## GREYHOUND—continued

kennels and mews, and we find him receiving them for the renewal of grants, and in payment of fines and forfeitures enforced by the Crown. The following extracts prove this menerch to

The following extracts prove this monarch to have been exceedingly partial to this breed. A heavy fine paid in 1203 mentions five hundred marks, ten horses, and ten leashes of greyhounds; and another in 1210, one swift running horse, and six greyhounds.

Some of those who held land in drengage tenure had among other duties to keep greyhounds for the use of the King or their feudal lords when they came into their neighbourhood to hunt. "In Great Usworth the dreng feeds a dog and a horse and attends the great hunt (caza magna) with two greyhounds and five ropes." In Herington, "He attends the great hunt with two greyhounds and five ropes." In Urpeth, "the dreng attends the great hunts with two greyhounds and fifteen ropes" (The Boldon Book, vol. iii. preface xi.).

Large numbers of greyhounds and other sporting dogs were constantly sent by King John to different parts of the kingdom, but it was probably not so much for sport as to supply the court with venison and with furs and skins. For instance, Roger de Neville had three batches of hounds sent to him in one year (1213); firstly: "We send you William de Ireby with his fellows, with seven dogs and fifteen varlets, and twentyeight grey hounds and forty four 'de mota' dogs to hunt boars in the park of Bricstok"; secondly: "We send you Henry Fitz-Baldwin the veltrar with eighteen of his fellow veltrars and 240 of our greyhounds to hunt fallowdeer in the park of Knappe"; and thirdly: "We send you Wyott, Nigel May, Richard de Brademare and Herbert de Foxcote our huntsmen, with ten varlets and five berners, ten horses and 114 'de mota' dogs, and five greyhounds for hunting fallow deer in the Park of Knappe; and we command you to find the necessary expenses for them as long as they are with you, and it shall be accounted to you at the Exchequer" (Jesse, ii. 28–30). The previous year the Sheriff of York had 240 greyhounds with 56 veltrars in charge of them sent to him. These and many other instances collected by Jesse from the Pipe Rolls and Close Rolls of the early Plantagenet Kings show the nature of these probably very burdensome billetings.

Greyhounds were used, as has already been mentioned, for all kind of hunting and every kind of game: in conjunction with limers who started the game for them. They were let slip as relays to a pack of running or scenting hounds, and they were used by themselves for coursing game in an open country, or were placed at the passes where game was likely to run and were slipped to turn the game back to the archer

or to chase and pull down the wounded deer (see Appendix: Stable). In our illustrations we see them in the pictures of stag-, hare-, roe- and boar-hunting, to say nothing of badger-hunting, for which one would have thought any other dog more suitable (see Appendix: Venery).

They seem always to have been held in couples except when following their master and he not bent upon the chase. The collars to which these couplings were attached were often wonderful gems of the goldsmith's and silversmith's art. Such an item appears in the Q. R. Wardrobe Acc. for 1400 (Wylie, iv. p. 196): "2 collars for greyhounds (leverer) le tissue white and green with letters and silver turrets." Another one of "soy chekerey vert et noir avec le tret (? turret) letters and bells of silver gilt."

The stories of fidelity in our MS. relate in each instance to greyhounds (pp. 42, 43, and 45), and indeed they were considered the emblems of faithfulness and as such adopted on coats of arms. Nevertheless, there are two stories dating about the period of our MS., or rather of the parent work, by which these dogs are shown to be as unfaithful as any time-serving courtier (see Appendix: Legends).

The ancient doggerel in the Book of St. Albans giving descriptions of the points of a greyhound have been quoted so constantly that it may seem almost superfluous to again give them here, but our only apology is that it may prove of interest to see them in juxtaposition with some very similar ones written some time previously by Gace de la Buigne. Of these verses G. de F. gives, twenty-eight years later, a prose version, which our Master of Game has rendered into English.

"Museau de luz,
Harpe de lion col de cigne
Encore auoit aultre signe,
Car il auoit œil d'espervier
Et tout blanc estoit le levrer;
Oreille de serpent avoit,
Qui sur la teste gisoit,
Espaule de cheureuil sauvage
Couste de biche au boscaige,
Langue de cerf, coue de rat.
Cuisse de lieure et pié de chat;
Il salloit comme un leu cervier."
—GACE DE LA BUIGNE. (1359).

"The Grehounde moste be heddyd lyke a snake, and neckyd like a drake, and brestyd lyke a lyon, and sydyd lyke a noynon, and fotyde like a catte, and taylyd lyke a ratte; thenne ys the grehounde welle ischapte." (Egerton MS. 1995 Brit. Mus.)

"Heded like a snake, and necked like a drake. Foted like a cat. Tayled like a Rat, Syded lyke a Teme. Chyned like a Beme." (Boke of St. Albans, f. iv.)

Following this description is a list of instructions telling us what to do with a greyhound from his first year to the ninth, ending with:

GREYHOUND—continued

"and when he is commyn to that yere haue hym to the tanner. For the beest hounde that euer bukke hade at ix yere he is full badde."

HARDEL, hardeyl, to tie couples of hounds together. From the French word harder, which has the same meaning: Harder les chiens, and harde, the rope with which they are tied. It is derived from hart, hard, art, a binder of willow or other pliable wood used for fastening fagots together (Lit. and God.). The primitive way of tying hounds together was by passing such a small flexible branch through the couplings which bent back on itself, both ends being held. "Les chiens . . . seront enhardez par les couples à genoivres ou à gentre josne hois tors" (Roy Modus, f. xlvii.

autre josne bois tors" (Roy Modus, f. xlvii. recto). In France there used to be two hardes to each relay and not more than eight hounds in every harde (D'Yauville). In England there used to be about the same number. The term was still used in Blome's time (1686), for he writes in his "Gentleman's Recreation": "The huntsman on foot that hath the charge of the coupled hounds, and before that must have hardled them, that is, with a slip, for the purpose ready secured three or four couple together, that they may not break in from him, to run into the cry of the Finders" (p. 88).

Harling was a word used in Devonshire, and as it meant tying the hound together by means of a rope passed through the rings of the couples, it is undoubtedly a corruption of the word hardeling. "Until comparatively recent times the hounds in Devonshire were taken to the meet and held in this manner until the time came to lay the pack on " (Collyns).

Hardel, the technical O. E. term for binding together the four legs of the roebuck, the head having been placed between the two forelegs, in order to carry him whole into the kitchen. Edward II.'s Chief Huntsman Wil. Twici, about 1320, wrote: "Quant il est pris, il serra aporte a la quysine tut entyer, e les chiens serrount rewardez de les peez e la peaul demorra a la quysine" ("When he is taken, he shall be carried to the kitchen entire and the hounds shall be rewarded with the feet and the skin shall remain for the kitchen") (Twici, p. 9). The Boke of St. Albans says that the hounds shall be rewarded with the bowels and the feet and then the roe shall be herdeled:

"The Roo shall be herdeled by veneri I weene
The II. forther legges the hede layde by twene."

Simply binding as with a cord, being derived from the old French word *Hardel*, *hardelle*, a cord. "It must be remembred (which be leaveth out)

"It must be remembred (which he leaveth out), that ye feete be all foure left on. The hinder feete must be to fasten (or *hardle* as some hunters call it) the hanches to the sides, and the two fore feete are left to hang up the shoulders by "(Turb. 1611, p. 134).

"The dressing of the Roe is termed the herdlenge" (Blome, p. 87). Hardeled is evidently the origin of the modern term "Hurdle a roe."

Hurdle, "to brittle a roe" (Stuart, "Lays," Glos. p. 550).

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HARE.—Pliny records the fable that hares "are of many and various sexes." Topsell remarks that "the Hebrews call the hare 'arnebet,' in the feminine gender," which word gave occasion to an opinion that all hares were females (p. 264).

"Archelaus uppon this occasion affirmeth that a hare beareth young both male and female, so that Gramarians know not of what sex to make it. The common sort of people suppose that they are one year male and another female" (Top. p. 266)

"In the Gwentian code of Welch laws supposed to be of the eleventh century, the hare is said not to be capable of any legal valuation, being in one month male and in another female" (Twici, p. 22).

Certainly in many of the older writings on hares the pronouns "her" and "him" are used indiscriminately in the same sentence. Sir Thomas Brown in his treatise on vulgar errors asserts from his own observation that the sex of the hare is changeable, and that the buck hare will sometimes give birth to young. Up to the end of the eighteenth century there was a widespread and firm belief in this fable (Brehm, ii. p. 626). Buffon describes it as one of the animal's peculiar properties, and from the structure of their parts of generation he argues that the notion has arisen of hermaphrodite hares, that the males sometimes bring forth young, and that some are alternately males and females and perform the functions of either sex.

Master of Game (copying G. de F.) states that the hare carries her young for a period of two months, but in reality the period of gestation is only thirty days. Harting says that the adult hare will breed twice or thrice in the year, but Brehm declares they breed as many as four times, and but seldom five times (Encyclop. of Sport, vol. ii. p. 504; Brehm, vol. ii. p. 626; G. de F. p. 47).

On the same occasion G. de F. states that the hare has usually two leverets at a birth, but that he has seen as many as six; according to Brehm, in the first litter there will be one or two leverets, in the second three or four, and in the third and fourth again only two.

G. de F. (p. 43) says of a hare, "Elle oit bien, mais elle voit mal." Master of Game translates this simply as She hath evil sight; but does not say she hears well. The sense of hearing is most highly developed in the hare, and every lightly breaking twig or falling leaf will disturb her. It is said that of old when warreners wished to prepare hares for the market they filled their ears with wax, so that not being continually disturbed by noises, they did not move about much and grew sleek and fat (Blome, p. 95). G. de F.'s assertion that the hare "has evil sight" is also confirmed by Brehm, who, how-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These ropes were probably used as sewells (or G. lappen). There exist some interesting old prints of the sixteenth century by Stradanus' showing how such ropes were employed. Greyhounds are chasing deer who in their fright are running into and getting entangled in a rope stretched across the path of their flight; behind the rope, under trees, stand the sportsmen who are shooting.