LA CHASSE DU LOUP—continued

three; in 1658, two; in 1666, two; in 1676, no less than four, two of them being published by widows of former publishers; and in 1698, two. In Lyon rather similar rivalry appears to have prevailed, for in 1637 there were issued two editions by rival houses, and in 1680 no

Little is known of the author except that which he tells us himself in his book. He came, like many another celebrated sportsman, of a noble Norman family, and entered the navy in 1515. At the time when he wrote his book (1566) on the chase of the wolf he held a commission which corresponds with that of a Vice-Admiral of the present day. (Clam. Julien. Notice. p. xi.) He had many years before made a universal chart, which he tells us he presented to Francis and which that King accepted and put in his library at Fontainebleu. He seems to have been much at Court and several important missions were confided to him. He must have been at least sixty years of age, if not more, when he wrote his most popular book on the wolf, in which he tells us that he has waged war on wolves for more than fifty years. A true sportsman, he seems to have enjoyed the pleasures of the chase as much, and perhaps more than, the satisfaction of clearing the country of these evil depredators. He says he has often run a wolf for hours, and on one occasion for eight hours, and exclaims that it is the finest of all chases (c'est une belle chasse sur toutes les autres).

In the dedication to King Charles at the beginning of his book he says that three years previously the King had asked him one day in what manner he ran his wolves, and what order he gave when the greyhounds were near the wolf: "Vous plaignant que l'un de vos bons Levriers en avoit esté blessé; qui m'a donné à cognoistre, Sire, le desir qu'avez d'entendre la chasse des Loups qui est certainement l'une des plus belles chasses de toutes les autres."

When the old sea-captain had his conversation with Charles, the latter could only have been twelve or thirteen, as the book was written about 1566 and three years after the conversation, and Charles was born in 1550. He tells Charles in the dedication that he has served in the navy for forty-five years, and has spent his leisure in wolf-hunting, and having much experience he can speak boldly on the subject, and that it will be easier to find fault with what he writes than to improve upon it.

In the first chapter he gives a summary of all the facts he could find relating to wolves in the ancient authors, such as Pliny, Olaus Magnus, Aristotle, and others. The second is devoted to the medicinal qualities supposed to belong to different parts of the wolf's body. Then the rest of the book treats of the actual chase, how to train a limer for wolf-hunting, how you should enter the young hounds to run cubs and give them their food on a wolf's skin. One should watch how they hunt—whether they hold their heads high or low; they should be encouraged with much petting and with encouragement by the voice and cries of Voile

cy aller! and Harlou! Harlou! when they find the tracks of the wolf. He says that hounds that are not especially trained for this chase are of no use, and that if all the two hundred thousand running hounds that are in France were to be put into a wood, they would not hunt the wolf out of it as one of his would. Most hounds, he says, on finding a wolf run out of the covert with their hair standing on end and two or three of them are generally killed. "Les gentilshommes mes voisins sçavent bien qu'il est vrai, et que le plus souvent perdent de leurs chiens," but that such a thing has not happened to him during the fifty years he has been making war upon the wolves. He says also that he has several times been at Courts, and in the houses of princes and seigneurs who have laughed at the idea of his being able to track a wolf with a limer, but experience showed them the contrary. He had always two or three well broken, even though fourteen running hounds and eight big greyhounds, broken to this chase, had been stolen from him during the troublous times.

After the chapters on the breaking of limers and running hounds, he tells how to hunt without a limer, and how to take wolves with relays of greyhounds. He says his greyhounds were sometimes not as big as the wolves they took, but breed and being accustomed to this hunting count for much. His greyhounds were not so large as those one sees at the Court in Brittany, he tells us, but that a good wolfhound could be bred from a greyhound of Brittany and a greyhound for the hare (levriere à lievre).

The last two chapters treat of traps, nets, and other instruments for the capture of wolves.

BOCCA MAZZO (Boccamazza) (Dominico). Trattato della cacia. Rome, 1548.

Of the eight books into which it is divided the last three relate to falconry. It is a very rare book (see Harting, Bib. Acc. p. 144).

THE INSTITUTION OF A GENTLEMAN, Anon, London, 1555.

2. London, 1568.

3. Modern reprint made in 1839 by the Chiswick Press, only twenty-five copies being issued, "for presentation."

A very scarce little book more fully described by J. E. Harting, in his Bib. Acc. The unknown author remarks: "Ther is a saying among hunters that he cannot be a gentleman whyche loveth not hawkyng and hunting, which I have hard old Woodmen wel allow as an approved sentence among them. The like saying is that hee cannot bee a gentleman whyche loveth not a dogge."

VALLES (Mossen Juan) Libro de Acetreria y de Monteria (1556).

There are five MSS. of this work, four of which are in the National Library, Madrid; and the fifth in the Bibliotheca Columbuia, Seville.

Four of these MSS. belong to the 16th century, and one (Nat. Lib. Madrid) to the end of the 17th or beginning of the 18th century.

VALLES—continued

Three of them begin on fol. i. as follows:

Libro. de. acetreria. compuesto. Par Mossen. Jvan. Valles. Thesario. General. y. del. Consejeo. de sv. Magestad. en el. Reyno. de Navarra. y. añadido. al cavo. el. de. Monteria. Dirigidos. al. Serenissimo. Principe. Don Carlos . . . con previlegio Año

The prince Don Carlos to whom this dedication is addressed was son of Philip II. of Spain.

The work is divided into six books, the first four, containing 145 chapters, are devoted to Falconry, the fifth book, containing 33 chapters, to the chase, and the sixth book, with 37 chapters, treats of dogs of the chase, their diseases and the cures for the same.

We cannot find that this work has ever been

LA CHASSE ROYALE, by CHARLES IX. of France (died 1574).

1. Composée par le roy Charles 1x. et dédiée au roy très Chrestien de France et de Navarre Louis XIII., très utile aux curieux et amateurs de la Chasse. Paris, Rousset et Alliot, 1625.

2. Edited by Henri Chevreul. Paris, 1857. 3. An exact copy of first edition. Paris, Bouchard-Huzard, 1857.

4. Edited by Henri Chevreul. Paris, 1858. 5. Edited by Henri Chevreul under the title "Le livre du roy Charles." After a MS. in the Institut (fonds Godefroy Rec. nr. 194). Paris,

Aubry, 1895.

This treatise on stag-hunting was dictated by King Charles to his secretary Nicolas de Neufville, Sieur de Villeroy. It was begun during the last years of his life, but never finished. The modern reprints are preceded by an interesting introduction by M. Henri Chevreul, in which he says that he has gathered together all the information that could possibly be obtained from contemporary documents respecting Charles IX., and has collected those facts which have reference to him, and writes not on him as a monarch, but sur l'homme privé, le poëte et veneur. He endeavours to show that this monarch, who is only remembered with execration as the participator in the massacre of St. Bartholomew, was naturally of a good and noble disposition, and only perverted by the education The result, however, of these were that Charles left the reins of the government to Catherine, and passed his life in amusements, in hunting, dancing, in horsebreaking, and in making locks at his forges in the palaces of the Louvre and at Amboise. In the evenings he collected round him the best intellects of the age, sang songs to his own accompaniment on the lute, and made verses himself, or sat up all night listening to Ronsard, the poet of the French Renascence, who would recite or sing his poems to the King. Charles was the devoted friend of Ronsard, and when the poet was not at Court wrote him poetical epistles in verse, and received the same from the poet. M. Chevreul tells us further that the King was simple in his dress, abstemious in his food, and that his morals were better than those of the preceding Valois.

Indeed, after reading this account of Charles and

some of the specimens of the courtly and somewhat sentimental verses written by him, one can scarcely imagine that this was the man who consented to, even if he did not take part in, the ghastly massacre of heretics. But there are other traits which M. de Chevreul does not give, that must lead one to the conclusion that he had not only inherited the sporting instincts and his love of the gentler pursuits of literature and the fine arts from his Valois ancestors, but also a bloodthirsty cruelty from his Medicis forebears which showed itself in him at moments of excitement. For instance, he took a delight in testing the strength of his sword by completely severing with one stroke the head from the body of a deer standing at bay before the hounds. Even this might be pardoned as belonging to a barbaric era of sport, but he would similarly try his strength by chopping off the head of cattle and mules he happened to meet when out riding. Once wishing to decapitate the mule of one of his followers, M. de Lansac, the owner exclaimed: "Quel differend, Roy très-chréstien, peut estre survenu entre vous et mon mulet?" There is evidence in Charles' accounts that he paid recompense to those that had suffered losses through his indulging in this cruel mania; for instance, he recompensed the owner of four cows on to which he had set his large greyhounds, who pulled them down and strangled them (de Noir., vol. i. p. 173). A highly excitable and nervous nature, it is no wonder that such deeds of violence and overindulgence in his passion for the chase told on his health. He passed sleepless nights, and would jump up out of his sleep and call to his hounds. On horseback before daylight, he would take his limer and harbour the stag himself, he would be six or eight hours in the saddle, and continually call to his hounds and sound his horn (Brantome, ed. 1823, vol. iv. p. 221).

One of the feats which is attributed to Charles was that of taking a stag by himself, literally galloping the stag to a standstill, having neither hounds nor greyhounds with him. This performance was celebrated in verses by two of the poets who frequented the King's Court, Baif and Francois d'Amboise, and are given with other interesting and régime of his mother, Catherine de Medicis. verses and facts by M. Chevreul, but we have no

space to repeat them here.

Charles died at the age of twenty-four, some said of poison administered by his mother, others, and most likely this is the right version, that he died from the effects of a day's hunting, when he caught cold and had an attack of pneumonia. This gave rise, no doubt, to the idea that he had injured his lungs by blowing his hunting horn too much, and thus caused his death. His horrible deathbed, haunted by nightmares of violence which drew from the wretched man cries to heaven for forgiveness for the bloodshed committed by him