“The foxhunter and his terriers were constantly on the move over his district, and when a shepherd found a dead lamb, supposed to have been destroyed by a fox, he at once set out for this nomadic individual, and by daylight next morning the foxhunter and shepherds were on the ground with the dogs. On the hounds finding the scent they were uncoupled, and on “starting” the fox went off in full cry. The fox generally sought refuge in a burrow or cairn. The services of the terriers were then brought into requisition, and when let loose they rushed in to do battle, cheered on by the hunter’s “Staigh sin !” Many a good terrier has met his *coup de grâce* while engaged in these subterranean

fighths, and many more have come forth to carry for the remainder of their restless days the scars of battle. If reynard did not sell his life dearly under cover, his fate was sealed on making from his stronghold.

“This was the description of work for which the old Skye terrier was kept in the Duke of Argyll’s kennels at Inverary and Roseneath, and from our personal knowledge of their build and temperament, we can corroborate what Mr. Clark has said of their qualifications as working terriers. . . . About forty-five years ago Her Majesty was presented with a couple of them by the county gentlemen of Argyllshire, one of these being from the Duke’s kennels, and the other from that of Dugald Ferguson, the foxhunter.”

Now, it was no doubt from strains such as the above that our modern Skye terrier sprung; such dogs as Mr. James Pratt (of London) showed a quarter of a century ago, and still shows, and others which might be mentioned.

I formerly owned a Skye terrier called Cloudy, a dark coloured almost black dog, which obtained considerable notoriety as a prize winner. He had a profuse and soft coat, and as much hair on his head as any Yorkshire terrier I ever saw. Beneath that hair, however, was hidden the

head of a perfect terrier, beautiful dark eyes beaming with intelligence, and, barring his soft coat, he was a dog of extraordinary excellence. Although he could barely see through the hair which hung down over his eyes he was a keen hunter, a splendid water dog, and in a fight or general turn-up the gamest of the game. As a fact, it was said that the dog had belonged to an old lady, who, becoming tired of what once had been a favourite, gave it to her servant, who transferred it, where her heart had already gone, to a barman dog fancier. He kept it for a bit; a time came when his master wished to try a fighting bull terrier, so he bought Cloudy for ten shillings to be practised upon. However, the tables were turned, for the Skye was a "glutton" at the work, and speedily chawed up the fighting dog, rendering it *hors de combat* in less than a quarter of an hour. Then Cloudy fell into better hands, was shown successfully, and ultimately purchased by the writer, who found the dog to have an extraordinary nose, and if not kept chained up he would hunt my footsteps through crowded streets, though I had gone on two hours before. This faculty of scent, Mr. Pratt tells me, was very marked in his strain, of which the following story may be interesting.

Mr. Pratt kept a number of Skye terriers, which it was his custom to take out for walking exercise in

Hyde Park. During 1875 he had noticed that on many occasions some of his dogs picked up a strong hunt, which they usually carried to a brick drain which ran from the park into Kensington Gardens, but, being in the enclosed portion, he called them off. However, in the spring of the following year the dogs re-commenced hunting keenly in the same locality, so one evening Mr. Pratt examined the place where they marked, and at once came to the conclusion that it was no cat or rabbit his little favourites were having their fun with. Further inquiries elicited the intelligence that a constable and one of the park keepers had seen a curious creature creep into the drain, which Mr. Pratt knew from their description must be a badger.

For a time nothing was done, and Mr. Pratt was in hopes that the strange and solitary animal would be allowed to remain in peace, but the park keeper at that time was of a different opinion, and by the aid of a sack and a bulldog the badger was caught. Then it was baited, and sold to some young "swells," which facts coming to the ears of Mr. Pratt, he wrote to the *Times*. The park keeping delinquent who had caught the animal was severely reprimanded, and after some trouble it was found that the poor creature had wantonly been killed, and afterwards "set up" in the most approved fashion by Mr. Rowland Ward.

That a badger could have lived for several months in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens was a matter of interest to naturalists, and in due course our old friend Frank Buckland appeared upon the scene, at once settling any difficulty as to where the badger came from. In his letter dated April 28, 1876, he says that no doubt the badger belonged to him. On June 5 the preceding year he obtained three from a friend near Pontefract, father, mother, and cub. They were eventually transferred to the Fish Museum at South Kensington, where Mr. Eden, the curator, turned an old ashpit into a cage for their reception.

Although it was believed sufficient precaution had been taken to prevent their escape, the male badger got out of his cage the very first night, and was traced to a hole under the passage of the entrance to the Horticultural Gardens, on the Queen's Gate side. Here food was placed for him nightly, but, becoming tired of his residence, he sought fresh apartments, which he no doubt found where Mr. Pratt's excellent terriers first discovered him. Such is the true story of the Hyde Park badger, who was quite a newspaper topic for a time, even *Punch* giving him attention.

Shortly after this little episode Mr. Pratt was sent for by the Prince and Princess of Wales to



Marlborough House, where their Royal Highnesses complimented him for the action he had taken in the matter in trying to save the life of the poor creature. These dogs of Mr. Pratt's were for the most part drop-eared specimens, had hard coats, not too profuse, and when shown won pretty well all before them on the show bench, and I do not think we have better terriers than his at the present time. Some time later Mr. Pratt was honoured by several interviews with the Queen, whose partiality for Skye terriers and, indeed for other dogs, was well-known as one of the many favourable traits in Her Majesty's character, who graciously accepted one of Mr. Pratt's best dogs, which for many years was the most favoured, as he was certainly the most valuable, animal in the kennels at Windsor.

These Skye terriers of Mr. Pratt's included the strains from the Duke of Argyll; Mackinnon's, of Cory; Cameron's, of Lochiel, and from the Lord Macdonald's kennels.

Skye terriers were included in the first volume of the Kennel Club Stud Book, and the best of the early dogs were such as Mr. Pratt showed, including Dunvegan, Gillie, and others; Mr. J. Bowman's (Darlington), Dandie; Mr. Russell England's Laddie; and Mr. Macdonald's Rook. Mr. A. Boulton, of Accrington, and Mr. M. Gretton, Hull, about the

same time showed some excellent specimens. Mr. D. Pattison, then of Lancaster, had a first-class dog called Tar, and some others; whilst Mr. D. W. Fyfe, of the same town, has from time to time owned excellent specimens, a fawn dog of his called, I believe, Novelty, being particularly choice. Indeed, this was the best dog of the colour I have seen for some time. It seems the fawn-coloured specimens are gradually becoming extinct, for no reason whatever; so far as beauty is concerned, they are handsomer than the dark greys, which approach almost to blackness. All other points being equal, I would rather have a fawn-coloured Skye terrier, or a light grey or blue one, than one of the darker hue, which some judges prefer to all others. I think the clubs might do a little in this matter of colour.

A few years ago a majority of the Skye terriers had drop ears; now we find the erect ears the more popular, and why the former have been almost displaced is one of those things which no one can understand. Perhaps it is accident, perhaps a freak of the fancy. As we are now, nine judges out of ten would give the preference to a dog with erect ears, but at shows where a complete classification is provided, the two varieties compete separately, and I need scarcely say that such as have drop ears

appear in fewer numbers than is the case with the more popular cousin. Jack is as good as his master, one form of ear is as good as the other, and each should be on an equal footing. I know this opinion is not held by Scottish fanciers who have only terriers with erect ears in their kennels; still, even at the risk of offending them, I asked Mr. Wardle to sketch one of each variety, and how he has done so his illustrations are given in evidence.

There are two Skye Terrier Clubs, one for Scotland, the other for England, but neither appears to be doing much towards the popularisation of the breed. Indeed, one leading exhibitor has resigned his membership from both on account of the type of dog they appear to favour, which he thinks ought to be called the Edinburgh terrier rather than the cognomen he does bear. Be this, however, as it may, the classes for Skye terriers are, as a rule, fairly well filled at our shows, whatever difference of opinion may be rife as to the value and excellence of such animals as appear in the prize lists. Still, the number nowadays does not reach such a total as was the case at a London show in 1862, when there were fifty-one entries, and although recent Scottish shows have had a favourable return, the average per class is not equal to what it used to be before there were so many sub-divisions.

Desiring to give as comprehensive an idea as possible as to the Skye terrier, in addition to my own opinion I have the pleasure of publishing the following from the Rev. D. Dobbie, honorary secretary to the Skye Terrier Club for Scotland; but at the same time I do not endorse all his opinions, especially where he alludes to a broad, massive chest and shoulders :

“Although the description and points of the Skye terrier are as distinctly defined and as extensively agreed upon as those of any breed of dogs, yet the specimens exhibited on the show bench and the awards there made are frequently more inconsistent with the recognised standard, and more conflicting with each other than in the case of any other breed.

“To estimate the importance of such detailed description and points as are given at the end of this chapter, it is necessary to bear in mind the position of this dog in the sporting world. He forms the connecting link between the ferret, weasel, &c., and the canine race. He takes up the work of the former, and carries it beyond what they are able to accomplish. His formation, therefore, more largely corresponds to them than does that of any other breed. His function is to take to earth, and to bolt from their burrows, cairns, crevices, &c., the vermin which infest them. For

this purpose his primary qualifications are small size, low set, great length of body, and exceptional strength of head and fore quarters—fitting him to enter, to perform his task, and to extricate himself where others differently formed would fail. His coat, too, of hard, lanky hair—sufficiently long (averaging  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in.) to cover head, eyes, and body, but not so long as to impede him in his work—serves as protection against weather and foes. While the undercoat gives warmth, the overcoat serves like the thatch of a cottage—to carry off the rain; and I have seen the hair of the forehead torn, the flesh lacerated, and the blood flowing over the face in encounters with vermin on the Tweedside, when I fully expected to find my dog blind, but I have never seen the eyesight injured.

“ But, instead of a dog possessed of these qualifications, we often find on the show bench and in the prize list a spurious counterfeit, large, leggy, and short-bodied, with weak head, jaw, and chest, and covered with an inordinate length of soft, flowing hair. By such the typical Skye terrier is largely displaced by many breeders and judges.

“ The explanation of this to a large extent is not difficult. A number of years ago—but still within the memory of many living—a fierce conflict raged in England and in Scotland as to what constituted



the true Skye terrier. In the South the attempt was made to establish that claim on behalf of a sort of mongrel Scottish terrier, and in the North on behalf of what is known as the Paisley or Clydesdale terrier. The issue in both cases was that these attempts utterly failed. The breeders, however, alike of the true and of the spurious species, were limited in number, connections had been formed, inducing the defeated parties, while modifying somewhat the character of the dog's coat, &c., to maintain that conflict on the show bench in which they had been defeated in open discussion. Judges as well as breeders were implicated, some, it must be confessed, from pure ignorance, while others had formed their standard after a false model, or had been influenced by a variety of extraneous motives.

"The Skye terrier is a purely Scottish dog, and is not generally well known in England. But England is the chief market for his disposal, and purchasers are readily imposed upon by a large showy specimen that may have been awarded a prize, even although destitute of Skye terrier character. The breed has been lately rising in public favour, and numbers of new breeders have entered the field, some of whom have obtained genuine specimens, others have not.

"The work for which the Skye terrier is specially

fitted became largely accomplished, his coat was difficult to keep in order, so another species was found fitted for the remaining work, and more easily kept in trim. Hence his disappearance to a great extent. Though I have repeatedly visited Inverness-shire, Ross-shire, Argyle-shire, and once Skye, I have scarcely ever met with a real Skye terrier till within the past few years; but Colonel Malcolm, of Poltalloch, writes me that the Laird of Waternish, in Skye, has always had a pack, and I believe that Lord Macdonald, of Armidale, Isle of Skye, has never entirely lost the blood. Within considerably less than half a century the breed was also carefully kept at Mull, Inverary, and Roseneath (the Duke of Argyll's), and at Bargamy (the Earl of Stair's). From these strains most of the existing race claim to have sprung, and of late years there has been a decided and increasing effort not only to extirpate the spurious and restore the true breed, but also to bring the latter up to the typical standard.

"In his native Highland home, especially where he had generally disappeared, but where solitary specimens and abundant traditions still linger, a special interest is being taken in their restoration. At Inverary, where the breed was wont to be found in perfection, the lately deceased Duchess of Argyll had taken steps for its revival. At

Oban it has found patrons not a few, and at Inverness, Dingwall, Skye, &c., numerous and enthusiastic breeders have arisen. All are bent on cultivating the genuine article only, and they are able to recognise, in the standard of the clubs, the conditions which their localities required, and its correspondence with all hereditary information they possess. If the efforts to bring up the breed to the standard of the club are to succeed, attention must be given to the defects that abound in the more typical specimens as well as to the exclusion of the wrong type.

“In judging Skye terriers I should put lowness and length *first*; head, chest, and shoulders *second*; coat *third*; level back *fourth*; all other points being inferior and subordinate. Most of the older judges decide by length of coat alone—a most deceptive and injurious standard—the coat concealing faults and becoming softer the longer it is, and encouraging untypical breeding—5½ inches of coat is ample.

“During the past two years I have attended most of the large shows from Inverness to London, including Glasgow, Edinburgh, Carlisle, Preston, Liverpool, Manchester, Crystal Palace, &c., and have witnessed the prevailing defects specified.

“Some leading breeders of the true type make weight their chief objection to winners of the present

day, and wish to reduce them to from 14lb. to 16lb. each. This, I think, would be a most fallacious standard. A good head will alone weigh about 5lb., although the present prevailing head is under 4lb. A small, well-built dog will often weigh heavier than a larger loosely built one, and it is always easy by starving to reduce weight. Size, therefore, is the proper test, and should form the foundation without which all other points should be comparatively valueless. A skilful and practised eye can readily determine size, but not so easily weight.

“The noble head, wide at the top of the brow, and long from the back of the skull to the eyes, indicative of brain power, is now the exception; and a long, snipey muzzle, indicative of weakness of jaw, prevails. The broad, massive chest and shoulders frequently give place to contracted forequarters. So seldom is the characteristic level incline of the back—from the highest point, at the top of the hip joint, to the lowest point, at the back of the shoulder bone—to be seen, that when it does appear it is often considered a defect. The fore legs are generally too long, and should never be absolutely but only comparatively straight, so that the dog may stand straight upon them. If higher at the back of the shoulders than loin. it is the worst fault a Skye terrier can have. It unfits him for anything but a

fancy pet. And as a general rule most of the exhibits and most of the prize winners are in every way very considerably larger than the adopted standard of the clubs, although allowance has been made therein to the extreme limit for the more genial circumstances in which the modern Skye terrier is generally placed. It will require the most strenuous and persistent endeavours of both the clubs and every individual member of them to effect a thorough reformation. It has been said that the English club, during its seven years of existence, has done nothing or little to improve the breed. It remains to be seen whether the Scottish club, which has existed only three years or so, is to be successful. Should it fail in being so it will prove an exception to the good fortune which usually attends that tenacity of purpose, perseverance of effort, and application of skill for which the natives of North Britain are distinguished."

From the above valuable contribution it will be seen that there is a desire to remove the Skye terrier from the category of pet dogs, into which they have gradually drifted, to their proper position as working terriers. Whether this will prove successful is an open question, and we have yet to find that both show and work can be obtained in the highest perfection in the same long-coated terrier. Moreover, with scarcely an exception, the best specimens of the



race now on the bench are by the length of their coats quite inadapted to act the part of ordinary terriers, and whether exhibitors are prepared to curtail the quantity of coat in any great degree is a matter of grave opinion. Take Mr. Dobbie's own excellent dog Roy of Aldivalloch, and no one can gainsay the fact that he is a first-rate specimen, what would he be on a wet day amongst the rocks and cairns and drains? The same with the Rev. T. Nolan's dogs, and such as Mr. D. Cunningham has so often bred and shown successfully.

Perhaps the best couple of Skye terriers now being shown are Mrs. W. J. Hughes' Laird Duncan and Wolverley Roc. I like them specially because they are so straight in the coat, and are of a very much lighter shade of grey than is prevalent at this time. Mr. H. Buckley's Young Duke, Mr. W. Cummings' Burgundy and Madeira, the Rev. T. Nolan's Tackley Boy, Mrs. M. Tottie's Sunbeam and Victoria II., Mr. R. Bruce's Silver Prince, Mr. T. Young's Little Dombey, and Mrs. H. Freeman's Lord Lennox are amongst the choicest of the breed being shown at the time of writing. Owing, no doubt, to the trouble required to keep their long coats straight and clean, Skye terriers were never in many hands. The coat requires brushing or combing daily, but the process of tubbing should not be

undergone oftener than is actually required to prevent an accumulation of filth.

There is no doubt that a Skye terrier in continued hard work would carry comparatively little coat, whilst its brother, which had been kept for show purposes alone, would be profuse in jacket; and, being equal in other respects to its relative, the latter would beat the former in the ring; thus the show dog becomes the more valuable, though probably the least useful, dog of the two so far as legitimate work is concerned. I hope that the Skye Terrier Club for Scotland will be successful in its praiseworthy attempt; if they prove so they will have solved a problem at which others have failed over and over again. And is it possible to make the present Skye terrier as useful a little dog for vermin and general hunting and country work as the Scottish terrier, which has come to the front with such leaps and bounds during the past half-dozen years? Mr. Dobbie and his colleagues are sanguine that at any rate they can keep it from more nearly approaching the Paisley or Clydesdale terrier, which is dealt with in the succeeding chapter.

As already hinted, there are two clubs to look after the interests of the Skye terrier—one for England, the other for Scotland; the former with about twenty-five members, the latter with some

sixty on its roll. Both have drawn up full descriptions and standards of their special dog, which differ very little, but the most complete of the two is that of the Scottish club, which I take as my ideal, and publish accordingly. It was compiled after careful consideration, and is certainly authoritative. The English club allows a little more for length of body, coat, and weight, in consideration of the better climate, easier life, and more luxurious keeping of the modern over the original Skye terriers.

The Scottish club description and points are as follows :—

“ The Skye terrier takes his name from the chief of those north-western islands of Scotland that, so far back as his history can be traced, formed his native home, and in which he was ‘found in greatest perfection.’ Upwards of three centuries ago the unmistakable description of him was given by a writer on *Englishe Dogges*, as a cur ‘brought out of barbarous borders fro’ the uttermost countreyes northward,’ ‘which by reason of the length of heare makes shoue neither of face nor of body.’ Subsequent authors refer as distinctly to him, and describe him as *the* terrier of those islands, ‘having long, lank hair, almost trailing to the ground.’ Such evidence gives him an exclusive and indefeasible right to the designation which he bears. He is the only terrier distinctively belonging to the north-

western islands that is not common to the whole of Scotland. That he has been extensively displaced, there and elsewhere, there can be no question, though no better reason can be assigned for this than that 'ilk dog has his day;' or that, though others are no better and much less attractive, a charm has been thrown around them by a wizard wand. Yet it is believed by those who have the best practical knowledge of him that the Skye has no compeer in his own peculiar domain. Wherever there are rocks, dens, burrows, cairns, or covers to explore, or waters to take to, his services should be called into requisition. The smallest of all the useful terrier tribe, the lowest set, the longest in body, the strongest proportionally in legs, feet, jaws, and chest, the most muscular and flexible in his whole frame, the best protected against weather, injury, or foes, with an unequalled acuteness of sight, scent, and hearing, an unrivalled alacrity of action, and an indomitable pluck, he is possessed of pre-eminent qualifications for his special work. He needs only to have it put before him to prove that he is imbued with the spirit of his native master, who when taken from his hill to the battlefield and told :

There's the foe ; he has nae thought but how to  
Kill twa at a blow.

No kennel can be complete without him.

“As a domestic watch and pet companion he is unsurpassed. Centuries gone by he was ‘greatly set up, esteemed, taken up, and made much of’; and down to more recent times even ‘a duchess would almost be ashamed to be seen in the park unaccompanied by her long-coated Skye.’ To the present day he remains as unchanged as any variety of the canine race, and has certainly lost none of his merits or attractions. Exceptionally cleanly and sweet, less dependent on exercise than any other, his delicate sensibility, shrewd sagacity, exclusive attachment, and devoted courage, combined with his elegant form, graceful attire, and aristocratic air, render him, during his brief day—

A thing of beauty and a joy for ever.

“For club use and general reference full descriptive details are subjoined :—

“1. *Head*.—Long, with powerful jaws and incisive teeth closing level, or upper just fitting over under. Skull: wide at front of brow, narrowing between ears, and tapering gradually towards muzzle, with little falling in between or behind the eyes. Eyes: hazel, medium size, close set. Muzzle: always black.

“2. *Ears* (Prick or Pendant).—When *prick*, not large, erect at outer edges, and slanting towards



each other at inner, from peak to skull. When *pendant*, larger, hanging straight, lying flat, and close at front.

“3. *Body*.—Pre-eminently long and low. Shoulders broad, chest deep, ribs well sprung and oval-shaped, giving flattish appearance to sides. Hind-quarters and flank full and well developed. Back level and slightly declining from top of hip joint to shoulders. Neck long and gently crested.

“4. *Tail*.—When *hanging*, upper half perpendicular, under half thrown backwards in a curve. When *raised*, a prolongation of the incline of the back, and not rising higher nor curling up.

“5. *Legs*.—Short, straight, and muscular. No dew claws. Feet large and pointing forward.

“6. *Coat* (Double).—An *under*, short, close, soft, and woolly. An *over*, long—averaging  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in.—hard, straight, flat and free from crisp or curl. Hair on head; shorter, softer, and veiling forehead and eyes; on ears, overhanging inside, falling down and mingling with side locks, not heavily, but surrounding the ear like a fringe, and allowing its shape to appear. Tail also gracefully feathered.

“7. *Colour* (Any Variety).—Dark or light blue or grey, or fawn with black points. Shade of head and legs approximating that of body.”

## I.—AVERAGE MEASURE.

*Dog.* Height, at shoulder, 9 inches.

Length, back of skull to root of tail,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches ;  
muzzle to back of skull,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches ; root of tail to  
tip joint, 9 inches. Total length, 40 inches.

*Bitch.* Half an inch lower, and two and a half inches shorter  
than dog, all parts proportional ; thus, body 21 inches,  
head 8, and tail  $8\frac{1}{2}$  ; total,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

## 2.—AVERAGE WEIGHT.

Dog, 18lb. ; Bitch, 16lb. No dog shall be over 20lb., nor under  
16lb. ; and no bitch should be over 18lb., nor under 14lb.

## 3.—POINTS, WITH VALUE.

1. <i>Size.</i>	{	Height, with	{ 10 inches high,	-	5'	} 15'	
		Length and	{ 9 " "	-	10'		
		Proportions	{ $8\frac{1}{2}$ " "	-	15'		
Scale for bitches one-half inch lower throughout.							
2. <i>Head.</i>	{	Skull and eyes	-	-	-	10'	} 15'
		Jaws and teeth	-	-	-	5'	
3. <i>Ears.</i>		Carriage, with shape, size, and feather,					10'
4. <i>Body.</i>	{	Back and neck,	-	-	-	10'	} 15'
		Chest and ribs,	-	-	-	5'	
5. <i>Tail.</i>		Carriage and feather,	-	-	-		10'
6. <i>Legs.</i>	{	Straightness and shortness,	-	-	-	5'	} 10'
		Strength,	-	-	-	5'	
		Hardness,	-	-	-	10'	
7. <i>Coat.</i>	{	Lankness,	-	-	-	5'	} 20'
		Length,	-	-	-	5'	
8. <i>Colour and Condition,</i>			-	-	-		5'
Total,							100'

## 4.—JUDICIAL AWARDS.

- Over extreme weight to be handicapped 5' per lb. of excess.
- Over or under shot mouth to disqualify.
- Doctored ears or tail to disqualify.
- No *extra* value for greater length of coat than  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches.
 

5.	{	Not to be commended under a total of	60'
		Not to be highly commended	65'
		Not to be very highly commended	70'
		No specials to be given	75'





ARTHUR WARDLE

## CHAPTER XIV.

### THE CLYDESDALE OR PAISLEY TERRIER.

I ONCE heard a man describe this dog as "neither fish, fowl, nor good red herring," meaning no doubt in his original way to express his opinion that the Clydesdale or Paisley terrier was neither one thing nor another, and perhaps he was not far wrong. It has been said that this terrier was originally a cross between the ordinary Skye terrier and the Yorkshire terrier, but, although it is of quite modern origin, no proof has been produced when such crosses took place or who made them. To my idea it is much more likely that the Yorkshire terriers were produced from the Paisleys or Clydesdales, and we all know that, until within a comparatively recent date, the former were known as "Scotch terriers," and in the first volume of the "Kennel Club Stud Book" their classification is "Broken-haired Scotch or Yorkshire terriers." This was in 1874, but a little later the classification was changed to "Yorkshire Terriers," and as such it



still remains. A much more likely origin is that the variety was made by the Glasgow and other Scottish dog fanciers crossing the softer-coated, lighter-coloured prick-eared Skye terriers with each other until they bred fairly truly and produced the Skye terriers in an altered form.

The Yorkshire terrier is a drop-eared dog; the Clydesdales are all prick-eared, and the latter were even within the present generation shown amongst Skye terriers, and known generally as such, although sometimes they were distinguished as "silky-coated" terriers. The Clydesdale Terrier Club was established in 1887, but ceased to exist after a few years. A fresh club was then formed, called the Paisley Terrier Club, which still survives, though in a somewhat somnolent condition. The Kennel Club gave the variety classification in their Stud Book in 1888, but a year or two previously classes had been specially provided for them at the leading Scottish shows. Classes for them were likewise given at the Jubilee show held at Barn Elms in 1887; but, although a few representatives were present, the encouragement the committee received was evidently not sufficient for the Kennel Club to encourage the variety at future exhibitions.

I remember at the earlier Scottish shows, especially the Glasgow ones, which were usually

managed by Mr Henry Martin, a number of very handsome animals, shown by a Mr. Wilson and others; these dogs were then called Paisley terriers, and they competed amongst the prick-eared Skye terriers, often enough winning the leading prizes, much to the annoyance of exhibitors of the true breed of Skye terrier. In the end "ructions" took place; owners of both varieties flew to the newspapers, with the result that it was then re-decided that a Skye terrier should have a hard coat, and animals of the Glasgow fancy, with silvery, soft jackets, ought to be constituted a variety of themselves. In due course this was done, and such were known as Paisley terriers or Glasgow terriers. Later, the Clydesdale terrier became perhaps the more familiar name, and between the two the matter of nomenclature now rests, although the name Clydesdale appears to have the preference. At the present time there are more specimens of this silky-haired terrier bred in Paisley than elsewhere, and Mr. John King is perhaps at the head of the fancy there.

The Clydesdale or Paisley terrier, though he can kill rats, and maybe other vermin, is essentially a pet dog, and is usually kept as such. Like the Yorkshire terrier, his coat requires keeping in good order by repeated combing and brushing, though in

this respect his owners do not take the pains and give the time to his toilet the Yorkshire fanciers do to their favourites, although at times the feet of the Paisleys are covered with wash-leather coverings in order that they do not wear away the hair therefrom, and to prevent them unduly scratching and spoiling their coats. I have likewise seen the hair of the Paisley terrier tied back over the eyes, and to keep a dog in really tip-top form for the show bench something of this kind is required.

Mr. Thomson Gray, in his "Dogs of Scotland," says: "While possessing all the characteristics of the Skye, as far as form, colour, and length of coat are concerned, they have a soft, silky coat, and on this account have been known for the past ten years or so as Glasgow or Paisley terriers. Previous to this, however, they were simply known as Skyes, and exhibited as such. The Paisley terrier has never been very widely distributed, and seldom found beyond the valley of the Clyde. At the shows which used to be held at Glasgow a dozen or more years back, these silky-coated terriers were seen in all their beauty, and the fact of their appearing there as Skyes was what first brought them into prominence. The fanciers of the hard-coated Skyes rose in arms against them, holding that they were not Skyes, as they had a silky coat, and were only

pretty 'mongrels' bred from Skye terrier 'rejections,' and ought to be known as Glasgow or Paisley Skyes. On the other hand, the breeders of the silky-coated dogs held, as a matter of course, that the texture of coat their dogs possessed was the correct one. This was untenable, as until the introduction of this breed no Scottish dog had a silky or soft coat.

"After the decision against the eligibility of the silky-coated dog to compete in the Skye terrier classes, the breed rapidly declined. A few, however, held to the breed out of pure love and admiration for it, but they were few. The Paisley fanciers appear never to have lost sight of the dog, and it was not only by keeping and breeding them that they again brought the silky-coated beauties into popularity, but by instituting classes for them at the annual dog shows held at Paisley on New Year's Day. A fresh interest was thus begun in the breed, which has never been allowed to flag. . . . Breeders of hard-coated dogs, more especially if the coat be long, know how difficult it is to keep up the hard coat, on account of the washing, combing, &c., required to keep the dog in show trim, and also from the idle and indoor life exhibition dogs lead. A pup now and again will be found in a litter with a soft coat, although not quite silky in texture. These a

good breeder, as a matter of course, would reject ; but how many do really reject them, if they are good in other points ? They perhaps do not breed from them, but they do not hesitate to sell them, and thus increase the difficulty by giving good pedigrees to such dogs. In Skye terriers the length of coat is one of the principal points ; one therefore can easily understand how a pup with an extra long coat would be prized, even should the coat be a little soft. This, then, was how the Paisley terrier originated. The silky-coated dogs, from their great beauty, took the eye, and were greatly prized as pets ; and as the demand increased, which it very quickly did when they began to win prizes, they were bred in large numbers, and the points now attained were only arrived at by careful selection and scientific breeding. Some dark rumours are afloat about the crosses that were resorted to to gain the points desired, but if such a thing ever took place it has never been made public. It is hinted that the Dandie had something to do with the manufacture of this breed, and we have heard it asserted that the Paisley terrier was the result of a Dandie-Skye cross, but we have seen no evidence to support this statement. We are of opinion that no cross was required, and that in the case of the best strains none took place.

“ In character and disposition, the Paisley terrier



resembles the Skye, being good-natured, intelligent, and lively. They make excellent house pets, and those who desire something more substantial than a toy will find in the elegant shape and pleasing outline of the Paisley terrier something to please them. They are not delicate, but require a good amount of attention in washing, combing, and brushing, to keep them in good order, and without this they very soon get out of order.

“It is unnecessary to go into a minute description of the Paisley terrier, as he is almost a counterpart of the Skye, with the exception of the coat, which, instead of being hard and wiry, is as silky and long as that of a Yorkshire terrier; the longer and finer the more value is attached to this point; it is perfectly flat and free from curl. The colour is various shades of blue, dark blue being considered perfection in colour; the hair on head and lower extremities is slightly lighter, but should not approach a linty shade. The length of the hair on head and face gives character to this point; it reaches to the nose, obscuring the eyes completely; the ears must be erect, are well furnished with long hair, the fringe being a material point.

“The tail should not be carried high, but straight, and almost in a line with the back, the parting of the hair at shoulder being continued to the top of

the tail, the fringe being thin and hanging straight and gracefully.

"In character and disposition this dog is good-natured, affectionate, and lively; an intelligent companion, an excellent house dog, and most suitable for a lady who wishes something more substantial than a toy. . . . It is notorious that in this breed more than in any other, the poor condition and form in which most of them are exhibited often throws them out of their proper places in the prize lists."

I agree pretty much with what Mr. Gray says in the description, but I should add that the Paisley terrier is not so low on the legs, nor proportionately so long in the back as the Skye terrier. From all one sees and hears, I should not care to prognosticate a favourable future for the variety of which I write. The best strains are even yet in few hands, and although the club may do something towards popularising the variety, the trouble to keep the coat in good order will always be a bar to them as ordinary house dogs, and in these impecunious times when it seems that, with few exceptions, a dog owner wishes to make money by his hobby or fancy, it is not likely that many men so disinterested will be found as to breed a Paisley terrier which they cannot sell for more than £15 or £20, when they

can, with less difficulty, breed an equally good Scottish terrier that would be worth double the money.

The fanciers of the Paisley terrier require a clever and influential man to boom him, a wealthy individual to buy a few choice specimens at exorbitant prices, and a few puffs in the newspapers. Perhaps if a story could be got up as to the life-saving properties possessed by this little dog, it might do him good with the people. Royal patronage, perhaps, could lift him up somewhat, but he certainly requires more than his own good qualities to raise him in public estimation and make him a popular dog.

The following are the description and points of the Paisley or Clydesdale terrier as compiled by the Clydesdale Club :

*"Head.*—The skull, which is slightly domed, should be very narrow between the ears, gradually widening towards the eyes, and tapering very slightly to the nose. It should be covered with long silky hair, perfectly straight, without any appearance of curl or waviness, and extending well beyond the nose. It should be particularly plentiful on the sides of the head, where it is joined by that from the ears, giving the head a very large and rather heavy appearance in proportion to the size of the dog. The muzzle should be very deep and powerful, tapering very

slightly to the nose, which should be large and well spread over the muzzle, and must be always black. The jaws should be strong, with the teeth perfectly level. The eyes should be rather wide apart. They should be large, round, moderately full, but not prominent; expressive of great intelligence, and, in colour, various shades of brown.

“*Ears.*—This is a most important point in this breed. They should be as small as possible, set on high, and carried perfectly erect. They should be covered with long silky hair, which should hang in a beautiful fringe down the sides of the head, joining that on the jaws. (Well carried, finely fringed ears is one of the greatest points of beauty in the breed, as it is also one of the most difficult to obtain.) A badly carried and poorly feathered ear is a serious fault in a Clydesdale terrier.

“The neck should be rather long and very muscular, well set into the shoulders, and covered with the same class of hair as the body.

“*Body.*—The body should be very long, deep in chest, and well ribbed up; the back perfectly level, not sloping from the loins to the shoulder, as in the Dandie.

“*Coat.*—The coat should be very long, perfectly straight, and free from any trace of curl or waviness; very glossy and silky in texture (not linty), and

should be without any of the pily undercoat found in the Skye terrier.

“*Colour.*—The colours range from dark blue to light fawn, but those most to be desired are the various shades of blue—dark blue for preference, but without any approach to blackness or sootiness. The colour of the head should be a beautiful silvery blue, which gets darker on the ears; the back various shades of dark blue, inclining to silver on the lower parts of the body and legs. The tail is generally the same shade or a little darker than the back.

“*Tail.*—The tail should be perfectly straight, not too long, and carried almost level with the back; it must be nicely fringed or feathered.

“*Legs and Feet.*—The legs should be as short and straight as possible, and well set under the body, both legs and feet well covered with silky hair (in a good specimen the legs are scarcely seen, as they are almost entirely hidden by the coat).

“*Style and General Appearance.*—The general appearance is that of a long, low dog, having a rather large head in proportion to its size, and with a coat which looks like silk or spun glass. It shows considerably more style or quality than almost any other fancy terrier, and has not the delicate consti-



tution which makes the Yorkshire, Maltese, and others only fit for indoors."

SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Head and ears.....	15	Body . . . . .	15
Neck.....	10	Colour . . . . .	10
Coat . . . . .	20	Legs and feet . . . . .	5
Tail . . . . .	10	Style and general appear- ance . . . . .	15
	—		—
	55		45

*Grand Total, 100.*





ARTHUR WAROLE

## CHAPTER XV.

### YORKSHIRE AND OTHER TOY TERRIERS.

THE charming, aristocratic little dog we now know as the Yorkshire terrier has been identified as such for but a comparatively short period, the Kennel Club adopting this nomenclature in their Stud Book for 1886. Prior to this date the name had been hanging about him for some few years, because the names of rough, broken-haired, or Scotch terrier, under which he was first known, were most misleading. During the early days of dog shows the classes in which he competed included terriers of almost any variety, from the cross-bred mongrel to the Dandie Dinmont, the Skye terrier, and the Bedlington. Indeed, twenty years since it was no uncommon sight to see wire-haired fox terriers figuring with others of a silkier coat under the one common head of "rough or broken-haired terriers." As a fact, a broken-haired terrier should have been altogether a short-coated dog—the Yorkshire is long-coated to a greater extent than any other

variety of the terrier; nor was the title Scotch terrier, by which he was most frequently known, at all adaptable to him.

How the name of Scotch terrier became attached to a dog which so thoroughly had its home in Yorkshire and Lancashire is somewhat difficult to determine, if it can be determined at all, but a very old breeder of the variety told me that the first of them originally came from Scotland, where they had been accidentally produced from a cross between the silky-coated Skye terrier (the Clydesdale) and the black and tan terrier. One could scarcely expect that a pretty dog, partaking in a degree after both its parents, could be produced from a first cross between a smooth-coated dog, and a long-coated bitch or *vice versa*. Maybe, two or three dogs so bred had been brought by some of the Paisley weavers into Yorkshire, and there, suitably admired, pains were taken to perpetuate the strain. There appears to be something feasible and practical in this story, and I am sorry that when the information was given me, nearly a quarter of a century since, by a Yorkshire weaver then sixty years old and since dead, I did not obtain more particulars about what was in his day called the Scotch terrier.

However, this is the Yorkshire terrier now, and will



no doubt remain so till the end of his time, and his place is usurped by other dogs which, certainly not handsomer, will be less difficult to keep in prime coat and in good condition. It has been said that the late Mr. Peter Eden, of Manchester, so noted in his day for pigs and bulldogs, had "invented" the Yorkshire terrier. This he had not done, although in its early day he owned some very excellent specimens, which for the most part he had purchased from the working men in Lancashire. It was they who bred them, and delighted to show them at the local exhibitions, of which that at Middleton, near Manchester, was the chief. Here, and at the Belle Vue shows, were always to be found the choicest specimens, which their owners treasured with great care, and had to be uncommonly "hard up" to be induced to sell their favourites. They would get £20 or £30 for a good specimen, more if it was "extra special," and this at a time when dogs did not run to so much money as they do now. We have on record that Mrs. Troughear, of Leeds, sold her little dog Conqueror to Mrs. Emmott, wife of an American actor, for £250. Still, since its first introduction the Yorkshire terrier has not progressed in public estimation; indeed the contrary may be said to be more the case, the reasons for which will be plainly enough told before the conclusion of this chapter.

Originally this terrier was a bigger dog than he is to-day, specimens from 10lb. weight to 14lb. being not at all uncommon, so repeatedly classes had been provided for them in two sections—dogs over 8lb. and dogs under that weight—whilst in addition there might be divisions for rough-haired toy terriers, the maximum allowed being 6lb. At the time I write, Yorkshire terriers over 8lb. weight are seldom seen at our canine gatherings, the prevailing and convenient weights being, I should say, from 4lb. to 6lb. ; but the club scale still allows for two classes, their restrictions being to 12lb. maximum in the one and 5lb. in the other.

The Yorkshire terrier at his best is a smart, handsome little dog, and some I have known were handy as rat killers, although as a rule they were kept as pets and for show purposes. If running outside on a wet or dirty day their beautiful, long, silky coat gets spoiled, indeed almost ruined ; and even in the house extraordinary care and much skill are required to keep the coat of the Yorkshire terrier in order. Indeed, it has been said that the number of exhibitors in this country who thoroughly understand the treatment of this little pet dog can be counted on the fingers of the two hands. Whether this is so or not I will not commit myself by saying, but I do know that "Yorkshires" shown by one who

"knows how" and by one who does not "know how," are terribly different in appearance. Indeed, the extraordinary growth of the coat to be found on a perfect specimen is in a certain degree due to artificial aid, for, when comparatively young the skin at the roots of the hair is dressed daily with an ointment or wash which acts in a wonderful manner in stimulating the growth of the hair.

The puppies when born are quite black, and those darkest in hue usually turn out to be the best in colour when fully coated and matured, which is not until they are about two years old. Not long ago I had a letter from some one who was about bringing an action against a well-known "fancier" because he had sold him a bitch in pup to a pure bred dog, and when the pups were born they were black with faint tan shadings on them. The purchaser destroyed the puppies; but before bringing the action he intended, and having the vendor before the Kennel Club, he wrote to the *Field*, when he was told how foolishly he had acted in the transaction. Rather curious are these great changes in the appearance and colour of some puppies, and it is well known that Dalmatians, spotted carriage dogs, are invariably produced from their dam quite free from black or brown markings.

When the Yorkshire terrier is about three to four

months old, he begins to change his colour down the sides, on his legs, &c. ; but even at nine or ten months the back is still very dark, excepting in such specimens as eventually turn out too silvery and light in colour when fully matured. As a rule no more attention than daily washing, combing, and brushing need be paid to the puppy until it is approaching, say, ten months in age, when the coat is commencing to "break in colour" and increase in length and denseness. The following preparation should be prepared and rubbed thoroughly into the roots of the hair once a week: Tincture of cantharides, 1 ounce; oil of rosemary,  $\frac{1}{2}$  an ounce; bay rum,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a pint; olive oil,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a pint, and white precipitate, 1 drachm. At the same time the puppy must be kept scrupulously clean and not allowed to run about too much. Indeed, he ought to be housed or kennelled in a case, one about 18in. by 14in. and some 16in. in depth being the most adaptable size. A cushion should be used to lie upon, as hay, straw, shavings, &c., are liable to become entangled in the coat, of course to its detriment. As I have said, the dressing must be applied once a week, and done thoroughly, but twice a day, *i.e.*, night and morning, the coat should be thoroughly well brushed. It may occasionally be combed, but when the latter is being done, great



care must be taken not to break any of the hairs or pull out any of the jacket. In addition the dog must be washed each week, and continuously wear on his hind feet "boots" or "shoes," or "socks" or "stockings," or whatever one likes to call them, of wash-leather. Such are sometimes made from linen or other material, but wash or chamois leather appears to be the best for the purpose. These of course prevent the little fellow from spoiling his coat by scratching, at the same time preserving the hair on the feet.

In due course the hair on the head or skull of the dog will increase in length, and when grown sufficiently, it should be tied up and plaited; this must be done afresh daily, at the same time it must be well brushed, care being taken that none of the hairs become matted or stick to each other. There is a special brush used for the purpose, rather smaller than the ordinary toilet article, with the bristles about three inches in length; a suitable article costs about five shillings. The Yorkshire terrier, has, as a rule, his ears cut, and it is many years since I saw a really first rate dog on the bench which had not been so mutilated. At the earlier shows excellent specimens often enough appeared with their ears entire, and for them special classes were provided. Mr. P. Eden's Albert, a



particularly good dog in his day, had natural drop ears. With this variety ear cropping has increased, and may now be said to be general.

The feeding of these dainty, delicate little creatures is a matter of great importance, and if the ladies of ancient Rome fed their lap dogs on the breast of chicken, the ladies of more prosaic old England are equally particular what they give to their cherished pets. These must be fed in a manner consistent with their confinement and lack of exercise, the bowels always being kept in a normal condition, and light and nourishing food is best for the purpose. Milk, with a little rice occasionally, milk biscuits, with bread and vegetables soaked in good gravy, not too fat, being best. A bone sometimes and a little calves' liver are not amiss, but care must be taken not to force the appetite. Where they can be obtained and are not too expensive, fish with the bones removed and chicken do not come amiss.

From what I have written it will be seen that it is no joke to keep a Yorkshire terrier in healthy and suitable condition for exhibition purposes, and such is no doubt the reason why its popularity has not progressed with the times. One of the most interesting sights in a modern dog show is when the Yorkshire terriers are being 'judged. Their

fair owners, handsomely dressed as a rule, always looking quite charming, and wearing snow white aprons, enter the ring, carrying their dog in one arm and its highly polished "case house" in the other; they have also one of their specialty brushes. The case is deposited upon the ground, the little fellow to be exhibited is placed upon the top of it, and, until the judge is looking around, final touches are carefully given the toilet. The exhibit is then allowed to trot about, sometimes in a lead, sometimes without one. The judge now picks up the dog in his hands and examines it carefully, even to the separation of the coat down the back; then it is allowed another run, and if the class be a big one and troublesome the exhibitress carries the dog under her arm, or replaces him on the top of his case. Then in due course the awards are made, and it is seldom that we hear any grumbling. The competitors are eventually taken back to their benches and, all being right, the hair on the head, which had been "let down," is replaited and retied, the chamois socks are replaced on the hind legs, and the little competitor is once more safely ensconced in his box, which may be is now bedecked with cherry-coloured ribbons or elaborately curtained with choice lace.

Actual measurements go for not very much, but

the length of the hair on the body and head of some of the best dogs is almost incredible, and its texture and colour are simply extraordinary. It is said that when in his best form the little dog Conqueror, already alluded to, had hair of almost uniform length of 24in. ; he weighed about 5½lb. One of the smartest little dogs of the variety, and a game little chap too, was Mr. Kirby's Smart, which did a lot of winning about twenty years ago. Old Huddersfield Ben was another of the "pillars" of the breed ; Mrs. Troughear's Dreadnought was another celebrity ; and Mrs. Foster's (Bradford) Bright and Sandy were notable dogs a few years ago. Indeed, to the latter (one of our few lady judges), and to her husband, Mr. Jonas Foster, more than to anyone else is due any little popularity the Yorkshire terriers possess to-day. They have bred them for years, and have from time to time owned the most perfect specimens imaginable. Mrs. Foster's Ted, who weighed 5lb., has, perhaps, for all round excellence, never been excelled, and it was extremely funny to see this little whippet of a dog competing against an enormous St. Bernard or dignified bloodhound for the cup for the best animal in the show. Nor did the award always go to the big and to the strong. One of the tiniest dogs I ever saw was a Yorkshire terrier

Mrs. Foster showed at Westminster Aquarium in 1893. Mite by name and nature, for it weighed only a couple of pounds, was nicely formed, of fair colour, and quite as active, even more so, than some of the bigger creatures often brought into the ring, which they certainly do not grace. Another extraordinary and diminutive Yorkshire terrier is Mrs. Vaughan Fowler's Longbridge Bat, which scales  $2\frac{3}{4}$ lb., and is particularly smart and lively.

The best of the variety are certainly kept in few hands. Amongst the older breeders were, in addition to the names already mentioned, Mr. John Inman, of Brighouse, Yorkshire; Mr. J. Spink, Bradford; Mr. A. Boulton, Accrington; Miss Alderson, Leeds; Mr. Cavanagh, Leeds; Mr. Greenwood, Bradford; Mrs. Bligh Monck, Coley Park, Reading; Lady Gifford, Redhill; and Mr. Wilkinson, Halifax; whilst the best modern kennels are those of Mrs. Foster, at Bradford; Mrs. Vaughan Fowler, Longbridge, Warwick; Mr. J. B. Leech, Clifton, Bristol; Mr. T. D. Hodgson, Halifax; and Messrs. Walton and Beard, West Brompton.

The Yorkshire terrier is by no means a common commodity, and although third or fourth rate specimens are sometimes to be obtained from the



London dealers, Bradford is their home. Here it is not difficult to obtain a suitable dog at a fair price, and it is said that upon one occasion, when the late Mr. E. Sandell required three or four for a certain purpose, and was unable to obtain them in London, he took a journey to Bradford or Halifax, I quite forget which. He issued a short notice that he would give a prize of a sovereign or two for the best Yorkshire terrier to be exhibited without entry at a certain public-house on a certain evening. In due course a rare good collection was brought together, from which the enterprising promoter speedily selected and purchased what he required, he at the same time suiting himself, pleasing the dog fanciers, and, as it was said at the time, "doing a good turn for the publican."

It has been said that the Yorkshire terrier is anything but a hardy dog, and usually dies at an early age. A correspondent wrote some time ago that his "Yorkshires" were carefully attended to in every way, regularly washed and groomed, and most judiciously fed. Still, with all the care bestowed upon them, he could not keep them alive more than from two to three years at most. This was no doubt an unusual experience, for although by being inbred to a very great extent, and by the sedentary life they lead, they cannot be called hardy, still, they, as



a rule survive to a fair age, and some of the best have been shown successfully for quite as many years as any other variety of exhibition dog. Mrs. Foster's little champion Ted was quite at the head of his class for six years, at any rate; whilst Huddersfield Ben, Conqueror, and others appeared successfully for three years or more without interval. Ted, whose weight in good condition was just 5lb., appears to have been peculiarly healthy, for he never had a day's illness from the time Mrs. Foster purchased him at Heckmondwike show in 1887. He was withdrawn from the show bench in 1893, having, during his unexampled career, won two hundred and sixty-five first prizes. Last summer Ted's hair was all cropped very close, in order that he could more comfortably run about the house, but as I write in the spring of 1894, it has grown quite long again, and this charming and unique little fellow is still as lively as the proverbial kitten, and as sound as a bell, though approaching nine years of age.

A Yorkshire Terrier Club was formed in 1886, but owing, as I have already said, to the comparatively few people who keep the variety, it has not made any particularly marked improvement in the variety. It has, however, issued a description, which is as follows :

*General Appearance.*—The general appearance should be that of a long-coated pet dog, the coat hanging quite straight and evenly down each side, a parting extending from the nose to the end of the tail; the animal should be very compact and neat, the carriage being very sprightly, bearing an important air. Although the frame is hidden beneath a mantle of hair, the general outline should be such as to suggest the existence of a vigorous and well-proportioned body.

*Head.*—Should be rather small and flat, not too prominent or round in the skull; rather broad at the muzzle, a perfectly black nose; the hair on the muzzle very long, which should be a rich deep tan, not sooty or grey. Under the chin, long hair, and about the same colour as the centre of the head, which should be a bright, golden tan, and not on any account intermingled with dark or sooty hairs. Hair on the sides of the head should be very long, and a few shades deeper tan than the centre of the head, especially about the ear-roots.

*Eyes.*—Medium in size, dark in colour, having a sharp, intelligent expression, and placed so as to look directly forward; they should not be prominent. The edges of the eyelids should also be of a dark colour.

*Ears.*—Cut or uncut; if cut, quite erect; if not cut, to be small V-shaped and carried semi-erect, covered with short hair; colour to be a deep, dark tan.

*Mouth.*—Good even mouth; teeth as sound as possible. A dog having lost a tooth or two through accident, not the least objectionable, providing the jaws are even.

*Body.*—Very compact and a good loin, and level on the top of the back.

*Coat.*—The hair as long and straight as possible (not wavy), which should be glossy, like silk (not woolly); colour, a bright steel blue, extending from the back of the head to the root of the tail, and on no account intermingled the least with fawn, light, or dark hairs.

*Legs.*—Quite straight, which should be of a bright golden tan, and well covered with hair a few shades lighter at the ends than at the roots.

*Feet.*—As round as possible; toe nails black.

*Tail.*—Cut to a medium length, with plenty of hair on, darker blue in colour than the rest of body, especially at the end of the tail, and carried a little higher than the level of the back.

*Weight.*—Divided into two classes, viz.: under 5lb. and over 5lb., but not to exceed 12lb.

## SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Quantity and colour of		Mouth.....	5
hair on back .....	25	Ears .....	5
Quality of coat .....	15	Legs and feet.....	5
Tan .....	15	Body and general ap-	
Head .....	10	pearance.....	10
Eyes .....	5	Tail .....	5
	<u>70</u>		<u>30</u>

*Grand Total, 100.*

There are some other rough-haired toy terriers, which are, however, of little account, because they have never been bred to any particular type. Occasionally wee things very like what a miniature Skye terrier would be are seen ; and, again, some smart little dogs with cut ears, evidently a cross between a Yorkshire terrier and some other variety of small dog, are not at all uncommon, and were quite numerous before the dog show era commenced. Since then the general public will not look at anything other than what is considered to be of blue blood. At one of the early London shows separate classes were provided for Scotch terriers under 7lb. weight and white in colour, fawns with the same limit, and blues likewise, each of the three attracting a fair entry, most of which were, how-

ever, what we should now call "cross-bred" broken-haired toy terriers.

Following the Yorkshire, the most popular toy terriers are the black and tans. A good specimen should not exceed from 5lb. to 6lb. in weight, and ought to be an exact counterpart in miniature of the black and tan or Manchester terrier described earlier on. Some of the very best toys of this variety have been produced from fully sized parents, but it is well to breed them from a dog as small as possible, and from a bitch 8lb., 10lb., or 12lb. weight. In such a case there is less risk of the puppies dying, and they are more easily reared when brought up by a big, strong, sound mother. It is seldom we see a really good black and tan toy terrier nowadays. There were one or two at Cruft's show at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, in 1894, the winners, Mr. Gallaher's Lady Helen Blackwood and Mr. T. Adams's Oxford Beauty, being about equal to anything I have seen of late. Mrs. Foster, of Bradford, has owned a few good specimens, and both the London and Birmingham "fancy" once upon a time prided themselves on these little dogs. However, they were always more or less delicate, and continuous in-breeding caused them to be produced with round skulls—"apple-headed" they were called—full eyes, narrow,



pinched muzzles, and long, hare-like feet, the latter suggesting that an endeavour had been made to strengthen the strain by inter-breeding with Italian greyhounds. A really good, cobbily-built little black and tan terrier was a pretty creature; but the "apple-headed," greyhound-shaped animals commonly seen are not worth keeping. The difficulty of producing the former has no doubt conduced to their downfall, of which there is no doubt whatever, and I fancy it is only a matter of time before the variety actually ceases to exist.

The delicacy of the toy black and tan terrier makes it particularly liable to attacks of skin disease, pretty nearly all the hair falling away; and when such is the case it is nothing unusual for the little dog to go through life without any hair at all on his chest, breast, and throat, and no more on the tail than is found on the common rat. Sometimes the usual washes or lotions for strengthening the growth of the human hair may be useful in such cases, and I have known the recipe recommended on page 344 (omitting the white precipitate) for the Yorkshire terriers, sparingly applied twice a week, to have a beneficial effect.

From these black and tan toy terriers blue or blue and tan specimens are often produced, even to such an extent as to be an excuse for the

belief prevalent in some quarters that this is a variety of itself. The latter is, however, not the case, although there were occasions where special classes have been provided for them at the London and larger provincial shows. These so-called "blues" may either be entirely devoid of tan or marked with the latter just as the Manchester terrier ought to be. There is, however, less hair or coat about them, and some I have seen could boast of about as free a growth of hair on the body as some of the Mexican dogs, or as the so-called "African sand dogs." Such are certainly not desirable or pleasant creatures to cultivate, for at the best they are but shivering little quadrupeds, and, taken out when the sun does not shine and the wind blows, as is so frequently the case in this variable climate of ours, require sheeting to keep them warm and prevent them catching cold.

A toy terrier that I think is worth encouraging is to be found in the more diminutive specimens of the English white terrier. Here again, going back for a quarter of a century, I can recollect some charming specimens of the variety, most aristocratic-looking little fellows, straight, and with good carriage, and varying in weight from about 5lb. to 7lb. These were usually bred by the London

fanciers of the East-end. Some of the bigger dogs were not unfrequently used in the rat pit, and classes were provided for them at the earlier shows in London. The well-known Billy Tupper was a great admirer of this variety, and I have seen some good ones at the late James Hinks' (Birmingham), and at other resorts in the Midlands. Recently there has not been even a fair specimen benched, and why the variety has not at any rate continued to the same extent as the toy black and tan is not easily made out. Of the two, the white dog is the handsomer, and, even when not quite terrier-like in head, he does not so ill-become the round skull as is the case with the Manchester dog.

In London, Birmingham, and Manchester, are still to be found toy bull terriers which may range from 4lb. to 8lb. in weight. Could these be produced with straight fore legs and with less width of chest than is the case at present, they might be taken up by the public. They are hardier, gamer, and might even be made smarter, than any of the smooth varieties of toy terriers I have alluded to, and are certainly the pluckiest little dogs for their size I have ever come across. At a comparatively recent date they appear to have been crossed with some little bulldog; or, if this has not been the

case, no pains have been taken to produce them with straight terrier-like fore legs. A bandy-legged animal is not appreciated by the modern lovers of a fancy dog, omitting, of course, the British bulldog ; and as I fancy these toy bull terriers are hardier and less in-bred than their cousins, a clever man might find it worth his while trying to produce them to pattern. Three or four generations of careful crossing should easily do this, and a white bull terrier, not more than 6lb. in weight, sturdy, compact, determined, able to kill rats, and not so big as to be in the way in the drawing-room, would certainly find favour and a good market.

That there is a decadence in all these smooth-coated toy terriers is not to be doubted, and I am not alone in the belief that this has been brought about by the difficulty in breeding good specimens. This difficulty has arisen from the misjudged persistency with which the "fanciers" of a few years back bred for diminutiveness alone, trying to produce mites of creatures 3lb. or 4lb. weight, altogether ignoring that such were little more than abortions, too fragile to trot behind their mistress, too delicate to live. The smallest dog I ever saw was a black and tan toy terrier, which weighed 21oz. at 10 months old, but it was neither useful nor ornamental, though it might be considered a

curiosity as the "Madame Tom Thumb" of the race from which it sprang. One has occasionally read of even more diminutive little canines than any I have mentioned. Such are, as a rule, advertised and puffed by unprincipled dealers, who rig out a three or four months puppy in chain and collar, and attempt to palm it off on some credulous admirer as "Twelve months old on the second of June, Madame! the littlest tarrier in the world, and dirt cheap at £10; but the youngsters at home has measles, and I wants the coin badly, so, lady, you can have it for £4!" And many a so-called toy terrier, purchased under such circumstances, has developed into a spindle-shanked mongrel of 10lb. weight. So, fair readers, beware of such little "dawgs" as are offered for sale in the streets.

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BLACK AND WHITE



## CHAPTER XVI.

### OTHER TERRIERS.

ALTHOUGH in the foregoing pages I have given fourteen chapters to what may well be called different varieties of the terrier, several of the race remain yet unrepresented, and without any reproach on the character of those already described, there are other terriers quite equal to such as are given precedence in the "Stud Book" and by me.

A few years ago an "Old English Terrier Club" was formed, and it sought to bring out of various country districts that hardy, hard-bitten game dog common thereto, and which was used for work. So far this club has done its work but moderately; a few good dogs were through it introduced, but too often the winner, in the special classes provided were either Airedale terriers or Welsh terriers, and a case has been known where a dog was by the judges given honours in both its own class as an Airedale terrier and in that for the so-called old English—variety, which is no variety at all.

Few sporting country districts are or were without their own special strain of terriers, in which appearance was of little object so long as gameness predominated. By "gameness" I do not mean partiality to fighting and cat-killing, and standing being cut up piece-meal without flinching or whimpering, but killing vermin and going to ground after fox, or badger, or otter—wild animals, and not tame, domesticated, and semi-tame creatures. I have seen a dog of great excellence and gameness in a street fight, which would run away and yelp when a big buck rat seized him by the nose. One harm dog shows have done, they have distracted attention from the hardy, intelligent, maybe cross-bred terrier, to what is generally a more effeminate creature, though maybe handsomer in markings and narrower in the chest. As a matter of fact, a really first-class dog for the show bench is far too valuable a creature to run any risk of being killed underground by a badger or by an earth or rock that might fall upon him.

Fancy a five hundred pound fox terrier running after Tommy Dobson's hounds over the mountains of Eskdale, or doing the rough work that is required of such dogs as the Robsons keep up in Northumberland! Every time such dogs as these go out they carry, as it were, "their lives in their hands." They

have to kennel with hounds who might worry them, live on rough but homely fare, swim through wet drains, or go to ground in huge fox earths from which they may never see the light of heaven again. There is the danger of receiving fatal wounds from their game of fox or otter, sweetmart or foulmart, any of which may tear up a nose or split an ear, and finish the recipient of such an injury so far as the show-bench would be concerned. There are terriers which I have already described kept for the latter alone, and no doubt many of them are game enough, but for wild, rough work of hunting in its various forms, other terriers are required as assistants to the hounds, and such of them as I know shall come under the heading of this chapter. And note at the outset that I believe that the terriers of which I am about to write have far hardier constitutions, and are stronger physically than their more fashionable cousins. I have had prize fox terriers of my own, about as good and game as ever were made, properly trained, and entered and kennelled with hounds. Such would go to ground and do all that was required of them, but after a long day they required carrying home, when the so-called "mongrels" were trudging away at the tails of the hounds. They have heart enough, and the inclination, but the physical strength is deficient.



There is or was no particular range or locality for these working terriers ; they extended from Northumberland in the north, to Devonshire in the west, and were to be met with in almost every intermediate county.

Away in Devonshire the Rev. John Russell possessed some almost entirely white, hard-jacketed little fellows, whose good qualities are not yet forgotten. Then in far distant Yorkshire we had another terrier, equally game and better looking, and from which has sprung the rough-coated fox terrier now so numerous at our leading dog shows. Wherever hunting the fox, the badger, or the otter was followed these good terriers were found, and perhaps, with the two exceptions named and a few others, such were black and tan, yellow or red of various shades, or pepper and salt. Many of them had some white on their breasts, a white foot or two, and a dash of the same between the black nose and the dark, piercing little eyes was not uncommon. Such dogs varied in size, but were usually less than 20lb. in weight, and if well trained and entered, proved admirable hands at destroying vermin. Some of them were fawn or red, others pepper and salt. Old Will Norris, for fifty years or more a noted earth-stopper connected with the East Kent hounds, had a terrier which, to judge

from an engraving in the *Sporting Magazine* about 1833, was an exact counterpart of some of those shown not long ago by Mr. C. H. Beck, Dr. Edwardes-Ker, Mr. Ashwen, and others as Welsh terriers. Yet his was purely a local strain, that would well have been worth preserving.

One has distinct recollections of various strains of terriers, not show dogs, but animals kept as companions, and trained to hunt and do the work intended for them. Such had always good legs and feet and strong constitutions, the latter not a *sine quâ non* in the champions of the present era. The north of England was usually prolific in producing terriers; the working artisans in the manufacturing centres owned them; the masters of hounds who hunted the foxes on the hills and mountains, where horses could not follow, and only few men, always required a "creeping terrier," that would bolt a fox or worry him in the hole if he refused to face the open. Some had a dash of bull terrier blood in them, others had not. Of the former was a well-known dog called Tory, about 22lb. weight, with ears cropped. He was all white, had a hard, wiry coat, narrow in front, possessed of good legs and feet, and built somewhat on racing lines. The latter gave him such pace, and he was so good a killer, that he often ran far into a stake for

whippets, which were nothing else but miniature greyhounds. Tory was a poacher's dog; he could drive hares into the nets at night, and be useful with the ferrets in the daytime; moreover, as a killer of vermin and cats unequalled, he was always in request when the "mart-hunters" required assistance to their fox and otter hounds. He was quiet and good-tempered, but when roused could fight with, and more than hold his own against, any quarrelsome collie in the district. The last of his strain was Tory—where he came from I know not—but as a workman no better dog ever lived.

About the same period, or a little later, a sporting stonemason had a little terrier, not more than 6lb. in weight, a cross-bred one, with a longish coat, and not the slightest sign of the Yorkshire toy about her, which was a perfect wonder. As the fellow said, "killing a score of rats was a little holiday to her," she would buckle a fox, and her love for creeping was an actual nuisance, for if she ever saw an open drain or sewer, ferret-like she would give herself a shake, and immediately disappear on an exploration sub-terrestrial. The only other *bonâ fide* toy I ever knew—that is, a dog under 6lb. weight that loved creeping—was a little yellow bitch, which went with the Stockton otter hounds some dozen years or so ago. This was a game little creature, but, un-

fortunately, excitement with hounds, and a "mark" at some holt, repeatedly brought on a fit, which quite spoiled the pleasure of seeing her good work. Amongst other notable terriers was one of my own earliest possessions, that was peculiar only so in appearance. He was a chesnut in colour, darker on the back, and shading down to tan on the legs and sides; his nose, too, was of the same hue, and his eyes formed an exact match. Handsomeness was not his characteristic. Then we called him a Scotch terrier, now his coat would have been plucked to make him eligible for the Welsh terrier class. His accomplishments were many, for, in addition to leaping through hoops, sitting up, and walking on his hind legs, he could retrieve fur and feather well and quickly. In the field, either above or under ground, he would do all required of a terrier, and, as a rat hunter at the water's edge, he had few superiors; and a big, strong rat in the river or canal affords sport—well, certainly of a higher class than pigeon shooting and rabbit coursing with fox terriers.

A little hard-coated, dirty-coloured fawn bitch, about 16lb. weight, of the common strain the writer possessed, showed a wonderful nose (we broke them to trail hunting when about six months old), and at seven she would run the scent of a rabbit skin a couple of miles and beat all competitors. Unfortu-

nately, this bitch was ill-natured, and was not kept long. Several of her sisters, brothers, and cousins were celebrities in their various stations of life. They could kill a fox or foulmart, and were what is known now as being "dead game." These were longish-coated dogs, generally in colour fawn, or fawn tinged with brown, varying from 14lb. to 20lb. in weight; they had small drop ears, which sometimes hung down at the sides of the cheeks, and possessed a certain amount of otter-hound character. Rather more terrier-like was a strain once kept by the gunpowder makers at Elterwater, in the English lake district, where there was a pack of otter hounds. The men here living almost at the foot of the lake mountains, had ample opportunity to try their dogs with the mountain foxes, marts, and stoats, which in past days were not uncommon. One of the coopers possessed a little, pale red bitch called Worry, not more than 14lb. in weight, and worth her weight in gold, so everybody said. That she was a good one could not be doubted; a five-pound note was more than once refused for her, and her owner got from fifteen to twenty shillings each for her puppies. In those times half-a-crown was a common price for a four weeks old puppy, and less than a sovereign for a broken dog. Thus Worry's reputation was a great one, and when I saw her



without a whimper, and with little trouble, kill a huge foulmart in a plantation by the river side, it was plain enough that her reputation had not been obtained by fraudulent means.

Such terriers as the latter were, half a century and longer ago, common enough in Cumberland and Westmoreland. The old printer, who taught me how to dress flies and catch trout, was never tired of talking about his little Pepper, who had, however, died long before I was born. Poor little chap, they docked his tail on the "making-up stone" in the "composing" room of a now defunct local newspaper, and then took him into the editorial office below, where the carrier had brought from Martindale Fells a beautiful "sweetmart" (*Martes foina*). Notwithstanding the still bleeding stump, Pepper was ready for the fray, and, though in the combat his nose was twice split, the formidable "marten cat" was ultimately made ready for the earlier process of the taxidermist's skill. Worry, mated with another wonderfully game terrier—a dark-coloured one, Cockerton's Crab—produced a litter of puppies, one of which won prizes in the earlier days of dog shows. Crab won second prize at Kendal show in 1872, had no superior under ground, and many are the foxes he has driven from, or killed in, the huge earths, which are, however, of

rock, that honeycomb Whitbarrow Scar. Mr. W. H. B. Cockerton, of Richmond, Surrey, has in his possession a portrait of his brother taken over thirty years ago, in which one of this strain of terriers occupies a leading position. This variety of a useful sort of dog is now lost. No care was taken to breed him in continuity, there was no adoption of type, and on the introduction of the smooth fox terrier, which could be sold for more money, the less fashionable and coarser looking creature had to give way.

Of these North-country terriers a correspondent, writing from Devonshire to the *Field* in 1886, says : "The dormant spirit of an old fell hunter has recently been keenly awakened at the mention of the Elterwater terriers, which breed, I am informed, is nearly extinct. Thirty years ago Mr. Robinson, of Elterwater, kept a pack of rough hounds equally good at otter or marten cat. The summers were devoted to the pursuit of the 'fishmonger'; in the winter the marten cat was our game. I can endorse every word of your correspondent as to the game-ness of the terriers that followed Tom Myers (the huntsman) over crag and fell. The origin of the breed is rather confused, and not to be relied on; 'Ye ken John Peel, I reckon?—one of *his* sort,' was the usual Westmorland reply to the inquiring stranger.

“ Let me try to describe one of the best terriers that ever went to ground after otter, badger, fox, or marten. Old Mart weighed 12lb. or 14lb.; long-backed, broken-haired, with black back and tan legs; a small head, with powerful jaws; ears small and tulip-shaped—so small that they almost looked as if they had been cropped. Then there was Wasp, out of Mart by a dog that followed the Patterdale hounds. Wasp was low set, of a blueish colour, smaller than her mother—in fact, she reminded you of a diminutive Bedlington. Then we had a larger terrier, broken-haired, which I always fancied had a touch of the bull in him. One who has hunted on foot with them for ten years, and is now nearly ‘shelved,’ may be pardoned for a little senile egotism.

“ Let me relate the pluck of these three little beauties. Returning home from a marten hunt from Seat Sandal, our terriers marked, and went to ground under Helm Crag, which consists of large boulders and loose stones. We were not long waiting before a scrimmage was taking place far beneath us. To get them away by calling was useless; the labour of removing the rubbish was immense. With the aid of some willing assistance, after working all night, we came upon the terriers with their foe, a badger. They had fought the badger

for more than ten hours. Poor Mart was lifted out almost lifeless; and never recovered her assailant's bites; Pincher lost his nose, and his frontispiece was for ever marked; while little Wasp seemed to have escaped with few scars. Rydal Head and Helvellyn have been the scenes of many a joyous hunting day after marten cat and foulmart.

"I brought down to North Devon a pup of Wasp's; she did not disgrace the courage of her progenitors. Many an otter has she tackled on the river Taw, and on my fishing excursions my faithful companion has roused me by her fighting an otter under the banks. After a time otter and terrier would bolt into the river, Vic holding on and going under water with the otter until breath failed. I regret to say that old age has told its tale, and she has departed—a game and faithful companion for fourteen years.

"The Elterwater terriers had plenty of go in them, and no shaking or trembling at your heels, in frost and snow, like so many of the terriers of the present day."

Of course, masters of otter hounds continue to keep hard cross-bred terriers, for it is a fact that a majority of the fashionably bred ones cannot stand hard, wet work and kennel living. Mr. Carrick, when master of the Carlisle pack, had that



wonderful little fellow Teddy and many others. But one equally good, and which had appearance likewise to recommend him, was Mr. Wilkinson's favourite when he had his hounds at Neasham Abbey. The name of this terrier, which we have seen drive three otters from one drain, we cannot just call to mind; he was a miniature of that grand old Adam which, shown by McAdam Graham, more than once figured on the show-bench successfully. Almost all huntsmen who work the rough districts of England and Wales have dogs which will do the duty required of them, and to some such are invaluable. Mr. John Benson had some hard terriers running with the West Cumberland otter hounds, and for two or three seasons a good-looking white "show-ring dog" did yeoman's service, at times swimming with the hounds as well as going to ground as occasion required. This was one of the few exceptions where handsomeness and utility were combined in one fox terrier.

Away in the wildest portions of the Cumberland lake district, little Tommy Dobson, bobbin-turner by trade and foxhunter by inclination and repute, is as well known as ever Dick Christian was with the Quorn; but Dobson has to kill his foxes up in the hills and fastnesses of Eskdale, round about Wast Water, and elsewhere, amidst rocks and



crag. He does this by running them to ground with a few couples of foxhounds, of a lighter build than those of Leicestershire and other hunting countries. When once marked, the terriers do the remainder, in many cases killing the fox in his earth, in others maiming him so that he is easily caught by the hounds, and in the remainder making the "red rover" bolt, when he perhaps will make the best of his way to more "fox holes," where he may remain in safety, if not in the meantime pulled down in the open. This "great little huntsman" has generally two or three brace of terriers, whose working qualities cannot be surpassed. Their constitutions are hard as nails, for they have to live on the poorest of fare, and even in some cases require to sup with Duke Humphrey after an arduous day on the hills. These, again, are of no particular strain—mongrels, if you will, and some of them have been personally known to me. Yellow Jack, to outward appearance a half-bred Bedlington, would go out of sight anywhere, and face otter or fox, and fight with either or both. This dog was not fond of water, but when out with the Kendal otter hounds, and game was afoot, he hesitated at nothing, and swam wet drains which other terriers dared not enter. He would fight and punish any otter until it was forced to bolt. Tinker was a

dog of a different stamp, smooth-coated, and dark brown or liver-coloured; his head, ears, and feet were so good that, white and hound-marked, his figure at the Fox Terrier Club's show would have attracted attention. As good in some respects as Jack, Tinker was quarrelsome underground, where he has repeatedly fought and killed a strange dog; and querulousness is a great fault in any terrier. A snap at a hound in a kennel may cause a commotion likely to prove fatal, and a dog ill-natured with his own species is not always so game to the core as one which keeps his ferocity in check until it be required against the enemy of his race.

In North Yorkshire there is still to be found a similar terrier. The southern counties, too, have always had some of them, and "Devonian," writing to the *Field* in June, 1885, draws attention thereto. The Earl of Macclesfield had a strain of black and tan hard-haired terriers in Warwickshire. Another family of the same type was to be found in Hertfordshire; and "Badger," in the columns of the *Field* has told us of Squire Jenny's Monk, whose excellences were often shown after a run with his master's foxhounds in Suffolk. Various engravings and paintings—to be seen in old magazines, sporting works, and hanging on the walls of our country mansions—likewise afford proof that a black and tan

terrier, with a rough coat, was more common in almost every county in England than the white or patched fox terrier was at the same time. And fawn or red dogs, and others pepper and salt of the same strain, were great favourites with the people. Colour was of little consideration so long as the dog could do the work his master intended him for.

Crab was the name of another little terrier, a great celebrity with one of the best north country packs of otter hounds. I fancy he was of the same strain that Tom Andrews, the Cleveland huntsman, formerly possessed, but Tom has been dead for twenty years, and it is doubtful to what extent his strain now survives. Certainly it does not do so in sufficient numbers to reintroduce the genuine article to the great British public. Of course, a spurious imitation could be manufactured easily enough, but in this there would be that something missing—character it is called—which in humanity marks the man of noble blood a distinct being from the one of plebeian origin.

A good stamp of terrier is depicted in that fine old engraving, "Safer Within than Without," where the terriers watch the rat inclosed in the wire trap; and "Distinguished Burrow Members," sitting near sundry rabbit holes, a group a good deal quieter in the pursuit of their duties than many

distinguished and honourable Borough Members of the present day. These two engravings are admirable as representative of a variety of terrier seldom found now, and certainly more picturesque than some modern strains.

A few years since I came across a somewhat odd, but not an unusual mixture to find in a man—a combination of gamekeeper, fisherman, poacher, and labourer. He belonged to the north country, and always told me his blood was of the best. Certainly his name was the same as that of a family that had been settled on land of their own before the conqueror William came over, and whose pride it was to boast that they had never paid fee or fealty to any Norman invader. This fellow and I were friends for years. He was fond of sport of all kinds, observant of the habits of animals and fish, whilst the rarer plants and ferns did not escape his penetrating eyes. The first time we met was at the riverside, when fishing a deep hole for salmon with worm. Whilst I was tying up my rod he had a bite, which he said was that of an eel, for the line quietly travelled down the current just in the manner it does when such a fish is running away with the bait. However, in this instance the eel turned out to be a nice, bright 7lb. grilse, which was hooked, and, in due course, neatly netted by the writer.



My newly-found acquaintance proved a good fisherman in all branches of the craft, and, although never confessing to the soft impeachment, I fancy he was as well acquainted with the use of the net as with the rod, reel, and line. He owned a useful sort of dog, about 20lb. in weight, smooth but close-coated, almost all tan in colour, still with sufficient black on the back to make a black and tan terrier without much exaggeration. But it was nothing like the Manchester strain of to-day. He was a leggy dog, and like galloping; his ears were small, V-shaped, and "dropped" beautifully. His excellence lay in the formation of his head, which, of great length from occiput to nose, was of perfect terrier shape, with immense jaw power; his eyes, too, were perfect. A dog of his kind you seldom find without good legs and feet and strongly developed in his muscles generally. Nor was this any exception to the rule "You've a niceish terrier there," said I. "Yes," was the reply, "it's a fair 'un. You kna a bit about dogs, mister," he continued, "but you mappen don't ken this sort?" "No, indeed I don't," was the reply. "Whia he's a Bewcastle tarrier!" Such a variety I had not previously heard of, nor have I since. Still, the animal had unmistakable distinctive features, and, as usual, he was "the best in the world." She,



rather, I should say, for the "Bewcastle terrier" was a female.

I was soon a willing listener to all the stories of the feats this wonderful bitch "Bess" had performed; foxes killed "single-handed," otters bolted, foulmarts and sweetmarts exterminated; but all tales were "capped" by one, where, in conjunction with her owner, she killed twenty-three weasels out of a large pack which attacked them one afternoon. This was the usual weasel tale, when one, being hunted and sorely pressed, squeaked or chattered an alarm, and forthwith scores of little heads peered from a stone wall, to be followed by the bodies of the active little creatures, which swarmed round man and dog. Both had to fight hard for their lives. Bess was sorely bitten, and it was not until close on two dozen ferocious little blood suckers had bitten the dust that the survivors beat a retreat. Personally, I always considered Bess a mongrel, and when I found that her owner never saved her puppies, but lent their dam out as a foster-mother to a greyhound breeder, my opinion was in part justified. Still, she was a stamp of terrier quite attractive, and possessed the sense of a man. The way in which she once ran alongside a stone fence to take a short cut to a gap through which a hare we had started was likely to go, proved her a poacher of the first water, and

when she made her stroke at puss she killed. Without vouching for the truth of her feats with the larger vermin and the weasels, I can speak in the highest terms of her credentials as a bitch to shoot fur over, which she retrieved capitally. Her end was an untimely one, being brought about by a runaway engine on a local railway line.

It will be nearly thirty years since a sporting high sheriff brought north from London a black terrier with cropped ears and a short wiry coat. This was a 24lb. dog, low on the legs, sturdily and stoutly made ; he was said to be of fighting strain, and his character was such that a good round sum (for those days) had been paid for him. In the north he was a failure, for the country dogs could beat him at his own job ; and in hunting and rough fell work he was no use at all, for his early training had been neglected.

Some there may be reading this chapter who will recollect Spring, a rough-coated black and tan terrier, about 15lb. in weight, celebrated more for a wonderful knack he had of catching rabbits on their seats than for any actual gameness. This dog was light in limbs, but close in coat, which was rather long ; he had a nice " whip " tail, carried straight, in correct show form fashion ; his ears were small and dropped well ; but his jaw was somewhat weak, and he lacked terrier character. A distinctive

feature he possessed was an enormous quantity of hair and jacket about his neck; I never saw a terrier that had so much, and it is to be regretted that this leading and protective characteristic of the working terrier is lost sight of almost entirely nowadays. I rather fancy Spring had some of the Elterwater strain in him, but, his education being conducted by a gamekeeper and rabbit catcher, it was as the latter he excelled. On an occasion, specially invited to witness Spring's excellence at rabbiting, in one afternoon he caught no fewer than twenty-four rabbits on their "forms," or seats, and the two guns had not opportunity to shoot more than a dozen in addition. This was on wildish, semi-cultivated ground, where the rabbits either sat in tufts and bunches of dead grass or underneath small bushes.

I do not know whether it is an unusual gift, possessed by some terriers, to be able to distinguish a hare from a rabbit, but about the same time that Spring was in his hey-day, an old gamekeeper in Westmoreland had a yellow terrier that would not follow a hare a yard. On the contrary, after a rabbit he would go until, without fail, the latter was either caught or run to ground. This terrier was a murderous sort of creature, his wide chest and broad skull denoted a cross of the bulldog, which he undoubtedly possessed, and his fighting propensities

made it an impossibility to work him in company with other dogs. Rabbits or rats might surround him, but such small vermin would be totally neglected if there were a dog within sight to worry. Some of the navvies who worked in the construction of the early lines of railways owned sundry hard terriers, mostly dashed with bulldog blood. These, like their masters, could fight, were generally kept for such a purpose, and when once properly entered thereto, were almost useless for the actual work a terrier is required for.

Dr. Edwardes Ker wrote to me some six or seven years ago of a strain of black and tan wire-haired terriers, once common in Suffolk and round about. His informant, Mr. Sharpe Sharpe, was at that time approaching a hundred years old, and for nearly seventy he had been master of fox hounds. These terriers were described as built on modern fox terrier lines, and so game as to go "screaming mad at fox and badger and at anything worth going for." But, as I have said, it was indeed a poor sporting district which did not possess at any rate one fairly distinct strain of terrier, whether such was known under the then all-embracing title of Scotch terrier or the narrower one of the town, mansion, or locality to which it was indigenous. About 1886 several letters were published relative to these old-fashioned terriers,



and following them, classes were provided at two or three shows, but such were not successful in unearthing the true article, and the majority of the awards went to miniature Airedale terriers, certainly dogs whose dimensions were too great to allow them to perform their work satisfactorily in a badger or fox earth, and classes provided for similar terriers a dozen years before met with little support.

Some little time ago, I was much struck with a number of terriers in the possession of Mr. J. H. B. Cowley, of Callipers, near King's Langley. I do not know that I ever came across any little dogs that more appealed to me. They were mostly white or marked like a fox terrier, their coats were hard and wiry, without fluffiness about them, and they were short on the leg, nearly as much so as a Scottish terrier, and their heads and jaws were long and powerful, almost out of proportion to the size of their bodies. They had drop ears, but like most long, heavily-bodied dogs, were inclined to be crooked on their fore legs. I have not of late seen any strain of terrier which better deserves perpetuating than this of Mr. Cowley's. They are very game, are kept for their legitimate work of assisting at underground work where badger and fox are concerned, and are adepts at killing rats and other vermin. I need hardly say that they abound in



character, and are not more than 16lb. weight each. The white dogs in Mr. Wardle's drawing are two of Mr. Cowley's noted terriers. I may say he keeps a Stud Book of his own, and mates all his bitches carefully. However, I will, in his own words, give a few particulars of Mr. Cowley's favourably known strain of terrier.

He says, "This strain has practically the same blood in them as several show dogs on the benches. But ever since I kept a terrier I have always gone in for a short-legged one, as I think such are more suited for all the work a terrier ought to be called upon to do, and particularly underground, where long legs are practically useless, and often in the way. Therefore I always breed with this point in view, selecting the shortest legged ones out of each litter to work and breed from if they enter all right; using now and again a 'show dog' as cross out if he is a worker, and has other points I want to get. Those puppies that take after the bitch I keep in preference to those taking after the sire in length of leg. I have also gone to the Sealy Ham strain. The points I try to breed for are especially long, powerful heads, small drop ears, weather-resisting jackets; if a little long in the back none the worse for work underground, where they can turn and twist about better than a very short coupled dog. Nearly

all animals that live much underground are made thus, long in body compared to length of leg, such as moles, weasels, stoats, polecats, badgers, &c.

“ I try to breed the terriers as straight in the legs as I can, but like most short-legged breeds, *vide* Scottish terriers, Dandie Dinmonts, and some spaniels, it is hard to get them perfectly straight—the shorter the leg the more difficult it becomes to get them perfectly straight. I would not draft an otherwise good dog because he turns his toes out. As for weight, I like 16lb. for dogs and 14½lb. for bitches. At this weight they can possess bone enough and have their ribs well sprung, and need not have such exaggerated narrow fronts, which a big dog must possess if he is to get into an ordinary-sized earth—suffering consequently, I think, from insufficient room for play of lungs and heart. For all work that a terrier is called upon to do, I think a 16lb. dog is the best.

“ I do not think a terrier's place is with a crack pack of foxhounds in a grass country after cubbing time.”

Mr. Cowley further says, that some of the terriers are almost too game underground, as when they are so they are liable to get terribly punished by the badgers. There are usually about four to six couples of full-grown terriers in the kennels at Callipers,

where great pains have been taken to individualise the game and interesting little dogs during the past twenty years. He first commenced his strain with a little short-legged terrier purchased from Patrick, stud groom to the old Surrey Foxhounds, and a very game wire-haired bitch, showing a little bulldog blood in her face. She was bred to a son of old champion Tyrant, a small dog and very game, as most of this grand old dog's stock were. Mr. Cowley proceeds, "but perhaps a bitch called Sting, bred in Cornwall, by a fox terrier out of a low-legged, yellow, wire-haired bitch, much of the shape and form of the modern Scottish terrier, did more than any other dog I ever owned to get me the stamp that I particularly fancy. Through her have come all my best, including Viper, the best of all [the white dog to the left in the group of terriers at the commencement of this chapter]; Sting was his gr. gr. gr. gr. dam."

There is a strain of terrier much talked about of late known as the Sealy Ham, so called from the seat near Haverfordwest of the Edwardes', whose family it is said, have had the strain for well on to a hundred years. This is another short-legged, long-bodied terrier, with certain characteristics of the fox terrier. He has a hard, wiry, weather-resisting coat; is mostly white, with black or brown, or brown

and black marks, occasionally pure white, and certainly not more than 18lb. or so in weight. He has been described as a short-legged, longish-backed dog, strong and muscular, of unflinching courage, hard biters (too much so in some instances), and of unflinching courage." The black and tan marked dog in the centre of the group heading this chapter is a Sealy Ham terrier.

Another writer says the Sealy Ham terrier, whose fame has spread far beyond the boundaries of Pembrokeshire, is mostly used for otter hunting. It is a distinct type of terrier, which by judicious breeding the Edwardes family succeeded after many years careful mating in producing, with long, wiry bodies and short legs. This terrier resembles in certain features the animal whose destruction it was bred to accomplish, namely, the otter. The late Capt. Edwardes was extremely proud of the working capabilities of his dogs, and never tired of relating encounters which his dogs frequently experienced with badgers, otters, foxes, polecats, &c. Many is the time that the foxhounds have had to enlist the services of the Sealy Ham terriers in bolting a fox which had gone to earth. It is said of the late Capt. Edwardes, that on one occasion, when presiding at a political meeting at Fishguard, he was accompanied on to the platform by two of



these terriers. This same Capt. Edwardes set a high value on the pedigree of his family's terriers, and at one of the Haverfordwest dog shows three years or so ago the following entry from him appeared in the catalogue, there being a class especially provided for "working" terriers: "Capt. O. T. Edwardes' Tip, 3 years, pedigree known for a hundred years, warranted to go to ground to fox, badger, and otter; £5."

Some admirers of these Sealy Ham terriers claim that they can hunt and kill an otter in a manner similar to that in which otter hounds perform their work. Unfortunately, I am an unbeliever in any terrier in such a capacity, for only the old-fashioned looking otter hound, with his immense jaws, slow but sure on his drag, powerful in water as on land, can hunt the otter as it ought to be done, though the well trained foxhound comes in well as a second edition; terriers should only be used as accessories to the sport. As to the capabilities of terriers to kill an otter, I may say that something like twenty-five years ago a 21lb. otter was caught in a trap, and, being comparatively uninjured, was next day let loose in a large pool of water, where it was free to fight, but could not well escape, though an island in the centre of the pond afforded a resting place, and it could come out on to the bank



also. All the afternoon, for four hours or more, was the poor creature attacked and worried by over two dozen terriers of all degrees and sizes, many of them with a good dash of bulldog blood in them, and 30lb. weight each, or more. In the end the gamest dogs were placed *hors de combat*, and the otter was recaptured, evidently no worse for the punishment he must have received. Being present at this, and also having repeatedly seen a pack of hounds in a meadow worrying an otter for five minutes, the latter all the time working towards the stream, and eventually escaping, are, I think, sufficient reasons for doubting the powers of a dozen, or even two or three dozen, Sealy Ham or any other terriers—Irish, Dandies, and Scotch thrown in—to kill an otter by their own powers, and without the unfair assistance of poles and sticks, nets and big stones.

Writing on the above strain of terriers reminds me of a peculiar episode Captain Medwyn mentions in his "Angler in Wales" (1834), an amusing book and interesting, especially as the gallant captain and his friends were well acquainted with Byron and Shelley during the time they resided in Greece and Italy. The heroes are Vixen and Viper, called Scotch terriers, but almost all terriers were Scotch in those days; perhaps they might have been Sealy

Hams, or at any rate they were doubtless of Welsh extraction. A half-pay naval captain had killed an otter with them the day before Captain Medwyn met and recognised him as an old acquaintance. They set out to hunt the Tivy, and the particulars thereof I shall give in the author's own words.

"Each of us was armed with a harpoon. The shafts were nearly eight feet long, and had been attached by a carpenter over night to spear-heads forming part and parcel of my naval friend's implements of warfare. . . . Our eagerness for the sport was whetted by stories on stories which he graphically told, of several of the feats performed by Vixen and Viper, and their perilous 'scapes from the jaws of sundry of these amphibious savages. . . . We came at last to an unfrequented, untracked region, a likely haunt. One side was denuded of wood, and on the other a steep bank ran shelving down to the river's edge, clothed with underwood, so closely intertwined as hardly to admit of the dogs penetrating it.

"It was just such a spot as otters would choose for their kennels, and R—— (who was master of the terriers) soon descried a spraint which appeared fresh. He immediately hied on the dogs. Their rough wiry skins seemed impenetrable to the thorns

and brambles, and they began to beat actively among the briar-work.

"It was soon surmised that they were on the scent of game, and R——, who was acquainted with their habits, said, 'They are on another! Look out! They are not far from him! Push him out, Vixen! At him, Viper!'

"He had hardly spoken when a rustling was heard, the leaves trembled and shook, and a dog otter of prodigious size rushed from his couch among the roots of the alders, and took to the water, the two terriers close behind. . . .

" 'There cannot be a finer spot,' said R——, 'for a successful chase. Once drive him on the opposite side, and he will find it difficult to hide himself, and must be ours. . . . Well done, Vixen!' But the dogs required no encouragement, and as the otter dived they dived also; and such a monster was he in size that when he rose to take breath he could hardly at first be distinguished from the terriers.

"R—— had waded the river, and the dourghie was for some time lost, the dogs swimming round and round, anxiously looking about for his reappearance. He did not remain many minutes invisible, the fresh-water seal soon showing himself again, This time he was not above fifteen yards from

where R—— was posted, and he was afraid of throwing his harpoon for fear of spearing Vixen. so close did he rise to her.

“He now mounted the bank, and crossed the meadow, where he was soon hidden from view by the high grass . . . Tally ho! he has again taken to the water, and concealed himself in one of his old holts, or burrows, under the bank.

“It was some time before we could persuade him, by shaking the ground, to stir from his well known retreat. But he again bolted, and just as he was about to land on our side was prevented from so doing by seeing us. I threw my harpoon and missed him. He again dived, and we thought we had lost him, but he at last came up, and was so much exhausted from being hard pushed and remaining so long under water, that he was forced to make for the same shore to take breath, and having reached a bush that projected over the stream, and screened him from our sight, prepared to stand at bay. He had posted himself with his back to some old rat holes, and, his flanks protected by two stumps of trees, he presented his front to his enemies, only one of whom could come at him at a time. He showed good generalship, and had all the advantage of position.

“Vixen, swimming across to the place, soon

pinned the otter by the neck, a favourite point of attack of hers, as I afterwards heard from her master ; but the powerful animal shook her off, and seized her in turn in his terrific jaws. Vixen, extricating herself from his grip, returned with fresh courage to the conflict ; but, owing to the projection of the bank and the thick bush overhanging the water, R—— could not come to the assistance of his little favourite, and stood, not without some misgivings as to the result, within a few paces of the combatants. The battle was long doubtful, but at length the otter seized Vixen by the throat, and made his fangs meet in her jugular vein. The water was dyed with blood. The bitch gave a short, low howl of agony, and in a few minutes we saw her extended on her back as if dying, and borne down with the current.

“ R——, forgetting the otter in his anxiety for his little pet, rushed into the water up to his middle, and succeeded in reaching and bearing her out, when he laid her on the grass and endeavoured to staunch the blood with his handkerchief.”

The otter ultimately escaped, the wounded terrier was taken to the inn, and made as comfortable as possible. “ Viper lay down by Vixen, and by low whines told the excess of his grief, and endeavoured to lick the mortal wound. He could not be induced



to take any food or to quit her side." As expected, poor Vixen was found dead in the morning.

The day following Viper was missing, and after several hours' search it was thought he had been stolen. The otter hunting expedition thus being spoiled, R—— returned to Builth, and Captain Medwyn, with his angling friends, sought the banks of the Tivy, the waters of which were now swollen by over-night rains. The narrative proceeds: "We came at length to the spot which had been the scene of the otter hunt so fatal to the brave little Vixen. Curiosity led me to look if any fresh marks of the dourgie were visible, or if he had forsaken his kennel. To my surprise I perceived some drops of blood; these we followed; they became more numerous, and led to—what do you suppose, reader? Yes; rolled up together, and stiff and cold, were discovered, in the embrace of death, the otter and Viper. From the appearance of the ground the battle had been a desperate one, the turf was reddened with their gore. . . . It was a memorable incident, a proof of sagacity—an instance of memory, thought, and reasoning combined in one of the canine species, which proves their intellectual superiority to all other animals."

The terrier was buried, the otter taken away as a trophy; it was found to weigh 30lb., and was the

largest the Tivy ever produced. So much for the terriers that Captain Medwyn saw when he was in Wales.

One of the most useful strains of terrier which still survives, and has done so without the bolstering up of any specialist clubs or dog shows, but lives and excels on its own merits alone, is a rough and ready sort of dog kept in Northumberland and on the Borders. This dog is neither a Dandie Dinmont nor a Bedlington terrier, and I am inclined to agree with what those who keep it say, that it is an older breed than either. Mr. Jacob Robson, of Byrness, near Otterburn, forwarded me a photograph of a team of these terriers, and Mr. Wardle has successfully copied the group, so those who are interested in the matter will be well able to see what these terriers are like. Lately the name "Border Terrier" has been given to them, an apt enough nomenclature, but whether they require any particular designation now after doing their work so well for a hundred years, and perhaps more, is an open question.

These terriers are exact counterparts of such as we had in Westmoreland twenty, thirty, and more years ago; they are like such as the Cockertons had, and similar to those the gunpowder makers owned at Elterwater. The yellow dogs are of the same stamp as the little bitch Worry, already alluded to,

though they appear to be a trifle heavier and with more coat; the black and tans, or pepper, on the right and left resemble the good terriers that won on the bench and were bred from Worry and Crab. It is remarkable how most of these Border terriers have kept their good looks whilst they have been bred only for work—at least some of them have, and I do not care a jot whether a terrier has a white chest or not so long as he does his duty well. Indeed, a good dog cannot be a bad colour, and I am not certain whether one or two cherry or Dudley nosed terriers I have known have not been amongst the gamest of which I have had experience, and it does not require a man to have a particular eye for beauty to find out how ugly a red nosed dog looks.

I take it that these Border terriers have been running up and down Northumberland and other of the more northern counties from time immemorial almost. Of later years they have been taken in hand by some of the "hunting men" on the Borders, as more useful for their purpose than any of what may be called, without prejudice, fancy or fashionable varieties.

Mr. Jacob Robson, who has been connected with the Border Foxhounds all his life, and whose family, I need scarcely say, is one of the very oldest in the county, says :







“ The strain of terriers that has been bred by my family, and in Northumberland and the Border, for so long, is now called the Border terrier, from the fact that they are principally used and bred in the country hunted by the Border Foxhounds. This nomenclature is, however, of recent date, as they used formerly to have no particular name, but were well known for their hardness and gameness. Reedwater, North Tyne, Coquet, Liddesdale, and the Scottish borders are the districts where they have been principally bred. My father, when he lived at Kielder, had some rare representatives of the breed, and Mr. Hedley, Bewshaugh, and Mr. Sisterson, Yarrow Moor, near Felstone, have also bred excellent terriers of this strain. My father and the late Mr. Dodd, of Catcleugh, preferred this breed of terriers to all others for bolting foxes, their keenness of nose and gameness making them very suitable for this purpose.

“ They vary in weight, from 15lb. to 18lb. is the best size, as when bigger they cannot follow their fox underground so well, and a little terrier which is thoroughly game is always best. Flint, a mustard dog we had here nearly twenty years ago, was small, but the best bolter of foxes I ever saw. He was slow in entering to fox, but when he did begin was so thoroughly game and keen of nose that he very

rarely failed to bolt his fox, in fact I have seen six or seven terriers, considered good ones at their work, tried at a hole without going to their game, but as soon as Flint was put in he challenged his fox, and without what is locally termed as 'manning' (encouragement by word of mouth). Flint was a very wise dog, and if he passed a hole you might feel quite certain there was not a fox there. I have known him on several occasions to be in a hole for three days at a time with a fox, and taken out none the worse for the prolonged sojourn underground.

"The favourite colour is red or mustard, although there are plenty of the variety pepper coloured, and others black and tan. Their coat or hair should be hard and wiry and close, so as to enable them to withstand cold and wet. They have generally been bred for use and not for looks, but I have seen some very bonny terriers of this same strain. They should stand straight on their legs, with a short back, and not made like a Dandie Dinmont, long-backed and crooked; their ears ought to drop like those of a fox terrier, but this is not a *sine quâ non*. A strong jaw is a great point, but not nearly so long in the nose as the usual strains of Dandies and Scottish terriers. They may be either red or black nosed; in fact, the former colour is often preferred,

as there is a belief that the red-nosed dogs are keener scented than those with black noses.

"Some of the best of the breed I have known were Nailer and Tanner, belonging to the late Mr. Dodd, of Catcleugh; Flint, Bess, Rap, Dick, and Pep of Byrness; Rock, a son of Flint's, belonging to Mr. Hedley, Burnfoot; Tanner, Mr. R. Oliver's Spithopehaugh; Bob, Mr. Elliott's, of Hindhope; and Ben, belonging to Mr. Robson, of Newton. As I have said, a number of grand terriers of the strain have been bred by the Sistersons, of Yarrow Moor in North Tyne, and in Lidderdale by the Scotts, Ballantynes, and others. I have also been told that the terriers owned by Ned Dunn, of Whitelee, Reedwater, were more of the type of these Border terriers than of the Dandie Dinmont, and I rather think that the Dandies of fifty or more years ago resembled the Border terrier in many respects, more so, at any rate, than they do now."

To further prove, if further proof were required, that the Border terrier, although new in name, is not a modern creation, it may be stated that there is, in the Robson family, a picture of a once well-known character in Tynedale, Yeddie Jackson, who was known as the "hunter king" in North Tyne and throughout Lidderdale and the adjoining country. The painting, which was executed about 1820 or a

few years later, includes a foxhound and a terrier, the latter just the same kind as the strain of which I now write. As Mr. Jacob Robson says, the colours are mostly red, wheaten, or what I should call a yellow, in varying shades; others are pepper and salt, more or less light or dark, the latter almost approaching black; white is usually found on the chest, a white foot or two occasionally, less frequently they have a white streak up the face; black and tan is not often found, and entirely black and white and tan markings, as on a modern fox terrier, are never found in the pure strain, and it has been kept entirely pure now for fifty years or more, whatever might have been the case earlier.

Some of the terriers follow hounds regularly, and are continually brought into use, not only amongst the rocks and in rough ground of that kind, but in equally or in more dangerous places—wet drains or moss holes, or “waterfalls,” as they are called in Northumberland. A dog that goes in here may have to swim underground and find his fox, which is perhaps lying up in a side drain or earth quite dry. There are numerous crossings and cuttings in these peat moss drains, which are more or less, as the case may be, natural or artificial. It is by no means unusual for terriers to be lost therein, and even when rescued to have afterwards died from the



undue exertion, the lack of air, and the general unhealthiness of being some hours underground in a peat bog. And this though the Border terrier has an excellent constitution. If he had not he would never have survived amongst the hardy northern sportsmen, who consider him the best of all the terriers so far as work is concerned. He can go where a Dandie Dinmont cannot follow him, or a Scottish terrier either, and, quite as game as the Bedlington, he is not nearly so quarrelsome.

In the chapter on fox terriers allusion was made to a strain once owned by the late Mr. Donville Poole at Maybury Hall, Shropshire, and which had more than a local notoriety for gameness. It had been said of them that they had attacked and worried a postman. However, these dogs were not fox terriers as we know the variety now; what they were, and how game they were, the following contribution from the late Mr. S. W. Smith—so great an authority on terriers in his day—will tell. The article first appeared in one of the weekly papers devoted to dogs and poultry, but before his death Mr. Smith kindly gave me permission to use it as I like. He wrote:

“The Squire, as he was called, seldom left his seat, but spent his money in the town. He kept,



I should say, from fifty to one hundred terriers, chiefly smooths, with short, dense, and hard coats. I do not recollect one of his over 16lb. or many much under 14lb., but occasionally there were some under the latter weight. All were dead game, or if they did not prove themselves such they were not alive long after having had their trial. I never saw a terrier amongst his lot with black or black and tan markings, and it was not until many years after that the black and tan marked ones began to crop up; all the smooth-coated were all white with few exceptions, which were marked with a brickdust kind of tan patch on back, setting on of stern, or head and ears. The colour was similar to that which is now called the Belvoir tan; they were perfectly compact and well-made little animals, always on the *qui vive*, and full of fire and go; the ears of some were carried erect, like a fox's, but the others are small (all thin in texture), nicely shaped, and as well carried as they are now, or rather should be, *i.e.*, dropping from the spring of the ear close to the skull, the corner or point coming near to the eye, and not set on wide, standing out from the head. The head was much smaller compared with the terriers of the present day, more rounded in skull and shorter in muzzle, the eye was more rounded and prominent, with a flesh or red coloured cere round it, evidently

showing not a very remote cross with the bull or bull terrier.

“The wire-hairs were a little larger, as a rule, in size, with coats of a fair length, always of a strong pig’s bristle, pin-wire kind of texture, while the colour of all I ever saw was alike or nearly so, being white with patches of a blackish-blue grizzly mixture like Mr. Shirley’s celebrated Tip and Mr. D. H. Owen’s Saracen. Not unfrequently red or plum-coloured noses appeared amongst the smooth-haired, but to the best of my recollection I never remember seeing one amongst the wire-haired ones. Under-shot ones were always discarded.

“The greater number of the Squire’s dogs were sent out to be reared on walks amongst the tradesmen he dealt with and farmers, cottagers, and his keepers, &c.; my father always keeping two for him—one a smooth, the other a wire-haired one. I remember we had a brace for a length of time, one named Tyke, the other Trimmer; these were with us, excepting when they were invited to the Hall for a few days to perform before an audience of visitors and neighbours, they being of a sporting turn of mind, and never so happy as when among the tykes at work. I seldom reared a bad one, *i.e.*, a coward that would not take his gruel freely, because I used always to keep them well up in

their training whenever an opportunity occurred, and when I could get some game for sport, had an occasional private rehearsal.

“Trials of the Marbury young tykes were held periodically. On these occasions the youngsters out at walk were collected together for the fray, and woe be to the tykes when the day of trial came if they did not come up to the Squire’s standard! It did not matter how smart or good-looking they were, unless they answered the Squire’s motto, which, was, ‘They must be stout as steel, good as gold, and hot as fire,’ and if they were not all this on their day of trial, death was their doom very shortly. When sufficient game was got together to give the tykes a trial, a day was fixed, and on most of these occasions no one except the squire and his keepers were allowed to witness it, except a reverend divine occasionally, and old Tom Rogers (there were two Toms—old Tom and young Tom), who was generally there at the trials. Sometimes, however, the Squire would invite a few friends, farmers who kept terriers for him, to witness the sport, and at such times as these there was always a grand field day.

“Old Tom Rogers was a master sweep, and such in those days earned as much or more money than most men in trade at that period. Sweeping chimneys with machines was not in vogue then, but

small boys, who were dressed in calico knickerbockers down to their knees (no shoes or stockings as a rule), and a calico blouse and cap that could be drawn over the face like a culprit's, went up the chimneys, the little imps, with hand-brush in hand, climbing, brushing, and scraping as they went up, until they came out at the top and shouted, 'Sweep, all alive, oh!' Old Tom was very kind to these boys, providing them with comfortable living and sleeping apartments. He never did any work himself, young Tom superintending the business. Old Tom, with his round, red (not black), ruddy face, drove about, dressed in breeches and top-boots, with a heavy chain and seals hanging from his fob pocket, bright-coloured waistcoat, bottle-green swallow-tailed coat with gilt buttons, tall beaver hat made of rabbit skins; high white shirt collar, with neckhandkerchief twice round neck, and tied in two bows in front. You will pardon this departure; it will help to let you see how the Squire got together the great quantity of game he required from time to time for his trials. Old Tom was the Squire's *factotum*, and foremost with him in all his favourite sports. He did most of the business at gentlemen's residences for miles round, so that this brought him in contact with keepers, trappers of all kinds of vermin, farmers, and others, from whom he got his

different kinds of game, viz., foxes, badgers, wild and other cats, fitchets, stoats, weasels, &c., &c.; and at Marbury Hall there were places where these animals were kept and well fed and attended to until they were wanted.

“Early on the morning of the trials out comes the Squire with his friends and retinue, and the sport begins, the vermin being placed at the far end of the receptacles prepared for them, such as troughs made of wood, with curves, &c., in them, drainpipes of different sizes, all laid underground, tubs, boxes, and a heap of faggots, &c. When all was ready the Squire would give the signal, and an old tried veteran would be let go, a tribe of youngsters being held round and about the entrance, to show the youngsters ‘how it should be done.’ Up the old tyke would go, and come back with his game most likely, and you would not hear a sound. After this the young ones were tried, either singly or sometimes a brace, the keepers encouraging them, shouting, ‘Run in, Bunser!’ Buster, Varmint, Tinker, Tancred, &c., &c.; this, with the sharp ring of the bark of the tykes waiting for their turn to come, the yelping, &c., of those who had just tasted blood and were getting punished, together with the bottle and glass circulating freely, made one’s blood all a-fire. Some of the dogs came



back again quickly with their tails between their legs, others came or had to be got out hanging like grim death to the varmint, both oftener than not having had enough, not unfrequently one or two dead as a door nail. Those that had come out rudder down were never seen any more, whilst the others could not be bought. Still, the Squire gave many away to friends.

“The Squire used to drive in a four-wheel dog-cart about the town of Whitchurch, sitting himself in front with coachman behind, with from three to eight or nine of his favourites running about; and woe be to any cat if they saw it, or a big dog! Immediately they got sight of one or the other, off they dashed in full cry and chase, and if they caught their object it would be hard lines with it before the little varmints could be got off by the coachman and other bystanders. The Squire all this time (having pulled up) would be sitting as erect as a marble statue, turning neither to the right or the left, but anyone in near proximity to him would observe a very broad smile on his face. I was once an eyewitness to one of these ‘bits of fun,’ as I call it. A miller’s waggon was standing opposite a flour and corndealer’s shop, and with the waggoner was a large foxhound. The squire came driving up the street, with about a half-dozen of his varmints following,

when they caught sight of Mr. Foxhound, when full cry and in at him they dashed; he turned tail and ran into the shop, jumping right into a bin nearly full of flour, that would hold about two sacks, the varmints jumping in after him, when such a dust and scuffle ensued it is impossible to imagine. No smoke was ever so dense, and when all was quiet (which was not soon), and the dogs got out into the street, such a lot of sorry-looking rascals I never saw. These Marbury Hall terriers are now extinct."

There are, perhaps, some other strains of terriers with reputations, whose names have not reached me, and which might be considered worth notice here, but, so far as I can make out, there are none besides those already alluded to, producing progeny so far true to type as to entitle them to a position as a variety of their own.

I may have written and quoted too freely about these working terriers whose names do not appear in the Stud books; my excuse for so doing is the admiration I bear for them and because I wish to do my best towards perpetuating such strains as are most useful for the duties terriers were originally brought into the world to perform.

THE END.

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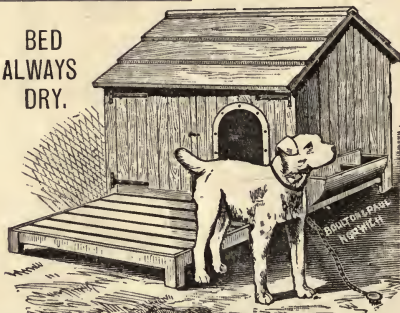
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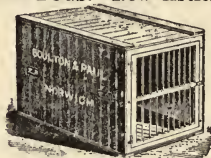
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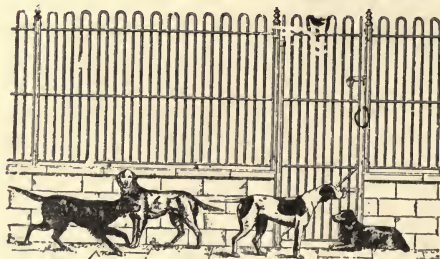


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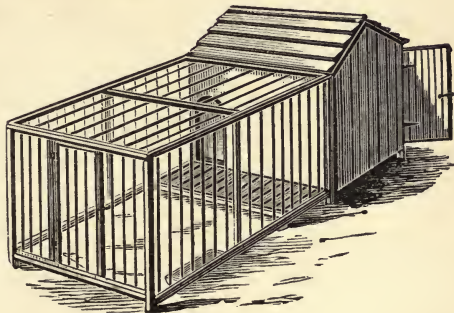
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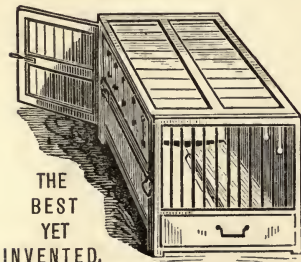
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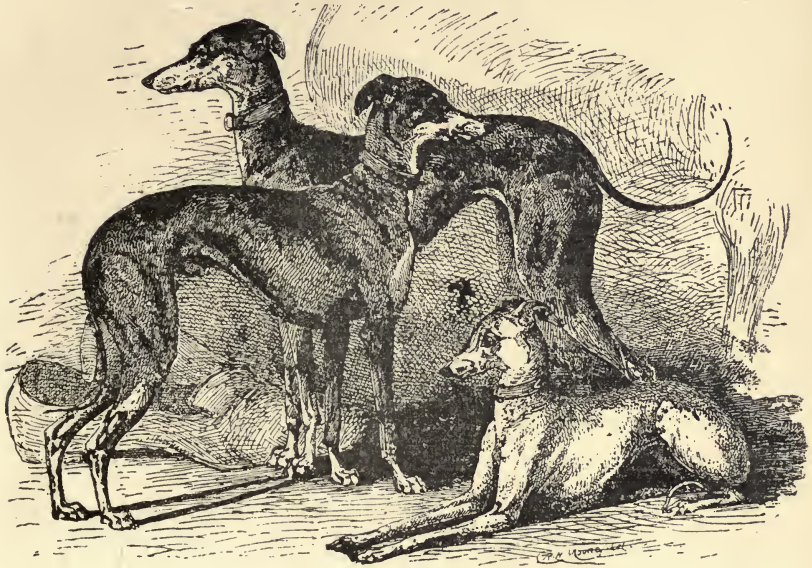
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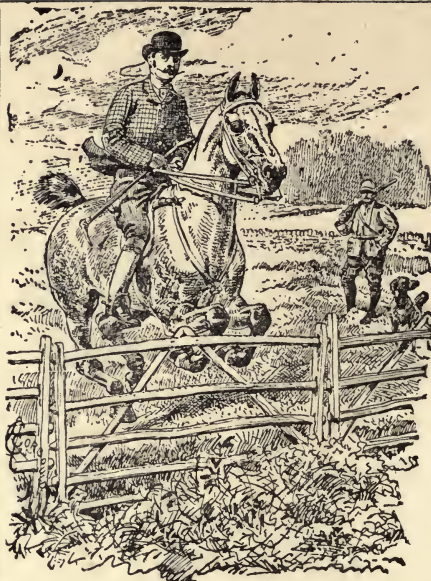
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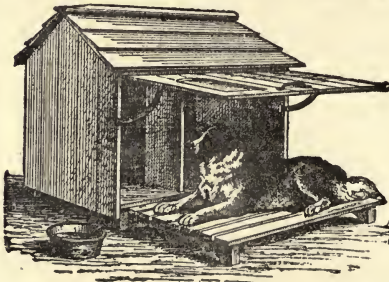
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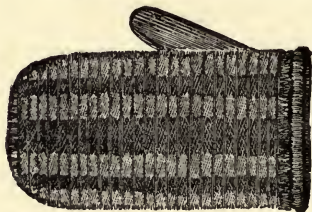
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