



DESIGN FOR A CHAIR.

**A SIGNBOARD AND A QUESTION.**—The newspapers have given particulars of a singular dispute touching the ownership of the signboard of the Royal Oak Hotel, Bettws-y-Coed, submitted for the decision of the Bangor District Court of Bankruptcy. The sign, which is well-known to most tourists in Wales, was painted by David Cox in 1847, as the signboard of the hotel. David Cox re-touched it in 1849, and in 1861, at the request of many admirers of the artist, it was placed in the hall of the hotel. The late landlady having gone into liquidation, the trustees claimed to include in the effects the old signboard, for which it was stated a connoisseur had offered 1,000*l.*, and a dispute now arose whether the painting was not a fixture, and as such belonged to the lessor, Lady Willoughby D'Esresby. The judge, after a perusal of the voluminous affidavits, decided in favor of her ladyship, directing that the costs of the application should be paid out of the debtor's estate. To make us agree in the decision as to this old sign, we ought to hear that no other signboard had been put up in its place outside. The incident reminds us of Sir Edwin Landseer's old shutter. Mr. Jacob Bell had done some friendly commission, as on many other occasions, for the artist, and the latter desired to give him something. Bell would have nothing, but ultimately said, "Well, give me the old shutter in the stable window," a rough panel on which Landseer had partly painted a picture. For this, as he told us himself, he was afterwards offered 600*l.*



THE FAN-TAILED POODLE.

The *Deutsches Familienblatt*, of Berlin, gives the above, which it styles "A new American invention—dedicated to the Society for Preventing Cruelty to Animals."