

HUNTING JOURNAL

OF THE

BLACKMOORVALE HOUNDS

FROM

1827 TO 1831

SHERBORN

PRINTED BY T. H. TOLL, CHEAP STREET.

MDCCLXXXI

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Jonathan E. Backhouse.

January, 1901.



JOHN A. SEAVERNS



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BLACKMOOR VALE HOUNDS,

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In perusing the Hunting Journal of the Blackmoor Vale Fox Hounds, it must not be forgotten,—first, that a very considerable part of the Country which their Proprietor established in the Spring of 1826, HAD NOT BEEN HUNTED AT ALL FOR NEARLY THIRTY YEARS;—that the Foxes had been systematically destroyed, and even that their Haunts and Earths were known to FEW, if to any persons, except to those who dealt in their destruction.—Secondly, that this small extent of Country had never been hunted before by any Gentleman as an ENTIRE COUNTRY.—Thirdly, that at its extreme north-eastern Wiltshire extremity the Covers are of enormous extent, and so full of Earths as to baffle the vigilance of the most careful and active stopper.—Fourthly, that a large portion of the Country lying between Yeovil and Compton Castle, is nearly destitute of Cover of any description capable of holding a Fox during the WINTER MONTHS, consisting almost entirely of sandy arable land, intersected by roads, and notorious as bad-scenting ground.—And lastly, that a system of annoyance bordering on persecution, IN THE COUNTY OF DORSET, was not wanting to superadd difficulties to the whole of no ordinary kind, such indeed as must be continually kept in view by the Courteous Reader of the following pages.

THE
HUNTING JOURNAL
OF THE
BLACKMOOR VALE HOUNDS;
FOR 1826—1827.

	Killed	Earthed
August 30th, 1826. THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met for the first time this season at Stock House;—finding a <i>litter</i> of five Foxes at Stock Wood at six o'clock A. M.; the Hounds ran two hours in very good working style and <i>killed</i> a single Cub.	1	
September 3rd. FOUND a leash of Foxes at Lilly Wood, near Bratton and Shepton Montague;—running one to ground at Shepton Montague and <i>killing</i> another.	1	1
September 13th. DREW Cogley Wood, (a particularly fine Cover belonging to Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Baronet, near Bruton, of 200 acres;) found a brace of Foxes;—running an old dog Fox one hour and twenty minutes and killing him in Cover.	1	
September 16th. MET at Mr. Sherring's Slaits at Milborne Wick, and found a brace of Foxes in his Brake adjoining;— <i>killing</i> one and whipping off from the other. Found a third in the Plantation at Corton, and after a very sharp and short burst, ran him to Earth at Pointington Down.	1	1
Carried forward....	4	2

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward	4	2
September 19th, 1826.		
<p>MET at Coombe Farm House, where Mr. Symes kindly introduced the Paek to a leash of Foxes, in the fine Brake adjoining his House;—the Hounds going away with a fine young dog Fox, which they ran into after a very pretty run of thirty minutes. Found an old Fox in Mr. Tucker's Gorse, at Trent, and after a sharp burst of forty minutes, Earthed him in a drain at Rimpton.</p>	1	1
September 22nd.		
<p>MET at Stalbridge Park;—found a <i>litter</i> in the Park Wood, and <i>killed</i> one after very little running. Stopped the Hounds and went to Caundle Brake, (a fine Gorse Cover belonging to that generous and distinguished sportsman, Edward Huddleston, Esquire,) where we got upon the walk of an old Fox evidently disturbed by having heard the Hounds in the Park; hunting him across Toomer Farm to Inwood; in which Cover the Hounds got up to him, and after a short but sharp run, lost him among the Houses in Henstridge Bowden</p>	1	
Tuesday, October 3rd.		
<p>MET at Stock House;—finding immediately in the Covers adjoining, and running for two hours, changing continually: at length we got away with the Fox across the Park to the river at Rowden Mill, which the Hounds crossed, working him on to Caundle Wood, where the Hounds changed and ran another hour very hard through the Covers there; and when the second Fox was sinking, <i>changed again</i> and stopped, but after GREAT PERSEVERANCE on the part of the Men and Hounds we recovered the hunted Fox and <i>ran into him</i> near Marsh Common, after four hours and half incessant and very hard work.</p>	1	
Carried forward	7	3

Brought forward.... 7 3

Friday, October 6th, 1826.

MET at Charlton Wood, near Charlton Horethorne, where the Hounds found a good litter of Foxes, and ran two hours—going away at length with one, and killing him at Stowel Hill, near Milborne Wick, after a severe burst of thirty minutes out of Cover.

Killed

Earthed

1

Tuesday, October 10th.

MET at Yarlinton, (the seat of F. Rogers, Esquire;) finding immediately, and after forty minutes of very good hunting, killed our Fox.

1

Friday, October 13th.

MET at Plumley Wood, where we found a very fine litter of Foxes, and ran two hours; changing continually in the thickest Cover, and under a scorching sun. The Hounds being much distressed, we stopped and went home.

Tuesday, October 17th.

DREW the Gorse Cover at Annis Hill, Sparkford Wood, and Lilly Wood, blank: got upon a rambling scent near the Cover at Wadham's Down, but it being late in the day we went home.

Friday, October 20th.

MET at Inwood, (a fine Cover belonging to the Rev. F. Glossop,) and found immediately; and after running him forty minutes in Cover close to his brush, went away by Toomer Hill and Caundle Brake, for the Earths at Hanover; the Hounds running into him in view, before he reached them. We then drew the Temple Coombe Woods; finding immediately, and after a particularly quick and good run of fifty minutes, by Stowel Hill, through the village of Charlton Horethorne and over the down at Milborne Wick, we Earthed him at Pointington Down.

1

1

Carried forward....

10

4

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward....	10	4
Tuesday, October 24th, 1826.		
MET at Compton Castle, (the romantic and picturesque seat of John Hunt, Esquire;) finding a <i>litter</i> of Foxes, <i>killing</i> one in Cover and running another to Earth at Sigwells.	1	1
Friday, October 27th.		
MET at Cogley Wood, near Bruton, where we found a brace of Foxes and after one hour and a quarter's hard work, ran our Fox to Earth under a rock near the town of Bruton, in view of the leading Hounds, and left him. ....	..	1
Tuesday, October 31st.		
DREW Creech Hill and Henley Wood, blank;—getting upon a very stale scent at Batcombe Wood, the Fox having been disturbed by shooters.		
Friday, November 3rd.		
MET at Plumley Wood;—finding a brace and half of Foxes, but in a very boisterous and windy day, with heavy rain blowing up from the south-west. Hunted our Fox to the Caundle Holts, and thence by Batcombe Wood across the Stalbridge and Weston Vale to Stalbridge Park Wood, <i>where we changed to the litter there</i> and stopped the Hounds.		
Tuesday, November 7th.		
MET at Stock Wood, where we found a leash of Foxes, running in Cover an hour, and getting the Hounds away after a Fox that had twenty minutes start of us; walking after him with an execrable scent by Rooksmoor, and over the river to the Mill at Hazelbury, where we stopped the Hounds, being unable to hunt him any further, <i>on any thing like terms</i> . We then went back and found <i>in the Covers near Stock House</i> , a second Fox, <i>going away at his brush</i> , over the		
Carried forward....	11	6

Brought forward....

11

6

Caundle River, for the Caundle Holt Covers; from whence the Hounds fairly turned him, and ran into him in the open in forty minutes.....

Killed
1

Earthed

Friday, November 10th, 1826.

MET at Cherton Wood, and got upon a disturbed scent, the Fox having been disturbed by the foot people before we came. Found again at Elsombe Wood and killed in Cover, without a run.

1

Tuesday, November 14th.

MET at Milborne Slaits, drawing the Furze Brake there, as well as the Gorse Covers at Compton and Coombe Farm, blank

Friday, November 17th.

MET at Elsombe Wood and walked the Hounds on to Lilly Wood, where the Hounds found immediately, and after two hours and ten minutes very steady good running through the Yarlinton Cover, by Shepton Montague and Hadspen, we ran him to Earth near Holbrook House.

..

1

Tuesday, November 21st.

MET at Batcombe Wood ;—drawing North Wood and Asham Wood near the Mendip Hills, (a Cover of 600 acres belonging to E. B. Portman, Esquire, M. P.) blank ; there was a good drag, but the Earths at Asham Wood were open !

Friday, November 24th.

DREW Yard Grove Coppice, near King's Mill, and the Hinton Covers, blank, with a scent that evidently showed the Fox had been disturbed by the foot people. In our way to the Rooksmoor Covers, &c., the Huntsman was taken ill and obliged to go home.....

Thursday, November 28th.—Frost.

Friday, December 1st.—Frost. ..

Carried forward

13

7

<p>Brought forward.....</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 5th. 1826.</p> <p>MET at Leigh Common, near Wincanton;—going away with a Fox, with a very bad scent (<i>after the frost</i>) by Kilmington to Bourton, and thence to the Covers at Stourton House, (the seat of Sir. R. C. Hoare, Baronet,) where we lost him after a run of one hour and twenty minutes; having hunted him up to the windows of the Mansion, amongst the shrubs adjoining which, he was seen lying down just before the Hounds came up. The scent was particularly bad for the last forty minutes, a heavy shower of rain falling in torrents.</p>	<p>Killed</p>	<p>Earthed</p>
<p>Friday, December 8th.</p> <p>DREW Coombe Farm and Over Compton Brake with a lively drag, up to the Earths, which were open!</p>		
<p>Thursday, December 12th.</p> <p>MET at West End Wood, (a fine Cover of his Grace the Duke of Somerset;) finding in the great Bradley Wood, from whence, after one hour and a quarter's sharp work in Cover, we got him away and Earthed him (dead beat, and close before the Pack) at Longleat Park.....</p>	<p>..</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Friday, December 15th.</p> <p>MET at Cherton Wood;—drew that Cover, and Tenant's Wood and Compton Wood, blank</p>		
<p>Tuesday, December 19th.</p> <p>MET at Cogley Wood, near Bruton, where we found <i>immediately</i>, and breaking Cover <i>as quickly</i>, the Hounds went away at the top of their speed for King's Wood, under Alfred's Tower; which they reached in about thirty minutes, the Fox and Hounds being seen on the terrace there, a few yards only distant from each other, and making for the great Covers adjoining Stourton House. Here (upon the hill) the</p>		
<p>Carried forward....</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>8</p>

Brought forward....	13	8
<p>fog was so intense that we could hardly see each other, and for a time we lost the Hounds. After a check of fifteen minutes we got the Hounds together and hit him off again towards the Earths at King's Wood, and over them with a bad, catching scent for Brewham Wood, and through Brewham Forest to the deep and heavy vale of North Brewham, and thence without a turn to Upton Noble, and for Asham Wood at the base of the Mendip Hills; from which Cover (a Cover of 600 acres and full of rocky precipices and main Earths) he was turned by a woman who headed him in the turnpike road. The Hounds still held the line, from this place over the Commons to Nunny; and thence at a foot's pace to Postlebury Great Wood (of 214 acres) which he skirted, and on to Marston Forest; through the whole of which they carried him <i>on rather better terms</i>, and onward to the fine and deep Covers of the Marquis of Bath, at Longleat, where, <i>by a forward cast of two miles</i> they got up to him again, carrying as fine a head as they did in the commencement of the day, and working him in killing style through the spacious and beautiful Covers of the Duke of Somerset (of at least 1000 acres:) the foot people, the Fox, and the Hounds <i>being in view of each other</i>; the eight horses which remained out of a good Field in the morning being unable to make a trot! By which means the Fox made his point and got to Earth near Bradley Park, <i>a few yards only before the Hounds</i>, at ten minutes after four o'clock, after a hunting run of FOUR HOURS AND FIFTY MINUTES; covering at the least computation THIRTY MILES of country during this severe and trying run!</p>	Killed	Earthed
Friday, December 22nd, 1826.		
<p>AFTER the extraordinary run of Tuesday last, the Hounds were compelled to rest this day.</p>		1
Carried forward....	13	9

Brought forward . . .	13	9
Tuesday, December 26th, 1826. <p>FOUND a Fox near Blackford Hollow;—running him very sharply and quick through Yarlington, by Lilly Wood, to the vale by Shepton Montague, and through Mr. Hobhouse’s Covers at Hadspen, <i>killing</i> behind the Mansion House.</p>	Killed 1	Earthed
Friday, December 29th. <p>MET at Plumley Wood, near Stourton Caundle, and found immediately;—going away through the Caundle Holt Covers by Ashcombe Wood to Haydon, and along the Vale to Purse Caundle, by Frith Wood to Stalbridge Park, where he went to a drain and got in. The Hounds going away to an halloo with another Fox, over the Park wall to Inwood, and through <i>that Cover</i> by Henstridge Bowden, to Caundle Brake, and along Milborne Moor to Hanover Wood, where the Hounds, <i>when close to his brush</i>, were hallooed on to a Terrier ! Went back to Stalbridge Park,—bolted the first Fox, and <i>killed him</i> for the Hounds’ sake.</p>	1	
Tuesday, January 2nd, 1827.—Frost.		
Friday, January 5th. <p>WE unluckily chopped this day a fine dog Fox in Caundle Brake, a single Hound meeting him in a rack way, the Fox having got well upon his legs. A second Fox stole away, <i>the Hounds not getting upon him for nearly thirty minutes</i> after he had left his kennel. Bad and stormy as the weather was the Hounds hunted him on at a walking pace, for Frith Wood and thence to Plumley Wood, and over the Earths there to the Caundle Holt Covers and Caundle Wood, where they got up to him—when a tremendous shower of hail brought Hounds and Horses to a stand-still: but by great perseverance we carried the scent along as far as Marsh Common and North Wootton Coppice to <i>Sherborne Park</i>; where he went to Earth.</p>	1	
Carried forward . . .	16	9

Brought forward.....

16

9

Monday, January 8th, 1827.

MET at Pointington Ridge, but the Earth at Holway Wood being unfortunately open, our Foxes were drawn over: dug for two hours after one, but could not get at him.

Killed

Earthed

Friday, January 12th.

MET at Stock House, and found immediately, a brace being on foot; the Pack going away with one, without hanging Cover a moment, to Rooksmoor, and over Holbrook Green to Deadmoor Wood and through it for Hazelbury, by Cockroad Copse to Zoar, leaving Whitmoor Furzes to the left; and across the large enclosures towards Belchalwal to the left, where the Hounds (having been at a racing pace from Stock Wood without a check) fairly turned him from the hills, going by Kidford Coppice to Woolland Wood; where the Hounds ran into him after a superior burst of forty-five minutes without a check, having covered eight miles as the crow flies in this chace.

1

Friday, January 16th.

MET at Cogley Wood and found a brace of Foxes immediately;—after fifteen minutes sharp running in Cover, we ran him to a drain in Redlynch Park, the ancient seat of the Earl of Ilchester. The Hounds were halloed to a second, and after running the Park Covers for some little time, and close to his brush, he was headed by the foot people, and though we hit him after long checks by a very wide cast, we could hunt him no further than Cogley—pointing for Pink Wood.

..

1

Friday, January 19th.

MET at Caundle Brake, and drew Frith Wood, where we found a brace immediately;—sixteen and half couple running THEIR FOX to Earth in view, in Sherborne

Carried forward....

17

10

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward	17	10
Park, after a sharp burst of forty minutes :—we <i>killing one</i> Fox in Castleton Lane, (all but in the streets of Sherborne) in forty-five minutes with seven couple and half!	1	1
Tuesday, January 23rd, 1827.—Frost.		
Friday, January 26th.—Frost.		
Tuesday, January 30th.		
MET at Jack White's gibbet, near Yarlinton, and drew Lilly Wood, (a favourite Cover belonging to U. and G. Messiter, Esquires. The Hounds <i>found immediately</i> ;—going away in the same field with him along the vale by Shepton Montague towards Redlynch Park, from which the Hounds fairly turned him for the Covers behind Hadspen House; and thence by Ansford Park, for the Earths at Creech Hill, <i>the Hounds running into him</i> in forty-five minutes before he could reach them.	1	
Friday, February 2nd.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met at Plumley Wood. It being a very raw cold morning, with the wind south-east, and the Hounds late in consequence of the frost, we soon discovered by old WILDBOY <i>that our Fox was gone!</i> And that we had the heel of him. Catching the Hounds up as quick as we could, we hit him into the Caundle Holt Covers, and hunted him to Bull Close Furze, where the Hounds went away <i>all but in view of him</i> , racing him at the top of their speed to Bishop's Caundle village, and along the turnpike for nearly a mile <i>and over the bridge</i> at Woodbridge, and breaking over the enclosures for Holwell Borough; and thence along the Holwell Commons and the enclosures in Glanville's Wootton to the summit of Castle Hill, which the Hounds reached in forty-five minutes. An awkward check took place at this moment: the Fox having been headed—an immense flock of sheep having stained the		
Carried forward	19	11

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward....	19	11
hill, and a fresh Fox having been seen and halloood before us, but the Hounds being snug and well together, they carried their hunted Fox through Wootton Wood to the road by the Castle Hill Gardens, and by the Spring Pond Heads to Woodfall Coppice, where they got up to him, and <i>killed him</i> after a good run of one hour and ten minutes, with one check only	1	
Tuesday, February 6th.—Frost.		
Friday, February 9th.—Frost.		
Tuesday, February 13th.—Frost.		
Friday, February 16th.—Frost.		
Tuesday, February 20th.—Frost.		
Friday, February 23rd.—Frost.		
Tuesday, February 27th.		
MET at West End Wood ;—finding at the Lower Bradley Wood, and after forty minutes running, with a bad scent (in heavy rain) after the frost, ran him to an Earth near the Gardens at the Marquis of Bath's, at Longleat, where we left him.....	..	1
Saturday, March 3rd.		
MET at Inwood, and finding immediately, and after one hour and twenty minutes good hunting by Toomer to Caundle Brake, and by Milborne Moor to Goathill and North Wootton, we got up to our Fox and ran him in <i>view of the leading Hounds</i> to the Earths in Sherborne Park .....	..	1
Tuesday, March 6th.		
MET at Temple Coombe Wood, (a very fine range of Cover belonging to the Rev. P. Wickham,) but drew these Covers and Cherton Wood, blank, in a most tremendous rain : getting upon the line of a Fox near Charlton Wood, and after a very sharp burst <i>up-wind</i> , by Charlton Horethorne and through the village by Milborne Slaits, <i>the Hounds ran into him</i> at Corton in forty minutes	1	
Carried forward....	21	13

Friday, March 9th. 1827.	Brought forward . . .	21	13
<p>MET at Stock House, where we were again fortunate in finding a brace and half of Foxes ; the Hounds were settled to a Vixen, which they ran for half an hour, close at her brush : in the mean time a brace of dog Foxes slipped away, and when by dint of great exertion we had succeeded <i>so far as to stop them</i>, we had lost more than twenty minutes upon the Fox that had last broken Cover. The Hounds, however, were laid on and hunted him very beautifully by the Plantation at Rodmoor to Holwell Borough and across the river for Bishop's Caundle, carrying him well over eight roads and lakes, and getting up to him in the Caundle Woods. He then turned his head towards Plumley Wood, but was headed back for Caundle Wood again, by Ashcombe to Marsh Common and thence to Haydon, leaving Sherborne Park to the left and up to the Earths at Hanover Wood ; going through that Cover to <i>Milborne Moor, where the Hounds began to run for him</i>, hurrying him along the Vale to Purse Caundle, and over the enclosures to the top of Plumley Wood, <i>where they ran into him and killed</i> after a good hunting run of three hours and half.</p>	Killed	1	Earthed
Tuesday, March 13th.	<p>MET at Redlynch Park Gate, and drew Cogley, blank, but found at Pink Wood, and after a pressing run of fifty minutes, <i>killed</i> him in the open road before he could reach the Park Covers</p>	1	
Friday, March 16th.	<p>MET at Yarlinton, where we found a brace of Foxes ; <i>running into our first Fox</i> in racing style in thirty-five minutes. The day being but little advanced, and not knowing where to find a second Fox without marring another day's sport, (so small and inconvenient is our little tract of Country !) we trotted the Hounds on to</p>		
Carried forward . . .		23	13


	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward..	23	13
where a Fox had been seen stealing away, thirty minutes before. By the time that we arrived, <i>three quarters of an hour</i> had elapsed, but after a little coaxing, the Hounds began to own him, and by dint of the most extraordinary cold hunting and stoop, they held him on to a dell near Redlynch Park, where they dropped their sterns and set at him in earnest! Running by Holm Wood and close to the town of Wincanton, to Holton, Yarlinton, and on to Wolston Coppice and over the Earths for Compton, where he went to ground, (after a fine run of one hour and ten minutes) in front of the Castle; all but in view.	1	1
Tuesday, March 20th, 1827.		
MET at West End Wood, (a very fine Cover of the Duke of Somerset's, adjoining Maiden Bradley Park.) Found a Fox of the year in very exhilarating and lively style, but our hopes were disappointed! He hung Cover and would not leave the Earths; and in fifteen minutes he was <i>killed</i> . Found a second in the lower Bradley Wood, and in thirty-five minutes got him through those large Covers and Earthed him near the Tower. Found a third in Penny's Wood, adjoining Longleat Park, the Hounds working him in very good style through the whole range of these most extensive Covers, and away for Bradley Knoll; and thence to Witham Fiary, where the Hounds got upon the stale scent of another Fox which had been seen to go away for Deverell Longwood three quarters of an hour before, we therefore stopped the Hounds at three o'clock on the Mere Downs; and took them their eighteen miles home	1	1
Friday, March 23rd.		
MET at Coombe Farm, near Sherborne;—drawing the Gorse at that place, and Compton, blank, with a drag, however, that told us <i>he had been there</i> . Went on to Tenant's Wood and finding a brace of Foxes, we unluckily got away with the Vixen and stopped		
Carried forward....	25	15

	Brought forward . . .	25	15
Tuesday, March 27th, 1827			
MET at Henley Wood, near Bruton, and walked the Hounds on to Batcombe Wood, where we found immediately ;—going away close to his brush for Monk Wood and thence to Asham Wood, where the Hounds ran him forty minutes and Earthed him under a rock. Ten couple of Hounds slipped down-wind with a second Fox, hunting him nearly to Mells Park, and thence to Wanstrow, pointing for Orchardleigh Park, but as no one was there. they were stopped, though on good terms and the Fox close before them		Killed ..	Earthed 1
Friday, March 30th.			
MET at Stalbridge Park ;—walking the Hounds on to Inwood, where they found in very good style, racing their Fox at the top of their speed towards Stalbridge Park; topping almost every wall in Henstridge in their way, turning down the fine Vale under the town and keeping their heads very straight along this very high-scenting ground till they came to Yeanston, crossing the road there and pointing towards the Temple Coombe Woods, from whence the Hounds fairly turned him, and <i>ran into and killed</i> him after a severe burst of forty-five minutes. We then drew the Temple Coombe Woods, blank, but found at Cherton Wood, and when on <i>killing</i> terms, stopped at the request of W. M. Dodington, Esquire, to whom the Cover belonged			1
Tuesday, April 3rd.			
MET at Cogley Wood and walked the Hounds on to Little Bitcombe Wood, where we found a fine dog Fox, and got away with him after fifteen minutes warm work in Cover, close at his heels, racing him to Grove Wood and King's Wood, and up to the Terrace Earths; but finding them stopped, he came back <i>all but in view</i> , and unluckily got in; the Earths under the Tower having, by some accident, been left open! Found a			
	Carried forward . . .	26	16

Brought forward.....	26	16
second at the Bradley Wood, and after two hours hard work for the Hounds, the scent getting worse and worse, we stopped the Hounds late in the day and took them home; twenty miles.	Killed ..	Earthed 1
Saturday, April 7th, 1827.		
MET at Kingweston Inn, and walked the Hounds on to Coppely Wood, which we drew with a lively Drag; and thence to Butleigh Wood, near Glastonbury. In this Cover we found an immense dog Fox immediately, hunting him through Coppely Wood (a Cover of 500 acres) without a turn, and away for the Somerton Woods; but the Hounds turned him from thence to Charlton Adam, and to the fine wide vale near Kington, where they raced him at their best pace to Kingweston: (the seat of W. Dickinson, Esq., M. P.) forcing him through the back yard and under the Mansion House windows, and thence across the Park, where the Hounds ran into him, after a fine burst of forty-five minutes without a check		1
Thursday, April, 10th.—Did not hunt.		
Friday, April 13th —Did not hunt.		
Tuesday, April 17th.		
MET at the Kennel, and tried for an out-lying Fox, but did not find him.		
Friday, April 28th.		
MET at Redlynch Gate and walked the Hounds on to Postlebury Wood, where we found a short-running Vixen, with a bad scent, and stopped the Hounds		
Thursday, April 24th.		
MET at West End Wood and found a leash of Foxes at the Bradley Covers; stuck to one merrily for two hours, and when dead beaten, and the Hounds in the same belt of firs with him, we unluckily changed, and stopped		
Carried forward....	27	17

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward	27	17
Saturday, April 28th, 1827.		
MET at Pen Forest;—finding at Cockrode, and running him very sharp through that Cover and by Stavor-dale Wood to the Stourton Covers, where the Hounds slipped away from the Field, and when we found them, they were at fault upon a small bed of Earths, and some were marking. Thus closed the season.		
Total	27	17

END OF THE FIRST SEASON.

 Hunted during the season	52 days.
Blank days	10
Found on ditto	42 days.
Killed and Earthed,	44 Foxes.

THE
HUNTING JOURNAL
OF THE
BLACKMOOR VALE HOUNDS;
FOR 1827—1828.

Friday, August, 31st.

MET at Monk Wood, below Bruton, at half-past five A. M.; found a *litter* in Norwood, adjoining Asham Wood, at ten minutes after six; and in *two hours* good work, *killed* a fine young dog Fox.....

Killed

1

Earthed

Wednesday, September 5th.

MET at Cogley Wood, at a quarter before eight A M.; found a brace of Foxes, and after *two hours and a quarter* very good and severe running in Cover, killed a young dog Fox.

1

Thursday, September, 13th.

MET at the Bradley Woods, but by accident the Earths were open, and as incessant and heavy rains had fallen for the three preceding days, the Foxes were at Earth, and we drew the Covers, blank!

Monday, September 17th.

MET at Yarlington,—found an old Fox, ran him twenty-five minutes and stopped: went back and found a brace of Cubs lying together, ran one hour and fifteen minutes, and *killed* under the Earths at Wolston Coppice.

1

Saturday, September 22nd.

Found a very small Cub on Milborne Slaits and stopped the Pack, going (by desire) to Compton Wood, where we found a *litter*, and after two hours hard work in a tremendous rain, *we killed*.

1

Carried forward. . . .

4

Brought forward....	4	
Friday, September 28th, 1827. MET at Monk Wood;—found a Marten Cat, and stopped. Drew Norwood and part of Asham Wood, but found the Cover disturbed by people nutting.	Killed	Earthed
Friday, October, 2nd. Found a brace of young Foxes at Fifehead Magdalene Coppice; <i>killing</i> the first in thirty-five, and the second in thirty minutes, with sharp good running; drew on to Thornhill Coppice, where we found a <i>litter</i> , ten couple Earthing <i>their</i> Fox in a drain at Bagber, and fifteen couple running <i>the old</i> Fox to the Caundle Holt Covers, where they were stopped.	2	1
Friday, October 5th. MET at Coombe Farm, found an old Fox immediately, and lost as quickly, owing to the wildness and unsportsmanlike riding of the Field!—Hit him again, however, after a very long check, and Earthed him at Holway; <i>abundant leisure</i> being afforded him to open the Earth at this mound of sand! Found a second Fox in the Brake above the Earth, and Earthed him in thirty minutes, and left him, the Hounds not wanting blood. Went on (BY DESIRE) <i>five miles</i> , to Compton Wood, finding an old dog Fox at four o'clock, and after a <i>very sharp burst</i> of forty-five minutes, <i>killing</i> him handsomely.	1	2
Tuesday, October 9th. MET at Plumley Wood, and found a brace of Foxes immediately in a <i>very heavy rain</i> , running forty minutes in Cover with a very middling scent—but losing him when we got upon the fallows near Hanover Wood. Went to the Caundle Holt Woods and found four Foxes, <i>running and changing</i> 'till half past two—when the Hounds were ordered to be stopped;—and by A VERY WIDE and persevering cast, a <i>single scent</i> was hit off,		
Carried forward....	7	3

Brought forward....	7	3
and in forty minutes we ran an old Fox to a small Earth—bolting and going away at his brush through the Holt Covers, by Ashcombe Wood and Haydon to Marsh Common, <i>running into and killing him</i> handsomely near Broke Wood, at five P. M.: having ran six hours in an incessant and heavy rain!.....	Killed 1	Earthed 1
Friday, October 12th, 1827.		
Found in Cogley Wood, near Bruton;—ran our Fox very sharply for thirty minutes, when he went to a drain in Redlynch Park: found a second in Pink Wood, and in a very severe burst of fifty minutes across the vale by Brewham, ran him to Earth, dead beat, at West End Wood. ....	..	2
Monday, October 15th.		
MET at Yarlington, running over the whole of the adjoining Country for one hour and thirty minutes. The Hounds having been brought to a check at Blackford for thirty minutes, most of the Field went home, but by a long and persevering <i>cast</i> we hit off the scent again, <i>two miles at least down-wind</i> , hunting up to him in the vale near Redlynch Park, and after a severe and brilliant burst, <i>killing, and running into him in view</i> at Shepton Montague	1	
Friday, October 19th.		
MET at Postlebury Wood, near the Earl of Cork's; drew this Cover and the Bitcombe Woods, blank: went on to Batcombe Wood, and found that the Earths had only just been stopped—and therefore though we had a <i>lively Drag</i> and <i>could ball the Foxes</i> , we drew the Cover, blank.		
Tuesday, October 23rd.		
MET at West End Wood, in a perfect deluge of rain: found a good flying Fox, but could not run him a yard.		
Carried forward....	9	5

Friday, October 26th, 1827. Brought forward. . .	9	5
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day at Inwood;—finding immediately, and going away by Caundle Brake at a severe and pressing rate to Stalbridge Weston, and over a corner of the Stalbridge Park to Thornhill Spire, <i>changing</i> at Thornhill Coppice, and running our second Fox to a drain at Bagber: bolting and running him one hour and thirty minutes, and <i>killing</i> close to Thornhill House.	Killed 1	Earthed 1
Tuesday, October 30th. Found a brace of Foxes in Brewham Forest, and after two hours and a quarter's running with a tolerably good scent along the Brewham Vale, and the Covers adjoining Stourton House, <i>Earthed</i> near the Keeper's house there. . . . .	..	1
Friday, November 2nd. The Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day at Stock House;—finding a brace of Foxes at Stock Wood, the Hounds (being baffled at starting by the Park Pales) breaking Cover some distance behind their Fox, but getting up to him at Caundle Wood, and going <i>on rather</i> better terms to Marsh Common, where the Fox was thirty minutes before them, and the scent very bad with a white frost slowly going off. By exquisitely stooping and persevering, however, the Hounds hunted him on to Bishop's Down, and by Buckshaw House to Glauville's Wootton Common, where they began to mend upon him, when they were unluckily halloed to a fresh Fox that crept out of the plantation in Holwell Common, the Hounds going away at a pressing pace to Bishop's Caundle and to the Caundle Holts, where they were stopped at four, P. M., with three fresh Foxes before them!		
Tuesday, November 6th. MET at Henley Wood;—drew that Cover, Woolly Wood, Creech Hill, and Cogley Wood, blank—the Fox at Cogley having been disturbed by shooters.		
Carried forward.	10	6

	Brought forward....	10	6
		Killed	Earthed
Friday, November 9th, 1827.			
<p>MET at Cherton Wood;—drawing that Cover, blank, but finding at Compton Wood, and after a sharp racing run round the hills—<i>killing</i> in forty minutes. Found again at Tenant's Wood, and ran our Fox one hour and thirty minutes, losing him late in the day, in a heavy storm near Blackford,</p>		1	
Tuesday, November 13th.			
<p>MET at West End Wood;—found a brace immediately, running to King's Wood, where the Hounds again divided and the Fox was lost; but in Brewham Forest we found again, <i>or got again upon one of the hunted Foxes</i>, but as the scent was very bad, and the Foxes could not be separated, we did nothing—and took the Hounds home.</p>			
Friday, November 16th.			
<p>FOUND at Stert Coppice near Thornhill;—running at the top of our speed to Bishop's Caundle Wood, and into the Caundle Holts, where we again had three or four fresh Foxes on foot, and by continued changing, did nothing.</p>			
Tuesday, November 20th.			
<p>DREW Cogley Wood, near Bruton, blank: found at Yarlinton, in <i>an intense fog</i>, after running the Covers in that neighbourhood for an hour and a half, the Fox made a sudden turn, and the Pack slipped away from the greater part of the Field, going by Elsombe Wood and Holbrook House, across the river Cale and along the Vale by the town of Wincanton, pointing for Cucklington, <i>but it being nearly dark</i>, and the Hounds on very bad terms with their Fox, they were stopped at four o'clock, after three hour's work.....</p>			
	Carried forward....	11	6

<p>Brought forward</p> <p>Friday, November 23rd, 1827.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>Chopped a Fox at Holway Brake, going away with a second for thirty-five minutes very sharp and quick ; but at our first check we lost a good deal of ground, <i>and a cold rain setting in</i>, we lost him in the fallows in Sherborne Field</p>	<p>Killed</p> <p>1</p>	<p>Earthed</p>
<p>Tuesday, November 27th.</p>		
<p>FOUND at Hicks's Park, under West End Wood,—running our Fox one hour and five minutes, and when on <i>killing</i> terms, and the Fox dead beat and close before us, <i>we changed</i> and stopped the Hounds.</p>		
<p>Friday, November 30th.</p>		
<p>The Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Plumley Wood, and found at the Caundle Holts, running their Fox to Caundle Wood, where they pressed him nearly in view for twenty-five minutes ; but finding the Hounds in earnest, he went away by Ashcombe Wood and Marsh Common to Folke and North Wootten, the Hounds <i>killing him handsomely</i>, under Sherborne Park Wall in one hour and forty-five minutes.</p>	<p>1</p>	
<p>Tuesday, December 4th.</p>		
<p>DREW Compton Wood, Sigwell Gorse, Tenant's Wood, and Cheriton Wood, blank; the Earths being negligently stopped.</p>		
<p>Friday, December 7th.</p>		
<p>A very large Field met the Blackmoor Vale Hounds this day at Stock House, the Hounds finding a brace and half of Foxes in Stock Wood, after forty minutes sharp running in Cover, the Hounds went away at the top of their speed across the river Lyddon to Deadmoor, and on to Fifehead, and by Whitmoor to Belchalwal and Okeford Fitzpane, where they fairly turned him, forcing him up-wind to Fiddleford, and through Piddle's</p>		
<p>Carried forward</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>6</p>

Brought forward	13	6
Wood, (a Cover of 200 acres) without a turn, for the banks of the river Stour, by the side of which they raced him at a tremendous pace nearly to Sturminster bridge, where they dashed into the river in splendid style, carrying their Fox through the gardens of the town, and on for the fine and extensive enclosures at Manston; running into him <i>in open view</i> , after one of the finest runs of two hours and forty minutes ever seen in the County of Dorset; having traversed nine several parishes in their progress, and covered a good eighteen miles of ground	Killed 1	Earthed
Tuesday, December 11th, 1827.		
FOUND a Fox at Innwood, and unluckily chopped immediately. Found a second at Martin's Coppice, and after a sharp burst of thirty-five minutes, ran him to a drain in the streets of Yeanson, in a barn yard occupied by Mr. Davis. Found a third at Temple Coombe Wood, running for fifty minutes at a very pressing pace to Charlton Horethorne and away for Milborne Slaits, where the Hounds got up to him, going away in view of him across the vale to Stowel, and into the Temple Coombe North Wood, where they changed to a brace of fresh Foxes and were stopped, when nearly dark	1	1
Friday, December 14th.		
THE Blackmeor Vale Hounds met this day in a tremendously heavy rain at Fifehead Magdalene, where they found in the Coppice immediately, going away at his brush across the Vale for East and West Stour, and after a very brilliant run of one hour and five minutes, running him to Earth at Duncliffe Wood, when dead beat, and only a few yards before them. . . . .	..	1
Tuesday, December 18th.		
WE found this day at Holway Brake, and in a sharp and brilliant burst of thirty-five minutes, ran into our Fox in view, <i>killing</i> near Sherborne Town.	1	
Carried forward	16	8

	Brought forward.....	16	8
Friday, December 21st, 1827.			
FOUND at Caundle Brake;—going away at his brush for Purse Caundle, and Plumley Wood, breaking Cover in the same field with him; going across the Vale to Hanover Wood, and along Milborne Moor to Pinford, <i>running into our Fox in open view</i> by the piece of water in Sherborne Park, in a brilliant burst of fifty-five minutes without a check.	Killed	1	Earthed
Monday, December 24th.			
FOUND at Elscombe Wood, and after a brilliant run of one hour across the Yarlington vale, and through the Covers at Compton, the Pack ran up to their Fox and <i>killed him</i> on the Earth at Sigwells. Found a second at Yarlington, running him for forty minutes at the top of their speed when it was deemed prudent to stop the Hounds, the Horses being most distressed after this very severe day, <i>from the pace</i> the Hounds had ran.		1	
Friday, December 28th.			
FOUND at Penny's Wood near Lingleat, where the Hounds worked their Fox for thirty minutes in Cover close at his brush; when finding himself pressed, he entered the great Bradley Woods (about 600 acres) through the whole of which the Hounds forced him at full speed nearly, carrying as fine a head at times as could well be seen, and getting him away by Whitham Park for West End Wood, where he unluckily forced himself into the main Earth (most negligently stopped with a clod!) <i>when the Hounds were killing him</i> in most handsome style. ....		..	1
Tuesday, January 1st, 1828.			
DREW Cogley, blank, in a <i>very</i> heavy rain, and in consequence of the <i>storm increasing</i> , took the Pack home at the request of the Field.			
	Carried forward....	18	9

Brought forward.... 18 9

Friday, January 4th, 1828.

FOUND at Temple Coombe Wood, the frost being hardly out of the ground; the Hounds however working their Fox in very good style indeed by Stowel and Cheriton to Blackford and *under* Elscombe Wood, to Home Wood near Wincanton, where they *killed* him handsomely in 1 hour and 50 minutes. Found a second *late in the day* at Tenant's Wood, running him for forty-five minutes, and losing him near Wolston, in the cross road at that place, in a very heavy storm of rain and hail

Killed
Earthed

1

Tuesday, January 8th.

DREW Fifehead Coppice. Hinton Coppice, and Start Coppice, blank.

Friday, January 11th.—Frost.

Tuesday, January 15th.

FOUND a gallant Fox at Monk Wood;—going away close at his brush at a clipping pace across the Somersetshire deep vale by Batcombe to Creech Hill, and on to Evercreech and Ansford, where the Fox was dead beat, the foot people coursing him round *a rick yard*: BUT THE RIVER BRUE BEING EXCEEDINGLY SWOLN BY THE FLOOD, the Hounds and Horses were obliged to go three miles round to a bridge, and as snow and sleet were falling in abundance, they could merely mark his line towards Hadspen, and lost him after a run of three hours over fifteen or sixteen miles of Country, as the crow flies.....

Friday, January 18th.

FOUND at Inwood:—getting away immediately, close to our Fox by Caundle Brake, and along the Milborne Moor at a racing pace for Lord Digby's Park: where the Hounds were *all but in view* of him, and where they lost him in an unaccountable manner; it being since ascertained that he swam the large sheet of water, and laid down on the Island!

Carried forward.... 19 9

<p style="text-align: right;">Brought forward....</p> <p>Tuesday, January 22nd, 1828.</p> <p>FOUND at Hicks's Park, under West End Wood, near Brewham, and after a sharp and brilliant run of one hour and five minutes, with scarcely a check, the Hounds ran into and <i>killed</i> him under the windows of Brewham Lodge. It being early in the day, the Hounds were walked on to Kilmington Common, where they found a second immediately, going away at his brush to West End Wood, and over the Earths to Grove Wood, Kings Wood, and Brewham Forest, trying the Earths at New Park, and away for the grounds near Stourton House —and through them for Norwood, and the open Country towards the Mere Downs, making Knoll Wood, and half way up the hill, where the Hounds fairly turned him, and ran into him in very handsome style, after a run over every variety of country of three hours and fifteen minutes: walking their twenty miles home with every stern an end!</p> <p>Friday, January 25th.</p> <p>THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day at Stock House, where, as usual, a very numerous Field was assembled. The Hounds were walked on to a favourite Cover of Mr. Yeatman's, in the Vale, called Rooksmoor, where a brace of Foxes were found immediately, <i>both of them going</i> before the Pack to Deadmoor, and across the open Commons to Fifehead and on to Plumber Coppice, and over Sturminster Common to Piddle's Wood, where the Hounds, which had crossed and changed from the line of <i>one</i> Fox to the <i>other</i>, settled themselves closely to the dog Fox! going away, all but in view of him, across the Vale to Connygar Wood, and from thence across the enclosures to the village of Shillingston, and <i>up the steepest part of the hill</i> at that place at a tremendous pace, carrying as fine a head as was ever seen on the <i>most level piece of</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried forward....</p>	<p>Killed</p> <p>2</p> <p>19</p>	<p>Earthed</p> <p>9</p> <p>21</p> <p>9</p>
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Brought forward	21	9
<i>ground</i> , racing him at the top of their speed to Durweston Common, and on to Filgrove, through which they forced him without a turn, running into him in splendid style on Stickland Common, after a run of two hours and thirty minutes without a check, over at least seventeen miles of ground, to the admiration of the whole Field: <i>of those at least who witnessed the conclusion of the run!</i>	Killed 1	Earthed 9
Tuesday, January 29th, 1828.		
FOUND at Coombe Wood;—going away across the Vale, at a pressing pace for Charlton Horethorne, and along the Vale by Stowel for Henstridge Bowden, running him in a burst of fifty minutes into a cyder cellar, where he was <i>killed</i>	1	
Friday, February 1st.		
WE met on this day at the Caundle Holt Covers;—finding at Plumley Wood, and where, after one hour and five minutes, principally in Cover, the Hounds got up to their Fox, and <i>killed</i> . Found a second in the Caundle Holts, and after <i>a very sharp burst of fifty minutes</i> , <i>killed</i> a very stout dog Fox in New Lease Coppice.	2	
Tuesday, February 5.		
FOUND at Cheriton Wood, and after a ringing run of one hour, the Hounds ran their Fox to a stone quarry on Charlton Hill, dead beat. Having heard of another that crossed the hill about <i>half an hour</i> before, the Hounds were laid on, and by dint of great perseverance on the part of the Hounds, they got up to him at Charlton Wood, going away by North Cheriton to Blackford, and up the hill to Elscombe Wood, which he skirted, making his point for Wadham's Down and on to Bratton, and Shepton Montague, and across the Vale nearly to Redlynch Park, and by Roundhill House		
Carried forward	25	9

Brought forward	25	9
to <i>Charlton Musgrove</i> , pointing for Pen Forest, the Hounds running into him before he reached it in open view, after a brilliant run of one hour and thirty minutes as direct as the crow flies, with scarcely a single turn.	Killed 1	Earthed 1
Friday, February 8th, 1828.		
MET at Nether Compton, where we laid the Hounds upon the line of a Fox that had crossed the road towards Bradford <i>thirty minutes</i> before we came: working him in a very superior style by Wyke Park, to Potter's Lease, and over the river to Clifton Wood, where the Hounds got up to him, going away without dwelling a moment, close at his brush towards Coker Wood, from whence the Hounds fairly turned him, making his point for Closworth and across the Vale to Yetminster, and on to Whitfield Wood, and through it without a turn for Knighton Common, and up the hill to Lewiston Wood, running him in view into one of the buildings adjoining the house and <i>killing</i> him (a very old dog Fox) after a brilliant run of two hours and thirty minutes, over the finest part of the County of Dorset: having measured out a good fifteen miles of ground.	1	
Tuesday, February 12th.—Frost.		
Friday, February 15th.		
FOUND at Caundle Brake;—going away to Plumley Wood, and the Holts, where the Hounds changed; after getting the Hounds together, we made the best of our way with a very catching bad scent, to Marsh Common, and thence to Broke Wood and Butterwick, and away for Glanville's Wootton and into the Grange Woods, where the Hounds <i>changed again</i> and were stopped, late in the afternoon, after a very hard day—and a run covering at least twelve or fourteen miles of ground.		
Carried forward	27	10

Tuesday, February 19th, 1828. Brought forward. ..

27

10

MET at Redlynch gate, and found at Cogley Wood;—running him in Cover about fifteen minutes, and going away to Redlynch Park, where the Hounds *got upon the heel* of another scent and lost. Found a second at Pink Wood, going away with a very middling scent to Henley Wood, and across the enclosures to the town-end of Bruton, where he was coursed by a cur and lost.

Killed

Earthed

Friday, February 22nd.

MET at Cadbury House;—drew Cadbury Castle, Compton Wood, Yarlinton, Lilly Wood, Elsombe Wood, and Milborne Slaits, *blank*, owing to the negligence of the Earth stoppers.

Tuesday, February 26th.

MET at West End Wood;—getting upon the walking scent of a most gallant Fox, going away after him to Brewham Common, and Pink Wood, and away to Postlebury Wood, (a Cover of two hundred acres) and across the corner of it without getting upon any better terms, and without his waiting a moment, though we had covered twelve miles of ground up to this point: crossing the road by Wanstrow and pointing for Marston Vale. At this part of the Chace, having ascertained *the point he had in view*, we took the Hounds on, at a hand gallop ABOUT FOUR MILES, and hit him short into the great Bradley Wood, where they got up to him; running through these Covers to Horningsham, and over the hill to Bradley Park, trying every Earth as he passed, and on to the Wiltshire Downs, leaving Longleat to the left, and away to Bidcombe, and through the Cover there for the Earth on the open down near Hill Deverell, (within three or four miles of Hindon,) *which he unluckily found open*, after a run of three hours and thirty-five minutes, over at least twenty-four miles of ground.

..

1

Carried forward....

27


11

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward....	27	11
Friday, February 29th, 1828.		
<p>MET at Henstridge Bowden, and found our Fox immediately in the Temple Coombe Woods, going away at a pressing pace to Henstridge Bowden, and across the Vale to East Hill, leaving Milborne Port a little to the left, and away for Milborne Wick, and along the Pointington Ridge, running their Fox in view along the terrace, and <i>killing</i> him in forty-five minutes without a check.</p>	1	
Tuesday, March 4th.		
<p>MET at Plumley Wood, and found immediately in the Caundle Holts—and after three hours and twenty five minutes very good hunting, in a very bad-scenting day, working our Fox through Plumley Wood, Frith Wood, Caundle Brake, Hanover Wood, and Haydon Coppice, by Ashcombe Wood, to Canndle Wood, the Hounds got up to him, forcing him at a rattling pace across the enclosures to Stourton Caundle, and away for New Lease Coppice, killing him handsomely in Plumley Wood.</p>	1	
Saturday, March 8th.		
<p>MET at Monk Wood, in a very heavy fog:—finding immediately, and going away for Batcombe Wood, but the fog increasing in density, we stopped the Hounds and took them home.</p>		
Tuesday, March 11th.		
<p>MET at Pen Forest;—drawing the whole of the Covers there, and West End Wood, blank—the Earth having been by accident put to, only late that morning!</p>		
Friday, March 14th.		
<p>FOUND at Holway Brake, near Pointington;—going away close at the brush of a fine dog Fox, and <i>killing</i> him handsomely in forty minutes with scarcely a moment's check, near Sherborne.....</p>	1	
Carried forward....	30	11

	Brought forward..	30	11
Tuesday March 18th, 1828.			
FOUND a dog Fox at Sparkford Wood, running him across the vale to North Barrow, and nearly to Camel, <i>killing</i> him in a burst of thirty minutes. Found a second late in the afternoon at Cherton Wood and after a sharp burst towards the Temple Coombe Woods, stopped the Hounds for fear of doing mischief.		Killed 1	Earthed
Friday, March 21st.			
MET at Cogley Wood;—drawing that Cover and Pink Wood, blank, but finding in Woolley Wood, below Bruton, and in a very beautiful burst of fifty-five minutes running our Fox to a drain in Redlynch Park. ..			1
Tuesday, March 25th.			
MET at Batcombe Wood;—drawing that Cover, Monk Wood, Asham Wood, and Postlebury Wood, blank; finding <i>late in the day</i> at Bitcombe Higher Wood, and after a very good run of two hours and five minutes, stopping the Hounds, and taking them their eighteen miles home, <i>from want of day light</i>			
Friday, March 28th.			
TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE HORSEMEN met the Blackmoor Vale Hounds this day, at Stock House;—finding immediately, and after a brilliant burst of forty minutes, <i>killing</i> our Fox in very superior style <i>in the open</i> , before he could reach the Caundle Holt Covers. Found a vixen Fox at Hanover; ran her about hour, when the Hounds were stopped late in the day, and taken home.....			1
Tuesday, April 1st.—Did not hunt.			
Friday, April 4th.—Did not hunt.			
Tuesday, April 8th.			
MET at the Warren Hill, near Hinton St. George.— Found the Earths open, and lost the day in a most unsatisfactory and unhoped-for manner!.....			
	Carried forward....	32	12

		Killed	Earthed
Brought forward . . .		32	12
Saturday, April 12th, 1828.			
<p>FOUND a Vixen in the Bradley Wood, which the Hounds ran for a considerable time, but reluctantly, as usual in those cases;—when we crossed the line of the dog Fox, <i>thirty minutes behind him</i>—hunting him on by Bradley, to the Mere Downs, where we were beaten out of scent, and took the Hounds home.</p>			
Friday, April 18th.			
<p>DREW Creech hill, Woolley Wood, Henley Wood, Pink Wood, and Hicks's Park, blank, in a very wet day.</p>			
Tuesday, April 22nd.			
<p>MET at the Half-way House;—found a crippled Fox and <i>killed immediately</i>. Drew on to Corton Wood; found and <i>chopped</i> another, in a most unfortunate manner. Found a third at Sparkford Wood, and after a sharp burst of thirty minutes, stopped the Hounds by desire, it being a Vixen, and heavy.</p>			
		2	
Tesday, April 29th.			
<p>MET at the Bradley Woods;—finding a crippled dog Fox and <i>killing</i> immediately; getting at the same moment on the line of another, and after two hours good work, principally in Cover, <i>killing</i> our Fox, and finishing the season to the satisfaction of all present. . .</p>			
		2	
Total . . .		36	12

END OF THE SECOND SEASON.

	Hunted during the season	61 days.
	Blank days	10
	Found on	51 days.
	Killed and Earthed,	48 Foxes

THE
HUNTING JOURNAL

OF THE

BLACKMOOR VALE HOUNDS;

FOR 1828—1829.

Tuesday, August, 26th, 1828.

THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met at Creech Hill on this morning at seven o'clock;—found a fine *litter* of Foxes, and after three hours steady and good work, *killed* one.
Saturday, August 30th.

FOUND a brace at Monk Wood at six A. M., (the *litter* having been TAKEN, as well as at Bitcombe Wood, which we tried also) and after a sharp rattle in Cover, ran our Fox to Earth, bolted in view and *killed*.

Wednesday, September 3rd.

MET at Nether Compton at eight A. M, where we found a fine *litter*, and after some very good running, we got one to a drain. An old Fox was so dead beat, that he was caught *by some labourers* at Wyke Farm, and brought back to us: we turned him *quietly* into the Cover where he was found, and *killed*.

Tuesday, September 9th.

MET at the Bradley Woods, at eight A. M;—found a brace of Foxes in the great Wood; going away with an old Fox to Marston Forest, and nearly to Lord Cork's, from whence the Pack fairly turned him, and after a severe burst of 40 minutes ran into him at Longleat and *killed*. Ran a second one hour and half and stopped, late in the day, with twenty miles home.

Carried forward....

Killed	Earthed
1	
1	
1	1
1	
4	1

	Brought forward	4	1
Saturday, September 13th, 1828.			
	MET at Yarlington at eight o'clock ;—found a very fine <i>litter</i> , and after three hours and a quarter very good running, over a great deal of ground, we <i>killed</i> a single Fox.	Killed 1	Earthed
Friday, September 19th.			
	MET at Holway Brake at eight o'clock ;—found a <i>litter</i> of eight Foxes, and after a sharp burst of thirty minutes with the old Fox, we stopped the Hounds at Coombe Farm, the Earths being open at Nether Compton. As these Foxes had done a great deal of <i>mischief</i> at Sandford, we came back and <i>killed</i> a brace of Cubs in one hour ; and after the Hounds had been <i>taken away</i> , and were <i>got into the road</i> leading to Pointington, they unluckily chopped another <i>lying under the wall by the road side</i>	3	
Tuesday, September 23rd.			
	MET at Creech Hill ;—found a leash of Foxes in Milton Wood, and after a sharp run under a burning sun, we ran our Fox to a stone quarry and <i>left him</i> . Ran a second some time, and <i>lost him</i> amongst the out-buildings of the farm house under the hill. . . . .	..	1
Friday, September 26th.			
	MET at Compton Castle at nine o'clock ;—finding a fine <i>litter</i> immediately, and after nearly two hours good work in Cover, getting away with the old dog Fox, and in a beautiful burst of thirty minutes by Sigwells, and round the hills leading to Corton, running into him in <i>open view</i> on the Charlton Downs . . .	1	
Thursday, October 2nd.			
	FOUND a brace of <i>old Foxes</i> in West End Wood (<i>this being the third litter already taken and SOLD!</i>) and after one hour's very sharp work, we Earthed the Fox		
	Carried forward	9	2

Brought forward..	9	2
all but in view under Sir R. Hoare's Tower, the Earth having been left open! Drew Grove Wood, and Hicks's Park, but did not find a second.	: Killed	Earthed 1
Tuesday, October 7th, 1828.		
MET at Sparkford Wood;—drew that Cover and the Yarlinton Covers, <i>blank</i> ; the <i>litter</i> at Yarlinton, not having been, (by mistake,) stopped out!.....		
Friday, October 10th.		
FOUND three or four old Foxes at Plumley Wood, and after two hours and a quarter, we ran into an old dog Fox and <i>killed</i>	1	
Tuesday, October 14th.		
GAVE the Foxes a little respite, having <i>killed</i> five brace and Earthed a brace and half more up to this day		
Friday, October 17th.		
FOUND an old Fox in Cogley Wood, and after a very good run of forty-five minutes, round the whole of Redlynch Park, we <i>killed</i> behind the Mansion House. Hearing that four more had been seen in different directions, we laid the Hounds upon one that had been halloed <i>half on hour before</i> , by dint of great stoop and perseverance, the Pack worked his line up to a drain near Moor Wood; bolted him, and in one hour and fifteen minutes we <i>killed</i> in Cogley Wood, in superior style	2	
Tuesday, October 21st.		
A large Field met us at Inwood, where we found a <i>litter</i> , and after running an hour in Cover, we laid on to a Fox that had stolen away towards Yeanston; the Hounds running him most beautifully along that fine vale for a mile or two, and on to Temple Coombe Wood, going away for Charlton Wood, and after a good run of two hours and ten minutes <i>killing</i> at Charlton	1	
Carried forward....	13	3

	Brought forward....	13	3
Friday, October 24th, 1828.			
MET at Compton Castle, where a large Field met us at Mr. Hunt's gates; <i>killing</i> a young Fox in Cover in fifteen minutes, and clapping on to an old Fox, which, after thirty minutes running, with a bad scent, we lost, getting upon the heel of another.		Killed	Earthed
Tuesday, October 28th.		1	
FOUND a brace in the great Bradley Wood, one of which we Earthed in thirty minutes. Walked after the other Fox, but owing to the very indifferent scent, we could never <i>hunt up</i> to him. ....		..	1
Friday, October 31st.			
RATHER more than <i>one hundred horse</i> met us at Stock House. The Hounds found a fine <i>litter</i> of Foxes in the Covers there; and after running in Cover one hour very sharp, close to the brush of a Cub, (which we <i>whipped off</i> from,) we got away twenty minutes behind an old Fox, which we ran to Lord Digby's Park Wall, where we <i>stopped</i> the Hounds, the Earths being open: we then walked the Hounds on to Caundle Brake, and found a leash of Foxes presently, and after a pretty <i>hunting</i> run without any scent, we stopped the Hounds at four P. M., just above Ashcombe Wood, with three Foxes on foot			
Tuesday, November 4th.			
MET at Postlebury Wood, below Bruton;—drew that Cover and Bitcombe, and Monk Wood, (two <i>litters</i> having been taken and sold here) and some small Covers, 'till half past two o'clock, <i>blank</i>			
Friday, November 7th.			
FOUND a <i>litter</i> of Foxes in Tenant's Wood, near Charlton, and after a good run of one hour and ten minutes, by Charlton Hill to Temple Coombe Wood			
	Carried forward....	14	4

Brought forward....	14	4
and back, we <i>killed</i> an old dog Fox. Laid the Hounds on to another that had been seen <i>three quarters</i> of an hour before: hit him into Charlton Wood, and got up to him in Cherton Wood, and after a pretty hunting run to Temple Coombe Wood, we changed again, and stopped at half past two P. M.	Killed	Earthed
	1	

Tuesday, November 11th. 1828.

MET at Ashington Wood, near Mudford:—drew that Cover, Nether Compton, and Holway Brake. *blank*; the Harriers having disturbed the Foxes at Holway, and near it the day before.

Friday, November 14th.

MET at Pen Forest:—found a brace of Foxes in Cockroad Wood, and after a run of two hours round the Stourton Covers, we *lost* our Fox in a very heavy rain and high wind.

Tuesday, November 18th.

MET at Compton Pouncefoot, but found the Earths had been opened;—found a Fox at Temple Coombe Wood at *two o'clock*, ran him at a *killing* pace to Caundle Brake, where we CHANGED: and after running the fresh Fox to Frith Wood, and to Henstridge, stopped the Hounds in Stalbridge Park twenty minutes before five P. M.—nearly dark, making for the Park Wood, where we were sure to change to a *litter*.

Friday, November 21st.

MET at Plumley Wood, where a very large Field were present. Drew the Caundle Holt Covers and found five Foxes immediately: getting away with a dog Fox to Caundle Holt, to Woodrow, and Rowden Mill, across the river to the lower Plantation and for Stock Wood, where we headed him, (so as to prevent the Cover from

Carried forward	15	4
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Brought forward	15	4
being disturbed) forcing him away for the Caundle river, and over it to Stourton Caundle parish, where the Hounds turned him for Wall Bridge and <i>over</i> the bridge for the enclosures under Thornhill House, where the Hounds ran into him, KILLING HIM IN THE RIVER , after a severe run of one hour and thirty-five minutes.	Killed 1	Earthed
Tuesday, November 25th, 1828.		
MET at Creech Hill;—drawing that Cover, Woolley Wood, and Henley Wood, blank; getting a lively drag at Pink Wood, and finding a brace at a quarter before two P. M., at Cogley Wood: after running half an hour in Cover, we forced him on to Henley Wood, and to the corner of Woolley Wood, where he was turned by a boy;—the Hounds getting up to him and <i>killing</i> under the village of Batcombe, after a run of one hour and forty-five minutes.	1	
Friday, November 28th.		
MET at Milborne Slaits;—found and ran to Earth at the Wheat Sheaf Earths in thirty minutes. Found a second and <i>killed</i> in twenty minutes. Found a third at Holway, and <i>killed</i> in thirty minutes near Sherborne, without any running.	2	1
Tuesday, December 2nd.—Did not hunt.		
Thursday, December 5th.—Did not hunt.		
Tuesday, December 9th.		
MET at Horwood Well at twelve o'clock, on account of the frost. Found a Fox in Stavordale Wood, ran him very sharp round the Stourton Woodlands for forty minutes, when a heavy sleet and rain set in: we hunted him however most beautifully <i>for four hours and a quarter</i> , when we stopped the Hounds on their entering Pen Forest, <i>as it was getting dark</i>		
Carried forward	19	5

	Carried forward . . .	19	5
Thursday, December 12th, 1828.			
MET at Cattle Hill Gate ;—found a Fox twenty minutes after 11, in Lilly Wood, but he was headed back into the Honnds' mouths at Bratton, and <i>killed</i> . Found a second in Holm Wood, near Holbrook House, going away at a <i>tremendous pace</i> for Redlynch Park, and away for Shepton Montague and Hadspen, where we had a check, but hit him off over the wall, and <i>killed in view</i> near Pitcombe, after a very severe and fine run of one hour and twenty minutes		Killed 2	Earthed 5
Tuesday, December 16th.			
MET on this day at Tenant's Wood;—found a brace of Foxes in Cherton Wood, and after a good hunting run of one hour in a driving rain, lost the Fox on the Charlton Hill near Temple Coombe Wood: made a persevering and wide cast on the foil; recovering in Cherton Lower Wood, and in a <i>sharp burst of twenty-five minutes killed</i> in the parish of Charlton.		1	
Friday, December 19th.			
A very large Field met us at Caundle Brake ;—found a brace of Foxes going away in about thirty minutes to Frith Wood, where we crossed a staler scent, and hunted him <i>slowly</i> to the Caundle Holts and lost. Went back and found a brace and half of Foxes in Stalbridge Park; <i>chopped one</i> unluckily, and went away in a VERY HEAVY RAIN with another over the wall to the vale below the town, stopping the Hounds when nearly dark, almost upon the banks of the Stour, most of the horsemen being tired and gone home, <i>though the Hounds were upon killing terms</i>		1	
Tuesday, December 23rd.			
MET at West End Wood, near Stourton, where we found a brace of Foxes in Hicks's Park;—going away			
	Carried forward . . .	23	5

Brought forward	23	5
<i>at the top of their speed</i> , the Pack raced him to West End Wood and over the Earths to the Tower, and down the vale towards Wanstrow, running into a fine dog FOX IN OPEN VIEW in the centre of Whitham Park, before he could reach the Bradley Woods, in fifty minutes.	Killed 1	Earthed
Friday, December 26th, 1828.		
UPWARDS of one hundred horse met us at Compton Lodge gate, near Yeovil;—drew from thence to Compton Panncefoot, blank, from ten till a quarter past two P. M., being OUR FOURTH blank day.		
Tuesday, December 30th.		
A large Field met us at Inwood, where the Hounds unluckily chopped a Fox in his kennel. Finding a second immediately, and after a good hunting run of two hours and thirty-five minutes, <i>kill</i> ing in Caundle Brake.	2	
Friday, January 2nd, 1829.		
MET at Stock House, upwards of one hundred horse accompanying us to Rooksmoor, where we found a brace of Foxes immediately;—going away <i>at the brush</i> of one over the river by Ramsbury to Holwell, and over the river at Woodbridge to Bishop's Caundle, crossing the river by Holwell Church for Buckshaw, and over the Holwell Commons to the enclosures at Pulham, where the Hounds ran into their Fox <i>in view</i> , after a very good run of one hour and five minutes.	1	
Friday, January 6th,		
At Zeals Green;—Frost and no hunting.		
Friday, January 9th.		
MET at Plumley Wood;—found a brace of Foxes in the Caundle Holt Covers, and after a <i>very severe</i> burst		
Carried forward	27	5

Brought forward..	27	5
of twenty minutes ran into a very large and old dog Fox, <i>killing</i> in the enclosures near Marsh Common. Found again a brace and half of Foxes in Plumley Wood; going away with one to Frith Wood, and to Stalbridge Park, and on to Stalbridge Weston, and thence through Plumley to the Holts and on to Caundle Wood, where we got <i>upon another Fox</i> , which we ran to Marsh Common, and thence at a <i>killing pace</i> to the Holts, and to a fallow close to Plumley, where we had a check, and stopped the Hounds, when nearly dark, TEN MINUTES BEFORE FIVE, after a <i>very good</i> run of two hours and forty minutes.	Killed	Earthed
Monday, January 12th. At Holway;—Frost.. ..	1	
Friday, January 16th.		
DREW Yarlington, Elscombe Wood, &c., blank...		
Tuesday, January 20th. Stourton Inn;—Frost.		
Friday, January 23rd. Cherton Wood;—Frost.....		
Tuesday, January 27th.		
FOUND a brace of Foxes at Bradley Wood;—ran two hours and twenty minutes very brilliantly in Cover, changing from one to the other; getting away at length for Knowl Wood, and pointing for the Wiltshire Downs, where we were obliged to <i>stop the Hounds</i> , as the Frost was not out of the ground, and the horses could not, really, stand, <i>when upon the down</i>		
Friday, January 30th.		
MET at Stock Wood, and after trying Rooksmoor (leaving our Fox in a small Plantation near the Green Man) we found in Stock Wood, and after a brilliant burst of thirty-five minutes, Earthed him at Hanover Wood, close to Lord Digby's Park.....	..	1
Tuesday, February 3rd. Stourton Inn;—Frost.		
Brought forward....	28	6

	Killed	Earbed
Brought forward . . .	28	6
Friday, February 6th, 1829.		
<p>MET at Stalbridge Park ;—found a brace and half of Foxes at Inwood, and after a superior run of <i>one hour and forty minutes</i>, by Temple Coombe Wood, Henstridge Bowden, Caundle Brake, Plumley Wood, and Hadspen, <i>we got up to him</i> in Goathill, adjoining Lord Digby's Park, and when the Hounds were <i>killing</i> him, he went to an Earth that had been left open at Mews Hill, and saved himself, when a few yards only before the Pack.</p>	..	1
Tuesday, January 10th.		
<p>MET at Monk Wood, near Mendip, where we found a brace, and in thirty-two minutes <i>killed</i> in Asham Wood. The Hounds were hallooed on to a second, which went away towards Mells Park, and across the corner of Mendip, when <i>being pressed</i>, he turned and went to a rock in Asham Wood in fifty minutes.</p>	1	1
Friday, January 13th.		
<p>MET at Nether Compton ;—<i>heard of a Fox</i> that had got away from the Earths, but could not find him. As we were going to Holway Brake, heard of a Fox that had been seen at <i>Sandford</i> twenty minutes before ; the Hounds hunted him very beautifully across to the Trent Earths, and away for Rimpton Hollow, where they got up to him and as he had been worried by a sheep dog in the morning, they ran into him in view before he could reach the Compton Earths, in a very severe burst of eighteen minutes.</p>	1	
Tuesday, February 17th.		
<p>MET at Cogley Wood, and found a brace of Foxes immediately ;—after a ring or two in that fine Cover, the Fox being headed, he made a point for Godmanstone Coppice, and behind the Mansion in Redlynch Park for Moor Wood, and away for Round Hill, and thence</p>		
Carried forward . . .	30	8

	30	8
Brought forward....		
almost to Bratton, but being headed, he made his way across the vale to Redlynch Park, where the Hounds got up to him and Earthed him in a drain in the Park Wood, in one hour and thirty minutes, very good running, from whence we bolted him.	Killed 1	Earthed 8
Saturday, February 21st, 1829.		
MET at Stourton Inn ;—drawing Deverell Longwood, blank, but finding in Bradley Wood ; the Hounds going away to Horsingsham Hill, where they divided with a brace of Foxes, about five couple <i>racing their Fox</i> to Longleat and across the Park to the Covers near Marston, where the Pack were got together, and after working him in good style for one hour and ten minutes, they ran into and <i>killed</i> him in Penny's Wood.	1	
Tuesday, February 24th.		
MET at Pen Forest ;—finding a brace of Foxes immediately, and after two hours good work, (the first fifty minutes close at his brush) through the Stourton Covers, we ran him to the village of Penselwood, and lost (and no doubt left) him somewhere <i>among the houses</i>		
Friday, February 27th.		
MET at Cherton Wood ;—finding immediately, and going away close at his brush for Temple Coombe Wood, and thence to Inwood, where he waited a little, and then made his way to Caundle Brake, and to Frith Wood, under Stalbridge Park, where the Hounds ran into and <i>killed</i> after a severe run of one hour and forty minutes.	1	
Tuesday, March 3rd.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Bitcombe Wood, near Frome. The Hounds were thrown in to Cover at eleven o'clock, and in fifteen minutes precisely after that time, a fine Fox was hallooed away,		
Carried forward....	33	8

Brought forward . .	33	8
<p>with the Hounds pretty close at his brush, pointing for Lower Bitcombe Wood, from whence he was headed, making his way for Postlebury Wood, (a fine Cover belonging to the Earl of Cork, of about 200 acres,) which he merely skirted, however, going across the vale for Wanstrow, and thence over the common, at the top of the speed of these staunch Hounds, for Witham Friary, and across Witham Park for West End Wood, (a fine range of Cover of the Duke of Somerset of about 200 acres;) but finding the Earths well stopped, he went through it, without a turn, for Yarnfield Common, where the wind being rather too much in his teeth he made for Sir Richard Hoare's extensive Covers, for King's Wood, and over the Earths at Alfred's Tower, and along the Terrace at this magnificent spot for Brewham Wood, across the corner of which he directed his way, at his best pace, for New Park Wood and Cockroad, leaving Stavordale Wood to the right, and thence for the depths of Pen Forest, the glades of which he threaded direct for Leigh Common, leaving the town of Wincanton a little to the right, and on to Stoke Trister, and under Cucklington Hill, for the fine vale which there opens upon the view, by Horwood Well to Rodgrove, and away for the River Cale, through which these gallant Hounds dashed in splendid style, evidently showing, however, by the relaxation of their speed, and occasional checks, that their Fox was getting a good way a head of them. The stoop and perseverance of these Hounds, at this period of the chase, was much and deservedly admired; and across Horsington Marshes they showed their determination to get up to him if possible, carrying as fine a head as at any part of the previons run, working him through the orchards and farm-yards of the parish of Horsington, where they hunted up to him in a piece of wheat adjoining the Vale</p>	Killed	Earthed
Carried forward . . .	33	8

Brought forward 33 8

of Blackmoor Turnpike Road, running him in view across the grounds of W. M. Dodington, Esquire, and *killing* him in superior style, after a run (unsurpassed in the opinion of the oldest sportsman present) of three hours and forty minutes, over at least twenty-five miles of ground. 1

Killed
Earthed

Friday, March 6th, 1829.

A very large Field met at Stock House:—after drawing Rooksmoor, blank, the Hounds found a *Vixen* in Stock Wood, from which they were *stopped*. They then found a brace of Foxes in Thornhill Coppice, going away all but in view with the dog Fox in front of Thornhill House, and by the obelisk across Stalbridge Weston Common to New Lease Coppice, and away through the Caundle Holts to Caundle Wood, and thence by Marsh Coppice to the enclosures and orchards under Bishop's Caundle; in *the roads* of which village he WAS COURSED by a cur dog; after a long check, however, the Hounds hit him on again for the river at Woodbridge, and for the Plantations and Park at Stock House, for Stock Wood, and through it for Lydlinch Common, where the Hounds hunted him into an orchard adjoining a cottage: beyond which spot they could not mark his line—and lost him accordingly. . . .

Tuesday, March 10th.

FOUND at Hicks's Park, near Brewham Common:—running one hour and forty minutes round the Stourton Country and *killed*. 1

Friday, March 13th.

DREW Thornhill Coppice, Stalbridge Park, and Inwood, blank. When on our way to the Coombe Woods, we were hallooed to a Foxs—cent half an hour old: hunted him, however, fifty-five minutes by Toomer, Frith

Carried forward 35 8

Brought forward	35	8
Wood, and through Plumley Wood pointing for the Earths at Sherborne Park, but the Fox being a long while a head of us, and <i>the snow</i> which had fallen in the morning, being still in patches on the surface of the ground, we came to a stand-still, and took the Hounds home	Killed	Earthed
Tuesday, March 17th, 1829.		
FOUND in Cogley Wood ;—ran our Fox forty-five minutes to Redlynch Park, where we Earthed and <i>kill-ed</i> . Found a second, which we ran one hour and a quarter, but the Fox being coursed by a dog, we lost in the fallows near Hadspen	1	
Friday, March 20th.		
DREW Milborne Slaits, Temple Coombe Wood, Cherton Wood, and Tenant's Wood, blank. Found at Hicknell Furze at Compton, and chopped. Found a second at Holway, and after a sharp run of one hour and ten minutes, ran him to Earth at Nether Compton.	1	1
Tuesday, March 24th.		
DREW Sparkford Wood, Annis Hills, Yarlinton, and Elsombe Wood, blank		
Saturday, March 28th.		
FOUND a brace of Foxes at Bidcombe, on the down above Longleat ;—the Hounds <i>dividing</i> , we got them together, and by a very forward cast, lit our Fox over the Earths at Penny's Wood, running through Bradley Wood and over the hill to Horsingsham, and across Longleat Park to the Frome Woodlands, where we had a brace of Foxes before us. but after incessant running <i>from a quarter before twelve till six P. M.</i> , we killed in superior style at six precisely, only ten in at the death, out of a large Field. The Hounds had twenty miles home, which they reached, fresh and well at half past ten at night.	1	
Carried forward	38	9

Carried forward.... 33 9

Tuesday, March 31st, 1829.

DREW Bitcombe, Postlebury, and Monk Wood, and Bitcombe Wood, blank.—when we were hallooed to a Fox that had been seen sinking the wind and slipping from us half an hour before: the Hounds hunted him about a mile and lost him in a farm-yard, where it has been since learnt, that he went into a drain

Killed

Earthed

Saturday. April 4th.

THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Nether Compton Lodge Gate;—drew Potter's Lease, blank, and were turning to Wyke Furze, when we were hallooed across the river to Clift Wood, where the Hounds got up to a Fox in a few minutes and pressed him *severely* for half an hour: it being discovered, however, that the Hounds had been *treacherously* hallooed across the river to Mr. Farquharson's Country.—they were *immediately* stopped. Found a second Fox at Coombe Farm, but the rain coming down in *torrents*, the Fox was lost, and the Hounds walked home: the day having been completely thrown away!.....

Wednesday. April 8th.

DREW Copley Wood, near Kingweston:—ran our Fox across to the vale near Somerton, but lost him in the fallows near the town, after fifty-five minutes running with an execrable scent: the Fox, also, having been evidently coursed by a sheep dog.....

Saturday. April 11th.

FOUND at Cockroad, near Pen Forest, and in a *brilliant* burst of forty minutes, *killed* a slapping dog Fox. Found a second in West End Wood, and after a *capital run* of one hour and ten minutes through Brewham Forest, by Gasper Common to Stourton, we *killed* another very old dog Fox near Stourton House, after the finest day's sport ever seen at Stourton

2

Carried forward.... 40 9

	Brought forward....	40	9
Thursday, April 16th, 1829.			
DREW Annis Hill and Sparkford Wood, blank;— but got upon a Fox that had been pinched in a trap, and in a burst of fifteen minutes, <i>killed</i> him.		Killed 1	Earthed
Wednesday, April 22nd.			
FOUND at Penny's Wood, and after running a brace of Foxes in the Bradley Woods and the Covers adjacent, for three hours and three quarters, got up to the Vixen that had laid down her Cubs and stopped.			
	Total....	41	9

END OF THE THIRD SEASON.

↪ Hunted during the season	57 days.
Blank days.....	5
Found on.....	52 days.
Killed and Earthed,	50 Foxes.

THE
HUNTING JOURNAL
OF THE
BLACKMOOR VALE HOUNDS;
FOR 1829—1830.

Saturday, August 29th, 1829.

MET at Penny's Wood, near Longleat, at eight A. M.;—found a strong and good *litter* immediately, but running four hours and three quarters, changing continually, we were obliged to stop the Hounds, from the excessive heat, having twenty miles home.

Thursday, September 3rd.

MET at Monk Wood at seven A. M.;—not finding at Monk Wood, we proceeded to Batcombe Wood, where the Pack found an old *Fox at a quarter after nine o'clock, going away at the top of their speed for Weston Town Wood, and across the vale for Monk Wood, reaching Asham Great Wood (of 600 acres) with the Fox only two fields before them, and *through it* without a turn, as if pointing for Mells Park, but being hard pressed, he turned again for Asham Wood, and through it, the Hounds *working him* over the high rocks, for the road near North Wood. The heat being excessive, we stopped the Hounds, though the Fox was hallooed, *dead beat*, in to Batcombe Wood, and the more so, as the Hounds (having twenty miles home) had but ONE CLEAR DAY'S rest before meeting at Thornhill Coppice.

* We found and killed this identical Fox on Thursday the thirteenth of April 1830, after a superior run of one hour and forty-five minutes.

Carried forward. . . .

Killed

Earthed

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward....		
Saturday, September 5th, 1829.		
MET at Thornhill Coppice at seven A. M;—found a very fine <i>litter</i> of Foxes, and after one hour and twenty minutes good work, <i>killed</i> a single Cub.	1	
Tuesday, September 8th.		
MET at six A. M., at Penny's Wood, near Bradley ;—found a brace and half of Foxes, and after running incessantly for three hours, Earthed one on Rodmoor's Hill, beyond Longleat Park. ....	..	1
Saturday, September 12th.		
MET at Nether Compton at seven A. M. Found a fine <i>litter</i> at Rotley:—the Hounds unluckily <i>running their Fox to Earth</i> ,—the main Earth having been left open. Proceeded to Coombe Farm, and after a sharp burst <i>killed</i> a single Cub.	1	1
Tuesday, September 15th.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Bradley Wood at nine o'clock;—finding in one of the Marquis of Bath's Covers, and after four hours and half, <i>very hard</i> and good work, stopping the Hounds, which were nearly overpowered with the heat and fatigue, a <i>litter</i> of Foxes being on foot, which could not be separated in those extensive Covers.		
Saturday, September 19th.		
MET at Nether Compton at nine;—after running about fifteen minutes, twenty couple <i>killed a fine dog Fox</i> of the year,—five couple going away with another to Honeycombe. Went on to Compton Pauncefoot, and after running a second <i>litter</i> two hours and half, <i>killed</i> a second in good style	2	
Tuesday, September 22nd.		
MET at Cogley Wood at nine o'clock;—found a brace		
Carried forward....	4	2

Brought forward	4	2
of old Foxes immediately, the Hounds going away at the brush of the dog Fox to Moor Wood, and across Redlynch Park for the buildings adjoining the Farm House there, where they <i>threw up at a drain</i> , and were taken from thence to the STALE SCENT of the second Fox: being unable to get over this difficulty, we drew them through Cogley again, and drawing Pink Wood, blank, took the Hounds home.	Killed ..	Earthed 1
Saturday, September 26th, 1829.		
MET at Yarlinton at ten o'clock;—finding a good <i>litter</i> of Foxes; and after one hour's sharp and good running, <i>killing</i> a fine dog Fox. Walked the Hounds on to Hadspen Wood, where we got upon the very stale scent of an old Fox which had slipped away when we began, and after hunting him in to the road, <i>stopped</i> , and went home.	1	
Tuesday, September 29th.		
A large Field met us this day at Inwood, where we found a <i>litter</i> ; and in twenty minutes <i>very quick work</i> , the Hounds <i>killed</i> a very fine full-grown dog Fox. We then found an old Fox in the Candle Brake, which, after going to Frith Wood, was <i>headed back</i> by the Brake, and by Henstridge Bowden to Inwood, and thence to Temple Coombe Wood, but <i>the heat being excessive</i> , and the horses much jaded, we stopped the Pack, and took them home, after three hours hot work.	1	
Saturday, October 3rd.		
MET at West End Wood, near Alfred's Tower;—finding a <i>litter</i> of Foxes, and in two hours and half good and very superior running, <i>killing</i> a very forward and full-grown dog Fox	1	
Tuesday, October 6th.		
MET at Thornhill Obelisk;—drawing Thornhill Coppice, and Stalbridge Park, blank. Finding a brace of		
Carried forward	7	3

	Brought forward	7	3
	young Foxes in Furze Plantation, adjoining the Park, and after forty-five minutes very pretty running by Caundle Brake and Toomer Farm, we <i>killed</i> him in Toomer Coppice, near Inwood.	Killed 1	Earthed
	Saturday, October 10th, 1829.		
	MET at Bradley ;—finding immediately in Penny's Wood, and in forty minutes, without a check, <i>when killing</i> , ran our Fox to a small Earth, from whence he was shortly taken. Found a second in one of the Longleat Covers, and after <i>two hours and ten minutes most brilliant</i> running, without a check, over the whole of the Horsingsham and Longleat Country, <i>killed</i> a four-year-old dog Fox at ten minutes past four o'clock ; the Hounds, &c., having twenty miles home.	2	
	Tuesday, October 13th.		
	MET at Stock Wood, where we found four or five Foxes immediately ;—after twenty minutes sharp work in Cover, going away across the Caundle River close to the heels of a five-year-old dog Fox, for Weston and on to Stalbridge Park, where the Pack ran into him <i>in open view</i> , after a splendid burst of <i>thirty-five minutes</i> from the Cover's edge.	1	
	Saturday, October 17th.		
	MET at Pen Forest, and found a brace of Foxes immediately ;—going away close to the dog Fox for New Park Wood, and over the Earths for Gasper Common, and through Sir Richard Hoare's extensive Covers and pleasure grounds for Yarnfield Common, where the Hounds got up to him, and ran into him <i>in view</i> , after a <i>severe and brilliant burst of fifty-eight minutes</i> without a check.	1	
	Tuesday, October 20th.		
	MET at Cogley Wood, near Bruton ;—drawing that		
	Brought forward	12	3

Brought forward..	12	2
Cover in a driving rain, blank. As we were proceeding to the Covers under Alfred's Tower, without having had <i>the touch of a Fox</i> , we were brought back to a part of the Cover where a Fox had been seen <i>thirty minutes before</i> : the Hounds hunted him with a very indifferent scent to the Great Park Wood at Redlynch, where we could mark his line no further. We then walked the Hounds on to Brewham Forest, which we drew, blank, and it being three o'clock, and having twenty miles home, we retreated without doing any thing more.. ..	Killed	Earthed
Friday, October 23rd, 1829.		
MET at Nether Compton, and found a brace of Foxes immediately;—six couple <i>killing</i> one in Rottley Coppice on the Earth; and the Pack going away at the top of their speed with the other along Sherborne Field for Holway, and nearly to Lord Digby's Park, where he was headed; and thence to Coombe Farm and Compton, the Pack running into and <i>killing</i> him in the open, at the end of a severe run of one hour and ten minutes.		2
Tuesday, October 27th.		
MET at Yarnfield Gate, in a heavy fog. Threw off at twelve;—finding a brace of Foxes in Hicks's Park;—going away with a middling scent to West End Wood and over Yarnfield Common to Kilmington Plantation, and through the whole of Sir R. Hoare's <i>pleasure grounds</i> to the ridge behind Stourton Inn, where they were hallooed to a fresh Fox (the hunted Fox was seen to lie down, <i>dead beat</i> , a little further on in a potatoe field) which went to Alfred's Tower, where we stopped the Hounds at half-past four, with twenty miles home. We drew the Bradley Woods without finding in the morning, the Earths having been stopped late; and did not find till three o'clock		
Carried forward	14	2

	Brought forward	14	2
Friday, October 30th, 1829.			
MET at Tenant's Wood;—finding a short running Fox at Compton Wood, which we lost at the end of fifty minutes, dead beat, owing to the Field <i>over-riding</i> the Hounds and <i>riding after</i> the Fox		Killed	Earthed
Friday, November 3rd.			
MET at Bidcombe Down, near Bradley;—found immediately, and after thirty minutes, the Hounds being <i>over-roded by the Field</i> , they were brought to a serious check: took them on <i>full swing</i> to the Earths at Horsingsham, hitting him well in to Penny's Wood, where the Hounds got up to him, and in fifty-five minutes RAN HIM TO A DRAIN in front of Longleat House, the leading Hounds close at his brush. . . . .		..	1
Friday, November 6th.			
MET at Cadbury House;—found immediately in Sparkford Wood, going away at his brush across the vale to Cadbury Castle, and away to Sutton and Corton, <i>running into him in view</i> on Milborne Down (a two-year-old dog Fox,) after a beautiful run of one hour and ten minutes.			1
Tuesday, November 10th.			
MET at Pen Forest;—found immediately; going away at his brush for Gaspar Mill, by Pen Pits, and on to Broom Wood, in front of Stourton House; where we found that <i>one hound</i> had slipped on a head, which brought us to a check: hit him on again for Deverell Longwood, which he skirted; going up the Roman Intrenchments for Mere Down, and over them for Bradley Knoll, where we were beat out of scent—a heavy rain coming down.			
Friday, November 14th.			
MET at Cheriton Wood, and found immediately;—going away to Charlton Horethorne, and along the vale to			
	Carried forward	15	3

Brought forward . . .

15 3

Stowel, and Temple Coombe Wood, and thence to Inwood, where the Pack got up to him, and *Earthed* him in Yeanston Coppice, after a brilliant burst of forty minutes. A brace of Foxes being hallooed away from Inwood, we laid on immediately to one of them, going away to Caundle Brake, Plumley Wood, and Hanover, and thence to North Wootton, and on to Sherborne Park, where we stopped the Hounds, after *three hours and three quarter's hard running*, with a brace of Foxes before them.

Killed

Earthed

..

1

Tuesday, November 17th, 1829.

ONE hundred and twenty-five horse met this day at Stock House, and proceeded with the Pack to Rooks-moor, where they found *a brace and half of Foxes*;—going away with the dog, and with an execrable scent (the frost being hardly out of the ground) to Deadmoor, and to Plumber and under Fifehead Coppice to the edge of Sturminster Common, and by Hazelbury to Deadmoor and Ramsbury to the Plantation at the Green Man, where a dog coursed the Fox; we hit him again, however, after a long check, by Rodmoor towards Wood-bridge, into the road opposite the Lodge Gates at Stock House, where it was deemed prudent to stop, and *not to disturb* Stock Wood, a large Field being expected there on the eighth of December.

Friday, November 20th.

FOUND a brace of Foxes at Compton Pauncefoot;—running the hunted Fox to Earth at Sigwells in thirty minutes; the Badgers having unluckily opened the Earths there. Walked the Pack on to Elscombe Wood, where they found immediately, going away to Shepton Montague and Hadspen; and after a capital run of *two hours and twenty minutes*, the Fox close before them for the last mile, and in view of the

Carried forward . . .

15 4

Brought forward....	15	4
<i>leading riders; RUNNING HIM TO EARTH, dead beat, at Wolston Coppice;—the stoppers having unluckily opened the Earth, thinking that the Hounds had gone home, it being nearly dark!</i>	Killed ..	Earthed 2
Tuesday, November 24th, 1829.		
MET at Nether Compton Lodge;—found a brace and half of Foxes in Potter's Lease, crossing the river to Newton, and on to Berwick, and through Clift Wood to Yetminster, and away on middling terms with a bad scent to Melbury, and thence to a small coppice near Evershot, where the Hounds <i>hunted up to their Fox</i> in beautiful style, to the admiration of the whole Field;—running him IN VIEW into a small Coppice, where they changed to A BRACE OF FRESH FOXES, going away at the top of their speed to Wolcombe Walls and clear to Wraxall, where they were with difficulty stopped, after a very hard and <i>unlucky day</i> of three hours and a quarter's incessant work, having covered more than twenty miles of ground.		
Friday, November 27th.		
MET at Leigh Common:— <i>killed</i> a Fox in Mr. Phelps's Plantation without much running; the Fox being headed on each side. It being a <i>very dense fog</i> , after a short draw towards Brewham Wood, &c., we took them home.		1
Tuesday, December 1st.		
MET at Zeals Green:—got upon the disturbed scent of a gallant Fox in Deverell Longwood, the Fox having been disturbed by the foot people before we came! Hunted him about a mile or two over the Mere Downs, but could not get up to him. Drew Kilmington Common, Hicks's Park, and West End Wood, blank.....		
Carried forward	16	6

Brought forward.. 16 6

Friday, December 4th, 1829.

MET at Inwood;—found immediately, but owing to the horsemen riding after the Fox, &c., we made a bad start, giving the Fox too much law, on a bad-scenting day: we hunted him, however, on to Stowel and Charlton, skirting Cherton Wood, and on to Cheriton and Latiford, crossing the road for the vale near Wincanton, losing him under Horsington,—probably in some of the drains there, after a good hunting run of one hour and forty minutes.

Killed
Earthed

Tuesday, December 8th.

ABOUT one hundred and fifty horse met us at Stock House, where we found five or six Foxes in the Covers immediately, and got away, in about an hour, with a Fox close before us, to the river towards Rooksmoor, which we skirted for Hazelbury Common, and across the river by Hazelbury Mill for the Pulham Commons, and away at the top of their speed for Glanville's Wootton Common, running the Fox, all but in view, into Mr. Warry's Plantation, where we killed him after a brilliant run of fifty minutes from the Cover's edge.

1

Friday, December 11th.

IT being a hard frost, we could not throw off 'till half past one;—getting upon the line of a disturbed Fox at Sandford, we hunted up to him at Trent Hollow, going away very quick with him to Coombe Farm, nearly to the Sherborne road, and thence to Nether Compton, where we changed when on killing terms, going away across the vale to Rimpton, where we stopped the Hounds when nearly dark, twenty-five minutes before five.

Friday, December 15th.

A large Field met us at Bitcombe Wood, but it being a dense fog, we separated under Alfred's Tower.

Carried forward.... 17 6

Brought forward....	17	6
in order to go home, having drawn Hicks's Park and West End Wood, with the <i>heel</i> of a lively drag from the Earths. As we were going along above Brewham, we crossed the line of a Fox that had slipped away from us, and after a good run of one hour and twenty minutes, we <i>ran him to Earth</i> at Cockroad, dead beat, and close before the Hounds.	Killed	Earthed
Friday, December 18th, 1829.	..	1
A long frost now set in !.....		
Friday, January 29th, 1830.		
MET at King Stag Bridge, and hard as the ground was for the horses, we went to Rooksmoor Coppice ;— finding a brace of Foxes immediately, and going away with the dog Fox, and with a tolerably good scent to Deadmoor, and thence to Fifehead, where the sharp south-easterly breeze turned him for Hazelbury, the Hounds pressing him across the vale to Humber Wood, and towards Canning's Court for Shortwood, where the Hounds got up to him, and in fifty-five minutes, when killing, ran him to a shallow Earth in the bank's side, in Mr. Farquharson's Country. As a litter had once been bred here, the Hounds were sent home : and as the foot people threatened to dig and kill him, (and as he could be touched with a hazle rod) he was drawn in three minutes, ear-marked, and let safely go, dead beat, into *Shortwood.	1	
Tuesday, February 2nd.		
FROST and SNOW again set in.		
Thursday, February 9th.		
MET at Bradley Great Wood ;—found immediately, and in two hours and a quarter, without a check, killed a very old dog Fox near Longleat, in superior style...	1	
*This Fox was found by the Blackmoor Vale Hounds on the fourteenth of January, 1831, in one of Mr. Yeatman's Covers, and killed, after a long run of two hours and fifty minutes.		
Carried forward....	19	7

	Brought forward	19	7
Thursday, February 11th, 1830.			
MET at Coombe Farm ;—found in Holway Brake, and <i>killed</i> under the hill in a remarkable manner, the leading Hound throwing himself <i>fifteen or sixteen feet</i> down the hill (in view) BEFORE THE FOX, and catching him as he turned ! Found a brace in Corton Wood, and after a sharp burst with the dog Fox, ran to Earth at Sigwells, near Compton Pauncefoot.		Killed 1	Earthed 1
Saturday, February 13th.			
FOUND our Fox (getting on a disturbed scent, and hunting up to him beautifully) at Yarlington; going away at his brush to Wolston, and from the Earth at Wolston Coppice, <i>in view</i> , to Compton Wood, <i>killing</i> him in forty-five minutes <i>in the court-yard</i> at Compton Castle. Found a second in Elscombe Wood; running at the top of our speed to Yarlington and Wolston, nearly to Cadbury, and across the vale to Galhampton, where they had a momentary check, and on to Hadspen, and through the Covers there to Shepton Montague, and to the top of Bratton Hill;—the Hounds here <i>got upon the heel</i> of a second Fox that slipped away from Mr. Hobhouse's Cover at Shepton Montague, and were taken home after a very good run of one hour and twenty-five minutes.		1	
Tuesday, February 16th.			
FOUND a brace of Foxes in Pen Forest;—changing from one to the other for an hour and half; at length we got on the line of the <i>dog</i> Fox, through Cockroad and Pen Forest, and away to Charlton Musgrove, where the Pack got up to him, <i>running him in view more than a mile</i> across the vale, forcing him up the hill by Alfred's Tower, and through King's Wood, to Brewham Wood, AND UP THE ROOF OF THE FARM HOUSE THERE, <i>killing</i> in the garden, after a very good run of two hours and three quarters.		1	
	Carried forward	22	8

<p style="text-align: right;">Brought forward....</p> <p>Friday, February 19th, 1830.</p> <p>A very large Field met us at Henstridge Ash Inn, wind north-west, and a very heavy snow-storm falling for several hours. Found immediately in Inwood;—going away with an execrable scent to Stalbridge Park, and by Stalbridge Weston to Plumley Wood, and across the vale to Purse Caundle, and by Dole’s Coppice to Stalbridge Park, and again to Inwood, where the Hounds got upon rather better terms, running him a little quicker <i>up-wind</i> to Temple Coombe Wood, where the Hounds <i>certainly changed</i>, coming back with a staler scent to Caundle Brake, the Fox being hallooed <i>half an hour before us</i>; hitting him into Frith Wood, and on towards Plumley, where we were beat out of scent, after a run of three hours and three quarters, over a very extensive tract of country.</p> <p>Tuesday, February 23rd.</p> <p>A large Field met at Stock House;—finding two brace of Foxes in a very few minutes: the Hounds were unluckily not got away to any one of the three Foxes that fled, and <i>killed</i> in Cover in forty minutes. Found a second at Rooksmoor, which ran in Cover about fifty minutes, and as it appeared to be a Vixen, the Hounds were stopped and walked home.</p> <p>Thursday, February 25th.</p> <p>A good Field and a select one met us at Stalbridge Park;—after drawing Thornhill Coppice, &c., blank, the Hounds were taken to Caundle Brake, and unkenneled a brace of Foxes immediately, (five couple and half going away with one to the Stalbridge Park Wall, where they met with a tired Fox which Mr. Farquharson’s Hounds had brought from Butterwick, <i>running him in view</i> back towards Plumley Wood, joining with Mr. Farquharson’s Hounds and <i>killing</i> in Frith Wood) the</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Killed</p> <p>1</p> <p>23</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Earthed</p> <p>8</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Carried forward....</p>		

Brought forward

23

8

body of the Blackmoor Vale Hounds going away at the top of their speed towards Inwood, which our Fox skirted, and on to the Temple Coombe Woods, and through them to Yeanston, crossing the turnpike there for the *great vale*, which they traversed at a tremendous pace towards Temple Coombe, and on to Horsington and Cheriton, and nearly to Latiford, leaving Blackford a little to the left, and into Elscombe Wood, and through it to Yarlington, by Lilly Wood, and up the hill to Bratton, where they ran him into a cyder house and *killed*, after as fine and severe a run of two hours and twenty-five minutes (over at least eighteen miles of ground,) as was ever seen in this country.

Killed

Earthed

1

Saturday, February 27th, 1830.

FOUND a brace of Foxes at Nether Compton ;—ran the dog thirty-five minutes very sharp, and *when killing*, Earthed him near the House. Found a second at Pointington ;—ran him very quick for about fifteen minutes, when the Hounds were *disgracefully over-rode*, and a LONG CHECK ensued ; we hit him again, however, and hunted him for three miles more over the fallows in Sherborne Field, when we gave him up in disgust and went home.

..

1

Tuesday, March 2nd.

A good Field met us at Stourton Inn ;—drew Deverell Longwood, blank ; finding in Penny's Wood, the Hounds carrying him through the Great Bradley Wood in very good style, and over Horsingsham Hill (for Bitcombe,) where he unluckily went to Earth, after a good fifty minutes, *close before the Hounds*.

..

1

Friday, February 5th.

MET at Tenant's Wood ;—finding a VERY old Fox in Cherton Wood, and *killing* in Charlton Wood in

Carried forward

24

10

Brought forward	24	10
twenty-five minutes. Found a second in Cherton Wood; going away at his brush to Charlton Wood, and on to Tenant's Wood, and nearly to Compton Wood, where we headed the Hounds and <i>stopped them</i> , out of respect to our departed friend, Mr. Hunt, who was lying dead at the Castle. Found a brace more at Inwood;—going away at the best pace to East Hill, and along the terrace there to Henstridge Bowden, and thence to the Temple Coombe Woods, and through them to the vale under Horsington, where the <i>Fox was coursed by two pointers</i> , and lost, after a very good run of fifty-five minutes.	Killed 1	Earthed
Tuesday, March 9th.		
MET at Pennard House ;—drawing the Plantations there, and the Covers at Pylle, blank ; walking the Hounds on to Cogley Wood, which we reached at half past one, finding a brace of Foxes immediately ; going away on tolerably good terms to Moor Wood, and over the hill through Redlynch Park, and through it across the vale to Bratton, and on to Wadham's Down, where the Hounds got up to their Fox (three couple, with the huntsman running their Fox to a quarry near Wincanton, and) seventeen couple and the whipper-in running the hunted Fox, in a brilliant burst, to a drain, <i>in view</i> , close to Colonel Strangeways's House, near Godmanstone Wood, bolting and <i>killing</i> him after a very good run of two hours and ten minutes.	1	1
Saturday, March 13th.		
MET at Pointington Ridge at nine o'clock ;—finding immediately in Mr. Loder's Gorse, and in a sharp burst of thirty-five minutes, <i>killing</i> a two-year-old dog Fox. Found a second in Trent Hollow, going away at his brush, and in forty minutes <i>killing</i> a one-year-old dog Fox on the Earths at Nether Compton.	2	
Carried forward	28	11

Brought forward . . .

28

11

Tuesday, March 16th, 1830.

Killed

Earthed

MET at Bitcombe Wood, near Wanstrow;—finding a brace of Foxes in Postlebury Wood (of 200 acres) and going away immediately with a very bad scent indeed (the wind north-west, with hail-storms blowing up) to Lord Cork's, and through Orrery Wood, across the vale nearly to Longleat, where he was coursed by a cur *and lost*, after a slow run of one hour and twenty minutes. Drew Hicks's Park, and West End Wood in our way back, but did not find, the Foxes being supposed to be stopped in, *as we could ball them*.....

Friday, March 19th.

THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met at Henstridge Ash on this day, at ten o'clock, and after trying the Fifehead Magdalene Covers without finding, were thrown into the Cover of Inwood, in the parish of Henstridge, at a quarter before 12, and in five minutes afterwards precisely, were capped away close to the brush of the most gallant Fox ever seen in the West of England; making their way at the top of their speed across Toomer Farm to Stalbridge Park, which they traversed at a racing pace, topping the park wall at the eastern extremity near the town, and sinking the wind for the fine and extensive vale beneath it, which they crossed at a pace inconceivable by those who did not witness it; going over Henstridge Marsh, and nearly to Fifehead Magdalene, crossing the turnpike at the Five-Bridges, and dashing into the River Cale, in one compact and solid body, and away for the wide enclosures of Nyland, and thence, without a check or turn, to Kington Magna, (the summit of whose hill they reached in forty-five minutes, by the watch); pointing for West Stower, but skirting that village, and getting down very nearly to East Stower, and within two miles of Duncliff Wood,

Carried forward . . .

28

11


Brought forward....	28	11
from which the gallant Paek most evidently and fairly turned him, reaching the Bugley Coppices, and under them, at a <i>killing</i> pace, for the parishes of Cucklington and Silton, the south-eastern corners of which they crossed for the parish of Gillingham; here the Hounds pressed him in splendid style, carrying the finest head imaginable, and running into him in open view, in one hour and fifteen minutes, having covered a good sixteen miles of ground without a check of one minutes' duration. This run was pronounced by many distinguished members of different hunts, who were present, to be decidedly from the find to the finish, the most brilliant that they had ever seen	Killed	Earthed
Tuesday, March 23rd, 1830.	1	
Met at Kingweston Inn, and found a brace of Foxes immediately ;—running the Vixen for about an hour, when the Hounds changed and settled themselves to the dog Fox, <i>killing him handsomely</i> , after a very trying run through the whole of the extensive Covers of Copley, Hureott, &c., of three hours and 20 minutes.	1	
Friday, March 26th.		
UPWARDS of a hundred horse met the Blackmoor Vale Hounds this day at Stock House; the morning <i>apparently</i> most inauspicious, with a very bright sun, a blue and cloudless sky, and the thermometer at nearly 80, due south, at ten o'clock; the <i>wind</i> , however, was <i>west!</i> The Hounds were thrown into the lower Cover, where they got upon the drag immediately, and walked up to their Fox in beautiful style, crossing the road, for Stock Wood, and across the Park for the Plantations near the river, making for the Caundle Holts, from whence he was headed by a shepherd and his dog, turning towards the Sherborne road, and over it to the Holwell Grounds, and away for Holwell Common.		
Carried forward....	30	11

Brought forward . .	30	11
where the Hounds began to run for him in earnest, the leading riders seeing him close before them at Mr. Warry's Plantation, and over Newland Common at a racing pace, and up the hill to Wootton Wood, and nearly to Woodfalls at the back of Revel's Inn, turning close with him under the Coppice, near the old Grange House, in Mr. Farquharson's Country, running him to a Gate Trip under Castle Hill, from whence he was SAFELY LET GO, after a good run of one hour and thirty-five minutes.	Killed	Earthed
Tuesday, March 30th, 1830.	1	
A large Field met us at Bidcombe Down, near Bradley;—the Fox, however, which we had intended to draw for, was disturbed by the foot people half an hour before we came! We then drew <i>for four hours</i> , without finding, although unfortunately, a couple of Hounds slipped away (from those large Covers) with a Fox, and ran him <i>by themselves</i> , nearly to Warminster!		
Friday, April 2nd.		
MET in a very heavy and cold south-easterly rain at Sparkford Inn;—drawing Annis Hill Gorse and Sparkford Wood, without finding, a Fox having been seen the day before. Found a vixen Fox on our return at 25 minutes after two P. M., at Compton, in Hicknell Plantation, running our Fox with an <i>execrable scent</i> nearly to Tenant's Wood, when we gave it up, and took the Hounds home, the rain falling in torrents. . . .		
Tuesday, April 6th;—Did not hunt.		
Friday, April 9th;—Did not hunt.		
Tuesday, April 13th.		
FOUND a brace in Batcombe Wood;—going away with a moderate scent (the wind at west, and rather stormy) through Weston Town Wood, by the village		
Carried forward	31	11

Brought forward	31	11
of Wanstrow, to Asham Wood, and over the Rocks and Earths of this extensive Cover, towards Mells Park, the Hounds pressing him at this point so severely that he turned for Norwood, crossing the turnpike close to Mr. Paget's house, for the fine vale near Monk Wood, <i>where the Hounds let themselves out at full length in very fine style</i> indeed, hitting him into a corner of Monk Wood, and away for South Hill Park, where they <i>killed</i> him, after a very good run of one hour and forty-five minutes.	Killed 1	Earthed 1
Friday, April 16th, 1830.		
MET at Pen Forest, and drew on through Stavor-dale Wood, Brewham Forest, and Grove Wood, without finding, the Hounds, however, found a Fox at Hicks's Park, going away close at his brush to West End Wood, and on to Whitham Park, where he unluckily went to ground in fifteen minutes! Drew on through the Gaspar Woods, but could not find a second. . . . .	..	1
Tuesday, April 20th.		
MET at Stourton Inn; walking the Hounds on to Penny's Wood, near Bradley, where we found a brace of Foxes immediately, and after <i>three hours and twenty minutes</i> hard work, when <i>killing</i> the dog Fox, he went to Earth on Horsingsham Hill, from whence we dug him, late in the day.	1	
Friday, April 23rd.		
MET at Wallbridge Gate;—finding a dog Fox of the year in Thornhill Coppice, and in a <i>very severe burst</i> of forty minutes, <i>killed</i> him in the garden at Thornhill House, within the walls. Finding a second, near Rooksmoor, we went away with him through Deadmoor Wood, to Cockroad Coppice, and across the enclosures at Belchalwall at a pressing pace, and up Bell Hill to Turnwood, where half the Pack (nine		
Carried forward	33	12

Brought forward....	33	12
couple) went away with another Fox to Houghton Wood, the remainder going across Turnwood Down, and on to Bondsley, and Dnrweston Common, by Fillgrove, to the river Stour, which the Pack crossed for Stour Paine, where the Fox was headed short back for Elecombe Wood, and where we stopped the Hounds, with two or three Foxes on foot, after a superior run of two hours and fifty minutes, over thirteen or fourteen miles of ground.	Killed	Earthed
	1	
Total....	34	12

END OF THE FOURTH SEASON.

 Hunted during the season	55 days.
Blank days.....	2
Found on.....	53 days.
Killed and Earthed,	46 Foxes.

THE
HUNTING JOURNAL
OF THE
BLACKMOOR VALE HOUNDS;
FOR 1830—1831.

Saturday, August 28th, 1830.

THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met for the first time this season at Tenant's Wood, near Maperton, at eight o'clock, and found a good *litter* of Foxes; running one hour and fifty-five minutes, when we got away with a young dog Fox, and *killed* in an orchard adjoining Holton.....

Killed

Earthed

1

Tuesday, August 31st.

MET at the Copley Woods at six, A. M., near Kingweston and Somerton;—finding a *litter* of Foxes, and when *on the point of killing* one, were obliged to stop, on account of the corn standing towards Kingweston,—went back and recovered another of the Foxes, running in the whole *four hours*, when we stopped, the heat becoming excessive,

Tuesday, September 7th.

MET at eight o'clock, at Stourton Inn;—drawing Hicks's Park, blank; walking the Hounds on to the Great Bradley Woods, where we found at eleven o'clock a single old Fox, which we ran for two hours with a very middling scent, when we stopped the Hounds, as they were crossing the Bath road for Longleat, the Earths in that direction being open, and the Hounds having twenty miles home.....

Carried forward....

1

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward	1	
Saturday, September 11th, 1830.		
MET at Over Compton Lodge Gate ;—finding a litter close to the Mansion House, and in one hour and ten minutes, <i>killing</i> a fine young dog Fox; the tail Hounds having <i>killed</i> another.	2	
Tuesday, September 14th.		
MET at Compton Castle at eight A. M. ;—finding a litter of Foxes, and after two hours and ten minutes steady and good running, we got away with a young dog Fox, after a short burst <i>killing</i> him on the Earth at Sigwell, near Charlton Down. It being a <i>bright and hot day</i> the Hounds were taken home.	1	
Saturday, September 18th.		
THE Hounds met on this day at Mudford Bridge at eight o'clock ;—finding a litter of Foxes at Ashington Wood, <i>killing</i> one in Cover ; when we were hallooed away to the old Fox, which we ran for two hours in a HEAVY RAIN and with a catching scent towards Brimpton, and nearly to Over Compton, where the Hounds got <i>upon the heel</i> of another Fox (that had gone away, whilst we were <i>killing</i> our first Fox in that direction) and were stopped.	1	
Tuesday, September 21st.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day at Stourton Inn, at eight o'clock, and were thrown into Deverell Longwood at twenty-five minutes after nine;—finding immediately an old dog Fox, which the Hounds <i>caught a view of</i> as he was crossing the common field; climbing the down close to his brush, and <i>racing him across the open Mere Downs</i> at the top of their speed in the finest style imaginable, turning him from his point towards the water meadows, that lie near Bidcombe Down, which he tried to reach, but the Pack close at his heels, <i>and occasionally in view of him</i> , turned him		
Carried forward	5	

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward....	6	
Saturday, October 2nd, 1830.		
WE met this day at ten o'clock, at Holton Street;— finding a brace of Cubs in the Covers at Yarlinton, and in forty minutes very quick work, the Hounds drove a young dog Fox into a barn there, from whence he was bolted and ran into.	1	
Tuesday, October 5th.		
MET at Stourton Inn, at ten o'clock;—finding an old Fox in Norwood, near Zeals, and running him with a very <i>indifferent scent</i> (under a bright sun, and the wind north-east) to Deverell Longwood, and away for the Mere Downs, where he was headed, the Hounds forcing him <i>into the street and gardens of the town of Mere</i> , close at his brush; in the confusion occasioned by this sudden turn, &c., a long check ensued, the Hounds, however, hunted him on, and got up to him at Zeal's House, and worked him across the enclosures as far as Silton, where they lost him amongst the roads and fallows, after a good hunting run of two hours and half, nothing but a total want of scent saving him from destruction.....		
Friday, October 8th.		
A good Field, graced by several carriages full of ladies, &c., met us at Thornhill House, where we found, through the liberal and generous patronage of William Boucher, Esquire, a fine <i>litter</i> of Foxes immediately, and in twenty minutes got away with a young dog Fox and ran into him in view. The Hounds were capped away immediately to an halloo across the Lydlinch River, the <i>old dog Fox</i> having reached the common towards Stock Wood; he was, however, unluckily <i>headed</i> from that point, the Hounds working him back to Thornhill Coppice, and through it along the enclosures to Hargrove, pointing for Bagber Coppice, where he was		
Carried forward....	7	

	Brought forward....	7
<p><i>headed again</i>, crossing Stalbridge Common for the Coppice once more ; but, gallantly endeavouring to get away, he crossed the river again, where he was again headed, and ran into in open view, after one hour and five minutes severe and incessant running.....</p>	Killed	2
Tuesday, October 12th, 1830.		
<p>MET at Pen Forest ;—drawing the whole of that Cover, Cockroad, New Park, Stavordale, Brewham Forest, and King’s Wood, without a drag or touch of a Fox ! Finding at twenty-five minutes before one o’clock near West End Wood, running this solitary Fox for <i>three hours and half</i> with an execrable scent and stopping a little after four P. M., when nearly dark, (with twenty miles home) by and with the consent of all present.....</p>		
Friday, October 15th.		
<p>MET at Stalbridge Park, which we drew, blank ;—finding, however, a brace of Foxes in Caundle Brake, running from thence to Frith Wood and back for two hours, the hill being lined by carriages and groups of horsemen, and the <i>Foxes headed</i> in all directions : getting away at last, and after a sharp burst by Henstridge Bowden, and over the corner of Milborne East Hill, and Stowel, <i>killing</i> him in the open, near Charlton Horethorne, in two hours and fifty minutes hot and hard work</p>		
Monday, October 18th.		
<p>MET at Over Compton Lodge, wind south-east, with a bright and hot sun over head ;—found a brace of Foxes immediately, and after a sharp and short rally, and when getting him away towards Potter’s Lease, &c., the Hounds were hallooed away by the foot people towards the Earths at Rotleigh, without any reason, and the Fox was lost, which we <i>were close to</i>, when hallooed</p>		
Carried forward. . . .		10

Brought forward....

10

away! Walking the Hounds to Trent Hollow, we found an old dog Fox immediately, going away at a *killing* pace close to his brush. and after a sharp burst, running him to Earth near Nether Compton, by great perseverance (of two hours and ten minutes,) bolting him, and after a second burst running into him in *the middle of a fallow*, before he could reach the Earths at Coombe Farm.....

Killed

Earthed

1

Friday, October 22nd.

THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds on this day met at Stock House, and were shortly after walked down to Rooksmoor, where we found a Fox of the year immediately ;—going away at the brush of our Fox across the enclosures near Deadmoor, and over the corner of Hazelbury Common for Wonston Hill, pointing for Shortwood, from whence the Pack fairly turned him, running into him in open view, and *killing* in a *lively burst of twenty-five minutes*. The Hounds were then walked back to Stock Wood, where two brace of Foxes were soon upon their legs, the Pack *killing* a very large young dog in Cover.....

2

Tuesday, October 26th.

MET at Postlebury Wood, near Lord Cork's, which Cover of 200 acres, and Bitcombe of 80 acres, we drew without a touch ;—finding a single Fox at Batcombe Wood, at a quarter before three, running him away to Woolley Wood, pointing for Cogley, from whence he was headed, the Hounds pressing him across the Weston Vale nearly for Creech Hill, from whence the Pack (*nearly in the same field,*) turned him again for Batcombe Wood, where, from the negligence of the Keeper he went to Earth, *the Hounds catching at him as he went in*, after one hour and a quarter very sharp running.

Carried forward....

13

<p>Brought forward</p> <p>After digging from FOUR 'till TWENTY MINUTES BEFORE SIX, the Hounds were taken their twenty miles home, the Fox being with difficulty got out, by the aid of a friendly moon !</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Killed</p> <p>1</p>	<p>Earthed</p>
<p>Friday, October 29th, 1830.</p>		
<p>MET at Inwood ;—finding a very old and gallant dog Fox immediately, after three ineffectual attempts (being headed by a large and anxious Field) getting away on very good terms to Toomer Farm, and under Frith Wood, which they skirted, the Hounds pressed him at the top of their speed through Purse Caundle to Hanover Wood, and away for Plumley Wood, and New Lease Coppice, and across the enclosures for the village of Stourton Caundle, crossing the Caundle River for the Plantations and Park adjoining Stock House, and leaving the main Covers to the left, making their way over Blackrow Common for the River Lyddon, at which point the Pack began to consider him as their own, running him at a <i>killing</i> pace by Rooksmoor, to Hazelbury Common, where the Pack divided ; one column of Hounds <i>running into the hunted Fox in view</i>, one field short of Deadmoor Wood, and the other column of Hounds running their Fox to a drain under Wonston Hill, near Mappowder, <i>after a splendid run of two hours and fifty-five minutes over a good twenty miles of ground</i>. The dead Fox being given to the Pack on the drain, THE OTHER WAS SAVED, and bolted in security, after the Pack was sent home.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Friday, November 2nd.</p>		
<p>THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Maiden Bradley, and found their Fox, after drawing for thirty minutes in Penny's Wood, adjoining the great Bradley Covers ;—going away under Horsingsham Hill, for the Marquis of Bath, and through his finely extensive</p>		
<p>Carried forward</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>1</p>

Brought forward	15	1
Covers for the Earths, on Rottonburrow Hill, but finding them well guarded, he came back, with the Hounds <i>close at his brush</i> for Penny's Wood, where he unluckily forced himself into an Earth (as USUAL at this place!) Owing to the GROSS NEGLIGENCE of the Earth stopper, after a run of two hours.	Killed	Earthed
Friday, November 5th, 1830.	..	1
A large and select Field met the Blackmoor Vale Hounds this day at Compton Castle, where we found almost immediately;—going away to the Earths at Sigwells, and over them by the village of Charlton to Tenant's Wood, and through it for Charlton Wood, and down the vale for Horsington, hunting him with a moderate scent, the whole extent of that fine Country under Horsington, Temple Coombe, and Yeanston, where the Pack turned their heads towards the village, topping the walls of which, they crossed the turnpike for Temple Coombe North-side Wood, where they got up to him, breaking Cover close to his brush, making another turn for the village of Horsington, and away for Stowel, getting up to and <i>killing</i> him in Cherton Wood, after a capital run of three hours and thirty-five minutes.	1	
Tuesday, November 9th.		
MET at Mudford Bridge;—drawing Ashington Wood, Rimpton Gulley, Trent Wood, and Nether Compton, blank: finding at Holway LATE in the day, and <i>killing</i> a young Fox on the Earth without a run.	1	
Friday, November 12th.		
MET at Cogley Wood, where we found immediately, and quickly forcing him to break Cover, with the whole Pack, <i>all but in view of him</i> , racing him across Redlynch Park, and away nearly to Round Hill, run-		
Carried forward	17	2

Brought forward..	17	2
ning into and <i>killing</i> him at an Hamlet, near Charlton Musgrove, after a brilliant burst of fifty-five minutes without a check. After a short draw, we found a very old dog Fox in the lower part of Cogley, near Pink Wood, breaking Cover close to his brush by Moor Wood, across the vale nearly to Round Hill, pointing for Pen Forest, but turning him towards Stavordale Wood, which they approached at a tremendous pace, and through which Wood and Brewham Forest they made their way to the Earths at King's Wood, which had been well and effectually stopped ;—at this point the Fox passed close by Alfred's Tower and over the terrace for the Stourton Grounds, and through <i>them without a turn</i> for the open Commons at Kilmington and Yarnfield, and away to West End Wood, where the Hounds got up to him, <i>killing</i> him in very fine style, after a superior run of <i>one hour and twenty minutes</i> , without a check !.....	Killed	Earthed
Tuesday, November 16th, 1830.	2	
RAIN and hurricane tremendous. Met at Cadbury Castle, but no one was present.		
Friday, November 19th.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day at Stock House ;—finding almost immediately, and after being headed once or twice, <i>as usual at this place</i> , the Fox was permitted to make his point, crossing the river for Stourton Caundle, and away for Stalbridge Weston, the Hounds working him, with a very bad scent, over the roads and fallows that presented themselves at this part of the chase, and across Frith Farm for the Stalbridge Park Wall, under which they hit him over Toomer Wall, and away for Henstridge, leaving Inwood to the left, and on to Temple Coombe, crossing the corner of Temple Coombe Wood for Stowel, where the Hounds <i>got up to him</i> , and after a sharp and brilliant run of twenty		
Carried forward....	19	2

Brought forward	19	2
minutes <i>killed him</i> in a CYDER HOUSE at a hamlet called Dark Harbour, adjoining the parish of Cheriton, after a good hunting run of two hours and fifty-five minutes.	Killed 1	Earthed
Friday, November 23rd, 1830.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day at Stourton Inn ;—drawing Norwood and Deverell Longwood, blank, but finding in a <i>small patch</i> of Cover on the Mere Downs ;—going away <i>all but in view</i> of their Fox, and after a sharp and severe burst, <i>killing</i> him in Deverell Longwood in forty-five minutes. Drew Killington Common and West End Wood, blank ; though we had a drag over the West End Earth.		1
Friday, November 26th.		
MET on this day at Elscombe Wood ;—the wind at south-east, with a cold blue haze above our head ;—found a brace of Foxes immediately, and after a short burst, ran the hunted Fox to a drain near the Cover ; in a few minutes he was bolted, and after two hours and three quarters, during which he merely ran a ring of a few miles, he was <i>killed</i> near Wolston on the hill.		1
Tuesday, November 30th.		
MET at Cadbury Castle ;—drawing the Plantation there and Sparkford Wood, blank ; the Hounds were then taken on to Annis Hill, where they found a brace and half of Foxes ; going away with one nearly to Ilchester, across the vale, and running him to a drain in forty minutes near Hazelgrove House ; whilst attempting to dig him the Hounds were hallooed away to another that had been viewed on his foil, dead beat, which they ran in and <i>killed</i>		1 1
Friday, December 3rd.		
MET at Leigh Common, near Wincanton ;—drawing		
Carried forward	23	3

Brought forward	23	3
Pen Forest and Cockroad, without a touch : in the Gorse near Stavordale, however, the Hounds challenged on the walk of a Fox that had evidently slipped away half an hour before us, hunting him very beautifully through Stavordale Wood, Brewham Forest, King's Wood, and Grove Wood, and away to Hicks's Park, <i>where they got up to him</i> , and ran him forty minutes close to his brush, when he made his point through Stavordale for Pen Forest, and over the enclosures of Penselwood, to Gaspar Common, and through the Stourton Grounds, (the Hounds close at his heels) and over the terrace for West End Wood, where he unluckily found an Earth open and went to ground, after a very severe run of three hours and twenty minutes ; <i>two only being up when the horn was blown</i> , the remainder of the Field having been lost in the fog!	Killed	Earthed
Tuesday, December 7th, 1830.	..	1
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Copley or the Kingweston Woods, the wind at south-east, with a heavy and driving rain working up ;—finding and getting him out of these extensive Woods almost immediately, and after a sharp burst (the scent in the open being good) ran him to a drain in Kingweston Park in thirty minutes, the Hounds close at his brush ! Leaving the Whipper-in to dig him, we went back and found a second in the extreme part of the Cover near Butleigh Wood, which we ran for two hours and ten minutes, <i>the scent getting worse as the rain increased</i> , stopping the Hounds at three P. M., with the consent of all present, being unable at length barely to mark his line . . . . .	..	1
Friday December 10th.		
MET on this day at Coombe Farm ;—finding in the Gorse there immediately, running him <i>to the Earths</i> at		
Carried forward	23	5

Brought forward....	23	5
Rotleigh, near Nether Compton, and across the Turnpike by the Half-way House, to the Plantation near Compton Lodge, and across the Park for the <i>Earths</i> near Compton House, but finding them well stopped, he made away for Wyke Park, where he <i>went to Earth, dead beat</i> , at the end of one hour and twenty minutes: the negligence of the Bradford Earth-stopper alone saving him.	Killed ..	Earthed 1
Tuesday, December 14th, 1830.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Postlebury Wood, but the frost being very hard, they were walked home again, by the consent and advice of all present.		
Friday, December 17th.		
MET at Cheriton Wood, in a very heavy fog, with frost. The Hounds arriving late in consequence, we found that the <i>sportsmen</i> who had been waiting some time, had disturbed a brace of Foxes, by <i>talking, and by smoking cigars</i> close to the Cover's edge!! The Hounds hit heavily on the disturbed scent of these Foxes, but could not find afterwards.		
Tuesday, December 21st.		
A large and select Field met us this day on Bidcombe Down. The frost being very hard on the Down, they were walked down to Penny's Wood, where they found immediately, and after a sharp and short turn in Bradley Wood, went away (with a bad scent out of Cover) to Horsingsham Hill, and through Bradley Park for Bidcombe, and over the Down to the main Earth near Long Deverell, <i>where we suppose</i> he went to Earth, as the <i>Earths</i> were unluckily open, though the Hounds, from the total want of scent, did not, or could not, mark him .....	..	1
Carried forward....	23	7

Brought forward....	23	7
Friday, December 24th, 1830.—Hard frost.....	Killed	Earthed
Tuesday, December 28th.—Hard frost.		
Friday, December 31st.		
<p>MET at Stalbridge Park;—walking the Hounds on to Frith Wood, where we found immediately, after two rings in Cover, going away close to his brush for Toomer, and over the enclosures into the village of Henstridge, where the Fox was headed, coming back at a pressing pace to Caundle Brake, and on to Purse Caundle and Hanover Wood, and along Milborne Moor to Goathill, and through Lord Digby's Park to Haydon, and under Ashcombe Wood, to the Caundle Holts, where the Hounds got up to him and <i>killed</i> after a very good run of two hours and thirty-five minutes.....</p>	1	
Tuesday, January 4th, 1831.		
<p>THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Compton Castle, where they were fortunate in finding immediately, the wind <i>south-east, cold and piercing</i>, and the frost by no means out of the ground; with a very moderate scent therefore, they went away with him over the Down by Sigwells to the Earths at this place, which he tried, and sunk the hill for the valley near Cadbury Castle, where he was headed, and returned to Compton Wood, <i>where the Hounds got up to him</i>, forcing him again to take the open, and to try the Earths a second time; but finding them effectually stopped, he made his way to Sutton, and over the very steep hill there, for Corton, and on for the fine (Somerset) vale leading to Rimpton, where the scent mended, the Paek having left the cold sandy soil of the hills for the rich and fertile pastures of this extensive vale; the frost, also, being nearly subdued by the improved temperature which began to prevail. From Rimpton the Hounds bent their heads towards Marston, and through that parish to</p>		
Carried forward.	24	7

Brought forward....

24

7

Queen Camel, crossing the river to Hazelgrove, where they got up to him, and going away across the fine enclosures at this place for North Barrow, pointing for Babcary, ran into this old and gallant Fox *in open view*, after a very superior run of three hours and a quarter, having covered at least twenty miles of ground.....

Killed

Earthed

1

Friday, January 7th, 1931.

MET this day at Horwood Well ;—walking the Hounds on to Mr. Phelps's Plantation at Cucklington, where we found immediately, going away at a moderate pace (the frost being still severe and the ground hard on the hills, &c.,) to Stoke Trister, and across Leigh Common to Charlton Musgrove, where we ran our Fox to a drain; bolting and running him to Bayford and over Stoke Conygar to Cucklington, where we saw our Fox at the end of one hour and ten minutes, dead beat, enter a hedge close before us ; at this moment the Hounds were halloed on to a fresh Fox, going away at a tremendous pace (the frost having nearly disappeared) for Stoke Trister, and over Leigh Common, where the Fox was viewed close before the Hounds—to Charlton Musgrove and on to Stavordale Wood, and through it to King's Wood under Alfred's Tower, and over the Commons to Yarnfield and Kilmington, pointing for Bradley, (where the Fox was headed by a party of shooters,) turning his head for Grove Wood, and through it to Hicks's Park and on to West End Wood, where the Hounds unhuckily *changed*, and were stopped, after a brilliant run of one hour and thirty-five minutes.....

Tuesday, January 11th.

THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Postlebury Wood, where they found immediately ;—going away close to the brush of the dog Fox to Marston, the

Carried forward....

25

7

	Brought forward..	25	7
	seat of the Earl of Cork, and across the vale to <i>Nunney</i> , where they ran their Fox to a drain at the end of one hour and five minutes, bolting and <i>killing</i> him on the drain.....	Killed 1	Earthed 7
Friday, January 14th, 1831.			
	A large Field met the Blackmoor Vale Hounds this day at Stock House, from whence we walked the Hounds to Rooksmoor, where <i>a brace and half of Foxes</i> were soon found, the Hounds going away with one to Deadmoor, and over Hazelbury Common to Humber Wood and Shortwood, at the edge of which Cover we were brought to a check, the Fox having been evidently coursed by a sheep dog: from this place we got upon him again, near Canning Court Dairy House, <i>hunting him on bad terms</i> to the King Stag Inn, where we heard that he had been seen crossing the river for Stock Wood; to this place the Hounds were trotted on, where they got up to him and <i>killed</i> , after two hours and fifty minutes very hard work. Upon taking up the head of this very old dog Fox, it was discovered that <i>he was the same Fox which we found in Rooksmoor on the twenty-ninth of January, 1830</i> , running him to a rabbit's hole in Shortwood on that day, in one hour and forty minutes, EAR-MARKING and letting him go....	1	
Tuesday, January, 18th.			
	FOUND this day in Annis Hill Gorse;—going away close to his brush, and maintaining a very sharp burst indeed for forty minutes, when he was unfortunately coursed by a cur, which brought us to hunting terms, and we eventually lost him near Kingsdon, pointing for the Kingweston Woods, the Hounds <i>appearing</i> to mark him, though not firmly, at some drains near a farm house.		
	Carried forward....	27	7

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward	27	7
Friday, January 21st, 1831.		
WE found this day a very gallant Fox at Inwood;—breaking Cover close to his brush for Yeanston, but being headed there, he made his point for Henstridge Bowden and on to Temple Coombe Wood, and through it without a turn, and at a pressing pace for Stowel Hill, where he was coursed by a sheep dog, which as usual, brought us to hunting terms; the Hounds, however, by a forward cast, were got upon his line again at Tenant's Wood, and were hitting him well into Compton Wood, when they were maliciously halloed back to Tenant's Wood by the young Messrs. B.—, of Charlton, who <i>secreted themselves</i> as the Field approached.		
Tuesday, January 25th.—Frost.		
Friday, January 29th.—Frost.		
Tuesday, February 1st.—Frost with Snow.		
Saturday, February 5th.—Frost.		
Tuesday, February 8th.		
MET at Compton Castle;—drawing those Covers, blank. Taking the Hounds on to Elsecombe Wood, they found immediately, running him with a very bad scent (as the frost was going off) towards Holton, and through the Yarlington Covers, for fifty minutes; when we were beaten out of scent, and lost him in the road opposite Yarlington Lodge.		
Friday, February 11th.		
A large Field met the Blackmoor Vale Hounds this day at Stock House. At eleven o'clock we drew the Covers south of the road and found a leash of Foxes, going away at a pressing pace to the river, and thence to Rooksmoor and Deadmoor, and on to Sturminster Common, (which the Hounds reached in thirty-one minutes!) where the Fox was coursed by two		
Carried forward	27	7

Brought forward....	27	7
curs, <i>but after great perseverance we eventually got up to him, and killed in the open between Thornhill House and Stalbridge Common, in two hours and a quarter.</i>	Killed 1	Earthed
Friday, February 15th, 1831.		
MET this day at Maiden Bradley;—finding immediately in Penny's Wood, and in forty minutes as we were <i>killing</i> and <i>the Hounds in view</i> , the Fox unluckily went to Earth near Longleat. Found a second in Bradley Wood, going away with him on <i>killing</i> terms to Horsingsham Hill, and nearly to Bradley Knoll, where he also went to Earth, all but in view, in thirty-five minutes! .....	..	2
Friday, February 18th.		
MET at Stalbridge Park;—finding in Frith Wood, and going away, all but in view, to Caundle Brake, and over Toomer Farm to the verge of Inwood, crossing the Yeanston road and down the vale under Henstridge, towards the River Cale, where the Hounds ran up to their Fox and <i>killed</i> in the open in forty minutes. Found a second in Caundle Brake;—running him to Frith Wood, and across the enclosures towards Stalbridge Weston to Plumley Wood, and through it for the Caundle Holts, <i>where we changed to a brace of fresh Foxes</i> after a severe run of two hours, and went home late in the evening.;.....	1	
Tuesday, February 22nd.		
MET at Stourton Inn;—drawing Norwood, Deverell Longwood, and the dells on the Mere Downs, blank; our Fox having been disturbed by some women picking wood, before we arrived. Drew Bradley and Penny's Wood, blank, also.		
Carried forward....	29	9

Brought forward

29

9

Saturday, February 26th, 1831.

MET this day at Pointington Ridge, with a driving rain, and wind blowing very hard from the north-west ;— drawing the Gorse between Coombe Farm and Trent we found a gallant dog Fox immediately, going away on pretty good terms over the Earths at Coombe Farm to Sherborne Field, and across the water meadows at Osborne by Crackmoor to Sherborne Park, and over the Earths at Hanover to Plumley and by the Caundle Holts nearly to the river, bordering the Plantations adjoining Stock House; where he was headed: turning a little upward over the fallows by Mr. Digby's Brake for the enclosures near Holwell, and crossing the river near Holwell Church, *where the Pack ran into him in the open* near Holwell Common in two hours and two minutes, over fifteen miles of ground.

Killed

Earthed

1

Friday, March 1st.

MET this day at Leigh Common ;—finding a brace of Foxes in that distinguished and highly respected sportsman's Plantations, MR. W. PHELIPS, at Cucklington, and in a brilliant burst of forty minutes, *killing* a fine dog Fox in the open close to Wyke House. After drawing 'till half-past two, we found a second in King's Wood, near Alfred's Tower, running one to Earth and getting away with the other through the whole line of the Stourton Covers to Pen Forest, and crossing the Wincanton Road to Stoke Trister, where this gallant Fox made his way to the Plantation at Cucklington and through it without a turn by Shanks House to Buckhorn Weston, and down the fine vale to Rodgrove Coppice, and to the River Cale, which he crossed ; traversing the whole extent of the vale to Temple Coombe, and Horsington Marsh, Yeanston, and nearly to the village of Henstridge ; turning his head direct for the Cover of Inwood, where we viewed him, dead beat, close before the Hounds, when they unluckily *changed to a fresh*

Carried forward

30

9

Brought forward....	30	9
<i>Fox</i> , and were with difficulty stopped, <i>when nearly dark</i> , between Caundle Brake and Milborne East Hill, having covered a good twenty miles of ground in this brilliant and extraordinary run.....	Killed 1	Earthed 1
Saturday, March 5th, 1831.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day at Batcombe Wood, near Bruton, the wind south-west, with a driving rain;—finding immediately, they went away in a few minutes, on only middling terms, across the enclosure by Batcombe Lodge, and on to Asham Wood (of 600 acres,) across the corner of which they made direct for the alpine heights of Mendip, hunting their Fox over the heaths and furzes of that wild and romantic region to a place called Lye, where the Fox was apparently lost in a heavy fog and rain, having been headed by some furze-cutters on the moor. By taking the Hounds on about two miles, he was recovered, in a very masterly manner, in Lye Wood, the Pack racing him through the fine Covers and Park of Colonel Horner, at Mells, and on to Vallis and little Elm, near Frome, where a most curious sight presented itself:—In the rocky gorge of the valley, <i>at the base of a tree overhanging the mountain torrent, the Hounds were at bay</i> , and on the top of the tree, <i>twenty feet above the ground in a mass of ivy, the Fox was seen at perch</i> ; from whence he made his leap into the stream below, a favourite Hound and the Fox sinking to the bottom together! Thus ended a run of four hours and forty-five minutes, over every variety of ground—a good twenty-five miles having been covered in this curious and extraordinary chase, <i>which extended through thirteen parishes!</i>	1	
Wednesday, March 9th.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Stock		
Carried forward....	32	10

	Killed	Earthed
Brought forward . .	32	10
<p>House, where a large and select Field were assembled. They found immediately in Stock Wood, going away (after being headed back in Cover as usual,) to Rowden Mill, and over the river to Bishop's Caundle, and within a few fields of Caundle Wood, where the Fox was again headed, the Hounds running him to Stourton Caundle and <i>killing</i> him in one hour and twenty minutes. The Hounds were then taken to the south Cover under the Keeper's Lodge, where a brace and half of Foxes were soon upon their legs, and after running in Cover, changing and heading back for a considerable time, the Hounds got away with one to Rodmoor, and nearly to Holwell Borough, <i>killing</i> him near Woodbridge, in one hour and forty minutes. . .</p>	2	
Saturday, March 12th, 1831.		
<p>ON this day we drew Sparkford Wood, Annis Hill, Yarlinton, and Elscombe Wood, blank, in a very heavy rain.</p>		
Tuesday, March 15th.		
<p>THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Postlebury Wood;—finding a short running vixen Fox in this extensive Cover, with the wind at south-west, <i>under a very heavy rain</i>; running her for nearly two hours, with an execrable scent, when the Hounds were stopped, at the request of the whole Field.</p>		
Friday, March 18th.		
<p>MET at Inwood, where we found immediately;—going away <i>at a killing</i> pace to Temple Coombe Wood, and to Cherton Lower Wood, and on to Maperton, making for Elscombe Wood, from whence the Hounds fairly turned him, running him all but in view into a drain, leading under a house at Cheriton, in a brilliant burst of one hour and five minutes.</p>	..	1
Carried forward	34	11

<p>Brought forward</p> <p>Tuesday, March 22nd, 1831.</p>		34	11
<p>THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met at Charlton Horethorne on Tuesday the twenty-second of March, and were walked on to the celebrated Gorse Cover of Caundle Brake, where they found their Fox immediately, going away close to his brush through Frith Wood to Plumley Wood, and on to Asheombe Wood, Haydon, and Goat-hill, making their way through Sherborne Park, to Honeycombe Wood, crossing the corner of it by Lillington, through Thornford to Beerhacket, sinking the hill at Knighton for Frankham Farm, within a few fields of Clifton Wood, pressing him at a <i>killing</i> pace along the fine enclosures of the Yetminster Vale to Ryme, and through the Covers of the Earl of Ilchester at Melbury to Clarkham, in the Parish of Halstock, where they got up to him; traversing the open Commons and enclosures at East Chelborough at a racing pace nearly to Corcombe, from whence the Pack fairly turned him to West Chelborough, where this gallant Fox reached his Earth in safety <i>a few yards before the Hounds</i>, after a run of three hours and forty-five minutes, over twenty-five miles of ground and upwards, through fourteen parishes!</p>	<p>Killed</p> <p>..</p>	<p>Earthed</p> <p>1</p>	
<p>Friday, March 25th.</p>			
<p>MET this day at the Green Man Inn, at Pulham;— finding immediately in Mr. Yeatman's Cover at Rookmoor, and after a very severe burst of forty minutes by Deadmoor and Fifehead to Haydon, running into our Fox in the open, <i>killing</i> in view in Holbrook Green. Whilst the Hounds were eating this Fox, we heard that another had been seen <i>thirty minutes before</i>, making his way to Lydlinch: after hunting him on bad terms as far as the river, we trotted the Hounds on and hit him into the Stock Woods, (where we disturbed</p>			
<p>Carried forward</p>	34	12	

Brought forward . . .

34

12

and stopped from a fresh Fox) going through them without a turn over the Caundle River to Thornhill, and losing our Fox at last amongst the houses at Stalbridge, having never been able to get up to him.

Killed

Earthen

1

Monday, March 23th, 1831.

MET at Coombe Farm, with a bright sun over head, the wind at north-east and the heat intense! After drawing the Gorse near Compton, and finding that the Fox had been disturbed by the foot people, we walked the Hounds on to Ashington Wood, where we found a short running vixen Fox, which we ran in a wide ring for one hour and a quarter with a most creecrable scent, finally coming to a stand-still, even in the MEADOWS near Yeovil Bridge!

Thursday March 31st.

MET at Thornhill Obelisk;—finding a vixen Fox in Thornhill Coppice. Drew the adjacent Covers till four o'clock without finding, having ran through and disturbed them on the *Friday preceding*.

Monday, April 4th.

FOUND a brace of Foxes in Hicks's Park, under West End Wood, near Brewham Common;—going away with the dog at a tremendous pace, through Brewham Forest and Stavordale Wood to Leigh Common, where the Fox was headed: pressing him through Pen Forest, to the Stourton grounds, and *killing* him in brilliant style in two hours and fifteen minutes, without a check, near Brewham Common.

1

Friday, March 8th.

MET at Charlton Down;—finding in Compton Wood, going away immediately to Blackford, and over the Earths at Wolston Coppice to Yarlinton, and on to Elscombe Wood, and down the vale to Redlynch, where

Carried forward . . .

35

12


Brought forward....	36	12
the Fox was headed, coming back through Wadham's Down, to Elsecombe Wood, where we changed to a disturbed Fox, stopping the Hounds <i>when nearly dark</i> . Tuesday, April 12th, 1831.	Killed	Earthed
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met this day at Batcombe Wood, which they drew, blank, but found in Monk Wood, near Mendip; coming away with him at the top of their speed across the enclosures to Batcombe Wood, and across the corner of it for Woolly Wood, and by Henley Wood, skirting the town of Bruton for Cogley Wood, near Redlynch Park, where the Hounds got up to and <i>killed</i> him in fifty minutes, without a check.	1	
Saturday April 16th.		
THE Blackmoor Vale Hounds met on this day, <i>for the last time</i> , at Stourton Inn;—finding their Fox on Bidecombe Down; after a ring or two upon the hill, he went away for the Marquis of Bath's Covers, but was unluckily coursed by two cur dogs, and lost, there being not a particle of scent <i>on the Down</i> . The Hounds were then walked down to the Bradley Lower Wood, where they found immediately; running their Fox on very good terms for forty minutes, but when <i>killing</i> , he slipped into a small Earth, where he was left, <i>at the request of the Gentlemen who were present</i>.....	..	1
Total....	37	13

Signed,

JOHN CHANNING,

Huntsman to the Blackmoor Vale Hounds.

END OF THE FIFTH SEASON.

 Hunted during the season	58 days.
Blank days.....	5
Found on.....	53 days.
Killed and Earthed,	50 Foxes.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Killed and Earthed from the 20th of }
February to the 5th of April, 1826 . . } 10 Foxes.

Killed & Earthed during the 1st Season 44 Foxes.

Killed & Earthed during the 2nd Season 48 Foxes.

Killed & Earthed during the 3rd Season 50 Foxes.

Killed & Earthed during the 4th Season 46 Foxes.

Killed & Earthed during the 5th Season 50 Foxes.

Total Foxes Killed and Earthed. . . 248



