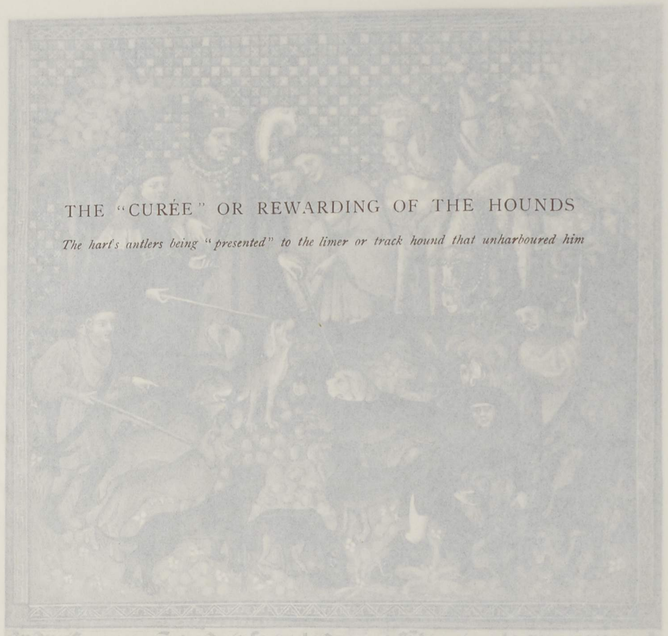
stil þer on and þe labels forsaide, and þan held hym and lay þe skynn vpon and lay þe hede at þe skynnes ende right a forn þe shuldres and whan þe houndes ben þus inquirreide þe lymers shuld haue both þe shulders for þer riȝtes, and ellis þei shuld not haue but þe eres and þe breyn wherof þei shuld be seruyd þe hertes hede liggyng vnder her foot, On þat oþer side if þe lord wol haue þe deer vndoon he þat he biddeþ as biforun is saide shuld vndo hym þe moost wodmanly and clenly þat he can, and þe wondred ȝe not þat y say woodmanly for it is a poynt þat longeþ to a woodmannys craft[1] *and þough it be wel sittyng to an hunter for to cvn don it, neuer þe latter it longeþ moor to wodemannys craft þan to hunders, and þerfore as of þe maner how he shuld be vndo I passe euer lithly for þer nys no woodman ne good hunter in Engelond þat þei ne can do it wel inow and wel better þan I can telle hem. Neuerþelees whan so is þat þe pavnches be takyn out clene and hoole and þe smale guttes or if þe groomes chacechiens shuld take þe paunch and goo to þe next water wiþ alle and slitt it and cast out þe filþe and wasshen clene þ' no filth be abydde þerynne, and þan bryng it agayn and kitt it in smale gobettis, in þe blood þat shuld be kept in þe skyn and þe longes wiþ al if þei be hoote and ellis nouȝt, and alle þe smal guttes with al and brede broke þer inne after þat the houndes ben fewe or mony, and al þis turned and meggled amonge þe blood til it be wel enbrowed in þe blood. And þan loke where a smooth*[2] *of grene is and þider bere alle þis vpon þe skynn wiþ as moch blood as may be saued, and þer lay it and sprede þe skyn þeruppon þe heere side vpward, and lay þe hede þe visage forþward atte skynnes ende of þe neke. And þan þe lord shuld take a faire smalle rodde in his honde þe which oon of þe ȝemen or oon of þe gromys shuld kitte*[3] *for hym and þe maister of þe game anoþer, and þe sergeant and þe yemen at hors and oþer, and þan þe lord shuld take vp þe hertis hede*[4] *bitwyne þe susreal and þe fourche or troche, whedir it be þat he bere, and þe maister of þe game þe lift side in þe same wise, and holde þe hede vp right and þat þe nose touch þe erth and þan euery man þat is þer saue þe beornors on foot and þe chacechiens and þe lymners þe which shuld be with her houndes and waite vpon hem in a faire grene þer as a cold shadowe, were shuld stonde on fronte in eiþer side þe hede with roddes þat noon houndes come*

his head, all the upper jaw still thereon, and the labelles aforesaid; and then hold him and lay the skin open, and lay the head at the skin's end right in front of the shoulders. And when the hounds are thus inquirreide the lymers should have both the shoulders for their rights, and else they should not have but the ears and the brain whereof they should be served, the hart's head lying under their feet. But on the other hand if the lord will have the deer undone, he that he biddeth as before is said, should undo him most woodmanly and cleanly that he can and wonder ye not that I say woodmanly, for it is a point that belongeth to woodmanscraft,[1] though it be well suiting to an hunter to be able to do it. Nevertheless it belongeth more to woodmanscraft than to hunters, and therefore as of the manner he should be undone I pass over lightly, for there is no woodman nor good hunter in England that cannot do it well enough, and well better than I can tell them. Nevertheless when so is that the paunch is taken out clean and whole and the small guts, one of the groom chacechiens should take the paunch and go to the next water withal, and slit it, and cast out the filth and wash it clean, that no filth abide therein. And then bring it again and cut it in small gobetts in the blood that should be kept in the skin and the lungs withal, if they be hot and else not, and all the small guts withal, and bread broken therein according whether the hounds be few or many, and all this turned and meddled together among the blood till it be well brewed in the blood, and then look for a small spot[2] of green, and thither bear all this upon the skin with as much blood as can be saved, and there lay it, and spread the skin thereupon, the hair side upward, and lay the head, the visage, forward at the neck end of the skin. And then the lord shall go take a fair small rod in his hand, the which one of the yeomen or of the grooms should cut for him, and the Master of the Game and other, and the sergeants, and each of the yeomen on horse, and others, and then the Lord should take up the hart's head[4] by the right side between the surroyal and the fork or troche whichever it be that he bear, and the Master of the Game, the left side in the same wise, and hold the head upright that the nose touch the earth. And then every man that is there, save the berners on foot and the chacechiens and the lymerers which should be with their hounds and wait upon them in a fair green where there is a cool shadow, should stand in front on either side of the head, with rods, that no hound come about,

[1] See Appendix: Curée.
[2] Cut. See Appendix: Curée.
[3] The word "plecke," spot or place, has been left out.
[4] "On the right side" has been left out here.



THE "CURÉE" OR REWARDING OF THE HOUNDS

The hart's antlers being "presented" to the limer or track hound that unharboured him