

other subject, thus concludes his letter, "Now I am on the subject Canine, I will relate an incident that occurred to me in 1840, or within a year of that date. Staying with some friends in a Southern County, I was taken to see an old Irish Wolfhound belonging to a gentleman of means, he was then said to be the last of his breed in England: was old, perfectly white and much after the style of a Scotch Deerhound, but larger and considerably more powerfully built, and he had the deepest toned and most melancholy bark I ever heard." Let readers note how exactly this description coincides with that put forward by me!!

In the same number of the *Live Stock Journal* there is mention of a paper contributed to the "Zoologist" by Ernest Friedel, entitled "A German View of the Fauna of Ireland." Some extracts are given regarding the Irish Deerhound (*sic*), but they are of small interest and mostly contained in this article; allusion is made to Lord Altamont's dogs, and a foot note is appended by the Editor of the "Zoologist" to this effect—"It is now generally admitted that the dog described by Lambert here referred to was not an Irish Wolfhound at all but a great Dane"!!!

We are told in the *Sportman's Cabinet*, published 1803, p. 26, that Buffon asserts that from the common Greyhound and the Irish Greyhound the mongrel Greyhound was produced, also called the Greyhound with the wolf's hair, showing very plainly that the Irish dog was in his opinion a rough dog, as the ordinary Greyhound of that period was in all probability a smooth dog.

In the *World* newspaper, late in 1880, it was asserted that Mr. Parnell M.P. has in his house some banners, carried by the Regiment of Militia commanded by one of his immediate ancestors that was "out" in 1798, on which is depicted the Irish Wolfhound. The writer took the trouble to make enquiries from Mr. Parnell personally, and found that the fact was true, and that the dog depicted was similar to a Scotch Deerhound, but much larger and more massive (apparently),

and very rough. Mr. Ronayne Conron, of Lewisham, saw a brace of Irish Wolfhounds about 1847, fierce looking, piercing eyes, shaggy brows and rough dark grey coats, yet so kind a child could play with them. He opines they were of either the Kilfane or Ballytobin breed. Barclay tells us that in 1563, at a deer drive given by the Earl of Athol for the amusement of Queen Mary, 360 deer and 5 wolves were slain in one day.

In the month of June, 1882, was erected at Ennis, a statue to the memory of Allan, Larkin, and O'Brien, who were executed at Manchester, 1867. This beautiful statue was executed by Messrs. O'Niell, of Dublin. It represents Erin with one hand resting on the Irish Harp, whilst the other grasps the Celtic Cross, while crouching at her feet is an Irish Wolfdog. Unfortunately the figure of the dog—owing to the sculptors' requirements—has been very much reduced in size, and the extreme grandeur and nobility of the animal thereby lost. The dog, now in the Zoological Gardens at Dublin, was taken as a guide (unknown to the breeder) for the animal represented, thereby proving that the sculptor and the writer of this article (who bred the dog in question) are agreed as to the type of Ireland's Ancient Hound. It is stated that at one time the English Government offered an equal reward for the head of an Irish Catholic Priest and a Wolfdog.

1884.—The following description of a descendant (immediate) of Hamilton Rowan's Irish Bloodhounds—not of his Irish Wolfdog, for he owned one of the latter as well as some of the former—has been given to the writer by a gentleman to whom the dog, as a puppy, was given by H. Rowan:—

"'Nero.' Colour, grey, almost mouse colour; head, of decidedly Bloodhound type, long, rather narrow, peaked; deep flews, large hound ears, eyes small; coat similar to a Mastiff's or smooth St. Bernard; double dew claws on hind legs. To a side view rather a long low dog, than square