

PUPPY—John Biggs Ranter 1. BULL TERRIER—W. J. Watson Royal IV. GREYHOUND—W. J. Watson Josey. IRISH WATER SPANIEL—J. W. Winnett Drake. PUG PUPPY—Geo. Stinson, Tiney. FOX TERRIER—Wheeler & Davy Oxford Duke. FOX HOUND—W. J. Watson Ranger. ENG. SETTER BITCH—Davey & Richards Laddersdale.

THE TORONTO BENCH SHOW.

Special Report.

An addition to the Industrial Exhibition of Toronto for 1889, was the dog show, and no feature of the whole perhaps has been a greater success, whether considered financially, with reference to the number or quality of the exhibits, the management or general attractiveness.

Over 300 dogs were benched, and there were not a dozen downright poor ones in the whole lot.

We regret that we are not able to speak of the excellent London Exhibition from personal observation, so that we might contrast the three Canadian shows of this year with one another, in order to draw some useful lessons. The Toronto Committee had a number of paid assistants, who greatly relieved the Management, and might have been still more serviceable if some members of the Committee had been detailed to see that these men actually did carry out the instructions given them. As a matter of fact, we know that they did not do all that the Superintendent believed. Dogs were, for example, allowed to lie for hours in their own filth, instead of the kennels being at once cleansed. This, and the absence of disinfectants of suitable kind and quantity were among the most important defects in the management; and we shall not be surprised if some disease ensues in consequence.

Spratt's fed well, and the dogs did not lack water. The ventilation of the building was also fair. Superintendent Harston deserves credit for the energy and ability he displayed. He believes in, and understands system, and the

importance of rules and of adherence to them. But in some instances this principle, excellent in itself, was carried out with harshness, and the worthy Captain turned a deaf ear to reason.

The dogs were well placed, easily identified by number, and made interesting by the catalogue of entries and prizes furnished.

In many details of management, Toronto excelled Ottawa, but in the matter of disinfection, and in the showing of the dogs, Ottawa was far ahead of Toronto. We never saw dogs worse shown than at Toronto in certain classes. Men apparently, out of all sympathy with the animals simply hauled the poor creatures about in some classes, e.g., Irish Setters; while in Ottawa, members of the committee, experts in handling dogs, showed them in the absence of owners better perhaps than their nervous masters would. The Committee in Toronto should personally do more during show days, in Ottawa less, and employ assistants to relieve them in part. The Toronto committee was courteous, but scarcely cordial; the Ottawa one was, so far at least as some members go, both. Fine prizes do not make a dog show an entire success; though it must be confessed good management and perfect integrity are of the utmost importance—but all these most desirable things are enhanced by a little evidence of good-fellowship. We saw no very great willingness on the part of the Toronto Management to court or to take suggestions; and when unpleasant errors occurred as they did in some cases, not the slightest attempt at an apology or explanation was offered by the Superintendent.

The judge for the sporting classes and Collies was Mr. John Davidson, of Monroe, Mich., and for other breeds Mr. C. H. Mason, of New York.

Mr. Davidson's awards were in our opinion singularly correct; though we venture to suggest that no judge should ask as did this gentleman, "was this

one shown at——?" A little more of the *suaviter in modo* than Mr. D. sometimes shows would be a help to nervous exhibitors, and tend to set them and their dogs more at their ease.

Mr. Mason, is no doubt, a very good judge of dogs; but we doubt if he has the judicial mind, and some of his judging was rather capricious—like, we may remark, some of his comments in "Our Prize Dogs." Nor has any judge it seems to us a right to ask an exhibitor questions about the breeding of his dog. A dog whether old or young should be judged precisely on his merits and present status.

The judges properly withheld prizes when they considered they were not deserved, and were sufficiently chary of the V.H.C., H.C. and C. cards. In fact not a few dogs to our own knowledge were passed by that certainly deserved some sort of recognition. We shall have space for mention of only a few such cases.

The dogs were judged in a tent in the rear of the building, and we would suggest that in future some better plan be devised of notifying those in charge of the animals when they are to be called, and also of getting them to and from the judging ring. With proper management no dog should be left unjudged. Nor should any exhibitor be excluded from the judging ring. A dog show is above all things for instruction.

The specials were numerous and many of them valuable. It would have looked better if so large a number had not been reserved for Toronto dogs, and it would be much more to the mind of the winners to receive cash (even if the prizes were smaller) than kind; all men do not smoke, use rifles, etc.

To speak very briefly of the different classes:

MASTIFFS.—Sears Monarch 1st, is a grand dog; Mode 2nd, is a respectable competitor but distinctively infer-