

The SPANIEL



AND ITS  
TRAINING

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NORFOLK SPANIEL,  
The property of Mr. F. H. F. Mercer.

# THE SPANIEL

AND

## ITS TRAINING.

✓  
By F. H. F. MERCER,

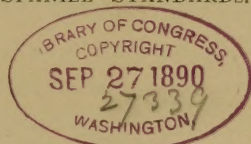
("D. BOULTON HERRALD," "CLUMBER," "DOGWHIP," ETC.)

KENNEL EDITOR OF "SPORTS AFIELD."



CHAMPION "BENE SILK."

TO WHICH IS ADDED THE AMERICAN AND ENGLISH SPANIEL STANDARDS.



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E. G. H. J. 21/12,

## PREFACE.

WHEN, several years ago, I stood in need of a work to instruct me in the art of spaniel training, I found that none existed which was at all suited to my needs. I had, perforce, to study out the subject for myself without assistance and to be my own tutor in threading its intricacies. The training system described in this book is the result of my labors, and while I do not proclaim it to be infallible, still I am positive that most, if not all, spaniels may be well and thoroughly taught if the rules laid down herein are strictly followed.

In the main it is purely original, for it was not until I had practically completed the system, to my own satisfaction at any rate, that I read a book on general training.

It has been thought that such a work as this would

be acceptable to many sportsmen, especially to novices in *spaniel*dom, and certainly if one may judge by the numerous queries to be seen in our sporting papers, as to where a book on spaniel training may be obtained, there will be no lack of readers for this, the pioneer publication of its kind.

F. H. F. MERCER.

OTTAWA CLUB, February, 1890.

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# THE SPANIEL AND ITS TRAINING.

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## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTORY.

TO THE best of my knowledge there is not in all America a professional trainer of spaniels. When one considers the immense numbers of these dogs owned throughout the continent, it is a matter of surprise that some enterprising individual does not launch an establishment for the training of the sporting varieties. No one, however, has done so as yet.

In England they have the advantage over us, for many gamekeepers on the estates of noblemen and landed gentry find time to train a spaniel or two for outsiders each season. But with the alterations brought about by the "improved" farming now in

vogue there, the spaniel's days as an actual sporting dog are well nigh numbered. The keepers who could at one time pocket fifty guineas for a broken spaniel, cannot now sell for a fifth of the sum a dog of just as perfect training. Consequently the spaniel has been neglected, and English keepers have turned their attentions to the more lucrative breeds—pointers, setters and retrievers.

There are men, however, even in England, who still maintain that the spaniel is, *par excellence*, the dog for all around shooting. On several large estates these dogs are used exclusively on all game, and I understand that heavy bags are made over them annually.

All books, in which the training of spaniels for the field has been touched upon, have been written by Englishmen, consequently their methods cannot be followed by us. We do not take the field with a team of four to eight spaniels, a man to handle the dogs, a beater or two, keeper, and two or three "guns." Nor is our shooting done over land of which every tree and bush and hedge is known to men and dogs. With one or two spaniels, alone or accompanied by a friend, we cruise about over strange country, oftentimes, and first must exercise our woodcraft in learning where to go for birds.



IRISH WATER SPANIEL BITCH CHAMPION "HARP,"  
The property of Colonel The Hon. W. Le Poer Trench.

The covert entered, we work the spaniels, shoot, mark birds down, take the game from our dogs, and carry it afterward. Ours is the rough and tumble style, the English the sport refined; though, asked which I should enjoy the better, my answer would not long be deferred. From this it will be seen that the methods of training and management must of necessity differ.

The English recommend more outdoor training for their dogs than we can give ours, for few of us have suitable lawns and grounds at our disposal. Then too, the very climate is against any other than house training in winter time.

A nonsensical notion prevails that a spaniel requires no training whatever to fit him for use afield, in covert or in marsh. Could anything be more foolish and silly? What that is worth doing can be done without previous preparation and training? and how can we expect a spaniel to start in the race handicapped with an entire ignorance of his vocation, not knowing what to do nor how to do it? He does not, to be sure, need so careful and painstaking an education as his pointer or setter brethren require, still some teaching imperatively must be given him.

As a rule, a spaniel is brimming over with life and spirits; and loves nothing better than to fly helter-



skelter through marsh and mire, over the fields and through the woods. This being done generally some hundred yards ahead of the sportsman, is not the sort of work to fill the game bag; but rather is conducive to a sore throat and aching head, caused by fruitless yellings to unheeding ears. Then is the time when the sportsman feels sorely tempted to send one more canine to join the great majority by emptying the charges of both barrels into the riotous one's hide.

A spaniel does not set game but flushes it, hence the name "springer." Consequently it is absolutely necessary that he should be kept to his range and never permitted to run beyond easy gun shot. For instance, you are walking in the woods, your spaniels questing about, not more than twenty yards away. By their actions you know they are "feathering," *i. e.*, coming upon the scent of game. Keep your gun at the ready! The dogs look toward you every now and then, taking care not to follow on the trail too fast. They reach the birds and with a plunge and a frantic waving of sterns they are in. Whirr! Whirr! Three ruffed grouse flush within twenty yards and you are allowed ample time to get in both barrels with telling effect.

A spaniel may easily be taught to set birds; but in my opinion it is not desirable to do this. Every-

thing to its appointed work—the hound to trail, the pointer and setter to point or set, and the spaniel to flush. There is a great deal in what “Idstone” writes in his book: “In thick covert, wherever it is over two feet six or three feet high, spaniels should be used in preference to any other sort of dog. People used to write of using pointers in cover with bells on their necks, but the bells ought to be on the cap of the pointer’s owner. I confess I have done this very thing myself years ago, but it was with an old pointer, and at the time the only one I had; but it is sheer folly to talk or write of using a pointer for spaniel work. A keeper, the other day, brought a spaniel to me, which he said with a grin, stood like a pointer, and appeared dumbfounded when I rejoined: ‘That is not his trade.’”

It only stands to reason that spaniels should be superior to their ranging brethren, the pointer and the setter, for routing out birds; for, while the rangers must keep their heads up and quest for wind scent, the spaniel has his nose on the ground and can trace both foot and body scents.

I recollect well one lovely October day when afield with the spaniels. We were crossing an extensive clearance on the way to a favorite covert of mine and I found the greatest difficulty in preventing

the dogs from running out to the right, where I could distinctly see, so I thought, that there was nothing. At length losing patience I let them go, and they ran straight as arrows in their flight for quite fifty yards, and flushed a covey of a dozen ruffed grouse! I could not see them on the treeless hillside, but their scent discovered the birds to the spaniels even at this great distance.

This is not an isolated case, for I have time and again seen them do the same thing, though not to so marked a degree. A peculiar instance of a spaniel's capacity to profit by wind scent occurred on one of my hunts. Just at dusk I had shot a duck, which fell some distance off. My retrieving spaniel lay on the bottom of the canoe and certainly did not see the bird fall. The water was deep and I did not send him after it, but paddled to the spot where I had marked the game down. No sign of a bird was to be seen, therefore I ordered the dog to "seek dead." He at once jumped into the water and, disregarding my orders to him to seek ahead where I believed the bird lay, swam back quite twenty yards and picked up the duck, which was quite dead! It was altogether too dark for him to have seen it, so the bird could only have been traced by scent.

As for following up and puzzling out a foot scent,

I have seen a spaniel puppy trail a "flapper" in all its windings for a quarter of an hour and finally effect its capture. This, too, when he had been put upon the scent certainly many minutes after the bird had escaped from the game bag in which I had confined the duckling.

The pointer and setter gallop, the spaniel walks or trots—which then is the more likely to discover close lying birds? The spaniel searches the ground thoroughly that his galloping brethren would race over. Does it not stand to reason that he can discover birds that the others would pass by?

Having occasion once to spend a day in woods where I had done a good deal of shooting, I took with me a pointer and a setter. All through the day they found not a solitary bird (it was in the moulting season). A few days later I went over the same woods accompanied by a spaniel, who routed out a goodly number of grouse.

Never, in my recollection, have I turned my spaniels in where birds had been marked down, that they failed to account for them. Few can say this of their pointers or setters, though for many spaniels the claim would be a just one.

Let it not for a moment be imagined that I advocate the use of the spaniel for open shooting on

large meadow lands or prairies. There is the domain of the pointer and the setter, and in it they cannot be excelled. The covert and wooded country is the spaniel's ground, and in this, his sphere, he is unapproachable.

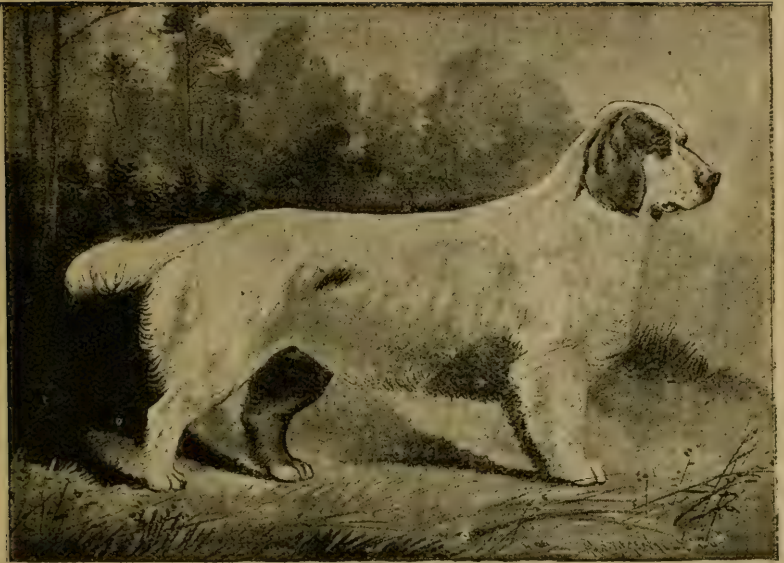
## CHAPTER II.

### SPANIELS.

IT is now in order to give a brief description of the several varieties of working spaniels, together with a consideration of their respective claims to usefulness in the field.

The spaniel, as the name denotes, came originally from Spain, "notwithstanding yat ther ben many in othir countries," *vide* "The Maister of the Gaime," by Edmund de Langley; and from his description of the "Spaynel" I infer that even at the time he wrote (in the fourteenth century), there were more varieties than one of this useful dog.

Dr. Johannes Caius, writing at a later date, notes the fact that a new variety had been introduced into England from France. These dogs were white and black in color, and from this we can, without difficulty, see that the modern black spaniel may have



From "The American Book of the Dog."

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CLUMBER SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "JOHNNY,"

The property of Mr. F. H. F. Mercer.

come by his color honestly through judicious breeding and selection of specimens of the black and white persuasion.

The Irish Water spaniel is the first of the varieties to be considered, as the English water dog in its purity is extinct. In the East good specimens are far from being common; but in the Central and Western States they enjoy a fair share of popularity, and, comparatively speaking, are there owned in numbers. The show benches, too, in those sections of the country, contain Irishmen of a far higher grade than the East can boast. As a breed, the Irish Water spaniel can never become popular with any but wild fowl shooters, for, outside of water work, they are of little service. Such unkempt, ragged-looking creatures are they, that the Paddies as companions are anything but ornamental, though that wild-looking eye is certainly attractive. The coat exhales a most unpleasant odor, arising from the oil with which the hair is saturated—nature's provision against the icy water in which they are so often required to work.

In Ireland, the place of their nativity, as the name denotes, there were two varieties—the northern and the southern, the latter being more generally known as the “MacCarthy breed,” after a gentleman of that name. The northern breed is now, as far as recogni-



tion goes, extinct, and it is scarcely probable that there are any pure specimens living to-day. They were lower on the leg than their brethren of the south, averaging 19 or 20 inches in height at the shoulder, with short legs, long bodies, close coats, short ears, without feather, and altogether, to quote Mr. J. S. Skidmore, "like a bad specimen of a liver-colored retriever." The prevailing type of what is now known as the Irish water spaniel was built up, in fact owes its very existence to, Mr. Justin MacCarthy, an Irish gentleman whose published description of the breed in the *London Field* as far back as 1859, is identical in all salient points with the modern standard. At their legitimate work—wild-fowl retrieving from the water—it is a question if their superiors exist, not excepting even the vaunted Chesapeake Bay dog; but in thorny, dense coverts their curled coats and long heavily feathered ears are a terrible handicap. Despite the willingness of these plucky dogs to work *anywhere*, they cannot be considered good workers afield. As may be imagined, the "wild Irishman" is a natural retriever and requires but little teaching to perfect him in this branch, though he is inclined to be hard in mouth, consequently the greatest care should be exercised in this branch of his education.

An extinct variety of the spaniel family is that known as the English Water spaniel, and a sad pity it is that the breed has been lost, for by what one can gather from those who knew the dog, he must have been a useful animal indeed. The breed is said to have had its origin in a union of the old world water dog and the spaniel. As retrievers of wounded game they are said to have excelled, and altogether appear to have been "varmints" for work.

The Clumber spaniel, some writers contend, is the original land spaniel, and their contention is certainly borne out by weighty evidence. About two hundred years ago the immediate founders of the present race were imported into England by the then reigning Duke of Newcastle from the kennels of the Duc de Noailles in France. The name is derived from the Nottinghamshire seat of the house of Newcastle, Clumber, where they were taken on their landing from France and have since been maintained. The breed is very scarce in America, and strangely so, for not only are they beautiful and attractive dogs, but workmen of the "Garter" order of merit. In the water the Clumber is almost as much at home as on the land, consequently he makes a most excellent wild-fowl retriever. The light color, however, is against him for this work, as it readily

reveals his presence to the keen-eyed duck. The Clumbers' scent is of the keenest, they range close to the gun, require less training for field work than does any other breed, and being perfectly mute when on game, are enabled to draw right up to the birds before flushing. The breed is fast gaining friends, and soon I hope to see it receive the recognition that is only its due.

The cradle of the Sussex spaniel may be said to have been Rosehill, in the county of Sussex in England. What the origin of the variety may have been it is impossible to say, and while some writers claim for it the palm of greater antiquity than any other breed of the spaniel, it is noteworthy that neither De Langley nor Caius mention dogs in any way resembling the Sussex. From one cause and another the breed became practically extinct in its purity, and in 1872 several admirers of the handsome "golden livers," notably Mr. T. B. Bowers, banded together for the purpose of bringing about its resuscitation. Their efforts were crowned with success, and we have now, in all probability, better specimens of this beautiful and useful variety than ever were before. In America they are scarce at the time of writing; but no doubt when the dog becomes better known this will be remedied. They

are dogs of unquestionable beauty, being of a rich *golden* liver in color, and built on somewhat the same lines as the Clumber, though, unlike that silent aristocrat, they give tongue freely when at work. The Sussex is an excellent dog afield. The most probable reason for their lack of popularity with sportsmen is that the color blends so exactly with the hues of an autumnal covert that the dog is in danger of being shot, owing to his master's inability to detect his exact whereabouts. This objection, however, would not hold good with duck shooters, and I have no doubt that they could readily be trained to do duty in water as well as on land.

Though virtually extinct in its purity, the impress of the Norfolk spaniel may still be seen in the liver and white nondescript spaniels, of which one sees so large a number. The writer owned a pure bred Norfolk spaniel a dozen years or more ago. He was a very beautiful and intelligent dog, but had been spoiled for work afield when young, through having been struck about the head with some stray pellets of shot. They were exceedingly useful shooting dogs, although arrant babblers, a most objectionable trait in a sporting dog; but as an offset to this, the Norfolk was good alike on or in either element. The breed is said to have been originated by a Duke of

Norfolk, hence the name. Youatt, in his work on the dog, ascribes the origin to a union between the black and tan terrier and the spaniel, but the statement is most difficult to credit.

By far the most popular spaniels of the present time are the black field and cockers. The blacks were first brought prominently into public notice in England by the late Sir Francis Burdette, and from him the better known Mr. Phineas Bullock obtained his best dogs. As for the origin of the variety, we cannot do better than quote from the remarks of Mr. Thomas Jacobs, of Newton Abbott, England, who is *facile princeps* of admirers and breeders of the black spaniel:

“Much has been written and said on the purity of the breed, deprecating the means I have adopted to produce them as calculated to alter a presumed type, and frequent missiles have been hurled at me and my dogs from behind the hedge. But where is the pure bred black spaniel we hear so much about? Proof of the existence of the pure bred one (if there ever was one!) has not been forthcoming. Like most sporting dogs, they are the result of different crosses.

“I have bred many times from the most noted dogs and bitches said to be the only pure strain of

black spaniel, and have never known them to throw one even litter of blacks, always a mixture—liver, black, black and white, black and tan; some with long, some short, bodies and legs, curly, wavy and smooth, and all sizes and shapes.

“What does this indicate? Common-sense tells me a cross with different types, varieties and colors some time or other must have been introduced. I never can believe there ever was a distinct breed of black spaniel, nor do I believe the Sussex is a distinct breed; it is true we can trace them back for many generations, like we do the Laverack setter, but how were they derived in the first place?”—  
(From the Illustrated Book of the Dog.)

In popularity and in the number of its representatives entered at our shows the black spaniel is second only to the cocker spaniel. With their beautiful jet black, glossy coats, and lean, “blood-like” heads, they form a most attractive feature of the show benches, though candor obliges me to admit that as at present bred the black spaniel would soon tire in covert. When bred up a little more “on the leg,” however, they make rattling good workers.

There are, of course, field spaniels that display colors other than liver and black, apart from the Norfolk; but these may be classed with the blacks,



From "The American Book of the Dog,"

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CLUMBER SPANIEL PUPPY "QUESTER,"

The property of Mr. F. H. F. Mercer.

as they are judged under the same standard, bar the color of coat.

We now come to the most popular variety of its family in America—the cocker. This, the smallest of all sporting spaniels, was in early days more frequently met in the ancient kingdom of Wales and in the county of Devonshire than elsewhere in the British Isles. The name is derived from these dogs having been principally used in woodcock shooting, hence cocking spaniel—cocker.

That it is an actual and unadulterated breed no one who has seen a litter of so-called cocker spaniels can believe for one moment. Whether the toy spaniel emanates from the cocker or *vice versa* it is impossible to say, but it is significant that Youatt in his book gives a fine steel engraving entitled "Blenheims and Cockers," that the types of both are identically the same, and that that type is *the toy*.

The distinction drawn nowadays between cockers and the field spaniels is merely one of weight, a spaniel weighing over 28 lbs. having to compete in the field class, and *vice versa*, no matter what the characteristics of the individuals may be. The absurdity of this must be apparent to any thinking man. The great majority of the show cockers of the day are nothing more nor less than small field spaniels.



In no breed of the spaniel has so great an alteration been effected in structural formation as in the cocker. From an active, lively little dog, rather high on the leg, he has been moulded into a very long-bodied, short-legged creature. A champion cocker of to-day could not last through a hard day in covert or marsh.

To quote an eminent breeder, Dr. Boulton, of Beverley, Yorkshire, who has done more than any other man to rescue the cocker from oblivion: "While the smallest of all sporting spaniels, he is neither a weed nor a toy." Yet, surely the now prevailing type is more of a toy than anything else! The following letter was written to me by Dr. Boulton: "You ask my opinion of the modern cocker spaniel as a worker. I can only speak of my own breed and can most confidently assure you, that after sending specimens all over the world, *i. e.*, to most counties of England, Scotland and Ireland, Wales, the Channel Islands, France, America, Australia, Smyrna, etc., etc., the *universal verdict* has been **AI** in the field. As to their success on the show bench, I can say that I *never* sent my dogs to any show where they failed to score, and that most winners on the show benches of late years have been the result of my breed or crosses with my old strain.

“As to the history of my strain, I can look back to when I was a lad aged twelve years, I was visiting an uncle in York, who went to call on an old sporting friend, taking me with him. I saw, and at first sight fell in love with, his old-fashioned team of *liver and white ticked* cocker spaniels, and on the spot registered a vow that if ever I lived to be a man I would have dogs like them.

“Many years passed over, and after settling here in Beverley, January, 1855, my mind was fixed as ever on the determination of my boyhood. Not a spaniel of any kind was here nor in the neighborhood. One day, however, when the East York militia was, for the first time, billeted in Beverley, I was driving through the town and saw a militiaman with a sweet little liver-colored cocker bitch. I stopped him, ascertained where he was billeted and made him promise not to sell the bitch till I had seen him again. On my return I called on him and bought this bitch. I found her nose perfect, also that she was one of the most untiring little spaniels I had ever met with.

“I crossed her with a black spaniel dog, passing through the town the following year. His pedigree I could not get, but he bore it on his face and type. I then picked up, at a high figure, a real pedigree,

old world black cocker dog, and crossed him with a bitch of the first cross from the liver bitch, etc. Our great judge, Mr. Lort, became deeply interested in my earnest endeavors to save from extinction the old English cocker, and from time to time wrote to me where I could find a desirable cross or specimen. I culled with the utmost determination all the blood I could secure of the strain produced by the late Sir Francis Burdette, and when I exhibited for the first time at Manchester in the Puppy Class, my Rex and Rhea, taking first prize with Rhea, second prize with Rex, Mr. Lort, the judge, was delighted and prophesied the success that would surely attend my endeavors. Since Rex and Rhea won at Manchester, I can only say I never exhibited without winning prizes, and have scored at all our best shows, Birmingham, Crystal Palace, etc., etc., etc.

“ I fear all this rigmarole must sound very egotistical, but it cannot be avoided when writing of one's own productions.

“ Of one thing I am confident, viz.: *that the modern show bench cocker* cannot be of any practical use if required for the work of the *old world cocker*.

“ The face of our country is so altered that we have little use for the cocker spaniel now, which once was the very best all-round sporting dog in existence,

the most perfect in nose, and, at the same time, the most active and untiring.

“Common sense and experience must convince any thinking mind that a *long, low* dog, with comparatively weak loins, cannot possibly work so long or with such activity as a shorter-backed animal on straight legs and with good feet and a more perfect concentration of muscular power.

“I feel sure that your ideas of *what a spaniel should be* agree with mine; indeed, I have been specially struck with the practical ideas of American spaniel fanciers on the points and necessary requirements of this variety of sporting dog. All I can add in conclusion is this, if you, as you say you do, possess any of the old Rhea strain, *stick to it* and *treasure it* as a priceless possession, for in this country, since I gave up breeding, our fanciers have so crossed the breed that the very type is altered, and with this change I fear its utility also.”

## CHAPTER III.

### SELECTION.

TOO much care cannot be taken in selecting a dog, no matter what the breed, and spaniels are not an exception to the general rule. It is wasted time to spend days and weeks in the invariably vain attempt to make a worker out of a dog that has no natural ability.

A high-class working spaniel must come of working stock, be high-couraged, obedient, keen of scent, enduring and persevering. A dog that will flinch from a thorny thicket or funk a miry pond is of little use, for just there the birds are most likely to lie.

A wild one can, with judicious handling, be moulded into a most valuable animal, but the chances are greatly against a timid animal turning out to be of much use. For my part, the only dog I should give up trying to train would be a timid, spiritless

creature, such as one so often sees. In time, one of the crouching, nerveless wretches might be made something of, but it would be so unlikely that I certainly should not persist in the attempt. Of course if a person has plenty of spare time, and an insufficiency of the wherewithal to purchase another dog, he needs must do the best that can be done with the material at hand, and by dint of perseverance and ceaseless patience perchance will succeed in making a worker out of his *fainéant*.

In the first place, be sure to purchase a thoroughbred, whatever the variety. He may turn out a rank bad one, but the chances of his doing so are infinitesimally less than that of a mongrel's so doing. The former comes of a "straight" stock, the latter of the reverse; and while you may have owned, seen or heard of a mongrel that was a good shooting dog, you might have to try scores of curs and then not get a decent worker. Probably for every good working cur there are five hundred thoroughbreds his equal or superior, only one is so surprised at the cur's good qualities, appearing where they do, that he magnifies the performance to an undue degree. Whereas from the thoroughbreds one expects much, and little is thought of their achievements in consequence.



FIELD SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "BLACK PRINCE,"

The property of Mr. A. Clinton Wilmerding.

We often hear and read of "common little yellow dogs, part terrier and the rest just dog" that the owner alleges he would not trade for acres of "blue-bloods." How he once bought one of the "most fashionable blood," a descendant of Rover and Ponto and other like celebrities, who wasn't worth the price of the powder and shot it would have taken to destroy him, and, therefore, he knocked the brute's brains out with an axe. He does not mention how many "just dogs" he has tried, yet, because the one "blue blood" he owned was a failure, condemns all all thoroughbred canines to outer darkness! On the same line of argument we might say that because we have known one worthless cur, there never lived a cur worth his food. The contention cuts in two directions.

Outside of the question of utility, it is most advisable to acquire a thoroughbred. In the first place, instead of having to apologize for your dog's appearance several times a day by veraciously recounting his accomplishments as an offset to his ugliness, you experience the pleasurable sensation of hearing remarks of admiration from friends and passers-by upon his beauty. Then, too, it should be remembered that there is more or less profit to be derived from the ownership of a thoroughbred. If a bitch, she can be



bred to and the progeny sold. If a dog, his services will be in requisition to a greater or a lesser extent, as his individual merits warrant, even though he may never have been exhibited.

Too many are led away by the promise of a puppy out of Smith's Juno (pedigree and breed unknown). She, mayhap, is a good-looking beast, and having been bred to Jones' Ponto (whose antecedents are an unknown quantity), the would-be dog-owner reasons that the offspring should be something "pretty good." In due course they appear upon the scene, and are pretty—nearly all puppies are, in a measure, and the happy recipient carries home the little lump of fat and fur with jubilation. He rears it with care and grows fond of it, but to his horror the dog grows more and more ugly every day, and when matured hangs about the house a constant source of chagrin to its master.

If you wish to get hold of a worker, do not blindly rush to buy a dog from out of the kennel that is winning the greatest number of prizes in the show ring, but inquire carefully whether the proprietors or keepers are sportsmen and *shoot over their winning stock*. I have in mind a prominent exhibitor of spaniels who, in answer to my query as to whether he worked his champions, replied: "When I want to go shooting I

take my workers, Jack and Jill, Nebuchadnezzar [his crack], would have made a good one, but he never was trained."

While I do not, for a moment, mean to infer that prize takers cannot also be workers (indeed, I *know* that such is not the case, and so can any one ascertain who takes the trouble), I am alive to the fact that many prominent kennels are made up of dogs that not only have never heard a gun fired afield, but are bred from generations of stock of the same description, and such cannot be expected to make useful animals. The aptitude for work is dead within them.

Do not trust too much to advertisements of how the dogs are regularly shot over each season. The "shooting over," for all you know, may be only a few random shots fired in the kennel yard by the conscientious owner, though others, of less tender sensibilities, may consider the statement in itself sufficient, and refrain from a reckless expenditure of ammunition.

Seek, rather, kennels of well-known blood that are, beyond all doubt, good afield, and, if possible, at the same time one whose dogs are up to show form, for it largely adds to the value of a worker if he is known to possess the qualification of good points.

The prevailing craze for spaniels so low that their stomach feathering sweeps the ground, and so short of limb that they can barely waddle, has sounded the death-knell of some varieties, at all events in the "show division," in so far as ability to work goes. Why it has been done is a mystery to all, and the only answer to be adduced is that "fancy" is to blame. Even upon the score of beauty, the crocodile spaniels are behind. What unprejudiced man can look at an engraving of Kaffir, and then at Moonstone, and hesitate for a moment as to the former being the handsomer dog! I cannot see why "low" in a standard should be construed into meaning lowest, and "long" into longest. If the craze goes much further an extra pair of legs will have to be grafted on amidships to help the poor seal-like spaniels crawl along. Extremes of any kind are detestable, whether it be a pug-nosed, cow-hocked mastiff, or a longest and lowest "modern" spaniel; and I think and hope that the time is coming when there will be a change. Mind you, I detest an over-leggy dog, but for that reason I do not like one with no legs at all.

The trouble, to a great extent, lies in the fact that no time nor trouble is devoted to the breeding of "common-sense" animals; consequently a judge, no

matter how favorably disposed, cannot consistently give the leggy, bad-headed, bad-coated and bad all-around "workers" brought before him the awards over the heads of carefully bred and cared for "show" animals.

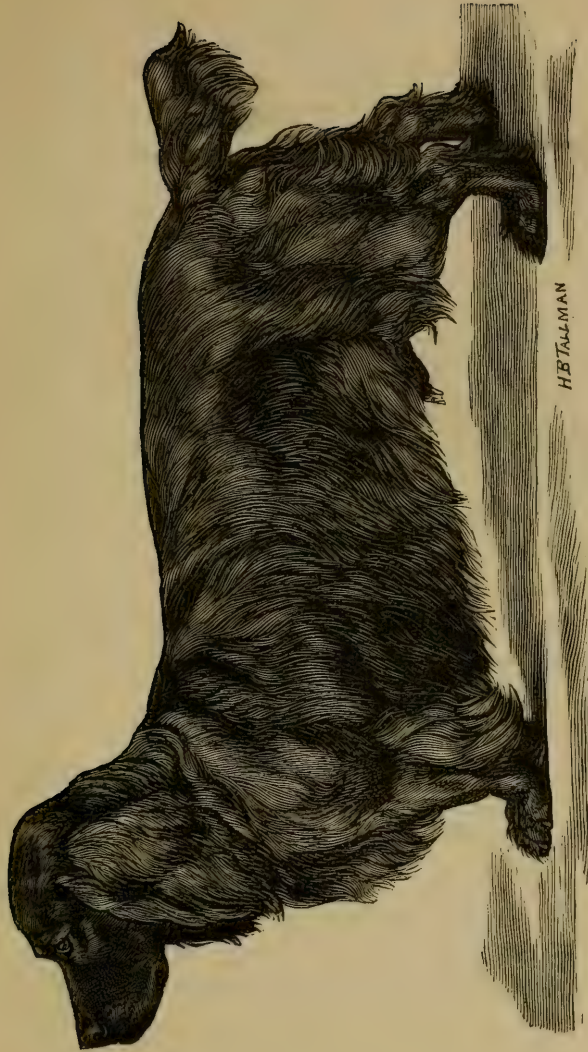
A spaniel is a sporting dog; so are setters, pointers and hounds. Would it not, then, be as sensible to breed "long and low" setters as spaniels of that type? One would have thought there were varieties enough of non-sporting dogs for the fancy fiend to turn his restless energies loose upon, and that so grand a breed of working dogs as the spaniel could be left "unimproved," but, alas! it is not so. The fad is omnipresent, and every breed has been either injured or benefited through its manipulations.

Were I selecting a general purpose spaniel, a cocker should not be my choice. He is a good little dog for his inches, but is physically incapable of doing the work a larger spaniel can. He is unable, for instance, to bring a black duck or goose out of "bad" marshland, for he has not the requisite strength and size to admit of the possibility of his so doing. There is not enough dog. Even that through and through cocker enthusiast, Mr. Fellows, has acknowledged that for work he would rather have a dog over than under the standard weight (28 lbs.).

Then, too, the cocker is, as a rule, more difficult to train than one of the larger varieties, for he is more impetuous and brims over with restlessness. My choice would be in the direction of the larger varieties, Clumber, Sussex, Norfolk or field, for there is in them to be found the same capabilities for work, with more power to do their duty and *last* through it, at the same time, with less of impetuosity.

Nor must one expect to pick up a really first-class spaniel for a song. He may succeed in doing so, now and then, but certainly, like angels' visits, such prizes will be few and far between. I often receive letters of inquiry as to spaniels, in which the writers occupy several pages in describing the good qualities the dog they would buy must possess, and conclude by saying that they will not give a "fancy price" for the animal. No matter how moderate the price at which you quote your stock, considering its quality, breed and achievements, and, above all, the money it has cost you to get together and maintain, these people will howl "fancy price," probably for no other reason than that they can buy a nondescript mongrel for a "quarter." Every breeder of high-class stock knows how hard it is to pay bare running expenses, leaving out any consideration of the first outlay in the purchase of stock entirely. What one dog makes

another loses, and so it goes. Food, attendance, housing, medicines, exhibiting, taxes, traveling expenses, etc., etc., cost money, and when all this is considered no fair-minded man can help admitting that \$25 for a spaniel puppy of the best breeding and form, from a famous kennel, is not an extravagant price.



FIELD SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "GLENCAIRN,"

The property of Messrs. Oldham & Willey.

## CHAPTER IV.

### PRELIMINARY HINTS.

**B**EFORE going into the details of training let me impress upon you the vital importance of keeping your temper under control. I am aware that this is decidedly difficult, especially when one is dealing with a wayward, heedless pupil, and I own to having frequently lapsed from my creed under trying circumstances. Still, every man can exercise a certain amount of control over himself, and if one wishes to meet with success in spaniel training, control his temper he must.

I had this brought forcibly before my notice not more than two months ago when training a team of spaniels. Among them was one that I had never handled before, consequently she was obstinate and very hard to manage. Her master was present and took it upon himself to bring her into a proper state



of behavior, but without success. He beat and beat, and yelled and shouted, but nothing would she do except either run away or lie down without moving.

After enduring this exhibition for some minutes, I requested my friend to go away and leave the bitch to me. In a quarter of an hour she was doing as well or even better for me than any of the others! I simply kept my temper and handled her judiciously.

A dog studies the human face, and if he sees rage depicted thereon is almost certain to become fearful of what will follow, for intelligence teaches him that something surely will follow. If he is a timid animal he becomes paralyzed with fear, and is incapable of entertaining any thought but of the chastisement which he knows is impending. Is it likely, then, that he can bestow proper attention upon his work, when in constant terror of increasing your displeasure?

There are those that tell us that dogs cannot reason. What folly! Reason, Webster says is, "A thought or a consideration, as bearing on a determination or an opinion." \* \* \* A dog sees you take up your hat and immediately jumps up in the hope of being allowed to follow you in your walk. How could he do this did not your action bear on a determination in his mind that you were going out?

This is but a single exemplification of scores that one may observe, if he but takes the trouble, any day of the year.

Try to be kind, not brutal, with your dog—it will pay better in the end. Do not shout and scream at him in a frenzy—it frightens the game and gives you a sore throat. Use the whip as little as possible, but when its use is necessary, apply it with telling effect. One good, sound whipping is worth a dozen taps, and “Oh! you naughty dog, don’t do so again.”

If you find it necessary to punish, call the dog to you, and taking hold of him by the throat, underneath, make him look up in your face, and chide him severely, taking care to leave no doubt in his mind about your being displeased with him. Should the offense be of so flagrant a nature as to merit a whipping in expiation, scold him at the time you are plying the lash, saying, “Bad dog for doing — (name the offense), bad dog!”

Of the rival systems, training and breaking, the results are generally as follows: The trained dog obeys and works because he takes pleasure in the performance of his duty; the broken dog works mechanically and in constant fear; in short, he is afraid not to. Which, think you, would it be the pleasanter to spend a day afield over?

Gain the confidence of your dog. Never deceive nor play cruel tricks with him. There may be an immense amount of fun to be derived from holding a lighted cigar for a puppy to smell at, though for my part I can't see where the joke comes in; but I don't think any one will say that the dog enjoys it, nor that it is conducive to gaining his confidence.

Be gentle, kind and considerate. Remember that a dog has feelings just as you or I have, and that you can offend him just as you can a human being. Above all, therefore, *be patient and keep your temper.*

"You should have your dog so that he will tremble when you look at him and crouch to the ground when you speak to him." Such was the dictum of a sportsman of forty years' standing, as expressed to me some years ago. I did not say anything; nevertheless I thought a lot, among the visions being, that to my certain knowledge he had never owned even a fairly good dog, supplemented by the notion that his system of training was to blame, not the poor dogs.

Never *kick* your dog, for there is no knowing what injury a careless kick may do. A man's leg is tremendously strong, much stronger than his arm, and there is nothing easier than to fracture a couple of ribs, break a shoulder, or do some equally serious

hurt by a kick. A man who will kick a dog does not deserve to have one.

And another thing, let me pray you—do not teach your spaniel to tree grouse. Therein lies the secret of the decimation this matchless species has undergone, for how can a bird sitting in a tree escape your shot! Is it any more sportsmanlike to shoot a “treed” grouse than a hen sitting on a fence? Pursued with setter or springing spaniel there can be no more wily bird than an old cock grouse; but when a “treeing” cur is after him, he has not as much sense as a barn-door fowl, by half.

Just as human beings display temperaments directly opposed to one another, so do dogs, and a successful trainer of spaniels will always be a good judge of dog nature. Scarcely any two dogs can be handled alike, each has his peculiarities, and it should be the trainer’s study to learn their characters and treat them accordingly. He must understand his dogs.

## CHAPTER V.

### FIRST LESSONS.

WHEN a spaniel puppy is between two and four months he is usually taken from his dam. For my part I prefer the earlier age, as the pup becomes more attached to one, as he is of necessity more dependent upon you at the earlier age.

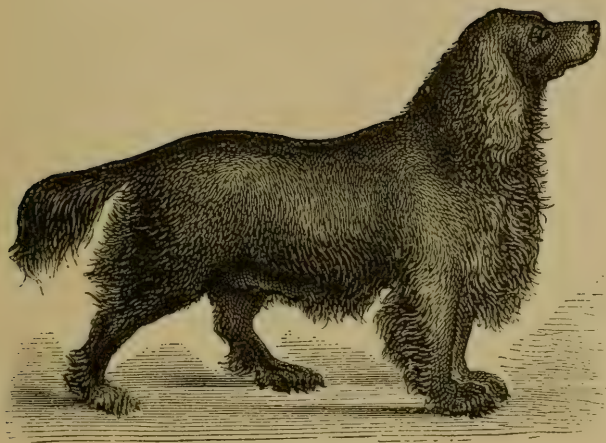
Some sportsmen believe it to be inadvisable to begin training a pup that is less than four or six months old; but if my advice is followed you will commence the lessons when the little creature is two to three *weeks old*.

This, probably, strikes you as being absurd, but it is not. The lesson is not a very advanced one, to be sure, yet a lesson it is, nevertheless, and, moreover, the first step of the ladder. Of course in this case I am supposing you to be the owner or keeper of the dam and her nurslings.

When going to the kennel where the bitch is confined with her puppies, make it a practice to whistle as you would if signalling to the grown dogs. It is well for every dog owner to have his own peculiar whistle, that the dogs may become accustomed to it and therefore enabled to distinguish it from others. Young as the puppies are, your whistling will attract their attention, and in time, when they are old enough to seek a little food themselves, they will at once be on the alert and keep a sharp watch for whatever may be "going." I have myself had puppies of only three weeks old, which, whenever I went into their kennel, would run to the feeding-pan, around which they would range themselves, and, sitting on their haunches, look expectantly up into my face. Young as they were, they knew whence came the dainties.

Should there be any trace of gunshyness in their parental tree (and in what strain is there not?) it is well to guard against its reappearance by making noises when taking your pups their food. Begin, say, by banging a tin basin, gently at first, with a stick, and gradually hitting harder and harder, making a proportionately increased uproar thereby.

When they cease to present any symptoms of fear, it is well to advance a step, firing a child's toy-pistol close by them, taking care that it does not make an



COCKER SPANIEL BITCH CHAMPION "RIIEA,"

The property of Dr. W. W. Boulton.

overloud report. Confirmed gunshyness and its cure will be touched upon further on.

If it is to be managed, by any possibility, bring up two puppies together. For many reasons it is advisable—they keep one another company, and thereby that dreadful squalling, with which a lonely, frightened puppy regales you throughout the “watches of the night,” is prevented. It is but little more trouble, teaching two puppies than one, and often there is a rivalry between them that is a most advantageous aid to rapid progress.

Let us suppose, then, that you have your puppy at home, safe and sound. He has already been accustomed to the whistle, so that is done with. First make him understand that when you call or whistle it means that he is wanted. It is well to christen him at the outset, and always to use his name when addressing him. “Baby talk” I find most useful in gaining a new puppy’s confidence, and in teaching him his name, for while fondling him I interlard the nonsense with his name as plentifully as possible.

Should he refuse to come when called, catch hold of him and putting the hands behind his shoulders, drag him to the spot where you stood when the first call was given, saying, while doing so, “Come here, good dog, Jack, come here.” Be careful to be gentle



and that you do not betray in the slightest any mark of the anger and annoyance you may feel at his disregard of your orders. He is but a baby, bear in mind.

When you come to your former standing place, let him go free and praise and pet him, saying, "Good dog, Jack, for coming here, good dog." At the same time bestow some dainty upon him, thereby inducing him to come when called in future in the hope of receiving similar rewards.

Care should be taken against having any one present when a lesson is in progress. Neither should even an old dog be near during these preliminary lessons, for it would only serve to distract the pup's attention from the business in hand.

Then, too, he should have but one instructor, for no matter if their systems of training are indentically the same, there is yet a difference in manner and in voice.

Prevent his playing with children as you would shun a pestilence; in fact, the less a working-dog sees of children the better. Though it may be without your knowledge, they will throw sticks and stones for him to fetch, and then what becomes of his "mouth?" Especially when, as is oftimes their practice, they hold on to one end of the stick while

the dog grabs the other extremity and a "tug of war" for its possession ensues. They will encourage him to chase birds and cats and run riot generally. If you wish the children to have a pet, buy them one by all means; but unless you wish your spaniel ruined, lay an interdict against their making a playmate of him.

In these first lessons do not dream of whipping or scolding your pupil, neither employ a check-cord, choke-collar, or other restraining device. The pup must be made to look up to you as a companion and a friend, not as a taskmaster and an enemy.

Many sportsmen believe in field training only for their spaniels; that is, in taking them out on the first of the season and, without preliminary training of any kind, with the aid of boot-toe and whip, bringing them under some sort of subjection. But a dog so "trained" is scarcely likely to turn out a success as a worker, and the treatment being a "kill or cure" one appears to me most undesirable.

When I think of the splendid work I have got out of house-trained spaniel puppies on their first morning afield, I cannot help but be an advocate for preliminary training.

Undue haste cannot be too strongly deprecated. See that your pupil is thoroughly familiar with and

grounded in the rudiments before you advance to higher branches. It is just as with a boy at school. He must learn his A B C before he can read or write, and so must your spaniel learn *his* alphabet before he can graduate in the field.

For my part, I should not dream of taking a youngster afield unless he had been house-trained previously. In my opinion, it is folly, pure and simple. It takes but five minutes, or ten, here and there, for a month or two, while you are waiting for dinner or breakfast, thoroughly to house-train your dog. With him you can enjoy good sport the first day you take him out, whereas with a spaniel whose teaching has been reserved until the commencement of the shooting, you would have precious little fun for days and weeks to come. Where a man has a couple of steady old spaniels, it is different, for the puppies will speedily learn to imitate them; but even in that rare case it is best to house-train, more or less.

I no longer give myself further trouble than to train my puppies to come when called, "heel," etc. A few days out with the old dogs and they are all right. My pups of the last three years will actually drop what they may be carrying at the command of "dead," and this without having been trained at all!

When you find it necessary to punish your pupil,

do so without the least delay, so that he may not be in doubt as to wherein he has erred. If sufficient time has elapsed between the committal of the misdemeanor and his coming within your reach to admit of the possibility of his having forgotten wherein he has done wrong, do not punish him.

Above all, do not weary your pupil with prolonged lessons. When he exhibits any signs of indifference, discontinue the lesson for that day.

Do not expect your dogs to learn everything at once. It took you a long time to learn reading and writing, and though you may say that the hunting sense is bred into sporting dogs, are not the "three Rs" bred into the bone in you?

## CHAPTER VI.

### RETRIEVING.

THE first "field" lesson that should be taught is that of retrieving. I consider it the first because the most easily taught and the one in which the least amount of compulsion is necessary; for the puppy engages in it in play, but before he knows what he is about, it becomes one of the ruling passions of his life. Who can doubt this, when once he has seen a retriever begging to have something thrown for him to fetch, and quivering from head to foot with excitement at the anticipation of a plunge amid the ice of a half-frozen river.

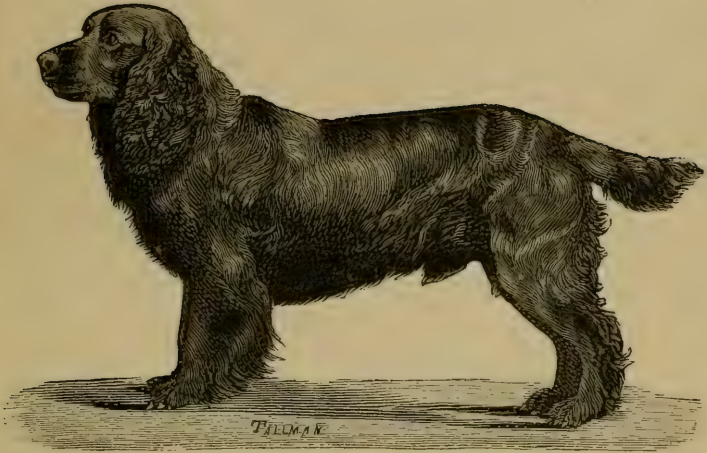
I must impress upon you of what vital importance it is that your pupil should never have been allowed to carry sticks, stones, or other hard substances in his mouth, nor yet allowed to tear and maul, for it will inevitably make him "hard in the mouth."

Never yield to the dog—it is ruination. He must, from the outset, learn that he is to follow your wishes, not his own.

Some sportsmen advocate delaying training to retrieve until the puppy has lost his milk teeth, for, they contend, a dog is apt to be hard-mouthed should the exercises be begun earlier. In my experience, following as I have the hereinafter described system, I have experienced no evil results from training dogs to retrieve at the earliest ages. I have in mind a spaniel in my kennel at the present moment that will catch and kill a rat one minute, squeezing the vermin into a pulp in so doing, and the next carry an egg in his mouth without breaking it! It is all a matter of training.

Take an old and soft woolen sock, and after rolling it into a ball, stitch it through and through to prevent its coming unrolled. Then get the puppy by himself in a room. Sit down on the floor and call him to you. After fondling him for a little, show him the ball and push it in his face, so that he will attempt to take it, and after making sure that he sees what is being done, throw it away a few inches. He will run to pick it up.

When he does so, call to him, saying, "Come here and fetch it, Jack." If he brings the ball, praise and



COCKER SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "OBO II."

The property of Mr. J. P. Willey.

pet him without stint, and take good care that he receives some dainty by way of reward. Whatever you do, do not pull the ball out of his mouth, for he will think there is no better fun than to pull, too, and if this practice grows upon him your birds will not look very well when sent to the kitchen or presented to a friend. Holding him with one hand by the "scruff" of the neck, take the ball in the other, saying, "Dead!"

Should he refuse to deliver, as almost of course he will, force the jaws open by inserting the thumb and second finger at the base of the jaws and pressing in hard. Then take the ball out of his mouth, saying while doing so, "Dead! Dead!"

Some sportsmen prefer to have the dog lay the bird down at their feet when retrieved, while others will not tolerate anything but a delivery into the hand. Where the bird is a wounded one and able to run, the latter plan is by far the more desirable of the two for obvious reasons.

Of course the dog must be thoroughly trained to drop whatever he may be carrying when the order "Dead" is given. It is often convenient to have a sign take the place of a verbal command, as for instance, when you are duck shooting and birds are near. If then, when you deliver the verbal order,



you point the right arm at him, holding the forefinger out and the other fingers folded, he will speedily connect the two, and in the future a sign only will be necessary.

Just as with a blind-deaf-mute, so with a dog. You must first gain a starting point in his understanding, and so pass on and up in regular sequence, taking care always to keep "in touch" and not to hurry your pupil.

Should the pup refuse to bring the ball to you, but either not notice it or run away into a corner with it and there indulge in a game of play, go to him in either event, and forcing the ball into his mouth, hold it there while at the same time you drag him to the place you threw from, whereupon proceed as before directed.

Very gradually increase the distance of your throw, making the pup fetch further and further as he progresses. It is, indeed, a dull puppy that will not speedily learn to retrieve the thrown ball in a lesson or two, for he enjoys the fun and unwittingly learns the lesson, thinking it but a game of play.

Make a point of obliging him to fetch the ball close up to you, whether he delivers to hand or drops the object at your feet; for, unless you do so, he may develop a habit of setting down a wounded

bird far from you to please himself, and this might prove decidedly awkward, to express it mildly.

It is well to train the dogs to seek things that you have dropped, either purposely or accidentally. When you see his eye is upon you, set down the ball, and saying, "Dead," make him go with you a few steps, then say, "Go back and fetch," waving your arm in the required direction. Should he refuse to obey the order, walk back with him, and pointing to the ball, proceed as before. If he still persists in his refusal to obey orders, go back again, and placing the object in his mouth, force him to bring it to where you stood. When this first step has been accomplished, gradually increase the distance until at last you can send him back for hundreds of yards and even miles to look for a thing he has not seen you set down.

Although this last mentioned accomplishment is not by any means necessary, it is as well to teach it to your pupil, as it not only may be useful at some time or other, but causes your spaniel to be more alert and to keep his eye constantly upon you. I remember being in a shop with a six months old spaniel that I was training. I had paid for my purchase and gone out when I noticed that the pup seemed anxious to attract my attention. After a bit

I stopped and asked him what he wanted, when he dropped a \$10 bill at my feet. On examining my "wad" I found that it was short just that amount, therefore I must have unknowingly lost it in the shop. That lesson, consequently, brought me out ahead just an X.

Several of my spaniels have a peculiar trick of bringing me what I term a "present" when I return home. Whatever may come first to mouth, a stick, boot, piece of bone or paper, they at once take up and bring to me, walking round and round proudly. One bitch that my brother keeps for me in the country has developed this trait to a rather unpleasant extent, for after he has given her a beating or a scolding for some misdemeanor, he finds it well to examine carefully between the sheets before getting into bed, for, likely as not, Maude will have deposited tokens of peace there in the shape of old bones, dead mice and such like curiosities. One day, probably finding nothing else conveniently near, she took up a three or four days old chicken from a clutch that was running about, to present my brother on his arrival. He was later than usual that day, and the housekeeper, who saw the bitch take up the chicken, vouches for it that she carried it about for *two hours*. The servants tried to take it from her, but she would

give it to none of them. On my brother's return they dried the chicken and it suffered no evil effects from the adventure.

When the thrown ball has been nicely retrieved, we can advance the pupil a step, and to teach him to quest about for an object that he cannot see. Some sportsmen believe in employing pieces of meat or biscuit for this, but, for my part, I incline to using a game bird's wing. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it," you know.

When you have accustomed him to the change from the ball to the feathers, show them to the pup and put him out of the room. Then place the wing in some out-of-the-way corner, and, opening the door, say, "Seek dead and fetch him out," motioning at the same time in the direction he is to go, with the right hand. I say with the right, because it is generally the custom to hold the gun after firing in the left hand as in unloading, and the right hand is free. Should he fail to understand your meaning, go yourself to where the wing is hidden, show it to him, taking care that he does not seize it, saying, "Dead bird," then return to where you at first stood and repeat the order, signalling, at the same time, in the manner before described.

Most probably he will obey and fetch, but if not, why you must force him to do as he is told. As he progresses, hide the wing in more and more out-of-the-way places, until at length he will search the house from cellar to attic in hope of finding it. It will be well, after a time, to use two or three wings, which must be hidden in different places, and the spaniel must be made to retrieve one after the other until all are found, for unless this is done, he may, when two or more birds are down, retrieve the first one perfectly, but utterly refuse to even quest for the others. Indeed, I have myself had instances of this, and very annoying it is, I can assure you.

A spaniel remembers whatever may have been taught him in his youth, and a habit once formed in him is most difficult to eradicate. For instance, once when training two dogs I forgot to make them keep literally at heel, *i. e.*, with nose just in a line with my heels when walking, and now they insist upon running, when at heel, with their head or noses in a line with my *knee*. This, as may be conceived, is most annoying, especially when one has a companion, as their heads constantly rub against one's legs. Even now they could be broken of this annoying trick by my having a "snap" fastened to the end of a stick about three feet in length. This

would be attached to their collars and by means of the stick they could be held at the proper distance behind, until at length they would, by force of habit, remain there. It is a very tiresome plan, but a most efficacious one.

While the retrieving lessons are in progress, take especial pains to insure the pup's always being successful in the search. Should he be unable to find the object that he is sent in search of, show him where it is hidden and then make him fetch. On no account deceive the youngster by sending him off on false scents or by pretending to throw, for by no means must his confidence in you be shaken.

It is well, after he has been thoroughly grounded in retrieving indoors, to take him out where the vegetation is not too dense and there practice the pup at finding hidden wings and so forth. Indeed, should he not display a sufficient degree of eagerness it will be well to scatter small bits of well boiled bullock's liver broadcast among the bushes, to encourage him to quest about.

A spaniel is apt to depend too much upon sight in retrieving, unless steps are taken to prevent it, and for this I think there cannot be anything better than to have the lessons take place frequently at night and *in the dark*. Nothing can be simpler, and



COCKER SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "HORNELL SILK,"

The property of Mr. J. Otis Fellows.

it is undoubtedly most efficacious. I myself have spaniels that will find and retrieve a stranger's walking-stick just as readily at night as by daylight, and that no matter how far it may have been cast.

From the first, when throwing the ball for him to retrieve, wave your hand in its direction, and when he is to quest for a hidden thing, motion toward the place where it is hidden. Thus he will, in time, learn that he is to quest in the quarter indicated. In time a spaniel will begin to understand less marked signals, and a nod of the head either forward or to right or left will suffice to teach him in what direction he is to go.



## CHAPTER VII.

### RETRIEVING FROM THE WATER.

THE first lesson in retrieving from the water should be given on a warm, sunshiny day, when the water is temperate and the spaniel will not become chilled. I once taught a spaniel to retrieve in the springtime, when the water was full of ice, and the dog had frequently to break his way through to get at the object thrown. He turned out the best retriever I have ever seen, yet I cannot recommend any one to do likewise, for had he not been a practiced land retriever already and a very high-couraged animal besides, I am convinced he would have been ruined for good and all as a water retriever.

The place selected should be one where the beach shelves very gradually, and on no account must there be deep holes near the shore, into which the

beginner might stumble out of his depth and so acquire a horror of the element.

Into the woolen sock we used at the outset some shavings of cork should be rolled to float it, and if a pair of duck wings are added it will be the better. This should first be thrown just at the water's edge, where the pup can reach it without wetting his feet. After he has retrieved a few times and commences to gain confidence in the new lesson, throw the ball a little further, obliging the pup to wet his feet. Accustom him to this and then throw further still, so that he has to go well out to retrieve.

The greatest patience should be exercised in this, as undue haste may spoil all. Do not be in a hurry for him to swim out to retrieve, but for the first few days be content with letting him paddle about and get used to being in the water. On no account whatever throw the puppy in out of his depth, for most likely it will cause him to dread it in future, and an infinite amount of trouble may be entailed in overcoming his distaste for the element. He is young and does not know how to swim, beyond what nature teaches him. Just think of what your own feelings were as a child when some big boy thought it a huge joke to "chuck" you into water beyond your depth; and then apply them to the

puppy with the reservation that while you knew that help was at hand and that you would not be allowed to drown, the pup does not.

When by degrees you have induced your pupil to swim a little distance to retrieve the ball, your task is well-nigh accomplished, and time will do the rest. Bear in mind, always, that he must on no account be permitted to come ashore, leaving the ball in the water.

Keep him at it for hours if necessary, and if he then fails to retrieve, fetch it yourself either by wading, swimming, or by means of a boat. Whatever of persistency you may exhibit there will be impressed upon him and bear fruit in after years.

You will have remembered to reward him both by praise and by more substantial evidences of your appreciation in the way of dainties for good behavior. To teach diving, weight the worsted sock with shavings of lead and throw it first into water an inch deep. Do not be in too great a hurry, and for some time throw only into water of about one foot deep, where he will wet only his head in reaching for the ball. When he has become accustomed to this, increase the depth of the water into which you send him until he will at length dive entirely out of sight.

While it is often useful to have with you a spaniel that will dive, as, for instance, when he is in chase of a wounded duck, it is inadvisable to let him do much of it, for diving is apt to bring on deafness and even to cause canker of the ear.

In water retrieving as well as land work the spaniel must be made to work by signals of hand as well as by voice. Often when waves are running high you can see the position of the bird, while your dog, being so low in the water, cannot, and thus you are enabled to direct his movements.

When one duck is dead and another wounded, the dog should be made to go after the latter first. He will, most probably, do this instinctively, but, if not, when you see him catch hold of the dead bird, say, "Dead!" and point toward the wounded one, saying, "Go fetch." Insist upon his retrieving it first, as the wounded one will probably give him some trouble to catch, thereby giving him a zest for the pursuit that he will afterward remember, and make for the bird likely to give him the greatest amount of fun when next an opportunity occurs.

## CHAPTER VIII.

“HEEL.”—“HIE ON.”

WHILE the retrieving lessons were in progress, you could have begun teaching your spaniel to “heel” and to ‘hie on.’

When out walking with your pupil and he is running on ahead, call, “Come here and heel!” and when he approaches in obedience to your order “Come here,” push him behind you, saying, “Heel, heel,” accompanying the order with a low, backward motion of the left hand.

Make him stay behind you for some little time, and if he attempts to break away or lag behind, bring him to heel again, tapping him smartly with your cane in punishment, saying, at the same time, “Heel, heel.”

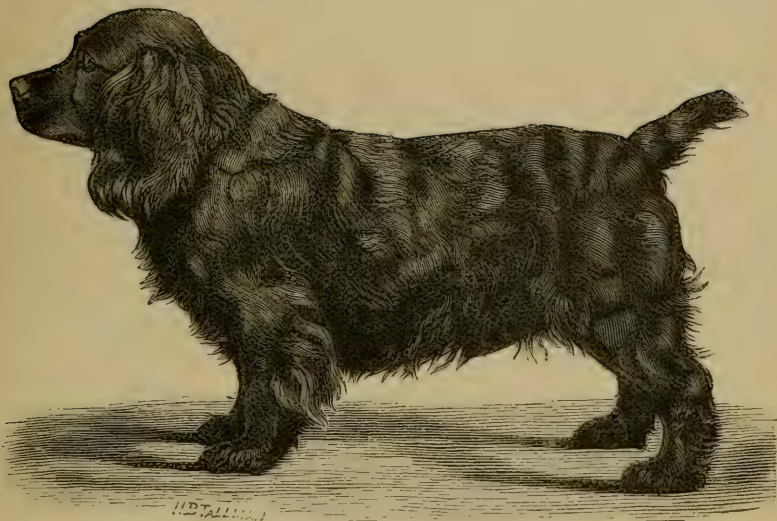
Then, when he is running steadily at heel, say,

suddenly, "Hie on!" waving the right hand forward and running a few steps to start him.

Another good plan, one that can be commenced even earlier is, when the puppy runs forward to get at his food, to hold him back from it, saying, while doing so, "Heel, heel." After holding him so for a few seconds loose your hold and say "Hie on!"

However it may be done, the lesson of heeling must be taught most thoroughly, for it is of the greatest importance that he should be obedient in this particular.

A spaniel can also be taught to heel by means of a check-cord and choke-collar in much the same manner as his range is restricted, as explained later on.



COCKER SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "DOC,"

The property of Mr. A. C. Wilmerding.

## CHAPTER IX.

DROPPING TO HAND, COMMAND, SHOT AND WING.

WHILE dropping to hand, command, shot or wing are refinements in spaniel training, and but little taught in this country for the reason that it takes rather too much time for the benefit to be derived from it, still a spaniel cannot be considered thoroughly educated unless possessed of this accomplishment.

In the days of muzzle-loaders, dropping to shot was a necessity; for if spaniels continued questing after the gun had been discharged, there was every chance of their springing game before it had been reloaded, and thus birds were lost that otherwise would certainly have been brought to bag. With the breech-loader, however, no time worth mentioning is taken up in reloading, so if the shot has been unsuccessful, there is little danger of a bird's being



flushed before you have had time to reload. Then, too, few of us are so fortunate as to have the shooting of coverts where game birds are flushed, one after another, with little intermission.

Of course there is this to be said in favor of dropping spaniels, that it tends to keep them in check and prevents their running riot to a great extent, and with a team of spirited spaniels this is quite a consideration.

It is not well to teach dropping to hand, etc., until the puppy is of an age to understand it well, say, eight months to one year old, or at almost any age up to two or three years. Therefore, there need be no especial hurry about beginning the lessons.

Take your pupil to the room in which the lessons are usually given, and while he is standing beside you, say, sharply, "Drop," forcing him flat upon the ground where he stands. Force him to remain there by keeping your foot upon him, saying the while, "Drop, drop." After a few moments remove your foot and say, "Hie on," or "Up," to him, waving your right hand forward at the same time, and make him rise.

When giving the verbal command you will simultaneously have held the right arm erect above the shoulder, and on giving the order to "hie on," you

will have lowered the arm at once. I say the right, because it can best be spared, for you can hold the gun to better advantage with the left hand. In time he will learn to associate the verbal command with the signal and so drop to it alone.

When he will unfailingly drop to hand, take some fire-arm, a muzzle-loading horse-pistol is the most convenient, and after charging it with but a few grains of powder, discharge it, at the same time ordering him, both by voice and signal, to "drop." Continue this until he has begun to draw the connection between the pistol shot and the other orders of which he already understands the meaning.

Dropping to wing may be taught by giving the command to drop when the bird rises. This to be continued until the spaniel understands the connection and has drawn the conclusion that naturally follows.

In the reading this appears to be a most tedious business, but it is not really half so bad as it seems. I myself have taught a three-year-old spaniel to drop to hand in two short lessons; but then, of course, there are spaniels and spaniels, and all are not alike.

A spaniel that is to be used for duck retrieving should not be allowed to drop to shot, nor indeed, be trained in this accomplishment. For instance,

you have wounded a duck, which falls some distance off into the water. How is the dog to see where it has fallen if he is crouching in the long grass or on the floor of the hide? A good duck dog will himself watch every movement of a bird and know just where to go, no matter how far away it may fall. He will keep a constant lookout for birds, and when he sees them coming, will apprise you of the fact; thus, if you are indolently inclined, saving you the trouble of watching. Immediately at the shot, he will run out of the grass, should it be possible, to note its effect, and if there is no spot available he will stand on his hind-legs, jump, or in some way get a peep at the bird.

A spaniel that you intend using both for upland and marsh shooting should not be taught to drop to shot, though it will be found useful to have him drop to voice and sign.

## CHAPTER X.

### GUNSHYNESS.

MUCH has been written and said on the subject of gunshyness, some maintaining that a dog cannot be cured of it, while others deem the opposite to be the case. For my own part, I consider that in the majority of cases gunshyness *is* curable, though in many it is certainly not. I remember once shooting over a six-months-old cocker bitch that promised splendidly, and showed not the least sign of gunshyness, much the reverse, indeed. Yet the next season at the first shot she ran off and hid herself, and it took men and dogs half an hour to find and recapture her. Strange to say, I was never able to cure her, and the shyness has run through to the third generation of her descendants. So one must not count too much on the behavior of a puppy.

The methods for overcoming the fault are many

and various. If a puppy has been accustomed to startling noises from the outset, I think the chances of his turning out gunshy are infinitesimal. The manner of doing this has already been described.

An excellent plan is to take the shy one to a rifle range or trap-shooting ground when matches are in progress. When he sees that there is nothing to hurt him and has become accustomed to the incessant reports of firearms, he is very likely to get over his little failing.

Another way that often succeeds is to let him go without food until he becomes more than ordinarily hungry, then, when you give him his food, and he rushes at the dish to appease his hunger, fire caps in a toy pistol over him. Should he run away in fear, remove the pan and let him starve an hour or two longer, when you may try him again. Keep on at this until he will eat his food regardless of the report.

By no means permit his eating the food until he will let you fire over him as he devours it, and as he begins to gain confidence bring the old horse-pistol into use and keep augmenting the amount of powder in its load until he does not mind a report equal to that of an ordinary shot gun.

Yet another way is to couple the shy spaniel to an old, steady and *strong* dog. Then, turning the

two loose on land where there are no bushes in which they may get entangled, fire repeatedly over their heads. The confidence of the "old 'un," and the pleasure he shows in the business may overcome the gunshy dog's fear. It will be best to commence by firing a cap, then as he gets accustomed to the sound, increase the charge of powder.

When breaking a spaniel of gunshyness one must be even more patient and painstaking than in the other lessons. Then, too, you must proceed cautiously, and be not impatient if for days there is no appreciable progress. Only by incessant application can gunshyness be overcome; and you may be on the very threshold of success when seemingly no advance has been made. Therefore, one must persevere and erase the word despair from his vocabulary.



COCKER SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "BRANT,"

The property of Mr. C. M. Nelles.

## CHAPTER XI.

### RANGING.

**W**HILE some spaniels seem to take to their range at once, others again are very hard to keep within bounds and, needless to say, the latter description must be brought to their senses as soon as it is possible.

A spaniel's range must of necessity be much less in extent than the setter's or the pointer's, for he flushes the game, consequently, if the dog runs beyond gun-shot, many birds are lost. Needless to say, therefore, he must be trained to range well within gun-shot.

No matter how hot the scent may be, he must not press forward too far ahead of the gun, and in time a good spaniel will learn to watch his master, and know exactly the distance he should keep ahead. Much in this depends upon the intelligence of the



dog, and it is well nigh time wasted to spend it in training a timid fool. A high-couraged and at first disobedient animal, that causes you much trouble at the outset, will probably make a good dog in the end.

Do not mistake the diffidence a puppy may feel on his first entry at covert shooting for timidity. He may be the boldest of dogs when he is used to anything, but at first sight the thorny covert and darksome woods that he has never seen before may overawe him, until familiarity has had time to breed contempt.

It is scarcely safe to form an opinion of a spaniel's hunting capabilities by merely having seen him about the house or at his master's heels in the street, for many animals that seem to be perfect "slouches" under such circumstances, when taken afield may prove regular demons in their anxiety to inquire into everything and rout out every crevice and corner they may come upon. Whereas, a heedless, harum-scarum spaniel in the street may not have the least atom of hunting sense in the field.

A thoroughly good working spaniel is a dog not often seen. One may be good at retrieving, but not of much use at questing; another may mangle his birds; another funk water; but a dog that is good at any work is indeed a rare one.

He must be a strong dog and moderately fast of foot, with a fair allowance of leg to carry him over any ground; be intelligent, obedient, but full of courage, dash and determination, with a dense coat to protect him from injury, plenty of bone and good, compact feet. We already know what he should do in the way of retrieving and so forth, but his range and "bird-sense" have not yet been defined. To begin with, he must not go further than thirty nor less than five yards away from you, must constantly watch you for directions and to see that he is in his place. also at the slightest sign from you to any direction, should quest in the quarter indicated. When trailing he must not go too fast, must spring the game at the proper distance, and no matter how great his excitement, should stop when the order "Steady" is given, and at the proper instant should know how to give the silent plunge that will send the "runner" scurrying into the air. And, though few dogs will do it, he should *work to the gun*, that is, flank the birds and flush them between himself and the sportsman. If you get hold of such a spaniel as this, my advice is *stick to him*; he is worth more than money to the lover of a good dog.

Some sportsmen prefer a dog that gives tongue when on scent, though for my part it sets my teeth

on edge and drives me nearly crazy. Then how can one expect birds to wait to be shot when they hear a yapping brute rampaging about? They are not utterly senseless, and know enough to be aware that the presence of a dog bodes danger to them; therefore, as the men and dogs enter one side of the covrt they quietly "vamoose" at the other. Silent dogs and silent men few woodland birds fear, for how know they that it is not a deer walking by, or in less uncivilized parts a cow?

Should your spaniel be fairly amenable to discipline when first taken afield, and you find that there is little more the trouble than that he is inclined to range too far ahead, a weighted collar will probably be sufficient to restrain him. This is easily made by quilting several pounds of shot, regulating the weight by the size of the dog, into a canvas strap to be fastened around his neck. It will be well to give him a good run before hieing him into covert at the first, to work off his superfluous steam.

Rest him every now and then when he appears tired, for a weary spaniel will not work carefully and indeed will "slur" as much as he can to save himself. A dog that has been permitted to hang about the house since the previous season, doing nothing but eat and sleep, cannot be expected, without prep-

aration, to undergo a hard day's work in covert or marsh without tiring, therefore give your spaniels enough exercise to harden them up a bit and rid them of "lumber" before the season opens.

There is no doubt that much time and trouble can be saved by working your pupil in company with an old, steady spaniel, for he will watch the old one and imitate his movements and tactics until in a short time he gains confidence enough to branch out for himself. But as many of my readers do not possess a "pattern" dog, I must needs show them how to do without one in training their puppy. For my own part I now merely teach my young dogs to obey the whistle and come to heel; the rest they pick up by running with the old dogs. When first taken out they do nothing but follow their mentors in every turn without an idea of hunting themselves, but before long they quest as eagerly as possible. However, dogs that are worked alone without companions will make far better workers than those trained in a team, for they have no others to do part of their work, but must do every bit of questing and retrieving themselves. Then, too, they get to know their master better, and from association become far more intelligent than they otherwise would be. Still, if you are able to get the use of a steady, well

trained dog to hunt your puppy with, by all means do so; but if there is any doubt about his steadiness, do without him, for if he ranges too far and chases once or twice, you will have all the more trouble in getting the puppy to steady down.

At first you should carefully avoid going near places where there are known to be hares, for it is almost too crucial a test to give a young and untrained spaniel the opportunity of chasing a hare at the outset. Nor should you upon any account shoot a cotton-tail over him until he has steadied down, and still more should you avoid firing at squirrels, blackbirds, larks and other "trash" over him, for he will very naturally infer from your killing such creatures that he is to quest for and spring them.

Most spaniels after having undergone a course of house training come to their range very easily, and it is best, therefore, to gauge their dispositions first by taking them to a nice, open covert, where you can see every movement of the dogs and they cannot steal a march on you without being called back. Hie the pup in and instinct will probably teach him what to do.

If he does not quest about, but runs aimlessly around, leave him to himself for a bit to get accustomed to the strange surroundings. Should he still

appear stupid, "drop" him, and then throw bits of boiled liver into different quarters of the covert and hie him on again. When he has found the first piece, direct him by motioning the hand where to go to find the next, and so on till all are found. Let him eat the meat at the first, to make him quest eagerly. Keep this up until he will range from side to side at command, and in time from force of habit he will range of his own accord.

Should he range too far away, hide yourself carefully and remain in concealment until he finds you without any assistance. At losing sight of you he will think he is lost, and the strangeness of the surroundings will be likely to frighten him so thoroughly that he will be wary of ranging too far again. It is best for a short time at first to allow him to range at will, to key him up to hunting pitch.

If he is at all inclined to be weak-spirited, beware of checking him more than you can help, as overmuch badgering might make him a "baulker."

Do not allow your pupil to slash through a covert. Make him *hunt*. Some dogs, from their superior noses, appear to be slighting their work, when as a matter of fact they can find birds at their faster gait as well as or better than the more painstaking animals. Still be cautious about making your dog *too*



COCKER SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "JERSEY,"

The property of Mr. J. P. Willey.

careful, for what can be more temper-trying than a "potterer." Even a careless dog is to be preferred.

You must learn to read by the actions of your spaniel whether he is merely questing without a scent, or has struck a cold trail; also when the birds are near and he is about to make his plunge. Nothing can be easier to do when you know your dog.

When your pupil ranges too fast and far, call him to you and chide him, saying, "Bad dog; keep close, close now, close." Should he persist, call him in again and thrash him, saying while doing so, "Close, will you, close!"

It is well, when he is drawing on a bird, to say at first, "Steady, steady," as it will steady him and prevent his losing command over himself when the bird flushes. You can have accustomed him to this command during the retrieving lessons, when he was drawing near the place where the ball was concealed.

An obstinate case of wide ranging can best be overcome by your making use of a choke-collar and check-cord. The former may be of any pattern, and for the latter my fancy turns toward a strong cord of close texture, such as a "cod line." At any rate, it should be stiff, so that it will not be liable to get entangled in the undergrowth.

Attach the cord to the collar, allowing about thirty



yards to trail, and turn your pupil into some field where the scrub is thin and widely scattered. Let me advise your "whipping" the end of the cord instead of knotting it, as the knot might catch in the bushes. When he has run about twenty yards call sharply, "Close, close." If he pays no attention to the warning, repeat it, and if he still fails to respond, step on the end of the check-cord. When it brings him to a stop, perhaps casting him choking to the ground, hurry up and repeat the word several times before you unloosen the collar. It is safe to say that a few days of this discipline, with the weighted collar in addition, will train him to keep close. Only as a last resort, and after having tried all other ways of getting him under control and failed, would I resort to the choke-collar, as it is apt to break the spirit of a spaniel.

He, without fail, will evince a desire to chase the birds he flushes; but at the first spring call sharply, "Ware chase, ware chase," and if he pursues his course, chastise him severely, and while doing so repeat the order over and over again, "Ware chase, will you; ware chase." If these milder measures fail, the check-cord must be resorted to and used in precisely the same way as just described.

Most spaniels dearly love to chase a hare; but all

tendency toward this pursuit must be nipped in the bud, else you will never have comfort with your dog. To begin with, never permit his chasing cats, for from cats to rabbits is but a slight remove. If he springs a hare and starts on a chase after her, at once call sharply, "Ware fur; ware fur," and call him in and rate him soundly, or, if he persists, thrash him severely. He must be broken of hare hunting at all hazards, and it may be necessary to use the choke-collar again.

Enter your spaniel for water shooting on "flappers" in the early season, as it is a most fascinating pursuit for both dogs and men, and the warm water and plenitude of game will give the pup a taste of the sport which he will be anxious to repeat.

Some men hold that shooting your dog with light shot fired at a distance sufficient only to sting him and from behind, is the best way to cure a dog of wide ranging. I must say I don't think the plan a likely one to succeed, and outside of the inhumanity of the thing, I should think the most likely result would be to make the dog gunshy. Then suppose he were to turn his head just as the trigger was pulled! He would be minus an eye to a certainty. By all means shoot birds and animals if you will, but reserve your ammunition for them, and do not "draw a bead" on your spaniel.

## CHAPTER XII.

### MISCELLANEOUS HINTS.

**M**ANY spaniels are inveterate manglers of game in retrieving, and it is well to put a stop to the practice if possible. There is on the market a patent arrangement for its prevention; but as it is necessary to adjust it on the bird for the contrivance to work, the dog has had time to get his work in on the bird before you can get hold of it. I think a good plan is to fasten a dozen needles of the proper length in the center of the long-suffering stocking, their points turned in all directions. Make him fetch this for a few weeks every day, and after he has found what the result of pinching it will be, he is likely to be more tender-mouthed in future.

Some spaniels are perfect demons at fowl-killing, and are most difficult to break of the habit. A friend of mine, who is an army officer, when sta-

tioned at Bermuda, had alternately to take one of the four roads available in going his rounds, as Jack, his spaniel, killed so many fowls each day that he was obliged to give the road traveled the day before a wide berth until the trouble blew over. Undoubtedly the best way out of this trouble is prevention. Bring him up in sight of fowls, and if a rabbit or two is added, why you are not likely to be troubled by his coursing "fur."

When he has killed a hen, take it by the legs and beat him over the head with it until you are tired, then tie the body securely about his neck, leaving it so that it will bang up against his forelegs at every step. It is odds that after lugging the carrion about for a day or two, he will acquire a distaste for fowl, especially if you chide and laugh at him every time you see him.

Egg stealing, also, is a common failing with many spaniels. The taste is generally acquired by their being allowed to lick out empty egg-shells and eating tainted eggs thrown out for them. An effectual way of curing this is to fill an egg with cayenne pepper and place it in his way. Yet another is to heat an egg till it is quite hot and hold it in the dog's mouth until he is well burned.

Many young dogs and puppies have an annoying

habit of jumping upon you. This, when their paws are muddy, is unpleasant, to put it mildly. Endeavor to curb your impulse, which will be to cuff them over the head, for it will do no good. A high-spirited puppy thinks there is no better fun than dodging your blows, and jumps upon you all the more. Instead, take a paw in either hand, and speaking kindly all the while, step firmly on his hind-feet. He will soon begin to think that there isn't so much fun in jumping after all, and desist.

It is well to accustom your puppy to the lead from the first, also to being chained up. Of course a growing pup should not be kept on chain, but he should be accustomed to it, in case you wish to secure him in the baggage-car, exhibit him at a bench show, or restrain him for a short time.

Do not allow your spaniel to "scavenge" about the street. He can pick up nothing but filth there, and the street is where poison is generally picked up. Punish him without delay when he picks up anything, and if he swallows it before you can reach him, beat the dog severely.

Having described as minutely as patience will admit the preliminary training of a young spaniel, we will now put him to the test on game in the field, and therefore cannot do better than pass a day together

in a country that affords fairly good "mixed" shooting—ruffed grouse, woodcock, snipe and an occasional duck. You may be with me only in spirit, however, for as I have said all along, there must be no one to distract the dog's attention from the business in hand.



COCKER SPANIEL DOG CHAMPION "MIKE,"

The property of Mr. C. M. Nelles.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### A DAY AFIELD.

AS the day dawns which ushers in the open season for grouse, duck and 'cock, accompanied by my spaniel I board an outbound train.

My companion is a well-grown puppy of one of the larger varieties, who, having gone through the course of preliminary instruction as described already, is now about to be initiated in the mysteries of woodland and water shooting. His nose during the course of instruction has proved to be above the ordinary in keenness of scent, and altogether he is a strong, muscular youngster, standing on common-sense legs, *i. e.*, neither too short nor too long. Jack, as a rule, is fairly well under control; still from the outset an inclination to unruliness has exhibited itself in him, and it is, consequently, necessary to



resort to severe measures on occasions to keep him under control.

Besides some sandwiches and a flask my game-bag contains a stout whip, choke-collar, sundry bits of boiled liver and thirty yards of "cod-line."

Arrived at the little "way" station my puppy and I disembark, and after discussing with the station-agent the weather, past and present, the success or failure of the crops, and last, but not least, the game prospects, we climb the snake-fence and hie into the woods.

It is early, very early, when we enter the timber, so there is a whole long, glorious September day before us, and in the course of it, with any sort of luck, I will be able to get Jack into some sort of shape. Shooting will be held secondary to training in every instance, for there will be plenty of time for sport when the pupil's education shall have been completed.

The dog is now hied on, and for a few minutes allowed to range at will, even though he runs beyond gunshot. This serves to set an edge upon his appetite for work, to key him up, as it were. But soon, while he is not in sight, I hide myself in an out-of-the-way nook and lie there motionless.

In a little Jack is seen running about with a be-

wildered air. Soon bewilderment alters to fear, and he searches for his master with frantic energy. Upon no account—well, on second thought, a wasp's nest *might*—would I by word of mouth or sign disclose my whereabouts. The pup must search me out himself. Through fear of losing me again, or rather being lost himself, he will be wary of ranging too far in future. At length, to his delight, Jack finds my hiding-place, and almost devours me with manifestations of his delight. Besides patting him, I give the pup a piece of liver and then hie on again.

When he recommences ranging over-far, I call, "Close, Jack, close!" He looks at me in astonishment, not knowing what the new word means, and I call out again, "Come here, Jack, and keep close!" When he comes in I say, "Close, boy, close, close!" He runs off again, when I call out again the same command, dropping him if he fails to obey. If he persists or misbehaves again, Master Jack gets a thrashing, and while belaboring him, I continue saying, "Close, will you, close!"

But my pupil is not an obedient dog and these milder measures are of no avail; therefore the choke-collar must be resorted to and is consequently adjusted.

Immediately he runs riot, and the white cord trails

hither and thither on the ground. "Close, Jack," I call, but the dog pays no heed to my command. As the cord trails past I set my foot upon it and, as I see it tautening, call again. This he hears just before being thrown half strangling on the ground. Two or three such demonstrations and Jack will have learned to know what the meaning of "close" is.

This accomplished, we turn to woods that are a sure find for ruffed grouse. Soon the spaniel strikes a scent and becomes nearly crazy over the delightful perfume. To calm him I call out, "Close, Jack, and steady!" The first he now understands, and therefore infers from the two words being coupled, that "steady" means something to the same effect.

He is inclined to be heedless and over eager, and pressing on quickly flushes a single grouse; but this being his first bird the fault is not a heinous one. I fire and drop the bird. It would not do to miss this shot as the dog would certainly be disappointed. I indicate the place where the bird has fallen, saying, "Hie and seek dead." The pup does not comprehend me, so the order is repeated with, "Go fetch it," added. This he understands, and at once quests in the direction indicated.

Soon he finds the bird; but never having seen such a thing before, perchance stands over it in

wonderment, not venturing even to touch the strange thing with his nose. Accordingly I go to him, and pointing to the grouse, say, "Fetch it," and return to where I stood when the shot was fired. Still he will not obey; therefore, I take up the bird, put it in his mouth and make him walk back beside me, carrying the bird. Then I say, "Dead!" and make him give up.

After praising and rewarding him with a piece of meat, I carry the grouse again to where it fell, and replacing it on the ground, return to my first position with the puppy. I then say, "Go fetch dead, Jack!" pointing where the bird lies and make him fetch it to me. Should he still refuse, I do as before.

Of course, it may take days, even months, to accomplish even the little I have described, but many dogs can be made to show good sport even on their first day afield.

The first grouse bagged, the dog is sent on again, being directed to work from side to side by the motioning of the hand which he already understands. When necessary I attract his attention by a low, soft whistle.

Soon the dog feathers again, but the recollection of the delights which followed his former discovery prove too much for his obedience and he loses his

head completely. This must be checked, so calling him to me I adjust the collar and cord and hie him on again.

As he draws on the covey prudence is scattered to the four winds of heaven, and with a wild rush he flushes and then chases a low flying bird. "Steady," I call, "steady, Jack;" but he pays no heed to me. The cord dances by in the wake of the flying dog and with another call of "Ware chase, Jack," I step on the end. The pup is running fast, and when the end of his tether is reached, over he is jerked on to his back. While undoing the collar I repeat over and over again the order, "Ware chase."

A few such tumbles and the odds are in favor of Master Jack's understanding what "ware chase" means.

Luncheon disposed of, I decide to introduce the puppy to the woodcock, and as there is a covert near by that promises well I wend my way thither.

Walking in the space between the main woods and the covert, I order the dog in, and soon striking some old scent, he does not require much urging to make him quest about. Shortly a 'cock is sprung before him, but bearing in mind what ensued upon his chase after grouse, he does not break away. The 'cock flies over the clearing; I shoot and kill,

and the bird is nicely retrieved by my little beauty. If he refuses to take it up, the partridge lesson must be re-enacted.

So strong and enticing to the spaniel does the scent of the woodcock seem that it is a spiritless one indeed that does not quickly pick up the bird.

An hour or two spent in covert and I think it best to vary the programme with a little duck and snipe shooting. So to the marsh we go.

Arrived there I take up position about thirty yards from the water's edge, while Jack quarters between me and the water as instinct and my signals direct him. Soon a mud hen is flushed, which sorely tries the puppy's patience as it skims with traileed legs over the tops of the reeds, but a stern, "Steady!" recalls him to his senses.

At length a snipe is flushed, and zig-zags out over the water. I fire. A miss! Bang! The left barrel does its work, and down topples the bird.

"Go fetch dead, Jack!" I say, but Jack will none of it. He never fetched a bird from the water and doesn't mean to if he knows himself, so there is nothing for it but to try the effect of example where precept has failed. I wade through mud and water, forcing Jack to follow me.

Soon it deepens and the dog is obliged to swim

beside me. When the snipe is reached I show it to him and make him take it to the land. Then I throw it out again to where it lay, and oblige him to bring it to bag. Neither time nor trouble do I stint in teaching him this lesson well.

Jack has been trained to drop to hand and voice, though not as yet to shot, and soon the lesson proves its use. I descry a flock of ducks heading in my direction, and drawing the dog's attention by a low whistle, signal him to "drop." I then crouch down myself among some tall reeds.

On the birds come, and holding well ahead of the leader I fire and drop one to the first discharge, three to the second barrel. They fall in the open water, three of them, the other amid the reeds. This one I send the spaniel after first, and being now quite a proficient at retrieving he soon effects its capture and then secures the remainder.

The shades of night are deepening now, so with a heavy bag and increased respect for one another, Jack and I trudge stationward, hoping, both of us, I know, that it will not be the last autumn day by many that we shall pass afield together.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### SPANIELS IN AMERICA.

IT had been my intention to weave the information gathered by me from different sources into a connected chapter; but I have since deemed it best to reproduce the letters as written by Messrs. Willey, Wilmerding and Dr. Niven, whose names need no introduction to the kennel world at large, followed by my own remarks on Clumber and Sussex spaniels as applied to America.

Mr. J. P. Willey, of Salmon Falls, N. H., writes as follows:

“You know what spaniels we had before the Spaniel Club was organized, and what spaniels we had then. You remember how a half-bred water spaniel was once placed first at New York, and what a kick McDougall raised. Then came the club and standard, and the McKoon fight came off about this time.



“Old Benedict was then in his prime, and had the owners of the light, weedy bitches bred to him and got some bone and coats they might have been improving what they had. You know what Fellows, Niven, Watson and Kirk had, and how none of them kept their stock, but sold as they got their price. Thus all their stock was lost as far as perfecting the type and size of the spaniel went.

“Pitcher and Cummings were then breeding here in New Hampshire. The former had the best of the Bestor stock, and Cummings, too, had a few dogs of the same strain. By the way, McKoon and his friends had this blood also. There was quite a rivalry between Cummings and Pitcher. The first named imported Brush II., by champion Brush out of old champion Rhea, also Blackie II., by Easten's Beau out of Blackie. They were a good pair of blacks, the bitch *much* the better; in fact, she was a grand cocker bitch in type, weighing about 25 lbs. Brush II. was a large dog of full 45 lbs.

“After these came over, Pitcher imported the sire and dam of Blackie II., Beau and Blackie. Both were large size, Blackie *much* the better of the two, rather on the cocker order. Beau was a large, crooked-legged spaniel with a nice coat. From these Pitcher raised only a few litters; in fact, I

think he only raised two pups from Blackie. One of them is Darkie, which I bought of him and afterward sold to Daly. Then when he left Salmon Falls I bought her back and let Mr. Allen have her. The other was a liver dog, and whatever became of him I don't know.

"I visited Cummings and Pitcher while they had these dogs and they were at their best. About this time there was such an outcry for small spaniels and such a kick against mating to large dogs that Pitcher tried to buy old Obo of Farrow, but the best he could do was to get Chloe II. and have her bred to him, which he did. From that bitch come Obo II., Black Silk and a bitch called Black Gem that was shown at New York, won the Produce Stake there, then returned home only to die of distemper. She was a grand little bitch; in fact, the whole litter was good. Chloe was a descendant of P. Bullock's kennel and from his old champion Nellie, the dam of many winners. Some think all the credit for the production of Obo II. is due to his sire; but I really think *much* of his quality he owes to the dam and her side of the house. Chloe II. was a nice, small bitch, a winner in England and, as I have said, from a winning strain; far more so, indeed, than Obo was from; yet few have ever thought of giving Chloe II.

the credit that is only her due. It is a fact that the strain of Cummings' Brush II. and Blackie and Beau and Blackie, which goes back to her also, have given the best results in breeding of any cockers imported.

"Niven imported Black Bess; she was by old Brush out of old champion Rhea. He also imported Lass o' Breda; but what good have they ever done for cocker breeders? Bene Silk is the only good one from Niven's lot I have seen. There has been too much selling and not enough mating and selecting and remating, which is the only way to establish a type.

"Pitcher also had at his kennel when I was there, Feather, quite a winner in the liver and white class. I think she was quite the best of her color I have ever seen. She left quite a lot of her stock through the country, and some of her strain I often see at the Boston shows. Cherry Boy, winner of second, New York, and first, Boston, this year (1890), is from that same strain on one side and Obo on the other. Then there was Winslow's Success, a 50 lbs. dog with bad front legs, who never left any stock that has become prominent. Success was shown at Boston and won there.

"Obo, Jr., was imported by Leavitt of Boston, who was a partner of Fellows' once. He was shown

a bit when first brought out, but never amounted to anything as a show dog. He has been a good stock dog though, getting Black Pete and others.

“As for me, I have always owned a spaniel of some sort since I can remember. I recollect poor old bob-tailed Major, and how every one that met me used to ask who drove my dog's tail in. He was really my favorite, and I shed many a tear when he died of old age. He was with me always, since my earliest recollections, and needless to say I shall never forget him. Only think of your first dog and pet! Let us own ever so many and ever so good, the old one's memory still remains.”

It is but justice to Mr. Willey to mention that the foregoing letter was written when he was in the midst of the confusion incidental on the removal of his place of business to a new site. After promising me the matter I needed he wrote begging to be excused, stating that under the circumstances he could not do the subject justice; but after considerable persuasion he most kindly consented to devote an hour to my benefit. I believed myself that “half the loaf” in this instance would be better than “no bread,” and feel certain my readers will appreciate Mr. Willey's letter.

Dr. Niven tells me in a recent letter that “When

I took up spaniels in 1879 there were very few worth speaking about in the country. Brownie, owned in Toronto, was the best in the country. I gave her a prize at Detroit show, in 1879, I think it was. Before that time Mr. Bestor of Hartford, Conn., had imported some liver and whites, with very rough coats, called Romeo, Juliet, and Snip. I think McKoon got all Bestor's kennel at that time and had things all his own way until I imported Black Bess in 1880. At the same time Watson got out Beatrice and I forget who imported Blackie. These were the first modern cockers in America as far as I know."

"My first recollection of the black spaniels," says Mr. Wilmerding, "is of the importation of Benedict from Jacob's kennels at Newton Abbot, in 1880, by James Watson (who with Geo. D. Macdougall constituted the Lachine Kennel Club), and Beatrice, a nice little black on the small field spaniel order also Dash (afterward Moore's Dash, but not registered as such, simply *Dash*) by A. H. Moore of Philadelphia. This dog was afterward owned by the Hornell Spaniel Club, and later by Mr. Albert E. Foster and myself. Benedict went to H. W. Huntington of greyhound fame, and later to my friend, Mr. Foster of New York city. The dog was killed by a train on the D. L. & W. about three

years ago. He was rather too indiscriminately bred to small cocker bitches for the good of the breed, the rage for blacks seeming to possess people beyond all reason. As a sire he did fairly well, but would have done better had he been bred as a rule to larger bitches, although at the time of his advent into this country the types of the different breeds were not very marked, the leggy, shelly style seeming to predominate.

“There is no doubt, however, that he did much to improve our stock over here, adding strength, substance, etc. He was of about 38 lbs. weight, long, low, with a good flat coat and field spaniel head and type throughout. He could win to-day. Dash (Moore’s), Bob Jr. (Luckwell’s) and others of lesser note, came into the field at different times endeavoring to wrest the laurels from the old dog; but it was to no purpose, as he scored with ease over them all, and kept piling up prizes as though he were always alone in his class.

“Of late years several importations have attracted much attention, the most noticeable being those of Mr. Oldham. His stock came, if not all, nearly all, from the Newton Abbot kennels in England. His Newton Abbot Jubilee, Newton Abbot Darkie, Glencairn and several others created considerable com-

motion among spaniel men and were more or less sought after by the owners of large bitches for their services.

“A fairly good liver was brought out in 1886 by myself in Newton Abbot. He was by Ch. Black Prince out of Ch. Newton Abbot Lady. As a sire he had no chance to make his mark, as he was killed on the railway when about 2 years old, but during his short career he ran up a score of eleven prizes, winding up with a first at New York.

“Another good liver (on the Sussex order) was Newton Abbot Skipper (imported by Oldham), now the property of W. T. Payne of New York.

“I came near forgetting one of the best brood bitches of the lot, Ch. Newton Abbot Lady, imported about 1883 by G. W. Leavitt, Jr. of Boston, and sold by him to A. Laidlaw and by him to me. She was the dam among others (and she was a prolific breeder, breeding as she did three times a year) of Newton Abbot, Miss Bend Or, Ch. Miss Newton Obo, Lassie, etc., etc.

“I see your letter asks for a list of the older breeders. James Watson, Dr. J. S. Niven, J. F. Kirk, J. P. Willey, G. W. Leavitt, Jr., J. Otis Fellows, M. P. McKoon, Geo. D. Macdougall and I suppose myself. I can think of no others at present, but

these are among the oldest, dating back around 1880 and beyond."

To the best of my knowledge the first Clumber spaniels imported to America were those brought to Halifax, Nova Scotia, by Lieutenant Venables, of H. M.'s 97th Regiment when stationed there in 1844. His dogs were purchased in the first instance by him from Marwood Yeatman, Esq., the Stock House, Dorset, England, a very old and well established strain. Not long afterward a Mr. McCathie, of Windsor, N. S., imported some Clumbers, and after this quite a number were brought into the Lower Provinces of Canada by officers of the numerous garrisons. Montreal too had its quota, and fully twenty-five years ago Sir Joseph Hickson, General Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, had a nice little kennel of them in Montreal. His strain has died out, however, and about four years ago I recollect sending one to him to take the place of his old favorites.

Mr. Jonathan Thorne of Pennsylvania had several Clumbers away back in the seventies, the best one being Trimbush, a dog who did quite a lot of winning for him in the old dog days, and indeed a son of his, Duffer, "walked over" for first prize at New York in '88. Jesse Sherwood, who at one time lived



in Ohio, did some winning at the early Western shows with three well bred ones that he imported. Duke, the best of them, afterward drifted into the hands of Chief Stewart of the Hamilton (Can.) police force, in whose possession he died. A little later a gentleman in Baltimore, Md., whose name I cannot recall, got out some Clumbers, one or two from Clumber House itself.

In '83, I think it was, Mr. James Watson of Philadelphia, picked up off a lately arrived ship a dog, afterward called Bateman, that was shown a good deal and won several prizes, although far from being a good specimen. He was said to have come from Lord Bateman's kennels in England, and soon was sold to Mr. Marmaduke Richardson of New York city. This gentleman in '84 purchased a pair of six months old puppies in Ottáwa, Canada, who as Newcastle and Tyne left the Clumber classes to his mercy until the writer brought out Johnny and Drake in '87.

About eight years ago Dr. F. C. Plunkett of Lowell, Mass., while shooting on the west coast of Ireland, picked up a dog and a bitch, who under the names of Jockey and Romp did considerable winning and left a heritage of curly coats to their descendants.

In '79, an English sportsman brought over to Nova Scotia with him a Clumber bitch called Judy, whom on the eve of his departure he sold to Mr. Thomas J. Egan of Halifax. He won several good prizes with her and reared a number of litters by different dogs, the best known of her offspring being John Halifax Gentleman, and Jill. At about the same time Mr. Lindsay Russell, ex-Surveyor General of Canada, purchased from Dr. Hines a thoroughly broken dog called Ben, who strained back directly to Clumber House. This dog was taken to Ottawa, and in '83 for the first time was bred to Captain Vieth's bitch Joan. Joan was out of a pair of dogs imported by Captain Todd of H. M. 87th Regiment, direct from the Duke of Newcastle's kennels at Clumber, and through having produced champions Johnny and Newcastle, Drake, Tyne, etc., is entitled to the distinction of being called the best brood bitch America has yet produced. She was bred by the late Dr. Moren, of Halifax, N. S., to whose wife her parents were presented by Captain Todd, when leaving Canada, her sire and dam, Flash and Flirt, ending their days in the possession of Murray Dodd, Esq., M. P. for Sydney, N. S., or to be strictly accurate, the latter was my property at her death, having been given me by Mr. Dodd.

Up till '87 no importations of note were made, but in that year Mr. H. B. D. Bruce, of Ottawa, Can., got over Lucy II., a very nice bitch, who came from the strains of Lords Manvers and Bateman. But it was not until last year—'89—that prominent English winners were brought over to America. Mr. T. C. Bate, of Ottawa, set the ball rolling by purchasing champion Boss III., the winner of a large number of prizes on the other side, and later on was induced by the writer to give him for a mate Bromine, generally acknowledged to be one of the best Clumbers ever bred. Shortly afterward the writer added the celebrated English winner Snow to his kennel, and at about the same time Mr. A. L. Weston, of Denver, Colo., imported from the Duke of Westminster's kennels Lass o' Beauty, winner of first Birmingham, '87, owned by that gentleman and the writer together.

The first Sussex spaniels to my knowledge imported were President and Lady and Beau, now the property of Mr. J. F. Kirk, of Toronto, Can., who purchased them from the importer, Mr. E. H. Morris.

The writer got a good one a couple of years ago, but something miscarried and she never materialized. Last year Mr. Bruette, of Jefferson, Wis., got out a pair of working Sussex from the Etchell kennel in

Scotland, but they were never shown and have not been heard of since leaving that gentleman's kennel.

It would never do to leave this subject without noting several dogs Messrs. Wilmerding and Willey have in their hurried notes omitted to mention, such as that grand dog Baron. He is by Ch. Roysterer out of Yum-Yum II., and was imported by Mr. G. W. Folsom, of Washington, D. C. Also Bridford Negress, a full sister of Ch. Newton Abbot Lady, who was imported by E. H. Morris, and the "Newton Abbots" of Oldham and Willey, Darkie, Lord and Laddie. In cockers, champion Hornell Silk, a brother of Obo II., will always be remembered for his success in the stud. Miss Obo II., an Obo bitch out of Fern, bred by James Farrow and imported by Mr. Willey, has run up a long score to her credit. Mr. P. G. Keyes, a new addition to the ranks of spaniel lovers, did yeoman's service by his purchase last year of Bob Obo, a good winner in England, and sire of champion Jenny Obo, who was bred by Farrow. Bob is a son of the grand old champion Obo. Still more recently Mr. Keyes purchased from the same gentleman Rideau Floss, a very nice little bitch. He also brought over last year a pair of liver cockers, General Mite and Nellina, who won a few prizes at West of England shows.

I have endeavored to confine myself to mentioning importations of portent to American spanielism, as neither space nor time will permit of my making mention of prominent home bred dogs.

## CHAMPION SPANIELS OF RECORD.

Bene Silk (4308).	Hornell Ruby
Black Pete (4910).	Hornell Silk.
Black Prince (12,524).	Johnny (5896).
Brant (5856).	Little Red Rover (5869).
Compton Bandit (5859).	Marion.
Compton Brahmin (5863).	Miss Obo II. (4916).
Doc (8511).	Newcastle (5897).
Hornell Dandy.	Newton Abbot Darkie (8527).
Hornell Dinah.	Obo II. (4911).
Hornell Jock.	Shina (4918).

## CHAPTER XV.

### STANDARDS OF ENGLISH AND AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUBS.

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ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB.

#### THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL.

THE HEAD (value 10) is by no means long, with very little brow, but moderately wide. It is covered with curls, rather longer and more open than those of the body, nearly to the eyes, but not so as to be wigged like the poodle.

THE FACE AND EYES (value 10) are very peculiar. Face very long and quite bare of curl; the hair being short and smooth though not glossy; nose broad, and nostrils well developed; teeth strong and level; eyes small and set almost flush, without eyebrows.

THE TOPKNOT (value 10) is a characteristic of the true breed, and is estimated accordingly. It should fall between and over the eyes in a peaked form.

THE EARS (value 10) are long, the leather extending, when drawn forward, a little beyond the nose, and the curls with which they are clothed two or three inches beyond. The whole of the ears are thickly covered with curls, which gradually lengthen toward the tips.

CHEST AND SHOULDERS (value 7½).—There is nothing remarkable about these points, which must, nevertheless, be of sufficient dimensions and muscularity. The chest is small compared with most breeds of similar substance.

THE BACK AND QUARTERS (value  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ) also have no peculiarity, but the stifles are almost always straight, giving an appearance of legginess.

LEGS AND FEET (value 10).—The legs should be straight, and the feet large but strong, the toes are somewhat open, and covered with short crisp curls. In all dogs of this breed the legs are thickly clothed with short curls, slightly pendent behind and at the sides, and some have them all round, hanging in ringlets for some time before the annual shedding. No feather like that of the setter should be shown. The front of the hindlegs below the hocks is always bare.

THE TAIL (value 10) is very thick at the root, where it is clothed with very short hair. Beyond the root, however, the hair is perfectly short, so as to look as if the tail had been clipped, which it sometimes fraudulently is at shows, but the natural bareness of the tail is a true characteristic of the breed.

THE COAT (value 10) is composed of short curls of hair, not woolly, which betrays the poodle cross. A soft, flossy coat is objected to as indicative of an admixture with some of the land spaniels.

THE COLOR (value 10) must be a deep pure liver without white; but, as in other breeds, a white toe will occasionally appear with the best bred litter.

THE SYMMETRY (value 5)—of this dog is not very great.

SCALE OF POINTS.

Head.....	10
Face and Eyes.....	10
Topknot.....	10
Ears.....	10
Chest and Shoulders.....	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Back and Quarters.....	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Legs and Feet.....	10
Tail.....	10
Coat.....	10
Color.....	10
Symmetry.....	5
Total.....	100

## THE CLUMBER SPANIEL.

GENERAL APPEARANCE AND SIZE.—General appearance, a long, low, heavy-looking dog, of a very thoughtful expression betokening great intelligence. Should have the appearance of great power. Sedate in all movements, but not clumsy. Weight of dogs averaging between 55 and 65lbs.; bitches from 35 to 50lbs.

HEAD.—Head large and massive in all its dimensions; round above eyes, flat on the top, with a furrow running from between the eyes up the center. A marked stop and large occipital protuberance. Jaw long, broad and deep. Lips of upper jaw overhung. Muzzle not square, but at the same time powerful looking. Nostrils large, open and flesh-colored, sometimes cherry-colored.

EYES.—Eyes large, soft, deep-set and showing haw. Hazel in color, not too pale, with dignified and intelligent expression.

EARS.—Ears long and broad at the top, turned over on the front edge; vine-shaped; close to the head; set on low and feathered only on the front edge, and there but slightly. Hair short and silky, without slightest approach to wave or curl.

NECK AND SHOULDERS.—Neck long, thick and powerful, free from dewlap, with a large ruff. Shoulders immensely strong and muscular, giving a heavy appearance in front.

BODY AND QUARTERS.—Body very long and low, well ribbed up and long in the coupling. Chest of great depth and volume. Loin powerful and not too much arched. Back, long, broad and straight, free from droop or bow. Length an important characteristic; the nearer the dog is in length to being two and one-half times his height at shoulder the better. Quarters shapely and very muscular, neither drooping nor stilty.

LEGS AND FEET.—Forelegs short, straight, and immensely heavy in bone. Well in at elbow. Hindlegs heavy in bone, but not as heavy as forelegs. No feather below hocks, but



thick hair on back of leg just above foot. Feet large, compact, and plentifully filled with hair between toes.

COAT AND FEATHER.—Coat silky and straight, not too long, extremely dense; feather long and abundant.

COLOR AND MARKINGS.—Color, lemon and white and orange and white. Fewer markings on body the better. Perfection of marking, solid lemon or orange ears, evenly marked head and eyes, muzzle and legs ticked.

· STERN.—Stern set on a level and carried low.

#### SCALE OF POINTS.

General Appearance and Size.....	10
Head.....	15
Eyes.....	5
Ears.....	10
Neck and Shoulders.....	15
Body and Quarters.....	20
Legs and Feet.....	10
Coat and Feather.....	10
Color and Markings.....	5
Total.....	100

#### THE SUSSEX SPANIEL.

THE SKULL (value 15) should be long and also wide, with a deep indentation in the middle, and a full stop, projecting well over the eyes; occiput full, but not pointed; the whole giving an appearance of heaviness without dullness.

THE EYES (value 5) are full, soft, and languishing, but not watering so as to stain the coat.

THE NOSE (value 10) should be long (3 in. to 3½ in.) and broad, the end liver-colored, with large open nostrils.

THE EARS (value 5) are moderately long and lobe-shaped—that is to say, narrow at the junction with the head, wider

in the middle and rounded below, not pointed. They should be well clothed with soft wavy and silky hair, but not heavily loaded with it.

THE NECK (value 5) is rather short, strong and slightly arched, but not carrying the head much above the level of the back. There is no throatiness in the skin, but well-marked frill in the coat.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST (value 10).—The chest is round, especially behind the shoulders, and moderately deep, giving a good girth. It narrows at the shoulders, which are consequently oblique, though strong, with full points, long arms, and elbows well let down, and these last should not be turned out or in.

BACK AND BACK RIBS (value 10).—The back or loin is long, and should be very muscular both in width and depth. For this latter development, the back ribs must be very deep. The whole body is characterized as low, long, and strong.

LEGS AND FEET (value 10).—Owing to the width of chest, the forelegs of the Sussex spaniel are often bowed; but it is a defect notwithstanding, though not a serious one. The arms and thighs must be bony as well as muscular; knees and hocks large, wide, and strong; pasterns very short and bony; feet round, and toes well arched and clothed thickly with hair. The forelegs should be well feathered all down, and the hind ones also, above the hocks, but should not have much hair below this point.

THE TAIL (value 10) is generally cropped, and should be thickly clothed with hair, but not with long feather. The true spaniel's low carriage of the tail at work is well marked in this breed.

THE COLOR (value 10) of the Sussex is a well-marked but not exactly rich golden liver, on which there is often a washed-out look that detracts from its richness. The color is often met with in other breeds, however, and is no certain sign of purity in the Sussex spaniel.

THE COAT (value 5) is wavy without any curl; abundant, silky and soft.

THE SYMMETRY (value 5) of the Sussex spaniel is not very marked; but he should not be devoid of this quality.

## SCALE OF POINTS.

Skull.....	15
Eyes.....	5
Nose.....	10
Ears.....	5
Neck.....	5
Shoulders and Chest.....	10
Back and Back Ribs.....	10
Legs and Feet.....	10
Tail.....	10
Color.....	10
Coat.....	5
Symmetry.....	5
Total.....	100

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### THE MODERN SPRINGER OR FIELD SPANIEL.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Considerably larger, heavier and stronger in build than the cocker; the modern springer is more active and animated than the Clumber, and has little of the sober sedateness characteristic of the latter. He should exhibit courage and determination in his carriage and action, as well as liveliness of temperament, though not in this respect to the same restless degree generally possessed by the cocker. His conformation should be long and low, more so than the cocker.

Intelligence, obedience, and good nature should be strongly evident. The colors most preferred are solid black or liver, but

liver and white, black and white, black and tan, orange, and orange and white are all legitimate spaniel colors.

**HEAD** (value 15) long and not too wide, elegant and shapely, and carried gracefully; skull showing clearly cut brows, but without a very pronounced stop; occiput distinct and rising considerably above the set-on of the ears; muzzle long with well developed nose, not too thick immediatly in front of the eye and maintaining nearly the same breadth to the point; sufficient flew to give a certain squareness to the muzzle and avoid snipiness or wedginess of face; teeth sound and regular; eyes intelligent in expression and dark, not showing the haw, nor so large as to be prominent or goggle-eyed.

**EARS** (value 10) should be long and hung low on the skull, lobe-shaped and covered with straight or slightly wavy silky feather.

**NECK** (value 5) long, graceful, and free from throatiness, tapering toward the head, not too thick but strongly set into shoulders and brisket.

**SHOULDERS AND ARMS** (value 10).—The shoulder-blades should lie obliquely and with sufficient looseness of attachment to give freedom to the forearms, which should be well let down.

**LEGS AND FEET** (value 15).—The forelegs should be straight, very strong and short; hindlegs should be well bent at the stiffl-joint, with plenty of muscular power. Feet should be of good size with thick, well developed pads, not flat or spreading.

**BODY AND QUARTERS** (value 20) long with well-sprung ribs, strong, slightly arching loins, well coupled to the quarters, which may droop slightly toward the stern.

**COAT AND FEATHER** (value 15).—The coat should be as straight and flat as possible, silky in texture, of sufficient denseness to afford good protection to the skin in thorny coverts, and moderately long. The feather should be long and ample, straight or very slightly wavy, heavily fringing the ears, back of forelegs, between the toes, and on back quarters.

TAIL (value 10) should be strong and carried not higher than the level of the back.

## SCALE OF POINTS.

Head.....	15
Ears.....	10
Neck.....	5
Shoulders and Arms.....	10
Legs and Feet.....	15
Body and Quarters.....	20
Coat and Feather.....	15
Tail.....	10
	<hr/>
Total.....	100

## THE COCKER SPANIEL.

A cocker spaniel must not weigh more than 28 lbs. nor less than 18 lbs.

GENERAL APPEARANCE, SYMMETRY, ETC. (value 10).—A cocker spaniel should be eminently a well-built, graceful and active dog, and should show strength without heaviness or clumsiness. Any of the spaniel colors are allowable, but beauty of color and marking must be taken into consideration.

HEAD (value 15) should be of fair length, muzzle cut off square, tapering gradually from the eye, but not snipy. Skull rising in a graceful curve from the stop, and with the same outline at the occiput, the curve line being flatter but still curving at the middle of the skull. The head should be narrowest at the eyes and broadest at the set-on of ears, and viewed from the front, the outline between the ears should be a nearly perfect segment of a circle. The stop is marked and a groove runs up the skull, gradually becoming less apparent, till lost about half way to the occiput. This prevents the domed King Charles' skull, and there should not be the heaviness of the large field spaniel, but a light, graceful, well-balanced head. Jaws level, neither undershot nor pig-jawed, teeth strong and regular.

EYES (value 5) round and moderately full. They should correspond in color with the coat.

**EARS** (value 10) lobular, set on low, leather fine and not extending beyond the nose, well clothed with long, silky hair, which must be straight or wavy—no positive curls or ringlets.

**NECK AND SHOULDERS** (value 10).—Neck should be sufficiently long to allow the nose to reach the ground easily; muscular, and running into well-shaped, sloping shoulders.

**BODY** (value 15).—Ribs should be well sprung; chest of fair width and depth; body well ribbed back, short in the coupling, flank free from any tucked-up appearance, loin strong.

**LENGTH** (value 5), from tip of nose to root of tail, should be about twice the height at shoulder, rather more than less.

**LEGS AND FEET** (value 15).—The forelegs should be short, strong in bone and muscle; straight, neither bent in nor out at elbow; pasterns straight, short and strong; elbows well let down; the hindlegs should be strong, with well-bent stifles; hocks straight, looked at from behind, and near the ground. Feet should be of good size, round, turning neither in nor out, toes not too spreading; the soles should be furnished with hard, horny pads, and there should be plenty of hair between the toes.

**COAT** (value 10) should be abundant, soft and silky, straight or wavy, but without curl; chest, legs and tail well feathered. There should be no topknot or curly hair on top of head.

**TAIL** (value 5) usually docked, carried nearly level with the back. At work it is carried lower, with a quick, nervous action which is characteristic of the breed.

SCALE OF POINTS.

General Appearance.....	10
Head.....	15
Eyes.....	5
Ears.....	10
Neck and Shoulders.....	10
Body.....	15
Length.....	5
Legs and Feet.....	15
Coat.....	10
Tail.....	5
Total.....	100

## STANDARDS ADOPTED BY THE ENGLISH SPANIEL CLUB.

### THE ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL.

#### POSITIVE POINTS.

Head and Jaw and Eyes....20	Feet.....	5
Ears.....	Stern.....	10
Neck.....	Coat.....	15
Body.....	General Appearance.....	10
Forelegs.....		—
Hindlegs.....	Total Positive Points....	100

Negative Points.—Feather on stern, 10; topknot, 10—total negative points, 20.

#### DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

HEAD.—Long, somewhat straight and rather narrow; muzzle rather long, and, if anything, rather pointed.

EYES.—Small for the size of the dog.

EARS.—Set in forward, and thickly clothed with hair inside and out.

NECK.—Straight.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Ribs round, the back ones not very deep.

NOSE.—Large.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Shoulders low and chest rather narrow, but deep.

BACK AND LOIN.—Strong, but not clumsy.

HINDQUARTERS.—Long and straight; rather rising toward the stern then drooping, which, combined with the low shoulder, gives him the appearance of standing higher behind than in front.

STERN.—Docked from 7 in. to 10 in. according to the size of the dog, carried a little above the level of the back, but by no means high.

FEET AND LEGS.—Feet well spread, large and strong; well

clothed with hair, especially between the pads. Legs long and strong; the stifles well bent.

COAT.—Covered either with crisp curls or with ringlets; no topknot, but the close curl should cease on the top of the head, leaving the face perfectly smooth and lean looking.

COLOR.—Black and white, liver and white, or self-colored black or liver. The pied for choice.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Sober looking, with rather a slouching gait and a general independence of manner, which is thrown aside at the sight of a gun.

### THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL.

#### POSITIVE POINTS.

Head and Jaw . . . . .	10
Eyes . . . . .	5
Topknot . . . . .	5
Ears . . . . .	10
Neck . . . . .	7½
Body . . . . .	7½
Forelegs . . . . .	5
Hindlegs . . . . .	5
Feet . . . . .	5
Stern . . . . .	10
Coat . . . . .	15
General Appearance . . . . .	15

#### NEGATIVE POINTS.

Light Yellow, or Gooseberry Eyes . . . . .	10
Cording, or Tags of Dead or Matted Hair . . . . .	12
Moustache or Poodle Hair on Cheek . . . . .	5
Lank, Open, or Woolly Coat	7
A Natural Sandy, Light Coat	8
Furnishing of Tail more than half-way down to Sting . . .	7
Setter-feathering on Legs . . .	10
White Patch on Chest . . . . .	6

Total Positive Points . . 100

Total Negative Points . . . 65

DISQUALIFICATIONS.—Total absence of topknot. A fully-feathered tail. Any white patch on any part of dog, except a small one on chest or toe.

#### DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

HEAD.—Capacious skull, rather raised in dome and fairly wide, showing large brain capacity. The dome appears higher than it really is, from its being surmounted by the crest or top-



knot, which should grow down to a point between the eyes, leaving the temple smooth.

EYES.—Dark brown and highly intelligent, or rich amber—the former preferred.

NOSE.—Dark liver-colored, rather large, and well developed.

EARS.—Set on rather low. In a full-sized specimen, the leather should be not less than 18 in., and with feather about 24 in. The feather on the ear should be long, abundant and wavy.

NECK.—Should be “pointer-like,” *i. e.*, muscular, slightly arched, and not too long. It should be strongly set on the shoulders.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Height at shoulder from 20 to 23 in., according to sex and strain; body, fair-sized, round, barrel-shaped, well ribbed up.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Chest deep, and not too narrow. Shoulders strong, rather sloping, and well covered with hard muscle.

BACK AND LOIN.—Back strong, loins trifle arched and powerful, so as to fit them for the heavy work of beating through sedgy, muddy sides of rivers.

HINDQUARTERS.—Round and muscular, and slightly drooping toward the set-on of the stern.

STERN.—A “whip tail,” thick at base and tapering to a “sting.” The hair on it should be short, straight, and close lying, except for a few inches from its root, where it gradually merges into the body coat in some short curls.

FEET AND LEGS.—Forelegs straight, well-boned. They should be well furnished with wavy hair all round and down to the feet, which should be large and round. Hindlegs stifle long; hock set low; they should be well furnished, except from the hock down the front.

COAT.—Neither woolly nor lank, but should consist of short crisp curls right up to the stern. Topknot should fall well over the eyes. It and furnishing of ears should be abundant and wavy.

**COLOR.**—Dark rich liver or puce (to be judged by its original color). A sandy light coat is a defect. Total absence of white desirable, any, except a little on chest or a toe, should disqualify.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE.**—That of a strong, compact, dashing-looking dog, with a quaint and very intelligent aspect. They should not be leggy, as power and endurance are required of them in their work. Noisy and joyous when out for a spree, but mute on game.

### THE CLUMBER SPANIEL.

#### POSITIVE POINTS.

Head and Jaw.....	25	Feet.....	5
Eyes.....	5	Stern.....	0
Ears.....	5	Coat and Feather.....	10
Neck.....	5	General Appearance.....	15
Body.....	20		—
Forelegs.....	5	Total Positive Points...	100
Hindlegs.....	5		

**NEGATIVE POINTS.**—Light nose, 10; curled ears, 10; curled coat, 20—total negative points, 40.

#### DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

**HEAD.**—Large, square and massive, flat on top, ending in a peak at occiput, round above eyes, with a deep stop; muzzle heavy and freckled, lips of upper jaw slightly overhung; skin under eyes dropping and showing haw.

**EYES.**—Dark brown, slightly sunk and showing haw.

**EARS.**—Large and well covered with straight hair and hanging slightly forward, the feather not to extend below the leather.

**NECK.**—Very thick and powerful, and well feathered underneath.

**BODY** (including size and symmetry).—Very long and heavy, and near the ground. Weight of dogs, 55 lbs. to 65 lbs.; bitches, 45 lbs. to 55 lbs.

**NOSE.**—Square and flesh-colored.

**SHOULDERS AND CHEST.**—Wide and deep—shoulders strong and muscular.

**BACK AND LOIN.**—Back straight, broad and long; loin powerful and well let down.

**HINDQUARTERS.**—Very powerful, with thighs placed well at back of body.

**STERN.**—Set very low (while retaining the more important point of a straight back), well feathered and carried about level with the backbone.

**FEET AND LEGS.**—Feet large and round, well covered with hair; legs short, thick and strong; hocks low.

**COAT.**—Long, plentiful, soft and straight.

**COLOR.**—Plain white with lemon markings; orange permissible, but not so desirable; slight head markings, with white body preferred.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE.**—Should be that of a very long, low, heavy, massive dog, with a thoughtful expression.

### THE SUSSEX SPANIEL.

POSITIVE POINTS.	NEGATIVE POINTS.
Head and Jaw.....15	Light Eyes..... 5
Eyes..... 5	Narrow Head.....10
Ears..... 5	Weak Muzzle.....10
Neck..... 5	Curled Ears or High Set on. 5
Body.....15	Curled Coat.....15
Forelegs.....10	Carriage of Stern..... 5
Hindlegs.....10	Topknot.....10
Feet..... 5	White on Chest.....10
Stern..... 5	Color (too Light or too Dark)10
Coat and Feather.....10	Legginess or Light of Bone. 5
General Appearance.....15	Shortness of Body or Flat-sided..... 5
Total Positive Points....100	General Appearance, Sour or Crouching.....10
	Total Negative Points...100

## DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

**HEAD.**—Should be moderately long and massive, with depth in proportion, to obviate a flat appearance; skull broad and forehead prominent.

**EYES.**—Hazel color, fairly large and languishing, not showing the haw overmuch.

**EARS.**—Thick, fairly large and lobe-shaped; set moderately low, but relatively not so low as in black or other varieties of spaniels; carried close to the head, and furnished with wavy hair.

**NECK.**—Muscular and slightly arched.

**BODY** (including size and symmetry).—Long, with well-sprung ribs, and a fair depth behind the shoulders.

**NOSE.**—Liver color; muzzle large and square, with lips somewhat pendulous and nostrils well developed.

**SHOULDERS AND CHEST.**—The shoulders should be oblique, and the chest deep and wide.

**BACK AND LOIN.**—Back level and long, and loin broad.

**HINDQUARTERS.**—Strong, thighs muscular and hocks low down.

**STERN.**—Docked from 5 in. to 8 in., set low, and not carried above the level of the back.

**FEET AND LEGS.**—Legs short and strong, with immense bone and a slight bend in the forearm. Feet large and round, and moderately well feathered, with short hair between the toes.

**COAT.**—Bodycoat abundant, flat or slightly waved, with no tendency to curl, moderately well feathered on legs and stern, but clean below the hocks.

**COLOR.**—Dark golden liver, not a light ginger or snuff color, but rather of a rich bronze tinge, not puce; the color will vary and go darker when the dog is kept out of Sussex, especially in those parts where the climate and soil differ materially from that of Sussex.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE.**—Rather massive and muscular, but with free movements and nice tail action, denoting a tractable and cheerful disposition—weight from 35 lbs. to 45 lbs.

## THE BLACK FIELD SPANIEL.

POSITIVE POINTS.	NEGATIVE POINTS.
Head and Jaw . . . . .15	Light Eyes . . . . .10
Eyes . . . . . 5	Light Nose (fatal) . . . . .25
Ears . . . . . 5	Curled Ears . . . . .10
Neck . . . . . 5	Curled Coat . . . . .10
Body . . . . .10	Carriage of Stern . . . . .10
Forelegs . . . . .10	Topknot (fatal) . . . . .25
Hindlegs . . . . .10	White on Chest . . . . .10
Feet . . . . .10	
Stern . . . . .10	Total Negative Points . . .100
Coat and Feather . . . . .10	
General Appearance . . . . .10	
Total Positive Points . . .100	

## DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

**HEAD.**—Should be quite characteristic of this grand sporting dog, as is that of the bloodhound or bulldog, its very stamp and countenance should at once convey the conviction of high breeding, character and nobility. Skull well developed, with a distinctly elevated occipital tuberosity, which, above all, gives the character alluded to; not too wide across muzzle, long and lean, never snipy nor squarely cut, and in profile curving gradually from nose to throat; lean beneath eyes, a thickness here gives coarseness to the whole head. The great length of muzzle gives surface for the free development of the olfactory nerve, and thus secures the highest possible scenting powers.

**EYES.**—Not too full, but not small, receding or overhung; color, hazel or brown; grave in expression, and bespeaking unusual docility and instinct.

**EARS.**—Set low down as possible, which greatly adds to the refinement and beauty of the whole head; moderately long and wide, and sufficiently clad with nice setter-like feather. If the ear be well set on, it need not be very long in feather, which is a practical disadvantage.

**NECK.**—Very strong and muscular, so as to enable the dog to

retrieve his game without undue fatigue; not too short, however.

**BODY** (including size and symmetry).—Long and very low, well ribbed up to a good strong loin, straight or slightly arched, never slack; weight from 30lbs. to 40lbs.

**NOSE**.—Well developed, and with good open nostrils, thoroughly well developed, and always black in color.

**SHOULDERS AND CHEST**.—Former sloping and free—latter deep and well developed; but not too round and wide.

**BACK AND LOIN**.—Very strong and muscular, and slightly arched; long in proportion to the height of the dog.

**HINDQUARTERS**.—Very powerful and muscular, wide and fully developed.

**STERN**.—Well set on and carried low, if possible below the level of the back, in a perfectly straight line, or with a slight downward inclination; never elevated above the back, and in action always kept low; nicely fringed, with wavy feather of silky texture.

**FEET AND LEGS**.—Feet not too small and well protected between the toes with soft feather; good strong pads. Legs straight and immensely boned, strong and short, and nicely feathered, with a flat or waved setter-like feather—feathering below hocks objectionable.

**COAT**.—Flat or slightly waved, and never curled—sufficiently dense to resist the weather, and not too short—silky in texture, glossy and refined in nature, with neither dullness on the one hand, nor curl or wireness on the other; on chest, under belly, and behind the legs there should be abundant feather, but never too much, and that of the right sort, namely setter-like. The tail and hindquarters should be similarly adorned.

**COLOR**.—Jet black throughout, glossy and true. A little white on chest, though a drawback, not a disqualification.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE**.—That of a sporting dog, capable of learning and doing anything possible for his inches and conformation. A grand combination of beauty and utility.

## ANY OTHER VARIETY OF FIELD SPANIEL.

POSITIVE POINTS.—Similar to those given in black variety.

NEGATIVE POINTS.—Subject to color. Similar to those given in black variety.

## DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

HEAD.—Similar to that of the black spaniel, save in color.

EYES.—The color in all cases to match the coat and markings, viz.: Black and tans, hazel or brown; liver and tans, rather lighter than in black and tans, but of good rich tone; livers, light hazel color; black, tan and white roans, etc., somewhat similar to black and tans; liver and tan roans, etc., somewhat similar to liver and tans.

EARS.—Similar to those of the black spaniel, except in color.

NECK.—Similar to that of the black spaniel.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Similar to that of the black spaniel.

NOSE.—Variable, according to color of coat and markings: Black and tans, black; liver and tans, dark liver color; livers, liver; black and tan and white roans, black; liver and tan roans, liver.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Similar to those of the black spaniel.

BACK AND LOIN.—Similar to those of the black spaniel.

HINDQUARTERS.—Similar to those of the black spaniel.

STERN.—Similar to that of the black spaniel.

FEET AND LEGS.—Similar to those of the black spaniel.

COAT.—Similar in quality, substance and texture and in all other respects, except color; responding to that given for black spaniels.

COLORS.—Various, such as black and tan, liver and tan, liver; black, tan and white roans; liver, tan and white roans, etc.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Similar in all respects, except in regard to color and markings; identical with the general description given before for black spaniels.

## THE NORFOLK SPANIEL.

## POSITIVE POINTS.

Head, Jaw and Eyes.....20	Feet.....	5
Ears.....10	Stern.....	5
Neck.....10	Coat and Feather.....	10
Body.....10	General Appearance.....	10
Forelegs.....10		—
Hindlegs.....10	Total Positive Points....	100

Negative Points.—Carriage of stern, 5; topknot, 5; total negative points, 10.

## DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

HEAD.—Skull long and rather narrow; a stop; the muzzle long and broad at the end.

EYES.—Rather small, bright and intelligent.

EARS.—Long, low set and lobular.

NECK.—Long, strong, slightly arched.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Fairly heavy body; legs rather longer than in other field spaniels, but not so long as in Irish. Medium size.

NOSE.—Large and soft.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Shoulders long and sloping; chest deep and fairly broad.

BACK AND LOIN.—Back flat and strong; loin rather long, flat and strong.

HINDQUARTERS.—Long; hocks well let down; stifles moderately bent, and not twisted inward nor outward.

STERN.—Docked; low carried, *i. e.*, not above the level of the back.

FEET AND LEGS.—Strong boned legs, inclining to shortness; feet large and rather flat.

COAT.—Hard, not woolly; not curly, but may be broken.

COLOR.—Liver and white, and black and white.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—An active, useful, medium sized dog.



## THE BLACK COCKER SPANIEL.

POSITIVE POINTS.		NEGATIVE POINTS.	
Head and Jaw . . . . .	10	Light Eyes (undesirable but not fatal) . . . . .	10
Eyes . . . . .	5	Light Nose (fatal) . . . . .	15
Ears . . . . .	5	Curled Ears (very undesirable) . . . . .	15
Neck . . . . .	5	Curled Coat (curly, woolly or wiry) . . . . .	20
Body . . . . .	15	Carriage of Stern (crooked or twisted) . . . . .	20
Forelegs . . . . .	10	Topknot (fatal) . . . . .	20
Hindlegs . . . . .	10		
Feet . . . . .	10		
Stern . . . . .	10		
Coat and Feather . . . . .	10		
General Appearance . . . . .	10		
	—	Total Negative Point . . . . .	100
Total Positive Points . . . . .	100		

## DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

**HEAD.**—Not so heavy in proportion and not so high in occiput as in the modern field spaniel, with a nicely developed muzzle or jaw; lean, but not snipy, and yet not so square as in the Clumber or Sussex varieties, but always exhibiting a sufficiently wide and well-developed nose. Forehead perfectly smooth, rising without a too decided stop from muzzle into a comparatively wide and rounded well-developed skull, with plenty of room for brain power.

**EYES.**—Full, but not prominent, hazel or brown colored, with a general expression of intelligence and gentleness, though decidedly wide awake, bright and merry, never goggled nor weak, as in the King Charles and Blenheim kinds.

**EARS.**—Only moderately long, and rather broader than in the large field spaniels, for when too long they are practically a hindrance in dense coverts; and also set rather higher than in the before-mentioned variety, nicely protected with a sufficiency of wavy feather (never curled); indeed this merry and most useful old-world sporting dog should carry only a truly sporting ear.

**NECK.**—Strong and muscular, and neatly set on to fine sloping shoulders.

**BODY** (including size and symmetry).—Not quite so long and low as in the other breeds of spaniels, more compact and firmly knit together, giving the impression of a concentration of power and untiring activity; the total weight should not exceed 25 lbs.

**NOSE**.—Sufficiently wide and well developed to insure the exquisite scenting powers of this breed. Color black.

**SHOULDERS AND CHEST**.—The former sloping and fine, chest deep and well developed, but not too wide and round to interfere with the free action of the forelegs.

**BACK AND LOIN**.—Immensely strong and compact in proportion to the size and weight of the dog; slightly drooping toward the tail.

**HINDQUARTERS**.—Wide, well rounded and very muscular so as to insure untiring action and propelling power under the most trying circumstances of a long day, bad weather, rough ground and dense covert.

**STERN**.—That most characteristic stamp of blue blood in all the spaniel family may, in the lighter and more active cocker, although set low down, be allowed a slightly higher carriage than in the other breeds, but never cocked up over, but rather in a line with the back, though the lower its carriage and action the better, and when at work its action should be incessant in this, the brightest and merriest of the whole spaniel family.

**FEET AND LEGS**.—The legs must be well boned, feathered and straight, for the tremendous exertions expected from this grand little sporting dog, and should be sufficiently short for concentrated power, but not too short as to interfere with its full activity. Feet firm, round and cat-like, not too large, spreading and loose-jointed. This distinct breed of spaniel does not follow exactly on the lines of the larger field spaniel, either in lengthiness, lowness, or otherwise, but be shorter in back, and rather higher on the legs.

**COAT**.—Flat or waved, and silky in texture, never wiry, woolly, nor curly, with sufficient feather of the right sort—viz., waved or setter-like, but not too profuse, and never curly.

**COLOR.**—Jet black; a white shirt frill should never disqualify; but white feet should not be allowed in any specimen of self-color.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE.**—Confirmatory of all indicated above—viz., a concentration of pure blood and type, sagacity, docility, good temper, affection and activity.

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### ANY OTHER VARIETY OF COCKER SPANIEL

**POSITIVE POINTS.**—Same as in the black variety.

**NEGATIVE POINTS.**—Subject to color. Similar to those of the black variety.

#### DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS.

**HEAD.**—Similar to that of the black cocker.

**EYES.**—Dependent on color and markings.

**EARS.**—Similar to those of the black cocker.

**NECK.**—Similar to that of the black cocker.

**BODY** (including size and symmetry).—Similar to that of the black cocker.

**NOSE.**—The color will be dependent on color of coat and markings, in all other respects similar to the black cocker.

**SHOULDERS AND CHEST.**—Similar to those of the black cocker.

**BACK AND LOIN.**—Similar to those of the black cocker.

**HINDQUARTERS.**—Similar in all respects to that described in the black cocker.

**STERN.**—Identical with that of the black cocker.

**FEET AND LEGS.**—Similar to those of the black cocker.

**COAT.**—Similar in every way to the coat of the black variety, except in color or markings.

**COLOR.**—Black and tan, liver and tan, black, tan and white, liver, tan and white, lemon and white, roans, and in fact nearly any combination or blending of colors.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE.**—In all respects agreeing with the description given for the black variety of this breed.

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