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MORAL, INSTRUCTIVE AND AMUSING

TOY BOOKS.

THE  
CANINE RACE;  
A BRIEF  
NATURAL HISTORY  
OF  
THE DOG.



NEW HAVEN.  
PUBLISHED BY S. BABCOCK.



Hiram C. Newton.

Presented by

Louisa Tolman,

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THE  
CANINE RACE  
A BRIEF  
NATURAL HISTORY OF THE DOG.  
INTERSPERSED WITH INTERESTING  
CHARACTERISTIC ANECDOTES,  
AND  
EMBELLISHED WITH SIXTEEN BEAUTIFUL WOOD ENGRAVINGS.



*New-Haven.*

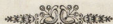
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THIS TWO LAMB DOGS.      PAGE 16.

# NATURAL HISTORY OF THE DOG



## GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

Of all the speechless friends of man  
The faithful Dog I deem,  
Deserving from the human clan,  
'The tenderest esteem.

THIS animal is so well known, that, although the race has many varieties, yet my little readers are too well acquainted with his form to need a general description of his shape and appearance. Indeed, my object in this little book, is only to point out a few of the most common of these varieties, to give a portrait and description of each, and to relate some interesting anecdotes of their natures, habits, and propensities.

The Dog, equally remarkable for his docility, fidelity, and attachment to the human race, seems to have been intended by Divine Providence as our assistant and companion. No other animal seems to be so well adapted to this purpose, as the Dog; for none is so bold, sagacious, tractable, and obedient. He assists us in conquering such other animals as contribute to our support, or are hostile to our welfare; and, as if he knew his own importance, he exercises a degree of superiority over all others that require the care of man. The flocks and the

herds obey his voice ; he conducts them from place to place, guards them from danger, and considers their enemies as his own.

In a wild state, the dog may have been a formidable enemy to man ; but as we see him now, he seems only anxious to please. He crouches before his master, consults his looks, awaits his orders, and is more faithful than half the human race. He is constant in his affections, friendly without interest, and grateful for the slightest favor he can receive. Easily forgetting cruelty and oppression, he disarms anger by licking the hand that is raised to strike him.

But although so submissive to his master, he is fierce and bold to defend him from his enemies. When at night he is put in charge of the house, no sentinel is more vigilant, or protects the place with more care. If he hears a strange noise or step, his voice instantly sounds the alarm, and if an attempt is made to enter the premises, he fiercely and bravely gives battle to the intruders. Nor is he less useful to the huntsman in pursuit of game ; and he pursues with ardor that spoil, which, when taken, he knows he will not be allowed to share.

But it is not my present purpose to speak fully of his many virtues and traits of usefulness.—As I have already told you, the different breeds of dogs are innumerable, and, by constant intermixture, are constantly varying. As this animal is the constant attendant on man, and accommodates himself to different climates, and modes of living, it is not a wonder that he should exhibit many more varieties than any other animal.

We will now point out a few of the most striking varieties.

## THE MASTIF.



This species of the dog is strong, active, and of great sagacity. He is usually employed as a watch dog. He seldom uses violence against intruders unless resisted; and even then has been known to throw the person down and hold him for hours, without hurting him; but he will suffer no trespass on the property under his care. The real Mastif is much larger and stronger than the Bulldog. His lips are large and loose, his look sullen, and his bark loud and terrific.

A great many years ago, three Mastifs had a fight with a lion, in England, and it appeared that the lion was not a match for them. Although two of the dogs were disabled in the fight, yet the third one seized hold of the lion's lip and held on for some time. At last, being dreadfully torn by the lion's claws, he was obliged to let go his hold; the lion then took a sudden leap over the dogs, and retired to his den; nor would he come out again to renew the fight.

The Mastif, knowing his own great strength, sometimes chastises the insults of smaller animals

with great dignity. A little mongrel dog once teased a Mastif by barking at him. Of this the Mastif took no notice at first; but at length, weary of the noise, he took up the little offender in his mouth and dropped him into the river, without offering to do him any other injury.



### THE BLOODHOUND.



Of all the varieties of the race of dogs, the bloodhound is considered the most beautifully formed, and superior to most of the other kinds in sagacity. They are generally of a brown or reddish color, and seldom bark. They were formerly much used in England, to hunt thieves and robbers, by their footsteps. Even now, they are used in the West India Islands for the pursuit of criminals.

The Bloodhound was held in high esteem by our ancestors, for the above purpose, and for their sagacity in finding any game that was wounded and lost. At present the use of them is confined



almost wholly to the latter, and the breed of them has, therefore, become much less numerous than formerly. The wonderful acuteness of their scent, and their sagacity in hunting a criminal, is very astonishing.



### THE BULLDOG.



The Bulldog is much less in size than the Mastiff, but nearly as strong, and much more fierce. He is probably the most courageous of all animals. Nothing can exceed the resolution and fierceness with which he attacks the bull. Running directly at his head, and sometimes catching him by the nose, he will pin the bull to the ground; nor can he, without great difficulty, be made to quit his hold. Such is his rage and perseverance, that at a bull fight in England, a brute in the shape of a man, made a bet that he could cut off the feet of his dog, one after another, and that after each foot was cut off, the dog would return to the fight. The horrid experiment was tried, and the bet was won, for the dog continued to seize the bull after each amputation, the same as if he was whole; thus

showing an example of his own ferocious courage, and the barbarous feelings of his brutal master.

Two of these dogs, let loose at once, are a match for a bull ; three of them are a match for a bear, and four for a lion.

Happily, the refinement and intelligence of the present time, has nearly put a stop to the cruel sports of bull-baitings in England, and bull-fights in Spain. The latter were, however, to say the least, a little more magnanimous than the former ; since in the bull-fights the men themselves attacked the bull ; but those who delighted in bull-baiting, employed dogs to fight an animal which they themselves would have trembled to approach.



## THE TERRIER.



This is a small, thickset hound, of which there are two kinds ; one has short legs, long back, and is commonly of a black or yellowish color, mingled with white. The other is more sprightly in appearance, and has a shorter body ; its color is reddish brown or black.

The Terrier has a most keen sense of smelling, and is an inveterate enemy to all kinds of vermin. Nor is it excelled by any other dog in the quality of courage. It will encounter even the badger with the greatest bravery, though it often receives from him very severe wounds, which, however, it bears with much fortitude.

As this animal is very expert in forcing foxes and other game out of their holes, and is particularly hostile to the fox, it generally goes with the pack of hounds in every hunting party. In these cases the huntsman does not care so much about the size of the animal, as he does for one which excels in strength and perseverance.



## THE HARRIER.



This animal is much like the Beagle, only larger and more nimble and vigorous. The Harrier pursues the hare with much ardor, and scarcely gives her any time to breathe. The most active sportsman finds he has sufficient exercise when he attempts to keep up with them.

There is another breed of dogs, between the Harrier and Terrier, which is a strong, active, and hardy hound, used in hunting the otter. This animal is rough, with wiry hair, and very long ears.

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THE BEAGLE.

This is the smallest of all the dogs kept for the chase, and is used only in hunting the hare. The Beagle is not so swift as that animal, which is the principal object of its pursuit; but by its keen scent it is enabled to trace her footsteps through all her turnings and windings, with great exactness and perseverance, until at last the hare becomes exhausted and unable to run any longer.

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THE COACH DOG.



The Coach Dog is an animal of great beauty, its color being white, elegantly and fully marked with round black spots. This dog is very common in England, being esteemed an elegant attendant on a

carriage. We hope, however, that it will not much longer be the fashion to cut off the useful and ornamental ears of the animal, which is generally practised. The notion that this increases the beauty of the Coach Dog is a mistaken one. Surely the decorations which nature bestows on each animal are its greatest ornaments, and that can be no true taste which sanctions this barbarous custom.

The Coach Dog is sometimes called the Danish Dog; but this is a mistake. It is derived from Dalmatia, in European Turkey, and is often called the Dalmatian Dog. By some it is said to be the common Harrier of Italy, and has been known and domesticated in that country for two centuries.



## THE SPANISH POINTER



The Spanish Pointer, as we may judge from its name, originated in Spain, although it is now quite common in England, where the greatest pains are taken to preserve the breed in all its purity. It is remarkable for the ease and quickness with which it may be taught, learning so readily that it may almost be said to be self-taught. In this respect it



THE DOG OF ST. BERNARD. SEE PAGE 14.

far excels the English Pointer, which requires the utmost care to train it properly. But, on the other hand, it can not endure fatigue near as well as the English Pointer. A mixed breed, between the English and Spanish Pointer, is now used by sportsmen, and are much esteemed.

The Pointer is principally used by sportsmen to find partridges, pheasants, &c.



## THE DOG OF ST. BERNARD.

In the convent of St. Bernard, which is situated near the top of the mountains of that name, they have a noble breed of dogs, which are trained to go out in search of travelers who may have lost their way, or are overcome by the intense cold of that region. Often the poor wanderer is benumbed by the piercing air, and falling asleep, the snow speedily covers him.

The monks of the convent send out these dogs every morning, with a flask of spirits fastened about their necks, to revive the fainting traveler, should they chance to find one.

Though the perishing man lie several feet beneath the snow, yet such is the delicacy of their smell, that they will discover him. They scratch away the snow with their feet, keeping up at the same time, a continued bark, which brings the monks and laborers of the convent to their assistance.

One of these dogs, in making his usual rounds, met a boy six years old, whose mother had perished

in the snow. The poor child, almost frozen, lay stretched on the ground, crying bitterly. The dog held up his neck to him, to have him make use of the flask ; but the poor boy, who was in an agony of fear, did not understand his meaning. The good natured dog now presented his paw, and then began to lick the child's feet. Encouraged by this mark of kindness, the child attempted to rise ; but his feet were so stiff with cold, that he could no longer use them. The dog then lay down upon his belly, and crawling thus towards the child, made signs for him to mount on his back, which he did with difficulty ; then putting his arms around the neck of his four-footed deliverer, in order to hold on, the good brute carried him to the convent, where he was well taken care of.



### THE SPANIEL.



This beautiful animal is also of Spanish origin from whence he gets his name, and the silkey softness of his hair. He is elegant in form, with long



hanging ears, and hair gracefully curled. His scent is keen, and he is very sagacious, docile, and strongly attached to his master. Indeed, the Spaniel has been known to die of grief for the loss of his master. A Spaniel in England, some years ago, refused to quit his master's bed after his death; being taken away, he constantly returned to the room, and daily visited the grave. In spite of all the kindness that was shown him, he died at the end of fourteen days.

The Land Spaniel may be taught all manner of tricks, such as fetching, carrying, and diving. Many remarkable stories are told of their wonderful sagacity, of which the following are examples.

An old officer, of a cheerful disposition, had a Spaniel which always laid by his hat and cane, and fetched his slippers for him when he returned from a walk. He also awoke him at a certain hour every morning. If the Major wanted his pipe, he said "Tobacco, tobacco," and the dog presented his pipe in a moment. One day, the officer, intending to divert himself with his four-footed servant, called out to the dog, "Something to light my pipe!" in a loud voice. The dog scampered about the room, apparently very anxious to oblige. The same order was repeated again, but to no purpose. At last, hearing the command continually repeated, he jumped to the grate, but soon came back a little singed; he then ran to a broom, and, biting off a sprig, carried it to the grate and actually lighted it and brought it to his master, who exclaimed, "If this had not been done before my eyes, I would not have believed it!"

A surgeon of Leeds, once found a little Spaniel who had been lamed. He carried the poor animal

home, bandaged up his leg, and after two or three days, turned him out. The dog returned to the surgeon's every morning, till his leg was perfectly well. At the end of several months, the Spaniel again presented himself, in company with another dog, who also had been lamed; and he intimated, as well as piteous and intelligent looks could intimate, that he desired the same kind assistance to be rendered to his friend, as had been bestowed upon himself. Our engraver has made us a pretty picture of the benevolent surgeon and his *two patients*, which is shown on our second page.



### THE WATER SPANIEL.



Of all the dog kind, the Water Spaniel seems to be the most docile, and the most attached to man. Some of the other species are impatient of correction; but this animal, though fierce to strangers, bears blows and ill usage from his master, and

returns nothing but affection. The Water Spaniel is well calculated for hunting otter, ducks, &c. Watching the aim of the gun, and seeing the game that is shot, he immediately swims after it, and brings it to his master. He will fetch and carry at command, and will dive to the bottom of deep water, in search of a piece of money, which he will bring out and deposite at the feet of the person by whom he was sent.

Cowper, the poet, has told us, in a pleasing poem, of the sagacity and desire to gratify a master, which was displayed by his dog, whose name was Beau. As he was walking by a river, he saw some water-lillies which grew in it, and wished to get one, but was unable to reach it. Beau seemed anxious to assist him, but he called him off, and walked on. When he was returning, and came near the same place, Beau rushed into the water and got one of the lillies, which he brought and laid at his master's feet.

Another anecdote is told of one of these intelligent little creatures, who was taught to carry money in his mouth to his master's friends. One day he was carrying a crown piece in his mouth, when he was attacked by another dog, and had to bear much ill treatment without being able to defend himself. At last, he ran away and hid his crown piece in a neighboring alley, then returned and punished the dog who had attacked him. But when he went to pick up his money again, it was gone. The poor dog, terrified and disappointed, slunk away. As he was going sorrowfully along, he heard the chink of money in a room where a man was counting out some. The window being open, he jumped in, seized a crown piece from the table, and was

out again before any one could stop him. His master, hearing the story, the next day sent him to the same place to return the piece of money which he had stolen.



### THE ENGLISH SETTER.



This animal is considered a valuable hunting dog; it is handsome and active, very hardy, and possesses keen scent and great sagacity. Its manner of seeking game, with its caution in approaching it, shows a wonderful specimen of animal instinct.



### THE IRISH WOLF DOG.

This is the largest of the species, and though the race is now nearly extinct, yet a sufficient number remain to prove that they still exist. There being now no wolves or other formidable beasts of

prey, in Ireland, this animal is bred up in the houses of the great, merely for curiosity or show, his appearance being both beautiful and majestic. In form he much resembles the greyhound, except that he is more robust. His eye is very mild and placid, and his hair is generally perfectly white. His disposition is remarkably gentle; yet he has great strength; and, though he is never known to provoke the mastif to fight, yet he is sure to conquer when they engage.



### THE SPRINGER.



This is a lively little dog, which is used by sportsmen in hunting woodcocks and snipes, in woods and marshes, through which the dog ranges with untiring perseverance. That elegant little dog, which is known in England by the name of KING CHARLES'S DOG, is of the same kind as the Springer. It derives its name from having been a favorite companion of that monarch. He scarcely ever

walked out without being attended by several of these little four-footed favorites. It has a small round head, with a short snout, the tail curved back, the ears long, and the feet webbed.

The LARGE WATER DOG, is of a similar breed, but less handsome. This variety has curly hair, which looks much like wool. In consequence of the webs between its toes being much larger than those of most other dogs, it swims excellently, and is, therefore, often kept on board of ships, for the purpose of recovering articles which happen to fall into the water.



## THE GREYHOUND.



This elegant animal is the swiftest of all the canine race ; but as it has not that faculty of scenting game, which is common to other dogs, it pursues by the eye. It is supposed to live longer than any other of the dog tribe. A great many years ago, the greyhound was held in such estimation, that it

was the peculiar companion of a gentleman, who was, in ancient times, known by his horse, his hawk, and his greyhound. The latter was held in such repute, that Canute made a law that this animal should not be kept by any one under the rank of a gentleman. The greyhound has a long body, a neat and long head, with a full eye, long mouth, and white and very sharp teeth. Its ears are small, with thin gristles in them, and it has a straight neck and a full breast; the legs are long and straight.

An interesting and affecting tale is told of a greyhound which saved a child from being killed by a wolf. The dog's name was Gelert; he was a present from the king to his master, whose name was Llewellyn. One day, when the master was going to the chase, Gelert was no where to be found. On his return, however, the dog came out to meet him, licking his hands and seeming more joyful to see him than usual. But Llewellyn saw that the favorite animal was covered with blood; and when he got into the house and saw the cradle of his only child overturned, and the bed clothes bloody too, he thought that the dog had torn his child in pieces. Struck with horror at the sight, without looking any farther, he plunged his short hunting sword into the body of the poor hound, who fell at his master's feet, and with one mournful yell died on the spot. On lifting up the cradle, the child was found unhurt, and beside it lay a great wolf, which the dog had killed. Poor Llewellyn did not soon forget the noble hound which had so bravely defended his child; nor did he cease to regret that he had so hastily made such a cruel return for the great service which the gallant animal had ren-

dered him. The brave creature was buried, and a tombstone raised over him, to mark the grave of the greyhound.

A little girl named Lucette, had by the neglect of a careless nurse, contracted the habit of incessantly sucking her fingers. Her parents did not take sufficient pains at first to break her of that bad trick : so the young lady became incorrigible.

At the age of fourteen, Miss Lucette would watch when her papa or mamma left the room, to indulge in her favorite habit, and instantly put her finger into her mouth, and suck it like a stick of barley sugar.

Her mother employed threats and promises, presents and privations, praises and reproaches, to cure Lucette of this disgusting trick, but in vain ; at last she was obliged to have recourse to severe chastisement.

The little girl had from her infancy, a white Italian greyhound, called Diana, who was so good-natured, that she shared her mistress' chagrin and her gaiety. If she looked dejected, Diana, by a thousand caresses, tried to console her. If her mother offered her manual correction, Diana took an active part in defense of her mistress.

By constantly seeing Miss Lucette blamed, Diana at last actually found out the cause, and rendered the offense less frequent. Whenever she saw her mistress put her hand to her mouth, she pulled her by the gown, which reminded her of her transgression. In this manner did her little dog save Miss Lucette much anger ; equally vexatious to her and her tender mother, who always did violence to her feelings, when obliged to chastise her dear girl.



## THE NEWFOUNDLAND DOG.



The Newfoundland dog came originally from the island of that name. This animal has a remarkably pleasing countenance, is very docile, and of great size and sagacity. In their native country, they are extremely useful to the settlers on the coast, who employ them to bring wood from the back country. Three or four of them, yoked to a sledge, will draw three hundred weight of wood for several miles. In this business they are so expert as to need no driver. After they have delivered their load, they will return to the woods with their empty sledge, and are then rewarded for their labor by being fed with a few dried fish.

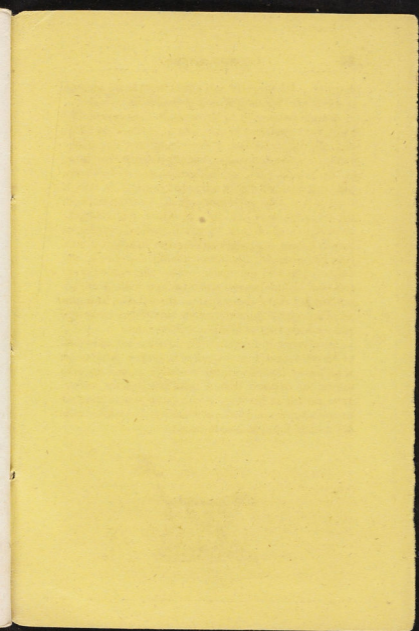
These dogs swim very fast, dive easily, and are able to bring up any thing from the bottom of the water. It is, indeed, almost as fond of the water as of land. So sagacious is it, and so prompt in lending its assistance, that it has saved the lives of many persons who were in danger of drowning. This circumstance, together with its good temper and kind disposition, justly renders it a universal

favorite. Its sagacity and attachment to its master, is confirmed by the following anecdotes.

A ship belonging to Newcastle, being wrecked near Yarmouth in a severe storm, in the year 1789, and all the crew lost, a Newfoundland dog alone escaped to land, bringing the captain's pocket-book in his mouth. He landed amidst a crowd of people, many of whom in vain endeavored to take it from him. The sagacious animal, as if sensible of the importance of the charge, which had probably been delivered to him by his perishing master, at length leaped fawningly against the breast of a man who had attracted his notice among the crowd, and delivered to him the book. The dog immediately returned to the beach, and watched with great attention for every thing that came ashore from the wrecked vessel, seizing every thing that came up, and endeavoring to bring it safe to land.

As another instance of the docility and sagacity of these animals, it is related, that a gentleman walking by the side of the river Tyne, and observing on the opposite side a child fall into the water, gave notice to his dog, which immediately jumped in, swam over, and catching hold of the child with his mouth, brought it safe to land.





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