CAP. 14 xiiii.—OF RENNYNG HOUNDIS AND OF HERE NATURE

A RENNYNG hounde is a kynde of houndis per A RUNNING hound is a kind of hound there be few be fewe men hat ne haue seie some of hem. Nahe- men that have not seen some of them. Neverthelees I shal deuyse how a rennyng hounde shal be less I shall devise how a running hound shall be holed for good and faire and also I shal deuyse held for good and fair, and also shall I devise of of her maners. Of alle hewes of rennyng houndes their manners. Of all hues of running hounds, which be good and which be bad or euyl as of there are some which be good, and some which be greihoundes but be beest hewe of rennyng houndes bad or evil as of greyhounds. But the best hue of and moost comon for to be good is iclepid broun running hounds and most common for to be good, Tawne also be goodnesse of rennyng houndes is called brown tan. Also the goodness of running and of al ober maner kynde of good houndes hounds, and of all other kinds of good hounds, commel of verray corage and of he good nature comes of true courage and of the good nature of of here good fadire and of hire good modire their good father and of their good mother. And and also as towchyng greyhoundes men may wel also as touching greyhounds, men may well help helpe to make hem good techyng as to lede hem to make them good by teaching and by leading to wode and to feeldes and to be ay nye hem, in them to the wood and to fields, and to be always makyng of many good guyrreis, whan bei han near them, in making of many good curées when wel idon and astyng² and biteng hem whan bei they have done well, and of rating at and beating done amys for þei byn beestis and þerfore þei have nede to be lernyd to pat men wil pat pei shuld do. Aftere a rennyng hounde shuld be thing that men will they should do. A running wel bore and wel grove of bodie and shulde have greet nosethrelles and open and longe snowte but not smale and greet lippis and hangyng adoun grete jeu and rede or blak greet forhede and grete hede and large erys wel longe and wel hangyng adoun and brood and nye be hede a grete neke and a greet brest grete shuldres and grete leggis and stronge and not to longe greet feet and rounde and grete clees and be foot a litel availede smale bi the flankis and longe sydes a litel pintel and 3 long, smale hangyng ballokis and wel trussyd togideris a good chyne bone and grete bak good thies and greet hynder legges and pe heghes streigh and not bowed pe taile grete and hie and not crompyng vpon be bak but streight wip a litel crompyng vpward. Napelees I have sey some rennyng houndes with gret horred tailles pe whiche were ful good rennyng houndis hunten in diuers maners for sum folowyng be hert fast at be frist 4 for pei goon lightly and fast and whan bei han ronne so awhile bei han hyed hem so fast þat þei be relinxed and breebles and abiden stille and leuen be hert, whan bei shuld enchace. This maner of rennyng houndis men shuld fynde comonly in be lande of Basco 5 and Spayn, þei be right good for þe wilde boor but

CHAP. 14.—OF RUNNING HOUNDS AND OF THEIR NATURE

them when they have done amiss, for they are beasts, and therefore have they need to learn that hound should be well born, and well grown of body, and should have great nostrils and open, and a long snout, but not small, and great lips and well hanging down, and great eyes red or black, and a great forehead and great head, and large ears, well long and well hanging down, broad and near the head, a great neck, and a great breast and great shoulders, and great legs and strong, and not too long, and great feet, round and great claws, and the foot a little low, small flanks and long sides, a little pintel not long, small hanging ballocks and well trussed together, a good chine bone and great back, good thighs, and great hind legs and the hocks straight and not bowed, the tail great and high, and not cromping up on the back, but straight and a little cromping upward. Nevertheless I have seen some running hounds with great hairy tails the which were very good. Running hounds hunt in divers manners, for some followeth the hart fast at the first,4 for they go lightly and fast and when they have run so awhile, they have hied them so fast that they be relaxed and all breathless, and stop still and leave the hart when they should chase him. This kind of running hounds men should find usually in the land of Basco 5 and Spain. They are right good for the wild boar, but are not

¹ G. de F. puts the chapters on alaunts and greyhounds before this one, p. 106. See Appendix: Running Hounds.

² Ascrying, calling at him.

3 The word "not" omitted by scribe; should read not long; see G. de. F. p. 107 and Shirley. 4 Shirley MS. and G. de F. here add: "and athristeth (press) an hart at the first," "quar les uns chassent une randonnée et dérompent une beste," p. 107. ⁵ G. de F.: "pays des Basques, Biscaye," p. 107.

RACHES OR RUNNING HOUNDS