

this variety, which is becoming very popular on the other side of the water, and doubtless will become even more so here.†

†The following standard of points has been adopted by the Club, after having been drawn up with the greatest care, and is almost entirely in accord with the standard fixed by the principal clubs and breeders on the European continent :

1. General Appearance.—The Great Dane is not so heavy, nor so massive as the Mastiff, nor should he too nearly approach the Greyhound in type. Remarkable in size and very muscular, strongly though elegantly built; movements easy and graceful; head and neck carried high; the tail carried horizontally with the back, or slightly upwards, with a slight curl at the extremity. The minimum height and weight of dogs should be 30 in., and 120 lbs.; of bitches, 28 in. and 100 lbs; anything below this should be debarred from competition.

2. Head.—Long, the frontal bones of the forehead very slightly raised, and very little indentation between the eyes. Skull, not too broad; muzzle, broad and strong, and blunt at point; cheek muscles well developed; nose large, bridge well arched; lips in front perpendicularly blunted, not hanging too much over at the sides, but with well-defined folds at the angles of the mouth; the lower jaw slightly projecting—about a sixteenth of an inch; eyes small and round, with sharp expression and deeply set; ears very small, and greyhound-like in carriage, when uncropped; they are, however usually cropped.

3. Neck.—Rather long, very strong and muscular, well arched—without dewlap or loose skin about the throat. The junction of head and neck strongly pronounced.

4. Chest.—Not too broad, and very deep in the brisket.

5. Back.—Not too long or short; loins arched, and falling in a beautiful line to the insertion of the tail.

6. Tail.—Reaching to the hock, strong at the root, and ending fine, with a slight curve. When excited it becomes more curled, but in no case should it curve over the back.

7. Belly.—Well drawn up.

8. Fore-quarters.—Shoulders set sloping; elbows well under, neither turned inwards nor outwards. Leg, fore-arm muscular, and with great development of bone; the whole leg strong, and quite straight.

9. Hind-quarters.—Muscular thighs, and second thighs long and strong, as in the greyhound, and hocks well let down and turning neither in nor out.

10. Feet.—Large and round, neither turned inwards nor outwards. Toes well-arched and closed; nails very strong and curved.

11. Hair.—Very short, hard and dense, and not much longer on the under part of the tail.

12. Color and Markings.—The recognized colors

are the various shades of grey (commonly termed blue), red, black, or pure white, or white with patches of the before-mentioned colors. These colors are sometimes accompanied by markings of a darker tint about the eyes and muzzle, and with a line of the same tint (called a "trace") along the course of the spine. The above-named colors also appear in the brindles, and are also the ground colors of the mottled specimens. In the whole-colored specimens the china or wall-eye but rarely appears, and the nose more or less approaches black, according to the prevailing tint of the dog, and the eyes vary also. The mottled specimens have irregular patches or "clouds" upon the above-named ground-colors; in some instances the "clouds" or markings being of two or more tints, with the mottled specimens the wall or china-eye is not uncommon, and the nose is often parti-colored or wholly flesh-colored. The whole colored reddish-yellow, with black muzzle and ears, is the color least cared for, as indicative of the mastiff cross.

13. Faults.—Too heavy a head, too highly arched frontal bone, and deep stop or indentation between the eyes; large ears, and hanging flat to the face; short neck; full dewlap; too narrow or broad a chest; sunken or hollow or quite straight back; bent fore-legs; overbent fetlocks; twisted feet; spreading toes; too heavy and much bent, or too highly carried tail, or with brush underneath; weak hind-quarters, and a general want of muscle.

Mr. Groom writes in *The Squire*: "To any person used to dogs, and possessed of some acquaintance with their anatomy, this description will give a tolerably accurate idea of what a Great Dane should be, and convey to the mind the picture of a large up-standing dog, of noble presence, and wonderfully active and powerful. These qualities the Dane possesses to the fullest extent; in addition to which he is often as speedy as the deerhound, and can jump like a hunter, and will also follow a scent. He is capable of forming strong attachments, can be taught almost anything, and, as a guard, no dog is his superior. Within the last few years several have been exported to India, Australia and the Cape, for the purpose of large game hunting, for which there is no doubt they are admirably suited, and if ever the Irish wolf-hound is resuscitated, it will be owing to the crossing of the Great Dane with large specimens of the deerhound.

In fighting the Dane will take punishment without uttering a sound, and when he has fairly taken hold is as difficult to part as a bull-dog. As a rule they seize by the back of the neck, and by a dexterous appliance of their strength and weight, throw their adversary to the ground, and then with lightning bound fasten on the throat. A fight between two of these dogs is marvellous as a display of power and activity, and it is almost impossible at times to follow their movements, as they leap and turn, dodge