

to þe quyrre¹ and þer lay it on a rewe all þe hedes oo way and euery deres fete to oþer bak. And þe hertes shuld be laide on a rowe or ii or iii² after þat þei be many or fewe, and þe rascaille in þe same wise bi hemself and þei shuld kepe þat no man come with inne þe quyrre to þe kyng come saue þe maister of þe game. And whan þe couerte is wele souzt and voided þat was þer inne þan shuld þe maister of þe game come to þe kyng to wit if he will eny more hunt. And if þe kyng say 3e þan shal þe maister of þe game if þe greihoundes ne bowes ne stable nedep not to be remeid, blow ii longe moot for þe houndes and forþ with blowe drawyng with iii longe moot þat men shuld stond stille, and þat þe hunters may wit þ' þei shuld come to a newe sechyng with her houndes. And whan þe houndes be come þer as þei shuld uncople, blowe iii longe moot and do and seke and blowe as is aforesaide. And if þe bowes, greihoundes and stable shuld be remeuyd, þan shuld he blow a mot and strake wipout þe moot in þe myddel for to draw men togedir, and þerbi men wit þat þe kyng wil hunte moor or he go home. And whan men be commen togedir þan shuld þe maister of þe game of þe settyng of þe kyng and of the quene of bowes and greihoundys and of stable as I haue said bifore and þe hunters of her sekyng, and of alle oþer þinges do in the same wise as I haue said. And if þe kyng wil hunt no more þan shuld þe maister of his game if þe kyng wil not blow blow a moot and strake wip a mote in the myddel and þe sergeaunt or who so blowep next hym ne non man ellis shuld blow þe first moot þe myddel and so euery man as oft as hym lust to strake if þei haue had þat þei hunted fore, and ellis þe myddel moot shuld not be blowe saue of hym þat blowethe next þe maister and þerbi may a man wit as þei here men strake homward wher þei han wel-spdedde or none. And þis maner of strakyng shuld serue in wise as I haue rehersed for alle huntynge save whan þe hert is slayn wip strength. And whan þe mote is blow and strake þan shuld þe maister of þe game lede þe kyng to þe quyrre and shewe it hym, and no man as is said abouen shuld come with inne it but euery man with out it. And than shuld þe kyng telle þe maister of þe game what dere he wold were³ þen and to whom, and if þe kyng list abide he may. Napeles he is wounded whan þat he þus

curée. And there should the server¹ of the hall be to arrange the curées, and to lay the game in a row, all the heads one way—and every deer's feet to the other's back. The harts should be laid in two or three rows by themselves² according to whether there be many or few, and the rascal in the same way by themselves, and they should take care that no man come within the curées till the King come, save the Master of the Game. And when the covert is well hunted and cleared, then should the Master of the Game come to the King to know if he would hunt any more. And if the King say yea, then shall the Master of the Game if the greyhounds or bows or stable need not to be removed, blow two long motes for the hounds, and forthwith blow drawing with three long motes that men should stand still, and the hunters may know that they should come to a new seeking with their hounds. And when the hounds be come there where they should uncouple blow three long motes and do and seek and blow, as is before said. And if the bows and greyhounds and stable should be removed, then should he blow a mote and stroke, without the mote in the middle, for to draw men together, and thereby may men know that the king will hunt more ere he go home. And when men come together, then should the Master of the Game see to the placing of the King and of the Queen and of the bows and of the greyhounds and of the stable, as I have said here before, and the hunters to their seeking, and of all other things do in the same manner as I have said. And if the king will hunt no more, then should the Master of the Game, if the King will not blow, blow a mote and stroke with a mote in the middle and the sergeant or whoso bloweth next him, and no man else, should blow the first mote but only the middle, and so every man as oft as he likes to stroke, if they have obtained that which they hunted for. And the middle mote should not be blown save by him that bloweth next the master. And thereby may men know as they hear men stroke homeward whether they have well sped or not. And this way of stroking should serve in the manner I have rehersed for all hunting save when the hart is slain with strength. And when the mote is blown and stroked, then should the Master of the Game lead the King to the curée, and show it him, and no man as I have said above should come within it, but every man (keep) without it. And then the King shall tell the Master of the Game what deer he would were given³ (away) and to whom, and (after this) if the King wishes to stay he may. Nevertheless

¹ The beginning of this sentence relating to the "server of the hall" is not in our MS. but in the Shirley MS.

² "By themselves" is omitted in this MS.

³ "Given" here omitted.

SHOOTING DEER AT A DRIVE WITH LONG BOWS
AND CROSS BOWS

