LE LIVRE DU ROY MODUS—continued

as they have not the wherewithal, he therefore will instruct how to take beasts in nets. Five short chapters on the diseases of dogs and remedies precede a long account of how to take wild boar within enclosures, by spreading nets and setting stables or stations of huntsmen and hounds round the part of the forest to be hunted in. It is in this treats allegorically of historical facts in which du chapter that the author says he saw King Charles IV. Guesclin is the chief hero, we need not concern take one hundred and twenty boars in one day without counting those that were stolen! Two other chapters are then devoted to taking wolves and stags with nets, followed by a moralising one called: Cy endroit moralise la royne Racio des bestes et espécialement du cerf (fol. lii. v.).

Then Modus takes the word again and begins to speak of archery, he tells his pupils that the first man who invented the bow was named Secmodus, and that his son Tarquin, whom he began to train when he was eight years old, was the best archer that ever existed. He had such a steady hand that with every shot he took an apple off the top of a stick from a distance of thirty affours (fol. liii. v.).

In the following chapters we find instructions how a bow should be made, and strung and held, how to stalk and shoot deer and boar in the forest with bow and cross-bow; the use of the stalking cow and horse is explained, also how to shoot hares in the cornfields. Then come eight natural history chapters concerning the beasts already mentioned.

The next eight chapters are written especially for the poor man who is not able to have hounds, and instruct him how to take beasts with a few nets and other simple devices.

Then follow 28 chapters on falconry, the taming and the training of the sparrow-hawks and falcons and their various flights being described. In the last of these chapters the author says that he has shown how the sparrow-hawks and falcons should be trained according to the doctrine of Modus, and points out how thankful men should be that God has provided such sport for their recreation. He exclaims: il n'est nulz qui peust penser la grant joye et soulas qui vient des déduis des chiens et des oyseaulx, and then proceeds to describe the meeting of some huntsmen and falconers at an Inn, where they drink and eat together and begin to discuss their day's sport and end by getting angry with each other over the argument which of the two sports should take precedence: venery or falconry, a falconer hits a huntsman over the head with his lure, and the huntsman retaliates by striking out with his horn. They are separated with great trouble by their companions, one of whom says: "You discuss and fight for nought. For two ladies made an argument in this matter and had it put into rhyme, and sent it to the Comte de Tancarville to be judged of, the which argument I have a copy with me." Then cried the others that it must be read, so that we have the conclusion of the debate and how judgment was given.

And thus does the author weave in his verses, of which we have already spoken. Following the verses come sixteen more prose chapters on fowling, showing all kinds of nets, snares, decoy birds, slip

nooses, limed twigs, and other similar devices, the seventeenth and last chapter being: Comment la Royne Racio moralise sur les oyseaulx. It ends: explicit le livre des déduis des chiens et d'oyseaulx que le roy Modus ordonna.

With the Songe de Pestilence (the Clerk's dream) that follows and which, as has already been said, ourselves as it in no way relates to sport.

Summary.—The Book of Roy Modus as we know it is a compilation of the 14th century, the compiler having before him some older work on the chase, though what the ancient book was has not been discovered as no such work is now known. That he was a clerk, and not a grand seigneur, can be fairly inferred from internal evidence, also that he was a Norman can be considered certain from the same.

That the rosette contained at the end of two MSS. incloses the name of the compiler and scribe not that of the original author, and the most likely solution of this puzzle has been given by M. Chassant, i.e., Henri de Ferrières and Denis D'Hormes as they both can be found in Normandy, Henri not necessarily being a Sire de Ferrières but probably a clerk in the Monastery of that place taking his name, as was often the custom, from the place.

That this compilation was begun not earlier than 1328 and finished not later than 1379.

LIBRO DE LA MONTERIA of King Alfonso XI., written between 1342-1350. According to Gutierrez de la Vega there are nine MSS. belonging to the 14th and beginning of the 15th century, five of which are in Spain and the others in Paris.

I. Codice I. Escurialense, middle of 14th century, Escurial Lib.

II. Codice II. Escurialense, end of 14th century, Escurial Lib.

III. Codice de la Cartuja de Sevilla, end of 14th century. Private Lib. of the King. It seems to be one of the best of the MSS., parch., illum. IV-V. Cited in the Memorias de la Real Academia de la Historia, p. 457.

VI-IX. Paris, 15th century, of which Nr. 10,222 in "Biblioteca Real," Paris (the Royal Lib. is now the Bib. Nationale), seems according to de la Vega to be the best, and from which two of the other Paris MSS. are copies. It belonged once to the Brézé family and is richly illuminated.

A printed edition was issued by Argote de Molina, Seville, 1582.

1. Argote de Molina, Seville, 1582. 2. By Gutierrez de la Vega in his Biblioteca Venatoria, Madrid, 1877.

This book is the most important mediæval Spanish book on hunting, the Spanish Gaston Phoebus, and was written at the command of Alfonso XI. King of Castille and Leon (1312-

LIBRO DE LA MONTERIA—continued 1350). It is divided into three books, the first treating with the different kinds of chases, the second dealing with hounds, their diseases

and cures, and the third part speaking of the different forests in Castille and Leon and the beasts that are to be found therein.

HADAMAR VON LABER, Vienna Court Library MS. 2720, first half of 14th century. An allegorical poem entitled Diu (sic.) Jagt. It has been printed by:

1. Schmeller, Stuttgart, 1850.

2. Dr. Carl Steyskal, Wien (Alf. Hölder),

There exist fourteen MSS. of it, but the above according to Dr. Steyskal and E. v. Dombrowski is the best one.

GACE DE LA BUIGNE, also Gasse de la Vigne, Bigne, Buygne, Buinge, Bugne, Vingne, Benigne, Roman des Oiseaux ou Roman des

I. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 616, vellum, 2nd article middle 15th century. See Gaston Phæbus.

II. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1315, paper, 15th century.

III. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1614, vellum, 15th century, miniatures.

IV. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1615, vellum, 15th century, vignette.

V. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1616, vellum, 15th century, vignette.

VI. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1617, paper, 14th (?) century.

VII. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1618, paper, 15th century.

VIII. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1619,

paper, 15th century. IX. MS. Biblioth. Nat. Paris, f. fr. 1620,

paper, 15th century. X. MS. Paris Arsenal Bib., 4834, copy made in 18th century.

XI. MS. Paris Arsenal Bib., 3332, paper, 15th century, art. 1, fol. 1-77.

XII. MS. Lyon, 682, paper, 14th century. XIII. MS. Tours, 842, vellum, 15th century

incomplete at end. XIV. MS. Montpellier, École de Médecine,

346, vellum, 14th-15th century. XV. MS. Ajaccio, 81, 14th century.

XVI. MS. Brussels, Royal Lib. 11,183, 14th century.

XVII. MS. Duc d'Aumale, Chantilly, vellum, 15th century. Concluding passage: "Le livre est au duc de Berry et dauvergne conte et poitouset dauvergne." Signed "Johan" (brother

of Charles v.) This MS. "is a rare specimen of the first cotton paper employed at the close of the Middle Ages." Compare: Bulletin du bibliophile, xiii. 104-5, and Vanpraet.

XVIII. MS. Duc d'Aumale, Chantilly. vellum, 15th century. Formerly in the possession of the House of Condé.

XIX. MS. Ashburnam Catalogue, ii. (Barrois), MS. 64, vellum, 14th century, ff. 246.

XX. MS. Two Parchment Leaves of the beginning of the 15th century. Printed by Warton in Reliquiæ antiquæ, i., p. 310-313, as an anonymous "Fragment of a poem on Falconry;" corresponds with Gace.

It was printed three times in G. de F.'s

I Paris, Ant Vérard, small fol. goth. double cols., ff. 134. According to Lavallée's G. de F. (p. xlix.) end of 15th century. According to Brunet, iv. 598, about 1507, and according to Lacroix, Crétin S., vii. 1507.

2 Paris, Trepperel, fol. goth. ff. 118. According to Werth 1505, and Brunet after 1505.

3 Paris, Philippe le Noir, small 4to, goth. ff.

The Duke d'Aumale published in the Philobiblion Society, London, vol. ii. Documents relatifs à Jean, Roi de France, and printed those verses of Gace's work descriptive of the Royal staghunt, with a short account of Gace, and this was reprinted in the Bulletin du Bibliophile, 13-series, Paris, 1857, the extracts were made from MS. XVII. and XVIII. in the possession of the Duke. An analysis in eight pages of this work, by Amiel, appeared in the 5th year of the Journal des Chasseurs, p. 188.

Gace de la Buigne, to follow the most usual of the several ways of spelling his name, belonged to an old Norman family which he himself tells us could count their six quarterings of nobility, and from whom he inherited his love of the chase.

> "Le prestre est né de Normandie De quatre costés de lignie Qui moult ont amé les oyseaulx De ceulx de la Bigne et d'Aignaux Et de Clinchamp, et de Buron."

This priest was Gace, who was brought up for the church and was appointed First Chaplain to Phillip vi. and occupied the same post under John II. and Charles v. as he tells us:

> "Car a servy trois Roys en France En leur Chapelle souverain De tous troys maistre Chapelain, Lesquelz lui ont faict tant de biens Qu'il m'a dit qu'il ne lui fault riens."

Although destined for the priesthood Gace practised falconry from his earliest days, and says that at the age of nine he carried his hobby to the field and could train a falcon at the age of twelve. All