swoor to here bifore his men. And it byfelle so pat be Kyng Claudoneus sone of Fraunce was besyde his fadir. Sir, she saide, here is your sone be whiche hab don bis dede nowe I require yow as ye haue sworn to me pat ze yefe hym to me for I wil non other 3ift of yow. The Knyng Claudoneus turnyd hym þan toward his sone and said thus: thou cursed harlot, bou hast shamyd and shent me and trewly I shal shende be, and bogh I haue no mo childryn zit shal I not spare. Thane he comaunded his men to make a grete fire and caste his sone therynn, And ban he turnyd hym toward the damyselle whan be fyre was grete ilight, and bus to here said, Damysel now take hym for I delyuer him to yow as I be hoot, and 30u assured. The damysel durst not come nye for pat tyme for pat tyme he was al brent. Thus ensaumple haue I brouzt forthe for the noblenesse of houndes and also of lordes bat han be of olde tyme. But I trowe pat fewe lordes byn now pat wold do so even and so open justice. An hounde is trewe to his lord or to his maystere and of good loue or verrey, an hounde is of greet vndirstondyng and of greet knowynge, a hound greet strength and grete bounte,1 An hounde is a wise beest and a kynde, an hounde hab greet mynde and greet smellyng,2 An hounde hab grete bisynesse and greet myzt, an hounde is of greet wurthynes and of greet sotilte, a hound listnesse and of greet purueaunce, an hounde is of good obeysaunce, for he wil lerne as a man al that a man wil teche hym, a hounde is ful of good sport, houndes ben so good bat vnnebes ther nys no man comonly bat ne wold haue of hem som for oo craft and some for anober, Houndes ben hardy for oon hounde dare wel kepe his maisters hous, and his beest and also he wil kepe al his maistres goodes, and rabere he wil be dede ban eny ping be lost in his kepyng. And 3it to afferme pe noblenesse of houndes I shal you telle a tale of a greyhounde pat was Aubries of Moundydier 3 be which men may se poynted in be reame of Fraunce in many places. þat Aubery was a squyer of be Kynges hous of Fraunce, and vpon a day he was goyng fro be courte to his owyn hous and as he passyd by be woodes of boondes be which byn nye Paris and led wib hym a wel good and a faire greihounde pat he had norshed up, A man þat hated hym for greet envie wibout eny other reson, And was cleped Makarie ranne vpon him wibin be wood and slow hym without warnyng for Aubry was not ware of hym. And whan be greihounde sougthte his

hath done the deed," and the King swore to her before his men, and it so befell that the King Clodoveus son of France was beside his father. "Sir," she said, "here is your son the which hath done this deed. Now require I you as ye have sworn to me that ye give him to me, I will no other gift of you." The King Clodoveus of France turned him then towards his son and said thus: "Thou cursed harlot, thou hast shamed and disgraced me and truly I shall disgrace you. And though I have no more children yet shall I not spare." Then the king commanded to his men to make a great fire, and cast his son therein, and he turned him toward the damsel when the fire was great alight, and thus to her he said: "Damsel, now take ye him for I deliver him to you, as I promised and assured you." The damsel durst not come nigh, for by that time he was all burnt. This ensample have I brought forth for the nobleness of hounds and also of lords that have been in olden times. But I trow that few lords be now that would do so even and so open justice. A hound is true to his lord and his master, and of good love and true.

A hound is of great understanding and of great knowledge, a hound hath great strength and great goodness,1 a hound is a wise beast and a kind (one). A hound has a great memory and great smelling,2 a hound has great diligence and great might, a hound is of great worthiness and of great subtlety, a hound is of great lightness and of great perception, a hound is of good obedience, for he will learn as a man all that a man will teach him. A hound is full of good sport; hounds are so good that there is scarcely a man that would not have of them, some for one craft, and some for another. Hounds are hardy, for a hound dare well keep his master's house, and his beasts, and also he will keep all his master's goods, and he would sooner die than anything be lost in his keeping. And yet to affirm the nobleness of hounds, I shall tell you a tale of a greyhound that was Aubery's of Mondidier,3 of which men may see the painting in the realm of France in many places. Aubery was a squire of the king's house of France, and upon a day that he was going from the court to his own house, and as he passed by the woods of Bondis, the which is nigh Paris, and led with him a well good and a fair greyhound that he had brought up. A man that hated him for great envy without any other reason, who was called Makary, ran upon him within the wood and slew him without warning, for Aubery was not aware of him. And when the greyhound sought his master and found him he

1 G. de F. p. 84, "Chien a force et bonté."

² G. de F. says "sentement," good sense, feeling, or sympathy; ibid.

3 Spelling taken from G. de F. (p. 85) in modern text.

mayster and fonde hym ded he keuered hym withe erbe and with leeues with his clees and with moosel in be beest wise bat he myght. And whan he had be pere iii dayes and myght ne lenger abide for hounger he turnyd azein to be kynges court and ber he founde Makarey whiche was a greet gentilman and had slayn his maystir, And also as sone as the greyhound had perceyued Makarie he ranne vpon hym and shuld haue mayned hym, but 3if men had lette hym. The Kyng of Fraunce the whiche was wise and perceyueng askeng wat it was, and men tolde hym alle be sothe The greihounde toke from be boordes bat he myght, and brougt to his mayster and putte mete in his mouthe, And in he same he greyhounde did iii or iiii dayes. And ban be Kyng made men to folowe the greyhounde to se whider he bere the mete bat he toke in be court, And ban bei founde hym ded and beryed, the said Avbry and pan the Kyng as I haue said made come many of the men of his court and made hem strike the greyhoundes sydes and hym cherissh, and made his men lede hym by the Colier alonge by be hous but he steryd neuer, and ban bhe Kyng commaundide Makarie to take a gobett of bleyssh and 3if it to be greihounde and as sone as be greyhounde sey Makary he left the flesshe and wold a ronne vpon hym, And whan the Kyng sey pat he had greet suspeccion vpon Makarie he sayd to Makary ye must fyte azenst the greyhound And than he began to lowre but anoon be Kyng made hym betake in dede and oon of be kynnesmen of Auberie sey the grete mervaile of be greyhound and said bat he wold swere vpon the sacrament bat is custumed in sooche a caas for be greyhound, and Makarye swered in hat oher side, and han were hei ledde in to oure ladies Ile at Parys, and bere faught be greihounde and Makarie, be whiche Makerie had a gret ii handed staf and bo bei faught bat Makary was scomfited, and ban the Kyng comaunded bat be greyhound the whiche had Makarie vnder hym, shuld be take vp. And þan made inquere the sob of Makarie be which knowleched bat he had slayn Auberye in treson ben in joly in hure loue comonly, twies in the yere but bei haue no terme of her heet, for in euery tyme of be yere som been joly. Whan bei be a xii month oolde pei be come joly and ben joly while pat pei abide pe houndes wip eny defense xii daies or lasse 1 and somtyme xv daies after þat pei be of hoot nature or ot cold pe oon moor pan be other, or aftir that some in her plite bann some and also men may helpe him perto for 3if you zeue heme moche mete bei abide lenger in her hete

covered him with earth and with leaves with his claws and his muzzle in the best way that he could. And when he had been there three days and could no longer abide for hunger, he turned again to the king's court. There he found Makary, who was a great gentleman, who had slain his master, and as soon as the greyhound perceived Makary, he ran upon him, and would have maimed him, unless men had hindered him. The King of France, who was wise and a man of perception, asked what it was, and men told him the truth. The greyhound took from the boards what he could, and brought to his master and put meat in his mouth, and the same wise the greyhound did three days or four. And then the King made men follow the greyhound, for to see where he bear the meat that he took in the court. And then they found Aubery dead and buried. And then the King, as I have said, made come many men of his court, and made them stroke the greyhound's side, and cherish him and made his men lead him by the collar towards the house, but he never stirred. And then the King commanded Makary to take a small piece of flesh and give it to the greyhound. And as soon as the greyhound saw Makary, he left the flesh, and would have run upon him. And when the King saw that, he had great suspicions about Makary, and said (to) him that he must needs fight with the greyhound. And Makary began to laugh, but anon the King made him do the deed, and one of the kinsmen of Aubery saw the great marvel of the greyhound and said that he would swear upon the sacrament as is the custom in such a case for the greyhound, and Makary swore on the other side, and then they were led into our Lady's Isle at Paris and there fought the greyhound and Makary. For which Makary had a great twohanded staff, and they fought so that Makary was discomfitted, and then the King commanded that the greyhound the which had Makary under him should be taken up, and then the King made enquiry of the truth of Makary, the which acknowledged that he had slain Aubery in treason, and therefore he was hanged and drawn. The bitches be jolly and perfore he was hanged and drawe. be bitches in their love commonly twice in a year, but they have no term of their heat, for every time of the year some be jolly. When they be a twelvemonth old, they become jolly, and be jolly while they await the hounds without any defence, eleven days at least, and sometimes fifteen days, according as to whether they be of naturally hot or cold the one more than another, or whether some be in better condition than others. And also men may well help them thereto, for if they give them much meat they abide longer in their heat than if they had

¹ G. de F. 85, "Au moins."