FRAYING-POST—continued

distributed among the hunt servants. I find no such custom in the old English hunting records, but that a reward was given for the first stag or buck of the season killed.

FUES, "not find his fues," not to find his line of flight, his scent; Gaston says: "Ne puissent deffaire ses esteurses": literally, "cannot unravel his turnings."

Fues, flight, fuite, track. Gaston calls these sometimes voyes. Voyes was written later Foyes (Fouilloux).

FUE. "Se mettre a la fue" (var. fuie), (to take flight). (Borman, p. 89.)

GLADNESS, glade. The original sense is a smooth bare place, or perhaps a bright clear place in a wood.

GREASE. One of the important technical terms of venery, related to the fat of game; for in the Middle Ages, when game was hunted to replenish the larder as much as for sport, it entered largely into the economy of even the highest households. The fat of the red deer and fallow deer was called suet, occasionally tallow. That of the roe buck was bevy-grease. Between that of the hare, boar, wolf, fox, marten, otter, badger, and coney no difference was made -it was called grease; and in one sense this general term was also used for deer: "a deer of high grease," or "a hart in the pride of grease," were phrases used for the season of the year when the stag and the buck were fattest (see Appendix: Seasons of Hunting).

GREASE TIME, not Grace Time or Grass Time, as Strutt and others have it. It did not include the whole season when the hart or buck could be killed, but meant to indicate the time when they were fat and fittest for killing. As pointed out already by Dryden (p. 25), the Excerpta Historica (Lond. 1831) contains an interesting example of the use of this word. This is a letter written (p. 356) about 1480 by Thomas Stonor, Steward of the Manor of Thame. He was in Fleet Prison at the time he writes to his brother in the country concerning some property of his own in his brother's neighbourhood. "No more to youe at thys tyme but . . . more ovr I entende to kepe my gresse tyme in yat countre, where fore I wolle yat no mane huntte tylle I have bene ther."

In the privy-purse expenses of Henry VIII. (1532) is an entry of a payment for attendance on the king during the last grece-time. Cavendish in his life of Wolsey says: "My Lord continued at Southwell until the latter end of grease time." Both these passages refer to the month of June. In the laws of Howel the Good, King of Wales, a fine of 12 kine was imposed on whoever kills a Hart in grease time (kylleic) of the kings.

Confusion arose occasionally owing to the similarity of the words as formerly spelt, grass being

sometimes spelt grysse. (Dryden, p. 25.) Manwood, also, misinterprets Grease time. In the agreement between the Earl of Winchester and the Baron of Dudley of 1247 in which their respective rights of hunting in Charnwood Forest and Bradgate Park, Leicestershire, were defined, and which agreement Shirley has given, (in a translation) in his "English Deer Parks," the time of the fallowbuck season (tempus pinguedinis) or grease time or the fat season, is fixed between the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula (August 1) and the Exaltation of Holy Cross (September 6, 14), while the time of the doe season (tempus firmationis) was fixed between the Feast of St. Martin (November 11), and the Purification of the Blessed Virgin (February 2).

At the Continental Courts where the pleasures of the chase endured longer on the old scale of splendour than in England, the greatest possible importance was lent to the weight of deer and to the amount of fat on the brisket, which latter was either indicated in inches or shown by a line drawn on paper to represent the actual thickness of the fat, and which was called the "Line of Pride." In a series of letters written by the Elector John George of Saxony to the Emperor Ferdinand of Germany which is preserved in the private archives of the Imperial family in Vienna, there are a great number of these details. In some cases the "Line of Pride" drawn with great care by the old Elector on the margin of his letters measures over four inches. In Scotland regard was also paid to this point,

GREYHOUND, Fr. levrier, Lat. leporarius. Under this name a whole group of dogs were included, that were used for the chase of big and small game. They were swift hounds, hunting chiefly and in most cases by sight only. For in the Middle Ages the name greyhound, or levrier, denoted such seemingly different dogs as the immense Irish wolfhound, the Scotch deerhound, and the smaller smooth-coated, elegant Italian greyhound. The powerful greyhound used for the chase of stag, wolf, and wild boar were known in France as levrier d'attache, and the smaller, nervous harehound as petit levrier pour lievre. In our illustrations we can see what are intended to be portraits of both the larger and the smaller kinds, some being smooth- and some rough-coated. The bigger hounds were considered capable of defending their masters against their armed enemies, as is shown by numerous legends of the Middle Ages, which, although they may not be strictly historical facts, showed the reputation these dogs enjoyed in those days (Jesse, p. 19). In Gallic hunting songs and heroic poems it was commonly stated that a single hound could kill a cool (unwounded) deer. Stuart, in his "Lays of the Deer Forest," says: "They could pull a stag down, and did so by running close to its flank and shooting up at its throat too close to receive a blow from the stag's horns" (vol. ii. pp. 50, 56). ¹ See my "Sport in the Alps," chapter ix.: "The Chase of the Stag in the Past."

GREYHOUND—continued Greyhounds were the constant companions of their masters during journeys and wars, and at home. In the houses they were allowed the greatest liberty, and seem to have ranged at will in both living and bedrooms; one sees them at the board when their owners are at meals, at the fireside, and they even accompanied their masters as good Christians to mass. The favourites were even allowed to sleep on royal beds, for "On voit coucher sur la lict, Du Roy de France les levriers, Pour ce qu'il les ayme et tient chiers." But such familiarity did not pass off without remonstrance from some chatelaines, even of the thirteenth century. There is one tale of that date which recounts how a knight returns from the chase and enters the hall surrounded by his hounds; these run everywhere, jumping on to the beds, and the favourite greyhound lies down on a new pelisse of squirrelfur belonging to his lady. She, in a fit of temper, takes up a knife and kills the dog (Roman de sept Sages, De Noir. ii. p. 270).

No hound seems to belong so peculiarly to the epoch of chivalry as the greyhound, and indeed one can scarcely picture a knight without one. A Welsh proverb declared that a gentleman might be known "by his hawk, his horse, and his greyhound." By a law of Canute, a greyhound was not to be kept by any person inferior to a gentleman ("Greyhounds," by a Sportsman, p. 28; and Dalziel, vol. i. p. 25).

The ancient forest laws of Canute prohibiting the keeping of greyhounds within the precincts of the forest without being hoxed or expedited are sufficiently well known to require no reiteration here, in fact the greyhound has been written of more fully, and perhaps more often, than any other breed, owing probably to its popularity in the feudal times. To-day this popularity has sadly waned in comparison with that of hounds and shooting dogs.

Canis Gallicus was the name used by the Gauls for their coursing dogs, which were most probably greyhounds, and Arian says they were called Vertragia, from a Celtic word denoting swiftness. In Gallo Latin the name for a large greyhound was Veltrahus or veltris (de Noir. ii. 295). They were also called Veltres leporarii (Blane, p. 46). There is some difference of opinion as to the derivation of our word greyhound. In the early Anglo-Norman days they retained their French name of levrier, or Latin

leporarius. When our MS. was penned the English word grei, gre or grewhound was in general use; it is thought by some to be derived from Grew hound or Greek hound, as they were supposed to have been originally brought from Greece. Others, again, consider that the name was simply taken from the prevalent colour of the common greyhound. Jesse gives the most likely origin of the name. "Originally it was most likely grehund, and meant the noble, great, choice, or prize hound" (Jesse, ii. 71; and Dalziel, i. 23). Probably the Celtic denomination for a dog, grech or greg, stands in close connection with our word greyhound (Cupples, p. 230). White seems to have been the favourite colour, and to say one had i levrier plus blanc que flors de lis (Heruis de Mes, 107a 44; Bangert, p. 172) would be the greatest tribute to the beauty of one's hound. Co si sunt deus leveres nurit en ma meisun, cume cisne sunt blauns (Horn, 613 f.).

When Froissart went home from Scotland he is depicted as riding a grey horse and leading un blanc levrier, perhaps one of the four he took from these isles and presented to the Comte de Foix at Orthéz, whose names have been preserved to us as Tristan, Hector, Brun, and Rolland (La Curne de la Palaye). Edward II. as Prince of Wales, during his banishment in the Principality in 1304-1305, writes to his sister Elizabeth, Countess de Holande, requesting her to send him her white luiere, he having a white luierer, as he had a great desire to have pups from them (Jesse, ii. 59; De Noirmont, 307, 309). But although these white greyhounds seem to have been considered especially beautiful, there were dogs of many other hues considered excellent, and no doubt every individual sportsman sang or wrote in favour of the colour of the hound which had shown him the best sport, whether he happened to be "red fallow with a black Moselle," or red, black sorel, or "dunne as a doo" 1 (Jesse, ii. p. 30; Dalziel, i. p. 40; see Plate XLVIII.).

Greyhounds, like falcons, were constantly sent as presents from one crowned head to another, and there was much interchange between England and the Continent, so that the kennels had no lack of fresh blood. Besides this interchange of courtesy, monarchs recruited their hunting establishments from all parts of their dominion, for greyhounds as well as horses and falcons were frequently received instead of money. King John perhaps had some of the largest

¹ Chaucer writes of the sporting monk's greyhound:

[&]quot;Grehoundes he hadde as swift as fowel in flyght Of Prickyng and of huntyng for the hare Was all his lust, for no cost wolde he spare."

[&]quot;Sir, yf you be on huntynge founde I shall you gyve a good greyhounde That is dunne as a doo For as I am a trewe gentylwoman There was never dere that he at ran That myght scape him fro." —"Syr Eglamoure of Artoys." (Walley.)