

larger than the Mastiff; exceedingly ferocious when engaged." A remarkably spirited drawing is given of this dog, which, though faulty in some minor parts, gives us an admirable idea of what this grand dog was.

Notwithstanding the undoubted resemblance of this sketch to a gigantic rough Greyhound of great power, the letterpress is continued to the effect that the dog is identical with the Great Dane—a totally different dog in appearance—which is manifestly absurd; and on the letterpress we can accordingly put no great stress, though the *portrait* undoubtedly has a real value. E. Jesse coincides in this opinion, as when speaking of the "Sportsman's Cabinet" he says:—"It is a work more remarkable for the truth and fineness of its engravings than for the matter contained in it." It is a noticeable and remarkable fact that whilst this book professes to treat of every known variety of British dog, it does not make any mention whatever of the Scottish Deerhound or any breed of dog used for hunting or taking deer, save the Stag, Blood, and old Southern Hounds.

A few extracts from this book are given that bear on the subject under consideration, though not taken from the chapter descriptive of the Irish Wolfhound or Greyhound.

"The Danish dog, Irish Greyhound, and common Greyhound of this country, though they appeared different, are said by 'Buffon' to be but one and the same dog. The Danish dog, says he, is but a more corpulent Irish Greyhound; the common Greyhound is the Irish Greyhound rendered thinner and more delicate by culture; for these three dogs, though perfectly distinguishable at first sight, differ no more from each other than three human masculine natives of Holland, Italy, and France. And by the same reasoning he proceeds to justify the supposition that had the Irish Greyhound been a native of France, he would have produced the Danish dog in a colder climate and the common Greyhound in a warmer one. This conjecture, he observes, is absolutely verified by experience, for the Danish dogs are

brought to us from the North, and the Greyhounds from Constantinople and the Levant!"

"The Greyhound, large Danish dog, and Irish Greyhound have, according to Buffon, exclusive of their likeness of figures and length of muzzle, a similitude of disposition."

"The peculiar irritability of the olifactory sensation seems by natural observation to depend more upon the largeness than the length of the nose, for the Greyhound, Danish dog, and Irish Greyhound have evidently less power of scent than the Hound, Terrier, &c."

"The Bulldog and Irish Greyhound have their ears partly erect."

"The Great Danish dog, taken from thence to Ireland, the Ukraine, Tartary, Epirus, and Albania, has been changed into the Irish Greyhound, which is the largest of all dogs."

"The Greyhound and Irish Greyhound, Buffon goes on to say, have produced the mongrel Greyhound, also called the Greyhound with the wolf's hair"—in all probability the present Scotch Deerhound (?). At any rate, this would tend to prove that the Irish dog was rough as to coat.

There is mention of the Irish Wolfhound in Bingley's "British Quadrupeds" (1809). The illustration is simply a deformed Greyhound, and he endorses Pennant's and Goldsmith's views as to the appearance, &c., of the dog.

Captain Brown (1829) also, in his book on dogs, alludes to the Irish Wolfdog or Greyhound, giving an absurd drawing; his remarks are few and of little worth.

Dr. Scouler, reading a paper before the Dublin Geological Society in 1836, says:—"The Irish Wolfdog was a very distinct race from the Scotch Hound or Wolfdog, which resembled the Irish breed in size and courage, but differed from it by having a sharper muzzle and pendant ears."

Curious that "a sharper muzzle and pendant ears" should constitute it "a very distinct breed!"

14 Dec
1836