for a man maye knowe a male from þe Emelle as by hure feet and by hure fumes, þat þe haue not a grete a taille[1] ne þei gadire no venyson as y haue sayde, and þe grettest grece that þei mowe haue wiþ inne it is whan hure kydeneys be keuered alle white. Whan þe houndes huntede after þe Roo buk þei turne ageyn into her haunte and somtyme þei turne agayn vpon the houndes,[2] and whan þei se that þei mow not dure[3] þan þei voyden þe contre and renne ryght longe or þei be dede and ronnen in and out a longe tyme, and breken þe brokes in þe wise as þe hert dothe. And ȝif þe Roo buk were as faire a best as þe hert I hold þat it were a fayre huntyng þan of þe hert for it lasteth al þe yere and it is a good huntyng and of a greet maystre for þei rennen ryght longe and gynnously and for alle þat þei mwe here hedes they reburny[s]h ne repayren not here heere in to þe newe gras tyme. It is a diuers beest for he dothe no þing after þe nature of eny oþere beest, and he foloweþ men in to here houses. For whan he is hunted til he be ouercome he ne woote[4] neuir where he goþ. The Roo buckes flesshe is moost hoolsom to ete of eny oþere wilde beestes flesshe they lyuen with good herbes and withe other wodes, with vynes, wiþ breres and wiþ hawthorns,[5] withe leeues[6] and with al wexyng of yonge trees.[7] Whan þe Emel haþ hure kiddes she doþ al in þe wyse as y haue said of þe hynde whan þei ben in bokeyng þei syngen ryght a foule songe, for it semethe þei goo to as þei were bitte wiþ houndes[8] and whan þei renne al at ease they rennen euere with lepes, but whan þei bene wery or folowed with houndes þan þei rennen kyndely[9] and some tyme þei croteyn[10] and goon a paas, and sumtyme þei hasten hem and lepen nouȝt, and þan men sayn of þe Roo buk þat he haþ lost his lepis, and þei seyn a mysse, for euer he leueþ his lepis whan he is wele hasted, and also whan he is wery. Whan he renneth at þe begynnyng as I haue said he renneþ with lepis and with rugged and stondyng eeren, and þe eres[11] and þe tayle cropyng vp al white. And whan he hathe renne longe he leithe his heer slyke doun and nat stondyng ne rugged and his heres ben not soo white, and whan he may no longer renne than he comethe and ȝeeldeth

know the male from the female by her feet or by her fumes.

They have not a great tail[1] and do not gather venison as I have said, the greatest grease that they may have within is when the kidneys be covered all white (with suet). When the hounds hunt after the roebuck they turn again into their haunts and sometimes turn again to the hounds.[2] When they see that they cannot last[3] they leave the country and run right long ere they be dead. And they run in and out a long time and beat the brooks in the same way a hart doth. And if the roebuck were as fair a beast as the hart, I hold that it were a fairer hunting than that of the hart, for it lasteth all the year and is good hunting and requires great mastery, for they run right long and cunningly. Although they mew their heads they do not reburnish them, nor repair their hair till new grass time. It is a peculiar beast, for it doth nothing after the nature of any other beast, and he followeth men into their houses, for when he is hunted and overcome he knoweth not where he goeth. The flesh of the roebuck is the most wholesome to eat of any other wild beast's flesh, they live on good herbs and other woods and vines and on briars and hawthorns[5] and on beechmast[6] and on everything growing on young trees.[7] When the female has her kids she does all in the manner as I have said of a hind. When they be in bucking they sing a right ugly song, for it seemeth as if they were bitten by hounds.[8] When they run at their ease they run with leaps, but when they are weary or followed by hounds they run naturally and sometimes they trot or go apace, and sometimes they hasten and do not leap, and then men say that the roebuck hath lost his leaps, and they say amiss, for he ever leaves off leaping when he is well hasted and also when he is weary.

When he runneth at the beginning, as I have said, he runneth with leaps and with rugged standing hair and the target and the tail cropping up all white.

And when he hath run long his hair lyeth sleek down, not standing nor rugged and his target does not show so white.

And when he can run no longer he cometh and

[1] G. d. F., p. 37, says here: "Ils n'ont pas trop grant vent."

[2] "They ring about in their own country, and often bound back to the hounds" would be a better translation. Turbervile says: "When they are hunted they turne much and come often directly backe upon the dogges." Edition 1611, p. 143.

[3] From the French *durer*, to last. G. d. F., p. 37, adds here the words: "or have been coursed with greyhounds."

[4] Knows not.

[5] G. d. F. says "acorns."

[6] G. d. F., p. 38, says "beachmast" (*fayne*). In the faulty first edition by Verard it reads "*feves*," which means beans, and this is the rendering in Shirley MS.

[7] In Shirley MS. "old trees."

[8] G. d. F., p. 39, says: "it seems like a goat that hounds have hold of."

[9] Naturally. Cent. Dict.

[10] Croteyn is a mistake of the transcriber, who has made a "c" out of a "t." In the Shirley MS. it is "trotteth."

[11] Middle English *ars*, hinder parts called target of roebuck.