

**A HISTORY AND
DESCRIPTION OF THE
COLLIE OR SHEEP DOG IN
HIS BRITISH VARIETIES**

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A history and description of the collie or sheep dog in his British varieties by Rawdon Lee

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BY
RAWDON LEE,
AUTHOR OF "THE FOX TERRIER;" KENNEL EDITOR OF
"THE FIELD."

THE ILLUSTRATIONS BY ARTHUR WARDLE.



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1890.



P R E F A C E .



LONG ago admirers of the collie pronounced him the most useful and the most intelligent of all dogs. At the present time he still bears that fair fame, and, in addition thereto, occupies a position second to none of the canine race in pecuniary value. Hundreds of pounds are often given for the best specimens, so he is cared for accordingly. Fifty years since, and before the establishment of dog shows, a five pound note was fair value for the best working animal that could be produced; now he will bring more than twenty times that sum for his good looks alone. The latter have made him a favourite, and his popularity is only excelled by that of the fox terrier.

Much has been written about the sheep dog or collie, and no doubt abundance of information thereon is ready to follow. In the following pages an endeavour has been made to trace his progress from the fold and mountain to the drawing room and the parlour, not omitting to specially mention all the varied duties he is now called upon and expected to fulfil.

The subject of competitive trials has had particular

attention, and my knowledge of such contests has enabled me to treat them more fully than any previous writer. If my praise of "Collie trials with sheep" has any effect in extending such useful institutions to some locality in which they have not previously been known, a good object will have been served; for the shepherd applies to his dog the motto, "handsome is that handsome does." The more sensible the dog, the better his adaptability for household usefulness and as an ordinary companion. Dog shows have added to the beauty of the collic; the trials must add to his intelligence.

As in my preceding volume on the Fox Terrier, appropriate vignettes are introduced, which, with the full-page wood engravings of celebrities in the sheep dog world, are the work of Mr. Arthur Wardle. Both he and the engraver, Mr. C. Butterworth, have done the portion of the task set them satisfactorily.

RAWDON LEE.

BRIXTON, LONDON,
June, 1890.





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