athrest hym for bei seche not wel ne bei rennen not wel ne bei hunte not longe 1 for be be custumed pe best, Oper maner of rennyng houndis per byn pe which hunten somdele moor slowly and heuyli, but as þei begynne þei holde on all day Thise houndis athresten not so sone an 2 as be othir but bei bryng hym best bi maystrie and strengthe to his eende for pei retreue and sentep pe fues better and ferber for bi cause bat bei byn somdele slowe pei must hunt the hert from ferber and berfore bei sentyn better þan other þat goon hastily without abiding into be tyme that bei byn wery.3 A bold hounde shuld neuer pleyn neibere zoule but zit it were out of be ryghtes and also he shuld agayn seche be rygtes, for an hert fleb and ruseb, Comonly a bold hound huntethe wip be wynde, whan he seep his tyme,4 and dredep his maistre and vnderstondeb hym and dob as he biddeb hym a bold hounde shuld not leue be hert neiber for wynde neiber for reyn neyber for hete ne for cold ne for non euyl wedir but in bis tyme ber ben fewe soche and also wel shuld be hunt be hert by hym self wibout helpe of man as 3if be man were alway wip hym. But al as I know non soche. Houndis per be pe which ben bold, and orped 5 and beep iclepid bold for bei byn bold and good for be hert. For whan be hert commeth in daunger 6 þei shal enchace hym but þei shall not opne 7 neiber questey while bat he is among be chaunge 8 for drede to envoise 9 and do amys but whan þei han disceuered 10 hym þan þei shuld open and hunte hym and shuld ouercome be hert wel and perfitly and maisterfully borghout al be chaunge Thes houndes ben not so good and so perfite as be bold houndes to foresaid to meve11 men by to resonns,12 that oon resonn is for they huntethe not men best to plesaunce, for they hunte not but to the hert and the firste bolde hounde huntethe alle maner beestes that his maystre wol uncouple him to, he opene the alway thorowe all the chaunges, and the bolde hounde for the herte he openethe nought for the hert as I have sayde whanne the hert is amydde

bei byn not good for be hert for bei byn nott good for the hart, for they be not good to enchase good to enchace at a longe flight but only for to at a long flight, but only for to press him, for they seek not well, and they run not well nor they hunt not from a distance,1 for they be accustomed to to hunt nye, and at be bigynnyng bei han shewed hunt close. And at the beginning they have shown their best. Other manners of running hounds there are which hunt a good deal more slowly and heavily, but as they begin, so they hold on all the day. These hounds force not so soon a hart as the other, but they bring him best by mastery and strength to his end, for they retrieve and scent the line better and farther, because they are somewhat slow. They must hunt the hart from farther off, and therefore they scent the fues better than the other that goes so hastily without stopping until the time that they be weary.3 A bold hound should never complain or howl, unless if he were out of the rights. And also he should again seek the rights, for a hart flies and ruses. Commonly a bold hound hunts with the wind when he sees his time.4 He dreads his master and understands him and does as he bids him. A bold hound should not leave the hart neither for rain, nor for heat, nor for cold, nor for any evil weather, but at this time there be few such, and also should he hunt the hart well by himself without help of man, as if the man were always with him. But alas! I know not now any such hounds. Hounds there are which be bold and brave,5 and be called bold for they are bold and good for the hart, for when the hart comes in danger 6 they will chase him, but they will not open 7 nor quest while he is among the change,8 for dread to envoyse9 and do amiss, but when they have dissevered 10 him, then they will open and hunt him and should overcome the hart well, and perfectly and masterfully throughout all the change. These hounds be not so good nor so perfect as be the bold hounds before said to most men for two reasons,12 that one reason is for they hunt not at men's best pleasure, for they hunt nought but the hart, and the first bold hound hunts all manner of beasts that his master will uncouple him to. He opens always through all the changes, and a bold hound for the hart opens not for the hart, as I have said when the hart is

This should be "hunt not well from a distance." G. de F. p. 107 says: "de fort longe." See Appendix:

The word "hart" has been left out here.

³ G. de F. has here much more about hounds and their manner of hunting which the author of the "Master of Game" omits. See pp. 108 and 109. For omission, see Appendix: Running Hounds. 4 G. de F. has here: "And also hunts with his nose on the ground when it is the time and place for

it," p. 110. ⁵ G. de F. p. 110 calls these hounds "Cerfs bauz mus." ⁶ Danger of his being lost to the hounds.

⁷ Challenge—i.e., the noise the hounds make on finding the scent of an animal.

⁸ Other deer. See Appendix: Change. 9 Get off the line. 10 Separated him from the other deer. 11 Most. 12 From here to the end of the 18th line on the next page the text is copied from the Shirley MS., the scribe who wrote the Vespasian B. XII. MS. having made a mistake in his transcript, copying on folio 65 the folio 64, which therefore appears twice over, to the exclusion of the matter here copied from the Shirley MS.