

with an unequal number on the two sides.⁶⁵ Dogs have properly five toes in front and four behind, but a fifth toe is often added; and F. Cuvier states that, when a fifth toe is present, a fourth cuneiform bone is developed; and, in this case, sometimes the great cuneiform bone is raised, and gives on its inner side a large articular surface to the astragalus; so that even the relative connection of the bones, the most constant of all characters, varies. These modifications, however, in the feet of dogs are not important, because they ought to be ranked, as De Blainville has shown,⁶⁶ as monstrosities. Nevertheless they are interesting from being correlated with the size of the body, for they occur much more frequently with mastiffs and other large breeds than with small dogs. Closely allied varieties, however, sometimes differ in this respect; thus Mr. Hodgson states that the black-and-tan Lassa variety of the Thibet mastiff has the fifth digit, whilst the Mustang sub-variety is not thus characterised. The extent to which the skin is developed between the toes varies much; but we shall return to this point. The degree to which the various breeds differ in the perfection of their senses, dispositions, and inherited habits is notorious to every one. The breeds present some constitutional differences: the pulse, says Youatt,⁶⁷ "varies materially according to the breed, as well as to the size of the animal." Different breeds of dogs are subject in different degrees to various diseases. They certainly become adapted to different climates under which they have long existed. It is notorious that most of our best European breeds deteriorate in India.⁶⁸ The Rev R. Everest⁶⁹ believes that no one has succeeded in keeping the Newfoundland dog long alive in India; so it is, according to Lichtenstein,⁷⁰ even at the Cape of Good Hope. The Thibet mastiff degenerates on the plains of India, and can live only on the mountains.⁷¹ Lloyd⁷² asserts that our bloodhounds and bulldogs have been tried, and cannot withstand the cold of the northern European forests.

Seeing in how many characters the races of the dog differ

⁶⁵ Quoted by Col. Ham. Smith in 'Nat. Lib.,' vol. x. p. 79.

⁶⁶ De Blainville, 'Ostéographie, Canidæ,' p. 134. F. Cuvier, 'Annales du Muséum,' tom. xviii. p. 342. In regard to mastiffs, see Col. H. Smith, 'Nat. Lib.' vol. x. p. 218. For the Thibet mastiff, see Mr. Hodgson in 'Journal of As. Soc. of Bengal,' vol. i., 1832, p. 342.

⁶⁷ 'The Dog,' 1845, p. 186. With respect to diseases, Youatt asserts (p. 167) that the Italian greyhound is "strongly subject" to polypi in the matrix or vagina. The spaniel and pug (p. 182) are most liable to bron-

chocele. The liability to distemper (p. 232) is extremely different in different breeds. On the distemper, see also Col. Hutchinson on 'Dog Breaking,' 1850, p. 279.

⁶⁸ See Youatt on the Dog, p. 15; 'The Veterinary,' London, vol. xi. p. 235.

⁶⁹ 'Journal of As. Soc. of Bengal,' vol. iii. p. 19.

⁷⁰ 'Travels,' vol. ii. p. 15.

⁷¹ Hodgson, in 'Journal of As. Soc. of Bengal,' vol. i. p. 342.

⁷² 'Field Sports of the North or Europe,' vol. ii. p. 165.