

FLOWERS OF THE HUNT

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Flowers of the hunt by Finch Mason

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FINCH MASON

**FLOWERS
OF THE HUNT**

LOWERS
OF
 THE HUNT

BY
FINCH MASON.

With Forty Illustrations by the Author, including
Twenty Full-page Sketches.

LONDON:
MESSRS. FOSCOLO, PICCADILLY, W.

1889.

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TO
"SPORTSMEN" IN GENERAL,
AND
HUNTING MEN IN PARTICULAR,

THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED

BY

THEIR OBEDIENT SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

SAID an old Etonian to me the other day: "In my time (and I dare say yours) there was always one particular boy in the school noted for the habitual possession of a worse hat than any of his fellows." In my day a youth named Mc—— was the celebrity in that way. His head-gear was invariably something dreadful to contemplate. When, therefore, he appeared one day at "absence" in the school-yard, wearing an apparently bran-new "tile," with a lustre upon it that "The Glossy Peer" himself might have been proud of, he created quite a sensation amongst his friends of the Remove. Finally, Doctor Hawtrey, dandiest of pedagogues, noticed the circumstance, and, bowing ironically, said in his mincing manner: "I congratulate you, Mc——, on the possession at last of a new hat." "Wrong again, sir," replied that unabashed youth, "*It's the old 'un done up!*"

This, gentle reader, is the case with this book. Some of these papers appeared a few years ago in the

columns of *Bell's Life in London*, now amalgamated with the *Sporting Life*, to the courtesy of whose proprietor I am indebted for permission to republish them, and to whom I now beg to express my thanks.

Since then they have been to a great extent rewritten, and many new "Flowers" added to the bouquet. The author ventures to think that, like the Etonian's hat, they have lost nothing by being "done up." If the public will only endorse that opinion, he will be well satisfied.

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