CAP. XXVI.—HOW THE ORDI-NAUNCE SHULD BE MADE FOR THE HERT HUNTYNG BY STRENGTH AND HOW THE HERT SHULD BE HER-BOROWED 1

WHANE be kyng or my lord be prynce or eny of or oon of tweyn yemen, if he Sergeauntis be not pat be yemen beerners on foot and be gromys pat higheten chacechiens4 bryng with hem be hert howndis and pis don axe pe wyne,5 and latt hem goo after, Must as he is chargid to harboure be hert accorde with be foster of be baly bat bei seke hym with inne. Where pei shuld mete in be greye daunyng. Napeles it were good redynesse to loke if bei myght se eny dere at his metyng ouer evyn, to wete be more redely where to seke and harborow hym on be morow. And on be morowe whan bei mete be fostere bat wil lede be huntere and be lymmer bidere as he beest hope to se hym or fynde of hym wif out noyse, pei ought to wipdrawe hym in pe softest maner pat bei kone for drede of frayeng hym out of his wynde, and as he stere) and pesel forthe metyng pe quarter pat pe deer is into, if it be in an

CHAP. 26.—HOW THE ORDINANCE SHOULD BE MADE FOR THE HART HUNTING BY STRENGTH AND HOW THE HART SHOULD BE HARBOURED¹

WHEN the king or my lord the Prince or any of their her blood wil hunte for be hert wip strengthe blood will hunt for the hart by strength, the Master be maistir of be game must have a forun hym of the Game must forewarn on the previous evenouyr evyn be sergeaunt of be office and be yemen ing the sergeant of the office, and the yeomen beerners at hors2 and eke pe lymner,3 And berners at horse,2 and also the lymerer.3 And pan he must ordeyne which of hem thre shal go then he must ordain which of them three shall go for to harborowe pe hert, and with hem pe lymer for to harbour the hart, and with them the lymerer azeinst be next morow and charge be forsters, for the morrow, and charge the foresters, or if it and if it be in a parke pe parkers to be be in a park, the parkers, to attend to him busily. entendaunt to hym bisily, and or bei tweyn And all the four must accord where the meeting twynn pei must acorde where pe metyng shal be shall be on the morrow, and he must charge the on be morow, and he must charge be sergeaunt sergeant and one of the two yeomen, if the sergeant be not there, to warn all the yeomen and grooms pere for to warne al pe yemen and gromys of the of the office to be at the meeting at sunrise. And office to be at metyng at the sonne ryseng and that the yeomen berners on foot and the grooms that are called Chacechiens4 bring with them the hart hounds and this done ask for the wine,5 and let them go after. And he that is charged to harbour the hart must accord with the forester of the bailie in which they seek him where they should meet in the grey dawning. Nevertheless it were good readiness to look if they might see any deer at its feeding the previous evening to know the more readily where to seek and harbour him on the morrow. And on the morrow when they meet the forester that well ought to know of his great ought to knowe of his grete deeres hauntes shalle deer's haunts, he shall lead the hunter and the lymerer thither, where he best hopes to see him or find of him without noise. And if they can see And if pei may se hym and pei be in pe wynde him and they be in the wind they ought to withdraw from him in the softest manner they can, for dread of frightening him out of his haunt, and haunt, and pan go preuyli to pei be undir pe then go privily till they be under the wind. And as he stalks and paces forth feeding, they are to hym, bei to drawe hem nye hym and redily as draw nigh him as readily and warily as they can warly as bei may, so bat be dere fynde hem so that the deer find them not. And when he has nouzt, til he drawe to his Couert, and to his lig- entered his covert they ought to tarry till they gyng, And whan he is entrid his couert, bei know that he be entered two skilful bowshots ought to tary til bei aume bat he be enteryd ii from thence. And then ought the lymerer by bidskylful bowshotes and pan ought pe lymere bi ding of the hunter to cast round with his lymer bidyng of be huntere vmbi cast with his lymere the quarter that the deer is in, if it be in a huge

¹ This title is taken from the index, as the scribe who wrote the Vespasian B. XII. text put a wrong title to this chapter, heading it, "How an huntere should go in quest by the sight." ² Attendants. See Appendix: Berners, and Hunt Officials.

³ The man who leads the hound in leash when harbouring the hart. See Appendix: Limer. ⁴ Attendants. See Appendix: Hunt Officials. ⁵ See Appendix: Venery.