

that such dogs appertained to the chieftains regarding whose prowess, etc., he sings; but the writer does not apprehend that any real value can be placed on Ossian's accounts *prior* to the date at which they professed to be issued in a collective form by MacPherson, viz., about 1770, as in the judgment of many persons competent to form a just opinion those poems almost entirely owe their origin to the prolific brains of the suppositious translator. Ossian is supposed to have flourished in the third century.

In the ninth century the Welch laws contained clauses entailing heavy penalties on anyone found maiming or injuring the Irish Greyhound, or, as it was styled in the Code alluded to, "Canis Graius Hibernicus," and a value was set upon them equal to more than double that set on the ordinary Greyhound.

Camden, about 1594, says, "The Irish Wolfhound is similar in shape to a Greyhound, bigger than a Mastiff, and tractable as a Spaniel." *Camden's History of Great Britain*

*Quoted by Holinshed's, or rather Stainhurst's, description of Ireland, 1560, contains this short account of the noble Wolfdog:*  
 "Ireland is stored of cows, excellent horses, of hawkes, fish, and fowle. They are not without wolves, and Greyhounds to hunt them bigger of bone and limb than a colt."

Gough, in his edition of "Camden," published 1789, has this passage on the Wolfhound: "Bishop affirmed that wolves still infested the wild and solitary mountains. Under the article of Greyhounds, Mr. Camden (writing probably about 1530-60) seems to place the Wolfhounds, which are remarkably large, and peculiar to this country."

In November, 1562, the Irish chieftain Shane O'Neill, (possibly an ancestor of the Lords O'Neill, to be alluded to as owning Irish Wolfhounds later on) forwarded to Queen Elizabeth, through Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, a present of two horses, two hawks, and two Irish Wolfdogs; and in 1585, Sir John Perrott, who was Deputy of Ireland from January, 1584, to July, 1588, sent to Sir Francis

Walsingham, then Secretary of State in London, "a brace of good Wolfdogs, one black, one white." Later still, in 1608, we find that Irish Wolfhounds were sent from Ireland by Captain *Esmond?* ~~Esmond~~ of Duncannon, to Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury. When Sir Thomas Rowe was Ambassador at the Court of the great Mogul, in the year 1615, that Emperor desired him to send for some Irish Greyhounds as the most welcome present he could make him. The foregoing are from an article on the Irish Wolfhound, by Mr. Harting, that appeared in "Bailey's Magazine" for September, 1879.

Ware is one of the few old writers (1654) who has said anything on the Irish Wolfdog, and his words are scanty. "Although we have no wolves in England, yet it is certain we have had heretofore routs of them as they have at present in Ireland. In that country is bred a race of Greyhounds, which is fleet and strong, and bears a natural enmity to the wolf."

Evelyn, about 1660-70, says: "The Irish Wolfhound was a tall Greyhound, a stately creature indeed, and did beat a cruel Mastiff. The Bull-dogs did exceedingly well, but the Irish Wolfdog exceeded!" He was then describing the savage sports of the Bear-garden.

Ray, about 1697, describing the Irish Greyhound, says: "The greatest dog I have yet seen, surpassing in size even the Molossus (Mastiff?) as regards shape of body and general character, similar in all respects to the common Greyhound, their use is to catch wolves."

The writer would remark in passing that there is but little doubt that the ordinary Greyhound of that date was a rough-coated dog.

Buffon, about 1750-60, speaks of these dogs as follows:—"They are far larger than our largest Mâtins, and they are very rare in France. I have never seen but one, which seemed to me, when sitting quite upright, to be nearly five feet high, and to resemble in form the dog we call the Great