

## FUNNY FOREIGN DOGS.

BY GAMBIER BOLTON, F.Z.S.

*Illustrated from the Author's Copyright Photographs.*



ANYONE walking round the benches at some of our larger exhibitions, such as those at the Crystal Palace or Birmingham, will notice many of the queer specimens of dogdom which are to be found in different parts

Supported and fostered by the Chow-Chow, Borzoi, Schipperke, Poodle and other clubs, who frequently give, in addition to the prize money offered by the promoters of the exhibition, handsome medals and extra prize money, it is scarcely a matter for wonder that the different breeds are rapidly making



*From a photo by]*

THE CORDED POODLE "CHAMPION ACHILLES."

*[Gambier Bolton.*

of the world. The introduction of foreign dog classes, and the formation of specialist clubs for the encouragement of their breeding in Great Britain, has tended to increase the number of foreign dogs exhibited each year.

headway in this country; and that many fanciers are to be found who, ignoring our home breeds, and perhaps craving for canine novelties, should devote their time and money to producing even better specimens of the different foreign breeds than are to be

met with in the various countries from which they were originally imported.

Take as an example of this the well-known poodle "Champion Achilles," an English-bred dog and one of the very best ever seen in this country. There is not the slightest doubt that, had he been exhibited in any other part of the world, he would not only have beaten anything that could be produced by continental and other breeders, but would have caused an immense sensation as well in either France, Russia or Germany. These are the countries from which the two varieties, the curly and corded coated poodle, originally sprang. The length of face, ear and coat of

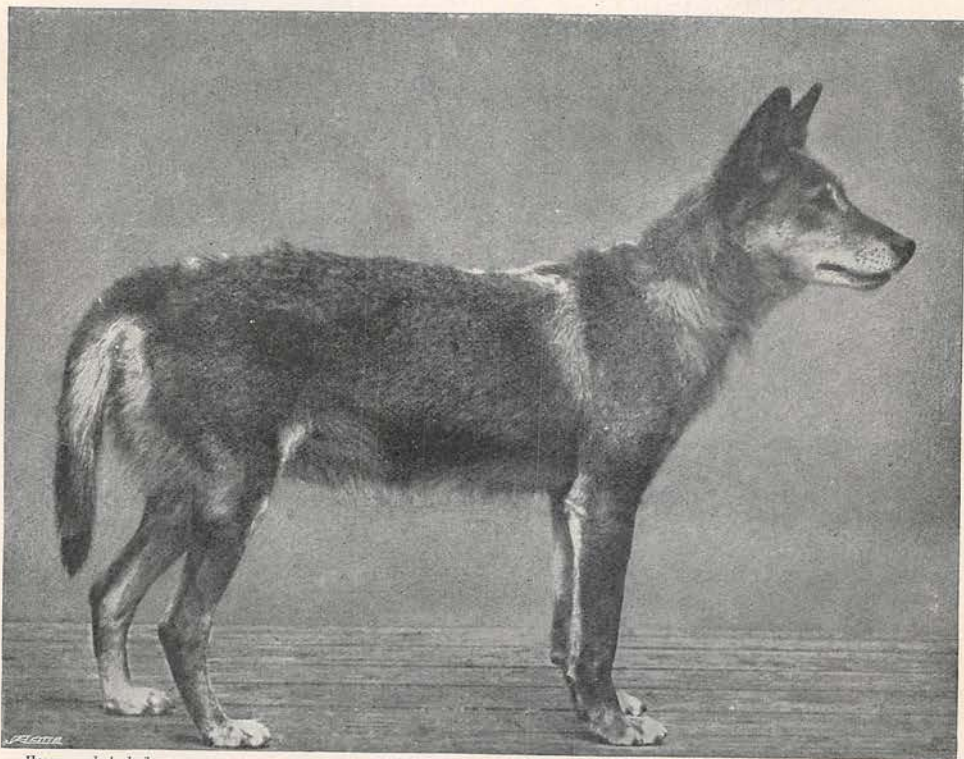


*From a photo by]*

THE CORDED POODLE "DEXTER."

*[Gambier Bolton.*

"Champion Achilles" would be something that they have never seen there, the coat



*From a photo by]*

AN AUSTRALIAN DINGO.

*[Gambier Bolton.*



being constantly cut back to enable him to walk. The writer with his two corded poodles "Dollar" and "Dexter" not only swept the boards at all foreign shows a few years ago, but was fêted and followed by awe-struck crowds wherever he went. On more than one occasion he was honoured by the "commands" of royalty, who, although living in the very centre of the poodle-producing districts, were astounded at the appearance and condition of these English-bred dogs.

the Australian settlers, as they not only kill off immense quantities of poultry each year, but commit sad havoc amongst the sheep, killing for the love of killing, and long after they have satisfied their hunger. In fact it has been found necessary to issue a Government proclamation against them, and many hundreds of them are poisoned annually, whilst many more are shot down or trapped. Strange to say, the Australian native is very fond of these dogs as pets, and (as mentioned



*From a photo by]*

A WHITE CHOW-CHOW.

*[Gambier Bolton.*

"Dexter" was one of the few corded dogs exhibited in his natural condition, his coat never having been clipped, with the exception of the hair on his face, which was found to interfere with his sight; and the top-knot, so noticeable in the photograph, was tied back so as to enable the dog to see where he was going.

From far Australia comes the Dingo, a wolf-like animal of decidedly uncertain temper and disposition. Most of those exhibited are shown in cages with strong iron bars in front of them. The Dingo is a terror to

by Dr. Lumholtz) finding them as puppies, hidden away in the hollow trunks of trees, they rear them with even greater care than they bestow on their own children, allowing the Dingo to sleep in their huts, and feeding them not only on meat, but on fruit as well. Very rarely however do they become perfectly domesticated, and as the pairing season comes round the Dingo sneaks away to the woods and but seldom returns, at that time at least. They are said to be unable to bark, but this is proved to be incorrect, as, just like the



wolves, they quickly learn this accomplishment if kept in the neighbourhood of domesticated dogs.

From China we get the edible dog, or Chow-Chow (the word "Chow" meaning food), their colour being generally black or red-brown, and occasionally a pale cream colour, whilst the white one shown in our illustration is a very great rarity. In all parts of China, including even the British settlement of Hong-Kong, the carcasses of these dogs may be seen exposed for sale in the native butchers' shops in exactly the same uninviting manner as beef and mutton are shown here. In the daily bills of fare posted up outside the native restaurants the dog plays a prominent part, the different portions of his anatomy being valued at various prices. The tongue, in the form of dog's-tongue-soup, commands the highest price, and is consumed only by the wealthier patrons of the establishment. The dogs are not allowed to forage for themselves or gorge themselves on meat. Being destined for human

food from the first, they are fed chiefly on a sloppy vegetable diet, the object being to keep their flesh white and tender; in fact they are treated almost exactly as the rats, which also hang in the butchers' shops, and are readily eaten by the Chinese as a slight change from dog meat. The large number of these edible canines to be seen in our streets at the present day must prove quite a consoling fact to "the man who looks ahead." In the event of our meat supply ever being cut off, these dogs would command a fancy price, as dogs of all kinds did during the siege of Paris in 1871, where it is recorded that the celebrated British bulldog "Michael" was served up as a *rôti*, and greatly appreciated by the diners. This, possibly, is hardly the point of view from

which the members of the Chow-Chow Club would prefer to look upon their dogs, and the cooking of fifty to one hundred of their pets in a huge caldron (which was quite a common occurrence in the Hawaiian Islands not so many years ago), to provide food for themselves and their families, is not as yet arranged for under their rules so far as we can gather.

China also sends us the pretty toy Pekinese spaniel, the pet dog of the Chinese ladies, and one not usually destined for the butcher's shop. "Little Billee" is owned by the Princess of Wales, and for shape, markings, length of ear, and "feather" on the legs, is about as good a specimen as could be found anywhere. They weigh from about three to seven pounds, and make delightful little pets,

whilst their smart appearance is only beaten by that of their near neighbours, the black and white "sleeve-dogs" of Japan, or, as we term them, Japanese spaniels. When the latter first arrived in this country they were known as Japanese pugs, but this was so clearly a misnomer



From a photo by]

[Gambier Bolton.]

THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S PEKINESE SPANIEL "LITTLE BILLEE."

that the name was soon dropped, and they are now rightly classed as toy spaniels. These dogs are carried by the Japanese women in the long sleeves of their *kimonos*, so that the smaller they are the better. The big ones, so often seen in this country, are merely the refuse of the Japanese breeders, who sell them to the stewards of the ships trading between Europe and the far East, who pass them on at a large profit to persons here who are blissfully ignorant of their many faults.

Lady Probyn's little "Hisa" is one that may well be termed a champion of champions, as she has never been beaten, and is universally admitted to be about as perfect a specimen as there is in the world to-day. So far as actual money value goes, she would



sell easily for two or three hundred pounds if her owner could be induced to part with her; but "Hisa's" pretty little ways and



From a photo by]

[Gambier Bolon.

A GREAT DOG OF THIBET.

charming appearance have made so deep and lasting an impression on the hearts of Sir Dighton Probyn's household at Sandringham

that there is no chance of her ever passing into the hands of others. We can only trust that she may be spared to her devoted master and mistress for many years to come.

As a contrast to some of the smallest dogs in the world, the Great Dog of Thibet, or Thibetian mastiff, will serve well, for he is a very giant amongst giant dogs, standing as he does almost exactly thirty-six inches high at the shoulder. Of all the big dogs judged, measured, and photographed by the writer, this monster exceeded any in height, the tallest St. Bernard and boarhound or Great Dane very rarely reaching even thirty-five inches, tight measure, at the shoulder. But little is known of their habits, for very few persons have seen them actually "at home." As pointed out by Mr. Lydekker, they are used as watch-dogs in the villages and encampments in the highlands of Thibet and the neighbouring regions, and they are invaluable in protecting the flocks from the attacks of wolves and wild dogs, whilst in the more eastern portion of the country they inhabit they are used as beasts of burden as well. It is a strange but very interesting



From a photo by]

[Gambier Bolon.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S LAPLAND SLEDGE-DOG "PERLA."



sight to meet a flock of sheep and goats wending their way down the steep mountain passes in charge of their owner, and guarded closely by one of these huge mastiffs, each animal, sheep, goat and dog, bearing its load on its back and making for the nearest town, from whence only master and dog will return, the flocks and loads being disposed of to the traders there.

The hard lives passed by these giant dogs amongst the mountains and snows of bleak Thibet are only equalled by those of the Esquimaux and Lapland sledge-dogs of the far north. Both are well suited to the bitterly cold regions which they inhabit; their thick coats and dense under-fur not only keep them warm, but are the best coverings for them in seasons of snow or damp. The two combined are almost waterproof, and make it possible for them to rest not only on hard ground, but even on ice and snow, and this very often from choice and not only from habit, as lying on straw or any other warm material probably sets up a state of feverishness in their bodies. It is by no means a rare sight to see these and other heavily-coated foreign dogs leave their comfortable cushions and straw beds and lie contentedly on the hard ground or even

and "Perla" (the Prince of Wales's Lapland sledge-dog) have won many prizes in Great Britain, and are almost perfect specimens



From a photo by]

[Gambier Bolton.  
AN ESQUIMAUX DOG.

of their respective breeds, the latter being very far above the average, and one of the biggest winners in the Prince's kennels at Sandringham.

Travellers in the far North tell us a great deal about the hardships endured by the different breeds of sledge-dogs, it being quite the usual thing for each one to draw at least 150 pounds weight for a distance of twenty to thirty miles a day, and they are helped along by frequent thrashings from a whip with a thong made of dried sealskin, nearly twenty feet in length, the temperature often being fifty degrees below zero.

The smart-looking little Schipperkes, or Dutch canal-boat dogs from Holland, are quite fashionable just now in this country, their glossy black and wiry coats, active ways and habit of taking good care of themselves in crowded streets, making them especially valuable as pets in our great cities. Although a few are undoubtedly born tailless, the majority are born with tails of normal length, and it is to be hoped that the horrible practice of "scooping" the tails of these and other so-called tailless dogs has been done away with for ever



From a photo by]

[Gambier Bolton.

A SCHIPPERKE (DUTCH TAILLESS DOG).

on the stones or bricks of their kennel yards.

Both "Arctic King" (the Esquimaux)

by the recent decision of the committee of the Kennel Club. Although but recently seen in this country, there is but little doubt



that the Schipperke is a very old breed in Holland, as many paintings by the Dutch masters of over a hundred years ago show these smart little dogs perched up on the roofs of the living part of the barges, keeping jealous watch over their masters' property. Few dogs can compare with the Schipperke as a watch-dog, either in town or country, as, from generations of practice, they have become quite perfect in this respect.

As a contrast to the heavily coated poodles with which we commenced, we cannot do better than conclude with a specimen of the most scantily

coated dog in existence. The hairless dogs of China, Africa, Central and South America are quite naked, with the exception of a tuft of hair on the head, one at the end of the tail, and a few scattered hairs near the feet. Their hide is very thick and pig-like, the resemblance being strengthened by their colour, which is often black, but more usually

a bright "pig" pink, with faint spots or blotches of a darker shade. As canine curiosities they are very hard to beat, the appearance of one of them in the street often causing quite a crowd to assemble, the street urchin imagining that the animal is some species of pet porker whose ultimate destination should be the sausage shop.

However,

in spite of their quaint appearance, they make most excellent pets, are good companionable dogs, and many of them can be taught to perform tricks in a way that is rarely beaten except by the cleverest of all "trick" breeds, viz., the poodle. "Chyno,"



From a photo by]

[Gambier Bolton.

THE CHINESE HAIRLESS DOG "CHYNO."

whose portrait we give, won the special prize last year at the Ladies' Kennel Show at Holland House for his wonderful performance, which was witnessed and approved of by royalty. Credit must be given to the Miss de Pintos for their patience and perseverance in having trained the dog to such a pitch of perfection.

