

built; gentle temper on the whole, and affectionate, but *never* forgot an enemy, and ever afterwards began to bark when he came to the door—*before* he knocked! Delighted in water, and would fetch and carry anything.”

There seems *no doubt* whatever that the dogs were crossed Bloodhound and Gt. Dane, and have not the faintest resemblance to the Irish Wolfdog.

On the 30th November, 1883, a Doctor Mac'Cormack, of Belfast, wrote as follows to the author of this essay:—

“When I was a child we had one of those magnificent creatures (the Irish Wolfhound) and I have been told that Doctor Weir, of Dromore, County Down, had two, and possibly has them still (?) in all probability of Mr. Mahoney's breed. Very early in life I remember going to Lough Lall, (?) County Armagh, near which was the seat of the Cope family. They had a Wolfdog, and the bay of the animal impressed me almost as much as the lion's roar. Archibald Hamilton Rowan, an Irish Patriot and a most magnificent man, used to go about attended by a Wolfdog. He has, however, long gone to the majority and his dog along with him.”

“The old Irish could not have lived without the Wolfhound; he was their protector and friend.”

On the 31st August, 1884, an impression was sent to the writer of an old seal, by a gentleman residing in Clonmel. It was the property of an old gentleman to whom it had been given, when young, by another old gentleman, a friend, in whose family it had been for generations. It is believed no traditions attach to the seal, and the breed of dog depicted was not known to the owner of the seal, but there is little, in fact, no doubt in the mind of the writer that the animal shown is the old Irish Wolfhound! In every respect, including the rough coat, it corresponds with the writer's firm conviction of what the dog was—save and except the tail which hangs too much and is too bushy. It is opined from the spelling and style of the motto—

“Gentle when strok'd,” “Fierce when provoked”—that the seal was engraved about the commencement of the 18th century, at which period wolves were existing in “*England*” as well as in Ireland? as was certainly the case to a much later date.

In corroboration of the writer's assumption that the dog represented was an Irish Wolfhound, the reader is referred to page 16, where it will be seen that the motto corresponds exactly with that placed under the “arms” of the ancient monarchs of Ireland, which had Irish Wolfhounds as supporters!

In “Fores'” window (the great print-seller of Picadilly) was exhibited in June 1883 an oil painting by James Ward, R.A., of a Wolfhound, evidently done from the life. It represented a very powerful dog, red in colour, hard rough coat, ears cut off at the ends. It was probably painted at the early part of the present century. The form was that of a very *strong* deerhound, but considerably thicker.

This picture is signed but not dated—it was formerly the property of Sir E. Landseer, at the sale of whose drawings Messrs. Fores purchased it—the drawing probably would be about the beginning of this century, as Ward was born 1770.

About 1860, a fine dog of this breed was owned by a gentleman living in Wales. He has been described by the owner's son to the writer as follows:—About 31 inches high; very powerful, far beyond any Deerhound; head, much more massive; pale fawn colour; muzzle, somewhat black; strong rough coat, head, well covered; ears, somewhat larger and more pendulous than a Deerhound's; probable weight, about 120 lbs.; was supposed to have been of the strain of the Lords O'Neill, which however is open to doubt.

The *Modern Geographer*, published by Thomas Myers in 1882, has this passage in it:—“The Irish Greyhound is much celebrated for its size and vigour, and is the most majestic as well as the most beautiful of the canine species. It