oþer þan he shal sey, la douce la il a este,[1] *and þerwith, Sohowe, wiþ an hie vois, And if his houndes chasen not wel at his lust and þat þei grede þeron and þer anoþer as he haþ pasturyd þat shal he say, Illeoqs illeoqs,*[2] *in þe same place, alle þe while þei fynden of here, and þan he shalle cast a signe alabout þe feeld and loke wher she haþ be þer as she hath pasturid, or no, or wheder she be at þe forme for gladly she wil not be þer as she haþ pasturid, but in tyme of reliefe.*[3] *If eny hounde fyndeþ of hur þer as she haþ be and is goo froom þens in to anoþer place he shal say þus to his houndes as lowde as he may, Ha cy douce cy et venuz, arere, sohowe.*[4] *And he se þat she be goon in to þe playn or in þe feld or in areable lond or in to þe woode if his houndis fynde wel of hire þan he shal say, la douuce amy il ad est illeoqs,*[5] *and þerwiþ he shal say, Sohow illeoqs cy douce cy vaillaunt,*[6] *and twies Sohowe, and whan he is commen þer as he supposeth þe hare wil dwell þan he shal say þus, la douce la est il venuz. And þerwiþ thries, Sohow, and no more, and if he supposeþ sikerly in eny place to fynde hur þan shal he say, la douce how here how here how here how here douce how here how here. And whan she is founde and stert he shalle blow a moot and rechase*[7] *and halowe as oft as hym likeþ þat is to do, and þan say loude, oiez a beamouud or what the hounde hight, le vailaunt oyez oiez oiez whobolowe, and þan, auaunte assemble auaunte. And þan shuld þe horsmen holde hem wele out aside and somdele to fore wiþ long roddes in her hondes to mete with her, and so blowe a mote and rechace and halowe and sette þe houndes in þe riȝtes if þei se her, and also for to kepe þat non hownde folowe to sheep, ne to oþer beestis, and if þei do to ascrie hem sore and aliȝt and take hem vp and bilaissh hem wel saying lowde, Ware ware ha ha ware and layssh hem forþ to her felawes. And if it happe þat she be squat to fore hem and þt þei retreve hur nouȝt so sone as þei wold þan shal he say, How sa amy sa sa acouplere sa arere sohow, but not*[8] *þe stint to sone. And if he se þat his houndes con not so sone ne so wele put it forþ as*

then he shall say "*La Douce, la il a este*"[1] and therewith "*So howe*" with a high voice, and if his hounds chase not well at his pleasure and they hunt there where is he has not pastured, then shall he say "*Illeoqs illeoqs*"[2] in the same place while they seek her. And then he should cast and look about the field, to see where she hath been and whether she hath pastured or not, or whether she be in her form, for she does not like to remain where she hath pastured except when she is feeding.[3] If any hounds scent her, and she hath gone from thence to another place, he shall say thus to his hounds as loud as he can: "*Ha cy douce cy et venuz arere, so howe.*"[4] And if he see that she be gone to the plain or the field or to arable land or into the wood, if his hounds get well on her scent, then he shall say: "*La douce amy, il ad est illeoqs*"[5] and therewith he shall say: "*so-how illeoqs, sy douce cy vayllant*"[6] and twice "*so-howe,*" and when he is come there where he supposeth the hare dwells then shall he say thus: "*La douce la est il venuz*" and therewith thrice "*so-howe*" and no more. And if he thinks he is sure to find her in any place then he shall say: "*La douce how-here, how-here, how-here, how-here, douce how-here how-here,*" and when she is found and started he shall blow a mote and rechase[7] and holloa as often as he wishes and then say loud: "*Oyez! a Beaumond*" or what the hound is named, "*le vailaunt oyez, oyez, oyez, who-bo-lowe,*" and then "*Avaunte assemble, avaunte.*" And then should the horsemen keep well to one side and some way to the front with long rods in their hands to meet with her, and so blowe a mote and rechase and holloa and set the hounds in the rights if they see her, and also for to prevent any hound following sheep, or other beasts, and if they do to rate them sorely and dismount and take them up and lash them well, saying loud "*Ware ware ha ha ware*" and lash them back to their fellows, and if it happens that the hare be seated in her form in front of the hounds, and that they cannot find her as soon as they would, then shall he say: "*How-sa amy sa sa acouplere, sa arere, so-how,*" but not[8] blow the stynt too soon. And if he seeth that his hounds cannot put her up

[1] "Softly, there he has been!"

[2] In this place, or here, here. See Appendix: Illoeques. This passage, which reads somewhat confusedly in our MS., is clearer in Twety and Gyfford (*Reliquiæ Antiquæ* 1844, vol. i. p. 149): It reads as follows: "And then ye shall blowe iij notes, yf yowr hund ne chace not well hym, there one ther another, as he hath pasturyd hym, ye shall say '*Illeosque, illeosque, illeosque,*'" meaning that 3 motes should be blown where the hare has pastured to bring your hounds to the place, *illeosque* meaning here, in this place.

[3] See Appendix: Relief.

[4] "Softly there, here she has been, back there." Following this the Shirley MS. and Twety and Gyfford contain a passage which our MS. has not got: "And thenne *sa cy, a este sohow,* and afterwards *sa cy avaunt.*"

[5] "Softly, my friend, she has been here."

[6] "Here gently, here valiantly."

[7] To call back the hounds from a wrong scent, the same as "recheat."

[8] The word "blow" is left out here.

he wold þan shalle he blowe þe stint and say lowd ho ho ore swef a la douce al ny aluy sohowe assamy assamy la arere sohowe, venyȝ acouplere aud þus as oft as þe forsaid caas happeþ. And as oft as eny hounde cateheþ it, he shuld hue to hym bi his name and rout hym to his felawes as bifore is said, but not rechace til he be retrevid, or þat som man mete þerwiþ and bloweth the rightes an haloweth, or ellis þat he fyndeþ hure pointyng or prikkyng[1] *where it be, naþeles al is oon but þat some calten it on and som oþer. And if he fynde þat he may wel blow þe rigthes and halowe and jopey*[2] *iii or iiii tymes and crie loude le voy le voy,*[3] *til þe houndes be come þider and haue wel knaght it til and she is retrevid blowe, halow, aud rout to þe houndes right as it is said atte fyndyng and folowe after and foot who foot may. And if it happe as men hunt hire and hundes enchace her, þat she squat owhere aforun þe houndes, and þat eny hunter fynde hure squat if þe houndes ben negh about, he shuld blow a moot and rechace and stert her, and þan halow and rowt to hem as aboue is saide. And if he fynde hure squat, and þe houndes ben fer fro hym þan shal he blow as I haue saide last biforn and after þat to*[4] *moot for þe houndes, aud þe berners þat heryn hym shuld answere hym þus, trut, trut, trut and drawe hem to hym ward wiþ þe houndes as fast as þei may saying to her houndes sohow mon amy sohowe. And whan þei ben þer and þe houndes ben falle to alabout þei shuld make her stint with oon of her roddis, and whan she is stert halowe blowe and route to as bifore is sayde, and after þat þe caas requireþ do as bifore is deuysed. And whan she hath be wel chasid and wel retreuyd nat withstondyng her rusyng squattyng or reseityng so þat bi strength atte last she is bitte with houndis, who so is next shuld stert to take hure hool from hem and hold hire in his oon hond ouer his hede hie, and blowe þe deeþ, þat men may gader þider. And whan þei ben commen þan shuld she be stripid al sauf þe hede, and þe galle and þe paunch cast away, and þe remenaunt shuld be laide on a grete staf or on a boord, who so haþ it, on þe erþe and þan it shuld be choppid also smale as it myght be so þat it hange togedire, and whan it is so dight, than shuld oon of the beerners take it vp with þe hede and hold it as hie as he myȝt in his hondes, and þan who so is most maistir blowe þe deeþ, and anoon as he bigynneþ euery man helpe forþ and halow, and*

as soon as he would, then shall he blow the stynt, and say loud: "*ho ho ore swef a la douce, a lui, a lui, so how assamy, assamy, la arere so-howe, venez acouplere,*" and thus as oft as the aforesaid case happeneth. And as oft as any hound catcheth it (the scent) he should hue to him by his name, and rout him to his fellows as before is said, but not recheat till the hare be found, or that some man meet it and blow the rights and holloa, or else that he findeth her pointing or pricking[1] whichever it be, for both mean the same, but some call it the one and some the other. And if he find that he can well blow the rights and holloa and jopey[2] three or four times and cry loud "*le voy, le voy,*"[3] till the hounds come thither and have well caught it. And (when) she is retrieved blow and halloa and rout to the hounds as it is said you should do at the finding, and follow after and foot it who can foot it. And if it happen when men hunt her and hounds chase her that she squat anywhere before the hounds, and that any hunter find her squatting, if the hounds be nigh about, he should blow a mote and rechase and start her, and then halloa and rout to them as above is said. And if he find her squatting and the hounds be far from him, then should he blow as I last said before, and after two motes for the hounds, and the berners that hear him should answer him thus "trut, trut, trut," and draw all towards him with the hounds as fast as they can, saying to their hounds: "*so-how, mon amy, so-howe.*" And when they be there and the hounds have all come up, they should check them with one of their rods, and when she is started, blow, holloa and rout as before is said, and according to what the case requireth, do as before is said and devised. And when she hath been well chased and well retrieved, notwithstanding her rusing and squatting and reseating, so that by strength at last she is bitten by the hounds, whoso is nearest should start to take her whole from them, and hold her in his one hand over his head high, and blow the death that men may gather thither, and when they be come, then should she be stripped, all save the head, and the gall and the paunch cast away, and the remnant should be laid on a great staff or on a board, whoso hath it, or on the earth, and then it should be chopped as small as it can be, so that it hangs together; and when it is so done then should one of the berners take it up with the head and hold it as high as he is able in his hands, and then whoso is most master, blow the death, and anon as he beginneth every man help and

[1] Footing of the hare.

[2] To call to the hounds encouragingly. See Appendix: Jopey.

[3] "The view, the view!"

[4] Should be "two."