

THE LIFE OF A FOXHOUND

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The life of a foxhound by John Mills

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JOHN MILLS

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A FOXHOUND**

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THE
LIFE OF A
FOXHOUND.

BY
JOHN MILLS,

AUTHOR OF "THE OLD ENGLISH GENTLEMAN," "THE LIFE OF A
RACKHORSE," ETC.

THE FIFTH EDITION,
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JOHN LEECH.



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QUALITY COURT, CHANCERY LANE

TO
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCE OF WALES

K.G., G.M.M.G., G.M.B.E., M.C., &c.

SIR,

That fox-hunting is an ancient and honourable pastime all will agree : ancient in that the fox was held to be a beast of venery by our Anglo-Saxon ancestors, honourable because it is a sport that has ever been associated with those excellent qualities of manhood which are the prerogative of our race. That it is a royal pastime is equally plain : for hunting has been regarded, in all ages, as the chief sport of Kings and Princes. Indeed it is due principally to the encouragement and protection accorded to it by the Royal House of England that the noble sport of fox-hunting is in so flourishing a condition to-day. And so it is both fitting and proper, Sir, that this, the fifth edition of a notable contribution to our sporting literature, should be dedicated to you who uphold so admirably the traditions of British sport.

Your Royal Highness's
humble, obedient servant,
THE EDITOR.

PREFACE.

TRIMBUSH told his story—the story of his life—long ago, and a generation of sportsmen having, probably, been succeeded by another since then, the autobiography of that old and sagacious hound is now presented to the notice of those who may have been denied the opportunity of profiting either by his sage advice or experience.

It will be conceded that, whatever egotism taints his arguments, Trimbush was “a shrewd philosopher, having a why for every wherefore.” He spoke of men and foxes as he found them; and if occasionally somewhat too severe upon the commissions and omissions of the former, he was equally ready, at all times, to show his teeth to the latter.

