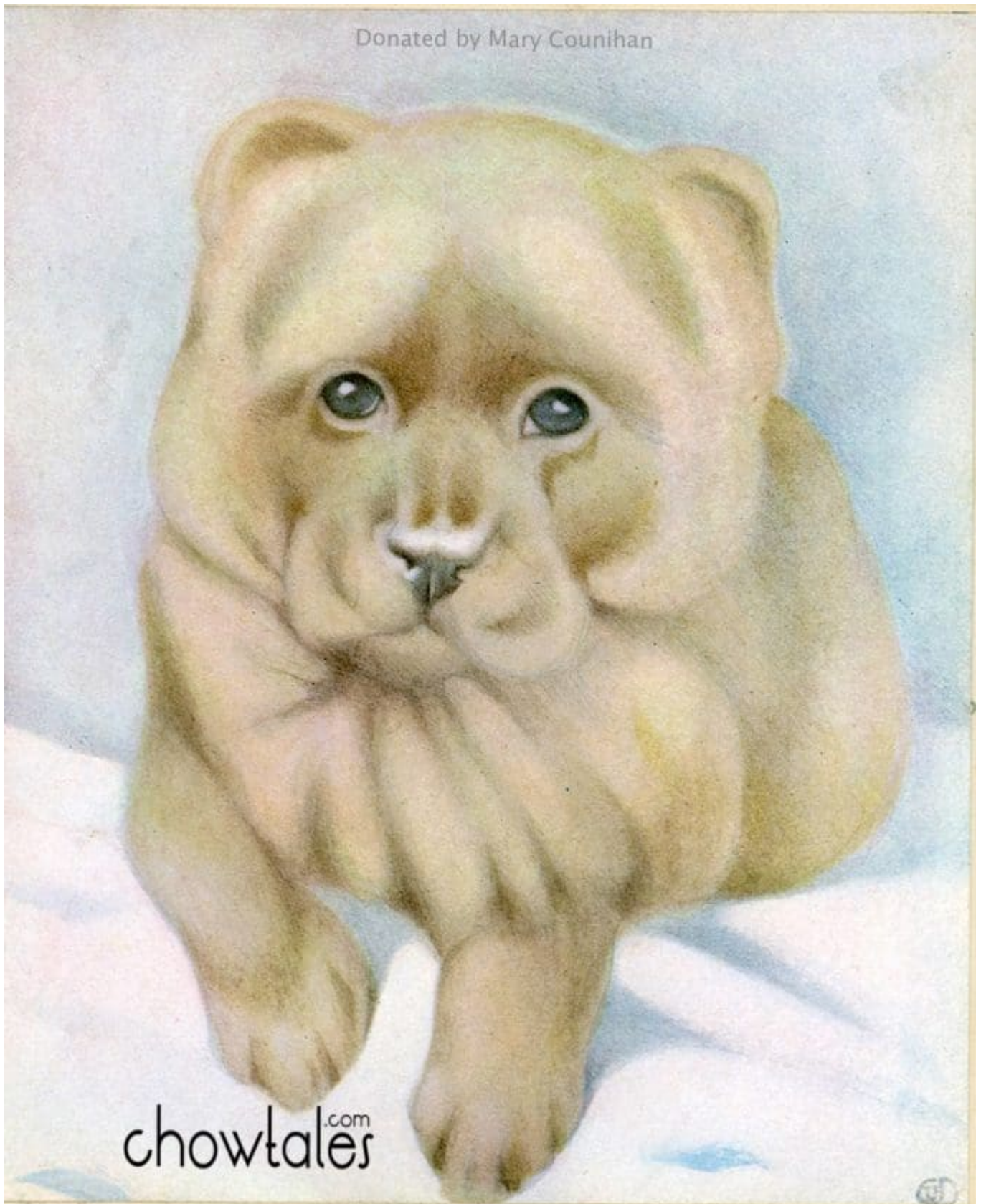


**1914 E.J. Detmold Chow
Illustration – The Book of
Baby Dogs**

Donated by Mary Counihan



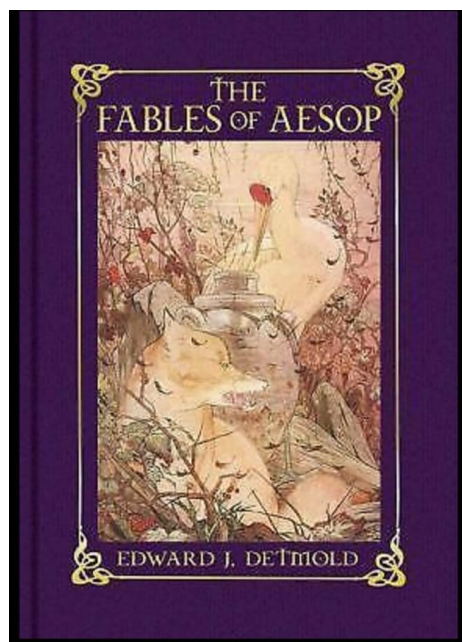
1914 Chromolithograph by artist E.J. Detmold - Famous Illustrator of
Aesop Fables, Hans Christian Anderson, and Arabian Nights

This unusual 93 year old chromolithograph is from the book
"FABRE'S BOOK OF BABY DOGS" by E.J. Detmold, published in 1914

by Hodder & Stoughton of New York. E J Detmold (1883-1957) and his twin brother Maurice were prolific Victorian book illustrators. Maurice died in 1908 from inhaling chloroform.

Detmold was a well known illustrator of children's books including The Fables of Aesop, Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales, and the Arabian Nights. You can certainly see his original style coming through in his unique rendition of the chow puppy

There is a wonderful 4 page chapter on the chow from the same book (below) which accompanied the illustration . Thank you to Mary Counihan for donating this wonderful find to the archive !



CLICK THUMBNAILS BELOW TO READ THE STORY INCLUDED WITH THE
CHOW ILLUSTRATION

THE CHOW-CHOW

CHINA, that country of so many peculiar things, is the home of the Chow-Chow; and he is a very peculiar dog, at least in one respect. He has a blue-black tongue, as though his chief food consisted of damson tart—a thing of which no European dog can boast. How it became so, or why, or when, or whether a tongue of that colour has any advantage over a red one, we do not know; but the Chow-Chow is entitled to whatever satisfaction is to be had from possessing such a singular feature.

In spite of this distinction, probably no English dog would wish to change places with the Chow-Chow, at any rate in his native land. The Chinaman evidently has not the same respect for dogs that Western peoples have, for he values the Chow-Chow, not as a friend and companion, but as an article of food. The very name Chow-Chow, indeed, is that curious mixture of languages spoken in Chinese courts, means something good to eat.

But this is not the only useful purpose served by the Chow-Chow. In the colder and more remote parts of China his fur is turned to account for clothing. There, too, Chows are kept as Foxhounds are in this country, and made to hunt in packs.

At home, therefore, the Chow-Chow is a servicable, if not highly respected, animal; but like many human beings, he has left his native shores to better his condition. He is now quite a familiar figure in England and other European countries, where he finds himself much higher in the social scale, and his lot is a great deal happier. He has been made a pet of; he is exhibited at shows, where he is a class by himself; and his good qualities as a watch-dog are generally appreciated.

His appearance is not altogether pleasant. He wears a scowl that forbids anyone to take liberties with him; but this must not be regarded as a true guide to his feelings, for it is partly due to the fact that his ears are placed rather low down over his eyes. He shows affection towards his master, but is suspicious of a stranger. He is not quick to make friends.

He is not, however, so suspicious as to change its spots; and it must not be expected that the Chow-Chow has completely got rid of all his old savage instincts—instincts for which he is valued in another part of the world. For hundreds, perhaps thousands, of years he has been a hunting dog, and now and then the old love of the chase flashes out in him. He will eagerly seize the opportunity of doing a little quiet poaching if no one is at hand to call him back; and it gives him the greatest delight to hustle a flock of sheep into activity. He also enjoys a dog fight; but that, if it be a fault, is one which he shares in common with many other breeds.

In China the Chow-Chow is kept on a vegetarian diet. His food consists largely of rice—no doubt from necessity rather than choice; but in Europe he does as other dogs do, and relishes a piece of meat with the best of them. Of course, in his wilder state he had to catch and kill his food before he could eat it, so that meat must be more to his natural taste than grain.

The Chow-Chow is a big, muscular dog, with a stout heavy body and a short thick neck—which

the run of hair encircling it. This is a characteristic feature of the Chow, as of the Pomeranian. His muzzle, however, is very different from that of the latter dog, for it is broad and blunt. His ears are pointed and he carries them erect. His tail forms a coil which, after turning up over his back, falls down on one side.

There are both long-haired and smooth-coated Chows. In colour they may be black, red, white or yellow; but whatever it is, it is generally the same all over the body. It is not often that we find patchy or piebald Chows.

What is Chromolithography? This is the first true multi-color printing method, previously color had been applied by hand. It was first started

in the 1830's. The process was based on lithography (printing from stone slabs), but extended so that a stone was used for each color and each separate color was laid on top of the previous one.... thus the paper sheet was printed on several times before the print was finished. This required both a number of stones (adding to the expense) and a very precise method for laying the stones, if each stone is not positioned identically to the one before, then the colors appear out of register – similiar to the ghosting effect on a television that is out of tune.

As the century progressed Chromolithography became more intricate and as many as twenty-five stones were employed and some wonderful and highly artistic results obtained.

The Victorians loved this method of printing because of its rich colouring and many books were bound with chromolithographic prints. Many childrens' books included this type of print. An important publication was of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee representing her reign from 1837 until the Diamond Jubilee in 1897 in which included several chromolithographed prints which were enhanced with gold or silver.