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Some Unwritten Laws of Organized Foxhunting and Comments on the Usages of the Sport of Riding to Hounds in America

> Compiled and Edited by LOUIS V. BREESE

> > MCMIX



TO THE READER

To us modern Americans of little erudition in the niceties of the chase, it is astonishing in reading the CYNEGETICOS or Essays on Sport, written by Xenophon—430 years before the birth of Christ, to find the accurate knowledge that great man had of hunting, and to observe one of the finest writers, the bravest soldiers, the ablest politicians, the wisest philosophers and the most virtuous citizens of the world's history so intimately acquainted with all the tricks and the difficulties of hunting.

Virgil appeals to the huntsman in his Georgics,

"En age, segnes,

Rumpe moras; vocat ingenti clamore Cithaeron, Taygetique canes, domitrixque Epidaurus equorum, Et vox assensu nemorum ingeminata remugit."

while in 1735 Somerville fires the imagination with his immortal poem, "The Chase."

"While crowded theatres, too fondly proud
Of their exotic minstrels, and shrill pipes,
The price of manhood, hail thee with a song
And airs soft warbling: my hoarse sounding horn
Invites thee to the chase, the sport of kings;
Image of war, without its guilt.

"Where are their sorrows, disappointments, wrongs Vexations, sickness, cares? All, are gone, And with the panting winds lag far behind."

This Brochure contains opinions of the greatest authorities on organized foxhunting and especially those of value in America.

Nothing is so detrimental to the noble sport as disputes between Masters or annoyance to land-owners and others through carelessness or ignorance on the part of the field.

In the hope that public opinion may be the more readily crystalized, these pages have been compiled.



FOREWORD

Since pre-Revolutionary days chase of the fox in America has been pursued with enthusiasm. In the North usually with a single slow moving. rather small, generally black and tan hound of long ears—the object being to shoot revnard in his runway. In portions of Pennsylvania the hound varies from his northern brother, having greater size and longer ears. Further south in Virginia and Kentucky, hounds have been bred for generations for their racing qualities, and there a hound not dissimilar to the English Foxhound of a hundred and fifty years ago, has been developed. In this part of the country a chase with the hounds is usually referred to as a "race." The several indigenous American forms of foxhunting do not include the practice of riding straight 'cross country. northern hunter goes on foot while the southern, although usually mounted, hardly ever jumps—gates and lowered rails allowing progress to points of vantage from which the hounds can be heard. mode of hunting hounds is known as "hill topping," the object being to test the powers of the hounds, not riding.

It was only a few years ago, hardly a quarter of a century, since riding straight to hounds became in any sense popular. About that time there began to be developed in America hunting organizations which adopted from England and Ireland certain superficialities of the highly developed sport in those countries without, in most cases, adopting the broad and democratic views, the responsibilities and thorough organization of the hunts of Great Britain.

One of the most detrimental things that could have occurred to organized hunting in America was

the atmosphere of "society" rather than "sports-manship" given to the early hunt "clubs."

Riding to foxhounds cannot properly exist in any locality in the world unless every member of the community is interested in its welfare. noble sport has lived successfully through two centuries in Great Britain because it has been conducted in the most democratic manner possible, and mere social or financial status has nothing to do with one's privilege to subscribe to and hunt with the local hounds. His qualities as a true sportsman and his support of hunting according to his means are all the qualifications that are asked of a man. Hunt "Clubs" are practically non-existent in Great Britain, but let it not be thought for a moment that hunting "organizations" are not infinitely better managed than in America. It can truthfully be said that we, as a rule, have been hopelessly deficient in everything connected with organized hunting from showing ordinary courtesy to land owners, and the preservation of the hunting country as such, to the breeding and management of hounds.

British hunting in modern times is generally on a "subscription basis" and managed by committees often elected by the subscribers or trustees, but never with the attitude of social superiority, often taken towards the rest of the community by the American hunt "Club."

On account of the advent of wire there will in a few years be no riding to foxhounds in America (as witnessed by the discontinuance of several hunts in the last few years), except in localities where the sport is very highly developed and action is taken to prevent its encroachment, and where the community stands back of the hunting. The interests of all landowners must be jealously guarded that the benefits of hunting to a locality may be appreciated. Foxhunting in America must be put on a "subscription"

not a "club membership" basis, and must be open to all, and made in spirit and *de facto* a benefit to the community, not a private amusement. The days of doing things half way have passed if foxhunting is to live with us. Every detail of the sport must be perfected for the pleasure of all subscribers that the novices may be the more pleased and the knowing ones kept contented at home and not forced to go abroad for their hunting. Most important of all, means and materials for economically building wooden or stone fencing must be provided by the hunt for those needing the same—otherwise wire will be used and the hunting eventually come to an end in consequence.

Foxhunting became a great public institution in Great Britain and remains so in spite of everything only because its privileges and responsibilities are understood and lived up to. To-day in America the fate of this last relic of the ancient chase lies in the balance and only wise usage and broad understanding will make its continuance possible. Remembering therefore, that this great sport has reached its zenith in the British Isles because it is everywhere considered as a benefit for all rather than a plaything for the few, let us note what customs for master and field constitute by given consent the Unwritten Laws of Foxhunting.



The Unwritten Laws of Foxhunting

GENERAL

A fox started in a pack's own country may be followed anywhere.

Should a pack run a fox over their border into a neighboring country and he should get to ground, the Master of the invading pack has a perfect right to get him out in the following ways; but he must under no circumstances use a spade or pickaxe, or break ground in any way.

He may put a terrier in, provided he belongs to his hunt establishment, and is either running with the pack, or carried with it. He must not commandeer a terrier out of his country or in the country into which he runs.

He may try and drown the fox out.

He may use a pole to poke him out.

He may try to smoke him out.

If there is more than one fox in the den, he only has a right to kill one.

If a pack of hounds should run a fox over their border into a neighboring country and apparently lose him, and eventually turn to go back into their own domains, and a fox is holloa'd at no great distance from where they lost their fox, they have a perfect right to go and hunt that fox, as it is impossible to say it was not their hunted fox who had lain down; but, supposing they had trotted, say two miles or so from where the fox had been lost and then a holloa occurred, or information came to hand of a fox having been seen, the huntsman should not

lay his hounds on, for it is not a good sportsman who poaches. This rule, of course, must be somewhat elastic and left to the sportsmanlike instincts of Masters and huntsmen.

In cubhunting a Master should keep as much as possible to his own country, and certainly so during September. In October, when hounds are let go, it is more difficult to do so, but it is annoving to a Master to have a neighboring pack running a fox where he himself was contemplating a good morning a few days later. Though there is no rule about this, and as a Master has a perfect right to take a cub over his border into a covert, small or large, of his neighbors, and try to kill him in any way he can, except by use of spade or pick as mentioned previously, it is better to keep to your own country till later on; besides farmers must be considered—crops have not vet been turned into bank notes and broken fences at this time are liable to cause much future trouble. Therefore, orthodox hunting is best left till as late in October as possible.

Cubhunting is entirely a private matter, and no business of anyone's but the Master's, to condition and school his pack and educate his foxes—anyone coming out comes out on sufferance. It must be left entirely to the discretion of the Master how many cubs he thinks it advisable to kill, also whether he sends cards of these meets out or not, and at what hour he decides to meet.

As regards neutral countries, no absolute rule is applicable which would suit them all, the local neutrality being generally fixed by the two Hunt Committees concerned. Any dispute arising should be amicably settled by representatives of the Hunt Committees interested. Some countries have a portion that is drawn by two different packs, taking months and months about; other neutral portions are drawn just as it suits these packs, and so on.

As to the moving of cubs, this is always a very doubtful policy, as cubs rarely do well when transferred from one part of the country to the other. If a complaint is made to the Master as regards a litter being in too close proximity to a poultry roost, it is better to send the huntsman to burn some sulphur in the holes, and the vixen is certain to shift them that night. Care must be taken not to overdo it and thereby smother the cubs. As regards cubs in a boundary fence adjoining a neighboring hunt. or even near the boundary of another hunt, these should under no circumstances be tampered with by a Master unless he is in complete accord with the neighboring Master, as the latter, for instance, may have a covert close to where he is expecting these cubs to shift into, or they may, in fact, have been originally laid down there, and made a shift over the boundary for a week or two. It would therefore be a most unneighborly action to move them, besides being absolutely against the rules and usages of foxhunting.

A Master of a pack of hounds has undoubtedly a perfect right to take hounds home whenever he wishes. He is absolute master. The country is handed over to him to hunt to the best of his ability, and if he for any reason considers the interests of the Hunt will be furthered by his taking the hounds home, he can do so for any cause whatever, either because of the field over-riding hounds, riding over crops, or any want of discipline, or any other reason, though, of course, it is better to send the offender home than take extreme measures, which spoils a day's sport for the innocent people.

In countries where valuable stock, for example, blood horses, are pastured, or where particular attention is paid to the shooting, a Master should have a clear understanding with landowners as to what may and what may not be detrimental.

When the regular hunting season begins, meets should be considered as of general public interest and fixture cards and other definite means of information should reach all who may be interested, including all landowners of the district, whether subscribers or not. It is a simple courtesy which may be bountifully repaid.

All hunt organizations should in some definite manner make it clear that everyone is welcome to hunt. There should be no hesitancy or false pride in making it plain to visitors that subscriptions are welcome in order that the hunting may be so much the more improved by the additional income. There are many who do not care to hunt by invitation alone but who would much prefer paying a subscription and feeling independent.

Unless it is generally recognized that a hunt accepts subscriptions there is likely to be hesitancy on the part of many who otherwise would come out.

Meets should be held punctually and should be regarded most seriously. Nothing but the most ex traordinary circumstance or weather should warrant an advertised meet being given up or its venue changed. Should such an untoward necessity arise, every possible effort must be made by the Master to notify any and all who may be interested, and in addition someone should be left at the advertised place of meeting to notify any who may come there. Nothing can be more annoying or cause greater lack of confidence in the Hunt organization than to miss the hounds owing to the fault of the Hunt.

In some countries the hounds belong to trustees, having either been purchased by the country or presented to the country. In this case an incoming Master takes over a certain number, and is bound to leave the same number on his retirement, of sound working hounds.

On or before February first in each year a Master wishing to resign should acquaint the Hunt Committee, so as to give the country a chance of securing the services of the best Master possible; also it is only fair to the Hunt servants to be given as long as possible to obtain situations. After February first, no notice having been received by a Committee, they are justified in presuming the Master intends going on for another season.

There is a Freemasonry amongst Masters of Hounds in allowing each other the free use of any hound in their kennel for Stud purposes. No Master ever charges a Stud fee. However, he should be protected from trouble and expense in such matters.

A Master must remember that the primary object of foxhunting is the hunting of the fox, and the field must be kept in control accordingly so that the fox may not be headed, nor hounds or hunt staff hindered.

Too ardent members of the field should be quietly but firmly told of their error, for their actions are generally due to ignorance.

It should never be forgotten that all signals out hunting should be plainly understood by the staff. Without a perfect understanding between the huntsmen, whips and Master, confusion will ensue and sport suffer. The staff should always notify the field should a fox have "gone away," by the view holloa, *i.e.*, "Tallyho," "Gone away" or "Gone away" followed in both instances by "Forward, away, away, away, away, away, away."

A whistle as used by Lord Lonsdale with the Quorn and in the Duke of Beaufort's Woodlands, may be carried for one purpose, *i.e.*, when a fox has gone away, and used on this occasion and no other. It should be of great assistance both to the staff and field in most American countries, usually so hilly, or wooded, or both.

A Master eager to improve conditions in his country should strengthen his Hunt Committee and keep it as personally interested as possible in order that when the necessity arises the members may be in touch with the status quo. The limits of the country should be defined in order that responsibility for damage may be fixed.

A map of the district should be perfected having the location of meets carefully designated thereon. The map should be divided into sections and so far as possible definite days selected for hunting the several sections. For example, let the westerly section be hunted on a Monday, the easterly section on a Wednesday and so on so that after a while the one-day-a-week man, if he lives in a Monday country, may make his arrangements accordingly and keep his Mondays open for sport.

Interested individuals should be appointed to act in each section to protect the interests of the Hunt in every way, keeping the Master informed of conditions in their section and holding themselves liable to call from him to see that necessary things are done from time to time.

ad infinitum.

A Master of Foxhounds should proceed in the following order of precedence to

- 1st. Make the hunting as popular as possible with all in his community.
 - 2d. Evolve a fencing and panelling system.
 - 3d. Have a plentiful supply of foxes.
- 4th. Improve the pack in ability and appearance.

Finally indulge in the luxuries of perfect horses and perfect equipment for his hunt staff.

"For forms of government let fools contest! Whate'er is best administered, is best."

The Unwritten Laws of Foxhunting

PERSONAL

It has been said that he who hunts the wild fox goes out in the true spirit of sport—he rides to hunt—but he who rides after the drag hounds, hunts to ride and for excitement's sake.

As much as it hurts to acknowledge it, we Americans are woefully superficial in our sporting knowledge. Unfortunately we have little custom or precedent to guide—hunting cannot be maintained or improved in the future unless hunting people realize their responsibilities and their relation to the landowner—the relation of guest to host. It is pathetic to think of the asinine actions that have been from time to time perpetrated by both ignorant and selfish hunting people. Townspeople are prone to imagine that the broad fields of the country belong to no one because no one is in sight they too frequently forget that their hunting is made possible only through the courteous hospitality and sporting spirit of landholders who have often never seen them and that every fence that is knocked down must be replaced by someone. Landowners while standing in their own fields have been cursed and threatened for no vital reason, fences have been broken and fat cattle turned loose without a word of apology, while at times when protests have been made patronizing answers have been forthcoming.

Few Americans know and few stop to realize that it costs from ten to fifteen thousand dollars annually to properly maintain a three or four day a week country and support a fencing and panelling system, without which there will be no foxhunting in the near future. In England costs are realized and the responsibilities squarely met, but with us standards are low and the payment of subscriptions are consequently often minimized or avoided. He who cares a straw about the real advancement of the sport should support his Master in every way not forgetting to subscribe to hounds with which he regularly hunts, at least the equivalent of one-half the amount it costs him per annum to feed his hunters, for what good are the hunters without good hunting?

A new-comer into a country should at once inform the Master or Secretary of the Hunt, so that all Hunt notices may be sent him. He should inquire what subscriptions would be satisfactory for him to give, if there is no rule laid down by the Hunt Committee, and also if there are special funds. should send his check at once, and write a note asking if the Master has any objection to his coming out cubhunting. The Master will, of course, answer the letter in a gracious manner, saying how pleased he will be to see him incidentally calling attention to the fact that in his country at least, hunting is made possible only through the sporting spirit of landowners whose crops must never be trampled nor their cattle disturbed, also that gates must be closed and damage reported.

In a new country it is always better to be underdressed than over-dressed, the wearing of pretentious clothing being the least important adjunct to the chase.

Where one rides, the way one rides and the quality of one's horses are of infinitely more importance than attire.

Members of the field should come to the meet and not anticipate the draw.

No one should speak to a hunt servant without first riding up to the Master and getting his permission to do so; but the less a huntsman or whip is spoken to the more time he will have to attend to the business in hand.

There is no class of person who gets a Hunt into disrepute more than grooms. These, as a rule, are extremely thoughtless and noted for leaving gates open and causing other damage. The strictest orders possible should be given to them, not once, but several times during the season.

Keenness is, of course, excusable, but the less conspicuous a member of the field makes himself the better it is for sport.

I've just a word, a warning word to whisper in your ear! When starting from the covert, should you see bold reynard bust, We cannot have no huntin, if the gemmen go fust."

Great care should be exercised in not rushing at jumps coincidently with others. Nothing is more dangerous or more likely to make a man or woman unpopular. Women are, unfortunately, prone to be heedless in this particular.

The injuring of a hound by one's horse, through carelessness, is an unpardonable sin which can hardly be atoned for. It takes years to perfect a good pack of hounds, of which individuals may have cost hundreds of dollars and be invaluable.

"Sufficiently forward, yet still keeping bounds, His wish to ride after, not over the hounds," has often been quoted as a warning to impatient people.

Any horse is liable to kick a hound or rider. Care should be exercised in this regard and animals especially prone to this trait should have a bit of red ribbon tied in the tail.

A member of the field should never holloa or attempt to make hunting noises when any of the staff is present. If a fox is viewed when one is alone, the holloa, "Tallyho" may be given several times until the attention of the staff is called, but then only in case there is no danger of turning the fox. In every possible instance it is better to call attention to the whereabout of the fox with as little noise as possible, such as by waving the arm, or by raising the hat on one's crop, pointing meanwhile in the direction the fox has taken.

Hunting people when crossing fields or on the road in remote country districts should always salute anyone they may meet with a pleasant word or bow. Should he come to an open gate and there is no one else in sight behind him, he must always shut it. Should someone be following, the cry "Gate, please" should be passed back. It is his business who wishes to hunt in the future to see that fence damage done by himself or others is repaired or carefully reported to the Master as soon as practicable.

Every man or woman who has the slightest interest in the local hounds should consider it his own particular business and sacred duty toward the sport to help build up hunting by generously supporting the Hunt organization and attempting by word and deed to smooth its none too easy path.

Do not criticise harshly or unjustly. Gossip not at all.

In nuce.

Hunting people should remember:

- 1st. That the task of the Master of Foxhounds is no easy one, and that it is as absolutely impossible to find a perfect Master of Hounds, as it is to find a perfect man or perfect woman.
- 2d. That the responsibilities of the Master and field to the community and to the welfare of the sport are great.

- 3d. That upon their own individual words, actions and subscriptions depend present and future conditions.
- 4th. That when they have complaints to make they should ask themselves, "What have I personally done to help matters, and how much do I subscribe to hounds?"

A Word to Landholders

The question often arises in the minds of American landowners, who are not active hunting men, what good comes to them by permitting their land to be ridden over.

As surely as the sun rises and sets the answer is as follows:

There are more hunting people and less hunting country in America each year. In any country where the hunting is well done, where the hunt organization works for the future, and where the landowners help the cause it will only be a very few years before land in that country is readily salable at prices far above its mere agricultural value, and because of the hunting.

There are thousands upon thousands of square miles of fine agricultural land in America, but only a few square miles of foxhunting country.

A word to the wise ought to be sufficient. But don't forget to keep out all wire!



A Word Picture for Americans to Copy

With thanks to T. F. DALE

The first day that we hunt with the Belvoir will always remain in our memory, so associated is the pack with the history of fox-hunting and the foxhound. So many men in the past have looked on this hunt as the very embodiment and type of the best side of our national sport that we feel that a day with the Belvoir is an experience not easily to be forgotten. Suppose then that some Wednesday early in the season we find ourselves at Croxton Park. The day is cloudy, and the wind has a touch of east in it. The remains of the old fishing lodge of the Duke of Rutland are before us, and the pond's steelv grev in the subdued misty light of the November morning adds a beauty to the landscape. There is a gathering of all the hardest riders, soldiers, statesmen, men of business, lawvers and farmers, people of every degree of rank and wealth. Then the women are on the best horses that money can buy or judgment select: others are riding less high-bred, but still useful animals; and there are many on foot and quite a cloud of cyclists.

There, too, quietly being walked up and down, is the famous pack, all with a wonderful family likeness in shape and colouring. Clean and bright in their coats, they have the easy grace and motion of perfect shape. Marvellous examples of careful selection they are, combining strength and speed that can tire out and outstrip the best of horses. The Hunt servants are neatly got up in quiet and workmanlike manner, and are mounted on horses chosen by one of the best judges in England. A trifle high in flesh for hunt horses perhaps; but when you have said that, you have said all that the keenest critic can find to object to. Every one is full of hope and expectation, for the whole season is before them with its possibilities of glorious moments, the like of which can be enjoyed only in the hunting-field. The huntsman possibly feels a little anxious, for the whole throng depend on him for their sport; and, as he is judged strictly by results, a bad scenting day, for which he is in no way responsible, may nevertheless lower his reputation. But, after all, he is not much to be pitied, for his work is his pleasure, and he knows as no one else does what those eighteen or twenty couple of hounds can do.

The Master has his cares, for the very popularity of the hunt fills his mind with a continual dread lest some of those reckless youths should take as little thought for his hounds as they do for their own necks. He looks at his watch and nods to the huntsman, who moves quietly off, the pack clustering round his horse and then trotting on in their eagerness as far in front as their respect for the first whipper-in, who leads the way and represents order and discipline, will allow. They know what is before them, and their waving sterns flash white in the anticipation of coming pleasure that fills them.

Bescaby Oaks is the first covert to be drawn. The field follow till they are packed in a muddy green lane where they can do little mischief and whence many of them will find it hard to disentangle themselves. But we have edged as near the gate on the right as may be. The leaves are still on the trees, golden, scarlet and brown, and there is that indescribable scent of hunting in the air that stirs us with the associations of past pleasures of the chase. There is a cheer from the huntsman, a crack of

the thong of a whipper-in, then a note from a hound which silences the chatter in the lane and brings every one to attention. Then arises a tumult of hound voices which sinks into silence and swells out again. The clamour divides and tells us there are two lines, and then a shrill voice sounds from the far side of the covert. Those pearest the gate dash through, up one side and down to the left, half the horses out of hand with excitement: but there is no time to lose for the fox is away, and the Belvoir hounds are already striving forward. With inconceivable rapidity they flit through the undergrowth. and, by the time the first men are through the gate and out of the covert, the whole pack has tumbled out of the wood spread wide for the scent, hit off the line, and are streaming away with a rippling, chiming cry that tells of a scent.

Now, catch hold of the horse by the head and send him along, for, even though he has the best blood of the Stud book in his veins, hounds will beat him for Sit back and let him have plenty of rein at the first hairy fence, for there is probably a ditch as well to clear, and, as he flings the first two fences behind him, there will be more room. The mass of the field are hindering each other at the gate or making for a gap, heedless of the fact that with a good horse the safest and happiest place is in front. But it is the hounds we have come out to see, and the horse is but the means to an end. See, they have overrun the line. The fox, only a cub, feels the pace already and turns short down a hedgerow. The hounds never pause or waver but cast themselves widely and freely to the left, then to the right, and. with scarcely the loss of a moment, are going as fast as ever. But the pace steadies them, and there is a bit of bad scenting ground where they have to feel for the scent; yet, even though they are hunting closely, they still drive forward, never wasting a moment. There is no dwelling to rejoice over the scent, and though they are not able to race, we shall have to look to it that we do not lose them. eager puppies and two impetuous leaders are off the line now and again, but the hounds in the middle never lose the scent and recall the others by a timely note. But in the small square covert of thorns the fox, being young and inexperienced, has waited. and that pause has sealed his fate, for this time hounds and fox come out almost together, and it is a race for life for the fox and a steeplechase for the followers for the next two miles till the hounds fairly run into him in the open. A Belyoir burst of twenty minutes of the best! So the day, with perhaps another burst, or it may be a long steady hunt, goes on. If you stay to the end, when the hounds turn away for the kennels at the end of the day, you will see that they will trot off as gaily as they started in the morning. The Master, the servants, and the much diminished field will have tired out two horses apiece, but courage and condition will apparently leave the hounds as willing and able to hunt when the shadows of the short November twilight put a stop to the sport, as when they left their kennels in the morning.

Now, this pack that you have watched and followed with so much interest and pleasure, is the result of at least a hundred years of selection, judgment and thought. There are fifty or sixty couples in kennels and as many puppies are sent out to walk, of whom not a third will be found worthy of a trial in the pack, and fewer still of a permanent place on the hound list. The first definite knowledge we have of the Belvoir hounds is in 1727, in the days of the third Duke of Rutland. His son, the famous Marquis of Granby, spent some of the time he could spare from "the wars" in hunting, and we know that he improved the pack. The fourth Duke married a

Somerset, the beautiful Lady Mary Isabella, whose portrait by Sir Joshua hangs on the walls at Badminton, and from Badminton came two hounds, Champion and Topper, to which many of the famous hounds of Brocklesby and Belvoir can be traced back, through Songstress.

From 1791 the pack has been hunted by a succession of able huntsmen who remained long at their posts, Newman, Shaw, Coosey, Goodall, Cooper, Gillard and Capell having each hunted the pack in turn from 1791 to the present day.



A Word as to Gossip

With thanks to G. F. UNDERHILL

It often happens that the people whom we consider to be our best friends are our worst enemies. and that the people whom we had always regarded as our worst enemies were in reality our best Especially is this the case in the hunting A Master of Hounds, unless he possesses superhuman intelligence, cannot distinguish between his staunch supporters and "the snakes in the grass," who pretend to be friendly towards hunting. I have been told that in many instances this secret hostility to hunting has been caused by the indiscreet conduct of the Master of Hounds, who has failed to recognize the important social position of the large covert-owners. Admitting my information to be true, surely the secret hostility would be against the Master of Hounds and not against the sport! I cannot imagine that any one of the large covertowners who have preserved foxes for us, and whose fathers and grandfathers have preserved foxes for us, would renounce his love of hunting for the sake of some personal dislike. He may use his influence in order to force the Master to resign. In the heat of the moment he may even threaten that he would not allow hounds to draw his coverts, though his listeners know that he would never carry his threat into execution. It sometimes happens, however, that one of his listeners is "a snake in the grass." and the threat is noised abroad. "They say that the Squire won't allow hounds to draw his coverts." The report spreads from the county club to the village alehouse, and is magnified by the literary opponents of hunting in the local press into the bald statement that the Squire is adverse to the sport. In such an instance the disguised enemy of hunting is the gossiping Paul Pry, who first circulated the report.

On one occasion I was the witness of the start of an unpleasant occurrence of this character. There had been a difference of opinion between the Master and a covert-owner in the hunting-field, and strong language had been used on both sides. It is unnecessary to relate the merits or demerits of the dispute, which was amicably settled within a week. so far as the principal parties were concerned. But. unfortunately, before the settlement of the dispute. the covert-owner had said at a dinner-party at his own house that he would not allow the Master to draw his coverts until he had apologized. This statement was made before a private circle of supposed friends over the mahogany after dinner; yet within a few days it was the public property of the countryside, with the important omission of the clause as to the apology. It was never discovered for an absolute certainty who was "the snake in the grass" on this occasion, though most of the guests formed a shrewd opinion as to the identity of the reptile.

The people who retail hunting scandal must be reckoned amongst the most dangerous disguised enemies of the sport. I believe that in many cases they do not intend to create mischief, but I could relate many instances where malice pretense was plainly the motive of the scandal. I am sorry to say that often ladies are the culprits, though I am glad to record that I have heard ladies put down this scandal-mongering with a strong voice when it was impossible for a man to utter the rebuke. Of course, we must expect to find what Punch calls "feline amenities" in the hunting-field; but when these feline amenities affect the prestige of the Hunt they must be restrained by a strong hand, if only for the reason that they destroy the social charm of hunt-But I do not wish to be accused of want of chivalry. When all has been said, the tittle-tattle of ladies is seldom taken seriously by sensible people.

As to the Huntsman

With thanks to G. F. UNDERHILL

No man, be he a professional or an amateur huntsman, can manage a pack properly unless he is on speaking terms with each hound. Most of my readers will recognize the following quotation from the journal of John Jorrocks, written immediately after he had accepted the Mastership of the Handley Cross Hounds, when he had paid his second visit to the kennels: "'Ounds all delighted to see me; stood up in my stirrups lookin' over the rails, 'olloain', cheerin', and talkin' to them. Yoicks Dexterous! Yoicks Luckylass! Yoicks Rallywood! Good dog! Threw bits of biscuit as near each of them as I could pitch them, callin' the 'ounds by name to let them see I knew them." How many modern Masters of Hounds imitate the example of the immortal grocer. Chatting with Scott about a certain M. F. H. I said, "But surely he knows something of kennellore!" And Scott replied, "He don't even know the names of his own hounds."

To a huntsman, as to a poet, we may apply the motto, *Nascitur*, *non fit*. There have not been many Masters of Hounds who were born huntsmen. To be a huntsman you must possess the confidence and the obedience of your hounds. Nature must have endowed you with a magnetic influence over dumb animals. So far as I am aware, no reliable scientific explanation has ever been given of this magnetic influence. Why should Herr Seeth, like a modern Daniel, be able to walk about with impunity in a lions' den? Why was it that the young apprentice, Herbert Jones, was the only jockey who could ride

Diamond Jubilee, or that Mr. E. P. Wilson was the only rider who could steer Roquefort across a country? Why, caeteris varibus, should hounds obey one man more than another? Masters of Hounds are too prone to ignore the last question. They forget that no man could possibly rise to the position of a professional huntsman unless he had proved, during the days of his stable and kennel boyhood, that there was a mutual affection between him and hounds. There can be no doubt but that to a large extent this magnetic influence is hereditary, though, of course, early associations have much to do with it. Still the fact remains that the children of huntsmen take to the kennels like ducklings take to water. However, the obedience of hounds is the result of incessant kennel work.

Hunting Terms

BABBLER: a noisy hound, one given to babbling, or flinging its tongue without cause.

BILLET: the dung of the fox.

BLANK: void, empty; a blank day, to draw a cover blank.

BRUSH: the tail of the fox.

BULLFINCH: a high and hairy hedge, impossible to get over and difficult to get through, whence perhaps the name, as of a fence impervious to a bullfinch, or any other bird. It might, however, be a corruption of "bull fence," a fence to keep the cattle in their pastures, as it is most common in the grazing countries. It has a ditch on one side or other, sometimes on both, and altogether is a disagreeable obstacle.

BURROW: the underground home of the rabbit.

BURST: the first, and, generally, the fastest part of the run, when fox, hound, horse, and man are at their freshest.

CARRY: to carry a good head is said of a pack of hounds all pressing and crowding to a hot scent.

CAST: the spreading of the hounds in a search of a lost scent, either a natural movement or promoted by the huntsman, also used as a verb, to cast.

CHALLENGE: the hound which first speaks to the scent in cover is said to challenge.

CHECK: a stoppage in the run owing to the temporary loss of the scent; also used as a verb, to check.

CHOPPED: a fox killed before he has had time to break cover is said to have been chopped.

COCKTAIL: any horse not thoroughbred.

COUNTER: hounds are running counter when they are hunting the scent the reverse way, *i.e.*, away from the game.

CROP: a hunting-whip.

CROPPER: a bad fall; the words crumpler and crowner are also used in the same significance, the latter generally with the addition of the epithet imperial.

CUB: the young of the fox.

DEN: the home or burrow of the fox.

DOUBLE: a fox or hare doubles when it turns short back on its line.

DRAG: the scent left by the fox returning home from his midnight prowlings. Also a fictitious scent produced by trailing or dragging along the ground a rabbit-skin, wisp of straw, piece of rag, or any receptive substance soaked in aniseed. Drag hounds is the term applied to a pack (generally a very scratch one) kept particularly for this sort of chase.

DRAW: used of the hounds ranging for their game.

EARTH: the underground home or burrow of the fox.

EARTH-STOPPER: the man whose business it is to see that all the neighbouring earths are duly stopped on hunting days. This must be done overnight, when the foxes are abroad after their food.

FEATHER: when a hound has a fancy that he scents his game, but is not yet quite certain enough to give tongue or speak to it, his stern will be observed to be violently agitated: this is called "feathering on the scent."

FOIL: an animal runs its foils when it returns on its own tracks.

FORM: the seat, or kennel, of the hare.

FULL-CRY: originally used of the chorus of tongues when all the pack acknowledge a burning scent; but the phrase now is generally taken to mean that period of the chase when the hounds are fairly settled on the line, and all, hunted and hunters, are doing their best—a period when hounds are as a rule going too fast to have much wind to spare for any musical performances.

HARK-FORWARD: the huntsman's cheer to his hounds to encourage them on the scent.

HEADED: turned from the line.

HEEL: see Counter and Foil.

JACK-HARE: a male hare.

JUMPING-POWDER: a facetious name for any stimulant taken to cheer a fainting heart, on the old principle of keeping spirits up by pouring spirits down.

KENNEL: the lair of the fox either above or below ground.

LEVERET: the young of the hare up to a year old.

LIFT: to take the hounds from the point where they have lost the scent quickly forward without waiting to cast on the chance of hitting it off again. A hazardous game to play, but sometimes very effective with a clever huntsman on bad scenting days.

MASK: the head of the fox.

OXER: a diabolical sort of fence peculiar to the grazing countries of England, and named from its being designed to keep the cattle in their pastures. It consists of a tolerably high and strong hedge with a rail on one side, perhaps on both, standing out just far enough in the field to turn a horse neatly over after he has cleared the hedge, and a ditch somewhere.

PAD: the foot of the fox.

PATE: the head of the fox.

RIOT: when fox-hounds hunt any scent but that of the fox they are said to be running riot.

SCORING: hounds are said to be scoring to cry when the scent is very hot and every hound in the pack is speaking to it.

SCUT: the tail of the hare or rabbit.

SKIRTER: a hound that runs wide of the pack, "playing his own hand," so to speak.

SO-HO: the cry raised when a hare is viewed (probably a corruption of "See, ho!").

STERN: the tail of the hound.

TALLY-HO: the cheer announcing that the fox is viewed.

VIXEN: the female of the fox.

WHELP: a hound puppy at a very tender age.

WHO-HOOP: the cheer announcing the death of the fox.

WHIPPER-IN: the huntsman's subaltern, so called from one of his many offices being to impress upon the hounds the necessity of strict obedience to rules, an impression which has sometimes to be made with the whip.

WHIP: an abbreviation of the last.

Names of Hounds

DOGS

A alaonon	Burgundy	Countryman	Falstaff
	Bustler	Courtier	Fearnought
110002		Crasher	Ferryman
Adam	Caesar	Critical	Fiddler
Adjutant	Caliban	Cruiser	Firebrand
Æolus	Calidore	Crusty	Fisherman
Agarie	Camelot	Currier	Flatterer
Alaric	Capital	Cymbeline	Florizel
Albany	Captain	-	Flourisher
Albion	Caradoc	Daedalus	Flyer
\mathbf{Amelot}	Carver	Dandy	Foreman
Amyas	Castor	Dangerous	Forester
Angelo	Caterer	Dasher	Frederick
Antic	Cato	Dashwood	Funnyman
Antony	Caviller	Desperate	Furio
Aramis	Cephalus	Dexterous	Furrier
Arbiter	Cerberus	Disputant	
Archer	Challenger	Doncaster	Gabriel
Ardent	Champion	Doncourt	Galahad
Arrogant	Charon	Dragon	Galaor
Artful	Chaser	Dreadnought	Galapas
Astrophel	Chatterer	Driver	Gallant
Athos	Chieftain		Galliard
Atlas	Chiron	Eager	Galloper
Attila	Chirper	Eagle	Gameboy
Augur	Choleric	Earnest	Gamely
Auster	Chorister	Edgar	Gamester
D. 1 -low	Cicero	Editor	Ganem
Bachelor	Claimant	Elegant	Ganymede
Baffler	Clamorous	Elia	Gareth
Barbarous	Clasher	Eminent	Gargery
Bellamy	Claudian	Emperor	Garrulous
Bellman	Claudio	Ennius	Gaspar
Bluecap	Claudius	Enterprise	Gatheral
Blueskin	G1	Envious	General
Blunderbor	e Clavernous. Clinker		Genius
Blusterous	Cimker	Escobar	Genseric
Boaster	Combatant	Etheling	Gentleman
Boisterous	Comforter	Ethelred	Geoffrey
Bonniface	Conqueror	$\operatorname{Excellent}$	Geryon
Boreas	Conrad	Fabius	Glorious
Borgia	Coroner	Factious	Gobbo
Bouncer	Corydon	Falkland	Goblin
Brilliant	Counsellor	I. aiviana	G 0

Goldy Gondomar Gorgibus Gorlois Governor Gregory Gremio Grubbinol Grumbo Guardian Guvon Hadrian Halliday Hamlet Hannibal Harasser Harbinger Harlequin Harold Harpagon Hathaway Hatteraick Havoc Hazlewood Headstrong Hector Heedful Helicon Hercules Hereward Hero Heron Hesiod Hesperus Hickory Highflyer Hobbema. Hobinol Holiday Honeyman Honeywood Horace Hotspur Hudibras Huguenot

Hypocrite Ihraham HeilI Imlac Impetus Incubus Ingoldsby Inkle Trus Isaac Isenbras Ishmael Issachar Ithocles Janitor Jason Jericho Jingle Jollyboy Jonathan Jovial Juba Julian Julio Julius Jumper Juniper Junius Jupiter Juvenal Kaled Kennedy Kitely Labdacus Labourer Ladon Laelius Lambro Lammikin Lance Lancelot Lara

Leofric Leoline Leopold Leveller Liberal Libertine Lictor Lightfoot Lindor Lion Lionel Listener Littimer Loafer Loda Lodowick Lohengrin Lorimer Lovibond Lounger Lucifer Lucio Lucumo Lunatic Luria Lustv

Lazarus

Maccabee Madoc Mahomet Malakoff Mameluke Manager Manciple Manlius Mannering Manuel Marcian Marimin Marinel Marksman Marmel Marmion Marplot Martial

Marvellous Matchem Mazarin Medler Melchior Melibee Memnon Menacer Mentor Mercury Merlin Merryboy Merryman Messmate Methodist Militant Minikin Minion Mirabel Miscreant Mohican Monarch Monitor Mortimer Mulciber Mungo Mutinous Myrmido Nadab Nathan Nautilus Nibelung Nicholas Nickleby Nimrod Nobleman Nobody Norman Norval

Oberon Œdipus Ogleby Olave Olifant Oliver

Laurence

Ollapod	Piper	Ravenswood	Scuffler
Orator	Pitiless	Ravisher	Seneca
Oregon	Plato	Reasoner	Sentinel
Orleans	Plausible	Rector	Sesame
Orlick	Playful	Regent	Sharper
Orson	Plunder	Regular	Shifter
Osman	Pluto	Remus	Silvio
Osrick	Politic	Resolute	Sindbad
Ossian	Potentate	Resonant	Sintram
Otho	Potiphar	Restive	Sisyphus
Ouragan	Prattler	Reveller	Skirmisher
Overreach	Premier	Rifleman	Slender
0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1	$\overline{ ext{President}}$	Ringwood	Smiler
Paeon	Prettyman	Rioter	Sociable
Pageant	Priam	Risingham	Socrates
Palamon	Primate	Robin	Solomon
Palmerin	Principal	Robinson	Solon
Pandarus	Prodigal	Roderick	Songster
Paragon	Prodigy	Rodomont	Sorcerer
Paramount	Prompter	Roland	Sosia
Paris	Prophet	Romeo	Spanker
Partner	Prospero	Romper	Spartacus
Pasquin	Prosperous	Romulus	Specimen
Patriot	Prowler	Rouser	Speedwell
Pelleas	Pyramus	Rover	Splenetic
Pellinore	Pythias	Ruffian	Spoiler
Peregrine	-	Ruffler	Spokesman
$\operatorname{Perfect}$	Quentin	Rummager	Sportsman
Perilles	Quixote	Rupert	Statesman
Perigot	Rabelais	Rustic	Steady
Perilous	Racer		Stephano
Perion	Racket	Sampson	Stickler
Pertinent	Rallywood	Sancho	Stormer
Peterson	Rambler	Sapient	Strange
Petulant	Rampant	Saunterer	Striver
Phaeton	Random	Scamperdale	
Phalaris	Ranger	Scamperer	Student
Pharamond	Ransack	Scanderbeg	Subtle
Phoebus	Rantaway	Scaramouch	Swaggerer
Phormio	Ranter	Scattercash	Sybaris
Phosphorus	Raphael	Scavenger	Sylvan
Pilgrim	Rasselas	Schacabac	
Pillager	Rattler	Scipio	Tacitus
Pilot	Ravager	Scrambler	Taillefer
Pincher	Ravenous	Screamer	Tammany
Pindar	Ravenshoe	Scudamore	Tantalus
		37	

Tappertit Tarquin Tartar Tasso Tatler Teaser Telamon Telephone Telephus Terence Terror Teucer Thalaba Thamvris Theodore Theseus Thrasher Thunderer Thurio Thyrsis Tickler Timon Timothy Tinto Titus Titvrus Tomalin Tomboy Tony

Torment Torquil Torturer Touchstone Tozer Tragic Trajan Trampler Transport Traveller Trimbush Trimmer Tristram Triumph Trojan Trouncer Truant Trueboy Truelove Trueman Trulliber Trustv Trvamour Trywell Tubal Turbulent Tvrant Uncas Unicorn

Uther Vagabond Vagrant Vainlove Valentine Valiant Valorous Vanguisher Vaulter Vaunter Venturer Venturous Vermin Victor Vigilant Vigorous Villager Viper Vortigern Vulcan Waldemar Wamba Wanderer Warbler

Uriel

Urien

Waverley Wayward Wellbred Wetheral Whipster Whitaker Whiteboy Whittington Wildair Wildhoy Wildman Wilfred Wilful Winterton Wisdom Woodman Worker Workman Worthy Wrangler Wrestler Yarico \mathbf{Y} orick Zabulon

BITCHES

Waring

Warrior

Abigal
Accurate
Actress
Adamant
Adelaide
Affable
Agatha
Airy
Alison
Amazon
Angela
Annabel
Artemis
Atropes

Barbara
Bashful
Beatrice
Beauty
Beldam
Bellicent
Bendemeer
Bertha
Blameless
Blanche
Bluebell
Bonnybell
Bonnylass
Bountiful

Bradamant
Busy
Buxom

Candour
Capable
Caramel
Careless
Carnage
Caroline
Catherine
Celia
Charity
Chatterbox

Chauntress
Cicely
Circe
Claribel
Clarinet
Clio
Comely
Comical
Concord
Corisande
Courtesy
Crafty
Credulous
Cruelty

Zacharv

Zanga

Zophiel

Zosimus

Curious Cynthia Dainty Dairymaid Danhne Darling Delia Delicate Destiny Diamond Dian Dido Diligent Dimity Doris Duchess Dulcimer Dutiful

Easy
Echo
Ecstacy
Edith
Eglantine
Eleanor
Emily
Endless
Energy
Enid
Enmity
Equity
Etiquette

Fairmaid
Fairplay
Faithful
Fanciful
Fantasy
Fashion
Fatima
Favourite
Fearless
Festive
Fickle
Fidget
Fiery

Firefly Flattery Flighty Flippant Flora Florence Florida Florimel Flourish Forcible Frantic Fretful Friendly Frisky Frolic Frolicsome Funnylass Furious Furv

Gaiety Gaily Gamesome Gavlass Geraldine Giddy Gillian Gluttony Goneril Gorgon Gossamer Governess Graceful Graceless Gracious Gratitude Gravity Gretchen Grethel

Gwendoline Hæmony Handsome Harmony Hasty

Guinevere

Hazardous Hebe Hecate Hecuba Helena Helinore Heloise Hemera Hera Hermia. Hero Heroine Hestia Hilda Honesty Hovden Imogen Impudent Industry Inez

Innocent Iris Isabel Isidore Isis Isoline

Joceline

Jollity

Joyful

Joyous

Judith

Julia Juliet Juno Kenna Kestrel Kitty Lachesis

Lady Ladylike Lais Lalage Lamia Languish Lappet Laura Leda Lelia Lenity Lesbia Levity Liberty Lightning Lightsome Likely Lilian Lilith Lisa Lively Livia Lorna Lotta Lovely

Lucida

Lullaby

Lunacy

Lvdia

Madcap Madeline Madelon Madrigal Mænad Magdalen Magic Magical Malaprop Marcia Margaret Marian Marjory Mary Matchless Mattie Mayflower Meddlesome Megra

Melody

Vengeance Songstress Portia. Memory Vengeful Speedy Positive Merrilies Venomous Spiteful Prettylass Merriment Venturesome Spitfire Priestess Merrylass Venus Sportive Probity Mignon Verity Sprightly Prophetess Millamant Vicious Stately Prosperpine Miriam Victory Stella Prudence Mischief Vigilance Strenuous Psyche Modish Viola. Surety Monody Queenie Violent Svbil Music Quickly Violet Sycorax Musical Violin Symphony Racket Mvria Vinerus Radigund Tannaquil Virulent Nancy Rally Tattle Vivian Nelly Rantipole Tamora Vivid Nicety Rapid Telltale Vixen Nimble Rapine Tempest Vocal Niobe Rapture Tentative Volatile Nipper Rarity Termagant Voluble Norah Rashness Terrible Norna Rattle Testv Nourmahal Waggery Regan Thankful Novelty Wagtail Resolute Thecla Wanton Restless Oracle Thisbe Warlike Rhapsody Oread Thoughtful Waspish Rhodope Oriel Tiffany Wasteful Riot Overdone Topsy Watchful Rival Tractable Pamela Roguish Welcome Tragedy Partner Whimsey Rosa Trespass Passionate Whimsical Rosabel Trifle Patience Rosalind Whirligig Trivia Patty Wildfire Rosamond Troublesome Pattypan Willing Rosemary Truelass Peggotty Winifred Ruby Truemaid Penitent Ruthless Winipeg Trulla Perdita Wishful Tunable Salamis Philomel Wonderful Tuneful Sanguine Phryne Worry Phyllida Sappho Una Wrathful Scylla Phyllis Ursa Selima Placid Ursula Zamora Semele Placida Utha Zara Sensitive Playful Zetica Vanda Silvia Pleasant Zillah Vehement Snowball

Pliant

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Le Sport Universel

"Thus Tom spoke his friends ere he gave up his breath:

'Since I see you've resolved to be in at the death.

One favor bestow—'tis the last I shall crave—
Give a rattling view-hallon over my grave;

And unless at that warning I lift up my head,
My boys, you may fairly conclude I am dead!'

Honest Tom was obliged, and the shout rent the sky.

For everyone joined in the tally-ho cry.'"

FINIS

De mortius nil nisi bonum.

Webstal in a landary of Veterinary Medicine Grand in the Emiliary Veterinary Medicine at Tellor in the

200 v. Lindad North Fallon, MA 01536







