

# HUNT

AS A NAME, WHENCE DERIVED.

The name of Hunt is from the Saxon word *Hunti* a wolf. The crest of most of the families of Hunts is a wolf's head.

There was a time when Great Britain was so infested with these destructive animals that it was the business of every man to assist in exterminating them. To this end the taxes in some parts were levied in wolf's ears. Hence the word "hunting," which at first meant only pursuing wolves, afterwards ~~it~~ came to mean the pursuit of game generally. The names Hunter, Huntley, Huntington, &c., have all the same origin. The whole class are very frequently met with as English names.

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THE HUNTS of *Yorkshire, Lancashire and Somersetshire, ENGLAND.*  
From Somerby's investigations of old English records for the name of Hunt.

"Parliamentary writs furnish us Adam le Hunt, 1295, at Nottingham. John le Hunt, of Shaftesbury, 1302. Ralph le Hunt, Sussex, distrained to receive knighthood. Ralph Hunt of Southampton, 1305. Walter le Hunt, of Sussex. Walter Hunt of Cambridgeshire, 1297."

"In the time of Henry, VIII., 1509, Sir T. D'Arcy sues Henry Hunte, of Rothwell, Yorkshire. James Hunt—in right of father, vs. H. Hill, and others, for lands in Hillington Manor, Middlesex."

"Much more lengthy extracts would be given, but the above are enough to show that at a very early date the name was of the first respectability in the various counties of old England. It is often referred to in the Journals of the House of Lords and Commons, and through innumerable British periodicals."