

birds without any previous quartering of the ground, which, added to his steadiness in backing other dogs, rendered him, it is averred by chroniclers, the best pointer that had up to then been produced. Some idea of the value of a good working pointer of a hundred years ago may be gauged by the following:—Dash was sold to Sir Richard Symonds for £160 (\$800) worth of champagne and Burgundy which had been bought at the French Ambassador's sale; a hogshead of claret, an elegant gun and a pointer; with the stipulation that if any accident befell the dog that might render him unfit to hunt, he was to be returned to Colonel Thornton at the price of fifty guineas (\$262). The dog had the misfortune to break his leg and was sent to the Colonel, who paid the fifty guineas according to agreement, and he was afterward kept as a stallion, with, however, little success.

Pointers range much more widely here than they do in Europe, for the simple reason that the enclosures are ever so much more capacious and a fast and good nosed dog is in great demand. Game is generally more widely distributed than on the other side, where estates are strictly preserved and poaching laws very severe on the trespasser with a gun or dog in search of game. The remarkable thing about American dogs is their "bird sense"; in other words, the manner in which they will pick out for themselves the most likely place to find game. They will not bother and lose time in hunting localities where there is little chance of satisfying their quest, and the consequence is that newly imported dogs more than often find themselves outrun and outpointed by the homebred animal. Still, there have been cases where English pointers have won in the field in England, then here and afterward in England.

In 1890 the late Mr. Heywood Lonsdale, of Ightfield Hall, Whitechurch, Salop, England, sent across a team to compete at the principal trials. They were handled principally by the late William Brailsford, whose father was one of the promoters of the first dog shows in England. The Lonsdale pointers had never seen a quail in Britain, for there are none, but Ightfield Deuce obtained the highest honors here on that game, and subsequently repeated her previous English success on partridge.

The best show pointer in America today is Champion Coronation, the property of Mr. George Bleistein, of Buffalo, N. Y. She won the gold cup, value \$825, for the best champion of her year before she left England, and she has been equally successful here.

There is nothing more delightful than to shoot over a brace of pointers. They are such beautiful creatures to look upon and so full of style and dash. As a result, there is a great demand today for good looking pointers, and \$1,000 is not an out of the way price even for a show animal that has no work in him. But so vast are the sporting interests in America that no dog—no article of trade—is more salable today than a good working and well trained pointer. Every man who has a gun and is fond of the sports of the field wants one, and that means everybody. A large number of men in the United States and Canada earn an excellent competency through breaking dogs,

and, it might be written, they enjoy a splendid outdoor and consequently a healthy life at the same time. The cost of breaking a dog is from \$25 to \$50, and he should be in the trainer's hands when the pointer is from nine to ten months old.

It is very wonderful to observe the instinct or common sense of a pointer. Somehow or another, when the scent of game strikes his peculiarly sensitive olfactory nerves, he becomes cataleptic. He cannot move, and he will shiver with pent-up excitement. He knows he is on to something, which he cannot see, but to which his nature tells him he must "stand." And there he points, while his trainer encourages him to go up closer to his game. The crucial moment is at hand—if it be a bird it will flush; if it be fur it will move away within his very sight. It is in the spirit of all dogs to chase; if he dares to he will be rated until he does not know his soul is his own; he has made a mistake, he knows it, and he is aware for what he is being punished. And so is he taught that the gun is the instrument of destruction and not he.

#### Puppies at the Kennels.

The local kennels, always a place of interest for visitors, are particularly attractive just now owing to the presence of as fine a lot of puppies as one could wish to see.

They romp and frolic in the sunshine, tumbling over one another in their eagerness, and young and old are among those who gather to watch them.

The demand for Pinehurst dogs during the past summer, was far in excess of the supply, and already sportsmen are picking hunters from the little fellows which are now entertaining visitors.



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