MAN AND BEAST

Taken from: HERE AND HERE AFTER - original anecdotes - By the Rev. J.G.Wood, M.A., F.L.S. 1875

A curious and rather ludicrous instance of cheatery on the part of the dog was observed by one of my friends. He has three little black and tan terriers, father, mother and daughter, which are great pets and consider the house as their own property. Like most pet dogs, they have their favorite spots by way of couches; and as they all three generally take a fancy to the same spot, there is occasionally a difference of opinion and a slight loss of temper. The one pet spot of all is a soft cushion at the head of a sofa. Now the cushion had accompanied easily the father and the mother; but when the daughter came. and in course of time, wanted her share of the couch, it was found that the quarters were rather to limited for comfort, especially as the daughter persisted in growing until she reached the size of her parents. One day, the father and daughter had got into the room first, and according to custom made straight way for the cushion, on which they established themselves comfortably, occupying the whole of it's surface. Presently, the mother came in, and also went to the cushion. She tried to take her place on it, but her husband was to selfish and her daughter too undutiful to move, and in consequence she had to retire. Presently, she went to the farthest corner of the room, and suddenly began to scratch violently, barking, growling, and sniffing as if she were digging out a rat! Up jumped the others, all blazing with excitement, and anxious to have their share of the sport. As soon as they got their noses well down in the corner, the mother ran to the sofa at full speed, jumped on the cushion, curled herself around, and was happy. However, she was generous in victory and made room for her husband and daughter as they came back to the sofa crest-fallen and humiliated. * * ** * ** * * * * A lady writes to me to say that a friend of hers has two dogs-one a Newfoundland, and the other a small black and tan terrier. They are both good water dogs, and are now in the habit of swimming about together. But on the first occasion after their introduction to each other, when the terrier jumped into the water, the Newfoundland dog sprang in after him and put him on the bank, evidently thinking that he had fallen accidentally into the water and might be drowned!