noon be but wip inne pe parke. After pat pey be After that they have withdrawn from the hinds wip Rawe from he hyndes hei putte hem in herdes they go in herds and in company, with young or and in soppes1 with be raskaile,2 and abiden in lean stags2 and abide in waste lands and on heathes for to take be heete of be sunne, bei bene poor of the sun, they are poor and lean for the travail a soppe in to be monethe of Marche bat bei mve 3 here hornes, and comonly some rathere ban some ober, aftere bat bei be old dere, and some lattere after that thei be yong dere, eiber bat bei han had an hard wynter or bat bei haue be hunted, or that bei haue be seke, and ban bei mwen here hedes and lattere commel to good poynt. And whan bei han mewed here heuedes bei taken be stronge buskes as prevely as bei may til here heuedes be woxen azene, and bei commen in to greet; aftir bei seke good contre of metyng of corne of apples of vynes of tendere wexyn of trees, of pesen,4 of benes, of obere fruytes and grasses, wherby bei lyve. And somtyme a greet hert hath a nober felawe that is called his squiere for he is withe hym which done as he wil, and bere bei wil abyde al that sesoun so that bei be notte lette, into be laste eende of August, and ban bei bygynne to loke, and to benk, and to boln, and to belewe, and to stirre hem from be haunt in be whiche bei have al the sesoun, for to go seke be hyndes. Thei rekeuere heere hornes and someth here tyndes as mony as bei shal haue borgh alle the yere, from March that bei han mwed hem in to the myddel of June, and ban ben thei rekeuered of here new here pt men callen polisshed, and her hornes bene rekeuered with a soft here, pat hunters calle beluez at the bigynneng and vndir that skynn and bat here, be hornes wexen hard and sharpe and aboute Marie Magdalenes day,5 bei fray here hornes to be trees and haven away bat skynn frome here hornys, and ban wexe bei hard and stronge, and pan bei go to burnyssh and make hem sharpe into colers places 6 pat men make somtyme in be greet graues. And zif bei mowe non fynde bei goo azeinst corners of Rokkes or to crabtre or hawthorne or oper trees.7 pei be half in grese or per aboute be tyme of myddel of June whan here hede is ysomed, and bei bene heyest in grece in August alle the moneth duryng. Comonly bei ben calued in May and the hynde bereb he calf ix monthenys,

laundes and in hethe more pan pei do in woodes more than they do in woods for to enjoy the heat and leve for be trauaille that bei han had wib be they have had with the hinds, and for the winter, hendes, and for be wynter and be litel mede bat and the little meat that they find. After that bei fynden. After bat be leue the raskaile bei they leave the rascal and gather together with gadere hem to togydere ii. or iii. or iiii. hertes in two or three or four harts in company till the month of March when they mew 3 their horns, and commonly some sooner than others according to whether they be old deer, and some later if they be young deer, or that they have had a hard winter, or that they have been hunted, or that they have been sick, for then they mew their heads and later come to good points. And when they have mewed their heads they take to the thick bushes as privily as they may, till their heads are grown again, and they are in grease, after they seek good country for feeding of corn, of apples, of vines, of tender growing trees, of peas, of beans, and other fruits and grasses whereby they live. And sometimes a great hart hath another fellow with him that is called his squire, for he is with him and doth as he will. And so they will abide all that season if they be not hindered until the last end of August. And then they begin to look, and to think and to bellow and to bolne, and to stir from the haunt in which they have been all the season, for to seek the hinds. They recover their horns and are summed of their tines as many as they will carry all the year between March when they mewed them to the middle of June; and then they be recovered of their new hair that men call polished and their horns be covered with a soft hair that hunters call velvet at the beginning. And under that skin and that hair the horn grows hard and sharp, and about Mary Magdalene day 5 they fray their horns against the trees, and have (rubbed) away that skin from their horns and then grow they hard and strong, and then they go to burnish and make them sharp in the colliers places,6 that men make sometimes in the great groves. And if they can find none they go against the corners of rocks or to crabbe trees or to hawthorn or other trees.7

> They be half in grease or thereabouts by the middle of June when their head is summed, and they are highest in grease during all August. Commonly they are calved in May, and the hind

lates these last five words, "c'est à dire qu'il n'y a de paix que lorsque les biches sont pleines." In the exceedingly faulty first edition by Verard, the word "part" is printed "parc," as it is in our MS. of the "Master of Game." See Appendix: Hart.

or perabout as a sowe,1 and sum tyme hath iii2 pat (sic) pe calue sumtyme rathere, and somtyme lattere, by myche after pat pe causes and resons be. of August, and ban bei turne a reed of heere as be hert and be hinde, and bat tyme bei rennen so fast pat an hare3 shuld haue ynowe to doon to ouyrtake hym wib in an haronsblast4 shoote. Many man jugeth be deere of mony coloure of heere and specially of iii colours some ben called broun some donn and some 3elowe heere, and also here heuedes ben of diuers maners that oon is cleped an heued wel growe, that oper is cleped wel yfeted;5 and wel affetedis, whan be heued is wexen by ordynaunce aftir be nek and be shap, whan be tyndis bene wel growe in he beem by good mesure that oon nye pat oper pan is it cleped wel affeted, wel ygrowe is whan be hede is of grete beemes and is wel affeted and thyk tynede wel hei and wel opned.6 That othere heed is called counterfeet,7 It is whan she differenseth and is ober waies turned be hynde or awayward in other maner ban other comon deere bene custumed to bere. That other hie heed is open euel afeted with longe tyndes, and fewe. That oper is lowe and grete, and wel feted wib smale tyndes. And be first tynde bat is next be hede is cleped Aunteler, And be secound Riall, and the thred above Susreal, and be tyndes,8 whiche bene ycleped fourth 3if they be tweyn, and 3if bei be bre or fowyr or moo it is cleped trochyng. And whan here he nedes bene burnysshed at be Coliers puttes comonly bei bene blak alway, and also comonly whan bei bene burnysshed at the Coliers bei bene blak for be erbe whiche is blak of her kynde, and whan bei bene burnysshed agayn Roche, þan þei abiden al white, but some han here heedes white of kynde and some blake and whan bei bene about to burnysshe hem, bei smyten be ground wib be fete, and waltren hem as an hors. And ban bei burnysshe here heedes and whan bei be burnysshed be which bei doon al be month of Jvill bei abide in pat matere in to be feest of be holy9 in Septembre,10 and ban bei goon to Rutt as I haue seid, And pe first yere pat pei ben calfed pei ben called a Calf, be secounde yeer a bulloke and bat yere and so forb go to Rutte be iii yere a broket be iiii

beareth her calf nine months or thereabout as calues at oon calvyng tyme, and y say not but þat a sow,1 and sometimes she has three2 calves at a calving time. And I say not that they do not calve sometime sooner and sometime later for different The calues byn icallued in an heere rede and causes and reasons. The calves are calved with white, and lasteb hem bat coloure into be hende hair red and white which lasteth them that colour into the end of August, and then they turn red of hair, as the hart and the hind. And at that time they run so fast that a hare3 should have enough to do to overtake him within the shot of an arbalast.4 Many men judgeth the deer of many colours of hair and especially of three colours. Some are called brown, some dun and some yellow haired. And also their heads are of divers manners, the one is called a head well grown, the other is called well affeted,5 and well affeted is when the head is well grown by ordinance according to the neck and shape. When the tines be well grown in the beam by good measure, one near the other, then it is called well affeted. Well grown is when the head is of great beam and is well affeted and thick tined, well high and well opened.6 That other head is called counterfeit7 when it is different and is otherwise turned behind or wayward in other manner than other common deer be accustomed to bear. That other high head is open, evil affeted with long tines and few. That other is low and great and well affeted with small tines. And the first tine that is next the head is called antler and the second the royal and the third above the sur-royal, and the other tines 8 are called forked if they be two, and if they be three or four or more it is called troching. And when their heads are burnished at the colliers' pits commonly they be always black and also commonly when they be burnished at the colliers' pits they be black on account of the earth which is black of its kind. And when they are burnished against rock they remain all white, but some have their heads naturally white and some black. And when they are about to burnish they smite the ground with their feet and welter like a horse and then they burnish their heads. And when they burnish which they do all the month of July and abide in that manner till the feast of the Holy 9 Cross in September 10 and then they go to rut as I have said.

The first year that they be calved they be called a calf; the second year a bullock; and that year they go forth to rut; the third year a brocket;

² Rascal, i.e., young lean deer. ¹ Sop, i.e., troop. ⁵ July 22. ⁴ Peas. ³ Shed their antlers. See Appendix: Antlers. ⁷ G. d. F., p. 14, says the harts go to gravel-pits and bogs to fray. ⁶ Charcoal pits.

¹ The transcriber's mistake. It should be "cow." ² G. d. F. has "2 calves" as it should be. ³ G. d. F. has "greyhound," as it should be (p. 15): "Et dès lors vont ils jà si tost que un levrier a assés à fere de l'ateindre, ainsi comme un trait d'archaleste" ("and from that time they go so quickly that a greyhound has as much to do to catch him as he would the bolt from a crossbow")

^{4 &}quot;Arcbaleste" (G. d. F., p. 15) or crossbow. ⁵ Well proportioned. See Appendix: Antlers. ⁶ A good spread. ⁷ Abnormal. 8 Shirley MS. has addition here: "Which be on top." ⁹ The word "Cross" omitted; the Shirley and other MSS. have it. 10 September 14.