

Article by Mrs Noney Fleming

Written in 1923

In this short resume of my Cairn Terriers I propose to leave out the usual eulogistic phrases, letting the deeds of the dogs themselves determine their "place in the sun." Though I intend dealing with only living Terriers, exception must be made in the case of my late friend Loch Scolter out of The West, the foundress of my kennel and the progenitor of many of the leading winners of today. Her name is but a name only to most of the present-day exhibitors, for owing to the war she was but little shown, but had time to gain one of the first challenge certificates in the breed, also a working certificate, and was the only Cairn Terrier granted a breeding licence by the Kennel Club during the Great War. Among her children were Ch Froach Gael and Ch Bagpipes, both American Champions and exported by me during the war.



Rime Out of the West

Her son Sgitheach Dearg Out Of The West, born in July 1914, and whose career was perforce cut short by the war, is the holder of two challenge certificates and a working certificate, and was the first Cairn to be awarded the Balavil Cup (offered for best type of working Cairn) He is known to the majority if to-day's exhibitors only through his progeny, among which are Ch Lassie Out Of The West, Shinnel Simon, Scout of Keycol, and Slogan, always high up at the recent shows; and of the American Champion, Tempest.



Shinnel Simon

Sgitheach is over ten, but is siring as surely and strongly as when he was a year old. Of all Sgitheach male progeny I think the best is Shinnel Simon, and by the courtesy of his owner, Mrs Morrison, I am able to include his portrait amongst those of my kennel. For I am very proud of Simon: he is a real chip off the old block in fearlessness and character, and always keeps his winning end up. He was reserve champion at Richmond this year, beating my own Ch Quicksilver Out Of The West, and – what I value more – has been at two shows best Sporting dog – once as a puppy and once just lately.

When I brought Loch Scolter it took me nine months to find her; when I brought Doughall I had searched for him for nine years. Then at a certain show two dark eyes met mine across the ring and I knew I had found my dog. Doughall Out Of The West: what shall I say of him! This wonderful dog of mine, even though yet only five years old – winner three times of the stud dog class and never beaten yet therein! He is the sire of Ch Fury, indisputably the Greatest Cairn of all times up to date, winner of ten challenge certificates (one Irish), many times best of all breeds in the show, and almost invariably placed in Grand Challenge. The performance at Brighton this year of Doughall's progeny has never been equalled, for his daughter Ch Bonfire, won the bitch certificate; his son Fisherman the dog certificate; and Ch Fury (purposely not entered in her breed classes) stepped into the ring and flinched from her sister the special for Best Cairn bitch.



Ch Fisherman Out of the West

At the "Royal" Show this year Doughall put up another record, winning the Stud Dog class when accompanied by NINE of his progeny. There was no "sorting out" of his best, I pitch-forked them all in (everything in the show sired by him), knowing that not one would handicap my dog.

Just as Doughall's progeny has won more certificates than any other Cairn sire, dead or alive, so has the progeny of my Kyley Out Of The West won more certificates than the progeny of any other Cairn dam, dead or alive. She is the mother of Ch Fury, Ch Bonfire, Fisherman and Rime; also the first prize winners Spunkie, Brogach, Peter The Great, and McDougal, both Spunkie and McDougal having been on occasions the best Cairn in show. Other brood bitches in my kennel are Loch Scolter's two daughters, Cuckoo (challenge certificate winner) and Dileas (best in show at Sandy then ruined for exhibition by being mauled by a mongrel); and Eorna, litter sister to Ch Fury and dam of Scout and Slogan.



Out of the West Head Study

The oldest in my happy company is my little old Speedwell, winner of three reserve certificates before the war, and now over eleven years old, but as hale and hearty and GAME as when she was awarded a working certificate in 1915. I love her best of all my dogs.

NONEY FLEMING 1923.