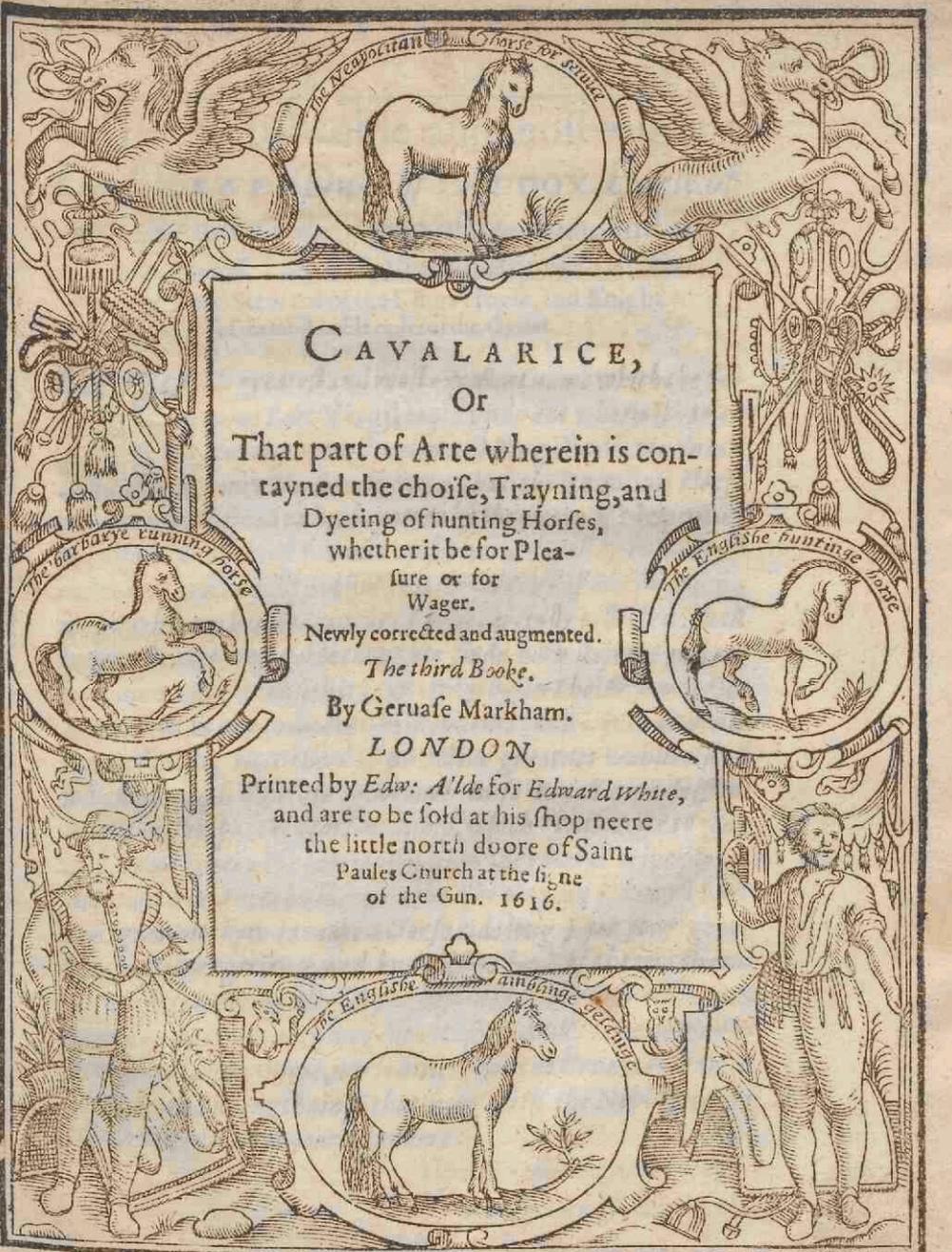




**Cavalarice, or the English horseman : contayning all the art of
horse-manship, as much as is necessary for any man to
understand ... together, with the discovery of the subtil trade
or mystery of hors-coursers ...**

<https://hdl.handle.net/1874/33794>



CAVALARICE,

Or

That part of Arte wherein is con-
tained the choise, Trayning, and
Dyeting of hunting Horses,
whether it be for Plea-
sure or for
Wager.

Newly corrected and augmented.

The third Booke.

By Geruase Markham.

LONDON,

Printed by Edw. A'lde for Edward White,
and are to be sold at his shop neere
the little north doore of Saint
Pauls Church at the signe
of the Gun. 1616.

To the most Noble and most mighty
Lord, LEWES Duke of Lennox, Earle of
Richmond and Darnley, Baron of Tourbustoun and Me-
thuen, great Chamberlaine and Admirall of Scot-
land, Lord Steward of the Kings House, and Knight
of the most noble order of the Garter.

He greatest and most excellent name which the fa-
mous Poet Virgil could finde out wherwith to a-
dorne, the most renowned King Picus, was to call
him a Hors-man: and that the Pegasian Horse
was not onely fained to bee begotten by the sonne of Neptune,
but also to be the first founder of the learned Well & the Art of
memory: Then I doubt not but this famous Art of Horsmanship,
which with my best indeauours I haue carefully collected, will
in your Graces most noble thoughts finde both desence and ac-
ceptance; and rather sith it is an Art wherin I holde your grace
as excellent as any Prince of Christendome; and is such an orna-
ment of State, that there is no actiue greatnes vblemished
which pleadeth absolute ignorance in so Royall a profession.
Now albe this part of Horsmanship, which I consecrate to your
Noble name, bee not contained within the rules or principles of
the Italian or French riders (who albe they can ride well, yet
are ignorant how to make a Horse ride long) yet your grace
whose daily experience and knowledge both of the worth and
Use of these hunting Horses, can best iudge the profit of the Art
as well in pleasure, as in vrgent occasions, will I hope neither e-
steeme my labour vaine, nor fruitles, for the Countrey wherin
I lue: And strengthening that hope with the Noble fauours
which you extend to your admirers:

I lue to be commaunded by you,

GERVASH MARKHAM.



To all Hunts-men and louers of
Hunting.

Here is not any pleasure (Gentlemen) in the iudgement of my sence, which I can allow to be held equall with Hunting, both for the full satisfaction it giues to the minde and body, and also for the noble figures and imitations it carryes in the exercise of the delight, as long as it is accompanied with his true members, which is a ready Sent; perfit Dogges, and aboue all a pure winded Horse: For if hee bee wanting, the other not obseruing the leasure of your foot-steppes, will flie so fast from you, that there will be left nothing but imagination to content you; which to preuent, and that you may enjoy your delight without impeachment, I haue publisht this worke; which being purposedly fram'd for a generall good, and not a priuate vse (as my first little Treatise was) will (I doubt not) giue you all that reasonable satisfaction, which is requisite to bee desired, either in this or any thing belonging to this part of Hors-manship, wherein as you shall reape profite, so let me bee repay'd with thanks, that when you haue what you wish, I may not want what I desire;

And so farwell.

G. M.



CAVALARICE.

The third Booke.

CHAP. I.

*Of Hunting Horses in generall, and of their
Chases.*

F all the Field pleasures wherewith
 olde Time and Mans invention
 hath blest the houres of our recre-
 ations, there is none so excellent
 or so worthily to be pursued as the
 delight of Hunting, being com-
 pounded like an harmonious con-
 sort of all the best partes of most
 refined pleasure, as *Musicke, Dauncing, Running, Ryding,*
Hauking, and such like; Nay, what House-sport is it
 which hath not from it some imitation? as *Chesse,*
Cardes, Tables, or any such like, where there is pur-
 sute one after another: It is the figure of a well com-
 posed battaile where the stronger chafeth the weaker

to the point of destruction : It resembleth the state of a good Common-wealth, where the vertue of the Magistrates pursue and finde out the euill pathes of their contraries : And to conclude, being the best of sportes, what should a man say more then that it is most excellent. But letting passe the maine body of the pastime, let vs returne to the principall member of the same, which is the hunting Horse, whose strength and puissance carries our bodyes, and enriches both our eyes, eares, and other senses, with all the delights that are therein contained.

This hunting Horse both for his vertue, strength, goodnes, and indurancce, I place next to the Horse of seruice, for two causes. First, because themselues both for their courages, lineaments, and educations are seruice-able in the warres, and in all other places : In the warres, as in suddaine and desperate exploites, as vpon surprises, *Ambuscados*, long marches, or such like : or vpon discoueries, sco wtes, or any thing else wherin either the strength of body, purity of winde, and the puissance of his mettall is to be discerned ; In the land of peace, as vpon the necessity of some long and tedious iourney, wherein either a mans life or estate is ingaged ; or for a mans pleasure in this sport of hunting, or for his profit, where a man hath tyed himselfe to any great match or wager : In any of these cases it is almost a thing incredible to speake, what a good Horse being rightly dyeted and kept (and therewithall orderly trayned) will performe, but that in this Iland of great *Brittaine* we haue before our eies cōtinuall & daily witnes; and yet I must needes say, that if the Records of auncient writers be true, these horses in our daies are nothing so tough and induring

induring as were the horses of former Ages : For one Author writes , that the *Sarmarians* being intended to take vpon them any long iourney, would keepe their Horses fasting for two dayes before, but onely for a little comfortable drinke, and then would gallop them an hundred and fifty miles without breathing: Others tell vs other tales of as much incredulity , of the Horses of *Scythia*, *Greece*, and *Barbary*, by which wee may gather, that questionles Horses haue indured labours beyond imagination; and truly in these our dayes should a man but compute and measure, the many miles, the rugged and deepe wayes, and the intricate & winding passages which a hunting Horse passeth in a day, in one of our English hunting matches, & therewithall takes into his consideration with what wonderfull swiftnes, strength and spirit, they are performed, hee shall finde them little short of those olde reports, & far beyond either our hopes or expectations; yet thus much I must let you vnderstand, that there is not any horse which naturally out of his owne spirit, being put to his owne choise of foode, and to the liberty of his owne order in feeding, which is able to doe the least part of those infinite labours which we see daily performed by horses of contrary keeping : Neither can any horse (how choisely fed or dieted so euer he be) performe any extraordinary labour or imploiment, if to the perfectiō of his feeding he haue not conuenient and moderate exercise; so that in conclusiō to attaine to the substance & depth of this Art, you are first to learne by shapes, marks, and other semblances how to chuse a Horse most fit for this purpose of induring vnspeakable trauell. Secondly, how to dyet and keepe him that he may performe as much as is

comprehended within the power either of his strength, spirit, or winde, without either danger of life, or hurt of inferior member. Thirdly, & lastly, what manner of exercise is most conuenient & wholesome for persisting and bringing to passe your own desire in this art or science. These three heads or rootes bearing vp the bodies and trees of this knowledge, from whence springs many other branches. Now forasmuch as many of our English Hors-men, and those not of the Comparatiue, but Superlative degree, who hauing spent their dayes only in the riding & trayning vp of great Horses for seruice, vtterly neglecting as vndesirous to know the secrets of this Art wherof I meane now to intreate, & haue some of the in mine own hearing held long (but weake) arguments, both against hunting & dieting of horses, may impugne and kicke against those precepts which I shall discover, let me vnder the reformation of their skills be bold to tel them that such neglects take from their arts much reputation and glory. For who can call himselfe maister of that Art in whose especiall principles he is vtterly ignorant? as for example, if I haue Art to make my horse in euery turne, winding and interchangeable motiõ to exceed in nimblenes either Cat or Monkey, & in euery bound, salt, or ayre aboue ground to outmatch either wantõ Kid, or sporting Faune; yet in the same exercise want skill, either how to preferue his wind from breaking, his greace frõ melting, or his spirit from tiring, I say then my first Art were better vnlearned, then for want of this latter to do euil by misimploiment: & such are hors-men that can ride, but cãnot dyet. Again *La Broue*, who is the grand-master of the *French Cheuelaria*, & whose precepts carry general authority with our
English

English riders, he saith, that for great horses for seruice in the wars there is nothing more profitable then sometimes to hunt them, and ride them after swift chases, both because it makes a horse light & nimble, enabling his winde and making him fit for trauell, & also breeds in him a kind of ciuilitie and acquaintance with other horses, and takes from him euill thoughts and malicious humours, prouing by his proposition, that this hunting of Horses brings to a horse two benefits, that is, nimblesse and strength, and takes from him two vices, barbarous ramedegnesse & fantastick restinesse.

Now if you will hunt your horse after swift chases, and know not how to prepare and diet him, for such violent exercise; I will be your most assured warrant, that you shall either soone spoile your horse or else behold no hunting, but your owne imaginations.

And for as much as I haue hitherto generallie spoke of hunting, which word appertaines to chases of all kinds whatsoeuer, I will before I proceed anie further, tell you what kind of hunting and which chase is fittest for your horses strength and exercise. To tell you of all the chases, which at this day is either hunted amongst vs, or in other nations, or but to reckon halfe so manie as *Gesner* hath collected into his volume, as namelie of the *Lyon*, the *Leopard*, the *Panther* and such like, were but as a priuiledged traueller, to tell you a long tale of that which rarelie or neuer shall come within your experience; and because the end of mine endeauours is the benefit of this nation, which first gaue me breath, I will trouble you with no other Chases, then those which are exercised in this kingdome, and are most fit for men and horse to pursue.

The Otter. First for the chase of the Otter, although it be a cunning chase, and exceeding pleasant to those tastes that can relish such moist delights, yet to exercise your horse therein, I much dislike, because the Sent lying for the most part in the water, and he that will faithfully follow it, must hazard his horse to the danger of swimming, it cannot chuse but be both vnwholsom and vnprofitable.

The Foxe or Badger. Next this is the chase of the Foxe or Badger, which although it be a chase of much more swiftnes, & is euer kept vpon the firme ground, yet I cannot allow it, for the training vp of horses, because for the most part it continues in woody and rough grounds, where a horse can neither conuenientlie make foorth his way, nor can tread without danger of stubbing, or other as mischieuous inconueniences.

Of the Bucke or Stagge. The chase which is much better then any of these, is the hunting of the Bucke, or Stag, especially if they bee not confined within the limits of a parke or pale, but haue liberty to chuse their waies acording to their own appetites, which of some Hunts-men is cald hunting at force. This chase is much better then where a Deare is kept within bounds, because when he is so straightned, for the most part hee keeps the thicke wood, where a horse can neither enter, nor a mā take delight to follow: where otherwise when he is at liberty, he will breake foorth his chase into the wind, somtime foure, fiue, and sixe miles foorth-right, nay I haue my selfe followed a Stagge better then ten miles forth right, from the place of his rousing to the place of his death, besides, all his windings, turnings, and crosse passages.

This chase for the time it indures, is most swift and violent, so that by no means it can be allowed of, for the training

training and bringing vp of young horses, but rather to be an exercise for a horse of staid yeers and long practise.

Besides, the time of the yeer, for these chases, is from midde *May* to midde *September*, which is the whole continuance of al Sommer, & the dry time of the yeer, whē the sun burneth hottest, and the earth is hardest, so that if a man should hunt a horse of puissance and worth, at such an vnseasonable time of the yeere, the heat of the Sunne mixt with so extream a labor, would both parch and melt him, & his own waight beating vpon the hard earth, would both surbate and bring him to an incurable lameness.

Now you must vnderstand, that although I disallow this chase for the training vp of the best horses, yet I do not meane it should be deprived the company of horses: for being of all chases with vs the most worthiest, & belonging only to Princes and men of best quality, there is no horse too good to be employed in such a seruice; yet in that all noble spirits delight to keepe an order & profitable comliness in all their pleasures, tis fit they know that the horses which are aptest and best to be employed in this chase, is the Barbarie, Ienner, or light made English Gelding, being but of a meane or middle stature.

There is a certaine race of little horses in *Scotland* called *Galway* Nagges, which I haue seene hunt the Bucke and Stagge exceeding well, and indure the chase with good coruage; and not any of these horses but will endure the hard earth without surbating or lameness, much better then horses of great puissance & strength.

But to conclude, & come to the chase, which is of all chases

chases the best for the purpose whereof we are now to intreat; it is the chase or hunting of the Hare, which is a chase both swift, pleasant, and of long endurance; it is also a sport euer readie and equallie distributed, as well to the wealthie Farmer as the great Gentleman: It hath his beginning contrarie to the Stag or Bucke, for it begins at Michaelmas when they end, and is out of date after Aprill, when they come first in season; so that Princes, whose pleasures are their greatest labours, may with these two delights finish vppe the yeares circuit. And this sport being a winters sport, is so much more full of labour, and though the deepnes of the ground shoves the horses strength so much the better, yet the toile is not so vtterlie without ease and respit, but that by the manie stops and staies which are made therein, the horse recouers his winde, and his strength new increaseth, as when the dogs are at any default or losse, or when the sent is so cold that the dog cannot pursue it with any furie. These staies and recouerings of wind in the horse (my masters) the northerne riders call Sobs.

If you demand of me if you may not bring your horse as well to perfection without hunting, as with hunting, I answer no, for to toile a horse vp and down in the field after nothing, and in no certaine way or path, where he neither knowes whether he labours, to what end he labours, nor when he shall finish his labouring, so to do, I say brings to the horse amazemēt, wearines, and dislike in his exercise, for as an old beaten post Sade will runne his knowne course, and stage, with all courage and good spirit, yet if you put him but to twelue score beyond his Inne, or turne him into any other path which is out of
his

his remembrance, will presently stand still, and tyre most shamefully: Even so the the best mettald Horses, if they be chaste and rechte, without either delight or some encouragement, will by degrees growe worse and worse in their labour.

Now for the following of Houndes, Horses even naturally haue taken great delight both in their cry, and in their company, and will (as I haue often noted) when they haue heard the cry of Houndes by pricking vpp their eares, gazing aloft, and forcing to runne or gallop, shew the pleasure they take therein; and for mine owne part I haue ridden an olde hunting Horse, that when pleasure and forgetfulnesse hath so rudely transported me, that I haue vn-Huntsman-like ridden in amongst the Dogges, yet haue I found, that no negligence of mine could make the Horse touch or treade vpon a Dog: but shewing more loue then I did iudgement, hath contrary to my minde shunn'd and auoyded them: From whence I gathered, that questionles that Horse (and as he, so others) take a singular delight and pleasure in the exercise.

There is also another Chase (if I may without offence so tearme it) at least a sport I am sure it is; and that is when swift Houndes hunt a Catt, which is by some Huntsman drawne in a long string three or foure mile at the most vp and downe the Fields, either crosse plowed landes, or thwart greene fieldes, leaping Ditches, Hedges, or other Pales, Rayles, or Fences, or running thorow Waters, as the leader of the Catte shall thinke best for the aduantage of the Horse, for whose benefit hee rideth.

This chase or sport we here in England call a *Traine sent*,

Of the Traine sent.

sent, because the sent which the Houndes hunt is trained amongst the fields, according to the discretion of the leader thereof, and not according to the wil of the beast. This chase of all chases is the swiftest, because the sent thereof is hottest, so that the Hounds run it forth with all the power they haue, making neither stoppe nor stay till they either ouer-take the traine, or els the man stay and goe no further, in so much that with the verie eagerneffe of the chase, and franticke running of the Hounds, bee they Dogges of neuer so free mouthes, yet they shall not be able to open or spend their mouthes, or if they doe open, it will be verie sildome.

This chase is altogether vsed for the tryall of matches between Horse and Horse, because it is euer ready when Hares are incertaine, and the swiftnesse thereof brings a Horse sooner to the height of his speede, and to the sense of wearinesse, than any other whatsoever.

It is also very good and profitable for the trayning vp of a young Horse, after you haue brought him to cleannesse, and some little perfection of speed, if once or twice in a weeke, at the latter end of the day, when you haue finished the hunting of the Hare, you cause one of these traine sents to be made, vpon such earth as your Horse takes most delight to runne vpon, and of such length as you shall thinke fit for his strength (the vtmost of any traine sent being not aboue foure myle) and then laying on fresh dogges (which dogges indeed should be kept for no other purpose; for to hunt traine sent dogs with good Harriers, they will with their madnes and flinging spoile the chase) make your Horse run the traine with good courage and liuelinesse, and so in
his

his warmesse trot him home.

There is yet another chase which Horse-men call <sup>Of the wild-
goose chase.</sup> the Wilde goose chase, and it is neuer vsed but in matches only, where neither the hunting of the Hare, nor the running of traine sents is able to decide the doubt which Horse is the better. In this case Horse-men found out (for the auoyding of controuersie) this chase, which is called Wild-goose chase, resembling the manner of the flight of Wilde-geese, which for the most part flie euer one after another, keeping as it were an equall distance one from another, so in this chase, after the Horses are started, and haue runne twelue score, then which Horse can get the leading, the other is bound to follow whether soeuer he goes, and that too within a certaine distance, as within twice or thrice his length, or else to be beaten vp by the *triers* which ride by to see faire play, being gentlemen or others chosen for the purpose. And if either Horse get before the other twelue score yards, or according as the match is made, then the hinder Horse looseth the match: And if the Horse which came first behind, can get before him which first ledde, then is hee likewise bound to follow, till he can either get before, or els the match be won and lost.

In this Wild-goose chase, there is no order or proportion to be vsed, but the formost Horse to leade how and which way he please for his best aduantage, which is the reason that in this wild-goose chase there be many aduantages, such as hereafter shall be more at large declared. And thus much for the hunting horse, and the chases fittest to be hunted.

CHAP. 3.

The chusing of the Hunting Horse, and of his shape.

ALthough some men holde an opinion, that eue-ry Horse which can gallop, may bee made an Hunting Horse, and albe wee daily see that many Horses, which indeede can doe no more but gallop (and that not long together neither) are ordinarily vsed in this exercise of Hunting, yet I am of that minde, that if a Horse haue not some vertue more then ordinary, as either in his swiftnesse, toughnesse, winde, or courage, that hee is not worthy the name of a Hunting Horse, and neither doth deserue the labour, cost, and good foode which hee must eate, nor the grace to bee employed in such an honourable pastime.

Now therefore to saue ill imploied cost, and the repentance which followes houres that are in vaine wasted, you shal (being admitted to pursue this pleasure) be exceeding careful in the choyce of that horse which you intend for hunting: For as before I tolde you in the breeding of Horses, some are good for seruice in the Wars, some for rüning, some for coach, some for cart, and some for the hamper, now all these in their kindes good, yet very fewe excellent In generall for all these vses whatsoever, and those few which are so well compounded, both of minde and body, that they are fit for any purpose, they onely & none else are most excellent
for

Hunting, as hauing the strength of the War horse, the toughnesse of the Hunting horse, the good pace of the Trauailer, the swiftnesse of the Runner, a good breast for the Coach, a strong ioynt for the Cart, and a backe like a beame for the Hamper.

But forasmuch as there be three especiall characters or faces, by which a man shal chuse a good hunting horse, to wit, his breed, his colour, and the shape of his lineaments, I will by them shew you what obseruations you shall regard when you make choise for this purpose.

And first for his breed, if he be either bastard *Courser*, bastard *Ienes* or bastard *Polander*, his breed is not amisse; for I haue knowne of all these sortes of bastards excellent hunting horses. Now if you demand what I meane by this worde *Bastard*; it is when a horse is begotten by any of these Country horses, vpon a faire English mare, or by a faire bredde English Horse vpon any of these country Mares; but neither to flatter other Countries, nor to take from our owne that which is due vnto it, the world doth not affoord in all pointes (both for toughnesse and swiftnesse, being ioyned together) a better Horse then the true bred English horse for Hunting: which assertion should I maintaine by the best prooffe, which is example, I could repeat so many instances as were sufficient to fill vp the rest of this volume, but I will not at this instant bee so troublesome.

Next to this Breed, you are to respect his colour and markes, which forasmuch as I haue most amply set them down in the first Chapter of the former booke of Riding, I will referre you thereunto, and not tyer your care with oft repetitions: Your last obseruation is his shapes, which although also I haue in the other booke set

downe largely, yet I must here giue you other notes because a hunting Horse hath certaine proportions, & secret figures, which doe more agree with goodnesse then beauty. First therefore, you shall looke to the shape and proportion of his minde, obseruing that it bee milde, tractable, louing, and familiar with the man, free from dogged malitiousnes, malancholy fullennes, or lunaticke frenzie; but for wantonnes, running away, leaping, plunging, or other apish trickes (so they proceed not from hate or enuy) neuer respect them, for they are (like the conditions of shrewd boyes, which we say will make good men) no other but the faces of good spirit and courage: and being tempered with Art, make the Horse not worse but much better.

Now for his outward shape: his head should be somewhat long, leane, & large, with a spacious wide chaule, both thin and open; his care if it bee short and sharpe, it is best, but if it bee long and vpright, it is a signe of speede and good mettall. His forehead long and rising in the middest, the feather thereof standing aboue the top of his eye; his eyes full and round; his nostrils wide, and without rawnesse; his mouth large and hairy; his throppell within his chaule as much as a man can gripe and by no meanes fleshy or so closed with fatnesse, that a man can hardly finde it, (as many fine shaped Horses are;) the setting on of his head to his necke would be strong, but thinne, so as a man may put his hand betwixt his necke and his chaule, and not Bull-cragge-like, thicke and full, that one cannot easily discern where his chap lyeth: his crest strong and well risen; his necke straight, firme, and as it were of one peece with his body, and not as my Countrey-

men.

men say) withie-cragg'd, which is loose and plyant. The throppell or neather part of the necke which goes from the vnder chappes to the brest, should when the Horse reyneth be straight and eeuen, not bending like a bowe which is called cock-throppled, & is the greatest signe of an ill winde: If the neather chappes, and that neather part of the necke also be full of long haire, and bearded downe to the setting on of the brest, it is a signe of much swiftnesse: a broad strong brest, a short chync, an out ribbe, a well hidden belly, short and well knit ioyntes, flat legges, exceeding short, straight and vpright pasternes, which is a member aboue all other to bee noted: his hooves both blacke and strong, yet long and narrow: and for his maine and taile, the thinner the more spirit, the thicker the greater signe of dulnesse; to bee (as some tearme it) sickle hought behinde, that is somewhat crooked in the cambrell ioynt, as Hares and Greyhounds are, is not amisse, though it bee a little eye-sore. And for mine owne part I haue seene many good which haue borne that proportion.

And thus much for the choise of Hunting Horses, their Breedes, Colours, and outward lineaments.

CHAP. 3.

*At what Age Horses should Hunt: of their first
taking from Grasse, and of their
Housing.*

Although I haue often seene (and those which follow this pleasure doe daily see) Horses trayned vp to Hunting at foure yeares of age, and some not

so much: yet for mine own part I would haue no horse trayned in that exercise till he be past fīue at the least, as hauing changed all his teeth, & his ioynts being come to their vttermoſt largeneſſe, for to put him to the violence thereof in his former tenderneſſe doth not onely weaken his ioyntes, and makes him putt out forances, but also euen appaals his minde, and takes away much of his naturall courage, bringing rhumes to the heade, ſtiſneſſe to the ioyntes, melancholy thoughts to the minde, and all other effectes of olde age, before those which ſhould be his best dayes, come to be numbred.

Your Horse therefore being full fīue yeares olde and the aduantage, you shall take him frō grasse about *Bartholmew*-tide, or within a Weeke after at the furthest; for then Frostes beginning to come in (which nip and kill the pride of grasse, making it not so nourishing as before it was) and the cold beaues falling from aboue, making the Horses haire begin to stare (which though but few Hors-men regard, yet is a rule as worthy as any other to bee respected) it is fitt that you suffer your Horse to runne no longer; but in any case take him into the Stable whilest his haire lyes smooth and close to his necke & body: and that his stomacke haue receiued no ill sustenance, by the rawe coldnesse of the season.

When your Horse is thus taken from grasse, and set vp in the Stable (the scituation, fashion, and cōmodity of which stable, is shewed hereafter in the fift Booke) you need then but onely looke vpon him, and your eye will tell you whether hee be fatt or no: If he be fatt, (as of necessity hee must bee) hauing runne all the former Summer, vnlesse hee be vnfound & diseased, and so not fat for your purpose, you shall then let him stand all that night.

night, and the next day vnclouthed, and giue him no foode but a little Wheate strawe, and water, and two houres before you giue him any water, you shall giue him foure or fiue handfuls of Rie, well sunn'd, or dried. This Rie will cleanse away his grasse, empty his great bagge, and yet keepe him in good lust and spirit.

The second day at night you shall make a Groome rub him all ouer with a hard wispe, and then girde about him with a Sursingle (stopping it with soft wisps) a single Canuasse cloath, then if his Wheat strawe bee spent, put more into his Racke, and throw some also vnder his body to lye vpon, and so let him stand that night, and the next day also with nothing but Wheat strawe, Rie and water.

The third day at night you shall rub him againe ouer with nothing but an hard wispe, then cloath him againe, and let him stand with nothing but wheat-straw till the next morning, at what time as soone as you come vnto him, looke first vpon his dung, and if you finde that all the dark greene colour which formerly it had, is gone, and there is no signe of grasse left in his body, but that now his dung is of a pale yellow colour, neither inclining to blacknesse nor driness, you shall then neither giue him any more Wheat-strawe, nor any more Rie.

Now by the way, although I haue giuen you this rule of giuing your horse Rie, for the first three dayes after he is taken from grasse, yet you shall out of your owne discretion gouerne it according to these obseruations: First if your Horse bee new taken from grasse (because all grasse is scowring) if his dung be more loft then ordinarily other horses be, which is a signe he is of a cold

constitution, and subiect to much solliblenes, you shall then forbear the first night, to giue him any Rie at all, because *Nature* being a better worke-mistress then *Art*, takes vpon her that labour: And if the other two daies also his body holde the same temper; you shall then also forbear giuing him any Rie, and in steed thereof, giue him after each watering three or foure handfuls of Oates, well dry'd and sifted, the Oates being good, sound and full, and not like your Southerne Oates light and empty, which in the North we call skegs, and is the foode which onely doth soonest deceiue a horse: but if you finde after your horse hath stood at Wheat-strawe a day or more (which indeed is a very binding food) his body begin to dry, and that his dung come from him in hard round pellets, not without much straining, and some paine (as you may perceiue by the thrusting out his belly) then you shall giue him Rie in the manner before prescribed, and not other wise, for although it bee comfortable, yet it is a kinde of scowring, and not to be giuen to a Horse in any sort, but by the way of medicine: And thus much for their Age, taking from Grasse and first Howsing.

CHAP. 4.

Of the first fortnights Dyet, Exercise, and Dressing.

WHen your Horse hath his belly taken vp, and the grasse scowred foorth, you shall then lay your hand vpon his side by his short ribs, and to his fillers, and if you seele his fat to be soft and apt to presse

presse down vnder your hand, you shall then know that his fat is vnfound, and not good, so that the least violent exercise will soone melt it : and being once molten, if then by art, medicine and good keeping, it be not auoided or taken away, then the fatt belonging to the outward parts of the body falles into his legs, making him haue swolne legs, gowty and vnnimble, which though vnskilful Farriers attribute to other causes, yet this and no other is the originall; and that you may be the more assured therof, you shall know it by these obseruations: his leggs will only swell when he standeth in the stable, but when you ride or exercise him abroad, the more you chafe him, the more the swelling will fall, and hee will come home at night with his legges as slender as if they had no imperfectiō; but the next morning they will be swelled as big as they were before. The reason hereof is this, the greace which is falne downe into his leggs, with standing still cooleth, & so conicaleth and bindeth togerher, with other grosse humours, (which euer accompany and flowe vnto the weakest partes,) not onely stopping the naturall course of the bloud but also occasioning paine and much swelling; whereas when he comes to be laboured or exercised, the heat of his trauaile, (like fire to frost) dissolues what his rest had bound vpon, and so melting the greace againe, disperfes both it and the other vnwholsome humours generally into euery member of the horses body which is applied with like labor; and so his legs comes to their first smalnes: then when rest comes againe, the grieffe begins again with rather more, the lesse torment, & this disease with many is held incurable, but therein they are mistaken; yet howsoever it be to be cured, I know it is so diffi-

cult, that a man cānot haue to great a regard to preuent it. Now for the inward fatt, which is that which remaines within his stomack, in his small guts & his great bag, if that after it be once molten be not scowred and taken away, but suffered to remaine in his body and putrifie, it breedes those mortall and deadly diseases, of which a horse seldome escapes, as pestilent feauers, frettings of the guts, consumptions, and such like. The effects of this mischiefe being not discerned or appearing to outward sence many times, till at least halfe a yeare after, whence it comes to passe that multitudes of Horses are lost in this Kingdome onely for want of some four-pence cost, and a little preuention; men oft imputing to sodain death, witchcraft, & such like toies, the death which themselues wilfully gaue, & might as easily haue saued: which to preuent, you shall obserue this method; after you haue laid your hand vpon his body, and found his fat soft & vnfound, you shal then also thrust your hand betweene his nether chappes, and if there you finde much fatnes, great round kirls, or any thick & vndissolued substance; you shal then know that as he is outwardly full of vnfound fatnesse, so hee is inwardly stufte with much glut & purfines, so that neither his winde can haue free passage, nor his body indure much labour; your Art then must be to harden, & make his outward fat so firme & vndisoluble, that it bee a fortifier and augments of his strength, and to cleanse away his inward glut with such comfortable medicine and moderate exercise, that his winde, courage, and poures of his minde, being freed of all grossenes, may appeare in his labour to be more then redoubled; which thus you shall doe: First you shal take away his wheat-straw, and
instead

in stead thereof, you shall put into his racke a little bottle of hay, as bigge as a penny bottle in an Inne; which hay would be found and well gotten, yet rough, course, and not exceeding pleasant in taste; whereby the horse taking no great delight to feed thereupon, may rather chew and eat it to scoure his teeth, then either to fill his stomacke or satisfie his hunger.

As soone as you haue taken the straw soorth of his racke, and giuen him hay, you shal then in the morning by fise or fixe a clocke, which is the houre your groom should come into the stable, make him after he hath put away the horses dung, thrust vp his litter, and made his stall cleane and sweeter; take a smooth snaffle, washt either in some faire water, or in a little beere, and putting it in the horses mouth, turne his head to that part of the stall where his hinder parts stood, and there hanging the reyne vpon some pinne or hooke placed for that purpose. First let your Groom vnclouth him, then currie, rubbe, picke, and dresse him in such sort as belongs to his place and office, which manner of dressing of horses, because it is at large prefigured in the fift book, where I onely write of those duties; I will in this place omit it, and refer you to that place to behold it.

When your Groome hath finished the dressing of your horse, and only girt the cloath about him with a fursingle without any wispes; you shall then take him soorth, and mounting vpon his backe, ride him to some faire River or Spring, and there after he hath drunk, you shall gallop him vpon an easie false gallop for fise or six score yards, and then giue him winde, then gallop him as much more, then giue him winde againe: thus you shal do twice or thrice til you haue warmed the water in
his

his belly, but by no means so much, that you may either chafe him, or wet any one haire about him with sweat, which when you haue done, you shall pace him faire & softly home, and when you haue brought him into the stable, you shall make the Groom first to rub and chafe his legs with hard wisps, then to stop his fursingle with soft wispes, then to take halfe a pecke of good white Oates which are kilne dryed, and sifting them well in a fine sieue, that there may be no dust left in them; as soone as you haue taken off his bridle, and put on his coller, making the manger cleane, put them therin, that he may eat them; then putting his litter downe round about him, shut vp your stable windowes close, and so depart till one a clocke in the afternoon, at what time you shall come to him againe, and first making your Groom put away his dung, and what other filthines shall be about him; then cause him to turne vp his cloath, and either with a hayr cloth, or with a wet hard wispe cause him to rubbe down his neck, buttocks, and legges; then let him sift another halfe pecke of Oats, & giue them to the horse, then putting down his clothes let him stand till it be betwixt three and foure a clocke in the afternoon, at what time let the Groom come to him, & as he did in the morning, let him first put away his dung, then put vp his litter, wash his snaffle as he did before, put it vpon his head, turne him about, then vnclouth him, and as he drest him in the morning, so let him dresse him againe in the afternoone, and as soone as he is drest, and his cloathes girt about him, you shall as you did before, take his backe, and ride him to the former drinking place, and when he hath drunk, gallop him gently as you did before, with as great care, and
with

with not one iot of more toile to the horse, then bring him home, and as you did in the morning, so now let the Groome rub his legs, stop his fursingle, put downe his litter, and giue him another halfe pecke of sifted Oates : then let him stand till it be betwixt eight and nine a clocke at night ; at what time you must come to him againe, make your Groom to put away his dung, to rubbe his head, necke, legges, and buttockes, then to giue him new fresh litter, and another halfe pecke of well sifted Oates, and so to let him stand for all the night till the next morning. Thus as you haue done this day, you shall not faile to doe euery day for a fortnight together, wherin you are to note your howers for dressing, drinking, and exercise are two; Morning and evening. For feeding foure : Morning, Noone, Euening and Night.

Now during this first fortnights keeping, you are to take into your minde diuers especiall obseruations; as first you shall obserue the nature and condition of your horse, whether he be louing, or churlish, fearefull or frantick, and according to his nature so to behaue your selfe vnto him; as if he be louing to requite him with loue againe, and doe all things about him with gentleness; if he be churlish, then to doe all things about him with a bold courage and a threatenng voice; shewing your selfe to be a commander, and giuing him no good countenance, but when he doth carry himselfe with obedience: if he be fearefull, then you shall fortifie him with cherishings, and doe nothing about him rashly: and if he be frantick you shall by your correction shew your selfe to be his master, and neither when you dresse him, or doe any thing else vnto him shall you come to
him

him but with a rod in your hand. After this, you shall obserue the strength of his body, whether he be slowe at his meat, or retaine a good stomacke; if you perceiue he be but of a queasie and dainty stomacke, then you shall giue him the lesse at a time, and bee feeding him the oftner, but if his stomacke be strong and good, the proportion before set downe cannot be amended; then you shall obserue the nature of his digestion, that is, whether he hold his food long in his body, or digest and put it out more speedily, which you shall know by his dunging, for if he dung oft and moist, then he holds not his food long in his stomacke: if he dung sildome and hard, then hee keeps his foode, and it is a signe of a drie bodie. Now if hee doe holde his foode long, you shall vse once or twice a weeke, whether he haue exercise or no exercise to giue him with his Oats a handfull or more of hemp-seed; if he doe not retaine his foode, but haue a quicke digestion, he is easier to worke vpon, and you shall keepe him with drie prouender. Lastly, you shal obserue whether he be a grosse and foule feeder, or very curious and dainty: grosse and foule, that is, when he hath no other meat, hee will eate his litter vnder him, gnaw vpon the Maunger and boards about him, or eate mudde walles, or thatch if any be neere him, and so feede as it were & be fat in despite both of labour & his keepers; Curious and dainty, that is, though you giue him neuer so good meat, keep neuer so good howers, and let him haue neuer so much rest, or neuer so much abstinence, yet he will not eat to fill his belly; and when he comes to labour, he will loose more flesh in a daies hunting, then he will get againe in a whole weeks resting. Now

if

if you do find your horse thus curious and daintie, your best course is in his daies of rest, to let him be his own dieter, that is, you shall euer let meat lie in the manger before him, yet change it oft; that is, look what you giue him in the morning, if you find any of it in the manger at noon, you shall sweep it away, and siff him fresh, then that which you take away after it be well ayred & sund againe, will be as good as it was before; and looke how you doe at noon, so you may doe at euening and night also. You must also change the nature of his meate and not keepe him to one kind of food, but giue him sometimes Oates, sometimes bread; holding most to that food which hee best liketh; you shall also in the time of his rest, let a paile of water stand by him, that he may drink at his pleasure, for some horses haue such hot stomachs, that if they may not almost to euerie bit haue a sup, they cannot possiblie eat; and yet for all this you shall obserue your ordinarie howers for watering him abroad also, and vse the exercise as is aforesaid; but if your horse be grosse, fat, & a foule feeder, which is calld a kettie horse, then after you haue done as much as is prescribed for your daies labor, you shal not faile morning and euening, for this first fortnight to aire him as is shewed you in the next Chapter.

CHAP. 5.

Of the ayring of hunting horses.

THe ayring of hunting Horses is but at three seasons onely to be vsed; that is either in the first fortnight when they are first taken from grasse, at what time they are so fat and foule, that they cannot be put to any labour without danger: or when they are in diet for some great match or wager, so that they must be kept in good breath with moderate exercise, preserving their chiefe strength and powers till the time of their trialls: or when a horse hath got any straine, griefe or mischance, so that you may not ride nor gallop him, yet you would keep him in good breath till his sorance be amèded: vpon any of these occasions, ayring is your onely remedy; and this it is, and thus you are to vse it. Early in the morning a full houre & a halfe before Sun rise, you shall come to your stable, and after you haue made your Groom to put away your horses dung, and to rub his head, necke, legs, buttocks, and body all ouer with a hairy cloath, then girding his cloaths about him with a sursingle, and making them fast and close before his brest, you shal the washing his snaffle in a litle beer, put it in his mouth, then bringing him foorth, take his backe, and with a faire foot-pace ride him vp to the top of the knole of some hill, & there walke him vp & down no more but in a foot-pace, till you see the sunne be risen vp faire in your sight, then walk him fairlie home to the stable, and there let your Groom dresse him as before, then ride him to the water, after his water gallop him, then bring him home, rub him, and giue him prouender,

uender, & vse him in all things as is before taught you; only when the sun is as it were at the instant setting; or but a little before; as you did in the morning, so you shal do in the euening, take him foorth & ayre him, but then you shall not goe to the hills, but downe to some faire vallie or meddow through which some riuer runs, and there alongst the riuer side you shal aire him at least for an houre and a halfe, and so bring him home, cause him to be well rubd & chafst, giue him a handfull or two of prouender, and then follow your former directions. During the time of your ayring your horse thus, you shal see him gape, yawne, and as it were shrug his body, and take a delight & pleasure in it, you shall in ayring when your horse will at any time take occasion to stand still, as it were to gaze about, or to listen to any thing, giue him good leaue; and in all his ayring suffer him to take his pleasure. The profit which doth redoūd by this airing is this, it makes a kettie ful horse emptie both his bellie and bladder; & the sharp aire which in the morning is the purest vpon the tops of hils, and most cold and subtil that which comes in the euening from the humiditie of the water will so pierce into the poers of the horses bodie, that it will euen clense & expell many grosse & suffocating humors: it doth also temper and clear the bloud, makes the flesh firm & hard, & tempers the fat with such good qualities, that it is nothing neer so readie to be dissolud or molten. To conclude, an ordinary daies hunting takes no sorer of a horse then one of these earlie or late airings; After you haue thus for a fortnight applied your horse with airings, and moderate exercised him after his drink, then you may the next fortnight with more boldnesse aduenture him in to stronger labour.

CHAP. 6.

*The second fortnights daye and first
hunting.*

After you haue with ayring and moderate exercise after his drinke, brought your horse to some pretie state of body, which is, that his flesh ouer his short ribs, will not feele so soft, and loose vnder your hand as before it did, neither the thin part of his flanke is so thicke, and full in your gripe, as it was at his first taking from grasse, nor that you doe finde the kernels and grosse matter gathered together vnder his neather chaps altogether so great as at first they were; then you shall proceed to a more strickt cleansing of his body after this manner. Early in the morning about an houre or more before his accustomed time, your Groom shall come into the stable, and as soone as euer he hath put away your horses dung, he shall looke what meat your horse hath left in his manger, and if there be anie, hee shall notwithstanding make cleane the manger, and sifting the horse two or three handfuls of fresh Oats, giue him them to eat, and as soon as he hath done eating, he shall bridle him vp, turn him about, & then fall to dresse him. After he is drest, the Groom shall take a good hunting Saddle, with handsome Stirropes and strong wollen garths, and girt it vpon the Horses backe, then hee shall throw the cloathes over the saddle, and so let the Horse stand vpon the Bridle, till the
Hounds

Hounds and your selfe are readie to goe soorth on hunting, which would be an hour or thereabouts after sunrise at the furthest, then you shall take your horses back, and that first day follow the hounds verie gentle, galloping verie sildome, and no long time together, but crossing the fields so your best aduantage, both obserue to make in with the Hounds at euerie default, and also to keepe your horse (as neere as you can) within the crie of the dogs, that he may take delight in their musicke; and when you finde the chase to runne ouer any faire earth, as either ouer More, Medow, Heath, greenswarth, or grasse leyes; all which my countrymen of the North-call skelping earths, because a horse may without any great toile or paine throw out his legges and bodie, and gallop smoothlie thereupon; you may then thrust out your horse, and for a quarter of a mile, or halfe a mile, (according as the chase holds out) galloppe him faire & softlie vpon the hand after the Hounds, that hee may learne how to handle his legs, how to lay his body, and how to change and alter his stroake according to the change & alteration of the ground, as if the ground be plain and leuel, then to lay downe his body, stretch soorth his legges and to goe more speedily away, but if the ground be ruttie and full of false treading, (which we call broken swarthe) or if it be ouer ridge and furrowe, so that the horse in his gallopping rises and falls, then he must gather vp his body round & close, strike shorter and thicker, to the intent he may auoide rutttes, or setting his forefeet in the bottome of furrowes, which if at any time by mischance he doe, yet carrying his bodie so round and vpright, hee will euer haue that strength at commandement, that he wil neither stumble nor fall ouer: to which perfection you can no way bring him, but by moderate

exercise and custome, and keeping him euer within his
 winde, that whensoever he ends gallopping, he may be
 in his best strength, & haue alwayes a desire to do more
 then you will suffer him; thus and by the rule of these ob-
 seruations you shall hunt your horse till it be betwixt two
 and three of the clocke in the afternoone, at what time
 you shall couple vp your Hounds, and then consider the
 estate of your Horse, whether he haue had any great
 exercise or no; that is, whether he haue sweat any thing
 or nothing (for to sweat exceeding much the first
 day you must by no meanes suffer him) and if you find he
 haue sweat a little, then you shall ride him gently home;
 but if he haue not sweat at all, then you shall vpon some
 faire skelpe earth gallop him, till you make him sweat;
 but you must do it so gently, that you neither grieue him
 with the labour, nor make him desire the quickning of
 the spurre in his gallopping, but that all he doth may be
 done as it were out of his own voluntary wil & courage.
 When you haue made him wet the haire that are at the
 rootes of his eares, and some few vpon his necke and
 flanke with sweat (which are all the places you must at
 first by any meanes make him sweat in) then you shall
 ride him gentlie home: and as soone as you are ligh-
 ted from his backe, you shall cause him to be set vp in the
 stable: then tying his head with the Bridle vp to the rack
 (where there must neither be hay, nor anything else)
 make two grooms at the least, one of one side the horse,
 and another of the other, with good store of fresh straw,
 which must lie vnder him, rubbe his head and face first,
 then all his foure legges, then his necke, body, belly, but-
 tockes, and generally enerie part of the Horse, till they
 haue not left about him anie one wet or foule haire,
 then let them vngird his gyrris, and take off his Saddle,
 and

and immediatlie clap about his bodie and his heart two yardes of some thicke strong cotton, then lay on his clothes which ordinarily he wore, and hauing girt them on with the suringle, let it be stopt round about with soft wispes, and so let him stand for the space of two houres or more: then you shal come vnto him and vnbridle him, and then sift two or three handfull of Oates, and mixe with them a good handfull of Hempseed, and giue it him to eat: then put into his racke a little bottle of Hay, and so let him stand till betwixt eight and nine a clocke at night, at what time comming to him, you shall giue him to drinke a sweet mash of ground mault and water luke-warme, which if at first he be dainty to drinke on, respect not, but placing it in such sort vnder him, that he cannot throw it downe; let it stand by him all night, that hee may drinke at his pleasure. Then you shall cut him in small peeces the value almost of halfe a pecke of ordinary hunting bread (the making and nature whereof shall bee prescribed vnto you in the next Chapter) then putting another small bottle of Hay into the racke, thrusting vp his litter handsome, that his bedde may be soft, and rubbing his head, necke, and buttockes downe with a haire cloath, let him stand till the next morning.

Now forasmuch as in this first dayes hunting, there are many obseruations to be noted, I thinke it not amisse to giue you a tast of them before I proceed any further: first therefore you ought to obserue, that in the morning whē you come into the field, you doe not put your horse to any gallop for at least two hours; which time you shal spend in trotting, & walking him after the dogs, & many times standing still, to make your horse dung, and emptye his bellie, which whēsoeuer he doth, you shall cherish

him, and with oft standing stil, and now & then whistling your horse, doe what you can to prouoke him to pisse, (which is the wholsomest thing of all others) then when you find that your horse by his often dunging & pissing is reasonably well emptied, you may begin to gallop him in manner before shewed.

Next you shall obserue the nature and inward quality of your Horse; which is whether he be of a temperate and sober spirit, one that will doe no more then you put him vnto, nor strine to go faster then you would haue him; or whether he be a Horse of fiery and forward spirit, one that will chase, frette, and sweat as much for anger that hee is kept backe and restrained, as the other when he is runne a whole sent and soundlie spurred: if you find him of dull and sober mettall, then you shall galloppe him the ofiner, but the lesse while together, that you may bring him to delight in hunting, now and then awakening him with your spurres, but by no meanes (as I said before) bringing him to the height of his winde, or the vttermost of his strength. But if hee be a Horse of hot and free mettall, then you shall gallop him the seldomer, but the forer, thrusting him now and then vpon deepe and ouerthwart earth, that by feeling the paine of labour, and the daunger which his fierce and mad running drawes him vnto when he is ready to ouerthrow in euerie furrow, hee will euen by those corrections, and the benefit of his owne knowledge, come to a more moderate temper in his running, and so much the better and sooner, if you (as in true Art you ought to do) by no meanes either with spurre or rod compell him to doe anything; but that all the mischiefes hee feelles, may onelie come by his owne voluntarie furie; you but onelie giuing libertie to his frowardnesse: then you shall

shal obserue vpon what earth he gallops most vnnimbly, and vpon that earth vse to gallop him most, yet with such leisure and gentlenesse, that he may haue both time to know, and time to amend his fault.

Lastlie, you shall obserue after your Horse begins to eat bread, whether vpon that food he be quicke or slowe of digestion, as before in the first fortnight; and if you find that he be quicke of digestion, that is, that he keeps his bread but a little while in his bodie (as for the most part your fierie and free Horses doe) then you shall but onelic lightlie chip your bread, and so giue it him both crust and crumme together: but if he be slow of digestion, which is, that hee keeps his meat long in his bellie, then you shall cleaue your loaves in the midst, and giue vnto your Horse nothing but the crumme onlie; for the crumme is quick of digestion, and soon turns to blood, cruditie, and excrements: and the crust is slow of digestion, and askes (by meanes of his hardnesse and drynesse) a double time before it be concocted.

After you haue thus spent your first hunting day; as soone as the next morning appeares, you shall come to the stable, and the first thing you doe, shall be to make your keeper thrust the horses dung from his litter, on which you shall looke, and by treading vpon it with your foot and opening it, you shall see whether you can find any greate either without or within it, or whether it be slimie or greasie outwardly, if there be neither greasie nor other slimie matter to be perceined, but that his dung holds the same state and colour which formerly it did before he was hunted, then you shall know that your first daies hunting did take nothing at all of your Horse, but that his bodie holds one certaine state still; which is a warning vnto you that you may the next hunting day

almost double your exercise; but if you find that there be any little grease come from the horse, or that his dung be but outwardlie greasie, which you shal know by the shining of his dung, or by white spots, like sope spots, which you shall see within his dung, or if his dung be of a darke colour, or harder then it was, then you may be assured that both your horse is extreame foule, and that your labour was fullie sufficient, so that the next day you hunt you shal increase his labour but a little more. When you haue taken these obseruations from his dung, you shall then make your Groom dresse him, and after he is drest, as you did the first fortnight, so you shall then ride him to the water, gallop him after his drinke, and then giue him either 5. or 6. handfuls of wel sifted Oates, or a good quantitie of bread cut in small peeces, which you thinke he hath best stomacke vnto; as thus, if the last meat you gaue him before were Oats, then now you shal giue him bread; if it were bread then, now Oats: for the oftner you alter, the better will be his appetite: yet you must make bread his principall food, because it is most strong, most healthfull and best nourishing both of winde and bodie. Thus you shall keep this day of rest as you kept him the first fortnight; the next day following you shal hunt him againe as you did the first day, only a little increasing his toile according to his nature, strength, and aptnesse in hunting, and when you bring him home, to obserue all the rules, diets, keeps, foods, and obseruations which are formerly described in this and the other Chapters. And thus you shal hunt your horse in this gentle maner foure times a week for a fortnight together, feeding him onlie with ordinarie bread and Oates, & giuing him no scowring, but mashes and hempseed.

CHAP. 7.

*Of hunting breade, both ordinarie (as for trayning
of Horses) and extraordinary for matches
or Wagers.*

THere is nothing doth so much stumble mens minds, and make them afraid of keeping hunting horses, as the verie remembrance and charge of keeping them, which by the follie of ignorant and foolish keepers, who to make the arte and secrets greater then indeed they are, or to giue a false colour to their owne knowledges (as if in their skills were mysteries beyond coniuration) or else as I think to get vnhonest polling pence to their owne purses; they tell noble spirits & good minds (whose births and places are far beyond comerce with these vnder offices (yet desire to haue euerie thing in best perfection) of such strange and vnnecessarie expences, of such huge and monstrous proportions for food, and such diuerfities of corne, and of so much difficultie and attention, that as if a hunting horse would almost leaue no corne for the poore to feed on; or had a stomacke as infinite as such a keepers follie; they make good minds so wearie of the pleasure, and so fearefull to meddle with a charge worse then vsurie, that they by all meanes possible not shunne the sport, but say, as I haue heard some Gentlemen doe, that one hunting horse is more chargable then the keeping of halfe a dozen ordinary iourneying Geldings; but they are deceiued, for this

I dare auouch to al the world, and I would haue all gentlemen know it, that if he which vndertakes to keepe a hunting Horſe be a man ſkilfull, honeſt, & of good conſcience, then look what allowāce any Nobleman or gentleman will allow to his footcloth or horſe for his owne ſaddle, (which cannot be leſſe then a pecke at a watering which is two peckes a day) that euen that allowance and fortie ſhillings a yeer more, ſhall keep any hunting horſe whatſoeuer as ſufficientlie, either for pleaſure or elſe for match, as if you ſhould allow him ten folde double the proportion, and hee which demaunds more, wrongs both himſelfe and his maſter.

Now he that either loues ſport or a good horſe, and wil not allow one forty ſhillings a yeer to ſee him in beſt perfection, for my part I could wiſh he might be deprived pleaſure, and haue a torment, in my conceit worſe then the rack; that is to ride of a lade that is tyred. But to proceed to my purpoſe, and that you may ſee the greateſt charge which belongs to a hunting horſe, I will follow on the manner of bread making; and firſt for the ordinarie bread, which is that wherewith you muſt feede the moſt part of the yeer: you are thus to compound it; Take a ſtrike of cleane Beanes, two peckes of wheat, and a pecke of Rye, grind theſe together, and then ſift them through a ſieve, then knead it with good ſtore of barme & water, but let your water be ſcalding hot, that it may take away the ſtrong fauour of the Beanes, when you haue knodden it well, then lay a cloath ouer it, and let it bee alſo well trodden, then moule it vpe into great loaves, like Houſholde loaves, hauing as neere as you can geſſe, about a pecke in a loafe; then bake it as you bake good houſhold bread, and no otherwiſe, and let it be at leaſt two dayes old before your
horſe

Ordinarie
Bread.

horse tast any of it. But if the horse for whome you make this bread, be exceeding sollible & much subiect to loſenes in his body, then you shall put in no Rye at all: but if he be of a hot body, and subiect to more then ordinary drinesse, then you shall ouer and besides the Rye, put to the former proportion of corne, about two pound of sweet butter. The natures of the aforesaid graines are these; First the Beanes are the most strong and naturall food for a Horse that can be, being neither so purſie, fullsome, nor breeding such raw crudity as Pease do, and therefore where Beanes are to be got, I would haue no Pease vsed. Then the wheat is comfortable, light of digestion, and soonest conuerts to good blood. Lastly the Ric is sollible & euacuating, so that being mixt with the other two graines which are drie and binding, it makes the bread of a reasonable and indifferent composition. The barme makes the bread light, so that it doth neither load nor cloy the stomack; the scalding water takes away the strong sauour, and the butter is a purge comfortable wholsome, and not against nature.

This bread hath in it sufficient strength and vertue, to bring a horse to good ability of body, and purenes of wind, neither would I haue any man either for the traying vp of young Horses, or for the ordinary pleasure of hunting, to vse any other bread but this only: but if you make any match for any great wager, wherein you are to be exceeding circumspect and carefull, for in their losses do indeed consist the charge and care of hunting horses, and to which I wil neuer giue any man encouragement; yet if you haue made a match, and that your horse must be brought to the vttermoſt perfection that may be, then you shall make him another sort of bread somewhat finer then the former after this manner; you shall take of
cleane

cleane beanes, well dried a strike, of oat-meale two pecks and of Rye two peckes, grinde all these together, and bould them through an ordinarie bolting cloath, then take as much new ale, and the barm beaten altogether, as will serue to knead it, and if you will bestow the whites offortie egges vpon it, the bread will be so much the better both for the horse and his winde.

After the dough hath been well knodden with hands, you shall then cause the Baker, hauing his feete cleane scoured and washt, to goe into the trough and tread it exceedingly, then you shall couer it with cloathes, and let it lie till it swell euen to the toppe of the trough, which it will in short space doe: then knead it again, and so mould it vp in great loaves as you did before with the former bread, & so bake it sufficientlie, but by no meanes ouer bake it. Better bread then this cannot be made for hunting, and though there be some horsemen of my knowledge, which will bestow vpon bread a great deale of more charges, as by putting hot spices and other such like toies therein, thinking that more cost brings more worshippe, yet knew they how wilde and vnwholsome it is, surelie they should neuer reape for their labours, so much as God a mercie, for take it from me for a generall rule, whēsoeuer you see anie man vse spices to a hunting horse that is found & of good constitution, he is neither good keeper, nor can giue any good reason for his dooings, more then our common Smithes doe for their medicines, which is, they haue seen such a man do it before them.

CHAP. 8.

*Of all manner of purgations or scowrings that are fit
for hunting horses, and of their natures,
use and operations.*

Purgations which are the emptiers, and voiders of all superfluous humours, which doe annoy the bodie with their euill qualities, bringing either sicknesses, vlcers, or mortalitie, I doe not meane to dilate vpon in this chapter, because they are more properly belonging to the sicke horse then to the sound; and their simples so curious, strange and violent in working, as goes beyond the skill of euerie ordinarie keeper; and for as much as I haue in the book of diseases spoke as much as is necessarie concerning them and their natures in case of sicknesse, I will here onelie trouble you with those purgatiue receipts, which are onelie meete for hunting-horses, or running horses, being sound of bodie, and in perfect strength and liuelihood, which are called of the Northerne men scowrings, which in true signification is the same that a purgation is, yet in that their workings are somewhat different, because the purgation doth cleanse away those sicke and vnwholsome humors which are growne to an euill alreadye, the scowring none but those which in time would grow to be contagious, I will let onelie the names hold the differences between them; and onelie here speake of scowrings. The first scowring, & which is of al other the gentlest & most wholsome, is the *masse*, and it is made in this manner:
take.

take a pecke of ground mault, and put it into a paile; then take a gallon and a halfe of water boyling hot from the fire, and put it into the mault, then with a staffe, mash and stirre them together at least halfe an houre, till taking the water ypon your finger, you feele it as sweete as honie (for euer the sweeter it is, the stronger it is) then let it stand till it be luke warme, and then giue it your horse. This mash is to be giuen to anie horse after his labor, especially to such as are weake or leane, for as it scowreth away molten grease and loose humors, so it comforteth the spirits and ingenders strength, it is good also for a fat horse (as is before shewed you) ypon his first labour, so that you vse with it (as is likewise shewed you) another scowring which is of a stronger nature, for to vse it only of it selfe, it will feed a horse and make him more fat and purse, it is also exceeding good, and onlie to be vsed in any sicknesse whatsoeuer, for to speake the truth of it, it is the horses Ale-bertie.

Of Hemp-
seed.

The next scowring is hempseede cleane drest to be mingled with his Oats, the nature whereof is exceeding gentle and without all offence to the stomacke, it is the best scowring to beginne withall, for it doth neither offend the horse in tasting, nor workes ypon any matter but what nature is willing to expel, and his office is only to purge the stomacke and intralls.

Rosemary and
Butter.

The next scowring is, take Rosemarie and chop it verie small; then take a quarter of a pound of verie sweet Butter, and worke them together, then breake it in peeces, and rolle it into sundry pellets, somewhat bigger then the Wall nut, and then holding vp the horses head, put them gently down his throat, then ride the horse gently vp & down half an houre after to make the scowring worke. This is good for a fat horse, after you haue
giuen

giuen him such a sweate that you are sure you haue melted some of his inward greafe, it scowreth the stomacke and intrals, and a little perfumeth the head, and wasteth the grosse matter betweene his vnder chappes, and about his winde-pipe : it is to be giuen to a horse earely in the morning when he is fasting.

The next scowring is Sallet oyle halfe a pinte, and of milke new from the Cowe a pinte; brew them together, ^{Sallet oyle and Milke.} and giue it to the Horse with a horne. This scowring is much stronger then any of the former, and will in the working make a Horse sicke for an houre and more; it also purgeth the stomacke, and intrals of all molten greafe or other humours which former labour hath dissolved, it is best for a fat horse, especially when after you haue giuen him inward heates, and finde that out of the hardnes of his constitution, the other former scowrings will not worke, or bring any thing from him : you shal as soone as you haue giuen this scowring, ride your horse gently vp and down for halfe an houre, and then set him vp so as the Horse may lie downe at his pleasure. The time to giue it is in the morning.

The next scowring, is to take a pinte of Muscadine, and halfe a pinte of Sallet oyle; and mixing them together, ^{Sallet oyle and Muscadine.} to warme them vpon the coales, and so to giue it to the Horse with a horne. This scowring hath all the effects and vertues which Sallet oyle and Milke hath; onely it exceeds in this, that it is much more comfortable, and as it scowreth, so it giueth strength and lust; neither doth it leane that fleemie substance behinde which Milke doth, insomuch that it is good either for fat horse or for leane, (if the leane haue any grosse humour to worke vpon) this scowring is not amisse to be giuen to a Horse at his
first

first taking from grasse. After he hath received his first sound sweate, it purgeth the intrals: the houre to giue it is earely in the morning, and his exercise to bee ridden gently halfe an houre after it.

Sacke and Sal-
let oyle.

The next scowring is sacke a pinte, and sallet oyle halfe a pinte mixt together, then warm'd vpon the coales, and giuen to the Horſe with a horne, it is an excellent scowring, and most wholesome for any horse of what state of body soeuer he be, for it both clenſeth the body and the head and also it cures any colde, and leaues no grosse humours that can any way trouble the winde.

Now you are to note that these three scowrings last rehearsed, to wit, Sallet oyle and Milke; sallet oyle and Muskadine, and sallet oyle and Sacke, are very carefully to be vsed and with great consideration; as first they are not to be vsed often, but either when by outward testimonies you know that your horse is inwardly foule, and that you haue giuen him labour sufficient to dissolue it, or when by apparant heauines or other stoppings, colds or obseruations, you see your horse begin to wax sicke, and not otherwise: Againe, you are to obserue, that if sicknes either by suddain colde or other misgouernment shall happen vnto your horse, when he is cleane in body from glut or fatt, or if your horse be of such a sollible constitution, that he is but too apt to scowre (yet necessity compels you to vse one of these scowrings) in such a case looke which of the scowrings you vse, and to it you shall adde at least two or three ounces of Sugar-candie, so that nature hauing whereupon to worke, the medicine shall vse his force without impediment.

Butter and
Garlicke.

The next scowring, is to take twenty cloues of garlicke cleane pilled, and to bruise and stamp them in a woden-dish,

dish, then to take a quarter of a pound of sweet butter, and to roule vp the garlicke in foure or five pellets bigger then walnuts, and so to giue them to the Horse, and thrust them downe his throate: This scowring is to bee giuen to any horse of what state of body soeuer he bee, if he be subiect either to colde or pole in the head, for it purgeth onely the head and winde-pipes, and disoluerh the grossenes betweene his chaps, the time to giue it is in the morning fasting, and to be ridden moderately halfe an houre after, and you may if you please giue it three mornings together, if either your horse haue taken any sleight colde, or that you finde the kirkels vnder his chaps are impediments to this winde.

The next scowring is to mixe Butter and Saunders together, and to make round pellets and giue them to the Horse, it is the same in nature and operation that Butter and Garlicke is, but not altogether so strong, and therefore not off so fit vse; it onely purgeth the head, and is to be giuen with the same manner and order as the former. To put mustard seed now and then amongst your horses Oates, purgeth the horses head, giues him occasion to neefe and snore, and is very whollome, so that if you vse it euery day once, it cannot chuse but bring profite, and helpe your horses winde much.

The last scowring is; take a good quantity of Boxe leaues, and put them into a pewter dish, then set them before the fire, and let them dry leasurely, till they be so hard that you may crush them to powder, then when they are brui'd, take the same quantity of Brimstone, beaten likewise to powder, and mixe it and the boxe leaues well together, then when your Horse comes in from hunting, after he is rubb'd, dress'd, and hath stood vpon the

Butter and
Saunders.

Boxe leaues
& Brimstone.

the brydle a good space, then the first meate that you giue him must be a handfull or two of well sifted Oates, and a prety quantity of this scowring strinckled amongst them; yet you must doe it so cunningly and daintily, that your Horse may not finde fault at it, or through the fauour thereof refuse his meate. This scowring purgeth the head, stomacke, and euery part of the body, it killeth the Maw-worme, Bottes and grubbes, which three sortes of wormes being bred in the stomacke, doe exceedingly torment the Hunting and Running horse, because being kept so much fasting, the worme wanting humours to worke vpon, doth gnawe and gripe vpon the stomack, so that if they be not kild, the griefe of them will keepe the horse from his best dooing.

This scowring is especially to bee vsed when your Horse is clesed from glutt or fatt, and when you haue him either in dyet for match or wager, it is mearely without all hurt, and hath no working in it contrary to nature. And thus much for scowrings, their natures and operations.

CHAP. 9.

The third fortnights Dyet, and of the first thorowe Sweating.

After your Horse by the two former fortnights dyet, is come to so good an estate of body, and so well in seam'd that you finde hee is able with good strength and winde to runne vpon any reasonable and indifferent

indifferent earth) two or three mile without much sweating or blowing, if you would force him thereunto, and that now the flesh of his bodie doth begin to grow verie hard, his flanke thinner and cleaner then at your second fortnights beginning, you shall then this third fortnight increase his labour, and come to acknowledge of the vitermost of his inward powers, and how apt or fit hee is, or will bee for this pleasure to which you employ him, and you shall doe it in this sort. According to the manner prescribed in the second fortnight. After your groome hath earlie in the morning giuen your horse a pretie quantitie of bread or wel sifted Oats, and that he hath drest him, saddled him and bridled him, you shall then take him foorth a hunting, and after you are come into the field, and that your horse hath emptied himselfe in some reasonable sort (which questionlesse he will haue done by that time you can possible finde a Hare, except your sport be extraordinarie readie) you shall the first chase the dogges break foorth, a little fauor your horse, yet not so much that you let the chace runne too farre before you, but keeping your horse vpon a reasonable gentle galloppe; follow it to the verie ending. This first chase will (as the Northerne man saies) racke your horses winde, and so prepare him to his labor (with which he hath had a little acquaintance a fortnight before) that if at first he were not emptied enough, he will now emptie himselfe thorowlie, and make himselfe fit for the vitermost you can put him vnto, which done, all the day after you shall hunt him soundly, that is to say, you shall follow the hounds as close as either is fit for a good Hunts-man, or the halfe speed of your horse is able to beare you, nay if you put him to a three quarters speede

it shall not be amisse; but to put him to the vttermost of his speed, you shall neuer do in the third fortnights training, except you put on a resolution neuer to haue your horse good after; if this day affoord you such pastime, and the chases hold out so long, & are so manie that they haue put your horse three or foure times into sound sweats all ouer his bodie; and that you see the sweate which rises vnder the Bridle, and about the Saddle and girthes, to rise vpon a white foame, which is a great sign of glutte and foulness, then vpon the finishing of your sport, which would be about three of the clock at the latest, you shall ride him home, and there rubbe him, drie him, and cloath him vppe warme (as was before shewed you.) But if your sport haue beene so slacke, that the following of the dogges hath not put your horse into anie great sweat at all, then towards the euening when it is almost time to goe home, you shal make some horseman with a Cat in a string to leade a traine sent, vpon such ground as you know your horse takes delight in, for at least three or foure mile: then laying your dogges vpon it, follow the traine with a three quarters speed till it be ended, which will heat your horse thorowlie, and then gentlie ride him home, & vse him as aforesaid: then two howres after, when you vnbridle him, giue him Oates and Hempseed together, which must be as a preparatiue to a stronger purgation: then giue him hay; and before you goe to bed a mash. The next morning the first thing you doe, you shall giue your horse the scowring of butter and rosemarie: and after you haue chased him, set him vppe, and let him stand an howre or two, then giue him some bread, and about one of the clock in the afternoon water him, and giue him some more bread; then let him stand

stand till your ordinarie howre, and then dresse him, water him, and giue him more Bread or Oates, and vse him in all things as formerlie in his daies of rest.

The next day following take him foorth on hunting againe; but in anie case hunt him nothing so fore after the Dogges as you did the other day before, till it be afternoon, and then if you find in him good spirit and life I would haue you to giue him a chase or two after the Dogges soundlie; and towards the euening to make him another traine sent, and to runne it somewhat more throwlie then the former, that you may make him sweat hartilie; then bring him home, rubbe him, dresse him, drie him, and cloath him vp exceeding warme: then after he hath stood two or three howres vpon his bridle, you shall giue him the scowring of Sack and Sallet oyle, adding thereunto a good quantitie of Sugar-candie, or that of Muscadine and Sallet oyle, putting likewise vnto it great store of Sugar-candie: but that of Sacke, Oyle, and Sugar-candie is much the better, especiallie if your Horse be subiect either to colde or pose in the head. As soone as you haue giuen him this scowring, you shall tie him so that he may lie downe, and so let him rest till nine of the clocke at night, at which time you shall giue him as much warme water as he will drinke, and a good quantitie of bread and Oates, well sifted and mingled together: then making his bedde soft, let him rest for all that night.

The next morning, as soone as you come vnto him, you shall first looke vpon his dung, whether hee haue voided anie greafe or no, whether hee haue, or he haue not, it shall be no great matter, for the force of this last scowring will worke two, three, and sometimes foure

Notes from
the hortes
dung.

daies after : then whether his dung keepe the perfect colour, I or no, or whether it looke more darke or black, or whether it looke more redde and hie coloured. If it looke of the right colour, (as is before shewed) then it is a signe of health, strength and cleannesse ; if darke and blacke, then it is a signe that there is molten grease, and other ill humours in his bodie which are not scowred out, if it looke more redde and hie coloured, then it is a signe he is inwardly hot, and that his blood is a litle dis-tempered, which moderate diet, and coole exercise will soone amend; if his dung be loose and thinne, it is a signe of weaknesse, if hard and in round pellets, then it is both a signe of hot bodie inwardly, and that he feedes grosse-ly, eating either too much hay, or else some part of his litter, which you may amend by increasing the allowance of his prouender: but if it keep an indifferent mean, betwixt both these, being neither too hard nor too soft, but as it were like the ordure of a man, and that it stinke, and be so strong that you shall be enfor'd to burne perfumes in your stable, then is it such as it should be, and is a signe your horse is cleane, strong, healthfull, & of good courage.

Notes from
his eating.

After you haue noted the temper of your horses body by his dung, then you shall looke into the maunger what meat he hath left vneaten: & by the computation of that which he hath left to eat, consider how much he hath eaten; then if you find he hath eaten nothing at all, or verie little, you shall then vnderstand, that either the former dayes hunting hath dissolued much grosse matter in his bodie, vpon which the scowring working somewhat sore makes him a litle sicke, and so doth forbear his foode, or else your former daies labor was a litle more violēt then
in

in discretion it should haue been: but which soeuer it be it matters not, for his stomack will quickly come againe with moderat labor. If you find he hath eaten all his prouender and left none in the manger, then you must know that ouernight you gaue him not so much as you should haue done, and therefore it shall be good that the next night you double your proportion; for it is a principall rule you must holde in this kinde of dieting to giue your Horse euer more meat then he will eate, and not as travellers and Poulterers doe, keepe your Horse euer with an vnstatisfied stomacke: for by that meanes being euer kept sharpe like a hawke (as if hee laboured for his bellie) whensoeuer he comes to a good or full meale, he can not chuse but surfer. The keeping of a hunting horse is (and the keeping of other horses should be) contrarie; for you must by little and litle giue them so much, that in the end they will eat no more, and then if you throw neuer so much before them they will eat no more then shall suffice nature being to themselues better physitions then anie man can bee: but if you once stint them, or keepe them hungrie a meale or two, then according to the old prouerb, be sure the third will make a glutton: wherefore hauing by little filled your horses bellie before you serue him for all night, be sure then to giue him so much that you may find some vnateen in the morning.

Now lastlie, if you doe find a litle in the maunger, so that you see he hath eaten a good proportion, then you may be assured he is strong and lustie, and hath in him no touch of sicknesse. After you haue taken these notes from his dung and meat, you shall then cause the groom to dresse him, water him, and vse him in all points as in his former dayes of rest, giuing him both good store

of meat, and change of meat: that is, one while bread and another while Oates, giuing him most of that hee takes most affection vnto. The next day following this day of rest, you shall take your horse foorth on hunting againe, but not to the end you shall put him to anie labour, but onelie to keepe him in breath, and to procure him a stomacke to his meate; for all this day you shall not by anie meanes galloppe him, except now and then five or sixe score yardes; but onelie trot him from hill to hill, that you may see and heare the Hounds, but not follow the Hounds, and thus spending the day till euening, bring your Horse home without hauing any one haire wette with sweat, obseruing all the day as you ride, as oft as your Horse doth dung, to turne about and looke vpon it, for there is no question, but that day hee will voide verie much grease and filthinesse; when you come home let him be verie well rubd, drest, and warme cloathed vp; and verie well fedde that night both with Oates and Bread, As for his water, you shall that day both water him in the morning as you ride him into the field, and also water him in the euening as you bring him from the field, and giue him no scowring at all. The next day after this, being a day of rest and feeding, you shall vse your horse as in the dayes of rest before specified, where you are onelie appointed to feede hard, but to giue no scowring. In the same manner and with all the same obseruations that you haue spent this weeke, you shall also spend the next weeke following, without any augmentation or alteration, and then be wel assured you shall haue your horse in as good winde, strength, and cleannesse, as is either fitte or necessarie for a hunting Horse, so that afterwards obseruing moderately to hunt

twice.

twice or thrice a week according to the strength & constitution of his body: and euery night when as you come from any fore hunting, to giue him hempseed & a mash. You shal keep him all the yeer fit for your pleasure, and without any danger either of winde breaking, bursting, blinding, foundring, or such like infirmities, make him performe in labour as much as is contained within the compasse of his power; onely thus much you must know by the way, that after once you haue brought your horse to be cleane, which you shall perceine both by his long induring of labour without sweating, by the clearenesse of his wind, when he will runne three or foure mile, and scarce blow at it, and also feeling his flanke to be thinne as containing nothing but a double skinne, and his chaps so cleane either from fat, glut or kernels, that you may hide both your fists between them; then you must by no means giue him any scowring after his riding except it be now and then vpon some sore daies hunting, either a little hempseed, or else boxe leaues and Brimstone; or if he haue a little pose in his head, then a little mustard seed in his prouender; other scowrings you shall vse none, vnlesse it be when there is apparat sicknes. Also after you haue made your horse cleane, you shall by no means either through your negligence or for want of riding, suffer him to grow foule againe, for so you shall be oft deceiued and procure your selfe a double labour, and not haue one pennie cost saued. And thus much for your third fortnights dyet.

CHAP. IO.

*Why horses should haue their sweats after the Doggs,
and of their cloathing.*

THere be some horsemen which because they haue gotten particuler names; out of their ambitions, to keepe particuler reputations, and to make men beleue there is greater mysteries in their doings, then indeed there is, will when they should giue their horse anie thorow sweat, either steale from companie or from the Hounds, & where no bodie may behold them, break into a maine chafe and so giue their horse a sweat, or else taking vnaccustomed houres, giue their horse his sweats in obscure places; from the ground of which custome it may bee that some will demaund why I doe not obserue that rule, but prescribe sweats to be giuen after the Doggs in anie publique assemblie: my answer is, that because I am not a Scholler to men, and fashion but onlie to experience and reason; therefore I eschue al things wherein I can find no probabilitie as I can neither doe in this too curious priuatenesse; or in binding my selfe to anie one remote place.

Now for giuing a horse his sweat after the Dogges, in that I find much strength of reason; as first besides the pleasure a horse naturallie takes to follow hounds (of which I haue somewhat spoken before) the diuersitie of grounds ouer which a horse is cōpeld to run, as somtimes ouer plowd fields, somtimes ouer plaine pastures or meadows, somtimes ouer lay-lands, or vpon beaten high

wayes,

wayes, sometimes amongst moale-hils, and sometimes amongst broken swarth's, brings vnto him a two folde profite; one in his experience by making him cunning vpon euery kinde of earth, the other by strengthening his winde and giuing him new breath; with the alterations of the ground, euery Hors-man hauing this care as well for his owne safegard as his horses, not to let him run so violently vpon deepe and dangerous earthes, as vpon smooth and plaine groundes; another reason is, a horse that takes his sweates after the dogs, takes it not suddainly; or as a man would say with one winde, but temperately and at leasure, the horse hardly at any time running halfe a mile together without some stop or stay, for as the Hounds fall in their sent, so the Horse staies in his running, and recouering new breath, takes his sweate without any sence of paine, like a man that were plac'd in a hot-house, whereas if to his sweate should be ioyn'd paine and faintnes, hee would soone take dislike of his labour, and not being a horse of approued mettall, soone fall to tyring. The last reason is, that gallopping and labouring amongst other horses, is such an encouragement and comfort, chiefly to a young horse, that he doth as it were forget his paine, and by seeing the labour of his companions; out of an ambition, incident to horses, couets many times to doe more then any reasonable hors-man would haue him; whereas when a man takes a contrary course, it cannot chuse but bring foorth contrary effects, and so swarue both from Art and reason.

There is another error as grosse as the grossest what-
foeuer, which I haue seene much vsed amongst our keep-
pers of hunting horses, and that is, as soone as they haue
taken their horses into the stable, then they haue imme-
diately

Of cloathing.

diately laid vpon them two or three cloathes, some of canuase, some of wollen, and some of sacke-cloath, without either consideration or reason, almost thinking that a Horse cannot bee in good keeping, if hee be not as it were almost ouer-burdned with cloathes; some of the best professors of this Art (in the worlds repute) not being able to giue a sound reason why a horse is cloathed at all, much lesse why they doe weare so many cloathes, except it be this, that such a *Jackie*, such a *Florrie*, or such a *Lorrie* did so doe, and therefore wee: Which is no good reason except Horses were all of one temper; and indeed the truth is, that if a Hunting horse were of that ability, that he were able to indure without cloathing, it were not amisse to keepe him as thinne as may bee: but in asmuch as neither their bodyes, nor such extreame labours can indure nakednes, I holde it most meete, that they bee cloathed; yet would I haue them to weare no more then sufficient, nor as if they were olde, sicke or diseased, to weare furrd coates in haruest.

Now to knowe when your Horse hath cloathes sufficient, or when hee is too light clad, you shall keepe well this note and obseruation: When you first take your horse into the Stable, you shall cloath him with a good single cloath of strong Canuas, made long and of good compasse, so that it may folde double about his hart, and come and tye before his brest handsomly: then you shall marke how his haire lyes, especially vpon his necke, which at that time of the yeare must of necessity lye plain and smooth: then after more sharpe weather begins to come in, if then you perceiue his haire to begin to rise or stare, then you may be assured he feeles inward colde, and it is necessary that his cloathing bee increased, so
that

that then I would haue you lay on another cloath, which if it be made of woollen it is so much the better, and for any of our English horses I thinke will be cloathing sufficient; but if hee be a horse of a more tender nature, as either *Barbary*, *Jenet*, or such like, and that his haire notwithstanding still stares and stands vp; you shall then lay vpon him another cloath, making this your rule, that till his haire lye smooth and flatt to his skinne, hee hath not cloathes enow, and when it doth lie flatt though it bee but with one cloath as single as a sheete, yet it is cloathing as much as hee should weare. Thus if you doe but looke into the true nature and disposition of your Horse, and obserue but the outward Characters which hee will shew you, it is almost impossible you should erre in his keeping. And thus much for sweating and cloathing.

CHAP. II.

Of making a Hunting match, the obseruations, and aduantages.

After you haue made your Horse cleane within, and brought him to purenesse of winde, great strength, and able performance, when you finde hee is able to indure out a daies Hunting soundly, and to take his heares and coldes stoutly, without either faintnes or shrinking, which is the only testimony and principall vertue in a Hunting horse; and because I haue not hitherto spoken particularly of them, I will tell you before.

before I proceed further what heates and coldes are.

Of heates and
coldes.

To indure heates and coldes, is when a Horse hath runne out a maine chase three or foure myles; so that all his body is all ouer of an intire sweate : then the Dogs being at default, or the traine being ended, to haue your horse in the colde frosty weather to stand still till that sweate be dryed vpon his backe, nay sometimes till it be euen frozen vpon his backe, so that the colde may pierce him as much inwardly, as before the heate did, and then to breake foorth into another maine chase, and doe as much or more then hee did before, his courage appearing to his Rider rather to increase then decrease. That horse which can doe thus the ofrest together, is the worthiest horse, and the best to be esteemed; for I haue seene many goodly Horses that for the first chase, could bee helde within no limits; but after the colde hath pierst to his heart, his courage hath so failed him, that the second chase hath craued much compulsion, and in the third hee flatly tyred, which hath onely beene for want of exercise and hardning: Also if you see your horse after his heate when he cooles to shrinke his body in, and to draw his foure legges together, then be assured his courage failes him, and he will hardly indure another chase after, also if in his cooling you see his gyrrhs waxe slacker then they were at the first, so that you finde his body and belly shrinke and grow slenderer then they were, it is the greatest signe that may bee of faintnes and tyring; if a horse after he comes to be colde, holde his teeth fast together and will not open his mouth; and if his eyes stand firme in his heade, and mooue not so quicke as their vsuall custome, both these are great signes of faintnesse, sicknesse and tyring.

When

When therefore (as I said before) you haue brought your Horse to bee so cleane, that he will both hunt, and take his heates and coldes strongly, and then also either out of his speede and swiftnes, or out of his truth and toughnes is of sufficient power to commaund, or at least in an indifferent sort to accompany in a chase the swiftest Houndes, to which you must haue an especial regard: For there is no readier a way in the world to couzen your hopes, then by trayning your Horse after slow Dogges, for ouer them he will haue such aduantage and runne so at his owne ease, that you will imagine there is no labour too great for him; whereas when hee comes to runne after swift Dogges indeed, they will draw him vpp to such an extraordinary swiftnesse, that not hauing bene formerly put to the like toyle, the very inacquaintance therewith will make him tyer euen in his best strength, wherefore I would haue all Gentlemen that would as well haue good Horses as good Houndes, euer to keepe two or three couple of Traine-sent dogges the swiftest he can by any meanes attaine vnto, and according as hee findes the strength of his Horse, so to trayne him once or twice a Weeke after them.

Now if your Horse, both in your owne iudgement, and in the opinion of other Hors-men, haue chose vertues which are fit for a beast of best estimation: so that either out of your owne disposition beeing desirous to gaine your Horse a particular reputation, or out of scorn to indure the braues of other challenges, you will needes make a match or wager vpon his heade, though for mine owne part I would giue no Gentleman encouragement thereunto, because I haue seene in them so much breach of friendshippes, so many ieaiousies,
and

and so many deceits, insomuch that many times the better Horse comes from the field the greater loser; yet because such errors haue no right tytle to the sport, but onely come in by couetousnes, and intrusion, and that many Gentlemen notwithstanding, will make matches; I will according to my slender skill and experience, shew you the obseruations and aduantages necessary in marching.

Wherefore, whensoever you make any match, you must vndoubtedly know the nature, quallity, and disposition of the Horse vpon which you presume: that is, whether he bee of hott or colde temper of spirit: whether exceeding swift and not so tough, or exceeding tough, and not so speedy: then whether hee delight to labour and toyle vpon deepe groundes, and to climbe hilles, or to runne vpon skelping earthes, high wayes, or smooth pastures; then whether hee be nimble of foote, so that he will runne amongst moale-hilles, downe stony craggs, dangerous rutttes, and vneuen wayes; or else hauing formerly been beaten vpon his legges, cannot well indure any but soft treading: then whether he be of pure and strong winde, so that he will runne a long time without sobbing, or else thicke or short winded, insomuch that albe he is exceeding tough, yet he must haue many eases in his running.

According to these dispositions, you must fashion your match, and preserving to your selfe your best aduantages, there will be greater hope of your winning: As thus, if your horse bee offiery and hot mettall, which for the most part are speedy and nimble horses, louing hard and plaine earthes, and by reason of their furies seldome able to runne any long time together without
some

some sobbe or breathing, then your best advantage is, if your match be to hunt the Hare first, and the wilde goose chase after, as at three or foure of the clocke in the after noone, then to ease your horse as much as you can all the day, and to let your aduersary leade you continually, and rather to runne without your law then within it, so you keepe your horse from being whipt by the Tryers : then when you come to start the wilde goose chase, to chuse the fairest earth that is within your eye, or the plainest hie-way you can soonest recouer, and so thrusting your horse into his full speede, trie to winne your wager with one winde and good footmanship, but if that faile you, then you must take vp your Horse, and let him gallop as softly as you can, yet by no meanes suffering your aduersary to take the leading from you, but whensoever he striues for it by giuing him slippes in winding and turning, seeke to ouer toile him, and make him glad to giue ouer striving to get the leading, which as soone as you perceiue he doth, and that hee giues as much ease to his horse as you doe to yours; then you shal as soone as you can driue to the next hie-way which leades homeward towards the stable where you keepe your horse, and then laying your spurres hard to his sides, trie againe the second time to winne the wager in a soorth-right chase, but if it faile againe, then the match is in some danger and the truth and toughnes onely will be victor: If your wager bee to run Traine sents, (which is not so good an advantage for a horse of this quality) your best course then is, if you can gett the leading of the first trayne, to leade it vpon such earth that if it bee possible that there may be no deepe grounds or plowd fieldes, within three myle of the place where you end your trayne, so that
when

when your aduersary comes to make the second trayne, he shall neither will nor chule, but make it vpon skelpe groundes, because there is no deepe earth neare him, for by the order of Riding, hee is bound to begin where you end: The first trayne you shall forbear to ride with any speed, which you may doe at your pleasure, if either you will lay on slow dogs, or imperfect dogges. The second traine you must be rul'd by your aduersary; but the third traine which is your owne againe, in it you may trie if you can winne the wager, especially where speed is the onely thing you trust too by making the trayne fitt for your purpose, and laying on Dogges the swiftest you can procure.

Now on the contrary part, if your horse bee of coole spirit, reasonable speed, yet of an infinit toughnes, so that you can hardly either ouer labour him, or ouer spur him; in this case you shall by no meanes agree to hunt the Hare, but onely to follow Train-sents, in which keeping your aduersary continually to the height of his speede, you shall either goe home a conqueror, or else be beaten at your owne weapon, the best winde and the best truth remaining onely victor: In this case you shall except against running in a hie-way about so many yardes, as sometimes twenty, sometimes forty, as you can agree: you shall also agree to giue as little law as is possible, as thus: That one horse shall not runne short of the other (through the whole chases) about his length, or if hee doe, then to be whipt vp by the Tryer; you shall also (especially if your horse be gelt, & your aduersaries ston'd) binde him from all reliefes and comforts, as thus: That there shall be no colde water cast either vpon the horses skines, or into his mouth, nor that any traine shall be led
through

through any water about fetlock deep, that no man shall cast straw, or shall pisse vnder the hunting horses bellie, thereby to prouoke them to pisse also; and such like helps which are onlie helps of aduantage; you shall also agree vpon your place of meeting, where the first traine shall begin according to the nature of your horse, for if he be a horse of great speed, and loues smooth earth, then you shall haue your meeting amongst some light sandie fields, or neer some drie heaths or plaines, if he be a horse of slownes & toughnes, then in deep clay fields, amongst low grounds and rotten green swarth; if it be your horses winde you presume vpon, agree to haue your traines the longer: if it be his speede let them be vpon the faire ground, but if it be his truth, then vpon the deepest and foulest you can attaine too; a good winde would climbe many hills, but a thicke winde would be kept vpon the leuell: obserue by no meanes when you make a match to giue any oddes of waight, for at the latter end of the day, when horses are weak, and but then comes to be felt, half a pound waight is an vnspeakable aduantage: as for example, let a man when he hath run till he is wearie, but then cast away his hat, & he shall find himselfe infinitely refreshed; but let him take vnto him more then he had, but the waight of a riding rodde, and he shall find himselfe double oppressed: so match a gelding against a stone horse, (especiallie in the spring) is a great disaduantage; for the horse is in his prime and the gelding in his wearing. Lastly obserue to haue your rider honest, your trier skilfull, and your selfe patient, and be assured the horse will doe his vtmost. And thus much for matching.

CHAP. 12.

The dyeing of a hunting horse for a match.

VVhen you haue made your horse cleane enough for ordinary hunting, and haue our of the strong conceit of his goodnesse made a match against some other horse, and haue reserued (as necessarily you must doe) at least a month to bring him to the best perfection; you shall then put him into the choicest diet after this manner: first you shall looke well vpon your horse, and consider in what state of body he is, as whether he be strong of body, that is fat, lusty, full of courage, and in the pride of lust: so that when you but lead him forth, he will leape and gamboll about you; or whether he be inclining to weaknesse: that is leane of body, by vse of much hunting, coole in his disposition and voide of alacrity and cheerfulness, so that he had rather stand still then either play or vse other motion; in which state of body if you find him, then the first weeke you shall doe nothing but feed him with Ordinary bread and oats, especiallie with bread; till you haue brought him to spirit and cheerfulness, exercising him so moderately, that all be you haue him abroad euerie day, or euerie other day at least, yet it shall bee but onelie to keepe him in winde and breath) which must carefulle be kept from corruption) and not either to make him sweat or once to feele the paine of labor, and in this feeding him you shall take great paines; as being continualle euerie hower giuing him some thing, as either bread or well dryed Oates, and giuing it so by little and
 little,

little, that you may entice him to eate a great deale, and euer when you depart from him, to leaue meat in his manger, and when you come and find any left, to sweepe it away and giue him fresh, till you haue brought him to heart, and made him wanton, which done, you shall proceede to diet him as shall be presentlie declared. But if your horle be of sufficient hart & strength in the beginning, then you shall for the first weeke hunt him three daies, that is euery other day reasonable soundlie, in any wise obseruing both in his daies of toile, and in his daies of rest, al the orders which are prescribed in the first week of your third fortnights keeping, mentioned in the ninth Chapter; onelie because it is to bee intended, that your horse is in a reasonable good estate of bodie already, you shall giue him no scowring but box leaues & brimstone, or else either Hempseede or mustard-seede. The second weeke you shall feede him with the best bread, which in the seauenth chapter is cald bread for a match, & though you ride him on hunting euerie other day, yet you shall not gallop him much or make him sweate aboue twice that weeke, riding him more abroad to get him an appetite to his meat, then for the vse of anie labour; and this weeke you shall giue him few or no Oates, but most of the best bread, and for change of foode now and then of the ordinarie breade: you shall obserue this weeke to water him when you ride him abroad both at his going foorth and at his comming home, and when hee is in the stable, to haue a paile of water standing by him continually, that he may drinke at his pleasure: you shal this week abridge him verie little of his hay, but let him haue a litle bottle at due times before him, yet more for scowring his teeth then satisfiing hunger. The third weeke

you shall hunt him very soundly three daies, that is euery other day, as thus: Munday, wednsday, and saturday. Now for munday, being the first day of the third weeke, you shall onlie hunt him to giue him a warme sweat and no more, which if hunting the Hare will not doe, then you shall ride him two traine sents at the least, and when you come home, keepe him warme, feed him hard with the best bread, and giue him no scowring but box leaues and brimstone. All tuesday you shall let him take his rest, and feed him with the best bread in such sort as is formerlie shewed you for his dayes of rest, onelie you shall not let him goe forth so much as to the water, but water him in the house. Vpon tuesday at night you shall apply him with bread, giuing him a little and a little at once, till it be twelue of the clock at night; and if he grow wearie of the best bread, then for change you shall giue some of the ordinarie bread, and if he grow weary of it also, then you shal giue him a few Oats. At twelue of the clock at night you shal take away his hay, & putting fresh meat in the manger, let him rest till the spring of the day.

Now you must obserue, that although I ioyne you thus almost to ceasles labour; yer my meaning is not that you should be so much with your horse that you should giue him no time for rest or sleep (which is a second food vnto his bodie) for that were absurd, but to take such fitte & conuenient times, when either your horses rest is past or that you thinke he hath digested that which before you gaue him: and to that end you must haue some priuate peeping hole where you may euer see whether your horse be vpon his feet or laid do wn, if he be laid downe, you shall not onlie your selfe refrain from comming vn-
to him, but also have care no noise or tumult be neer

stable,

stable, and as soone as he rises of his owne accord, you shall then goe to him, and feede him as is before prescribed.

Vpon Wednesday in the morning, as soone as you come to him, you shall giue him some bread, and then let the Groome dresse him, saddle him, and bridle him; then when you are readie to goe forth, you shall take a pint of good *Ceres* Sacke, being brued with three ounces of Sugar candie, and giue it him to drinke, and then take his backe, and that day ride all chases, & at all horses, trying the vttermost both of his strength, winde and toughnes; which if you cannot sufficientlie doe with ordinary hunting, then you shall in the latter end of the day breake foorth into a maine chase ouerthwart the fields, and making your friends to ride at you with fresh horses; that day trie the vttermost of his power, both in speede and other wise, and make sure that you spur him soundly, that you may know how truly he wil stick to the spurs, if need be; yet by the way vnderstand me not thus liberally, that I meane I would haue you to ride your Horse, till either you tire him, or make him forsake his galloppe, but onelie till you bring him to the height of his winde and strength, that then you may know thus much he will do without the violence of anie extreame compulsion; and that when you spurre him, you feele him increase and not diminish in his labour: when you haue thus done, & feele that if you should put him to more, then weaknesse would follow: you shall take him vp, and throwing a cloath or two ouer him, you shall gentlie ride him vp & downe the field till he be coole, and so ride him home to the stable, where cloathing and stopping him close and warme, you shall feed him with the best bread, and vse him

him in all things as you did in other former dayes after fore hunting, onely no scowring but box and brimstone. All thursday and friday, you shall let him rest and tumble himselfe in the stable; onelie dressing him twice euerie day at his vsuall houres, and feeding him with the best bread as thorowlie as you can possible: then on Saturday you shall ride him foorth again, but you shall not by any meanes galloppe him, but onelie ride him gently from hill to hill, that he may stretch foorth his legs, take the benefite of the fresh ayre, and recouer his stomacke, which continuallie feeding and lying in the house, will soone deprive him off, you shall not this third day let him abide so long in the field as you were formerly accustomed, but about two a clock at the furthest you shall bring him home, that hee may bee drest, watered, and fedde in due time; all Sunday is a day of rest, and there is nothing to be done, but to feede him onelie; vpon monday in the morning, as soone as you haue fed him with bread, you shall then ride him foorth on hunting againe, but yet very slightlie, that is, you shall gallop him verie sildom, & but a little while together, only keep him abroad to get winde and a good stomacke. Tuesday you shall rest as before: and on Wednesday, you shall hunt him as fore as you did the Wednesday before; or if his strength wil abide it a little more, doing in euery thing as well in the field as in the stable, as you did the other Wednesdaye before, only this Wednesdaye, if you finde your horse to be of lustie and strong bodie, you shall after you come home, and haue cloathed your horse warme, giue him the scowring of Sacke, Sallet oyle and Sugar candie, and vse him as before hath beene prescribed in the ninth chapter, where this scowring is to be
 giuen.

giuen. After this daies fore hunting, and the giuing of this scowring, you shall hit or strain your horse no more by anie meanes till the match day, but onelie ride him gentle abroad after the Hounds, euerie day or euerie other day to keepe him in breath, and get him a stomacke, neuer offering to gallop him: but when you find him so wantonly disposed, that euen of himselfe he desires to scope and play, yet then you shall forbear, and gallop him either not at all, or so little as is possible, your whole labor being imployed by feeding to keepe him in strength of bodie, and cleanness of winde.

Now when you come within three dayes of the match day, then both the groomes and the Ryder, must bee verie watchfull & obseruant to attend the horse both night and day, for then you shall suffer him to eat as little hay as is possible, and indeed no more then shall serue to scowre his teeth, or to prepare his stomack the better by the change of foode: and what meat soeuer hee eateth, I would haue him either eat it out of your hand, or els to stand by and see him eat it, being euer readie whensoever he rises from his rest to present him fresh meate, obseruing when he refuses to eat the best bread, to giue him some of the ordinary bread, and when he wil neither eat of the best, nor of the ordinary, then to giue him some oats, which oats I would haue to be wel kiln dried, then put into a sack and beaten as you beat wheat for the pot, then winnowed againe, and well sunnd, if he wil eat any meat at all he will eat one of these three: you shall also let him drinke verie oft, that he may thereby drinke but a little at once: for to drink much is not good, & to drink nothing at all is the worst that may be: if he be a horse of verie grosse & foule feeding, so that he will eat his litter,

and such things as are about him; then as soone as you haue filld his bellie with good meat, you shall put vpon his head a muzzle, either made of canuase or of leather, which being like a bag with two holes against his nostrils so that he may take his breath (which couering all his mouth, shall keep him that he cannot eat) but when you would haue him: yet this muzle I wold not haue you vse aboue a night or two before your match day; and if your horse be of tender and dainie stomacke, then I would neither haue you vse it at all, nor at all to take his hay from him. The day before his match, I would haue you to spend in trimming your Horse, as colling of his maine, eares, chaps, nostrils, & fetlocks, and vpper partes of all his foure legs, in seeing that his shooes bee good, strong, light, caslie and fast set on, also in annointing all his foure legges, and chafing them with soueraigne ointment and other medicines: all which because they most properly belong to the office of the Groome or keeper, you shall finde them in the first booke largely declared, where I only write of that office. Now when the night before the match day is come, you shall lodge your selfe in the stable close by the horse; and hauing candle-light burning, where your self may haue vse of it (but your horse not see it) you must be exceeding watchfull; and as before I said, feede your horse with whatsoever hee will best eat, as Bread of any good kinde, Oates Oate-meale, or Wheat-eares, and now and then giuing him out of your hand a locke or two of sweete Hay to scowre his teeth. To euerie handfull of meate hee eates, you shall giue him a dish full of water; and thus you shall applie feeding of him till within two houres, or three at the most before the houre in which you are to go forth

forth into the field, & then you shall bridle him vp, cause your groom to dresse him, & in euerie point make him fit for his leading forth. And when you are at the pinch to goe forth, you shall haue ready a pinte of good Sacke, well brued with Sugar-candie, and instantly giue it him with a horne; then throwing the cloathes ouer his saddle, and making them fast hanfomly about him, you shall make the groom lead him gently in his hand to the appointed place of meeting, where when your aduersarie hath met you, and that the Tryers are readie, the traine led foorth, or if you hunt the Hare, the Houndes vncoupled, you shall then after you haue drawn vp your girths fast and firme (for as touching your bridle, stirrop leathers, and other implements about your horse, you must looke to their fitnesse before you come foorth of the stable) you shall then mount vpon your Horse, and so fall to your busines.

C H A P. 13.

*Of the riding of a Match, and of the aduantages
in Riding.*

FOr asmuch as the well dyeting and cleane keeping of a horse, is not the only meanes either of winning or loosing of a match, but that there must also be ioyned thereunto an especiall Art and dexteritie in Riding, whereby through the gouernment of the hand, the constant carriage of the mans body, and the temperate disposition of the minde, neither suddainly tempted to furie, nor too slowe in reuiuing a horse in the time of necessity; I thinke it not amisse in this chapter to speake something touching riding, and the aduantages therein.

And because the hunting of Train-sents is onelie proper to matches and no other exercise, and whosoever is
able

able to ride a trayne sent well, and like a Hors-man, cannot but ride any chase else very sufficiently, I will therefore in this place suppose the match which is to be ridden to bee onely, with traine sents, and a wilde-goose chase: Wherefore first for the riding of a traine sent, your best aduantage is the goodnes of your seate by sitting firme and strongly in your saddle, without either moouing, or jogging too and fro therein, but as if you were made of one peece with the horse to beare your selfe entirely with him in all his motions, and rather with the forwardnesse of your body to helpe him, then with any backward or contrary gesture to appeare to be borne against your will by your horses fury; for both loose motions, and contrary motions are troublesome to a horse: whence it comes, that for mine owne part I dislike much the custome of many of our Northerne ryders, who (if you note them in matches) will as they ride stand vp straight vpon their stirrop-leathers, so that if you come behinde them, you may see day between their legs; being strongly conceited, that such raising vp of themselues, doth ease the horse and makes him the lesse feele their burthen; but they are infinitely deceiued, for such raising vp of themselues, dooth both trouble and amaze the horse, because a man cannot stand vp stifiy on his stirrops, but his leggs perforce must touch & cleaue to the Horses sides (as for the most part our match-hunters are) his spurs also must needs fridge vpon his sides, which doth not onely trouble, but moouue affright in the horse; and in true rule a Hors-man should neither let his spurre nor leg touch his horse; but when he will either correct or helpe his horse. Besides, the danger in such sort of ryding is worse then all the rest, for when a man standes.

standes vpon his stirrop leathers, and forsakes the holde of his knees, if the horse shall but chance either to stumble, trippe, or start in his running, the Ryder hauing forsaken the strength of his seate, must of necessity fall ouer his horses eares, and so either indanger his necke, or the horses running ouer him.

Next to the constant carriage of your body, you must be sure to carry your armes (chiefly from the elboe to the shoulder) close to your body, and not (as I haue seene many of our match-hunters doe) let them flie loosely vp and downe as if you had no commaundment of them, or when you are either cast behinde in a race, or when your horses sloath craues the vse of your rod not to fetch your hand as hie as your head, to giue your blow, and so ride lashing and lashing, as if at euery stroake you would cast your arme from your shoulder, but onely by making vse of that part of your arme from your elboe to your wrist, fetch your blow stifly and sharply, and by that meanes one blow shall doe more good then twenty; for it is not the farre fetching of the blow, but the quicke deliuerie that breeds the paine of correction; neither the number of the strokes, but the time and manner of striking: for to lie beating a horse continually (as I haue seene some doe a whole sent thorow) doth euen dull and make the horse carelesse of the rod, when as vsing it seldome and sharply, it will make him spring and straine whilest there is life in his body. And as you thus temper your hand for your rod, so you must also gouerne your leg and spurre, and not for enery sleight fault or sloath strike him with your spurres, but first helpe him with the calues of your legs, and when toyle and wearines makes him carelesse of them, then you shall adde the stroake of your spurres,
and

and when you strike doe it soundly, that you mayeuerie time make the bloud follow, and in any case neuer spur oft together in one place, for feare of making him dull vpon the spurres, nor by any meanes turne your heeles inward before the formost girth, to gripe him with your spurs of each side of the hart, which is the tenderest of all places, till it be at the very pinch of a waget, and that the gaining or loosing of one yard of ground is the winning or loosing of the match, and then you shall doe it most strongly, & with all thrust your body forward with good violence. Next these, you shall obserue to carry your bridle hand close, hard and firme, so that by no meanes your horse may haue liberty to runne at his vtmost speed, nor yet to holde it so exceeding hard, that either you make your horse with pinching writhe his head, & giue signes of torment, or for want of conuenient libertie, to make him in his gallop to ouer-reach and strike one foot vpon another, the meane temper therefore is to be obserued, yet forasmuch as the speed or slacknes of your aduersaries riding, is an especiall rule that you must follow (for if he run away fast, you must not ride softly) it is necessary that your own discretion be your best guide in this matter; only this take for a generall rule in your riding, that by any meanes when you runne or gallop, you oft draw your hands vp & downe both easing and straining your bridle, to bring sweetnes to your horses mouth; & if you finde your horse presses his head much vpon your hand, and will not open his chaps, which is a great signe either of stopping of winde, or wearines, then you shall not onely draw vp your bridle hand, but laying your other hand also to the bridle reines, draw the snaffle to and fro in the horses mouth, which wil both make him open his mouth
and

and giue him much comfort. Also you shal obserue, that when you ride your horse at the height of his speede, if then when you spur him, you see him clap his eares close to his neck, & whisk with his taile, you may then be assured that he is at the vttermost he is able to do, and if you continue further to torment him, you will either make him grow restife or else tyer suddainly; wherefore in any case whē you perceiue these signes, forbear to torment him and giuing him all the ease that is possible let the forward motions of your owne body, and your cherefulness vpon his back, serue instead of a paire of spurs to quicken and reuiue him. After these obseruations of your bodie, legs, & hands, you shall then note the ground vpon which you doe run, obseruing to restraine your horse the more vpon faire earth, because out of his own nature he is more willing to runne fast thereupon, and to giue him a little more libertie vpon deepe earth, as well because hee may make his choice how to handle his feete thereupon for his best ease, as also because it being more full of labor, a horse is inclined the more to fauour himselfe therupon, also you shal vpon the hill hold your horse somewhat strait for feare of running him out of winde, & also doe the like down the hill, lest too much hast should make him stumble & fall ouer. Next this you shal obserue the māner of the horses running which runs against you, and if you perceiue he be a horse of a fiery nature, 'tis your best advantage to ride directly behinde him, that making a noise, and as it were euen treading vpon his heeles, you may put him into such an affright and maines, that so may make him onelie runne faster then his Rider would haue him; but also with fretting and chasing make him hurt himselfe as much as if hee ranne at his vttermost powers
but

but if your aduersary refuse and will not let you ride iust behinde him, you shall then (especially in the first traine when hee is most lusty) keepe him to such a slow gallop, that with his owne madnes struing to goe faster, you may make him ouer-reach, or hew one foote ouer another, which is an ordinary accident in matches, and at the latter end of the day, is felt to bee both painfull and hurtfull; you shall also obserue your aduersary well as he rides by you, and note when and how oft hee spurres, which although he thinke to doe closely & couertly that you shall not see it, as by spurring vpon that side which is from you; yet if you marke the Horse, hee will tell you truely, as either by wisking his taile about, couthching downe both his eares, or holding down one of his eares, and pricking forward the other, or by writhing his body, or kicking his head vp suddainly (all which are signes of spurring) and when you doe perceiue them, and feele that your owne horse runnes freely without desire of spurre, you shall then holde your speede, and not ease it by any meanes, that thereby keeping your aduersarie vpon the spurres, you may the sooner make him wearie; you shall also note well the carriage of your aduersaries bridle hand, and if you see him ride with a loose raine, and his horses nose carrying straight foorth, then 'tis most certaine hee is at his best speed; but if you perceiue him ride with a loose reyne, onely now and then he chockes him in the mouth with his bridle, then 'tis a flatt signe hee growes faint, and will presentlie tyer, if you keepe on your speede still, and giue him no ease of breathing: You shall also obserue vpon what earthes hee rides most vnnimble, and vpon that earth when you run, you shall ride the fastest, that your aduersarie being

compeld

compeld to follow you, may with stumbling and reeling either ouer-reach or hurt himselfe.

Now when you haue ridden all your Traine-sents according vnto your march, and that you are come to runne the Wilde-goose chase, you shall vnderstand that in riding of it, there are diuers obseruations verie necessarie, which cannot be vsed in any of the former seats, as namely when you first start the Wilde-goose chase, and haue gotten the leading, if then as you are running vnto such groundes as shall be most for your aduantage; as vnto deepe and foule earthes, if your horse be strong and rough, or vnto faire skelpe groundes, if your horse bee swift and of fierce mettall, that then if your aduersarie haue the better winde, and vpon speed come and offer to take the leading from you, you shall then suffer him to bring his horse head within your horses flanke, and then looke on which hand he commeth, as if hee come vpon your right hand, you shall then clappe your right legg close to your horses side, and drawing your bridle hand in a little straighter, hurle your horse roundly about vpon your left hand: this is cald a slippe, and with this slippe you shall make your aduersaries horse ouer-shoote you at least three or foure-score yardes, and as oft as he striues thus, to take the leading from you; so oft giue him these slippes, till either you come into such ground as is fit for your purpose, or else your aduersarie leaue striuing against you: It is exceeding good also in this case, when your aduersarie striues to take the leading from you; if then (hauing ground fit for your purpose, as either ditch, hedge, or such like) you runne your horse as though you would leape ouer the hedge or ditch, and obserue that your aduersarie runne very fast,

and:

and very neare you : then when you come euen to the brim of the ditch, you shall hurle your horse suddainly vpon that side which is from your aduersary, and so runne away, and neither leape the hedge nor ditch; by meanes whereof it is great oddes, but your aduersarie comming fast after you, and beeing vnprepared, can neither will nor chuse but either leape the ditch, or runne into the ditch, then if hee doe leape it he must also leape it backe againe; which double toile and double ground running, will soone bring a horse to faintnes.

Now if your Horses are of such equall speedes, strengths, and toughnes, that hauing runne and gallop'd whilst they are able, yet their goodnes cannot berry'd, so that they are faine to trot, nay if they come to such weakenesse that they are not able to trot, nay scarce to walke foote pace, as I haue knowne diuers, and ridden some of those matches, then you shall be very carefull and it will aske you great toile and much Art to bring your horse to new strength, for first if you let him stand, then 'tis certaine he will fall downe : If you spurre him, you take away the remnant of the small courage is left him, and make him yeeld so much sooner then he would doe, if you thrust him forward with your bodie, his bodie wanting strength to answer yours, will not bee moued with the motion; and if you strike him with your rod, you doe but make his dispaire the greater: Wherefore in this case you haue no course but this; first you must sit fast, and as euen in your seate as is possible (for the least swaruing now is the losse of the match) and onelie carrying your toes finely inward, you shall gently with the calues of your legges applie him vpon the sides with reasonable fast motions; which carrying in them

them neither torment nor trouble, will but onelie keep^e him moouing, that moouing will keepe him warme, and that warmth will in the end reuert backe to his heart, and bring him new strength. For the reason of a horses tiring is nothing but this : when the inward heat is by the violence of extreame labour driuen into the outward parts, and there is nothing but coldnesse left to accompanieth the heart, then of necessitie must follow faintnesse, then wearinesse, and lastlie flat tiring. There be diuers horsemen (of this manner of riding in this land) who haue better names and reputations for skill then euer I shall deserue, or am ambitious to desire, whom I my selfe haue noted in the depth of these extremities wilfully to loose their wagers, onlie for the wāt of the true vse of the hand & leg, spurring their horses whē they ought but to helpe them with the calues of their legs : & but touching them with the calues of their legs, when they should most surest haue spurrd them : & I remember once I saw a match ridden by two of the best reputed horsemen of this nation, & the one of them in my conscience hath no equall; who hauing ridden till they came to the walking, the hindermost beast neither to my sight nor any riders by, had any stroake of spur to be perceiued, yet before they had ended walking, & during the time of walking in stead of helping his beast with the calues of his leggs he spurred so vnreasonably, that one might haue washed their hāds vpon the sides of the beast, so that when the leader begā to get strength, & to be able to gallop, the other fell downe to the earth, where had the horsemen been of equall cunning, the hindmost had made a very iade of the formost. This digression I onlie make but for your better vnderstanding, that you may

know, that it is not sufficient to know how to rub & dresse a horse, how to diet and make him cleane, how to make your match, sit in your saddle, and spur him; but you must also know how to spurre, when to spurre, how to helpe, when to helpe, and all the other rules of a good horsman, or els in your wagers to haue great disaduantage.

As soone as your match is ridden and tryed out, if you find there bee strength in your horse, you may light from his backe, & throwing his cloathes ouer the saddle, ride him gentlie home, but if he be so weake runne that you seele him faint, you shall light from his backe, and if you can get as I would not haue a Horsman without it, three or foure spoonfulls of Doctor *Steuens* water, and poure it into him, then rubbing him, and chafing him a little, cast his cloathes ouer him, and so ride him softlie home.

After hee is come into the Stable, where he must haue litter vp to the belly, you shall first make the Groomes rubbe him as drie as may be, then with a little Sacke heated hot in a porringer, you shall bathe his backe where the Saddle stood, which will keepe him from warbles; then you shall bathe his sides where hee hath been spurred with piss and salt, then annoynt the for-places with Turpentine and powder of leat mingled together, then cloath him vp as warme as may bee, and after hee hath stood an houre or more, the first meate you giue him would bee two or thee handfulls of Wheat-cares corne and all, then giue him a warme mash, and a bottle of hay, then annoynt all his foure legs with Train-oyle warm'd, and so let him stand till night, and then feede him well with Bread and so rest till the next morning.

C H A P. 14.

The Tryers office, and the aduantages they must obserue.

THese *Tryers* are certaine indifferent Gentlemen, chosen by both the parties that make the match, who are to see that there be faire play, and that the Articles be fully performed on both parties, each doing the best hee can for the aduantage of the Horse for the which he is chosen. And these *Tryers* should be Gentlemen that are well experienced in Hunting matches, and are both good Hors-men, good Hunt-men, and light burthens, for they ought to ride by the match-horses all the day long, to direct and controle the Ryders, if at any time they ride contrary to the Articles, to which end they are to haue diuers fresh Horses prouided them, that when one failes they may take another.

The first thing the *Tryers* shall doe when they come into the field, shall bee to haue the Articles read as much as concernes the Ryding of the match onely, and to conceiue them so well in their mindes, that when they see any thing done to the contrary, they may controle or else stay the Horses from ryding, till the errorr bee either amended, or else satisfied: then after lottes haue beene cast which side shall haue the leading of the first Traine, that *Tryer* to whose lot it falles, after he hath conferred with the Ryder, and knowes the nature and disposition of his horse, hee shall appoint some discrete Hors-man, that is able to follow his directions to leade out

the traine: he shall tell him vpon what earth he shall leade it, and how long, or how short hee shall make it, according to the Articles. Then after the match-Horses are started, the *Tryers* shall ryde by them, or behinde them, so it bee not within a horses length, for feare of treading vpon their heeles (which were an in-excusable errour in a *Tryer*) and if either of the match-horses shall latch or loyter behinde, and not ride so neare as hee ought by the Articles, The *Tryer* of the contrarie part shall first commaund him to ride nearer, which if immediately he doe not, then the *Tryer* shall ride to him, and giue the match-horse a iert with his rodde: if that preuaile not; he shall not leaue ierting the Horse till he haue brought him within the compasse of his lawe, and then hee may beate him no more. If it happen that the match-horse which leades the way, vpon the occasion of any turne which the traine hath made, doe turne vpon either hand, and then the Horse, which followes, being a good distance behinde, doe for his aduantage seeke to crosse and thwart ouer to the formost horse (which is most foule riding) and so to gaine ground: The *Tryer* of the contrary part shall ride vp to him, and both commaund him to ride faire, and with his Horse shoulder him vp whether he will or no, till hee come to the place where the first Horse turned, against which if the Rider striue, it is lawfull for the *Tryer* to take his Horse by the head, and make him ride his true ground, for many of those aduantages in a dayes Hunting will amount to more ground, then will suffice for the tryall of the match.

As soone as the traine is ended, then the Riders are to light from the match-horses; for there is commonly allowed them betweene euery traine, halfe an houre to

Rub and trim their Horses, and to drie away the sweate. During which time, the second traine is in making; now it is the *Tryers* office whilst the horses are in rubbing, that each of them looke not to the Horse of whose side hee is chosen, but to the Horse against whom he is chosen, and to looke that the groom which rubs him vse no deceit in rubbing, as to haue his hands annointed with any comfortable oyles or confections; and then taking occasion to pull out his horses tongue to stroke or wipe it, which is very foule play, & therefore held vnlawful for any man, groom, or other, to put his hand in his horses mouth, but onely to rub him with woollen and linnen cloathes till he be drie. The *Tryers* shal not suffer the match horses to be rubbed longer then their due time; but as soone as the houre is come, to command the Riders to mount, which if either of them refuse, it is lawfull for the other which is ready, to ride away and leaue him; and being gone from him the distance which commonly is twelue score, or twenty score, the match is wonne and lost. If in the traines there be any leapes, the *Tryers* shall see that if one horse follow another, that then the hindmost horse leape in the same place where the formost did leape, or else it is lawfull to bring him backe againe; if they ride check by checke, then they shall leape one within a horse length of another. The *Tryers* shall precisely note the maner of that horses riding against whom he is chosen, and according to the aduantages, which hee perceines, so shall hee instruct the Rider for whose side he is chosen, as when to ride softly, when fast, when to leade, and when to follow. Hee shall also as he rides marke which groundes are best for the Horse, whose part hee takes, and which are the worst for the Horse which he is

against, and accordinglie, so he shall appoint the making of the traines. If anie traine shall be made longer then the agreement of the Articles, either of the *Triers* finding of the fault, and being sure it is a fault, it is lawfull for him to stay the horse of whose side he is, and not to suffer him to ride further in that traine; & if the other Horse will ride forward still, hee may doe it vpon his owne hazard. When all the traines are ended, and that the Wild-goose chase is begun, the *Triers* then shal with all faithfulness and care keepe the horses as neer as they can together, and if either of them shall fall short one of the other, by no meanes to spare whipping of the hindmost till either they bring him vp to the formost, or else that the formost getting his law of the hindmost, do win the wager; and when the *Triers* shall behold the match brought to this exigent, then he which is chosen for the formost horse, shall if need require, ride to the formost horse, and help his rider to whip him on till the wager be wonne.

The *Triers* shall also during the wilde goose chase, take great care that no by stander (as it is a common custome) gallop his horse before the match horses, seeming as though either he rid vpo other busines, or else that his Horse runnes away with him, when as in truth he doth it to lead or direct one of the match horses, which haning strength enough to runne, yet will refuse to runne except he see some other horse lead him the waie. The *Triers* shal also at the latter end of the day, when horses are almost spent, take care that the throng of such as ride by, do not presse in vpon the horses, but that they may haue both libertie of way and aire enough: for the breath of other horses is verie noisome to a horse, when he grows weary.

The

The last and principall note of all other which the *Tryers* shall take, is, when he comes first into the field, to marke how the horse is girt, which is of the contrarie part, and by some speciall markes or obseruations about the tabs to know how his garths do hold of one straightnes, or how they alter; for if you find after a traine or two that they growe slacker and are anie thing at all more drawne vp, it is an euill signe, but if after a traine or two more, they slacke againe the second time, or whensoever they slack the second time, be most certainlie assured that the horse is faint, neither is he able to indure much riding after.

This rule of all other is most certaine, and doth without deceit declare a horses inward inclination, where on the contrarie part, as long as a horse keepes his body, and holds his garthes fast and straight, so long he is euer in good strength, lust and courage. Manie other obseruations there be, which for as much as they are for the most part gouerned by the Articles and agreements of the parties which are the match makers, I thinke it not fit to trouble you with them at this time, hoping that these already declared, will be sufficient to prepare you for anie match whatsoever.

CHAP. 15.

The office of the Groome, and helpe in rubbing of hunting horses.

I Doe not here intend to speake generallie of the office of the Groom of the Stable; because the first book hath it at large described, but onelie of that little

part of his office, which he is to exercise in the field when a horse doth hunt any match for a wager, and that is, whereas at the end of euerie traine sent, the rider is to light from his horse, and the Groome is to rub him and drie the sweat from his bodie, I would haue euerie groom know that he must prouide halfe a dozen several cloathes, euerie one at least a yard in compasse; three being of canuas and three of good thicke cotten, al these cloathes he must a day or two before the match steepe in piss and salt-peeter boild together, and then hang them yp in the aire, that they may be drie against the match day, then would I haue him haue two other cloathes, one of wollen the other of canuase, which hauing laine a day or two steeped in the same piss and salt-peeter, hee shall carrie wet to the field, and as soone as the traine is finished, and the rider dismounted, the grooms shall first with their drie cloathes rub away all the sweat from the horses head and face, and also from his neck, bodie, buttockes, flankes, fore booths, bellie, cods, and euerie other part: and whilst one is busied about these vpper parts, another Groom must be rubbing his legges drie, and as soon as he hath got them drie, he shall then take his wet cloathes, and with them neuer leaue rubbing his legges, and ioynts, till the rider be readie to take his backe againe, and beleue it the benefit you shall find thus doing is more then you will well credite. Thus shall you doe at the end of euerie traine, and then feare not either faintnes or vnnimbleness in his ioynts, which of all other parts of a horses bodie doe soonest faile him. And thus much for this part of the Groomes office, and the other knowledges appertaining to hunting horses.

The end of the third booke.