

LATHAMS FALCONRY:

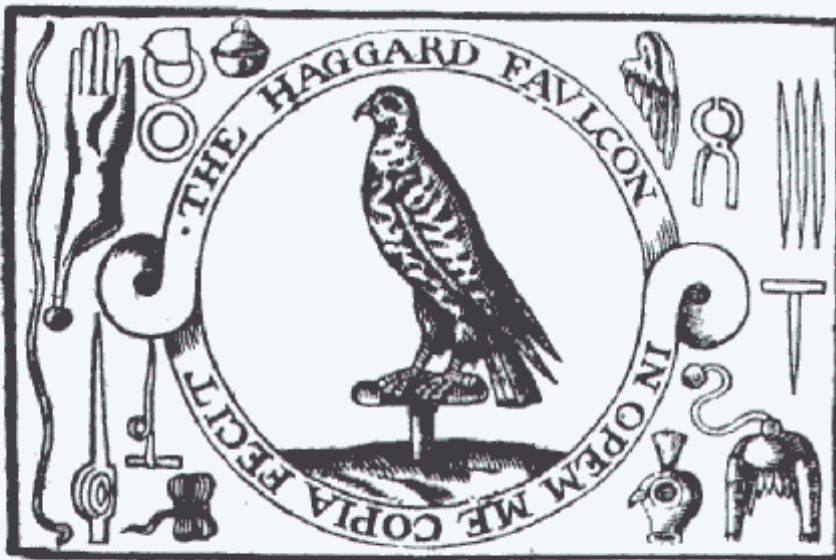
OR,
The Faulcons Lure, and Cure:
IN TWO BOOKS.

*The first, concerning the ordering and training up of all
Hawkes in generall; especially the H A G G A R D
F A V L C O N G E N T L E.*

The second, teaching approved medicines for the cure
of all Diseases in them.

Gathered by long practice and experience, and published for the
delight of noble mindes, and instruction of young Faulconers
in things pertaining to this Princely Art.

By SYMON LATHAM, *Gent.*

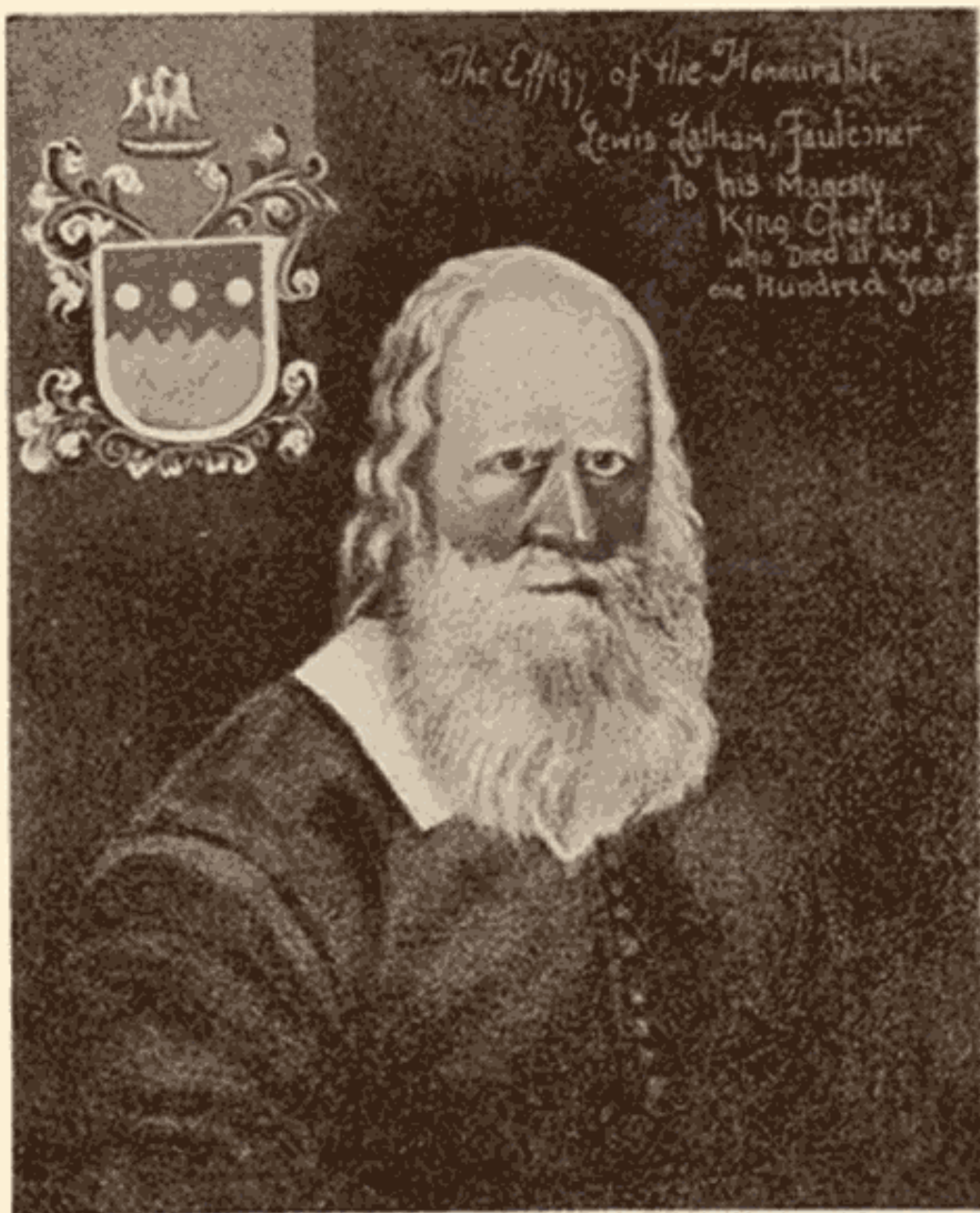


LONDON:

Printed by *Thomas Harper*, for *John Harrison*. 1633.

Lathams Falconry, by Symon Latham of Bletsoe

Symon Latham (born 1575 approx, died 1645 approx) was Parish Clerk of Bletsoe in the first half of the 17th century, and prior to that was probably falconer to the St John family of Bletsoe Castle. He married his second wife Elizabeth Peer of Bletsoe, in Bletsoe Church on February 27th 1626, and as far as is known lived in the Parish Clerk's Cottage that stood on the site of 22 & 24 The Avenue. His book on Falconry was the first so be published, and despite recommending what today might be regarded as somewhat cruel practices, he is nonetheless regarded as the founder of modern falconry. Symon's brother, Lewis, was falconer to Charles 1, and probably preceded Symon as falconer to Oliver, 1st Baron St John of Bletso. Both Symon and Lewis had sons named Oliver christened in Bletsoe.



THE HON. LEWIS LATHAM, FALCONER TO CHARLES I.

Born 1555, Died 1655.

*From an original Painting in possession of his descendant,
Mr. F. A. Holden of Hyattsville, Maryland, U.S.A.*

Lewis Latham, falconer to Charles I

Lewis Latham was falconer to Charles I, and brother of Symon Latham, Parish Clerk of Bletsoe and author of the first published book on falconry in 1633. Lewis Latham was almost certainly a resident of Bletsoe - his son Oliver was baptized here on 4th June 1607 - and may have preceded his brother as falconer to Lord St John, subsequently being poached by Charles I during one of his visits to Bletsoe.

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