

Nillson,³² a wolf-whelp reared by a bitch barks. I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire exhibited a jackal which barked with the same tone as any common dog.³³ An interesting account has been given by Mr. G. Clarke³⁴ of some dogs run wild on Juan de Nova, in the Indian Ocean; "they had entirely lost the faculty of barking; they had no inclination for the company of other dogs, nor did they acquire their voice," during a captivity of several months. On the island they "congregate in vast packs, and catch sea-birds with as much address as foxes could display." The feral dogs of La Plata have not become dumb; they are of large size, hunt singly or in packs, and burrow holes for their young.³⁵ In these habits the feral dogs of La Plata resemble wolves and jackals; both of which hunt either singly or in packs, and burrow holes.³⁶ These feral dogs have not become uniform in colour on Juan Fernandez, Juan de Nova, or La Plata.³⁷ In Cuba the feral dogs are described by Poeppig as nearly all mouse-coloured, with short ears and light-blue eyes. In St. Domingo, Col. Ham. Smith says³⁸ that the feral dogs are very large, like greyhounds, of a uniform pale blue-ash, with small ears, and large light-brown eyes. Even the wild Dingo, though so anciently naturalised in Australia, "varies considerably in colour," as I am informed by Mr. P. P. King: a half-bred Dingo reared in England³⁹ showed signs of wishing to burrow.

From the several foregoing facts we see that reversion in the feral state gives no indication of the colour or size of the aboriginal

³² Quoted by L. Lloyd in 'Field Sports of North of Europe,' vol. i. p. 387.

³³ Quatrefages, 'Soc. d'Acclimat.,' May 11th, 1863, p. 7.

³⁴ 'Annals and Mag. of Nat. Hist.' vol. xv., 1845, p. 140.

³⁵ Azara, 'Voyages dans l'Amér. Mérid.,' tom. i. p. 381; his account is fully confirmed by Rengger. Quatrefages gives an account of a bitch brought from Jerusalem to France which burrowed a hole and littered in it. See 'Discours, Exposition des Races Canines,' 1865, p. 3.

³⁶ With respect to wolves burrowing holes, see Richardson, 'Fauna Boreali-Americana,' p. 64; and Bechstein, 'Naturgeschichte Deutschlands,' b. i. s. 617.

³⁷ See Poeppig, 'Reise in Chile,' B. i. s. 290; Mr. G. Clarke, as above; and Rengger, s. 155.

³⁸ Dogs, 'Nat. Library,' vol. x. p. 121; an endemic South American dog seems also to have become feral in this island. See Gosse's 'Jamaica,' p. 340.

³⁹ Low, 'Domesticated Animals,' p. 650.