THE AMERICAN HUNTING DOG; MODERN STRAINS OF BIRD DOGS AND HOUNDS, AND THEIR FIELD TRAINING

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The American hunting dog; modern strains of bird dogs and hounds, and their field training by Warren H. Miller

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WARREN H. MILLER

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Trieste



THE TENSE MOMENT-QUARL SCENT!

THE AMERICAN HUNTING DOG

MODERN STRAINS OF BIRD DOGS AND HOUNDS, AND THEIR FIELD TRAINING

BY

WARREN H. MILLER

Former Editor of Field and Stream AUTHOR OF "CAMPING OUT," "RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS," "THE BOY'S BOOK OF HUNTING AND FISHING," ETC.

ILLUSTRATED



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This volume is written to furnish an up-todate book confined exclusively to the breeds of American hunting dogs in use to-day. Without a dog, sports afield are apt to prove rather barren in results in the game bag. Never before have American sportsmen relied so much on the dog as a finder of game. Our coverts are depleted compared to the abundance that obtained thirty years ago. It takes the fine, sensitive gift of a dog's instinct to locate game nowadays. Without him the day is likely to be one of exasperation due to game flushing without warning or good covers hunted without starting anything. With him a satisfactory day's bag can be had in any part of our country where there is wild land, even quite near the great cities.

The love of a dog is a fine and noble thing. There is no quid pro quo in his affection. He has no thought of service for hire, nor reward for his invaluable aid, save that you love him as he loves you. All the rest is service, given freely and

loyally. To combine this dog-love with the wonderfully gifted genius of a fine hunting dog seems the acme of canine destiny. If you are to own a dog, or several of them, why not have one that can share and appreciate your days in the great outdoors?

In all this age of hustle and change there is one subject that is timeless, perennial-dogs. They do not change-thank heaven! They are with us, as always, our hunting friends, our home guards, our bosom chums. Here in this volume we collected with much effort a rather complete Who'swho of dogdom in all the more popular hunting dog breeds. The great dog families do not change. You will find them to-day producing champions as of yore. All you have to do with the dog famous to-day is to connect him up by his dam and sire with the great hierarchies given in this book for seven generations back, and you know all about him there is to know. The matter is of importance to the dog buyer, for the pedigree of his pup is his only guide as to what sort of dog he may expect. Any pedigree sent you by a dog dealer to-day will surely connect with the pedigrees in this book or else it may be regarded with suspicion.

The subject of raising and training dogs is

vi

timeless. There is nothing new to offer. I wish there was one thing new, a sure serum for distemper. That dread scourge is still unconquered, but we at least have had a considerable advance in the potency of the serums in the last five years.

I would like to call your attention here to the last half of this book. It is of most unusual format. Instead of an academic discussion. I used here excerpts direct from life on all matters connected with training, feeding, and hygiene of dogs. During the seven years that I was editor of Field & Stream literally thousands of inquiries similar to these came in to me. I doctored dogs by mail all over the country. It was part of my regular editorial work, and drew no reward save the thanks of anxious dog owners, but these letters are rich and racy with the life of hunting-dog people. You see us there, not merely talking about the sick dog but *doing* something for him. The same with training, correcting faults, feeding, housing, all the thousand and one things that come up in connection with our four-footed friends. I know of no more forcible way of presenting to you your own dog problems than to let you see us actually solving them, a real owner writing the inquiry, the editor replying to the best of his ability. And I'll match any human doctor as to

vii

the per cent of those who died compared to the per cent who got well!

The purpose of this volume is to tell how to choose a hunting companion intelligently from the selection of dogs that are living to-day; how to raise him from puppyhood to maturity; how to train him for staunch and efficient field service; how to doctor him when he is sick and how to keep him well.

WARREN H. MILLER.

EAST GLOUCESTER, MASS.

viii