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Hungers Preuention :
 OR,
 The whole Arte
 OF
FOWLING
 BY
Water and Land.

Containing all the Secrets belonging
 to that Arte, and brought into a true
Forme or Method, by which the most Igno-
rant may know how to take any kind of
Fowle, either by Land or Water.

Also, exceeding necessary and profitable
 for all such as trauell by Sea, and come into
 vninhabited places : Especially, all those that
 haue any thing to doe with new
 Plantations.

By GERVASE MARKHAM.

LONDON,
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Thomas Langley, and are to be sold at their
 Shops in Saint Dunstons Church-yard, and
 ouer against the Sarazens head
 without Newgate.

1621.



TO THE HO-
NORABLE KNIGHT

ST. EDVVIN SANDS, and to his
much honourd and worthy friends

Mr. THOMAS GIBES *Esquire*,

Mr. THEODORE GVLSTON

Doctor of Physicke, and Mr. *Samuel*

Rosse Esquire, Adventurers, and No-
ble fauourers of the blessed

Plantation of VIR-

GINIA.



Vstome which ma-
keth this claime of
Dedication, and the
goodnesse of your
noble and worthy
Natures, stirres in me a bouldnesse

A 3

to

THE EPISTLE.

to call vpon your names, and to fixe them to the Frontispiece of this small and little Treatise, that as a safe Armour they may shield it from the bitternesse of Enuie. What the worke is, or how profitable it may be, either to the present times, or those of the future, your owne iudgements can better tell, then any defence in mee make perfect; It is sufficient that I haue haue brought it into the world to do you Seruice, at which ende if it haue the happinesse to arriue, it hath the full gaine of all mine owne wishes; if otherwise it stumble on mischance, the obliuion which shall couer me shall bee no greater then the patience which I haue long since made mine owne and onely companion. Howeuer my hope which cannot sincke, and your goodnesse (which is the strong ground-worke of this my poore endea-

DEDICATORIE.

endeauour) shall keepe mee thus confident that what I haue done is both honest in it selfe, and wholesome for others, and with that Li- tory I send it into the World to doe you and yours seruice, both here, and in other forraine places.

By him that is the true

admirer of your Vertues.

GERVASE MARKHAM.

To



To all the most worthy
and noble Lords, Knights, Gen-
tlemen and Merchants, Counsel-
lors, and *Aduenturers* for the
blessed Plantation of
VIRGINIA.



*H*ave heere presumed
(Right Honourable,
right Worshipfull, and
most worthy Gentle-
men) to present unto
your hands this small Treatise, being
a Worke long by mee thought upon,
long by many of my dearest friends
urged upon, and now I hope (to the
glory of God and my Countries profit)
in a good and prosperous houre brought
foorth to be lookt upon: The Linen
it weares is Truth, the reward it seeks

is triall and experience, and the full
ayme at which it bends is the generall
good of all good men, whose painefull
industries makes them the Masters,
Fathers, and Nurses of the best
Knowledges.

Ignorance, Wealth, and Ease may
hold sleight of the argument, but that
Wisdome and Experience which hath
runne through the test of Affliction,
will say it is worthy and necessary:
for it will feed the hungry, cloath the
naked, and give soft rest to the wea-
ry; it will appease Mutenies, breede
Loue, and make men able euery way to
doe and suffer.

Being then so good in it selfe, and so
glorious in others, to whom can I bet-
ter preferrre it then to your worthy
goodnesses, whose pious and religious
hearts, ayming to reduce an Infinite
number of yet lost soules to the pos-
session of the true heavenly Hierusa-
lem, haue already kindled the glori-

ous Star of example in the South, which doubtlesse giueth that certaine promise of neuer to be extinguisht Sunnes shine, that men which are now lyuing, Babes sucking, and Infants yet vnborne, shall trauell as holy Pylgrimes to your monuments, to admire and praise your vertues. To the Treasurie of that action of Plantation, loe, I bring this my poore mite, and offer it to your seruice, which if you shall please to accept, I doubt not but the benefit shall returne to those in your employment a reuenue worthy their practise; and my selfe rest euer ready to doe you and my Countrey Service.

Geruase Markham.

A



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FINIS.

Fol. 1.



Hungers Preuention.

CONTAINING The whole Art of Fowling by Water and Land.

CHAP. I.

Of the pleasant recreation of Fowling, and all the particular knowledges belonging to the same.



*F*owling is an Art of discerning and vnderstanding how to take all manner of Fowle, and it is to bee applied or vsed two seuerall wayes, that is to say, either by enchantment, or enticement, by winning or wooing the Fowle

Fowle vnto you with Pipe, Whistle, or Call: which either beguileth them with their own voyce, or amazeth them with the strangenesse of the sound: or else by Engine, which vnawares surpriseth and entangleth them: of both which I shall speake more largely hereafter.

*Diuerſitie
of Fowle.*

Now for the Fowle on which this Art is to be exerciſed, they are diuers and of ſundry natures; and ſo as if a man ſhould runne into all the particularities, it were infinite to diſcribe, becauſe they alter in nature as in feather: but for the purpoſe of which I intend to entreat, and for the better vnderſtanding of the Reader, I will reduce them onely into two generall kindes or heads: that is to ſay, into Water-Fowle, and Land-Fowle, concluding vnder them all whatſoeuer is uſefull or neceſſary for man: as whether it bee for his pleaſure, his particular profite and vocation, or for his diſhe, whereby his Table and dyet may bee ſupported and maintained, and but for ſome one of theſe three, this Art is needeleſſe and vſeleſſe.

*The nature
of Water-
Fowle.* To ſpeake then firſt of Water-Fowle, which for their more aboundance and generalitie of uſe, you ſhall vnderſtand they

they are a kind of Fowle which naturally take delight to liue in the water, gathering from thence their foode and ſuſtenance: and out of the which they cannot by any meanes liue, which makes them more particular in ſome places then other Land-Fowle are: for into high and dry countries they wil not come except in the Winter ſeaſon, and not then neither, except it bee vpon great inundation or ouerflowing of Brooks, which commonly ſo ſoone as they returne into their firſt narrow and ſmall eſtate, they forthwith quit the places and are no more ſeene there; for it is to be vnderſtood that all Water-fowle are in their owne nature the ſubtilleſt and wiſeſt of Birds, and moſt reſpectiue to their owne ſafetie: whence it came to paſſe that the moſt auncienteſt and ſkilfull Faulconers haue compared them to a well ordered, and well gouerned Campe ſtrongly fortified and intrenched with floods of waters, Riuers and Ditches, with their high bankes almoſt vnpaſſable, and hauing Scouts on land farre off, and Courts of Guard, Sentinels, and all ſorts of other watchfull Officers ſurrounding the body

4 *Hungers prevention: or,*
of the grosse, to giue a speedy allarum
on any approach or dismay taken; and in-
deede, who soeuer shall obserue their ma-
ner of liuing or couthing, shall find no
lesse then I haue spoken, and how euer
some straggling Fowle which lye alooffe
from the greater number, or whole bo-
dy will still call first, and as it were a-
waken the rest vpon the least noyse, a-
mazement, or other affright discerned;
for it is the nature of Water-fowle ne-
uer to flye alone, but in great flockes and
heards, hauing euer a most especiall re-
spect to the generall safetie: and where
at any time you shall see a single Fowle,
or a couple flying alone, there you may
be assured they haue violently beene stir-
red vp by some affright, and so either in
the amazement or pursuite, haue beene
compelled to seperate and disperse them-
selues, yet such is their natures, and so
adicted to societie and company, that
they will not cease; nay, hardly some-
times leaue wing vntill they haue met to-
gether againe: and as this may some-
times happen by mens passing vp and
downe by their haunts, so it most com-
monly chaunceth by the beating of Ha-
gards,

The Art of Fowling.

gards, and wilde Hawkes vpon riuers and
blanke waters which turning aloft, and
watching for their pray: when at any
time they arise, presently pursue them,
and cause these alterations: Nay, the ve-
ry bald Buzzard, and Ring-tayle will
sometimes occasion the same.

CHAP. II.

The seuerall kinds of Fowle, and ta- king with Nets.

NOW of these Water-
fowle, and such as may
very well passe vnder
that title, there are in-
numerable kindes, if
feather or proportion
should distinguish them: but for the bet-
ter order and method of this worke
which I intend, I will onely reduce them
into two seuerall kindes. That is, such
as liue of the water, and vpon the water
by gathering much of their food from
thence, and swimming continually there-
upon, and such as liue of the water, but

not vpon the water, as by the gathering of most of their food from thence, but not swimming vpon the same, more then wading with their long legs therin, & dining with their long necks to gather that wheron they feed. For such as liue of the water & on the water, are wild *Swannes*, or *Elkes*, *Breztards*, *mild Geese*, *Barnackles*, *Mallards*, *Widgeons*, *Tayles*, *Snyper*, *Sheldrake*, and all manner of Fowle whatsoever, which hath a whole webbed foot like the *Goose* or *Mallard* being, as it were, by nature made and accommodated for the water; those whole webde feete like Oares rowing their bodies vpon the waters in what manner they please; and these are called the smaller kind of wilde Fowle: Those which liue of the water, not on the water, are *Cranes*, *Heron*s, *Billets*, *Sterkes*, and any Fowle whatsoever which findeth his sustenance in the water and yet hath his foot clouen, and these are called euer the greater sort of water Fowle.

The hunters of Fowle Now to proceed to the pleasure, profit and knowledge of this Art, which is the manner of taking of either of these kind of fowles: The first and principa-
leſt

leſt thing our skilfull Fowler hath to learne, is the knowledge of the hannts or places of residence where these Fowle for the most part abide; for to hunt (as men say) after *Had I wiſt*, or to finde the pleasure yon pursue but by chance or hazard, without Art, knowledge and experience, makes the toyle so much greater then the delight, and the profit so incertaine, that both lye drowned and lost in the ignorance. This to redresse and draw a certainty to the recreation: you shall vnderstand that all sorts of greater Wilde-fowle, which are those which cleaue the foote; their haunts are commonly by the edges and sides of shallow Riuer, Brookes, or other rundels, or currents of water which doe either come from their especiall heads, or else are worne and made by the violence and force of the inundations of Land-waters, which falling downe into those low places or draines, doe for the Winter time runne like small Brookes, or Riuer, and these Sewers or passages of water commonly doe not last longer then the Winter or Spring, but dry vp as the yeare groweth dry and temperat.

Neither shall you heere expect to finde herdes or flockes of these Fowle, for neither will the place afford them foode, nor is the safety so pleasing to multitudes, onely vpon such wadable Riners, you shall finde here a couple and there a couple, and hardly aboue a payre at once in one place, which makes them somewhat the harder to be taken by engine or device, but are the brauest and best flights for Hawkes that can be deuised; especially the *Heron* which taketh most delight in these places, because here they may wade & discharge their pleasures: for by reason of the breaking out of Riners, whose ouerflowes falleth into these runnels or forst currants, these Fowles often finde much small Fish and other prey which makes them tarry and continue about these places; besides being so easie to wade and dige in, the prey is gotten with ease, and the Fowle much apter to continue there then in places of more difficulty: Also they delight in low stiches and boggy places, where the Land-waters descending, fall and keepe a continuall lake or plash, and the more sedge, marish, rotten and fertill

till such grounds are, the fitter they are for the haunts of such foule, provided they haue firme wading therein without pits, quarries or such places of deepes and dangers: also they loue to haunt and abide vpon the dry bankes, or hard mounds of earth which either border about, or are within ouerflowed and drowned Medowes, lowe Pastures or such like firme earthes, where the Fowle may trade and wander vp and downe to finde his food, now in the water, and immediately on the dry ground; They loue also the dry parts of drowned Fennes, which are ouergrowne with tall and long rushes, reeds, seges, stouer, or any other kinde of Couert, especially the *Bilts* which naturaly is a melancholly foule, & delighteth not in the day but in dark shady and obscure places; lastly, they affect to wander vpon rotten and halfe drowned Mores or Carrs, through which passe many draynes or sluices for water, or the hollow vallies of Downes, Heathes, or Plaines, where there is shelter either of hedges, Hills, Rocks, or other tusses of Bushes or Trees, where they may lurke obscurely and be hardly discerned; now
for

for the lesser Fowle and such as cleave not the foote, but haue it entire as in one webbe; their chiefe and principall hauntes, and where the greatest number resort, is on continuall drowned Fennes or Carrs. where the water abideth the longest time without abatement, or when it is by the violence of the Sunnes heate, and the dry tempraure of the season brought to be firme ground, yet it is so inuironed with greate Sluces, Ditches, and draynes or with the fallings downe of great maine Riueres or currents of fresh water, that there is continually plenty for them to swimme vpon, and to finde fastie from the affright of men, and the troubles of the grazing of Cattle; either of which they will not indure, whence it comes that as the water leaues them so they leaue the place, and remoue into the moyster and coulder Clymats; their haunt is the maine Streames and Channels of the greatest Riueres, where the current is swiftest and least subiect to freize, and the broader and deeper such Riueres are, the greater delight doe the smaller Fowle take therein. The *Wild Goose* and the *Barnackle* onely excepted, which de-

light

light not in any water about their sonnding, for when they cannot conueniently come to the bottome to sucke vpon the Ouze, or fatnesse of the water, they presently depart thence and seeke more shallow places; also these two sorts of Fowle the *Wild Goose* and *Barnackle*, are infinitely delighted with greene winter Corne, as the blades of Wheate or Rye: and therefore they are euer for the most part to be found where any such Graine is sowne, especially where the ends of the lands are much drowned or haue much water standing about them, wherein they may bath and padell themselues after their feeding. The next place that these smaller wild Fowle delight to haunt in are the smaller Brookes and Riueres; pits and ponds full of water, as where quarries of stone haue beene digged, plaister, clay, pottersearth or such like matter: also vpon drowned Medowes, Pastures, Mores or such like places: also vpon plashees and blancke waters, or vpon Meares, loughes or any great Lakes, and so much the rather if they be full of little Ilands very seldom frequented, and those Ilands well furnished with Shrubs, Bushes, Reedes,

Reeds, and other such like shelter, for then they will build therein and (the water running continually) not depart at any season, and if these Ilands haue growing within them some very tall Trees also, it is a good haunt for the greater wild Fowle also: for the *Sorbe*, *Craine*; and some other delight to build and breed in such places. Lastly these smaller wilde Fowle delight to be wheresoever any water remaineth, and little resort of people cometh, for the only thing they labor for is their safety, and where they are not perswaded of it, there is no abiding.

CHAP. III.

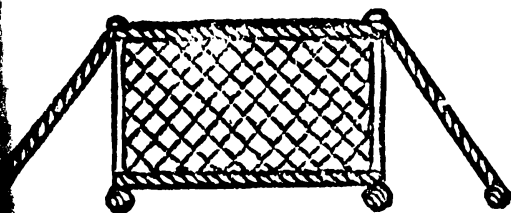
Taking of great Fowle with Nets.



When our Fowler knoweth the haunts of euery sorte of Fowle, he shall then proceed and learne how to take them; and in it there are diuers things to be obserued, for Fowle are to be taken diuers wayes as by Nets, with Fowling Piece, with the Stalk

Stalking horse, with the Water Dogge, or by driving them as in the time of moulting, and diuers other sundry waies, all which shall be at large set forth and explained hereafter: First then for the taking of these greater sorte of wilde Fowle with Nets, he shall first obserue the making of his Nets, which would be of the strongest & best twind Packthred, with great and large masches, at least two inches from poynt to poynt, or from knot to knot, for it is to be obserued that these masches the longer they are (so as the Fowle may not creepe through them) the better they are and the sooner and faster they doe entangle and hould the Fowle; for the quantitie it would be not aboue two fadome deepe at the most, and sixe in length, which is the greatest proportion that can be, and as much as a man is well able to ouerthrow: this Net shall be verdgd on each side with very strong Corde, and at each end extended out stiffe vpon long Poals for the purpose, then the Fowler hauing obserued the haunts of these Fowle, that is to say their Morning and Euening feeding, for you shall seldome obserue both in one and

and the selfe same place) he shall make sure to come at least two howers before those feeding times; which is at twilight in the morning, and after Sunne set at night, and vpon those haunts hee shall spread his net plaine and flatte vpon the ground, staking the two lower ends firme vnto the ground, so as they may easily come and goe and no more : as for the vpper endes or higer verdge it shall stand extended vpon the long corde, the finther end thereof being staked fast downe to the earth two or three Fadome from the Nette, and the stake which staketh downe that coarde to stand in a direct and euen line with the lower edge or verdge of the Net, the distance still obserued : then the other end of the coarde (which shall be at least tenne or twelue fadome long) the Fowler shall hould in his owne hand at the vttermost distance aforebid, where he shall make some artificiall shelter of grasse, sodds, earth, or suchlike matter, where hee may lye out of the sight of the Fowle, and neither give them offence by his owne view, or the thing whereby he is obscured, according to this figure following.



And these things thus being made fit, he shall haue care that his Net lye so tickle that vpon the least pull or twich it will rise from the earth and flye ouer. When he shall with his knife cut vp short the fogge and other grasse, and sprinckling it on the surface of the Net, hide it as much as you can from the view of the Fowle, for they are subtile, and vpon the least dislike are gone suddenly : when things are thus fitted, you shall lye close and watch their feeding time, and if you shall close by your Net stake downe a *Heron* (formerly taken) for a Stale, and to entice the Fowle within your danger it will be better, making her now and then to flutter her wings, and thus the Fowle comming vnto their haunt, and standing vp and downe as their natures are, as soone as you perceiue a competent number come within the danger of your Net

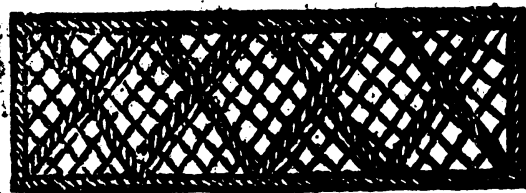
Net, you may draw your Coard suddenly and cast the Nette ouer them, and so take at your pleasure, and thus you may doe till the Sunne bee almost halfe an houre high, but not after; for till then feuerall flockes of Fowle may come and feede, but after not any, at which time you may take vp your Nettes and depart, doing the like in the euening at their euening haunts, which is from the Sunneset till twilight at night, or first rising of the Starres: and thus you may take any of these greater sort of Wilde Fowle; as also the *Plouer* of both kinds, or any Fowle whatsoever which taketh his feede from the Land as much as from the Water, or more at some times and seasons.

CHAP. IIII.

*The taking of small Fowle with Nettes
and great Fowle with Strings.*

NOW for the taking of your smallest sort of Wilde-Fowle with Nettes which are such as for the most part frequent

and feede vpon the water, you shall first obserue to make your Nets of the smallest and strongest packthred, and the meshes of a much lesse compass than for the greater Fowle, neither shall they be of about two foot and a halfe or three foote deepe, and as these are for diuers purposes so they shall be of diuers lengths as some to pitch ouerthwart Brooks or Riuers, & they shall be answerable to the Brooks or Riuers they are pitcht ouer, as some two fadome, some three, some fiue, and some nine, and these Nets shall be lined on both sides with false Nets of strong packthred, euery mesh being very neere a foote and a halfe square each way, that as the Fowle striketh either through them, or against them, so the smaller Net may passe through the great meshes & so straiten and intangle the Fowle as thus.



These Nets you shall pitch for the Evening

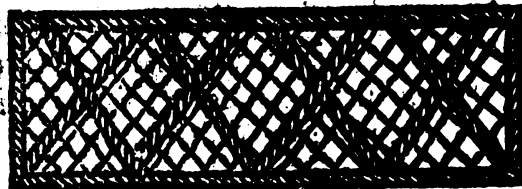
Net, you may draw your Coard suddenly and cast the Nette ouer them, and so take at your pleasure, and thus you may doe till the Sunne bee almost halfe an houre high, but not after; for till then feuerall flockes of Fowle may come and feede, but after not any, at which time you may take vp your Nettes and depart, doing the like in the euening at their euening haunts, which is from the Sunneset till twilight at night, or first rising of the Starres: and thus you may take any of these greater sort of Wilde Fowle; as also the *Plouer* of both kinde or any Fowle whatsoever which taketh his foode from the Land as much as from the Water, or more at some times and seasons.

CHAP. IIII.

*The taking of small Fowle with Nets
and great Fowle with Strings.*

NOW for the taking of your smallest sort of Wilde-Fowle with Nettes which are such as for the most part frequent

and feede vpon the water, you shall first obserue to make your Nets of the smallest and strongest packthred, and the meshes of a much lesse compasse then for the greater Fowle, neither shall they be of about two foot and a halfe or three foote deepe, and as these are for diuers purposes so they shall be of diuers lengths as some to pitch ouerthwart Brooks or Riuers, & they shall be answerable to the Brooks or Riuers they are pitcht ouer, as some two fadome, some three, some fiue, and some nine, and these Nets shall be lined on both sides with false Nets of strong packthred, euery mesh being very neare a foote and a halfe square each way, that as the Fowle striketh either through them, or against them, so the smaller Net may passe through the great meshes & so straiten and intangle the Fowle as thus.



These Nets you shall pitch for the Evening

ning flight of Fowle, before Sunne set, and you shall stake them fast downe on each side of the Riuer, about halfe a foot within the water, the lower side of the Net being so plumd that it may sinke so farre and no more, then for the vpper side of the Net, you shall place it slantwise shoaling against the water, yet not touching the water by a foote and a halfe at the least, and the strings which supports and holds vp this vpper side of the Net, shall be fastned to small yeelding sticks, prickt in the bancke, which as the Fowle striketh may yeeld and giue libertie to the Net to runne and intangle the Fowle: yet one end euer made so fast that the Net may by no meanes be carried away, and thus you shall place diuers of these Nets ouer diuers parts of the Riuer or Brooke, about twelue score one from an other as the Riuer shall giue you occasion, so that if any Fowle come vpon the Riuer that night, you shall be sure to haue your share thereof: this done if there be any Fenne, plash, pits, or other blancke waters a good distance from the Riuer, you shall goe downe vnto them, and the Euening beginning to shut in,
you

you shall shoote a Piece, two or three off vpon those blancke waters and raise the Fowle from thence, which at that time being scard will presently pack to the Riuers, then you shall take your larger and middle sized Nets, and with them you shall surround your small plashe, pits, or blancke waters, hanging your Nets slopewise and houering ouer them, yet so loose as is possible; then with your largest or longest Nets of all, you shall goe to the Fennes or bigger waters, and in those places where the greatest haunts of Fowle are, you shall stake downe your Nets on the bankes, shoaling ouer the water in such sort as hath beene formerly discribed; so as no Fowle can come to the banke, or rise from the banke, but may be intangled: also if there be any couert of Sedge, Reede, Rushes, or other matter within the water, you shall pitch your Nets about them also; which done an howre or two before day in the Morning, you shall take your Peice and goe to the Riuer first and see what your Nets hath taken, which when you haue vnlayded, you may then take vp those Nets and lap them vp till the next Euening,

then if you finde there be many Fowle on the Riuer, you may shoote off your Piece in one or two places, and that will presently send them to the Fennes and blanke Waters, which done, when you haue bestowed your Nets in places conuenient til you haue further vse for them, you shall about the first rising of the Sun, goe to your other Nets which are on the blanke waters, and see what they haue taken and vnlade them; and so hang them by till the next time of vse as aforesaid, and thus without fayle, where plenty of Fowle are you shall take plenty: and where they are the scarcest yet you shall haue an equall share without much trouble.

*The taking
of great
Fowle with
Strings.*

The next manner of taking of Fowle is with Strings or Lines made of long small Coard knotted here and there, and containing in length many fadomes, according to the proportion of the places and haunts where you are to lay them; and they are of especiall great vse for the taking of all sorts of the greater Wild-Fowle, and the *Plumers* of both kinds, which when our Fowler shall at any time vse, he shall take those Strings as aforesaid,

said, and lime them all ouer exceeding well with the strongest and best Bird-lime that may be gott, then comming to the haunts where these Fowle most frequent and feede, if it be for the Euening flight then before Sunne set, if for the Morning flight, then at the least two howres before day and hauing a whole burthen of little sticks about two foote long at the most, sharpe at the nether end and with a little forke at the vpper end; he shall prick them in euen rowes all ouer the ground or place of haunt, one row distant from another a yarde or too, and one sticke siding another, within fowre or five yards as they may conueniently beare vp the String, and they shall be prickt a little shoaling or slantwise: so as they may be within a foote and a halfe of the ground at the vttermost, then shall these limed Strings be drawne and layd vpon the forkes some rowes higher then other some, like a billow of water, higher in one place then another, till euery row be filled and the haunt couered all ouer, then shall you fasten the endes with a slipping loope, in such wise that vpon any violent straine the whole string may

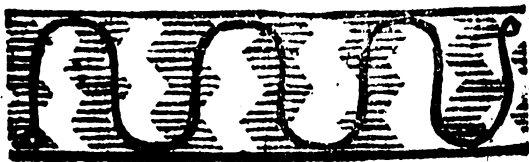
may loosen and lap about any thing which toucheth it, and in this wise you shall take a great number of Fowle together, according to the flocks and heards in which they flye, especially *Plovers*, which for the most part come many together, and not in a single file or rowe as commonly other Fowle doe, but in a great broad cluster, spreading and covering the ayre as it were all ouer; and this manner of taking happeneth most commonly in the falling or comming to the ground of the Fowle, whose nature is to swoope close by the ground a good distance before they light, which happening amongst the strings, either all or most part are many times intangled, and these strings you neede not ouer precisely watch, but being placed you may goe about other businesse till the time of flight be past, and then returning to see what is taken, you shall finde such as are stricken with the strings fast enough, so as they can neither loosen themselves, nor yet runne away with the string to hide either it or themselves, and noting in what sort you layd your strings, in the same rankes commonly you shall finde them,
or

or not much further off, which being vn-laded you may lappe them vp againe till you haue other conuenient time to vse them.

This taking of Fowle with limed *Taking of* Stringes, may also be very well applied *small fowle* for the taking of the smaller wild-fowle, *with* and such as onely haunt the water, onely *strings*. then our Fowler must obserue to lime all his Srings with strong and very good water tride lime, such as will indure the water and not loose his vertue therein; and these Strings are to be applied either for the Morning or Euening flight as aforesaide; obseruing to take time enough before either of the flights, for the placing of the String; and not to place them any where but vpon the most assured haunts, where the Fowle certainly doe frequent and feede; for otherwise it is losse of labour and much trouble to little purpose; now for the manner of placing these Strings, as before you did them vpon the ground, so now you shall doe them ouer the water within lesse then halfe a foote thereof: making your forked stickes so much longer on purpose, according to the shallownes or deepenes
of

of the water : and heerein you shall obserue to lay these strings seldome or neuer in any Mooneshine night, lest the shadow of the Lines giue offence to the Fowle, or if you doe lay them to set it in such darke and obscure places, where by the helpe either of Bancke, Tree, or other shelter, the Mooneshine may be helde backe and obscured, and your worke not perceiued.

And thus you may also lay these strings ouerthwart Riuers or Brookes, and so, as they may almost very neere touch the water, nor neede you heerein at any time to make shorter your strings but pricking downe the first ende, goe from bough to bough till you haue couered so much of the Riuer all ouer, as you shall thinke to bee fit and conuenient, and so as if any Fowle light thereon they may not fall out of your compasse, or from your danger : as thus for example,



And

And hauing thus placed your strings both on the banke waters and crosse the Riuers, and obseruing the earliest houres as soone as the flights are past, to come and visit your workes, you shall finde (that knowing the right haunts) if Fowle fall any where, they must necessarily fall within your danger, nor can you chuse but take very many : For (as I saide) comming in whole shoales or flockes together, though these Fowle flye singly one after one, yet in their discent or lighting on the water, they doe spread themselues and come into a single ranke, all as it were lighting together (though not flying in one ranke or company) on the water in one and the same instant : whereby it is not a single Fowle that striketh the string alone, but for the most part the whole flocke flye so neere together, and so come swooping into the Nette.

CHAP.

C H A P. V.

*Taking of great Fowle with
Lime-twiggs.*

The next maner of taking of Fowle is with the Lime-twiggs, which may likewise, as the rest before spoken off, be appropriated and accommodated to all sorts of Fowle, both the greater and the smaller. Touching the taking of the greater sort of Wild-fowle with Lime-twigges: our Fowler must provide himselfe of good store of rodde, the best kind whereof are the long, small, and streight growne twigges, or rodde which growe on the busaie branches of the Willow, being cut of an euen length one by another; and these twigges of which we speake, being for the greatest sort of Fowle, should be of the greatest length and thicknes, yet but small, light, and slender, being apt to play, winde about and cleaue to the least feather which

The Art of Fowling.

which toucheth it; and for the true length thereof, it must suite the place in which it is to be vsed, as the length of the grasse, fogge, rushes, or such like amongst which it is to bee pricked, or else the depth of the water, that as much of the twigge as is limed may in the standing be free from other annoyance.

These rodde or twiggs thus prepared, you shall with very good and strong Bird-line besmeere all the vpper parts or points thereof, downe below the middle part of the rodde, and holding them before the fire make the Bird-lime melt and and runne vpon them that the barke of the rodde may not be discerned from the Bird-lime; and thus hauing made a convenient number of them according to the quantitie of grounds or haunts where-with you are acquainted, you shall vse them in this manner.

First, hauing well obserued and acquainted your selfe with the haunts and feedings of these greater sort of Wild-fowle, and know both morning and euening where they vsually doe light, you shall then before Sunne set (as before I shewed) if it be for the euening flight, and

and before day if it be for the Morning flight goe with your Lime-rods to their seuerall haunts, and in the very heart or midst of the haunte you shall first pinne downe a stale, which should be alieue foule formerly taken, of the same kinde which they are that now haunt the place, and for which you now lay, and this Stale you shall pinne downe in such sort that she may haue libertie of wing to flutter vp and downe at pleasure, and then on each side, and round about this Stale euery way you shall pricke downe your Lyme-roddes within a foote or thereabout one of another in euen rowes one by one, and rowe after row till you haue couered the haunt all ouer, and left no place for any Fowle to fall besides them.

And these roddes you shall pricke sloape wise with the points bending into the winde. and from the ground a good foote and better. Some vse to crosse pricke them, that is, one point into the winde, and another against the winde, that which way soeuer the Fowle cometh they may the more readily take them without any prevention; and

truely

truely it is not to bee disallowed, for it doth affoord much safety to the worke: when you haue thus placed your Lime-roddes, you shall then place a Stale or two more aloofe from the Lime-roddes, and then finding a fitte and conuenient place for your selfe to lye concealed in, and hauing small strings running along the ground, by which you make the *Stales* stirre at your owne pleasure; lye as close as is possible, and when you heare or see any Fowle comming, stirre your *Stales* and they will presently vpon sight of them, stricke and swoope in amongst them, where if any touch (if you haue so much leisure) you may take them away presently, but if not let them flutter and tumble amongst the roddes till the greater heards come, and that you haue lymed as many as you are able to deale with; then you may rise, and gather them together at your pleasure; and here is to be noted, that in this case of taking Fowle with the Lyme-rods, as your selfe may not be absent, so you must haue also for your better ayde an excellent good, well-raught and obedient Water-dogge, that when any Fowle offereth

to

to flutter away, as ordinarily they will doe though your eye be neuer so good, the dogge may forthwith finde them out and bring them vnto you, for in this confusion and taking of many there will be worke enough for both : when you haue gathered vp al your foule, slaine such as you please, and saued those you thinke meete for Stales, and so bagged them. Uerally, you shall then gather vp your Rods and bundel them vp together and so carry them where they may lye safely till your next occasion to vse them ; and thus you may doe Morning and Evening during the season of the yeere, and as long as the haunt shall serue you purpose.

*Taking of
smaller
Fowle with
Limerods.*

These Lime-rods may also be applied for the smaller sorte of Wild-Fowle, and such as onely frequent the water, and they must be trimd and sizd out according to your vse, and the depth or sounding of the water, making them so much longer as the water is deeper : and the Lime which trimmeth these Rods would be good strong water Lime such as no moisture or frost may trouble, now for the placing of these Rods as you did prick

them

them on the dry Land so you shall prick them in the Water, as much of the Rod as is limed being aboue the water, and amongst your Rods you shal stake downe here and there a liue *Stale* being either a *Mallard*, or a *Widgon*, or a *Tayle*, and thus you may doe all ouer either any shallow plash, fenne, or any other blanch water which is wadeable, or so as you may with conuenience prick downe your Lime-rods, also you prick them downe vpon the dry bankes, or borders which doe surround these Fennes, plashes, pits, and blanke-waters ; fixing a *Stale* or two amongst them, which may intice the Fowle from the water to the dry Land, and vpon the very brimme or edge of the water you shall prick your Rods shoading or sloapewise ouer the water, so thicke together that a Fowle may not creepe betweene them but vpon any approach to the bancke that she may take the Lime-rod with her. These lime-rods (as the other formerly treated off for the greater sorte of Wild-fowle) you shall not need continually to watch and attend, for it matters not much in what sorte the *Stales* moue, (because their restraint

strait will make them busie enough;) only you shall come thrice a day to see what is taken, as earlie in the Morning, at hie noone, and late in the Evening; neither shall you in any wise come without your water Dogge, for he is a maine instrument, and a seruant of such vse that without him in this place you shall loose halfe your gettings, therefore in any wise be euer sure to haue him at your heeles; then comming amongst your Rods, if you finde any toucht and within your owne reach you may gather them vp, cleere them of the Rods and bag them, but if they be flutterd or fleikt into any Riuier, or deepe sewer where you cannot come at them, there you shal send forth your Dogge to fetch them; also when you come and find any of your lime-rods disordered, twitcht vp and some borne away, but no Fowle to be perceiued, then you may be assured that some are toucht but yet copen away and hidden either in holes about the bankes, or in other covert adioyning : whereupon you shall call your dogge and make him hunt, and search euery corner, beating the covert round about, and if there be any good

nest

nesse at al in him you cannot lose a foule, for the lime is so strong a sent that almost a man may follow it, thus when you haue gathered what for that time is taken, you shall set all your Rods in order againe, renewing all such as are broken or spoyled, and so let them stand (as before) till your next time of comming; And thus you shall continue to doe as long as you finde the haunts fit for your purpose, but so soone as you see it beginne either to decay or that the game goeth away, (for it is to be known that these Fowle are so subtile and carefull of their owne safetie, that being much beaten vpon they will finde it and forthwith forsake the place) then you shall immediately hunt out a new haunt that is vntroubled, and there doe as hath bin before declared, & then after a month or three weekes rest, the first haunt will become as good as it was before; and so you may haue sport continually, nor at any time sleepe without haueing your pray in your owne possession; There are some which vse to mixe with their Lime-rods and their Lime-strings, laying a row of the one and then a row of the other, by which meanes the Lime-rods standing

D

much

much thinner are not so easily perceiud nor giue that offence to the Fowle which in their thick standing many times they doe, whereby the skilfullest Fowler may sometimes misse of his pray, and the course is not to be disliked, for the taking is more safe and more certaine, yet it is more necessary and more generally to be vsed for the greater sort of Wild-Fowle then for the smaller; And now by that way to speake a word or two of the *Wild-Goose* or *Barnackle* which commonly doe feede and haunt together, as they may be taken by the formes and instructions before reherfed, so they may the better and in more abundance be taken, if their truest and most vsuallest haunts be applied, and therefore you shall know there is no better place or haunt to set your lime-rod in, for the taking of these kindes of Fowles then as vpon the greene Winter-Corne being Wheat or Rye; but especially Wheat on which they feede most earnestly, and by all meanes you shall chuse the darkest and brownest coloured Rods you can finde, and which is of nearest colour vnto the Earth, for though the blade may be shot vp aboue the Earth

yet

yet in the Winter time it couereth not the Earth, nor is the blade so twight that being neare, it is much discerned from the Earth, therefore as I said the darkest colored Rods are the best; and these you shall place sloape-wise vpon the Lands as was before declared for other dry places, and about the water Furrowes on euery side & in the midst, you shal place sundry rowes of lime-rods so as the foule may in no wise come to the water without the touch of them, and these Rods shall be of the largest and heauiest, for the Fowle is of great strength and will beare a little Rod cleane away; and from these Rods when you haue plast them, you shall not be farr distant more then to auoyd trouble or suspition of the Fowle, (which by all meanes must be eschewed) but standing on some high knobe or other raised ground farre off, mark when, where, and in what manner the Fowle lighteth, and if you finde any toucht or taken, which you may find by the sodaine rising of the rest of the Fowle, and the fluttering and strugling of them to rise which are toucht and connot; where vpon you shall make in, and if any halfe limed be

D 2

fleck-

flecking away, let your Dog fetch them in whilst you your selfe take vp the rest, and thus you may passe from haunt to haunt till you be fully satisfied in your pleasure; also it is not amisse if when you haue plast your Rods you bear the Fowle off from all other haunts, which will make them come the sooner to that where your Rods are placed, and make your sport much the quicker and more certaine.

CHAP. VI.

*Taking Fowle with Engine as
Springs, &c.*



The next manner of taking of Fowle is with Engine or artificall device, and is also appropriated and acommodated to both sorts of Fowle (as the others formerly treated off,) both perticularly and generally, there be some Engines which perticularly take those Fowle which cleave the

foote

foote, others which take those only which cleave not the foote, and others which take both sorts; as those which doe cleave the foote, and those which doe not cleave the foote, and of these which are so generall are the greater number.

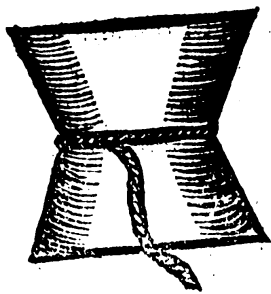
To speake then first of those Engines *Of the great Springe.* which take the Fowle which cleave the foote, they are the great and lesser Springes, which are thus to be made and thus to be acomodated; first knowing assuredly (as it is euer to be presupposed) the true haunts and places where the Flocks or coupels of greater sorts of Fowle doe vsually feede both euening and Morning, and noted well the furrowes and water tracts, where they vsually stalke and paddle to finde wormes, flotte-grasse, rootes and other such like things on which they feede, you shall marke where many furrowes meete in one, and breake out as it were in one narrow streame or passage, and so descending afterwards deuides it selfe into other parts and branches; this middle parte or chore being the deepest and as it were feeding the rest, then noting how euery furrow breaketh and commeth into this Center or little pitt,

D 3

you

you shall marke which is most padled with the Fowle, or which is easiest and fittest for Fowle to wade in, not being much deeper in water then the Fowle is from the eye to the bottom or lowest part of the beake, this passage found out, and chosen you shall take, small and short sticks and pricke them crosse wise overthwart all the other passages, one stick within halfe an inch of an other. making as it were a kind of fence to guard every way but one which you would haue the Fowle to passe, and if these sticks stand but aboue the water a handfull or some what more such is the nature of the foule that they will not presse ouer them but stray about till they finde the open way, wherein they will runne swiftly vp, padding vp and downe for their victuals, when thus you haue hemmed out all waies but one, you shall take a good stiffe stick cut flatt on one side and pricking both ends downe into the water. make the upper part of the bought or flat side of the sticke touch the water and no more; then you shall make a bow or bought of small Hazell or Willow, made in the fashion of a peate broad, and round at one end

and narrow at the other, at least a foote long and five or sixe inches wide or better, and at the narrow end a little small nicke or dent, then you shall take a very good stiffe young growne Plant of Hazell, Elme, or Witchen, being rushie growne, and cleane without knott, three or fower Inches or better about at the bottome, and an Inch at the top, and hauing made the bottome end sharpe, at the top you shall fasten a very strong loope or swickell of aboue an hundred Horse haires, platted very fast together with stronge Packthred, and made so smooth and yare that it will slip and run at pleasure, and this swickell or loope, shall be of the Iust quantitie of the hoop, made peare wise as was before mentioned, then hard by this loope or swickell, shall there also be fastned with stronge Horse hayre within an Inch and a halfe of the end of the plant, a little broad thin trycker, made sharpe and equall at both ends after this proportion.



And then the bigger sharpe end of the Plant being thrust and fixed hard into the ground, close by the edge of the water, the smaller end with the loope and the tricker, shall be brought downe to the first bridge, and then the hoope made pearewise being laide on the bridge, one end of the tricker shall be set vpon the nicke of the koope, and the other end against a nicke made on the small end of the plate, which by the violence and bend of the Plant shall make them stick and hold together vntill the hoope be mooued; this done the swickell shall be laide vpon the hoope in such fashion that the hoope is proportion'd, then from each side of the hoope you shall prick little stickes as aforesaid, as it were making a very impaled path or hye-way

the hoope, and as you goe farther and farther from the hoope or Springe, so you shall make the way wider and wider, that the Fowle may be entred a good way in before it perceiue the fence; the beginning or first entrance being as wide as the largest furrow whatsoever, so that any Fowle falling neare the same, they may be inticed to goe and wade vp the same, where they shall no sooner touch the Springe either with head, foote or feather, but they shall presently be taken, and that member swickled which first toucheth the Springe; and according to the strength of the plant, so you may take any Fowle how greate or bigge soeuer: for I haue my selfe taken a Faunc in one of these Springes, which hath equall the strength of any Fowle, and that by one legge onely, whereby it hath had the whole body to strugle withall.

Now for the taking of smaller Fowle with this Engine as the *Snipe*, the *Wood-cocke*, *Puett*, and *Lapwing*, or any other fowle which feedeth in marish and moist grounds, or amongst water furrowes, sucking the fatnes of the soyle, the deuice and Engine is all one without alteration, onely

onely it may be of much lesse strength and substance, according to the Fowle it is set for, especially the sweeper or maine plant, which as it is prescribed of Hazell, Elme, or Witchen, so in this case it may be of Willow, Sallow, strong growne Ozyer, or any yeelding plant which will bend and giue againe to it owne straightnesse; and this kinde of Engine is for the Winter season onely, when much wet is on the ground, and not when the furrowes are drye; But if there happen any great frosts so that you are lockt out from these ordinary waters, then you shall search out where these standing waters haue any dessents or small passages, so as by the swift current or motion the water is not so apt to frieze, and in these places you shall erect your Springes, and where such currents are not, there you shall as much as you can inforce and make them; for although the greater Fowle will packe to the Riuer, and deeper running Brookes, yet these smaller Fowle cannot goe thither, but will labour and plye any place which is made or prepared for them, & the greater the frost is, the sooner and apter they are to be taken.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Fowling-Piece a nother Engine.

He next Engine to these is the Gun or Fowling Piece, which is a generall Engine and may serue for any Fowle great or little whatsoeuer, for it hath no respect at what it striketh, being within the leuell: And of the Fowling Piece you shall vnderstand that to be the best which is of the longest barrell, as five foote and a halfe, or sixe foote, and the boare indifferent, as some what vnder Harquebush, for these hould the best charges, & carry the farthest leuell, which is a principall thing to be regarded; for Fowle are of such a tickell and cunning nature, that a man shall hardly get within any indifferent or neare station, and to shoote out of leuell or distance were to shoote against the winde, and scarr-Crow like,

onely

onely to affright Fowle with the losse of labour; as for the shape or manner of it, tis better it be a fier locke or Snaphaunce then a cocke and tricker, for it is safer and better for carriage, readier for vse & keepes the powder dryer in all weathers, whereas the very blowing of a coale is many times the losse of the thing aymed at; as for the charge your round haile-shot or drop-shot, is better then the single or doble Bullet, and this haile-shot would be of bignesse according to the Game you shoote at, which if it be great and large, then it would be of twenty or thirty to a charge, or lesse as the Piece will carry; but if the Game be small, then it would bee of fortie or three score, as shall seeme best in the discretion of the Fowler; Now for the vse of this Fowling-Peice, it is either for Land or Water that is passable or may be waded, as whether it bee in Fenne, vpon Plash, or Pits, or any other blank-water, and heerein first the Fowler is to obserue the finding out of his Game, and which Fowle lyeth fittest for his purpose; at no time straining to shoot at a single Fowle, if he can by any means

compasse

compasse more within his leuell; then hee shall seeke as neare as hee can to shoote with the winde, not against the winde, and rather sidewaies or behinde the Fowle then full in their faces, then hee shall seeke the conuenientest shelter hee can finde, as either hedge, Banke, Tree, or any other shaddow which may hide him from the gaze of the Fowle, for they are so fearefull of the proportion, visage, or motion of a man, that vpon the least suspition they are gone in a moment, and therefore when vnder his couert or pertision he is gotten within his leuell and hath the Winde fit and certaine, then hee shall make choyce of his marke, which (as before I said) would in no wise be a single Fowle, hauing more within your leuell, but rather the longest and largest Rancke or File of Fowle you can finde, for since one shoote is as much as you can get at one time and in one place, it is meete you put it to as great vse and profit as you can possibly, which done you may instantly and speedily discharg, and then send forth your Dogge to fetch what you haue stricken, both

as

Hungers prevention: or,
 as well those which are slaine out right as
 those which are hurt and mayned; and
 being so as you cannot your selfe conue-
 niently come by them: but by all meanes
 you must haue your Dogge in such true
 obedience that hee may not stirre from
 your heeles, or let so much as his shad-
 dow be perceaued, till you haue shot and
 your selfe bid him goe, for to rush forth
 too soddenly. or vpon the first fier or clasp
 of the Snaphaunce, though the Piece goe
 not off (as many mad headed Currs will
 doe) is many times the losse of very much
 good sport; which to avoyd suffer not
 your Dogge to stirre till you bid him;
 Thus as you doe vpon these blanke wa-
 ters, so you shal also doe vpon the brooks
 & greater Riuers, where if you haue not
 shelter sufficient by reason of the naked-
 nesse of the bankes and want of Trees,
 then you shall creepe vpon your hands
 and knees vnder the bankes, and lying
 euen flat vpon your belly, put the Nose
 of your Peice ouer the banke and so take
 your leuell; for a Fowle is so wonder-
 fully fearefull of a man, that albeith
Hawks were turning ouer her to keepe
 her in awe yet vpon the least shew of a
 man

man shee will rise and trust to her winges
 and Fortune,

CHAP. VIII.
*Of the Stalking-Horse and
 other Engine.*

NOW for asmuch as
 these shelters or couerts
 are after a way then
 found, and that Fowle
 doe many times lye so
 farre remoued within
 the water, that vnlesse a man doe goe in-
 to it where no shelter at all is, more then
 a man bringeth with him, he cannot po-
 ssibly compasse a shoote; so that of ne-
 cessity a man must haue some moouing
 shadow or shelter to walke by him; In
 this case there is nothing better then the
 Stalking Horse, which is any old Iade
 mayned vp for that vse, which being stript
 naked and hauing nothing but a string
 about the neather chappe, of two or
 three yards longe, will gently and as you
 see occasion to vige him, walke vp and
 downe

downe in the water which way you will haue him; flodding and eating vpon the grasse or other stufte that growes therein; and then being hardy & stoute without taking any affright at the report of the Peice, you shall shelter your selfe and your Peice behind his fore shoulder, bending your body downe low by his side, and keeping his body still full betwene you and the Fowle; Then hauing (as was before shewed) chosen your marke, you shall take your leuell from before the fore part of the Horse, shooting as it were betwene the Horses neck and the water, which is more safe and surer then taking the leuell vnder the Horses belly, and much lesser to be perceived; the shoulder of the Horse covering the body of the man, and the Horses legges shaddowing the legges of the man also: and as thus you stalke vpon the greates blanke waters, so you may stalk also along the bankes of Brookes, and great Riuers, by little and little winning the Fowle to as neare a station as can be desired, and thus you may doe also vpon the firme ground, whether it be on meadow, heath, or other rotten earth, or else vpon

the tylthe where greene Corne groweth; or generally, in any other haunt where Fowle are accustomedly vsde to feede or abide.

And as you make vse of this Stalking horse, so must you not in any wise want your Water-dogge, for he is as vsfull at this time as at any other, nor can you well doe any thing without him; especially if it be vpon Riuers or broad deepe waters, yet you should haue him at such obedience that whilest you are a stalking you may leaue him with your Bagges, saddle & bridle & other needments, wher he may lye close, & neuer stirre till you haue shot, and then vpon the least gybbet or call, to come running vnto you, and to fetch foorth what you shall kill, which with a small practise he will doe readily and willingly after you haue made him vnderstand your minde, for they are creatures of wonderfull great capacity, and naturally inclyned to the sport, so that being kept in true awe there is nothing which they will not with great readiness performe.

Now forasmuch as these Stalking horses, or Horses to stalke withall, are not

*Seuerall**Engines to**stalk with**E**cuer*

ever in readinesse, and at the best aske a good expence of time to bee brought to their best perfection : as also, in that e- uery poore man or other which taketh delight in this exercise, is either not ma- ster of a Horse, or if hee had one yet wanteth fit meanes to keepe him : and yet neuerthelesse this practise of Fow- ling must or should bee the greatest part of his maintenance.

In this case he may take any pieces of oulde Canuasse, and hauing made it in the shape or proportion of a Horse with the head bending downward, as if hee grafed, and stoping it with dry Strawe, Masse, Flocks, or any other light mat- ter, let it be painted as neere the colour of a Horse as you can deuise ; of which the Browne is the best. and in the midst let it be fixt to a Staffe with a picke of Iron in it to sticke downe in the ground at your pleasure, and stand fast whilest you chuse your marke, as also to turne and winde any way you please, either for your aduantage of the winde, or for the better taking of your leuell, and must be made so portable that you may beare it easily with one hand, moouing

and wagging it in such wise that it may seeme to mooue and graze as it goeth ; nether must this in any wise exceed the or- dinary stature or proportion of a com- mon Horse, for to bee too low or little will not couer the man, and to be too big and huge will be both monstrous & trou- blesome, and giue affright to the Fowle, therefore the meane in this is the best measure, and only worth the obseruation.

The forme and manner of the
Stalking horse of Can-
uasse stopt.



Now these Engines are euer better and more proper for the water then the Land, and though they will serue very fitly for both, yet are they more conuenient for the Water, by reason that the Water hideth all their imperfection, and maketh them appeare to the Fowle one and the same thing which at the first they did seeme.

The Horse vnstopt.

Now there be some which doe not so well approue of this Horse thus stopt and furnisht out; alleaging it to be too heany and troublesome, and though a man vse all the Art that may be in the lightnesse thereof, yet still they say it is to waigthy; and therefore they will by all meanes haue them made of single Canuas vnstopt at all, but onely strecht out vpon splents made of wood, or vpon strong wyer proportiond like vnto a Horse wherein they vary nothing from the Figure formerly described, but onely in the stoping; for this and the other must be painted also, and that very thick too, lest in the turning it against the Sun it prooue transparent, or so as a man may see through it, which will giue such an offence to the Fowle, that they will in no sort endure it.

Also

Also you must obserue in the Stalke to turne that side euer vpon the Fowle which is plaine without splents, or other markes more then the painting onely for feare of offence, and these are as good as any liue Horse for this vse being artfully handled in the motion, and made to mooue by slow degrees at leisure, as a Horse doth, and not suddenly or rudely, for that will discouer them and breed affright in the Fowle.

There be others which vse instead of *The Oxe* this Stalking Horse of Canuas either *or shape of* stopt or vnstopt, to make the proportion of a beast or hornd Neat, as *hornd* *beast.* Oxe, Cow, or Bull in Canuas, as afore is shewed, either stopt or vnstopt, according to the fancy of the Fowler, and as he shall finde fittest for his strength to support and carry without any offence, and this figure he shall make in as true forme and proportion as he can deuice, for the eye of a Fowle is so cunning that they will easily perceiue any grosse absurdity, or mishapen, or vnlike forme, and thereat quickly take offence, and avoid the thing deceiuing; it shall also bee very well painted to the life, either

Blacke, Browne, or Pied, according to the vsuall colours of the cattell in those places; for though blacke and browne are generally the best, because of their shaddow, yet in such places where no such Blacke or Browne cattell are, or at least very gayson or nouell, there they are the worst colours, and ought least to be vsed; for your Engine must euer bee sutable to that wherewith the eye of the Fowle is most acquainted, nor must you alone stand precisely vpon the colour, but also vpon euery other face or maine character, by which the whole body is distinguished; as in fixing the Hornes, which must euer be sutable to the colour of the Beast and the breed of the Countrey, for it is commonly seene heere with vs in *England*, that your entire blacke, your browne, and your brended Cattell haue euer the goodliest Heads and fayrest extended Hornes, the whitest & the largest, and your white pide, and blood-red Cattell the least Heads, crumpled, short, and foule collored; Therefore to make your Engine blacke, browne, or brended with short crooked and ilfauord Hornes, or white or pyed, with great, straight

straight and large spred Hornes, were both an absurdity to be laught at, and a prevention of the sport you labor for, by affrighting the Fowle out of your company with that, by which you should intice them only to stay and grow familiar with you; and therefore you must accommodate euery thing in his true and proper nature, without strangnesse or offence. Nor may you in any sort stalke with these Engins in any place but where these Cattell are vsuall and in most abundance, for to stalke with a Horse where no Horses liue or are bred, or with the Oxe, where no Oxen are know is absurde and losse of labor, but this is no doubt in our Nation, therefore the best vse I can giue you of these Engins, is that when you haue so much beaten the Fowle with the *Stalking-Horse*, that they beginne to find your deceit, and will no more sit or indure you, (as generally it falls out,) then you may an other while stalke with the Oxe or Beast, till the Horse be forgotten, and thus by the chang and alteration of your Engins you may make your sport last & be continually, for the shape of your Oxe Engine, it followeth in the next Page

The

The forme and manner of an
Oxe Engine.



Now there bee others without a further curioly (and indeed it is nothing at all to bee discomended) which frame themselves Engines like Stagges, or redd Deere, and these also they frame of canuasse as the former, either stopt or vnstopt, with the naturall hornes of Stags fixed thereon, and the colour painted so liuely,

liuey, that the Fowle may not discern them from a Stagge or a thing that is liuing, and these Engines are right good and very vsefull in all such places or low fenney grounds where any such Stagges or Deere doe vsually feede; as about *Hatfield Chase* in the North parts, or *Ramsley* in Huntintonshire and such like where the Stagge is more familiar with Fowle, and feedeth neerer them then either the Horse or the Oxe, and therefore this Engine being artificially & well made is of as good vse as any of the former Engines, and will indeede bring a man within a farre neerer distance; onely it is subiect to quicker discouery, and therefore it must be the oftner altered and changed to preuent the subtiltie of the Fowle: as for the proportion or forme of this Engine it is placed in the next page.

The

The forme and manner of the
Stagge Engine.



Now there bee some that will onely
but make the moulds or models of the
heads of these beasts onely, and putting
them vpon their owne heads. so stalle
therewith, holding opinion that it is be-
onely the face of the Man which is dre-
full, and breedeth affright in the Fowle
and

and that if it be hidden in any of the
formes before shewed, a man may winne
his sport at pleasure.

I doe confesse it is the face of a man
which keepeth all liuing things in the
greatest awe, and that the face being co-
uered or concealed a man may proceed
better in these pastimes, but that it should
worke this great effect and be as vsfull
as the former models, I vtterly deny and
differ from ; for the very body of man
is too well known vnto Fowle, that when
soever it is mixt with any vnnaturall
forme or monstrous shape, it presently
causeth amazement, which amazement
though it may a little hold the Fowle at
gaze, whereby the man may come at a
much neerer distance, yet before the
marke can be chosen and the leuell taken
commonly the astonishment wasteth a-
way, and feare entring the minde, the
Fowle suddenly ariseth, before the Piece
can be discharged : And therefore though
I well allowe that the face of the man
should be couered with some hood or o-
ther garment, which may be rather sha-
dow-like then monstrous ; yet I would
not haue him to Stalke with these mo-
dells

Hungers prevention : or,
dells of heads only, without some thing
else to ouershadowe ones body and goe
by them.

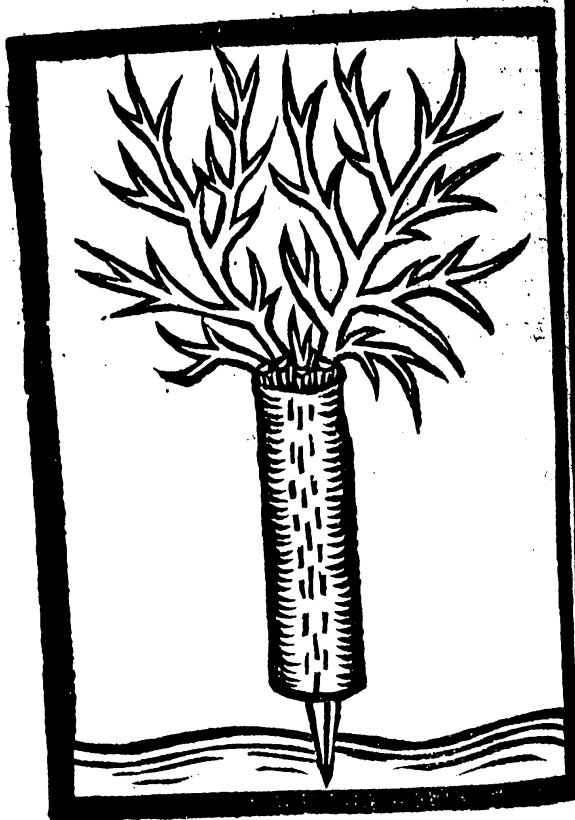
Lastly the skilfull Fowler must vnder-
stand that these Engines of what kinde
soeuer, are fitter for the early morning
Stalke or the late euening Stalke, then
at any other time of the day when the
Sunne is aloft or in his high glory, for at
such time the lest blinke or deformity is
very soone perceined, and the naturall
feare of the Fowle is most prone and apt
to raise vp by thoughts and feares, where
by they are forced to rise vp and flye a-
way before that the skilfullest man can
finish his purpose, or reconer his mark
or leuell.

There are other dead Engines to
Stalke withall ; as an artificiall Tree
Shrubbe, or Bush, which may be made
of small Wandes, or thinne Splinters
foulded together in the shape or body
of a Tree, and so couerd with Canuasse
and painted like the barke of the Tree
represents or figures ; of which the
Willow, Poplar, or such as growe by
Waters and Riuers sides are the best
for the other which grow vpon the dry
ground

grounds, as Oake, Elme, & the like, are
not so familiar with foule, & therefore by
the strangeness may occasion affright,
and for the leaues it is not much materi-
all, because this time and season of Stal-
king after Fowle is for the most part in
the winter season when leaues are from
the trees : But let it bee at any season
that you please, either in Sommer or in
Winter, hauing made the boale of the
Tree, as afore is said, with Canuasse and
Wands, you shall in certaine holes made
on the toppe for that purpose, sticke in
the boughes and true naturall brauches
of the Tree which you would figure in
each sorte as they growe at that season,
so you shall giue no affright or terrour
to the Fowle ; and the Tree will ap-
peare after this forme or
figure following.

The

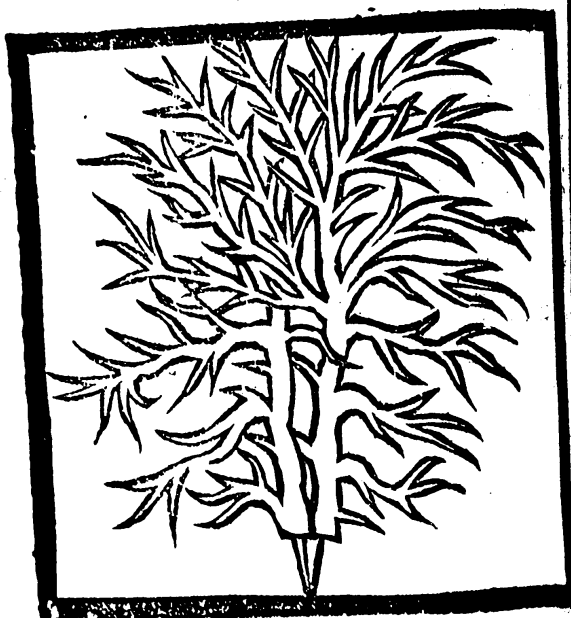
The forme and manner of the
Tree to stalke with.



As for the Shrubbe or Bushe, it shall
not be so tall as the tree, but much thicke-
ker which you may make either of one
entire

entire Bushe, or of diuers Buses wo-
uen and intangled one within another
either with small Withy wandes, Coard,
or Packthried, that may not bee discern-
ned and this shall not be aboue the ordi-
nary stature of a man, but thicker then
foure or fise men, and in the midst of the
bottomne shall bee a small stake driuen
with an Iron picke in the ende, somewhat
longer then the Bushe, which being dri-
uen into the ground may support & stay
vp the Bushe whilest you take your mark
and finde your leuell, according to
this forme and figure
following.

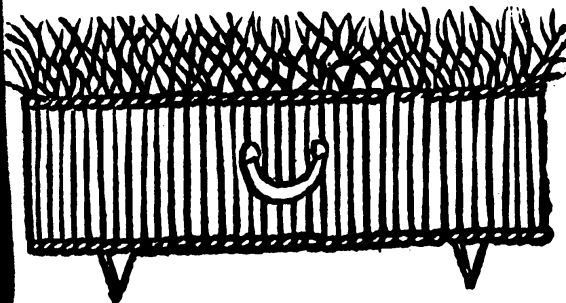
The forme and manner of the
Bushe Engine to stalke
with.



The last of these stalking Engines is
the dead hedge of two or three yards
long, and a yard and three quarters high,
made of small wands in the manner of a
true hedge, and busht out with twiggess
leaves and such like as hedges are, and
with certaine supports or staves, where
by

by not onely to beare it from the ground
at your pleasure, but also to stay and
hold it vp whilest you doe finde your
marke and take your leuell, according
to the forme and maner of these figures
following.

The forme and manner of two
sorts of Hedges to stalke
with.



F

Now

Now for these deade Engines which carry not the shape of any living creature, they are not altogether so necessary for the Stalke as the Stand, because the onely thing that can discover them, or breed affright from them is their motion, for to haue a dead thing mooue to grosse-ly is much vnnaturall, and the Fowle will not onely apprehend it, but eschewe it: therefore by all meanes you must be carefull not to mooue them at all but to lye at the stand watching behinde them; or if you doe mooue them, to doe it like the hand of a Clocke, with such slowe and still motion that you may gaine your purpose vnperceiued, and then it is as safe a way as any of the other before prescribed.

CHAP. IX.

The vse of the Water Dogge, and the manner of trayning them.



The Water Dogge is a creature of such generall vse, and so frequent in vse amongst vs heere in England, that it is needelssse to make any large description of him: the rather since not any amongst vs is so simple that he cannot say when hee seeth him, This is a Water-Dogge, or a Dogge bred for the Water; yet because in this (as in other creatures) there are other Characters and formes which pretend more excellencie, and figure a greater height of vertue then others doe; I will here describe as nere as I can the best proportion of a perfect Water Dogge.

First, for the Colour of the best Water Dogge, all be it some (which are cu-

*The descrip-
tion of the
Water
Dogge.*

rious in all things) will ascribe more excellency to one colour then to another, as the Blacke to be the best and hardest, the Lyuer-hued swiftest in swimming, and the Pyed or Spotted Dogge, quickest of sent; yet in truth it is nothing so, for all colours are alike, and sea Dogge of any of the former colours, may be excellent good Dogges, and of any may bee most notable Currers, according to their first ordering and training; for Instruction is the liquor where with they are seasoned, and if they be well handled at the first, they will ever smell of that discrecion, and if they be ill handled they will ever stinke of that folly: For nature is a true mistress, and bestowes her gifts freely, and it is her only nurture which abuseth them.

To proceede then, your Dogge may be of any colour and yet excellent, and his haire in generall would be long and curled, not loose and shagged; for the first shewes hardnesse and ability to endure the water, the other much tendernesse and weakenesse, making his sport grievous; his head would be round and curled, his eares broad and hanging,

Eye full, lively and quicke, his Nose very short, his Lippe, Hound-like; side and rough bearded, his Chappes with a full set of strong Teeth, and the generall features of his whole countenance being united together would be as Lyon-like as might be, for that shewes fiercenesse and goodnesse: His Necke would be thicke and short, his Brest like the brest of a Shippe, sharpe and compact; his Shoulders broad, his fore Legs streight, his Chine square, his Buttokes rounde, his Ribbes compact, his belly gaunt, his Thyes brawny, his Cambrels crooked, his Pasterns strong and dewe clawde, and all his foure feete spacious, full and round, and closed together to the cley, like a water Ducke, for they being his oares to rowe him in the water, hauing that shape, will carry his body away the faster. And thus you haue the true description of a perfect Water Dogge, as you may see following.



Now for the cutting or shauing him from the Nauill downeward, or backward, it is two wayes well to be allowed of: that is, for Summer hunting, or for wager: because these Water Dogges naturally are euer most laden with haire on the hinder parts; nature as it were labouring to defend that part most, which is continually to bee employed in the most extremity, and because the hinder parts are euer deeper in the water than the fore parts, therefore nature hath gi

uen them the greatest armour of haire to defend the wette and coldnesse; yet this defence in the Sommer time by the violence of the heate of the Sunne, and the greatnesse of the Dogges labour is very noysome and troublesome, and not onely maketh him sooner to faint and giue ouer his sport, but also makes him by his ouerheating, more subiect to take the Maungie.

And so likewise in matter of wager, it is a very heauy burthen to the Dogge, and makes him to swimme lesse nimbly and slower, besides the former offences before receited; But for the cutting or shauing of a Dogge all quite ouer, euen from the Foote to the Nostrill that I vtterly dislike, for it not onely takes from him the generall benefits which Nature hath lent him, but also brings such a tendernes and chilnesse ouer all his body; that the water in the end will grow yrksome vnto him; for how soeuer men may argue that keeping any creature cold, will make it the better indure colde, yet we finde by true experience both in these and diuers other such like things, that when Nature is thus continually kept at

her vttermoſt ability of indurance, when any little droppe more is added to that extremitie, preſently ſhe faints, and growes diſtempered, whereas keepe Nature in her full ſtrength and ſhe will very hardly be conquered, and hence it doth come that you ſhall ſee an ordinary land Spaniell, being luſtily and well kept, will tyre twenty of theſe ouer ſhauen Curres in the cold water: whereas let them haue the rights Nature hath beſtowed vpon them, and the water is as familiar vnto them as the Land any way can be: therefore to conclude this poynt, I would haue the ſkilfull Fowler, if he keepe his Water-Dogge onely for his uſe of Fowling as to attend his Nets, Limerods, Fowling-Piece or ſuch like, which is onely for the moſt part appropriate to the Winter ſeaſon, then not to ſhaue his Dog at all, for hee ſhall find in the ſharpe froſt and ſnow, when the Ayre ſhall frize the drops of water faſter on the hayre then the Dogge can caſte them off; that the vttermoſt benefit that Nature hath granted, is no more but ſufficient, and the carefull Maſter ſhould rather ſeek to increaſe then diminith them.

Now

Now for the manner of trayning or *His tray-* bringing vp of his Water Dogge, it is to *ning.* be vnderſtood that you cannot beginne too early with him, that is to ſay euen when you firſt weane him, and teach him to lappe, for euen then you ſhall beginne to teach him obedience, which is the maine thing that includeth all the leſſons which hee ſhall learne, for being made to obay your will, hee is ſeruiceable for any purpoſe you ſhall imploy him in, as one the contrary part, wanting due obedience hee is good for nothing at all but to ſpyoyle the worke you ſhall labour to effect; and therefore (as I ſaid) ſo ſoone as it is able to lappe, you ſhall teach it to crouch and lye cloſe, not daring to ſtirre or moue from that poſture in which you put it, without your eſpeciall liſenſe, cherrishing it euer when it doth your will and correcting it when it doth the contrary, and alwayes obſeruing this maxime in the firſt teaching of him, that you neuer let you Dogge eate or taſte any meate but when he doth ſomething to deſerue it, that cuſtome may make it know, foode is a thing which cometh not by chance, or the bounty of your hand, but

but for reward or merrit when he doth your commandement, and this will not onely make him willing to learne, but apt to remember and retayne what hee learneth, and diligently to performe your pleasure without sticke or amazement, the carracters of your commands, being so deeply Imprinted in his knowledge : and to this end you must haue no more teachers. no more feeders, cherishers, or correcters but one, for multiplicity breeds confusion, and to teach diuers wayes is to teach no way well : also you must be very constant to the words of directions by which you teach, chusing such as are the most significant for your purpose, and fittest for the action you would haue the Dogge doe, and by no meanes alter that word which you first vse, though you vse a word of the same signification : for you must vnderstand the Dogge takes notice of the sound and not of the English, and therefore the least variation puts him into amazement, and is a language he vnderstands not ; as thus for example : If when you teach your Whelp first to Cutch, you vse the word (*Cutch*)

after

after you vse the word (*Downe*) and not Cutch, it will put the Dogge into amazement and he will not know what to doe : And how euer some hold of opinion it is good to vse all sorts of words, yet it is not so, for the ouerloading of the Dogges memory with many words for one and the same lesson, is the first thing that breeds forgetfulness, and fills the Dog full of by-thoughts and doubtfulness : when you haue the Dogge thus acquainted with the word which is due to the instruction of his lesson, you must then teach him to knowe the word of reprehension or correction, for no lesson can bee taught without a fault, and no fault ought to escape at the best without chiding ; and in this word also you must be as constant as in the former without variation of sound, or multiplicity of language, that the Dog may know assuredly when you chide, or are angry, and not stand amazed between hope and feare, as not knowing whether you chide or giue encouragement ; and of these words there are diuers ; as *Wilt thou villain, Ha Raskall* : and such like, which at first should not bee vsed without a Ierke

or

or small stripe, to make him knowe that it is a word of wrath and anger, neither must such words proceed from you lovingly and gently, but with passion and and roughnesse of voice, that the Whelp may euen tremble when hee heares you : Now to these words of reprehention you must also ioyne words of cheerishings, that as the one correcteth him for faults committed ; so the other may encourage and comfort him as oft as hee doth your pleasure : and in teaching these dumbe things, correction may better bee spared then cheerishing, because the reward and comfort he findes by doing your will, is the onely certaine and sure ground which expounds your meaning vnto him, and makes him capeable of those things you would haue him learne ; and in these words also, you must be as constant and certaine as in any of the other without variation or change of sound, allacrity and cheerefulness of spirit, being accompanied either with food, the spitting in the mouth, cheerishing of the hand, or other clawings in which the Dogge taketh delight, that he may know by such comforts hee hath

truely

truely done your will, and bee thereby encouraged to doe it as oft ouer as you shall bee pleased to command him : And these words of cheerishing are also diuers ; as *Thats a good boy, Well done, So boy*, and such like as shall best agree with your nature and inuention.

And to these three you shall adde a fourth word, which is no lesse necessary then any of the former, being nether altogether instructiue, altogether correcting, nor altogether cherrishing : but taking as it were a part from them all, and doeing something of them all in one instant and one breath, and this may bee called the word of aduice or heed taking, being onely to be vsed when a Dogge is about to doe his lesson, and either goeth the wrong way to worke, or too rashly, too slowly, or too negligently ; or else leaueth out some obseruation which hee should performe in the Lesson, any of which assoone as you perceiue him incline vnto, you shall immediately vse your word of aduice vnto him, which both as a bit shall serue to restraine and stay him, till he haue better thought of what he goeth about, or else as a Spurre

or

or Rod, put him froward with more alacrity of spirit, till hee haue done his Lesson in such forme as may content you, and these words of aduice are as the others, diuers also: as *Hem*, *Be-wise*, *Take heed*; or such like, and to these you must be as constant as to the former, and make election of that you intend to vse and no other, and by all meanes be exceeding carefull not to misapply them, as to aduice when you should correct, cherrish when you should aduise, Instruct when you should punish, or punish when you should instruct, any of which is grosse in a teacher and brings the Dog into confusion.

When therefore you haue made your whelp vnderstand these seuerall sounds or wordes, as that of *Instruct-on*, *Correction*, *Cherrishing*, and *Aduise*, and that he will couch and lye downe at your feete. how you please, when you please, and as long as you please, and that with a single word or a looke onely, you shall then proceede and teach him to leade in a line and collar, following you at your heeles in decent and comely order, neither treading vpon your heeles, or go-
ing

ing before or side by you which shewes too much hast, nor hanging backe or straying your Line by the meanes of too much sloath, but following in decent and orderly manner without offence either to the Dogge or his leader, and this kinde of leading is to make the Whelp familiar with you, that he may loue and acknowledge you and no man else, in which Lesson when you haue made him perfect by his daily attendance of you, and by goeing into no place without the Dogge, you shall then make him attend you loose, in the same manner as he did in the Line, without straying or going his length from your heeles vnlesse you command him, which is the most necessary Lesson can be taught a Water-Dog, for he must by no meanes be a ranger, but vpon especiall occasion, as either to beate out Fowle from their couert, or to finde stricken Fowle when they are lost. When this generall obedience is taught (which is done by observation of his going, and mooueing him by sights or sports which may tempt him to stay beyond his bounds. and then to correct his offences, and to cherrish and
reward,

reward his obedience, you shall then teach him to fetch and carry any thing you shall throw forth of your hand; and this you shall first beginne to teach by the way of sport or pastime with the Dogge, as by taking your gloue and shaking it about his head and lips, and making him catch and snap at it, and to play with it as a thing in which he delighteth, and sometimes to hould it in his mouth and strue to pull it from you, and then casting it a little way from you suffer him to muffle and worry it on the ground, and then take hold on it againe and take it from him with cherrishing, and thus doe till he will take it from the ground, and hold it in his mouth as it were to tempt you to take it, then cast it further from you and say *Fetch*, or *Bring Sirra*, and if he doe bring it you make exceeding much of him and reward him either with Bread, or Meate, and let him haue no foode but what he deserueth by doing your will in his Lesson, and thus daily and howrely augment and increase your Lesson, till you haue made your Dogge so perfite that he will fetch your Gloue vnto you wheresoeuer you throw it.

it: In which if at any time hee offer to runne away with your Gloue, or to trosse it vp and downe, and play with it without regard to bring it vnto you; then first vse your word of aduice, which if it doe not preuaile, then vse your word of correction, but if both faile, then giue him blowes, and for that time let him loose his foode and finde no reward till hee doe your pleasure: when by this meanes you haue perfected him, that hee will fetch your Gloue quickly and readily vnto you, wheresoeuer you throwe it, and so truely vnderstand that it is his duty to bring it onely vnto you, that if twenty men in the company call him severally, yet he will shunt he n all to bring it vnto you, and lepe vp to your bosome to deliuer it, you shall then reward him exceedingly, and after traine him to fetch whatsoeuer you shall throw from you, as Staues or Cudgels, Bagges, Nets, Instruments of all kindes, and indeed, any thing whatsoeuer that is portable: then you shall vse him to fetch round cogell stones, and flints, which are troublesome in a Dogges mouth, and lastly, Iron, Steele, Money, and all kinde of metall,

tall which being colde in his teeth, slippery and ill to take vp, a Dogge will bee loth to fetch, but you must not desist nor let him taste food, till he will as familiarly bring and carry them as any thing else whatsoever: as for the vsing him to carry, dead, or liue Fowle, or Pullen, it is not amisse, because by that meanes he will not breake or teare in pieces any Fowle at all, which fault is intollerable in any Dogge whatsoever, and proceeds from too much greedinesse, but in the vse thereof let him euer bring the least Fowle you can get without hurt, that if you send him for a Larke, he may bring it without brusing a feather. This lesson this perfected, you shall then as you walke, drop something behind you which the Dogge may not see, and being gone a little way from it, send the Dogge backe to seeke it, by saying, *Backe I haue lost*, or some such like word, and if at the first he stand amazed, vrge him still and cease not, by poynting with your finger the way you would haue him goe, till he doe turne backe and finde that which you haue dropt, which make him take vp and bring after you; then drop it againe
and

and goe twice as farre as you did at the first, and then send the Dog backe to seeke it, not leauing til you make him hunt and bring it you, then cheerish and reward him, and where he failes there chide and punish him, sometimes with blowes, sometimes with want of foode, and thus continue to do till the Dog wil hunt the way backe in which you went, be it a mile or more according to your occasion: and heerein is to bee noted that if you send your Dog backe to fetch any thing, if he returne and bring backe any thing in his mouth, though it bee not the thing you lost, yet you shall receiue it and cheerish him, but not suffer him to stay, but immediately send him backe againe, saying *Away againe*, or *I haue lost more*, and neuer bee satisfied till hee bring the thing you want, for the much toyle will be punishment enough for his mistake, and make him more careful to the sent of any thing about you; but if at any time he returne without any thing in his mouth, then bee sure both to chide & beat him, for his emptinesse of mouth shewes both sloth and negligence: when he will thus fetch, carry, and finde things being lost, then you
G 2 may

84 *Hungers prevention: or,*
 may trayne him to hunting, beginning first with tame Fowle, which by your owne helpe at diuing and other losses, you may make him with little labour, take, which incouragement will harden and make him delight in the sport, then after you may make him vse all his owne cunning, and without assisting him, let him either get or loose his pray, obseruing to giue him reliefe according to his desert in well hunting, and to punish him with want of reward according to his sloth or negligence; and thus woonte him till he bee full master of his game, and can finde the aduantages and losses in enery water, and obseruing euer to make him (when he taketh his prey) to bring it on shoare vnto you without hunting, and that he shall not dare to nyppe or bite it, after once you shall say *Forbeare*, or *Tis dead*, or any such like thing whatsoeuer.

After this you shall traine him vnto you Peece, in forme as was shewed in a former Chapter, making him stalke either step by step behinde you and vnder the couert of your shadow, till you haue shott, or else to couch downe and lye close

close where you shall appoint him till you haue shot, and then by a shout or gibbet to make him come running vnto you to doe whatsoeuer you shall appoint him, and in this you must obserue that the Dogge by no meanes rush forth or discouer himselfe til you appoint him, for it is the nature of euery free mattle Dogge, and many of those which come from the best reputed teachers, that as soone as they heare the Peece goe off, they will presently rush forth and flye in amongst the Fowle, before you can haue leisure to open your lippes; but it is a fault and to be reprehended, for the Peece must not bee as a warning to giue the Dogge liberty, but as a preparation to make him readie to attend your commandement: for if you giue him this liberty at your Peece, then when you come amongst your Nets or Lyme rods, as soone as hee sees the intangled Fowle but to flutter their wings, he will presently flye in amongst them, and not onely aduenture the spoiling, and tearing of your Netts, and disordering your Lime-roddes, but also breake them in peeces, and breede you a world of trouble and vexation,

vexation, and therefore by all meanes haue him in that true obedience that he may not dare to take any freedome more then you giue him.

There are a world of other lessons which may be taught a Water Dogge, but because they doe appertaine more to pleasure, or the commendation of the Teachers Art and the Dogges capacity) then any needful vse or commodity, I will here (for teadiousnesse sake omit them, assuring euery industrious laborer in this Arte, that the rules heere already described are sufficient to make a dog doe any thing meet for any mans purpose.

*Of the
moulting
time.*

The last vse of the Water Dogge is in the moulting time, when these wild Fowle doe cast their feathers and are so disabled that they cannot flye, but doe lurke and hide themselues in the strength of their best couerts, not daring to peepe or look abroad, which commonly is betweene Summer and Autumne, in these warmer Countries, at this time you shall bring your Water Dogs and thrusting them into the couerts, make them hunt the Fowle forth, and bring them into the open waters or great streames, then ha-

uing

uing in some narrow creeke or straitned place (if it be in the broad blank waters) pitcht vp your nets, get with your boates betweene the couert and the Fowle, and so taking vp your dogges withall leisure and gentlenes driue the Fowle before you (who of their own natures, will shun your presence) till you bring them within the compasse of the Nets, and then surrounding them about you may ouerthrowe multitudes of them together, for sheepe will not driue more easily then these Fowle at this time; and though some may obiekt against this maner of taking both in respect it destroies so many, as also the vnseasonablenesse both of the Fowle it selfe, and the time of their sicknesse, yet if such please to consider the great infinits of these Fowle which cannot decrease & the excellency of the time for feeding and cramming them, wherby one is made more excellent then twenty; they cannot chuse but both allow it and practise it, for who knoweth not that any Fowle which preyeth for it self abroad, except it be the *Mallard, Teyle, and Plover*, but is a great deale lesse sweet and pleasant then the crambde Fowle, some tasting of Fishe,

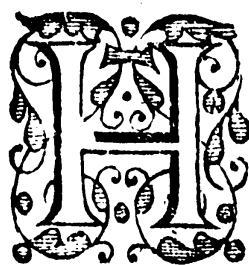
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some

some of mudde, and some of grasse, and indeede not any in generall either very fatte, or very pleasant; whereas these which are thus taken and fedde by hand in the house, and there crambd with food in which they most delight, as the Lyuers of Beasts and Sheepe, Whay, Curddes, Barley, Paste, scalded Branne, and such like, are both passing fat, exceeding sweet, and of great price, and therefore to be preferd before all other Fowle whatsoeuer.

C H A P. X.

Of Land-Fowle, and the generall taking of them.



Having now discoursed of Water Fowle, and their seuerall kinds according to their manner of feeding, haunts and shapes. It resteth now that we proceed to the discourse of Land-Fowle, or Birdes of the Land, ha-
u- ing

uing no commercement or vse of the Water more then the washing of their Bylles or particular bathings for the health of their bodies, and that but sel-dome or in distinct times and places, as an Element with which they haue the least desire of acquaintance: And of these Land-Fowle there are more diuers and sundry kindes then of the Water-Fowle, and indeed such infinits, that since the dissolution and spoyle of Paradise no man hath seene them, no man can name them.

To flye then from an impossible treasure *Diuerfitie* tise (because euery nation hath his particular blessing, and none can boast to in- *of Land Fowle.* ioy all) I will sort the Land Fowle of our Kingdome into three rankes: the first such as are fit for foode, as *Pidgeons* of al kindes, *Rookes*, *Pheasants*, *Partridge*, *Quailes*, *Rayles*, *Blackebyrds*, *Fellfares*, *Sparrowes*, and a world of others.

Secondly, such as are preferred for voyce, and are called singing Byrds, as the *Nightingall*, *Throstle*, *Linnet*, *Larke*, *Bulfinch*, *Spynke*, and diuers of the same nature, all which are good in the dishe also.

Thirdly

Thirdly and lastly, all such as are for pleasure onely, as Hawks of all kindes, *Castrells, Ringtailes, Buzards, Kites,* and generally all Birdes of prey, which in truth are vsfull but for pleasure onely, Now each of these kindes may be drawn into two feuerall kindes, as the greater sort & the lesser sort, the greater sort of those for food, and the lesser also for food, & so consequently of the rest in their nature and kindes.

*Diversity
of takings,*

Now these Land-fowle are to be taken two feuerall waies; that is to say, generally, as when all or many kindes are taken together & at one instant; and particularly as when one kinde is taken alone by it selfe after a particular forme or manner and no others mixt amongst them.

*The generall
way of taking
Fowle.*

Now for the generall way of taking these Land Fowle where many kinds are taken together, it is either to be done by day or by night; if by day, then with the great Net which commonly is called the Crow Net, which either is made of double twisted thred or fine whip packe threed, and it differeth nothing in length, depth bignesse of mashe, manner of laying and ouerturning from the *Plow Net*

*The Crow
Net to
take by
day.*

Net formerly spoken of in the Water Fowle; only if it be larger and the coards longer it is not amisse, this Net being before or neere vnto Barne doores where Corne is a thrashing, or in any such places where Corne hath beene winnowed and the chaffe remaining, with which you shall euer obserue to couer and hide the Net as soone as it is laid so as it may not be seen, and then as soone as the flockes of birdes come, and are scraping amongst the chaffe, you lying aloofe off conceald, with the coard in your hand shall suddenly draw it & ouerturne the Net vpon the Birds, by which at one pull you may take many Crowes, Pidgeons, Kites, Buzards, and such like rauinous birdes; and this Net you may lay in any stuble field vpon the Corn lands provided the stuble couer the Net so as it be not perceiued, for these kind of rauinous Fowle are curious eied and who will quickly spye any traine or inticement that is layd for them; also if you take notice of their morning and euening haunts, where they vse to call and gather themselves together, to worne and feede vpon the greene swarth, or else the tylthe which hath beene

beene but newly turned vp, and there lay this Net so as it bee not too grossly perceiu ed, and it is as vailable as in the other places, so that you be carefull of two obseruations the one to conceale and hide your Person as in some furrow, behinde some artificiall bancke, or amongst the thick tufts of Sedge, or rushes, or such like couert, and the other not to be too rash or hasty in striking, but to stay till you haue a full number within your danger, and then to pull freely so dainely, and quickly, for the least deliberation you take after the Net is once raised, is the vtter losse of the whole pray, and as a warning-peece make them flye the danger.

*Generall
taking by
Night.*

If you exercise this generall manner of taking of Land-Fowle by Night there is to be done diuers wayes, according to the nature and manner of the Country wherein you dwell, or the situation and fashion of the ground, as whether it be champayne and plaine, or wooddy, rough and Mountanous.

Of the

Low-Bell. Land-Fowle by night, in Champayne Countryes is with the *Lowbell*, which exercise

exercise may well be vsed from the end of *October* till the end of *March* following, as thus for example.

After the Night hath couered the face of the Earth, (which commonly is about eight of the Clocke at Night) the Ayre being mild and the Moone not shining, you shall take your *Low-Bell*, which is a Bell of such a reasonable size, as a man may well carry it in one hand, and haueing a deepe, hollow, and sad sound, for the more quicke and shrill it is, the worfe it is, and the more sadde and solemne the better : and with this *Bell*, you shall also haue a Net (of a finall mesh) at least twenty yards deepe, and so broad that it may couer five or sixe ordinary Lands or more, according as you haue company to carry it, (for the more ground it couers, the more is your sport, and the richer the pray that is taken,) with these instruments you shall goe into some stubble field, either Wheate, Rye, or Barley, but the Wheate is the best, and he which carries the *Bell* shall goe the formost and roule the *Bell* as hee goeth along so solemnly as may be, letting it but now and then knocke on both sides, then shall follow

follow the Net being borne vp at each corner, and one each side by sundry persons, then another man shall carry an old yron Cresset, or some other vessell of stone or yron in which you shall haue a good store of cynders or burning coales (but not blazing) and at these you shall light bundles of dry Strawe, Hay, Stubble, Linckes, Torches, or any other substance that will blaze, and then hauing spread and pitcht your Nette where you thinke any Game is (hauing all your lights blazing) with noyses and poales beat all vnder that are vnder the Net, and then presently as they flicker vp, you shall see them intangled in the Net, so as you may take them at your pleasure: as *Partridges, Rayles, Larkes, Quails*, or any other small Birdes of what kind soeuer, which lodge vpon the ground; which done you shall suddenly extinguish your lights, and then proceede forward and lay your Net in another place, obseruing to doe in all things as hath beene before described, for the vse of these Instruments are, that the sound of the Bell makes the Byrdes to lye close, so as they dare not stirre or offer to remooue away whilest

whilest you are pitching and laying of your Nette, for the sound thereof is dreadfull vnto them and makes them lye closer and faster; then the suddenesse of the blazing light (which they can farre worse indure then the Bell) makes them spring vp and offer to flye away, whilest the Nette stayes and intangles them, whereby you may take them at your owne will and pleasure.

And in this sort the Countrey being apt and fit for the pastime, you may take abundance both of great Birdes and likewise of small Birdes, which though the pleasure be a little painefull for the time, yet you shall finde infinite delight therein, for euery man shall haue something to doe, and no man shall stand idle that either hath ability of body or spirit.

This taking of Birdes with the Low-bell as it is vsed thus in the corne and stubble fields, so it may also be vsed in any other Champaine place, where either there is growing high fogge or grasse, Whynnes, Bratts, Lynge, short and low Grasse, or any other kind of low couert wherein

wherein Birds may lodge and hide themselves; provided that such places have no Trees, or high rough Thornes, bushes or Brambles, for so you shall intangle and teare your Net in pieces; and loose both your sport and your labour.

Also in this pastime is to be observed that it must be done with great silence and secrecie, not any noyse being heard but the sound of the bell only, vntill such time that the Nets be layd and the lights are all blazing, and then you may vse your pleasures, but as soone as the lights are extinguished, then presently a general silence shall be made as before: and each man shall apply his seuerall business till the sport be finished, and so much of the Night consumed as you shall imagine meete to bestow on that Labour which may be as long as the Night is darke but no longer, for if the Moone rise, whereby the Birds may make way for themselves, then they will hardly ly till your Nettes or other Engines be ready, for the very noyse of your feete in going will be sufficient to affright them.

*Of the
Tramell.*

There is another way of taking both of great and small Fowle, by Night in Cham-

Champaine Countries, and that is with the *Tramell*, or long *Tramell* Net, being much like vnto that *Nette* which is formerly described for the *Lombell*, both in shape, make, and all other proportions, yet if you please it may be somewhat longer but not much broader, because then you shall be forst to runne vpon it and endanger the breaking.

This *Nette* when you come into the place where the haunt of Birds are, which rest vpon the earth (being such as are before named) you shall then spread it vpon the ground, and let the neather or furthest end thereof (being plummed with small plummetts of lead) lye loose on the ground and then bearing vp the former ende, by the strength of men at the two for most ends onely, traile it along the ground, not suffering that ende which is borne vp to come neere the ground by a full yard or more.

Then on each side the *Nette* shall be carried great blazing lights of fire, such as were formerly spoken of, and by the lightes others with long Poles to beate vp the Birds as they goe, and as they rise under the Nettes so to take them; and in

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this

this sort you may goe ouer a whole corne Field, or any other Champaine ground where the haunts of Birdes are, till you haue compassed euery part thereof. And this will most assuredly affoord you great store, both of pleasure and profit, according as the haunts of the Birdes are, for if there be plenty you shall take plenty, if their be few, yet of those few you shall haue your share.

Of Bat-fowling.

Next to the *Tramell* I thinke meete to proceed to *Batte-fowling*, which is likewise a mighty taking of all sorts of great and small Birdes which rest not on the earth, but on Shrubbess, tall Bushes, Hawthorne trees, and other trees, and may fitly and most conueniently be vsed in all Woody, rough, and Bushy Countries, but not in the Champaine.

For the manner of *Bat-fowling* it may be vsed either with Nettes, or without Nettes: If you vse it without Nettes (which indeede is the most common of the two) you shall then proceede in this manner. First, there shall be one to carry the Cresset of fire (as was shewed for the *Lombell*) then a certaine number of two, three, or foure (according to the

greatnesse

greatnesse of your company) and these shall haue poales bound with dry round wispes of hay, straw, or such like stuffe, or else bound with pieces of Linkes, or Hurdes dipt in Pitch, Rosen, Grease, or any such like matter that will blaze.

Then another company shall be armed with long poales, very rough and bushy at the vpper endes, of which the Willow, Byrche, or long Hazell are best, but indeed according as the Country will afford so you must be content to take.

Thus being prepared and comming into the Bushy, or rough ground where the haunts of Birds are, you shall then first kindle some of your fiers as halfe, or a third part, according as your prouision is, and then with your other bushy and rough poales you shall beat the Bushes, Trees and haunts of the Birds, to enforce them to rise, which done you shall see the Birds which are rayfed, to flye and play about the lights and flames of the fier, for it is their nature through their amazement, and affright at the strangenes of the lightt and the extreame darknesse round about it, not to depart from it, but as it were almost to scorch their wings in

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the

the same; so that those which haue the rough bushye poales, may (at their pleasures) beat them down with the same, & so take the. Thus you may spend as much of the night, as is darke for longer is not conuenient; and doubtlesse you shall finde much pastime, and take great store of birds, and in this you shall obserue all the obseruations formerly treated of in the *Lowlie*; especially, that of silence, vntill your lights be kindled, but then you may vse your pleasure, for the noyse and the light when they are heard and seene a farre off, they make the birds sit the faster and surer.

The byrdes which are commonly taken by this labour or exercise, are for the most part, the *Rookes*, *Ringdowes*, *Blackebirdes*, *Throbbles*, *Feldyfares*, *Linnetts*, *Bullfinches*; and all other Byrdes whatsoever that perch or sit vpon small boughes or bushes.

*Of the
Sparrow
Net.*

This exercise as it may be vsed in these rough, woody and bushie places, so it may also be vsed alongst quickset hedges, or any other hedges or places where there is any shelter for Byrdes to perch in.

Next

Next to these general takings of birds in the darke of night, either in Champaine or Woody grounds, wee may annex and place the taking of Byrds with the Sparrow net, which is an exercise to be vsed after Sunne-set in the evening and before Sunne-rise in the morning, which is either after birds goe to their roost, or before they stirre in the morning.

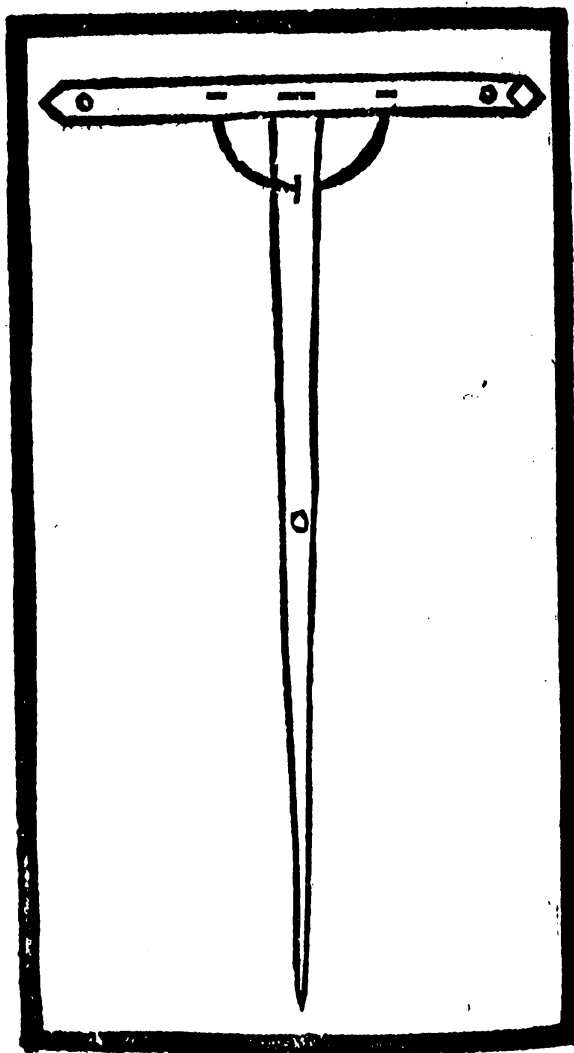
The Engine or *Sparrow-nette* which is to be made for this purpose, must carry this fashion or proportion.

First, you must haue a long poale of the bignesse or quantity of a handsome Haukes poale, and at the vpper ende thereof must be fastened strongly, either with one, two or moe graines, a small square crosse wood like vnto the head of an ordinary Hayrake, but of a much larger length and size and of a little longer square, according to the fashion or proportion of this figure following.

H;

The

Hungers preuention: or,
The forme and manner of
the first Crosse-staffe.



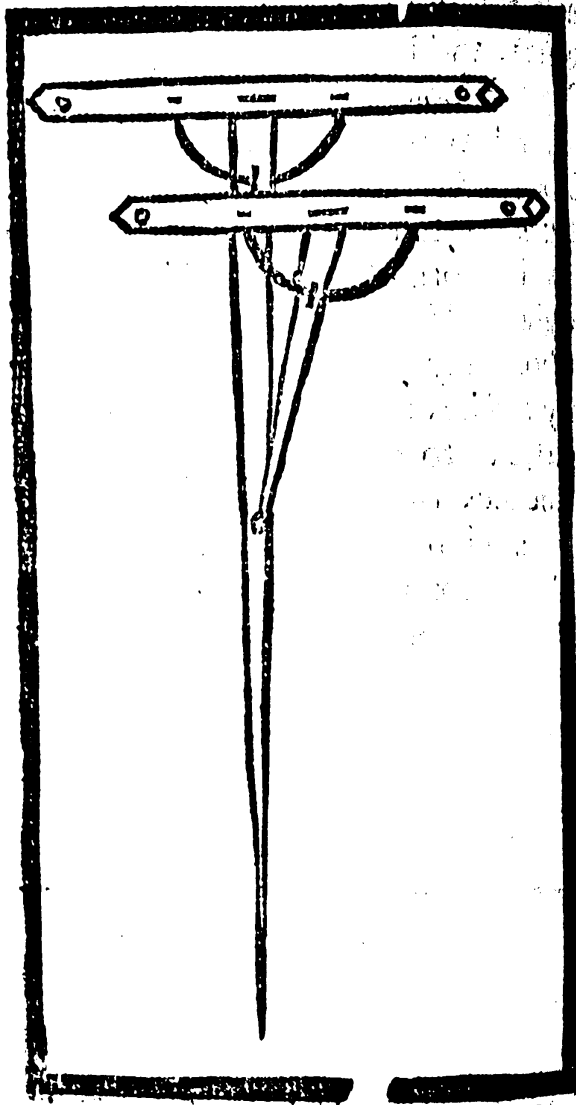
Then

Then you shall make another staffe in all proportions like vnto this, but not aboue a third part in length at the vttermost this shorter Crosse-Staffe you shall ioyne to the longer, with a strong small Coard so loosely that at your pleasure it may fall two and froe from the longer Crosse-Staffe, and when both the Crosse-Staues meete together, that then they may be both of one equall length and height, and ioyne euen and iust together without any difference; for otherwise they will be out of order, and that which you seeke to take will escape away by meanes of such disorder, but being iust and euen, the proportion will shew you this Figure following.

H4

The

104 *Hungers prevention: or,*
The forme and manner of the
second Crosse-staffe.



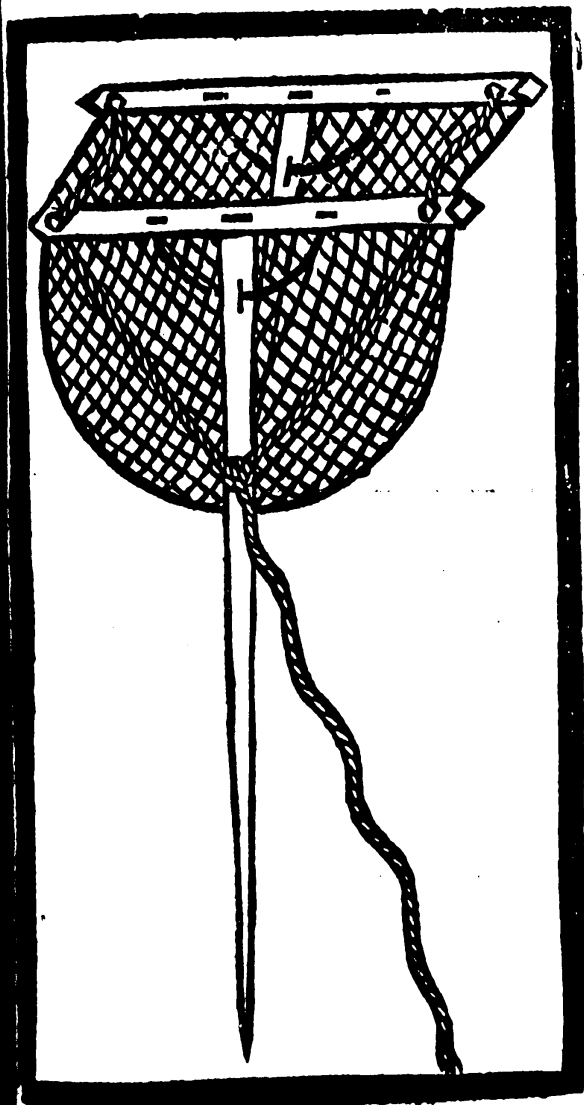
These

The Art of Fowling. 105

These two Crosse-staues being thus ioyned together euen & fit to meet together, you shall then both to the one & to the other, fixe a large & wide Purse-net hauing that liberty at the toppe that the Crosse-staues may fall an d part the one from the other a pretty distance and the lower end of the Nette shall bee straite and narrow, and fastened fast to the same hole in the longer Crosse staffe, to which the shorter Crosse-staffe was before fastened, then shal you haue two small coards or lines, which with knots shall be fastened to each ende of the shorter Crosse-staffe passing through the two holes, and so through the holes of the longer Crosse-staffe, through which they may goe and come at your pleasure, and then shall the other two ends of the wards be tyed on a knot together, at such an euen distance that the shorter staff may fal at your pleasure from the longer as farr as you thinke meet, or the widenes of the Net wil suffer it, and then another single ward being made fast to that last knot of the two cords (which single ward you shal euer carry in your right hand) with it you shal at your pleasure drawe the Crosse staues close together,

together, and close vp the Net as you shall finde occasion, and also with it you shall make the staues and Net flye open & widden as the place shal require where you are to set it; for you must haue great regard in the vsing of this Engine euer to place it close, for if you leaue any parte open either by too much slacknesse, or the whole haunte not couered by too much straightnesse, the Birds will quickly finde it, and so escape and get away before you can come to your purpose. But euery thing being made handsome and fit, and the Lines yare and ready to passe too and froe with ease and gentlenesse, then will the whole and intyre Engine, cary the fashion and proportion of this figure which heere followeth.

The forme and maner of the Sparrow-Net.



Now for the vse of this *Sparrow-Net*, is (as was before said) to be vsed late in the Euening, or early in the Morning, by setting it against the Eues of thatch'd Houses or other houses, or against the eaves of Stacks, Houeles, Barnes, Stables, and other out-Houses, or against the eaves of Doue-coates, and being set close against them to knocke and thrust the Crosse-staues close against the same, making such a noyse as may inforce the Birds to flye out of their holes & haunts into the Net, and then presently to draw the longe single Line and shut vp the Crosse-staues close, and then to take out the Birds so taken, and in this manner you may in an Enening, or else in Morning, goe ouer all your Houses, Barnes or Stacks, where are any haunts of Birds, and take so many as you please. The Birds which are generally taken with this Engine, are *Sparrowes*, *Robins*, *Wrens*, *Starlings*, extrauagant *Pydgions* that lye out of the Doue-Coate, or any other Fowle, or vermine which passe in or out, at any one certaine hole or passage.

The chiefe benefite of it is for the mew

mewing of Hawks, or geting into lust and strength, sicke and weake Hawkes, for with this Engine you may Euening, and Morning take so many Birds as you please, and no more : and so giue them warme to your Hauke, which is the greatest nourishment that can be, and both raiseth a Hauke soone, and makes her mew fast, because they are as it were taken out of their owne nest, and from their owne liberty and freedome of feeding, whereas Birds that are taken longe before they are vsed, and so preserued day after day for these vses, they mourne and fall away, growing leane, vnfauory, and vnholesome, and the Hawkes fedd and nourisht therewith, prosper but little better then with ordinary Dogges flesh, or other flesh that is least nourishing.

And thus much for Land-Fowle and the generall taking of them, as well by day as by night ; Euening, or Morning.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

The particular taking of some particular Birds by Nets, and first of the Day-Nette.



Having spoken generally of Land Fowle and Birds, and of the most generall wayes of taking the same, either by Day, Night, Morning, or Evening, it is meete more that we proceed to such particular wayes of taking them as is most of vse, both with our Fowlers in this Land, as also with others in other Nations, and being most agreeable with Art, and Reason without which hardly shall any man bring his worke or indeavours to any good purpose.

It is meete then, first that we begin with they Day-Net, whose vse are especially for the taking of *Larkes, Bunting,*

Merlins

Merlins, Hobbys, or any Bird that playeth in the Ayre, or will stoope either to stale, prey, or gigge, glasse or the like.

The time of the yeare for these Nets, *Time of* is from *August* till *November*, and the *the yeare* howe or time a day, very early in the *and season.*

Morning, as a little before Sunne rise. so as your Nets may be layd, and all your Engines and implements fit and in readiness to beginne your labor, with the first

beepe of the Sunne, wherein is to be noted that the pleasanter and brighter the Morning is, and the fayerer and earlier that the Sunne shineth, and the milder temper the Ayre is in, the fitter the season is for this exercise, and the longer and better your sport will continue,

For the place, it would be euer in the *The place.*

most Champayne and playne Countreyes, either on the short Barley Stubbles, (the Lands) lying large and playne, on even and smooth greene layes, or on leuell and flat Meddowes, for it is to be understood, that the place which is to be chosen for this exercise, must be so plaine and even that the Nets both lying and falling ouer, may couth so close and come to the ground, that the shortest grasse

Grasse or Stubble appearing through the same, the Nette may lye as it were hidde, and vnperceiued by the Byrdes which shall play ouer the same, as also there must be no hollownesse, or seperation betwixt the Earth, and any part of the verdge of the Net, least the Birds which are sticken, creepe and flicker out of the same, (as they will quickly doe) vpon the least aduantage; and this place must bee chosen neare or adioyning to a Towne, or common course and meeting of many people, (for there these wanton fearefull Birds seldome haunte) but in remote and silent places, as in valleys, fikes, at the foote of hills or mountains in lowe Meddowes, or other high grounds, being a good way distant from villages, yet hauing euer some Country fields neare bordering vpon them; for there the Larke sings merriest, and it is best to strike and be Inticst with any Stale whatsoeuer.

*The fashion
of the
Nets and
other En-
gines.*

Now the next thing to bee obserued is the manner and fashion of these Nets which we call Day-nettes (because they are of vse but in the day onely) and all the other engines belonging vnto the

same, and without which the worke can in no wise be made perfect.

First then for the Nets. you shall vnderstand that they are to be made either of very fine smale packthred, or else of very strong and bigge Houswifes thrid, the mash small, and not aboue halfe an inch square each way, and the knots surely knit without slipping, the length would be three fadome (or little lesse,) and the debth or bredth, would be one fadome and no more, it carryeth the fashion of the *Crow-Nette*, and must be verdgd about (after the same manner,) with very strong small Coard, and the two ends extended vpon two small long poles, (sutable to the bredth of the Nette,) in such manner as hath beene shewed before in the Nette for the taking of *Plouers*, and other Fowle of that Nature, with foure stakes. tayle strings, and drawin lines as hath beene before described, only whereas that was but one single Nette and no more, heere must be two, of one length, one bredth, and one fashion; without any change or alteration, these Nets must be layd opposite one to another, yet so close and euen together,

gether, that when they are drawne and pulled ouer, the sides and edges may meet and onely touch one another; but being opened and cast asunder, then the full length and bredth of both the Nets of plaine ground must be discovered betwene them.

These Nets being thus staked downe with strong stakes, very stifly vpon their lynes, so as with any nimble twich, you may cast them two and fro at your pleasure, you shall then to the vpper endes of the formost staues fasten your hand lines or drawing Coards, which would be at the least a dozen fadome longe, and extending them of such a reasonable straightnesse, as with any small addition of strength, they may rayse vp the Nets, and cast them ouer, stake downe the other end of the single drawing Line, at most a fadome beyond the seate where your selfe must sit to pull, for you must vnderstand that these drawing Lines are not double aboue two fadome, or less more, and all the rest single as you shall better perceine by the figure, hereafter demonstrated.

When your Nets are thus layd,

shall some twenty or thirty paces beyond *Of the* your Nets, and as much on this side, *Gigges.* place your Gygges, or playing wantons, being fastened to the toppes of long poales, and turned into the winde, so as they may play and make a noyse therein, and these Giggs are certaine toyes made of long Goose feathers in the manner of shettlecorks and with little small turnells of wood ruuning in broad and flat Swan quilles made round like a small hoope, and so with longer strings fastened to the Poale, will with any small winde or ayre whatsoeuer, twirle and flicker in the ayre after such a wanton manner, that the Byrds will come in great flockes to wonder and play about the same; the more perfect shape whereof you shall see described in the figure following, for the better helpe of your memorie and vnderstanding in this businesse.

After the placing of your Giggs you *Of the* shall then place your Stale, which is a lit- *Stale.* tle small stake of wood to pricke downe fast in the earth, hauing in it a mortise hole, in which a long, small, slender pice of wood of about two foote long is so fastned that it may mooue vp and downe

at pleasure, and to this longer sticke you shall fasten a small line, which running through a hole in the stake aforesaid and so coming vp. to the place where you sit, you may by drawing the line vp and downe vnto you (with your right hand) raise and mount the longer sticke from the ground, as oft as you shall finde occasion.

Now to this longer stick (before said) you shall fasten a line *Larke* or *Bunting*, (for you must bee sure euer to present some aline, for that purpose) or for want of such any other small birde, which the line making to flicker vp and downe by your pulling, will intice the *Larkes* to play about it and swoope so neere to the ground, that drawing your hand you may couer them with your Nets at pleasure; also it will intice *Hawkes*, and any other Byrds of prey to stoope and strike at the same, so as you may take them at your pleasure, with great ease and delight, and for further satisfaction you shall see the portrature hereof more liuely described in the figure following.

There is also another Stale or inticement for these Byrdes which is called the

*Of the
Looking-
glasse.*

Looking-glasse.

Looking-glasse, and this is a round stake of wood as bigge as a mans arme and made very sharpe at the nether ende, so as you may thrust and fasten it into the earth at your pleasure. This stake is made very hollow in the vpper part, about five fingers deepe at the least, then into this hollownes is placed a threesquare piece of wood about twelue Inches long, and each square two Inches broade, lying vpon the toppe of the stake, and going with a foote into the hollownes, which foote must haue a great knob at the toppe and another at the bottome, with a deepe slenderesse betweene, to which slenderesse must be fastned a small packthred, which running through a hole in the side of the stake, must come vp to the seate where you sit: Now the three square piece of wood which lies on the toppe of the stake, must be made of such a true boyze and euenesse, and the foote in the socket, so round & smooth, that vpon the least touch it will twerle and tourne as round as any *Scopperill*, winding the packthrid so many times about it which being sodenly drawne, and as sodenly let goe againe, will keepe the Engine in

a perpetuall round motion, in such sort as you shall see Children, and Schoole Boyes doe with wherligiggs, made of a Nutt, a sticke, and an Aple. This done you shall with glew, or other strong Cement, fasten vpon the vpper most square of the three square piece, almost twenty small pieces of *Looking-Glasse* paynt all the spare wood betweenthe of a very bright red collour, which in the continuall motion and tounring about will giue such a glorious reflection, that the wanton birds cannot forbear but will play about it with admiration, til they be taken, the true shape wherof you shall see more exactly in the next figure. Now both this & the other stale before spoken off. are to be placed in the very middle Center betweene the two Nets, & about 2 or 3 foote one distant from an other, that in the falling of the Nets the Cord may by no meanes touch or anoy them, neither must they stand one before or after another, but in a direct Line one against the other, the Glasse being continually moouing, and the bird verie oft flickering. When you haue this placed you Nets, your Giggs, & your stales

you shall then goe to the farther end of your long drawing lines, & stale lines, & hauing a little hassock made of Sedg, about a foote or better hie, you shall place within a yard or little more of the end of the same, & then sitting down vpon the same, lay the maine drawing line (with a strong button of wood made fast in the same) ouerthwart your thye, & with your right hand continually draw the Glasse-line, & with your left hand pull the stale-line to shew the bird, & then when you perceiue the *Larkes*, or other Birds to play neare & about your nets & Stales, swooping neare and to the ground, then you shall with both hands pull the net ouer, & so couer & take your pray, in such wise as you shall find accasion, wherein you are to obserue that you must not be too quick or hasty in pulling, & for greedines to strike often at single birds (especially if you see the weather to be temperate & the birds apt to play) for so you may loose both much labour and much profite, for you must take as much paines for one single Byrd, as for halfe a dozen, but neuerthelesse be patient a little while, and when you shall see many birds

playing about your Nets (as with a little sufferance they will almost couer them o-
uer) then you may stricke and be sure to
stricke sure and suddenly, and you shall
seldome take vnder, foure, fixe, eight,
nay, sometimes a dozen at a pull, accor-
ding to the fruitfulnessse of the place, and
the aptnesse of the weather and season,
but if the wether be ill disposed or blust-
ring, then you must make a venture of
necessitie and strike at all that comes,
whether they be single or otherwise, and
truely for mine owne part I haue seene
this one exercise, thirty dozen of *Larks*
taken in one Morning, but that hath not
beene vsuall: but for eight, tenne, or
twelue dozen, it is an ordinary taking.

*Preserua-
tion of
Stales.*

Now you are to obserue that the first
halfe dozen which you take, you must by
no meanes kill, but keepe them aliue for
stales, and to that end you must haue
neate bagge of strong linnen to keepe
them in, the rest as you take them you
must kill them, by crushing them in the
hinder parts of their heads, and so lay
them behind you in a place made for the
purpose, and thus euery day you must
preserue fresh stales and kill the old ones.

but in any sort be sure by no meanes to
want any, for that would be a great hin-
drance to the whole worke.

Againe you must obserue to lay be-
hinde the seate you sit vpon, all the spare
Instruments and Implements, which you
are to vse about the whole worke, as spare
Stakes, Poales, Lines, packthrid, knitting-
Pinne and Needle; your Bagge with
Stales, a Mallet to knock in your stakes
with, and a nimble little Hatcher

either to sharpen or make new

Stakes, when they are de-

cayed. Now for the full

proportion, and de-

monstration of the

whole work, be

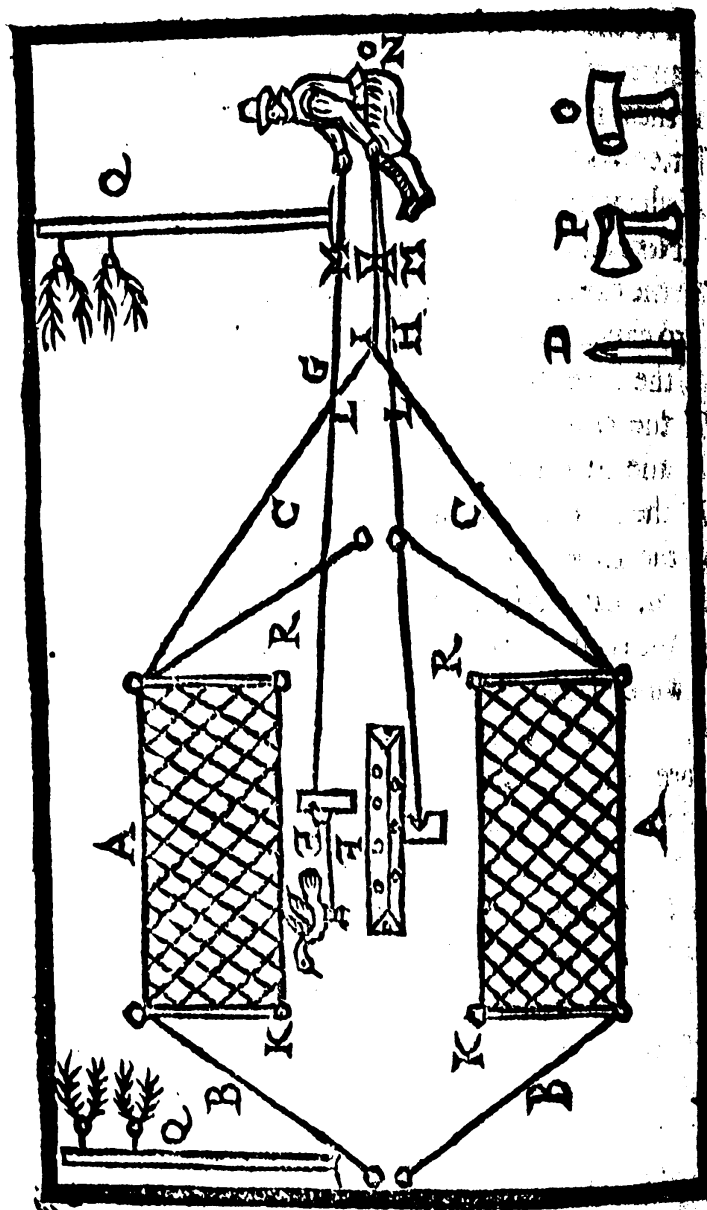
hold this Fi-

gure fol-

lowing.

(:.)

The



For

For the better vnderstanding of this Figure, if you please to note the letters as they stand, you shall finde that the Letter-----

- A. sheweth the bodyes of the maine Nets, and how they ought to be layd.
- B. the tayle lines, or hinder lines stackt to the Earth. (Earth.
- C. the fore lines likewise stackt to the
- D. the knitting-Needle.
- E. the Bird stale.
- F. the Looking-glasse Stale.
- G. the Line that drawes the Bird-Stale,
- H. the Line which drawes the glass-stale
- I. the drawing double lines of the Nets which pulls them ouer.
- K. the Stakes which stake downe the foure neather poynts of the Nettes, and the two tayle lines. (Lines,
- L. the stakes which stake downe the fore
- M. the single Line with the wooden button to pull the Net ouer with.
- N. the Stake which stakes downe the single Line, & where the hassock should be, and the Man sit.
- O. the Mallet of Wood.
- P. the Hatchet. Q. the Gigges.

And thus you haue the manner & full discription

Taking
Byrdes
with the
Lime-
Bush

124 Hungers prevention: or,

discription of the *Day-Netts*, with their use and benefit.

I will now proceed to another manner of taking other small Birds, as *Hedge-Sparrowes*, *Linnetts*, *Bullfinches*, and all sortes of small Birds, which haunt Hedges, Bushes, Shrubs, or any couert whatsoever in the open Field, which Birds are for two uses, namely, either pleasure or food, pleasure because every one of them naturally, haue excellent Field-Notes, and may therefore be kept in Cages, and nourisht in their owne tunes, or else trayned to any other Notes, according to the pleasure of the owner, or else for foode, being of pleasant taste, and exceeding much nourishing, by reason of their Naturall heate, and light digestion.

The shape
of Bush.

These Birds are best to be taken with the great Lime-Bush, or Lime-Tree after this manner. You shall cut downe the mayne Arme or chiefe Bough, of any Bushie Tree, whose branches, or twigges, are longe, thicke, smooth, and straight, without prickes, knots, or other crooked and deformed roughnes, of which the *Willow-Tree* or *Byrsh-Tree*

an

The Art of Fowling.

125

are the best, and for want of them you may take the great *Sallow*, the *Poplar*, *Aspen*, or any other of like thicknesse, and smoothnesse, and when you haue pickt it and trimde it, from all leaues, knots, crooked branches, Mosse, or any other superfluity, making the twigges neate, and cleane, (yet not taking away any of the little Naturall budd knots, which grow thicke on euery branch) you shall then take of the best Lime, well mixed and wrought together, either with Hogges-grease, Goose-grease, or Capons-grease, (but the Goose or Capons is the best) and being warmed a little, you shall with the same, Lime euery twigge and branch vpon the Tree, from the very toppe and vpper end of euery twigge, downe (within foure fingers or three about) to the bottome. As for the body and mayne branches of this Tree, (from whence the smaller twigges doe arise) those you shall not touch with any Lime at all.

The manner
of
Lyming.

Now in the Lyming of this Tree, you shall obserue not (by any meanes) to make your Lime on too thicke, where by it may be too much apparant, for the

tion in
Lyming.

the

the byrdes will be apt to find fault thereat, and then you shall not by any instrument trayne them to your Bush, wherefore make suer to spread you Lime so thinne as may be, euen so as you may see little or nothing change the colour of the naturall twigges, which may with great ease be done by working one twigge with another, and one branch with another, and by making those which haue too little Lime, to take it away from those which haue too much, till each haue equally alike; and yet in this manner of Liming, you are to obserue that not any twigge want his sufficient proportion of Lime, or haue any part left bare and vntoucht (which ought to be toucht) but that all be truely and arteficially described; for as too much may hinder the coming of the Birdes, so too little will want strength to take them, when they doe come.

The vse of the Bushe. When your Bush is thus prepared, and Lined, you shall then carry it forth into the Field, (for it is intended that the Tree ought not in any wise to be about a mans vsuall and reasonable burthen, and finding where the haunts of the

small

small Byrdes are, which in the Spring-time commonly is about quickset hedges, or dead hedges, neare vnto Townes ends, back-yeards, ould houses, or any other couert and habitation where people resort. In the Sommer and Haruest, in Groues, Bushies, white-thorne Trees, and quickset-hedges neare Corne fields, fruit trees, Vinyards, Flax-lands, Hemp-lands Rape-lands or the like, and in the dead of Winter about Houses, houells, Barnes, Stacks or any place where either Corne, seeds or any chaffe or gabling is scattered, (for it is to be intended that this vse of the Bush will continue the whole yeare through) you shall then as neare as you can to any of these haunts, place your Lime-bush, as if it be a hedge, then close by the hedge, if a Tree then close to the Tree, if a stacke, within a pace or two of the stacke, and so of the rest, provided alwayes that wheresoever you pytch downe your Bush, you may euer at the foote therof, or as neare as is possible, haue some close Couert where your selfe may sit concealed, and vnperceaued of the Birdes, and in such manner that whatsoever sound shall proceed from you, it

it may still seeme to the Birds to come from the Bush.

*Of the
Byrd call.*

When these things are thus prepared, and your selfe placed, you shall then you can (and the Arte is easily learned) with your lippes and Tongue beginne a chirppe like a *Sparrow* and to call as they doe when the Cocke and the Henne are remooued one from another, then you shall with another note (more whistle like) call like the *Linnet*, or *Bullfinch*, altering your notes as your fancy pleaseth, yet euer and anon calling continually in one note or other.

*How to
learne to
call Byrds.*

Now for asmuch as this Arte is a little hard and curious, and that no words or writing can expresse the true sound thereof, or shew the motions, ordering of soundes which must proceed from the Lippes, Tongue, and breath, it is meete that hee which is studious, and would be skilfull in this Art, doe goe into the Field where these Birds doe haunt, and there making their notes, chyrrs, and whistels, practise as neare as hee can counterfeite the same, till he be grown to that exquisite perfectnes therein, then he may perceauie the Birds to gather

about him where he lyes, and sitting on the branches about him, harken and listen to the sounds he vttereth, this when he perceaueth, he may conclude himselfe an absolute Master in the Arte, and then take vpon him to goe abroad with the great Lime-Bush, doeing in all poynts as hath beene before recyted: But if either nature or accident doe denie you this couning, and that by no meanes you can frame your Lippes or Tongue to these sounds, (as I haue knowne diuers, that could neuer in all their liues learne to whistle, others that could neuer learne to tune,) then you shall either make or buy a Byrd-call, of which there are diuers, and very easie to be framed, some of wood, some of horne, some of Cane, and such like stuffe; the full proportion and making whereof, shall be at large set down hereafter in a perticular Chapter.

With this Call (hauing learnt artificially how to vse it) you shall sit vnder your Bush and call the Birdes vnto you, and as any of them shall light vpon your Bush, you shall let them alone and not moue till you see them safely intangled,

*The man-
ner of
Taking.*

K

with

with their owne skipping vp and downe, and strugling when they find themselves ensnared wil doe better, then any affright from you whatsoever, neither shall you stirre for a single Bird, one, or two, but stay till many be intangled, for the first that are taken will with their struiuing and fluttering in the Bush, bee as good as stales, & make a world of others repaire vnto them. Now as soone as you doe perceiue your Bush to be pestered, you shall then rise vp and take all such as are intangled, and either nip them in the head, or put them aliuie into a bagge at your pleasure, and according to the purpose for which you intend them; and this exercise you may vse from before Sunne rise, till tenne of the Clocke in the forenoone, and from one in the afternoon till almost Sunne-sette in the Evening, in which space, I haue seene twenty doozen of Birdes taken, and sometimes more, sometimes lesse, according to the season of the weather, (which would be old and bright,) or the fruitfulnessse of the hauntes in which the Byrdes harbor.

There be others which take these Birdes with Lime-twiggs only, (and so

with the greate Bush) by rising early in the Morning before the day breake, and going to the hauntes, watch when the Byrdes goe forth to seeke their food, (which is euer at the spring of the day) and then finding that they haue forsaken the Hedges, they goe and place their Lime-twiggs all along the Hedges, some vppright, some sloape wise, and some crosse, and there withall of such a conuenient thicknesse, that the Birds can come no way into the Hedge, but of force they must be intangled: this done they goe into the Corne-Fields, Meadows, or Grounds which are adioyning, & where the Birdes doe feede, and there beating them vp and scarring them, make them retyre to the Hedges in great flocks and dryfts, into which they are no sooner entred, but presently they are intangled amongst the Lime-twiggs, and so taken in great abundance; But this manner of taking small Birds, is not so generall as the former, for it is but for one certaine time of the yeare, as in the Spring, and fall of the Leafe, and at one certaine time of the day, as an hower before Sun rise, and an hower after, wheras the other is

all the yeare long, and at all seasons and houres, so long as the weather is cleare and the Sunne shineth.

*Use of
Stales with
the Lime-
Bush.*

There is yet another way of taking these small Birds with the great Limbe-bushe (before mentioned) and that is if either you want a call, or haue not the true vse of a call: then you shall imploy the Stale, (of which there are diuers) as thus for instance: when your Bushe is placed as was before shewed, you shall then take a night Batte or two, being a-liue, and place them vpon the object which is next of all to your Lime bushe, and in such apparant manner, that no Birde thereabouts but may behold them, which will no sooner be perceiued, but euery Byrde will come to gaze and wonder at them; then hauing no other conuenient lighting place but the Lime-bushe, they will focke as thicke into the same as may be, and so you may take them at your pleasure.

Now as these night Batts, so the Owle is of like nature, and may be employed after the same manner; and by reason that she is lesse stirring and more melancholly then the Batte, as also of greater quantity

quantity, and sooner to bee perceiued, shee is a better Stale then the Bat.

Now if you haue not a liue Owle or a liue Batte, if you can get but the skins of either and stoppe them with woole or flockes, they will serue as well as if they were aliue, and continue (with carefull keeping) twenty yeeres and better. I haue seene some that for want of either of these hath had an Owle so liuely cut out in wood, and so artificially painted, that it hath serued him for this purpose, as well as any liue one could doe, and he hath taken Byrdes in wonderfull great abundance therewith.

K; CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

*Of the taking of Hawkes of all kindes,
and all Ages.*



Having written of the
generall taking of
Land-Fowle of all
sorts both great and
small; and also de-
scended to the taking
of some particular

Byrdes as hath beene before shewed; we
will now write of the manner of taking
of Hawkes of all kindes; especially such
as are most frequent in our Kingdome,
and with which my experience hath oft
beene familiar, as the *Goshawke*, and her
Tercell, the *Sparrowhawke* and her *Musket*,
the *Meryne*, *Hobby*, *Castrell*, *Ringtaile*,
and the like, all which haue their Ayries
and breed in this kingdome, as also the
Faulcon-Gentill, *Haggard*, *Passenger*, and
diuers others, which though naturally
they breede not amongst vs, yet by ma-
ny

*What
Hawkes
breede in
England.*

ny accidents they come into the King-
dome wilde, and sometimes breaking out
of the Meweturpe wilde, so that with-
out some especiall Art they are not to be
recovered, because hauing any long time
preyed for themselves, the Luer, voyce,
and all rules of obedience are then vt-
terly forgotten.

To beginne then with such Hawkes as *The taking*
breed in our Kingdome, you shall vn- *of young*
derstand that they are to be taken three *Hawkes.*
seuerall waies, and at three seuerall sea-
sons: that is to say, either from the
Ayery after they be disclosed (and then
they be called *Eiasse*,) or after they bee
full summed and beginne to forsake their
Nest, (and then they bee called *Branch-*
chers;) or lastly, after they haue preyd
for themselves (and then be called *Sore-*
Hawkes, or Hawkes in their *Shreape*.)

For the taking of the *Eiasse* Hawke *The taking*
or Hawkes, from the Ayerie, which is as *of Eiasse*
soone as they be disclosed, and haue cast *Hawkes.*
off the first Downe which couereth their
feathers, there is but small difficulty to be
vsed, more then in the finding out of the
Ayerie or Nest, which is soone done by
walking vp and downe in the Woodes

*How to
finde the
ayrie.*

amongst the tallest and goodliest Trees which grow in the thickest couerts and are furthest from pathes, waies or places where people accustome to frequent, for in such they build and no other, and if you chance to come where the Ayrie is, you shal know it by the mutings & flycings of the old hawks; which wil not only bedaube the Tree and tences vnder the Ayrie, but also the ground and other places; as also, commonly vpon the ground (at the foote of the tree) you shal finde much plumage, feathers and bones of birdes scattered, any of which characters when you find, you may then be well assured that there the ayrie is; so that if you please but to watch neere or about the same, either early in the morning, or at the closing of the euening you shall see the male Hawke bring in prey for the female Hawke which sitteth vpon the nest, which when you see, you may then (if you please) when the female riseth to bath or solace her self (which commonly is about hie noone) clime vp into the tree, & look into the nest, and view how many eggs she sitteth vpon; but in any wise be carefull not to touch any of them or giue any af-

fright

fright to the old Hawke, but only looke vpon them and so depart, (for any grosse affright wil soone make her to forsake the ayrie.) This done you must let them rest till the young Hawkes be disclosed, which after they are a weeke or tenne daies old you may take them from the nest at your pleasure, and beare them home, and so bring them vp, with warme meat and liue birdes till they be full summed and hard feathered, and after reclaime and man them as you shall finde occasion. These Hawkes be called Eiasse, or Foole hawks because they will doate and be fonde of the man as of their naturall dambes, following him vp and down, and crying after him for foode as oft as they see him or be hungry, yet this is not the best manner, nor the best season for the taking of young Hawkes; for neither can the man feede them so naturally and choicely as the true dambe can, nor halfe so well preferue their feather from hurts and bruises, which by reason of their tendernes & bloudines they are much subiect vnto, and a hurt taken on the feathers whilst they are in the bloud may disable the hawke in flying most part of the year following.

*The take
The hawke*

The second season for the taking of young Hawkes is when they are *Branchers*, that is to say, when they are full summed, hard quill-featherd, and beginne to forsake their Nests and trust to their owne winges, skipping from bough to bough, (yet not farre from the Nest) and as it were trying their feathers, and by degrees enabling them to beate and carry their bodies, euer and anone expecting foode from the olde Hawkes, (for as yet these *Branchers* are not able to prey for themselves.)

The manner of placing the Nettles.

This as soone as you shal perceiue, you shall then (being fitted of all such implements, as shal hereafter be specified) very early in the Morning (as before day) arise and go to the Ayerie, and there watch the rising of the olde Hawkes, when they goe forth to fetch their prey; and soone after they are departed, you shall see the young Hawkes also rise from the Nest and flye forth vpon the boughes and branches of the Tree, skipping and flutering vp and downe from one arme of the Tree to another; and herein you shall obserue the waies and passages which they take when they first leape from the Nest

Nest, and through which boughes and branches they goe (for their goings out and their commings in are euer certaine) and marking which is the fittest for your purpose, you shall presently clymbe vp into the tree, and hauing diuers little nets of two foote, or two foote and a halfe square, made of strong twisted House-wifes threed, and dyed as neere as you can to the colour of the leaues of the tree, that it may giue no affright or dislike to the Hawkes; you shall place one about the Nest (halfe circular) and leauing one onely passage in and out, from and to the Nest; and this Net shall as it were penthouse ouer, or couer the Nest about head; yet at least a foot and halfe higher then the Nest, and in such secret manner that it may not be percelled, for to lye too close and neere the Nest or to open and plaine to bee perceiued, will quickly scare the Hawkes from the Nest, and make frustrate all your labour.

This Nett shall be a running Nett so *What kin* drawne vpon a strong line, that when of *Nette* any thing shall stricke against it, it may runne together like a purse, and so inclose and keepe fast the thing taken, and to

to that ende you shall make fast the strong lines to some knagge or branch of the tree, that when the hawke or hawkes are taken, they may not fall downe to the ground with the nettes, but hang fettered in the same ; and that in such strait and little compasse that they may not haue liberty to beate or bruse themselves but hang safe without the breaking or hurting of any feather ; which aboue all things is chiefly to be regarded, for the breaking and brusing of any of the maine feathers, is such a disabling of the hawke, that either she will not be able to flye at all, or if she doe flye, yet through the want of those hurt feathers shee will not be able to make fourth her way with that naturall and true swiftnesse which otherwise she would doe, and where the pray is too hard in flight for the pursuer, there is not onely all labour lost, but the pleasure depriued and no contentment to be taken in the pastime ; besides it makes the Hawke grow cowardly and fearefull, and forces her to turne Tayle, by reason of the knowledge she takes of her owne inability and weaknesse ;

When you haue thus plait your first Nette

Nette about and ouer the Nest, you shall then take your second Nette of the same size and fashion, and place it betweene the most thickest and vsuall branches, through which the Hawkes passe two and fro, both from & to the Nest, and which before you had principally marked when the Hawkes went first from the Nest, and this Nette you shall place, somewhat more vpright then the first, yet as close and secretly, and hauing greate regard that the Hawkes may by no meanes passe either vnder or aboue it without danger of taking, and it shall also as the first run together like a purse, when it is stricken into, and be fastned after the same manner to the branches, that it may by no meanes fall to the Ground, but containe and hould the Hawke till you come to vnloose her.

Now if you doe perceiue that euery Hawke when she cometh from the Nest, taketh a seuerall way, and that there be seuerall passages about the Nest, in which they take greate delight, you shall then in euery one of those same passages and likely-hoods, place one of these Nettes so cuningly as may bee, that they may neither

*The place-
ing of the
other Nets*

*Observati-
on in take-
ing of
Hawkes.*

neither goe from the Nest, nor come to the Nest without the danger of taking of them.

What to be done when the Nettes are placed. When you haue thus placst your Nets and made euery noose fast and sure from slipping, you shall then with all speede come downe from the tree; (for it is intended that this worke must be done withall speed, and before the old Hawkes returne home with their prey to the nest, for if they shall come home and finde you busie about the same, they will not onely finde fault thereat, but also entice the young Hawkes away from the place, and make you both loose your present labour, and also make you bestow a great deale more in finding out of their newe haunts and passages :) Being discended from the tree, you shall place your selfe close in some couert, where neither the old Hawkes, nor young Hawkes may discern you; and yet so, as the old Hawkes may in no wise returne, nor the young Hawkes remoue any whither but where you may discern them, and see both their meeting and encounter, and what prey they bring home to their young ones.

Now

Now as soone as the olde Hawke is come in with her prey, (which for the most part are euer liue Byrdes) you shall presently see the young Hawkes flocke about her, and then will shee driue them all before her to the nest (being euer her selfe the last) and then as many of them as chance but to touch your Nettes, they are presently entangled, and what scapes in going to the Nest, you shall be sure to take in the coming from the same againe & what you faile of in the first morning, you may be sure to accomplish in the second or the third.

Now if it happen (at the first coming in of the olde Hawke as the young ones passe to the Nest) that one or two bee stricken and taken in your Nette, you shall not presently ascend the tree, and fetch them downe, but let them hang still in the Nette till the old Hawke haue fed the rest, and is againe departed, and that those young Hawkes which escaped, likewise are come againe from the Nest; and if (by reason that the Nettes are filled) they then goe free, you presently go vp to the tree and fetch downe those which are taken, loosening the Nets, and foulding

foulding them about the Hawkes so close that they may by no meanes flutter and stirre any feather about them, but lye still without mouing.

*How to
take
Hawkes
from the
Nettes.*

When you are descended and comen to the ground againe you shall then in the gentlest sort you can, take the hawkes out of the nettes, without stirring or ruffling of their feathers, and presently make them vp, and if you haue any Ruster hoods, you shall put them on their heads, for it will keepe them the quieter, and make them lesse subiect to struggle, or hurt themselves.

*The man-
ner of
Mayling
Hawkes.*

For the manner and forme of Mayling of your Hawkes, it is thus to bee done; you shall take a handkercher, or any square piece of Linnen cloth, Canuas, or the like, and then knit the two ends of any one side together in such strait and close manner that the Hawke may onely thrust her head thorow it and no more, and that the pynions of the wings may rest vpon the noosse, and stay the body from going thorow; then you shall draw the rest of the handkercher all ouer the Hawkes body, and folding it close together about her traine, wrap it in such sort

fast

fast about the body of the Hawke that she may in no wise stirre or moue any feather about her; and if herein you obserue to draw out the Hawkes legges, so as she may not pull them vp, or gather them close to her body, it will be more easie for the Hawke, and you shall carry her with a great deale lesse danger.

There is another manner of Mayling of Hawkes, and that is to take a soft flatte string of leather, (or any other gentle stuffe, which will neither pinch much, nor yet yeld much) & this string you shall put down between the pinion of the wing & the hawkes body as low as you can; and then bringiug it about the outward part of the wing draw the two ends together, & knit them of a reasonable straitnes, so as the hawke may by no meanes moue or stir any part of her wing, which done you shall do like to the other wing, so carry home your hawks, & then gently vnmaile or vntrusse them as you shall find occasion, for the lesse time your hawke lies mailede or trnsft vp, the more wholesome it is for your hawks body, and the longer she lies maylde or trnsft vp, the more apter shee is to receiue disease or lamenesse.

L

And

And herein is also to bee vnderstood that this latter kind of Mayling of haukes (a trussing vp of the wings) is nothing neare so good as the first Mayling with the handkercher, nor carrieth a Hawke so easily nor yet so free from danger, because it not onely pincheth the wings and maketh the pinions sore and tender, but also, a little bruseth the fethers, which being but newly quilled are not come to their full strength and hardnesse, and if any of them chance to be in bloud (as all Hawkes (though of one Ayrie) yet some not at one instant) then it is great odds but this trussing them either breaketh or bruseth them in their bloud, whereby those feathers are made vnseruiceable, for all that yeare following.

The Seeling of Hawkes.

There bee some that when they take these young Hawkes, doe neither Mayle them nor Trusse them, but onely Seele them after this manner.

They take a Needle with a square point (which we commonly call a Glovers Needle) being fine, smale and much worne, and put in it a Crymson silke, then put the Needle betweene the Hawkes eye, and the neather lidde of the eye, and so

so drawe the silke thorow it, and then bring it crosse ouer the Hawkes heade, and there taking the Needle from the Silke, bring the two endes of the same ouer the toppe of the Hawkes head, and so drawing both the nether liddes close ouer the eyes, knit them with a fast knott vpon the crowne of the Hawkes heade, and so carry her either in your handkercher, or vpon your hand, at your pleasure.

But this manner of Seeling of haukes is both troublesome, painefull, and dangerous to the hawke, and except the man haue a steedy hand and a cunning eye that doth it, hee may not onely endamage the putting out of the Hawkes eye with the point of the Needle; but also by any little ouer straining of the silke, teare out the skinne of the lydde, and thereby both cause a foule blemish and sometimes blindnesse as is continually seene in dayly experience.

To helpe then this discommodity of Seeling; If you haue neither skill to Mayle your Hawke, nor to trusse your Hawke (rather then you shall Seele her) you shall take a plaine Ruffter hood

L 2

(which

Discommodities: Seeling of Hawkes.

Helps for the discommodities

which some call the first hood) being made of soft and gentle leather, large and easie for the head, and put it vpon her, and so carry the Hawke home.

*Taking
Hawkes in
their Sore-
age.*

The next manner of taking of hawkes (according to their seasons) is to take them in their forage, which is indeede from that time they haue preyed for themselves, and are masters of their owne strengthes and courages, being able to make a true choise of their prey, and to conquer it ; vntil the first whole yeare be fully expired, and that they haue mewed and exchanged either all, or at least, most part of their first feathers, after which time of the second coat, they are no more called Sore-hawkes, (or hawkes in their foreage) but entermewers, (or hawkes of the second Coat) and they are most easily to be distinguished from the first, for the feathers of the second coat are a little more palish blew, and not so blacke as are those of the first, and euery time that she changeth, her coate is paler and paler till she come to bee called a white Hawke, which you shal so much the easier distinguish, if you obserue the differences of her feathers, for no hawk mew-

eth

eth so entirely but she leaueth euer some feather of the former yeare vnnewed, & those are so easily to be distinguished one from an other, that any diligent obseruation you shall be euer able to knowe of what yeare or age your hawke is. Now to proceed to the maner of taking these hawks in their forage, or after they preyed for themselves, you shall (being perfit in the knowledge of the ayrie for that is euer first to be intended) most diligently marke their morning and euening going forth to find out their prey, and how and where they prey, as also the manner of their returning home, & where they take their stand (that is, on what brāches of the tree they do most vsually sit) for hawkes are the constantest of all birds to the places wherunto they inure & woont themselves, neither will as others doe sit one while in one place & another while on another. Therefore when you are acquainted with their hours of going out & the places wher they sit at their returne, you shal then take aduantage of her going out, & when shee is absent about her prey, you shal climb the tree wher her stand is & in a strait place through which necessarily

L 3

shee

ſhe muſt paſſe, you ſhall take a paire of thoſe Nettes, which Fanlkoners commonly doe call Vrines, or Vrnes, being not much different in ſhape from the nets formerly deſcribed for the *Branchers* only they are much, larger and more hollow in compaſſe, and indeede are to bee bought almoſt of any Barbar, or Nette-makers which dwell in the Wood Countries; and they muſt be of ſtrong twiſted browne thride, and dyed either Blewe or Greene, as aforeſaid, with a reaſonable large maſhe, for that ſooner entangleth and holdeth the faſter.

Placing of the Vrines Theſe Vrines you ſhall place in euery ſeueral paſſage, and in ſundry Trees round the ſtand which the Hawkes vſeth. ſo as ſhe may come no way to the ſtand without danger of the Nettes, into which if at any time ſhe ſtrik, ſhe is preſently taken, and then to be diſpoſed as was formerly deſcribed.

Now becauſe you may not in any wiſe ſuffer the Hawke to hang too long in the Nette, for feare of bruifing and hurting her ſelfe, you ſhall as ſoone as your Vrines are placed, take vp ſome ſecret and vnſcene place, where you may
lye

lye and watch the coming of the hauke and aſſoone as you ſee her ſtrike or be intangled, preſently (with as conuenient ſpeed as you can, and not doeing any hurt to your other ſport) you ſhall aſcend vp to the tree, and take downe the hauke and mayle, truſſe or hood her as you ſhall finde occaſion.

Now if by the vncertainetie of the *Taking* Hawkes coming home, or the opennes *with ſtales* and liberty of the paſſages which theſe young Hawkes haue, you finde that this manner of worke auaieth not, you ſhall then riſe two howres at the leaſt before day, and come as neere to the Hawkes ſtand (or reſting place) as you can poſſibly get (without giuing of any affright or amazement to the young Hawkes) and aſcending vp into ſuch trees as you ſee doth moſt face thoſe places where the Hawkes ſit, and are ſo plaine in their viewes that they cannot riſe without beholding them, and in ſuch trees amongſt the moſt conuenient branches you ſhall pitch and place your Vrines, and vnder the guard of them you ſhall fixe Stales of ſuch Birdes, either great or little, as you ſee the Hawke dayly preyeth vpon,
and

and these Stales you tye at such a conuenient liberty, that they may flutter with their wings, and flye a little vp and down about the Nette, yet by no meanes without the guard of the Nettes, nor so as the Hawke may not in any wise come vnto them, or offer to stricke at them without the certaine danger of the Nettes.

And hauing thus placst your Nets round about the stande in euery conuenient place, you shall then descend and lodge your selfe in some secret place where you may lye and watch what issue doth follow of your businesse; Then you shall see that assoone as the day openeth, and the Hawke beginneth to rouse her selfe vpon her stand, and to gaze and looke about her (as it is the nature and manner of euery Hawke) and hath also cast vp her casting of plumadge, or feathers which shee had receiued into her body the day and night before, and is then sharpe, eager, and hungry, as of necessitie and likelihood shee must needes be. Then will shee no sooner espie your Stales, but with all speed possible she will flye vnto them, and stricking at them with great eagerneffe (as her hunger will

will compell her) shee will presently be intangled in the Neetes, so as you may take her at your pleasure; and thus in one morning with a little diligence and temperance, in one morning you may take the whole Ayerie; But if out of too much rashnesse and hastinesse, or for the couetousnesse to bee Master of one Hawke you rise vp to soone, and shewe your selfe, whereby the rest of the Hawkes doe take affright or dismay; presently those Hawkes vnaken will moue and flye away, and so all the rest of your hope is vtterly lost for that day, and you must begin againe and be more aduised the next morning.

There bee some that for the taking of these Sore-hawkes doe vse Lime-rodde, or a little small Lime bushe artificially made of fine twigges fixt so gently into a little socket of woode made like a handle, that assoone as any thing toucheth or striketh them they presently depart from the socket and clappe close to the thing that toucheth them, whereby they are intangled, these little bushes are artificially placed about the stand wher the hawk vseth to sit, compassing it

*Taking
with Lin
dinerfly.*

it so about that the Hawke cannot come to the same, whether with winges opened or wings close, but she must of necessitie touch the points of the roddes, (for more then the points must not come neere the stand, or appeare, aboue it for feare of giuing affright) and then as soone as the points are touched, (leauing the socket) they clap vnder the Hawkes wings and so entangle her.

As for the Lime-roddes which are to be vsed single by themselves, they must be fixed to the neereft branches to the stand, comming sloapewise so neere vnto the stand that the Hawke cannot come in, or settle her selfe vpon the same, but must of force touch some one point or other of them, which no sooner shall be touched, but presently it must forsake the place where it was fixt and clap vnto the Hawke; which as soone as shee feeleth, and beginneth to be angry, and to beate or struggle with her wings, then instantly the rest clap about her, and altogether intangle her.

And here is to be noted that these Lime-rods must not be onely placed in and about the Stand, or that particular place

place where the Hawke most vsually sitteth, but also in and about all passages and places of likelihood through which the Hawke goeth, or flyeth when shee comes to the stand; yet in such secret & close maner and so sheltered with leaues, and other branches, that the Hawke may by no meanes discerne or distinguish them from the naturall spraires or twiggs of the tree. And here is further to be noted that these single Lime-twiggs or Lime-roddes may be of a good size or length, as a foot, or a foot and a halfe, and Lined either halfe or three parts, as occasion shall serue, yet the smaller and finer that these roddes are the better they are, and doe much sooner catch and more safely entangle. But for those that are to be vsed Bush-wise in the wooden sockets or handles, containing some a dozen, and some sixteene rods in a cluster, yet so as one may not touch another; these must be as small as small may be, as not aboue fixe inches at the most, and lined about foure inches and no more, two inches being left cleane and vnlymed: that is to say, halfe an inche which must stand in the socket; and also an inche and a halfe

halfe about the Socket, which is preferred for the Man to handle and touch, when either hee putteth the Roddes into the Socket, or taketh them out of the Socket.

The making of the little Lime bushe.

Now for the manner of making of this little Lime-Bush with the Socket, it is two wayes to be framed, that is to say, if the Socket be round and thicke and of a large compasse, whereby it is to be fixt into the Stand, and nothing but the rods to appeare about, then must all the holes (in which the Lime-Rods must stand) be made about sloape-wise all of one iust height and iust depth, and the Rods of one true and equall length without difference.

But if the Socket must bee small and slender whereby it cannot containe about a hole or two on the toppe of the Socket, and that it is to be fixt amongst the branches as a naturall branch, or a maine spray of the Tree, then must the holes be made sloapewise downe all the length of the Socket, and in such wise as you see twiges grow, that is to say not one iust opposite to another, but one in the mid part or middle space betweene
two

two, as by cutting of any naturall bushie branch whatsoever, you may easily perceiue.

And in this case you shall not haue your Roddes all of one entire length, but the vppermost must bee the shortest, (as about the scantling before mentioned of sixe Inches) and then the next longer by so much more as there is difference betweene the holes, and so as the toppes may meete, and bee of an equall height, the next longer then that, so as it may also meete in an euen height with the first; and so consequently euery one longer then other, yet so as none at the toppe may be longer or shorter then the first, but all meete of one equall height and make the Bushe of one entire and euen proportion.

Nowe although this manner of taking with Lyme is very safe and certaine and may bee doue with more ease and lesse trouble then any of the former, yet is it nothing so good nor so neate: First, in respect it fouleth the feathers and gleweth them together, whereby the hawke is depriued the perfit vse of them, for the Bird-lyme (whose cleauing and
Distommodities taking with lym

and sticking nature almost no man is so Ignorant as not to vnderstand) when it is gotten vpon the feathers, doth so stick & felter vpon the same, that it is almost in no wise to be taken away, but doth so disable the Hawke, that I haue seene many in mine owne experience, that albeit they did try many experiments, yet could they neuer make their Hawkes (once limed) cleane againe, till those feathers were mewed & new came in their place; Secondly it fouleth and disableth not the ordinary and vselesse feathers (as the plumage on the breast, or the small feathers on the backe, but the maine and principall feathers belonging to the winges, and without which a Hawke cannot at all mooue, or beare her selfe in the Ayre.

And lastly it is of such a melting and loose Nature, that albe it touch or hurt but a feather or two at the first; yet with strugling and strining, or much rubbing and handling of the Lime, or seeking to wash away the Lime with things not fit for that purpose, it presently spreadeth farther and farther, so that where there was but a few feathers infected, presently
you

you shall haue the whole Hawkes body, and hardly any feather free from the annoyance of the Lime.

Now in asmuch as the manner of take-*Remedies*
ing of Hawkes is most common, (be-*against*
cause most easie) both among Fowlers, *Lime.*
and Faulconers; and that indeede ould
Hawkes are very hard or sildome gotten without the helpe of Lime, as well in respect of their Naturall winge, and skill to apprehend and find out what they imagine may hurte them, as also in respect of their vigilance and care to flye and eschew all manner of affrightes, and shewes which shall interpose and happen betweene them and the places which they haue chosen for their haunts: And because that euery man is not a taker of Hawkes, but may and doth many times buy his Hawke from the Fowler or other Land-taker, and that indeede the Fowler or Land-takers, may and doe happen very many times light of excellent principall choyce Hawkes, both *Haggards* and others, that therfore this offence of Lime may neither hinder you of a good Iewell when it is tendered you, nor abate from the Fowler any part of
the

the iust reward and merrite which is due to his labour, as also that ignorance in this case may not hinder you of a full yeares sport, (as many times it doth when this mischance hapneth) but that you may clense and make cleane your Hawkes, presently as soone as you see this pollution and foulness, you shal first obserue to take off your Lime-rods with your wette hands, (hauing for that purpose euer water in readinesse) so gently and easily as may be, not rowling (as some doe) the Lime-rods vp and downe and so spreading them farther, but (lifting them vp right and putting a white paper betweene the Lime-rodd and the feathers) deuide them gently without any further anoyance, and betweene euery feather and another that is touched with the Lime, (as neere as you can) put a little piece of white paper, for this will both keepe the other feathers from further infection, and also sucke in the Lime and make it much apter and easier to be taken away, nor will it let the lime spread any whitt further then it was at the first applying, then hauing thus guarded all the rest of the feather, you may very well

Mayle

mayle vp your Hawke (if shee be a wilde one) or otherwise put on a Rustler-hood, and so bring her home (but mayling is the better) when you haue brought her home, you shall vnmayle her; and first, take away one paper (beginning with the principalest feathers) and then hauing very fine clarified Capons Grease, or at least Goose-grease, annoint the lymed feather very well and thicke therewith, then take of the finest hower glasse sand and scatter it as thicke as you can vpon the oyntment; which done goe to another infected feather and doe as much, and so consequently to as many feathers as you can well handle at one time, and then hauing warme water ready, bathe the infected feathers (thus drest as aforesaid) in the same, and then gently rubbing and chafing the Lymed feathers betweene your fingers, working off the Lyme, which you shall finde will come away in thicke little rough rouses so fast as you can wish or desire it. But if it so happen that you cannot come to bathe these feathers in the warme water, then (hauing annointed them as aforesaide, and pouncit on the sand) you shall take a

M

peice

piece of spundge, and dipping it in the warme water, bath the feathers therewith and then working them betweene your fingers you may easily bring away the Lyme as afore said, and make your hawke as cleare as she was before her taking, obseruing euer and anone when the Lime sticketh & commeth not away so roundly and quickly as you would haue it, then presently to powre on more of the sand, and so to continue, till the Hawke be thorowly censed.

*Taking
Hawkes
with the
Lanthorne*

Now there is another maner of taking of these young Hawkes, and indeede no more generally for them then for other elder hawkes of what nature or quality soeuer they be, so they take their stands either on Trees, Rockes, Towers, or any place aloft which is assailable, and where a man may climbe without danger or eminent perill, and especially this maner of taking is excellent for the regaining of all such Hawkes as shall happen to breake out of the Mewe, where hauing bin long kept and without familiaritie with the man (more then the receiuing of their foode) they are becomed almost vterly wild and Haggard againe.

And

And also for all such hawkes as shall happen to escape or break away before they be reclaimed or made to know the man and obey his voyce, or for any other wilde hawke as hath been before spoken.

Any of which chaunces or mischaunces when they shall happen vnto you, you must first diligently pursue and follow the Hawke both by inquisition and Art: *The Art how to follow a hawk fledde.*

By inquisition, as by enquiring amongst Field-keepers, Shepheards, Heardsmen, and the like, if they haue scene or heard of a Hawke, and by Art in taking aduantage of the wind and weather, for if there blow any stiffe or loud gale of wind then commonly, a Hawke will flye downe the winde, but if the Ayre be milde, gentle, and pleasant, then now and then shee will put vp into the winde. Also you must haue a very diligent eye to note in your pursuit if you see any Checke arise, whether they be Crowes, Pydgions, Rauens, or any other birds, for it is tennet to one that there you shall be sure to finde your Hawke.

Now that you may know what a Checke is, you shall vnderstand that whensoever you see any flockes or multitudes of fowls.

of Crowes, Pidgions, Rauens or the like, to raise vp and gather together in one place & flye about and about in the same place making a noyse, or shewing much trouble and vexation, one while feeding, another while mounting, sometimes stooping, and sometimes rainging & wheeling, and euer y motion shewing either anger, feare, or amazement, according to the nature of the Fowle which are troubled, then you shall know that such an obiekt is called a checke, and that these Fowle (what soeuer they be) thus troubled are either pursued by some other Fowle of pray that is their enemy, or else haue found some affright or amazement which causeth them thus to flye vp and downe and wonder: so that presently when you perceiue any such checke you must make into it and behould the reason therof; and againe as you haue an eye and care to respect this matter of checke and the other obseruations before specified, so also if your hawk be a long wingd hawk and altogether traynd vp at the Riuer, and that the time of the yeare and season is fit for that purpose then you must haue a diligent regard to looke downe to the

valles

valles and lower grounds, especially in the morning & euening, & at such times as are fite for pray, and there you must beate alonge the Riuer side, and about all blanke or standing waters as are plashe, pittes, quarries, or any other place where either *Ducke*, *Mallard*, Shell-fowle, or Greene-fowle haue any haunt, and it is greate odds but in some one of these places and at these times and seasons, you shall finde your Hawke, but if it be not a long-wingd Hawke, but a short-wingd Hawke, as a *Goshawke*, *Tercell* or the like, then you shall make your search about Woodes, Groues, plumps of Trees, and such like places where Birdes greate or little doe resorte, as also about mens Houses, Barnes, backe-yards, Pullen-houses, and such places where Pullen doe resort and vse to feede, for *Goshawkes* and such like, especially those which are called Poulterers doe euer most frequent those places, and will euer for the most parte take there stands either in high Trees, or on the topps of vnfrequented Houses, or on the toppe of some other high stakes, or Houells neare adioyning to such places.

M 3

Now

Now when by this artificiall search and inquirie you haue found your Hawke, you shall then with all care and diligence watch and pursue her from place to place till you bring her to the euening or night stand, which will be about the closing or setting of the Sunne, (for it is to be presupposed, that this Hawke is vtterly ramadge and wilde, and not to be taken by any Call or Luer:) when you haue therefore brought her to the stand, and see her safely and constantly settled, which you shall know by the rousing of her selfe and shaking of her feathers, as also by her feaking, pruning, and such like delights, which shee will take in her selfe after she is constantly settled, (for before you shall see no such motion come from her) then you may be bould to depart and leaue her, for without some extraordinarie affright, nothing will moue her till the next morning; then hauing provided all things, fit for your purpose, both for clyming vnto her, as also for the matter and manner of her taking, you shall then in the dead of the night, and when it is at the vttermoost darkenesse, (for no night can bee too darke for this purpose

purpose) come to the stand and hauing with you a darke Lanthorne (which is that which sheweth the light at one side, and by the turning of your hand may be extinguished and wholly darke at your pleasure) you shall turne the light of the the Lanthorne iust before your face, and as directly against the hawke as you can deuice, to carrie it, and so with as little noise as as you can possible make, you shall clymbe vp to the Hawke, obseruing euer to carry the Lanthorne so iust before your face, that your Hawke may in no wise perceiue your face, for the least blinke thereof may affright her, but being well guarded by the light of the candle, and the darkenesse of the night, you are safe enough, and may by this meanes come euen to the very branch, or certain place whereon shee sitteth, vnto which assoone as you are arriued and that the Hawke is within the compasse of your reach, you shall then very artificially steale vp your other hand in which the Lanthorne is not, and with it take her fast by the legges, thrusting your great finger betweene her legges, and your forefinger on the outside of one legge,

and your middle finger and little finger on the out-side of the other legge, and so hold her that shee can neither stirre nor moue; then hauing a hooke or some other crooked engine at your side whereby to fasten your Lanthorne, presently clap the Hawke to the contrary side with one hand and stay the batting of her wings with the other, and then hauing your handkerchife or some other linnen cloth in a readinesse, presently mayle the Hawke and so bring her downe from the stand and carry her home.

This is a certaine and most infallible way for the taking of any of those wilde Hawkes before mentioned, yet if in this worke you observe to couer your face with a close hood either of greene or blew collour leauing onely two loope holes for your eies and the rest of your face concealed, your worke will be more easie, and you shall come to your prey with a great deale lesse suspition, for nothing is so affrightfull in this case as the face of the man only.

And albe the glimmering or light of the candle mixt with the darknesse of the night

night is a guard sufficient, because the flame of the candle is the onely obiect which taketh vp the Hawkes eye, yet neuerthelesse in as much as your hand may now and then chance sometime to fayle in the carriage of the Lanthorne, and partly by looking for your right way, and to auoide daunger, and partly to make sure your prey, so that you may neither come too rashly vpon her, nor yet goe too farre away or wide on either hand, you may now and then let your Lanthorne slip from before your face to the hazard and losse of all your labour, therefore it is most expedient that you haue this hood before spoken of to couer and conceale your face, and then you shall not neede to feare, but your worke will prosper and goe on according to your wish, and in the fulnesse of perfection.

Now there is another wilde Hawke *Of the old* (which is of a great deale more price *wild Hag-* and value then any of these which we *gard.* haue formerly written of) which will hardly or neuer bee taken with any of these waies, meanes, deuices, or engines before

before recited, because she is a Hawke of more age, circumspection and cunning and that is the *Haggard Faulcon gentil*, and now and then (though seldome) the *Gerfaulcon* or the *Cerkin*.

The coming of the wild Haggard.

These Hawkes come into this Land (or any other of like clymat or temperature) in the beginning of Winter, and (according to the opinions of the best Faulconers and Fowlers) to come in by the pursuing of Wild-foule (at that season of the yeare) from other more colder Nations, where the waters and riuers are closed vp and couered with ice, so as they can neither finde reliefe nor pleasure, nor any thing to sustaine them; and heere commonly they doe continue from October to March (if the season of the yeare doe fall out any thing wet) but after that time they depart againe and will not stay by any meanes; whence it comes that your skilfullest Faulconers will not (after March is spent, and sometimes before it be gone) in any wise let their Haggards flie either at the Ryuer or at any other prey (as the *Hearne* or the like) for by a very naturall instinct and mouing of their owne bloods at that time

time of the yeare, they are forced vpon euery toy or conceit to flie away, nor will turne tayle againe, till they come into those colder Regions from which before they departed; where finding the riuers beginning to open, and all sorts of foule to come in and resort, there she presently meeteth with her *Tercel*, where cooping and ingendring, they bring forth their ayries together vpon the rocks, clyffes, and other high places bordering neere the Sea side.

Now when the *Haggard* (whether it be *Tercel* or *Faulcon*) is comed into this Kingdome, you shall vnderstand that their haunts are euer for the most part both vpon great and small riuers which runne through low and lardge leuelled valleies or plaines, where there is euer some drie ground whereon to land her prey when she hath taken it, and where all kinde of the middle sort of foule doe resort, as *Duck*, *Mallard*, *Tayle*, *Widgeon*, *Shel-foule* and *Greene-foule*; and vp and downe these riuers she will beate and flie at an extraordinarie high pitch, so that if any foule happen either vpon affright or otherwise to rise vp; or if any foule

foule happen to come in vnto that riuer, then be sure one of them is euer her owne, for her art and skill is so great that it is hard for any foule to escape her.

As they doe haunt thus vpon the riuers and mouing streames, so also they will haunt vpon the plasches and blanke waters; in the open seasons, and when they are not closed and bound vp with ice, and also vpon pits and quarries where stone hath beene digged, and vpon small rundles or little narrow and shallow streames when any Foule vse but to frequent and lye vpon the same.

*To know
the good
Hawke
from the
bad.*

Now heere is a principall thing to be obserued, that in searching the haunts of these *Haggards*, such *Haggards* as you shall finde to prey vpon the great, lardge and strong waters, whether they be riuers or blanke waters, that you shall account euer those Hawkes to bee the best, as in that greatnesse and strength of conquest to be euer most valiant, most cunning and nimble and the highest fliers, and such Hawkes as shall prey vpon little pits, small plasches, or narrow rundles
and

and small riuellets, that those are the weaker Hawkes, lesse skilfull, and lesse valiant.

Now when you haue either heard of, *How to* or shall by your owne especiall obserua. *take these* tion see the comming in of any of these *Haggards*. Hawks and from the knowledge of their owne worth and value shall be desirous to make your selfe owner and possessor of so gentlemanly and rich a treasure, you shall first then early in the morning by the spring of day rise vp to watch her haunt, and as neere as you can see her manner of preying (not so much for any thing that is auailable therein to the taking of the Hawke, as to haue a true knowledge of her worth and excellencie) when you haue seene her take her prey and feede, you shall then see her rouse her selfe and goe to her place of reioycing, where after she hath fekt and trimmed her selfe, and pruned some of her feathers, you shall then watch her vnto day stand, which is neuer very farre from the place where she preyeth, and is most commonly either vpon some dead remoate raile or pale, or some old stake or poale set vp for cattell to rubbe them-

themselves against in the Sommer season, or else vpon the withered trunke or armes of some old, dead and decayed tree ; To which stand when you haue watcht her, and see her safely and constantly settled ; you may then depart away about any of your other businesse, for she will not begin to stirre (from that place) till it be towards euening, which commonly is betweene three and foure of the clocke in the after noone ; Now about three quarters of an houre, or halfe an houre (at the least) before that time you shall come forth againe, and watch her as before vnto her euening prey, and so from thence to her night stand ; which commonly will be either vpon some medow-stake, mearestone, or else some of the other things before rehearsed : Now when you haue thus found out both her day stand and her night stand, to which these Hawkes are wonderfull constant, you shall then the next morning come to the day stand and hauing noted the arme or the braunch whereon she most vsually sitteth : you shall mount vp to the place and hauing very fine small long lyme rods well ly-

med

med with the best lyme, you shall of them make a cradle, that is, you shall crosse-*The Placing of the Cradle.*
wise place your lymers on the branch or stake on penthouse wise hanging ouer another, that when the Hawke commeth in with her spread wings to light vpon the stand, that then as she gathereth in her wings together, she may so draw in the lymers vnder her wings, and by that meanes be intangled and taken, and these lymers you shall place so yare and nimble to rise and fall about the Hawke, that vpon the least touch of any feather they may presently in an instant cleaue vnto her, and one lymers must depend and by a small string be so fastened vnto another, that when the Hawke toucheth but one rod, presently in an instant all the rest may suddenly clap about her.

Now that I stand not more seriously and in larger tearmes to discribe this Cradle, the true manner figure and proportion, I hold it a matter halfe needlesse because it is a thing so exceeding frequent amongst all sorts of Faulconers and Foulers, that hardly one man in ten if he haue any skill or delight that way)

but

but can shew you how to performe it, Besides, these things which consist onely in action and not in relation, are so hard to be set downe in words (especially that an ignorant vnderstander may get profit thereby, multiplicitie of words confounding memory, and scarcitie of words wanting satisfaction) that I had rather referre the diligent learner to a *Quere* amongst the skilfull Foulers, then by an animation of vnperfect words, make him doe any thing contrary to art and good order : let it suffice then that this Cradle is nothing else then a rowe or circle of lyme-twigges which are fastned one to another with an entire thrid, and placed so artificially about the stand that the Hawke may by no meanes come to seate her selfe vpon the same, without the danger of touching some one of them; which one touched, doth presently draw all the rest after it and by that meanes the Hawke is taken.

When you haue thus placed your cradle on the day stand, you shall then goe to the night stand and there doe as much, placing your cradle in the same manner as was before shewed ; and this must be
done

done during the time that the Hawke is vpon her day Stand, which performed, you shall then go againe to the day stand to see what effect your worke hath taken and if you finde that the Cradle is either too largewhereby the Hawke commeth into her Stand without touching it, or too lowe & narrow, that all her feathers are so high aboue it that any of them can touch it ; then you shall vpon her first departure reforme all those errors, and out of the true Iudgement of your eye, make it so fite that by no meanes possibly she may escape the second time, and then fourthwith hauing the true scantling of the first Cradle, make the second (which is that vpon the Night-Stand) futable and answerable in all poynts to the former, and so either in one or the other, you cannot chuse but accomplish your purpose, which as soone as you haue attained, you shall fourthwith take the Hawke and draw off the Lime-rods in such sorte as hath beene before shewed, then Mayle her vp, bringe her home, cleanse away the Lime, and then man and order her according to the arte of a skilfull Faulconer : and so keepe her either
N for

for vse or sale, as you shall finde occasion or the necessitie of you affaires requi-
reth.

There be other Fowlers which vse to take these kind of Hawkes) which goe a neerer way to worke (yet nothing more sure then this, or certaine) and that is they will find out their hautes, sometimes by the Check and trouble of foule, which rising from the water will presently Enewe and turne backe againe to the Riuer as not daring to goe forward in their passage, or by the comming in of Fowle, and presently seeing them wheel about and turne backe againe as fast as wing can beare them, and sometimes by seeing the bald Buzzard, Ringtaile, or other such like cowardly byrdes of prey hanging and watching about the Riuer, for it is the nature of them, as soone as they see the Haggard, to follow, watch and alloose to pursue him, and then when the Haggard hath taken his prey and fedde thereon at his pleasure, as soone as she forsakes it and is gone away, presently this cowardly byrde ceazeth on the remainder and taketh such leauings as the Haggard had left behinde her, so that you

you cannot haue a better guide vnto the haunt of a Haggard then one of these Buzzards, for they will direct you at a haire to the place of their preying.

Now therefore others which will not take this paines neather, but thinke it much to tedious, and therefore they will onely desire to informe themselves of the Hawkes stands, and they care for no further, whence it doth come that they will labour about to search in the most likely places to finde out the stands, and when they come truely to the place indeede and where the stand is, they may perfectly knowe it by the Mutings and Slycings of the Hawke, which indeede differeth much from any other Fowle whatsoeuer, and these Mutings or Slycings will be in great plenty both vpon the stand, and also round about the Stand.

Now if it be the day Stand, then you shall find about it nothing but Mutings, & Slycing without any mixture of other matter; But if it be the night Stand, then you shall finde lying amongst the mutings many and diuers castings of feathers, plumage and the like, which you

How to know the Day-stand from the Night-stand.

may know to belong to a Hawke, and no other Fowle, by the bignesse, proportion and substance; For if it belong to a Faulcon it will bee almost as bigge as a reasonable Almond in the shell, fully as long and somewhat more ronnd, with both the endes alike of equall sharpenes, and for the substance it will bee all feathers and plumadge without any other mixture. Any of these characters, when you haue truely found, and haue with great circumspection and care viewed them ouer and ouer, and see nothing to oppose and crosse your opinion, then you may assure your selfe, it is the Stand of a Hawke.

Now whether it be her Stand for the present time, or were her Stand in some late time before, but is now forsaken, you shall know that difference by the castings, but if it bee a forsaken Stand you shall finde no casting, but such as are dry, olde, whithered, and without any substance; but if it bee her Stand for the present time, then shall you finde castings there of all natures, as some altogether dry, some three parts dry, some halfe dry, and some lesse; Nay if you make

make diligent and carefull search, you shall finde amongst them the very casting which shee cast but that Morning, which being wholly moyst, you may with a smal pressing, presse moysture out of it all which when you haue found true by a comparison betwixt them and your owne experience, you may then assure your selfe that you are right, and that this is the right Stand which you lookt for, so that then you shall heere place your Cradle, in such sorte as hath beene formerly discribed vnto you, and then going to the Day-stand, you shall doe asmuch there, and then giuing good attention vpon your worke, you shall quickly finde that the effect will make good your hopes to the vttermost of your wishes, and the full benefite of all your well taken labours.

Now forasmuch as this *Haggard Faulcon Gentill* and her *Tercell* which is the Male Hawke, are of so much prise and worthy estimation heere amongst vs, and that our Land affords them in the seasons before said in a reasonable plenty. I thought good in this figure following to represent vnto your view,

182 *Hungers prevention: or,*
the true shape and Beauty of both these
Hawkes, the *Haggard-Faulcon* and the
Goshawke.

The forme and fashion of the
Haggard-Faulcon.



The

The Art of Fowling. 183
The shape and fashion of the
Goshawke.



And thus much touching the necessary
experience and knowledge for the artifi-
ciall taking of Hawkes of all kindes, and
all ages, which are familiar with vs here
in England and doe either breed, or come
by chance into our nation.

N 4

CHAP.

C H A P. XIII.

*How to take diuers sortes of Land-
Fowles, and Water-Fowle,
with Baytes.*

HAuing spoken thus of the generall taking of Land-Fowle of diuers and sundry natures, as also of the taking of sundry other kinds of small Birdes, great Birdes, Birdes of prey, and the like, for all such I haue shewed the Engines, Toolles, Instruments, and deuises which are to be applied in those businesses; I will now descend to another generall way of taking diuers kindes of Land-fowle, and diuers kinde of Water-fowle also, without any kinde of engine or instrument at al but only with Baites, and inticement of foode; on which, as is done as at any time they shal feed, or taste, presently they shall be sticken senseless and sicke, so as at your pleasure you may take

take them, and make your selfe master of what prey soeuer you shall be disposed to spend your time vpon, and although I cannot giue any singular commendations of these experyments, so farre forth as they are applied to the taking of any Fowle or Birds which are to be vsed for foode, because they are poysonous, and astonishing, and so may make the flesh which is so poluted and infected both dangerous & vnwholesome, yet whensoever at any time they are vsed for the destroying, killing, and consuming of rauenous and wicked Birdes, such as are Ravens, Kites, Buzzards, Carryon-Crowes and the like, any of which are not onely hurtfull to flockes and Foulds, by killing and destroying new yeand Lambes, sicke weake sheepe and the like but also are very offenciue to Conny-warrens, Parks and other places of Chase, by killing in great abundance many younge Rabites, pecking out of the eyes of young Faunes Kydes and the like, then is there no knowledge more beneficiall and excellent, or ought with greater violence to be pursued and followed in this busie and arteficiall pastime of Fowling, then this manner

manner of taking and destroying Birdes with these baytes and engines of foodē, which are so much the more certaine and assured and effected with greater ease and lesse labour, by as much as the foodē is feareful and affrightful then the engines, and that Birdes will follow it with lesse suspition and amazement, then either Nets, Limerods, Springes, Strings, or any other Engine, that carrieth a greater shew and presenteth affright in a more large and horrid manner.

*How to de-
stroy Kites
Rauens,
Bazards,
&c.*

To speake then first of the destroying of any of these wicked, rauenous and offensive birdes; you shall first doe well to obserue their hauntes, and the places where they houer most for the gayning and compassing of their prey; and aboue all things you shal obserue the times and howres in which they are most sharp and eager for the getting of their prey, as namely, very earely in the morning as soone as they do vnpearch themselves & range about to get foodē, as also in the euening a little before Sun-set, at which time likewise they rise from their day Stand, and do with as much painefulnesse hunt about & range to get food as in the morning

morning; and especially, if it be at that time of the yeare, when they haue young ones, then shall you not cast out any bait so fast as they will with greedinesse ceaze it, nay, and with that extraordinarie eagerness, that they will not many times stick to strike at it, when you hold it fast within your fingers.

Hauing thus sorted your time & place couueniently, you shall take a prety quantitie of *Nux-Vomica*, and first dissolue it either in wine vineger, or wine lees, of which the lees of sweet wines are euer the best; or for want of them you may either take the lees of claret wine or white, then take the garbage or entrails of any fowle or bird whatsoever; as whether it be Chicken, Pullet, Ducke, Mallard, or any other foule that you haue occasion to kill either for dinner or supper, or for want of such garbage you may take the intrals (which is the small gutes and other such like refuse stuffe) either of Piges, Rabites, or any thinge that you kill which is of like nature, and these intrals or garbage you shall all to besmeare and anoynt with the confection of *Nux-Vomica*, prepared as is before shewed, and

and then cast fourth the garbage into such places where these rauenuous Birdes doe haunt, and then lodge your selfe in some conuenient place, where you may watch the bayte thus prepared, and you shall see that it shall no sooner be ceazed vpon, and but a bitte or gobbett or two deuowred or swallowed downe, that then presently whatsoeuer hath so eaten it, will presently grow diffie and as it were dumbe, reeling & tumbling vp & downe, vntill it fall into dead sound, so that you may come and with your hand gather them vp.

*Other
waies to
use the
former
Bayte.*

There be other Fowlers, which to worke the distruction of these kinde of rauenuous Fowle, doe take little prettly bigge pieces of rawe leane flesh, as either Beefe, Mutton, Veale, or any other kind of Flesh, and doe make little secret holes in the flesh, then take little pieces of *Nux-Vomica*, and put them into the flesh and so close the holes close together againe, and then cast out the baite into such places where these rauenuous Fowle resort, and so watching it assoone as the bayte is ceazed and preyed vpon, presently it will worke the same effect as was before

before spoken of, and you shall take your prey both certainly and quickly, nor neede you (if you please) to take them single, or one by one, but if you please to cast out many of these baites, you shall take many of them at one stooping, for you shall see them so eager and busie struing who first shall seaze the first bayte, that if you cast out twenty hardly will any one of them be found frustrate, but each will take the full effect, that either your labor or wish requireth.

Now whereas some doe vse to *stake Of fast-*
downe these baytes, and fasten them *so ning Baits*
to the Ground that they may not be ta- *to the*
ken away, but that the Fowle shall bee *Ground.*
forced to prey vpon them in the places
where they lye, that is nothing neare so
good as to let them lye loose, and so as
they may trusse them and carry them a-
way at their pleasure, for it is the nature
of these rauenuous Creatures to snatch
and catch at their preyes, and euer to
trusse it and carry it away with them,
which when at any time they finde to be
fastned, and that it will not rise and goe
with them, presently they beginne to
doubt, and suspect that some mischiefe
lyes

lyes hidden therein, and you shall see them presently forsake it, & then mounting vpon their traynes, flye whueing in to the Ayre, nor will they euer after offer to strike at it or come neere it, for it is so be vnderstood that these rauenous *Kyter*, as they are fearefull and cowardly out of their owne natures, so are they likewise infinitely iealous and suspicious, and apt to catch at any apprehension which shall be offered, either of feare or danger, and what places soeuer they suspect, from them they presently flye, nor can any intisement whatsoeuer againe draw them within the compas of their former feare, and therefore to avoyde this suspicion, let euer your Baytes lye loose vpon the ground, and so as they may easily be trust vp and borne away by the violence of any stooping.

Of carrion to be used for baits. Now as you vse either the intrals or garbage before spoken off, or else these smaller pieces of flesh, (of which we haue already sufficiently intreated) so you may vse any kinde of Carrion whatsoeuer, whether it be Horse-flesh, or Dogs-flesh, or any other kinde of flesh made carrion by any mischance whatsoeuer, and either besmeare

besmeare and daube it with this confection of *Nux-Vomica* dissolued as before saide, or else stope the gumme as before saide into the fleshie partes of the carrion, and questionles you shall then take of these rauenous creatures in infinite abundance.

Now if you haue a desire to take any *Taking of other Land-fowle with these baits, as other fowle* House-doues, Stocke-doues, Rookes, *with baits.* Chaughes, or any other, then you shall take Wheate, Barley, Fetches, Tares, or other pulse, and boyle them very well with good store of *Nux-vomica* in ordinary running water, and when they are almost boyled dry, and as it were ready to burst, then you shall take it from off the fire, and set it by, and couer it till it bee thorowly colde, and that the Graine hath suckte vp and drunke in all the moysture; which done, take this Graine thus boyled, and in the seuerall hauntes where any of these kinde of Fowle frequent, which you would haue taken, scatter and strew it as thicke as you can possibly deuise, and bee you then well assured of it, that as many of them as shall chance or happen but to take

take or eat of the same, presently they shall fall downe in a dead swoond, and you shall come and gather them vpon your pleasure, for their diffinesse and drunkennesse comes sodenly and swiftly vpon them, that they shall haue no time or leasure to flecke away or to hide themselves, but that you may take and gather them vp, and so carry them whither soeuer you shalbe disposed.

*Taking of
small birds
with
Baites.*

As thus you take these greater kind of Land-Fowle, so you may also take all manner of other smaller Land-Fowle, of what nature or qualitie soeuer they be whether of the lesser, middle kinde, as are the *Thrushes, Blacke-birds, Fell-fares, Jays, Starlings*, and such like, or else of the smallest kind of Byrds, as *Sparrowes, Robins, Linnets, Bullfinches, Cordials* and a world of such like, if you doe but obserue to boyle in your water with your *Nux-Vomica*, the seedes of Graynes in which any of these small birds doe delight, as *Hemp-seed, Linseed, Rapeseed*, and aboue all other your *Mustard-seede*, for though it be not so pleasant as any of the other seedes, not yet so apt to intise Byrds to feed vpon it, yet when it is thus vsed and boyld, it then doth

doth take more surer and certaine then any of the other seedes whatsoeuer, both by reason of the naturall sharpenesse and fume which it carryeth, and sends vp to the braine to amaze and intoxicate it, as also the strength of the other mixture, which ioyning with the former naturall violence, doth so vtterly take away all sence and motion, that not any thing is left to the poore Bird but a most deadly slumber.

There be other Fowlers which instead of the *Nux-Vomica* doe only take the *Baites*. lees of wine, (and the sharper & quicker such lees are, the better they are and the better effect doth proceede from their vse,) and in these lees of wines, they doe boyle any or al of their graynes, as wheat barley, fetches, or any other pulse, as also any or al of the seedes formerly reherfed, and doe strew and scatter them in the haunts where the foule or Byrdes doe vsually vse to haunt which you would take, and it is altogether as good and as fully effectuell as the *Nux-Vomica* is, and is a greate deale more neate and more wholesome, and far better then any other, for not being poysonous or infectiue, it

it corrupteth not the blood, or leaues behinde in the flesh any thing but what a man may with fastie taste, hauing in it onely a power to amaze and to astonish without any further danger or mischeife, which on the contrary parte to a scripulus conceite, is both offensiue and loathsome as we finde in daily experience.

Now in the making of this confection, neede you to stand too strickly or seuerely on the boyling of it, for if you haue not euery thing answerable to your purpose, if you onely steepe and infuse your graines or seeds in the lees of wine, it will be fully as effectual, and without any boyling at all will doe euery way as much as can be desired herein, onely it must then haue a longer time to stand and infuse, so that the Graynes or seeds may drinke in the Lees, and be as it were ready to burst before you make any certaine vse of them.

Baite

There be other Fowlers which in take made with that they can neither get *Nux-Vomica* *Hemlocke* nor yet these lees of wine, will instead and Hen- them take the iuice of Hemlocke and bannc. it steepe these Graines or seedes, and

then mixe with them in that iuice a pre-

tie sprinckling of Henne-bane seede or Poppie seede, or both if you can compass to get them, and hauing let it stand in steepe two or three dayes at the least, after draine it out, and then scatter it amongst the haunts of these Fowle or Byrdes, and as many as shall taste or feede vpon the same, so many will presently be taken with a frenzie or dizines, that they shall haue no power to flye or mooue, but that you may take them vp at your pleasure and doe with them what your fancie best liketh, whether it be to kill them. keepe them, or to reuiue them againe for some other intent and purpose.

Now hauing thus attained to the full perfection of all manner of baites for the taking of all sorts of Land-fowle of what nature or quality soeuer they be, if then you haue a desire likewise to know the secrets, and how with the like baites to take all manner of Water-fowle, especially such as at any time doe forsake the water, and range vp and downe to finde some part of their food vpon the Lande, as for the most part doe your wilde *Geese*, *Barnackles*, the *Gray Plover*,

*Taking of
wilde fowle
with baits.*

Mallards, Bytters, Bustards, Curlewes, Shauellers, and a world of others like vnto them, then shall you for the taking of any of these kinde of water-Fowle, take the seedes of the hearbe called *Belenge*, the leaues, rootes and all, and hauing clen^d and pickt them from all filth as cleane as is possible, you shall put them into a vessell full of cleare running-water, and there let them lye in steepe fully a day and a night and somewhat better, then taking the same water in which they were thus longe steeped, boyle them altogether in the same, till the water be in a manner all consumed, and the seedes and hearbes left in a sorte dry. then take it off and let it stand and coole: then hauing occasion to vse it, take as much therof as you shall thinke conuenient, and then goe to the haunts where any of these water-fowle vse, whether it be vpon early Winter come lands, on Meddowes, bankes of Riuers, in moires and watery Ilands. in Fennes as amongst Reeds, Rushes, Sedge, and other courtes Stouer, or in any other haunt whatsoever, and there spread of this baite in diuers and sundry places, and as many

Fowle

Fowle as shall either taste or feede thereon, so many presently will be stricken with a drunken diziness, so that they will turne vp their heeles and lye in a dead traunce for a great while together, without any mouing at all.

Now there be other Fowlers, which to this bayte or confection, doe adde good store of Brimstone and boyles it well with the same, and it is very good also, for Sulphure is of such a sharpe and peirceing nature, that if it catch but the braine of any of these cold weake creatures, it presently suffocates it, and makes the Fowle loose all manner of sence and motion.

Now if after you haue taken any of these Fowle, and hauing them in your owne safe keeping, you desire to restore them to their first health, whether it be against this Bayte laste of all rehearsed, or against any of the other formerly recited thorow out this whole worke, you shall then take a little quantitie of Sallet-Oyle, (according to the strength abilitie and bignesse of the Fowle; so hauing your Oyle and euery thinge fit for the purpose, droppe it

O 3

downe

How to restore foule that are entranced,

downe the throate of the Fowle, then chaffe the head well with a little strong Wine Vineger, and the Fowle will presently recouer againe, and be as healthfull and as able as euer shee was.

And thus much for the taking of all manner of Fowle whether belonging to the Water or Land, with Baites and such like astonishing deuises.

CHAP. XIII.

*Of the taking of Pheasants with
Nettes, Lyme-bushes or any
other Engine.*



Having thus passed over the generall taking of Land fowle and Land byrdes, with some particular vse of dyuers particular Engines, and haue not onely shewed the generall vse of all Nettes, Lyme, Engines, and all manner of Baites: We will descend to the more particular taking of some particular

particular Land-fowle, and which indeed are of more particular renowne and estimation, and of greater price and valew then any that haue beene heretofore spoken of: And of which in the first ranke I will place the *Pheasant*, as beeing indeede a Byrde of singular beauty, excellent in the pleasure of her flight, and as rare as any Byrde whatsoeuer that flies, when shee is in the dish, & well cookt by a skillfull and an ingenious worke-man.

To speake then of the manner of taking the *Pheasants*, you shall vnderstand that it is to be done three seuerall waies; that is to say, with Nets, with the Lyme-bush, or else with other particular Engines of which there are diuers kindes, and doe carry diuers shapes, according to the seasons of the yeare when they are vsed, and the manner of the place in which they must be vsed as shall bee at large declared hereafter.

For the taking of the *Pheasant* with Nettes it is to be done, either generally, or particularly: Generally as when you take the whole Eye of *Pheasants*, that is to say, the olde, the young, and altogether,

ther, the old Cocke, the old Henne, and all their poots as they flecke and runne together in the thicke & obscure woods, or particularly when you take none but the ould *Pheasants*, or such young *Pheasants* as are comed to the age of coupling and payring, so as you can haue no hope with your Nettes to strike at more then one *Pheasant* or two at the most at one instant or fixed time, for these kinde of Byrdes are of a melancholie, sadde and sullen disposition, and after once they bee coopled and payred together, doe no more keepe in flockes, or companies together, but liue separated and assunder from other payres.

The generall taking of Pheasants with Netts.

When therefore you shall intend to put in practise this generall way of taking of *Pheasants* with Nettes, which (as before I saide) is to take the whole Eie of *Pheasants* both younge and old, and altogether without any reseruati on, you shall then first of all learne to know the hauntes of *Pheasants* and their vsuall and common places of breeding: otherwise doe what you can, your worke will be frustrate, and your labour spent in vaine.

The

The hauntes then wherein *Pheasants* Haunts of naturally doe abide and breede are not *Pheasants*, in open and plaine Fieldes, (for their feares are so great, and their cowardlynesse so much that they dare not liue without couert or shelter) nor yet vnder the couert of Corne Fieldes; lowe shrubbes or bushes, neither yet in tall ould high Woods where euery Tree may fitly be employed for Timber.

But in thicke young Coppfes well growne and ready for ordinary saile of small bush wood, Poales and the like, hauing bin diuers yeares reserved from the haunts of Cattell of all kindes, and from the tracing and pathes of mens feete: by reason of which solitarynesse and safenesse, the *Pheasant* takes great delighte herein, and will here aboue all other places breede and bringe forth her young ones, prouided that it be euer thicke growne and obscure, for if it be otherwise thinne, plaine and passable, she will neither breede nor come neere it, for she accounts the strength of her couert to be her onely safetie.

Now when you haue thus found out *Howe to finde the Eye of pheasant,* the hauntes and breeding places of the *Pheasant*.

Pheasant, then your next care is to finde out the Eie or brood of *Pheasants*, which you may doe sundry waies: as first, by your eye, in searching vp and down those hautes, and viewing the bushes and trees and other obscure places, where for the most part they reside, and where you shall see them flecke and runne together in companies and heapes, as it were so many Chickins after the Henne; or else by rising earely in the Morning, or coming late in the Euening, and obseruing, how and when the old Cocke and Henne calleth to the young ones, and then how the young ones answers back vnto them againe, and so from that sound to direct your pathe as neere as you can to the place where they meete and gather together, lying there downe so close and secretly, that by no meanes you may be discerned; but that you may take a true obseruation how they meete, and how they lodge together, that from thence you may take a true knowledge, both how, where, which way and after what manner to pitch your Nettes, and with what aduantage both of winde and weather, for the gaining of you purpose.

But

But if it so fall out, that either by your owne want of knowledge in this kinde of practise, or through any other naturall imbecility either in your eye or eare, that neither of these wayes sort with your liking but seeme either too tedious or too difficulty.

Then the most certaine, readiest and easiest way for the finding out of this pleasure, is to haue an absolute, perfit, and naturall *Pheasant*-call, of which you must both by practise, and the instruction of the most skilfull in that Art, not onely learne all the seuerall notes and tunes which the *Pheasant* vseth, but also the seuerall and distinct applications of them, and the time when, and to what purpose she vseth them: as whether it be to cluck them together when shee would broode them; to call them to foode and meate when she hath found it, to chide them when they stragle too farre, and to keepe them out of danger, or to call them together and to make them reioyce and wanton about her, and to labour and seeke for their owne liuings; for any of all which shee hath a seuerall Note or Tune.

All

All which when you haue learnt perfectly vpon your Call (of which Call I shal speake a great deale more largely, in a particular Chapter hereafter) then you shall with your Call come into these haunts (before spoken off) at such houres as are most conuenient and fitting for the purpose: as namely, very early in the morning, at which time they straggle and goe abroad to seeke out their foode, which commonly is for the most part before the Sunne rising, or else at furthest iust with the Sunnes rising, or else in the euening, somewhat before the Sunne beginne to set, at which time they doe the like also in straggling abroad to seeke their foode.

*Times to
use the
Call.*

Now here is to be vnderstoode, that albeit these two particular times of the day, as the earliest of the morning, and the latest of the euening are the best times of the day for the vse of the Call, and the finding out of the *Pheasants* whether it be by couples, or otherwise the whole Eye or company; yet neuertheless they are not the onely and alone times but you may as well vse the Call any time in the forenoone after the
Sunne

Sunne rise, or any time in the afternoone before Sunne set, by altering and exchanging onely your note or tune, for as before Sunne rise, and at Sunne set, your note is to call them to their foode, or to giue them libertie to range; so your notes after Sunne rise, and before Sunne set, which are called the forenoone and afternoone notes, must be to clucke them together and to bring them to brood, as also to chide them for their straggling, and to put them in feare of some danger ensuing.

As for the notes of reioycing or playing, they may bee vsed at any time, yet not so much for the discouery of these young *Pheasants*, as for the finding out of the old couples, when they are seperated and gone any distance one from another, whether it be for foode, through affright, or any other naturall or casuall occasion whatsomener, as euery hower hapneth to these fearefull and cowardly creatures.

Hauiing thus the perfect vse of your *The manor* Call, and the obseruation of the right of using howers and seasons, being comed to the *the Call*. hauntes (that is to say into the aforesaid thicke

thicke Copsies and Vnderwoods) and hauing ranged through the same into the places most likely and best promising for your purpose, which you shall know by the strength of the vndergrowth, the obscurenesse, darkenesse, and solitarinesse of the place, you shall then lodge your selfe so close as is possible, and then drawing forth your Call, beginne to Call first softly, and in a very lowe tune or note (lest the *Pheasants* be lodged too neare you, and then a sudden loude note may affright them) but if nothing reply or call backe againe to you, then raise your note higher and higher, till you make your call speake to the vttermost compasse: provided that by no meanes you ouerstraine it in the lest degree, or make it speake out of tune, for that were to lose all your labour, and to giue the Fowle knowledge of your deceit. where as keeping it in a most true pitch and naturall tune, if their bee a *Pheasant*, in all the woode that comes within the compasse of the sound thereof, shee will presently make answere, and call backe againe vnto you, & that in your own note also, and as loude and shrill in euery proportion

portion. Now assoone as you heare this answere or report backe againe, if you finde it come farre, and is but one single voyce and no more, then shall you as close and secretly as you can by degrees steale and creepe nearer and nearer vnto it, still euer and anon applying your Call, and you shall finde that the *Pheasant* which answereth you, will also come nearer and nearer vnto you, which assoone as you perceauce, you shall then obserue that the nearer and nearer you meete, the lower and lower you make your Call to speake, for so you shall perceiue the *Pheasant* her selfe to doe, and her in all poynts as neere as you can you must imitate, and thus doing, in the end you shall get sight of the *Pheasant* either on the ground, or on the perarch, that is vpon the bowes of some small Tree, as it were prying and seeking where she may finde you, which assoone as you perceiue you shall then cease from calling a space, & then as secretly and as speedily as you can, see you spread your Nettes in the most conuenientest place you can finde betwixt your selfe and the *Pheasant*, ouer the toppes of the lowest shrubbes and bushes

bushes making one end of your Nette fast to the ground, and holding the other end by a longe line in your hand, by which when any thinge straineth it, you may draw the Nette close together or at least into a hollow con passe, which done you shall call againe, and then assoone as you perceau the *Pheasant* to come vnder your Nette, then you shall rise vp and shew your selfe, that by giueing the *Pheasant* an affright he may offer to mount, and so be presently taken and intangled within your Net.

Taking of many Pheasants together.

Now if it so fall out that vpon your first calling you heare many answers and those out of many corners of the Wood, then shall not you stir at all but constantly keepe your place still, by al meanes inticing them to come vnto you, and you not moning to them, and as you shall heare them by their sounds come nearer and neerer vnto you, so shall you in the meane space prepare your Nette ready and spread them in such convenient places as you shall thinke fit round about you, one payre of Nettes on one side, and another payre of another side, and then lye close and apply your

till all the *Pheasants* be commed vnderneath your Nettes, and then boldly discover your selfe and giue the affright to make them mount, which done take them out of the Nettes, and dispose of them at your pleasure; and in this manner (before discovered) you may take either the single couples of olde *Pheasants*, if it be after the time of the yeare of their payring, or else the whole Eye of *Pheasants*, according to the time of breed, and the true and proper vse of the season.

Now there is another manner of taking of these *Pheasants* with Nettes (but it must bee onely when they are very yonge) when they are called pootes, or *Pheasant* poots and not altogether *Pheasants*, and this manner of taking is called drying of *Pheasants*, and it is to be done after this manner.

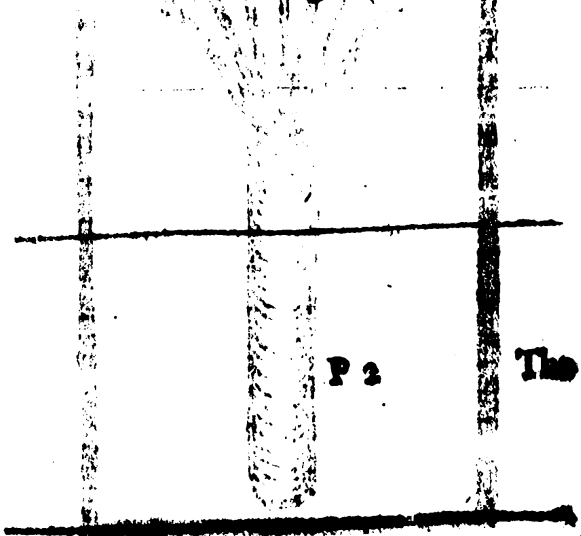
First, you shall either by the Arte of your eye, still in their haunts, diligence in search, or else by the cunning of your Call, finde out the Eye of *Pheasants*, be they great or little, and assoone as you haue found out any one of them, you shall then (alwaies taking the winde with

P

you

you for they will naturally runne downe the winde :) Place your Nettes crosse the little paddes and waies which you see they haue made, and padled in the woods, (for they will make little tracks almost like sheepes trackes) and as neere as you can come to some speciall haunte of theirs, which you shall knowe by the barenesse of the ground, mutings and loose feathers which you shall find there, and these Netts you shall hollow, loose and circular wise, the neather part thereof being fastened close to the ground, and the vpper side lying hollow, loose, and bending, so that when any thing runneth into it. it might fall and intangle them ; which done you shall (taking the aduantage of the winde) goe where you had before found the haunte, and there with your Call (if you finde the Eye bee scattered abroad and separated one from another) you shall call them together, and as soone as you find they are all commed in and doe beginne to cloocke and peepe one to another ; then you shall cease from any more calling, and taking an instrument which some Fowlers doe call a Driuer, being made of good fiewe

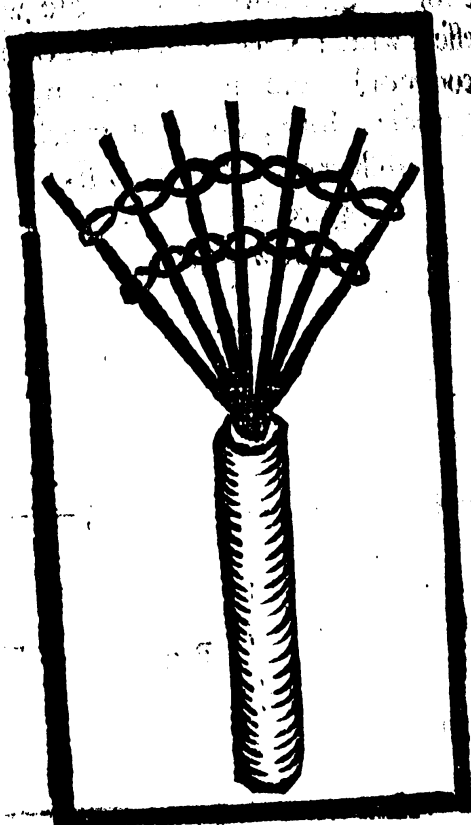
white wandes or Ozyers, such as basket-makers doe vse, being set fast in a handle, and into or three places twisted about and bound with other wandes, carrying the forme and fashion of those wand-dressers which Clothworkers doe most commonly vse in the dressing of their Cloth, and not much different from this figure heere following.



P 2

The

The forme and fashion of
the Driuer.



With this driuer (as soone as you
the *Pheasants* gathered together) you
shall rake and make a gentle noyse vpon

the boughes and Bushes which shalbe
round about you, which as soone as the
pootres doe heare, they will presently
runne in a heape together from it as fast
as they can a little way, and then stand
and listen, keeping all as close together
as can be (for then they dare not scatter)
and then you shall giue another racking or
two, at which they will runne againe as
before, and thus by racking and dashing
vpon the small trees and bushes, you shall
driue them like so many sheepe before
you, which way or whether you please,
and if at any time they chauce to goe
that way which you would not haue
them, then you shall crosse them, and
making a noyse with racking, as it were
in their faces, they will presently turne
and goe as you would haue them, for a-
gainst the noyse they dare not come for
their liues, and thus you shall not cease
driuing them by little and little till you
haue brought them altogether in one
flocke wholly into your Nets, into which
they will run with all eagernes till they
be so intangled that not any one can es-
cape, but will all rest at your mercy to
dispose according to your owne pleasure.

Now in this drying of the *Pheasant*, there are two things principally to be obserued, either of which when you shall happen to faile in may be the vtter losse of your whole labour; the first is secrecy in your concealment, for if you shall lay your selfe so open that the byrdes may perceiue you, or beholde your face, it will bee such a strange affright vnto them that their amazement will make them scatter and runne one from another and hide themselues in holes, and bottome of bushes, where they will lye and not stirre vpon any occasion, as long as any day endureth, and therefore you must be very circumspect in any wise not to discouer your self, but to follow them so secretly and closely, that they may either not perceiue you at all, or if they doe perceiue you, yet not so that they may imagine you do pursue them; which that you may the better doe, it shall not be amisse for you if you weare ouer your face a hood of some Greene ligg stuffe as futable as you can to the leaues of the trees, hauing onely loope-holes for your eyes and nostrills; And also about your head if you weare a wreath

Oake

Oaken leaues, or other leaues, it will be very good, and will take vp the eyes of the birdes from greater suspitions, as also if you tryme and hang your garments with branches and leaues of trees, it will bee very available and bring your worke to effect sooner and better.

The other obseruation is time and leasure in the worke, for this businesse hath no greater foe in the world then rashnesse and hastinesse, for any thing that is done to these fearfull creatures suddenly or rashely, breedeth offence and amazement, and euery amazement is to them an allarum of death, nor will their feares suffer them to argue or dispute with the object, but the very first apprehension is sufficient to make them all flye at an instant, nor will their feares let them stay till euery one haue beheld the thing which should suddenly affright and feare them: But if any one of them take a scare, it is a sufficient warning piece to set all the rest a packing, and therefore you cannot take too great leasure or care in this businesse, and when at any time you shall finde any staggering or (as it were) astonishment amongst them,

then presently cease, and lye as still as if that you were dead, till the feare be passed ouer and forgotten of them; and that you see they gaze no more about them, but gathering themselves together doe beginne to peepe and clucke one to another, and to ioy and reioyce amongst themselves; which when you doe perceiue, then you may beginne to gaine, and fall to your worke as you did before, til it you haue brought to that full period of your desires which your eyes looked for.

*Taking
Pheasants
with the
Lyme-bush.*

The next way to these already recited for the taking of *Pheasants*, is with the Lyme-bush or the Lyme-rodde, in which businesse is to be obserued all those things which were formerly recited for the Nettes both as touching the nature of the Byrdes, their hauntes, fashion of breeding, and the manner of finding of them; onely in the vse of the thing itselfe, you are to obserue this manner of proceeding.

First, whether you deale with Bushes or single rodde, you shall make sure to trimme them with the best and strongest Lyme that can be got, and prouide that

you

your rodde be of a very good syze, as twelue, or tenne Inches at the least, and that they be lyned full out to the midst, but no further, except it bee vpon some speciall occasion, where the Bushes are so deepe that you cannot fixe them handsomely, also shallow and small a proportion; and then in this case you may lyne your rodde fully to three parts at the least.

Now for the fashion of the Lyme-bush to bee vsed for this purpose, it must *The fashion of the lyme bush.* not containe aboue sixe or eight twigges at the most, being the toppe branche of some young Willowe tree, and the single or neather ende thereof, being almost a shaftment long from the twigges, which shall be made sharpe: so as you may either sticke them gently in the ground (yet so as they may alwaies remoue with the least touch whatsoever) or else pricke them into shrubs & little bushes, through which the *Pheasants* vsually run and trace when they are vpon the ground; also if you see any litle small trees whereon the *Pheasant* vseth commonly to perch, if one them, and nere to the branche which shee makes her perch

pearch, you place two or three of these bushes, and pricke them so, that she can neither spread her wings to light on, nor yet take her wings to flye off without touching some of them, you shall be sure the *Pheasant* can hardly or neuer escape your taking.

The manner to take with the Bush.

When you haue thus plast these little bushes, you shall then draw forth your Call, and then beginne to call (as hath bene formerly declared) but by no means remoue from your place, or discover your selfe, but ly as close as is possible, and cease not till you haue enticed all the *Pheasants* about you; which you will quickly doe if your call bee good, and your Art skilfull in the tuning: & you shall see as soone as they come within the daunger of your bushes, presently vpon the touch of any of them, they will in an instant fasten, and when one is lymed, that one will goe very neere to lyme all her fellowes, for what by her owne struiuing and struggling amongst them, their comming to gaze, and seeking to escape or auoide like daunger, some will be smeared by her that was taken; some will light on other bushes, &

that if there be twenty hardly will any one escape, or if it hap some one or two doe escape by mounting, and so get to the pearch, as is the naturall quality of them, and there sit prying and peeping to see what becomes of their fellowes; then it is tenne to one that they are taken with the Lyme-bushes which you had placed formerly on the pearch, and therefore you must bee sure to haue a circumspect, busie, and diligent eye in all places.

Againe of the old *Pheasants* when you call, will not come in vpon the ground (as it is their nature so to doe, especially in the Winter season, which is the chiefest time for the vse of the Lime-bush) but doe mount and come flying from pearch to pearch, till they come to that pearch which is next you, euer prying and peeping where they may finde out those which calleth: then you shall see, that as soone as they light vpon any of these pearches, where your Lyme-bushes are placed, presently as soone as they touch they are taken, and thus not any one, whether olde or young shall escape you.

Taking old Pheasants.
No

*Observa-
tions when
they are
taken.*

Now for as much as you cannot haue an Eye in euery place, but that whilst you are busie in gathering vp one, another may flecke away and runne into the thickes and hide her selfe; or whilst you are gathering vp those vpon the ground, you may loose the sight of what is done or taken vpon the pearch, you shall therefore keepe a true record how many bushes you prickt downe; after what manner and in what places, and then hauing taken all such *Pheasants* as you can possibly finde, you shall then gather vp all your Roddes againe, and make suer that you haue your full number, but if you misse any one of them, then you may be assured that there are some lined which you haue not found out, and therefore that you may recouer all such losses, you shall be suer neuer to be without an excellent staunch Spaniell, which will lye close at your foote without stirring, and this Spaniell must be an excellent Retriuer, one that will fetch and carry, and that by any means will not breake nor bruse either flesh or feather, but hauing found his prey will forthwith bringe it vnto you and lay it by

by you, this Dogge as soone as you shall finde that any *Pheasants* are escaped, you shall thrust into the thickes and make him hunt and bringe you fourth all such *Pheasants* as shall lye hidden, till by the true number of your Lime-Bushes you finde there is no more stricken in that place, then you shall goe and search all your Pearches, and if you finde any Bushes there missing, you shall then put in your Spaniell and make him hunt and bringe fourth whatsoeuer was there taken also, till your true and iust number of Lime-bushes be made vp without the losse of any, for albe some may object that by reason of the greatnesse of these Bushes (containing many brainches in one stalke) that therefore by the wallowing and strugling of the Byrde (and especially this being a bird of some power and strength) they may be scattered and lost amongst other Bushes and Brambles, yet let them know that these Lime-bushes as soone as they doe once touch the more they are strugled with, the more fast they doe intangle and wrappe & catch about euery feather that moueth and holds the foule so fast from stirring that,

that he is not able to go or creep through any chyncke, but where he is first overthrowne, there he commonly lyeth without mouing, his owne feare daunting him as much or more than any other vexation or trouble, whereas indeed the single lyme rodde lying light and without any cumber (more then the taking away of the vse of the wings) they will fleike and runne away with them sometimes more then a quarter of a mile, by which means I haue seene diuers *Pheasants* lost, and found dead in a bush a month after, for they are so cowardly, that being once stricken they neuer ioy or will euer seek foode after; now for the proportion and manner of this Lyme-bush it is contained in this figure.

The forme and fashion of the
Lyme-bush for *Pheasants*.

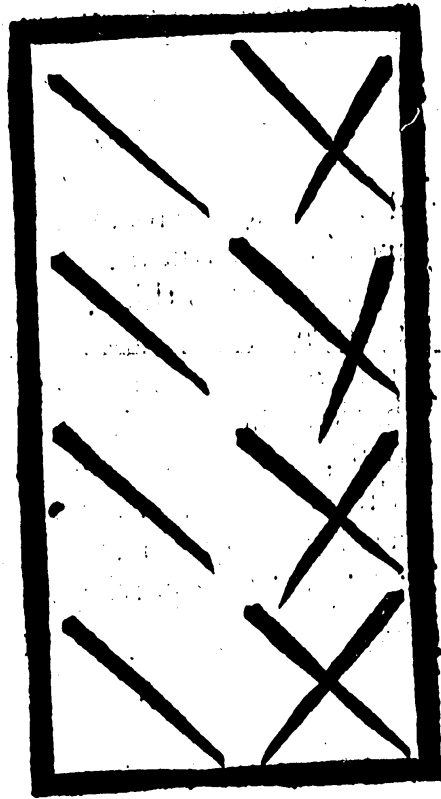


In the selfesame manner as you place this Lyme-bush, so you may if you please place single lyme-roddes also, and not alone and vpon bushes, shrubs, by tracts and such like places but also vpon the ground

ground and in euery open place where any thinge must passe from one bush to another, or from one thicke to another, and these Lime-roddes must bee prickt sloapewise and crosse, shoaring alongst the ground, and that not one way onely but euery way that the Birdes can possibly come, obseruing in euery place two rowes or files of Lime-roddes, the one turned sloapewise one way, the other sloapewise the quite contrary way, that the poynts being seuered a great distance one from another, and so as the Byrd may easily walke betweene them without touching either, you shall then place a third rowe betweene them all sloape, cleane contrary to either of the other according to the forme of this Figure.

following.

The true manner and forme how to place Lime-Rods.



Which being duely obserued no Fowle can come any way but they must of necessity

Q

cessity be within the danger of touching, and thus you may place according to the quantitie of your ground, as many Lime-rodde as you shall thinke good and as the place will containe, provided that you doe not ouer charge the ground, or place them so exceeding thicke and apparant that they breede affright and amazement, for that were to spoyle your whole worke and to be the vtter losse of your labour, and therefore you must by all meanes keepe a true mediocrity and set them neither too thicke too scarre nor yet too thinne to escape, but in due proportion, as the length of a Rodde or somewhat lesse betweene Lime-rod and Lime-rodde. And as you haue a care thus to the placing, so you must also haue an especiall care to the number and to the true forme and proportion in which they stand, for when you either want of your number and doe not take vp what you set downe, or if you find that your proportion is in any place broken, then you may be very well assured that some are touched and fled, which you haue not found, and then you must hunt with your Spaniell (as hath beene before declared)

clared) and so bring them forth, for euery time you looke vpon your Lime-Roddes it is not necessary that you take them vp or count them, (for that were toyle to no purpose) but onely looke vpon your proportion, and if that should perfitte then you may be well assured not any thing hath commed amongst them, but if that fayle or be disordered, then there hath beene something amongst them and something is taken.

Now to make any comparisson betweene the vse of the Nettes, and the vse of these Lime-rodde, or to giue any preheminence or place more to the one then to the other were needlesse and to no purpose, since they are both of equall vertue and goodnesse, and haue indeed each of them their distinct times and seasons for their seuerall imployments, for you shall heere vnderstand that those Lime-Roddes or the vse of Lime is onely for the winter season, as from the beginning of *November* at whichtime euery tree hath shed his leafe, & euery bird is content to pearch vpon the twigs which are the very figures and Emblems of Lime-twigs, vntil the beginning of *May*,

at which time on the contrary part euery Tree is budded and doth begin to spread and open his leafe, so as all Birdes may couth and hide themselues vnder the couert and shaddowes of the same, and the true vse of the Nettes are from the beginning of *May* when Trees are leaued, till the latter end of *October* when euery tree doth shed and loose his leafe, so there is no time of the yeare, more then the very time of ingendring, but may be exercised in this pleasure, whence what profite may arise I leaue to be iudged by those which keepe good Houses and such as haue good Stomacks.

*The fashion
of the
Nettes.*

Now for the substance, fashion or proportion of these Nettes, they would first be made of the best twyned double Huswifes thred that can be gotte, and if it be dyed either greene or blew it is so much the better, the mass would be reasonable square and large, as almost an inch betweene knotte and knotte, it would be in length about three fadome at the least and in bredth seauen foote or better, it must be verdgd on each side with strong, small fine coard, and as it were sursted thereon and the Net placed
not

not straight, but thicke and large, so that at any time it is extended it may lye compass wise and hollow. also the two ends shall be verdgd likewise with small coard, yet that more for strength then for any particular vse or purpose, some doe vse to make these Nets of a much more lardger size, as seauen fadome or fiae fadome, but such Nettes are comberfome and full of trouble, and hardly to be ruled with one hand, & therefore in case there be need of any such longe Nettes, then you may take a couple of the first size (which was three fadome) and ioyning them together, or pitching them one close by another, they will serue fully as well, and rather better then those long sized nettes, and bee both better to pitch, readier to take vp, and a great deale more yare and nimble for any purpose in which you shall imploy them. And thus much for the taking of Pheasants, in generall either with the Nettes, or the Lyme-bush.

C H A P. XV.

*Of taking of Partridges with Nets, or
any other engine, of driuing them,
or setting them, and the making of
the setting Dogge.*



Having spoken of the manner and forme of taking of *Pheasants*, we will now come to the manner of taking of *Partridges*, being a bird of no lesse vie, worth and excellencie either for pleasure in her flight, or for food in the dish, then the *Pheasant* before spoken of, onely the difference holdeth in the quantitie and not in the quallitie, for the *Partridges* are birdes of a much lesse size, of no white lesse excellencie, nor are they much in their nature different in condition, for these *Partridges* are naturally cowardly and fearefull, also very simple and foolish and most easie to be deceiued or beguiled with any trayne,
Bayte,

Bayte, Engine, or other deuice whatsoever, whether it be by intisement of Call, or Stale, or any other allurements, or else by affright or terrour, whence it comes that albeit this art of taking these *Partridges* be pleasant, profitable and necessary, yet it is neither much painfull nor much difficult, but may be attained to in the fullnesse of all perfection by a mans owne and onely labour, iudgment and industry, provided that his diligence be alwayes accompanied with an earnest desire and willingness, and that willingness must by al meanes possible neuer be abandoned of temperance rest and discretion.

To speake then generally of the taking of *Partridges*, you shall vnderstand that it is to be done foure seuerall wayes that is to say, by Nettes, by Lime, by Engine, and by the setting Dogge, for as touching the Hawke, which curiositie may make a fift way for the taking of them, I will heere omit it, as a strain too high for this discourse, and as a peculiar Art belonging to the Noble falconer, not the homely and honest plaine Fowler.

4. Waies
to take
Partridges

Q4

For

*Haunts
of the Par-
tridge.*

For the taking of Partridges with Nettes, it is likewise to bee done diuers and sundry waies, according to the manner of haunts, and the places wherein these byrdes doe inhabit, for you must vnderstand, that *Partridges* are not like *Pheasants*, (in this case) constant to one place of abiding, but doe come into diuers; nay, if they haue any small couert whatsoeuer, be it so high as a mans hand they will lodge in the same, and sometimes in the very plaine Champaines where they haue no shelter whatsoeuer, more then the poore short grasse.

But to come to the more particular and certaine haunts of the *Partridge*, and indeed where they take most delight and doe most constantly abide, you shall vnderstand that for the most part it is in Corne Fields, whether spacious or little, & especially during the time that Corne is growing or standing, for vnder the couert and shelter of it they meete, in gender, breede, and bringe fourth their younge ones, now when the Corne is cut downe, they doe yet not withstanding still remain in the stubbles, especially in the Wheat stubble (if there be plenty there)

thereof) both by reason of the excellencie of the graine on which they loue to feed before all other, as also for the hight and largenesse of the stubble, which makes their couert safer and stronger, but whē this wheat stubble is either scantie or of small circute, or when it is too much soyled and troden either with men or Cattell, then they forsake it and goe either to the Barley stubbles which albe they yeeld not so safe couert, nor so sweet food, yet being fresh, pleasant and not so vsually troden or beaten they doe take great delight therein, and will in the furrowes amongst the clottes, brambles and longe grasse and fogge, hide and couer both themselves and their whole Couies or Broodes very sufficiently, although they be very many in number, (for no Bird bringeth fourth more then the *Partridge*) sixteene and seauenteene being an ordinary brood or Couie, twentie, two and twentie, and fve and twentie many times found, and I haue hard speake of thirtie and one and thirtie, now after the Winter season cometh and that these stubble fields are either torne vp with the Plough, or otherwise ouer soyled with Cattell,

cattell, manure, or the like, then doe these *Partridges* resort into the inclosed grounds, or vpland Meadows and doe lodge in the dead grasse or fogge, vnder hedges, amongst moale hils and vnder bankes or at the rootes of trees.

Also you shall finde the haunts of *Partridges* all the yeare long in small Coppies or Vnderwoods, especially if any Corne fields lye bordered vpon the same, as also in bushie Closses where grow plenty of shrubs and Brambles, or where there growes Broome, Brakes, Ferne, Whinnes, Gorse, Ling, or any covert great or little whatsoever; provided still that some Corne field be euermore adioyning to these couerts and quiet places, for otherwise these birdes will take little or no delight and pleasure therein, but rather shunne and eschewe them.

Againe, in the height of haruest time when euery Corne feld is full both of people and cattell, so that these Byrdes can haue no quiet lodging in the same, then you shall finde them in the day time in the Fallow or tilth fields which are next adioyning to the Corne fields where

where they will lye lurking amongst the great clottes and wilde ketlockes; and onely in the earely mornings, and likewise late in the euenings, fetch their food from the Corne shocks or sheaues that are the neereft adioyning.

Thus when you know their haunts, *How to* according to the Scituation of the Countrey, (whether it be Champayne or wood- *finde out* *Partridges* die, Mountanous, or plaine) and the season of the yeare, whether Sommer or Winter, your next skill shalbe to finde them out in their haunts and how to know where they lodge, which is to bee done diuersly, for there be some that will finde out the Couyes of *Partridge* by their eyes, as Hare finders doe finde Hares, in taking their rainges ouer the stuble fields, or other haunts where they doe vse, and casting their Eyes on each hand to both sides of the furrow, will finde them out though they be neuer so close couched together, and this is a skill which can by no meanes possibly in the World, be taught by any demonstration but only by exercise and the goodnes of the Eye, which being able at the first plinke to distinguish of euery object & to know

know the colour of the Byrdes from the colour of the earth, and how, and in what manner they lodge and couch together, will in ranging about finde them, a good distance before he commeth neere them; Nay, I haue heard of some that haue found *Partridges* threescore paces off, by perceiuing the Eye of the *Partridge* only; but that I holde a cunning more then ordinary and may be rather desired then enioyed; sure I am that any reasonable good sight which will apply himselfe thereunto, and marke but truly the colour of the *Partridge*, and how it differeth from the ground, as also the manner of lodging, whether it be in an entire heape or lumpe, and in one place or else in diuers little heapes, as by couples and payres in diuers places like many browne clottes of earth, together with their diuersitie and change of feather, may easily finde out a Couey of *Partridges* wheresoeuer they lye, albeit he make his raunge a good distance from them; And so much the rather and better, in as much as he may (when his eye hath first apprehended them) walk neerer and neerer vnto them, till hee

abso

absolutely know whether there bee any mistaking in his sight or no: for these Byrdes are so dull and slothfull, and so vnwilling to take to the wing to flye, except by meere compulsion, that till you bee ready to set your foote vpon them they will not stirre; provided euer, that you doe not at any time stand still or gaze vpon them, but be euer walking or mouing; for such gazing or wondring stricke freare vnto them, and then presently they doe spring vp and are gone.

There be others, that finde out these *Partridges*, by the hautes or places where they did last couch and lye, which when they haue by their ranging found out, they first looke whether the haunt bee olde or newe, which they may knowe by the newnesse or oldenesse of their dung or ordure, by their padlings or treading, and by the warmth or coldnesse, for if the haunt be newe, the dunge or ordure will be greene and soft, and the white ends will colour your fingers: the padlings and treadings, round about the haunt, will bee soft and durty, and the earth will bee new broken and of darker colour

colour then the mould round about it, and being very new indeed the haunt whereon they fate will be warme and the ground smoth and flat, with some downe and small feathers scattered vpon it.

But, if the hunt be old and long forsaken, then on the contrary part, the ordure or durte will be dry and bricke and rather moulder and breake in pieces then cleaue to your fingers; the padlings or treadings will bee roughe, drye, and hard, and of the same colour with the rest of the crust of the earth, and the very haunt it self wheron the fat will be as cold as any other part of the earth, without either downe or feathers, or any thing else but what is dried & baekt into the earth, neither will there bee any plainnesse or smothnesse, but all of like colour and roughnesse; which kind of olde haunts when it is found out, it is to bee neglected for it serueth for no other purpose or charackter then to let you know that there the *Partridges* haue bene at such or such a time, as yesterday, the other day, or a weeke before, for the lesse drie, the lesse cleane, and the lesse soyled the haunte is, the longer time agoe

goe it was since the Couy of *Partridges* were there, and the more moyste, the more dirty and more troubled it is, the later is the time since they fledde away.

Nowe if you finde the haunte to bee new and warme (as aforesaid) then you may assure your selfe that the Byrdes are but newly stolne off from the same, (if no affright troubled them) and are but fleckt some little way (as a Land or two off, or peradventure a little lesse or a little more) therefore then you shall bee very circumspect, and looke as carefully as is possible about you, moouing by very leasurable and slowe degrees, and hauing a speciall regard to the furrowes of the Landes, there is no doubt but in a very short space you shall finde the whole Couye out, which as soone as you doe, you shall presently winde of from them, and by no meanes looke towards them, but as if you were carelesse by casting your countenance a cleaue contrary way, and so fetch a great and lardge circumference round about them, keeping an ordinary round march, making your circumference lesse and lesse, and casting your eye busilye and

and carefully about you, till you haue discovered the whole Couye, albe they lye seperated in diuers parts (as many times it falleth out they doe) for your eye at the first may happen to glance but of a single *Partridge* (for it is the nature of the old ones in these cases many times to lye alone and somewhat remooued from the Couye) or of a couple at the most, but then taking your circumference or walke about them, there is no one shall escape from your knowledge.

*To take
Partridge
by the
Iuke.*

There be others which to finde out *Partridges* doe goe vnto the haunts either very earlye in the Morning, or at the closing vp of the Euening, which is called the iuking time, and there doe listen for the calling of the Cock *Partridge*, which will be very lowd and earnest, then presently after some few cals the Henne will make answere, which assoone as they heare they listen and follow them til they meete together, which you shall verie well perceiue and know by their chattering and reioyceing one with another, which assoone as you heare, then you shall take your rainge about them, and drawing in by little & little to the place where

where you heard them iuke, you shall carefully cast your eie about you, especially towards the Furrowes of the lands, and there is no question to be made, but you shall presently finde where the Coo-ue lies, and after what manner, so that after you may proceede to the businesse of taking them according as your delight and pleasure shall leade you.

Now the last way for finding out of *Totake* these *Partridges* (and which of all other *Partridges* is both the best, safest, most easie, and with the most artificiall) is with the call (of *Call*. whose sharpe proportion, and manner of making I shall speake more largely heereafter in a particular Chapter) with this call hauing learnt the true and naturall notes of the *Partridge* and being able to tune euery seuerall note in their right and proper key, and that you know the due times and seasons for euery note, and can fitly accommodate them to the haunts and places wherein they are to be vsed, after the same manner as hath beene formerly declared for the *Pheasant*; for you are to vnderstand that the *Partridge* hath as

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varia-

variable notes and tunes, and differeth as much in her seuerall callings as the *Pheasant* doth, and in some cases more: hauing therefore (as I said) your calls made ready and fit, and that the time of the day (which must euer of necessity bee either Morning or Euening, (for the Noone-day is neuer any good or seasonable time for this purpose or exercise) you shall goe to the haunts where you doe know that *Partridges* doe frequent, whether it be champaine or wood-land, corne-fields, meadows or pastures, and hauing conuaid your selfe into some close and secret place, where you may see and not be seene, as if it be in the champaine or plaines, then vnder the couerte of some Banke, Hill or Ditch; If in the wood-lands, then vnder Bushes, Shrubs, or Brambles; If in corne-fields, then in the Furrowes or where the Corne is highest and thickest; And if in meadows, then in the thick and high tufted grasse, or amongst high weedes and such other like places of shelter; and being thus placed in secret, and fit for your pastime, you shall first lyften a while if you can hear

the *Partridge* call, which if you doe, you shall then make answer againe, and that in the same note or tune in which the *Partridge* calleth, and euer as shee altereth or chaungeth her note, or doubleth it ouer more or lesse, so shall you euer make answer and alter and change your note and time, and double or treble as shee shall giue you example, and still apply your call till you finde that shee draweth neerer and neerer vnto you, and not one single *Partridge* onely, but many, if many be within the compasse of the sound of your call, and not the old ones onely single by themselues, but attended and followed on by their seuerall coouies, for this calling is so delightfull and naturall vnto them that they will pursue and follow it as farre as they can heare it, when thus you haue drawne the *Partridges* vnto you, and that you see them and their whole flocks to becomed within your view, you shall then cast your selfe flat vpon your back, and lye without moueing as if you were dead, and then you shall see the *Partridges* come running and pecking about you without any feare or dread, so as you

shall not onely take a full view of them, but also if you please you may number and count them.

*Taking of
partridges
with Nets.*

After thus you haue gotten the full perfection how to finde out *Partridges*, your next lesson shall be to learne how to take and intangle them : And first of the taking of them with Nettles, you must vnderstand that the Nettles where-with you must take *Partridges*, ought to be shaped and proportioned in all points, both length and breadth like vnto the *Pheasant Nette*, onely the mesh would be somewhat smaller ; It must be also of the selfe-same thrid, and in like manner dyed and colloured, or if it be somewhat longer or somewhat broader, it will not be amisse, but a great deale better, and you shall take your prey more certainly and with lesse care and hazard, for you are to vnderstand that the longer your nets are, the longer you may make your circumference or walke about them, and the broader that they are, the more ground you may cover, and so bring more within your daunger, provided alwaies that they be not too broad or cumbersome by reason either

of their length or breadth, for thereby you may not onely annoy your selfe and hinder the worke, but also breede affright to the birds, which are so fearefull and tender of their safeties, that vpon the least blinke or dislike, they will presently spring vp and flye away leauing all your labour frustrate and disappointed ; Therefore (as before shewed) hauing your nets of true size and compass, and fitly accomodated to your purpose with Lines and Cordes answerable, you shall then (hauing found out the Couye by any meanes aforesaid, or by other accident) drawe forth your Nets and taking a great large circumference or ring about the *Partridge*, walke a good round pace with a carelesse eye, rather from, then towards the *Partridge*, till you haue made your Nets yare, tready and ready for your purpose, which done you shall draw in your circumference or ring lesse & lesse till you come within the length of your Net, then pricking down a stick of about three foote long or better to which you must fasten one ende of the Line of your Net, and making it fast in the earth as you do walke about (for no

stay or stop must be scene in this action) you shall then (letting the net slip out of your hands) spread it open as you goe and so carry it and lay it all ouer the *Partridge*.

But if there be so many *Partridges* that you cannot couer them all with one nette, by reason that they doe lie stragling and not close together, then you shall draw forth another net, and in like manner as you did with the former, so you shall doe with the second net, and spread it close before the first, which done you may also pinne it downe and doe the like with the third net, if occasion shall require it (But not otherwise) and hauing thus couered your *Partridge*, you shall then run into them and with an affrighting voice, as Hey, Ret, or the like, inforce them to spring vp, which they shall no sooner doe, but presently they will be intangled, so that then running in your nets close together you may coull all the *Partridges* within the same, and so take them all at your pleasure, and dispose of them as you shall finde occasion, and in the manner you may take either single *Partridge*.

tridges, paires, or the whole coouies, and that not at one distinct and proper time, but at all seasons of the yeare whatsoever, and in any ground, champaine or Woodland, or any other haunt or abiding place whatsoever.

The next way to take *Partridges* is *Taking of Partridges with Lime.* with lime or lime-rods, after this manner: You shall first take of the fairest, strongest and lardgest Wheate-straw you can get (of which, that which is called the whole straw wheate, is the best, or for want of it the fairest and lardgest Rye-straw) and cutting them of betweene knot and knot (observing the lowest ioints or knots are the strongest and best) you shall then lime these with the strongest and best lime, in such manner as hath beene formerly declared in other Chapters for the liming of other rods or wands, and so coming to the haunts where *Partridges* doe usually frequent, after you haue called a little, and find that you are answered againe, you shall then in such manner and forme as hath beene formerly shewed you for other rodde, prick downe these limed strawes round about you in many

croſſe rowes and rankes, and that not very neere you, but a pretty diſtance off, yet not out of the compaſſe of your eye, but ſo as you may diſcerne when any thing toucheth them: and theſe lymed ſtrawes you ſhal place not onely croſſe the Lands but the furrowes alſo, taking at leaſt two or three Landes within your circumference: which done, you ſhall then lay your ſelfe downe cloſe and ſecretly and beginne againe to call, not ceaſing till you haue drawne them toward you, whether they cannot come, but they muſt of neceſſitie paſſe through the Lime, which they ſhall no ſooner touch, but preſently they are taken and intangled and by reaſon that they come flocking and cloſe together, like ſo many Chickins, they will ſo beſineare and daube one another, that if there be twenty in the Cooy hardly any one will eſcape.

Now here is to bee noted, that this manner of taking of *Partridges* with Lymed ſtrawes, is properly to be yſed onely in Corne fieldes, and that principally in the Stubble time, or from Auguſt till Chriſtmas, for before or after it is not ſo conuenient: But if you will take them

in woods, in paſtures, or meadowes with Lyme, then you ſhall uſe the ordinarie Lyme-rods made of wooden wandes, as hath bin before ſhewed, and pricke them downe, and order them in all points in ſuch ſort as is already mentioned of the Lymed ſtrawes, for it is both the ſafeſt certaineſt, & beſt courſe that can be taken

There is yet another way for the taking *Taking of Partridges*, which is no leſſe profitable *partridges* and uſefull then either of the other. and *with Eng-* indeed ſomewhat pleaſanter and fuller *gine, or the* of delight, and that is the taking them *driuing* with engine, or as ſome call it the *driuing them.* *of Partridges*, which albe it is eſpecially applyed to the wood-countrey, yet may it notwithstanding be very well & commodiouſly uſed in any place or ground whatſoeuer. The maner to do it is thus; you ſhal firſt make an engine in the faſhion of a Horſe, which engine ſhal be made of Canuas, or ſome ſuch ſtuſſe, and ſtopt with ſtraw or ſuch like matter, of which engine (amongſt other engines) I haue ſpoken very largely of in the former part of this Booke intreating of Water-fowle, and therewithall ſet downe the liuely forme or figure thereof, ſo that

to

to stand longer vpon it, were but a double labour, needlesse, vfelesse, and to small purpose.

Hauing therefore this engine and your nets in a readinesse, you shall goe into the haunts where the *Partridges* doe frequent, and hauing by some of the meanes or charracters before mentioned found out the coouy of *Partridges*, you shall then in the most secretest and likelift place for that purpose, and taking the best aduantage of the winde (which is euer to goe aboue it and driue downe the winde) you shall there pitch your net, not flatte and couching, but sloape wise and houering, and that so close and secretly and so ouer-shadowed either with bushes, shrubs, leaues, weedes or some other that groweth (naturall to the ground it standeth) in that not any thing may perceiue it till it be intangled in it, when you haue thus placed your net or nets, you shall then take your engine and goe to the place where the coouy of *Partridges* lodgeth, and hauing your face couered or hid with some hood of greene or darke blew fluffe, you shall (putting the engine before

fore you) make your foote stalke towards the *Partridges*, and by gentle and slow steps or degrees, you shall steale vpon the birdes, and raise them as gently vpon their feete (not their wings) as may be, and so make them runne before you, which naturally they will doe of themselves, for their feare is such, that they will runne from any thing albe neuer so well acquainted therewith, especially from Horse or Beast, because by reason of their grazing or feeding amongst them, they are still in feare to bee trodden vpon by them; thus as by gentle and slow steps you doe driue them before you (for you must by all meanes shunne rash, sudden, hasty and affrightfull motions) if they chance to runne any by-way or contrarie to that which you would haue them, you shall then presently crosse them with your engine, and as it were offer to face or oppose them, and they will presently recoil and runne into any tract that you would haue them; and thus with these gentle obseruations, you may driue them which way and whither you will, so that at last they will runne them.

themselves into your net with such violence and eagernesse, that being overthrowne and intangled therein, you may take and dispose them at your pleasure, as you shall haue occasion,

*Taking
partridges
with the
setting
Dogge.*

The fourth and last way for the taking of *Partridges* (and which indeed excelleth all the other for the excellency of the sport, and the rarenesse of the Arte which is contained therein) is the taking of them with the setting Dogge, for in it there is a two-fold pleasure and a two-fold Arte to be discovered: as first, the pleasure and arte proceeding from the Dogge, and is contained in this manner, of raunging, hunting, and setting, and then the pleasure and Art in the bird hunted, and is contained in their simplicity, folly, and feare, together with the care they haue to preserve themselves, by which meanes only they are circumuented & ouertaken, making the old proverb *Too much pittie spoiles a Citie*, and so too much care of themselves is the destruction and losse of themselves.

*What a
a setting
Dogge is.*

To proceed then to our purpose, it meete that first before I wade further in to this discourse, I shew you what a Setting

ting Dogge is, you shall then vnderstand that a Setting Dogge is a certaine lusty land Spaniell, taught by nature to hunt the *Partridge* before, and more then any other chase whatsoever, and that with all eagernesse and fiercenesse, running the fields ouer and ouer so lustily and busily, as if there were no limit in his desire and furie; yet so qualified and tempered with Art and obedience, that when he is in the greatest and eagerest pursuit, and seemes to be most wilde and frantike, that yet euen then, one hem or sound of his Masters voyce makes him presently stand, gaze about him, and looke in his Masters face, taking all his directions from it, whether to proceede, stand still, or retire; nay, when hee is commed euen to the very place where his prey is, and hath, as it were, his nose ouer it, so that it seemes hee may take it vp at his owne pleasure, yet is his temperance and obedience so made and framed by Arte, that presently euen on a sudden he either stands still, or falles downe flatte vpon his belly, without daring once to open his mouth, or make any noyse or motion at all, till that his Master come vnto him, and

and then proceedes in all things according to his directions and commandments.

How to set Partridges When therefore you haue either by your owne industry made such a dogge, or else by your purse, friendship, or other accidents obtained such a dogge, you shall then take *Partridges* with him after this manner; being come into the fields or haunts, where *Partridges* doe frequent, you shall there cast off your dogge, and by crying Hey-Ret, or Hey-whyrre, or such like words of encouragement according to the custome of his owne nature or education, giue him leaue to raunge or hunt, which as soone as he beginneth to doe, you shall then cease from any more words, except any fault or mistaking enforce you; and then you shall vse the words of correction or reprehension due for that purpose, and in all his hunting and labor, you shall haue great and especiall heed that hee neuer raunge too farre from you, but beate his ground iustly and euen, without casting about or flying now heere and now there, and skipping many places, which the heate and mettall

mettall of many good dogges will make them doe if they be not reprehended, and therefore when any such fault shall happen, you shall presently with a hem, call him in, and then with the terror of your countenance so threaten him, that he shall not dare all that day after to doe the like, but shall raunge with that modesty and temperance, hunting all the ground ouer at an inch, and euer anon looking you in the face, as who should say, doe I now please you I or no; all which, when he doth, you must then giue him cherrishments and encouragement.

Now if in this raunging and hunting you chaunce to see your dogge to make a sudden stop or to stand still, you shall then presently make into him (for he hath set the *Partridge*) and as soone as you come to him, you shall bid him goe nearer; which if he doe, you shall still say to him, *goe nearer, goe nearer*; but if you finde he is vnwilling to goe or creepe nearer, but either lies still, or stands shaking of his tayle, as who should say heere they are vnder myne nose, and withall, now and then, looks backe vpon

on you, as if hee would tell you how neare they are; then presently, you shall cease from further vrging of him, and then beginne to take your range or circumference about both the Dogge and the *Partridge*, not ceasing but walking about with a good round pace, and looking still before the Dogges nose, till you behold and see plainly, how and in what manner the Coouy lyeth, whether close and round together in one plump heape, or cluster, or else stragling and scattering, here two, there three, and in other places more or lesse as fortune shall administer: when thus you see how the Coouy lyeth, you shall then first charge the Dogge to lye still, and then drawing forth your Nette as you walke, hauing prickt downe one ende to the ground (as hath beene before shewed) then spread your Nette all open, and (as neare as you can) couer all the *partridges* therewith, euen from that which lyeth next to the Dogge to that which is furthest off, but if you finde that one Nette will not serue to couer them, then you shall draw forth another, and holding your range or walke stil in continuall motion spread

out

out it, and lay it before the first Nette, and thus you may doe with as many Nettes as you shall haue occasion to vse, till the whole Coouy be couered, which done you shall then make an with a noyle and, springe vp the *Partridge*, which shall no sooner rise, but they shall presently be intangled in the Net so as you may take them at your pleasure, and dispose of them as you shall haue occasion, in which taking whether it be this way or any other formerly spoken off, if after they are in your mercy, you will then be pleased to let goe againe the old Cocke and the old henne, it will not onely be honest and Gentleman like, but also good and profitable, and a meanes both to continue and increase your pastime, for the young ones wilbe reward enough for your labor, and the old ones thus let at libertie will bringe you forth a new brood the next yeare, whereon to exercise your Skill and knowledge, whereas to take all hand ouer head is such an vn-naturall destruction, that when you or any other in the Countrey would haue sports, both they and you shall want it and all the whole Countrey,

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(as I haue seene where such destroyers liue) will not be able to produce, or to shew forth one *Partridge*. And besides these olde *Partridges* (which wee commonly call *Ruines*) being thus taken, are neuer good meate nor rastefull by reason of their much roughnesse and hardnesse; so that to take them shewes rather couerousnesse and gredinesse, then delight or recreation.

*Helpe in
use of Nets*

Now, albe in this whole discourse, and generally use of Nettes (whether this is spoken off, or any other contained in any former part of this Treatise) I haue bounded them to the labour and industry of one man; yet you shall vnderstand that if in these recreations or labours, you doe take a companion or friend with you, that after you haue found your game, or set your game, soone as you doe beginne your running or rounde walke, he may presently come in vnto you, and as you take one end of the Nette, so he may take the other, and then carrying it vp betweene you, you may equally vnloose it and spread ouer your game, you shall finde you worke a great deale much more easily

and certaine, and your labour more safe, and without all kinde of danger or trouble.

Now for a conclusion of this treatise, *Taking of* when you are exquisite and perfect in all *Rayles*, the things before spoken of, and that you *Quailes*, can do them readily & perfectly, & with *&c.* all Art and cunning, you shall then know, that from these, you may deriue the taking of diuers other Byrdes, as *Quailes*, *Rayles*, *Morepoots*, and diuers others of like nature and condition, all which are also very good sights, for the Hawke, and very dainty meates in the dish; as all that are either of good tooth, or good bringing vp can very well witnesse.

Now for their manner of haunts, they *Their* are as the *Partridges* are, most in *hauntes.* Cornes, *Fields*, or in *Pastures* or *Woods* neare vnto *Corne-Fields*, onely the *Quaile* loues most the *Wheate Fields*; the *Morepoots* loues most the *Heath* and *Forest* groundes where is store of *Lyng* and such like couert, and the *Rayles* loue the long and high grasse wherein they may lye close obscure and hidden.

For the manner of finding them it *How to* is in all points like that of the *Partridge*, *finds them* by

by the eye, by the eare, or by the haunt
all which aske the same obseruations
and carraeters which haue beene for-
merly declared touching the *Partridge*,
and with the same cautions exceptions
and difficulties. But the chiefe and prin-
cipall meanes of all, and which indeed
exceedeth all, is to finde them out by the
call or pipe, to which they listen with
such earnestnesse that you can no sooner
chaunt their notes but in an instant
they reply and make answer vnto you,
pursuing and following the call with such
greedinesse, that they will neuer cease till
they come vnto you, and skippe and
play about you, especially the *Quail*,
which is manored to heare her owne
tune, that you can no sooner make your
quail pipe speake in the true tune but in
a trice she will make answer & not cease
till she come to you, and sport about you.

*Diuersitie
of Notes.*

Now you are to obserue in the call-
ing of these Byrdes, that they haue di-
uers notes and tunes, some belonging to
the male Byrdes, and some vnto the fe-
male, all which you must haue perfect
in your remembrance, and then when you
heare the male Byrd call you must an-
swere

swere in the note of the female, and if
the female call, you must answer in the
note of the male, and so you shall be sur-
e that both the one and the other will most
busily come about you, and neuer leaue
till they finde the place from whence the
sound cometh, to which when they doe
approach they will stand and gaze and
listen till the Nette be quite cast ouer
them.

Now for the manner of taking of any,
or all of these Byrds, it is one and the
same with the taking of the *Partridge* and
may be done either by Nettes in such
sorte as is formerly declared in this
Chapter, or else by Lyme (either bush
or rodde) by the stalking Engine, and
manner of driuing, or lastly by the set-
ting-Dogge in the same manner and
forme as hath beene spoken of the *Par-
tridge*. Of which Setting-Dogge since
he is of so great vse and excellencie, I
thinke it not amisse here in this place to
demonstrate his true Figure and pro-
portion,

*How to
take them.*

S 3

The

*The forme and proportion of
the Setting Dogge.*



Now although some may thinke it strange that a Dogge should be brought to Set this small game, yet there is no strangenelle therein; for Dogs in this Arte are made to any thing that they are accustomed, so it be not a thing meereley contrary and against their natures, which this is not; for it is the nature of euery Spaniell, naturally to hunt all manner of Byrdes

Byrdes, or any thing that hath wing (though some with more earnestnesse & greedinesse then othersome.) Now these are Byrdes and haue wing, so that they are naturall for the Spaniel to hunt, and there then remaineth nothing but the accustomed the Dogge thereunto, and acquainting him with your minde and determination, that this is the thing which you would haue him hunt, which as soone as he vnderstands, instantly hee pursues and followes it, and is as earnest in it, as in any other chase, prey or pleasure whatsoever.

And thus much for the taking of Partridges and other smaller Byrdes of like nature, as also of the Setting-Dog, and his seuerall vses.

More of the Setting-Dogge, of his election, and the manner of trayning him from a whelp, till he come to perfection.



Having spoken a little particularly of the Setting-Dogge, and the manner of using him being brought to perfection and fite for the present use of the pastime, I will heere in this place speake more generally and largely of him, and shew how he is to be trayned and brought to be fitte and serviceable for the purposes before treated off, for albe I know that in diuers places of this Kingdome these Setting-Dogges are to be taught (so that most men of ability may haue them at their pleasures) yet likewise I know they are sould at such great rates and prizes that no industrious man whatsoeuer (which either loues the sport or would be partaker of the benefit) but will be glad to learne how to make such a dogge himselfe, and so

so both saue his purse and make his pleasure and profit both more sure and more delicate; for this I must assure all men, (that buy their dogges from mercenary teachers) that euermore those sales-men doe reserue in their owne bosomes some one secret or another, for the want of knowledge, whereof the purchaser quickly findes his dogge imperfit, and so is forced vpon euery disorder or alteration of keeping to send the dogge back to his first master a new to be reformed, which drawing on euer a new price, makes the dogges certaine price without end, without valuation.

This salt to redresse, and to make every man the true master of his owne worke, I will shew you heere in a brieft and compendious manner all the mysteries and secrets which lie hidde in this laboursome businesse.

The first thing therefore that you must learne in this art, is to make a true election of your dogge, which you intend to apply to this purpose of Setting, and in this election you shall obserue, that although any dogge which is of perfit and good sent, and naturally adicted to

to the hunting of feathers, as whether it be the Land-Spaniell, Water-Spaniell, or else the Mungrell betweene either of both those kindes, or the Mungrels of either of those kindes, either with the shallow flewed hound, the tumbler, lurcher, or indeede, the small bastard Mastiffe may bee brought to this perfection of Setting (as I haue seene by daily experience, both in this and in other Nations) yet is their none so excellent indeede as the true bred Land-Spaniell, being of a nimble and good size, rather small then grosse, and of a couragious and fierie mettall, euermore louing and desiring toyle, when toyle seemes most yrksome and wearie, which although you cannot know in a whelp so yong, as it is intended he must be, when you first begin to traine him to this purpose, yet may you haue a strong speculation therein, if you choose him from a right litter or breede, wherein by succession you haue knowne that the whole generation haue beene endued with all these qualities, as namely; that he is a strong, lusty and nimble raundger, both of actiue foote, wanton tayle, and busie nostrill, that his toyle is without

without wearinesse, his search without changeablenesse, and yet, that no delight nor desire transport him beyond feare or obedience; for it is the perfectest charracter of the most perfectest Spaniel, euer to be fearefull and louing to him that is his Master and keeper: I confesse I haue seene excellent rare Setting dogs made in the Low-Countries, which haue beene of a Bastard tumblers kind (for indeede a true Land-Spaniel, is there Gaysson) and indeede, I haue found in them (if I may so tearme it) a greater wisedome (which indeede is but a greater feare) then in our Land-Spaniels, but comparing the whole worke together, that is the labour in raundging, the scent in finding, and the art in Setting, they haue beene much inferior to our dogs, and not able to stand vp with them in the lardge and spatious Champaines, nor yet to brush through or make their waies in the sharpe thickets and troublesome couerts. To speake then in a word touching the best choice of this Setting dogge, let him be as neere as you can the best bredde Land-Spaniell, that you can procure, and though some haue beene curious

curious in obseruing of their colours, as giuing preheminnence to the Motley, the Liuer-hude, or the White and Blacke spotted; yet questionlesse, it is but a vaine curiosity, for no colour is amisse for this purpose, prouided the naturall qualities bee perfit and answerable for the worke to which ende you intende them.

Now when you haue thus made a good election of your Dogge, you shall beginne to handle and instruct him at foure monethes olde, or at fixe moneth at the vttermost, for to deferre longer time is hurtfull, and will make the labour greater and more difficult to compasse; for the elder Dogges are the more stubborne they are and doe both vnwillingly learne, and with lesse will retaine that which is learned. The first thing therefore that you shall teach your Whelp is, by all meanes possible to make him most louing and familar with you, so that hee will not onely know you from any other person, but also fawne vpon you and follow you wheresoeuer you goe, taking his onely delight to be only in your company, and that you may bring this the better

better to passe you shall not suffer him to receiue either foode or cherishings from any mans hands but your owne onely; and as thus you grow familiar with the Whelp, and make him louing and fond of you, so you shall also mixe with this familiarity a kinde of awe and obedience in the Whelp, so as he may as well feare you as loue you; and this awe or feare you shall procure rather with your countenance, frowne, or sharpe words, then with blowes, or any other actual crueltie, for these whelpes are quickly terrified, and the violence of torment not onely depriues them of courage, but also makes them dull & dead spirited, whereas on the contrary part you are to strue to keepe your Dogge (which is for this purpose) as wanton as is possible.

When therefore you haue made your whelp thus familiar and deuoting vnto you, so as he will follow you up and downe whither soeuer you goe without taking notice of any man but your selfe only; & that he knoweth your frowne from your smile, and your gentle words from your rough, you shall begin to teach him to crouch & lye downe close to the ground

ground first by laying him downe to the ground, and saying vnto him, *Lye close, Lye close*; or some such like word of commandement, and terrifying him with rough language when he doth any thing against your meaning and giuing him not onely cherrishings, but foode (as a peece of bread or the like, which it is intended you must euer carry about you) when he doth any thing according vnto your will, till you have made him so perfectly vnderstand you that when at any time you shall but say, *lye close, downe, couch, or the like*, that then presently he doe the same, without any stamering, stay or amazement, which by paines taking, and continual vse, you shall perfectly bring to passe in a few daies.

This done, you shall then make him after the same manner, and with the same words not onely couch and lie downe (as aforesaid) but being couched you shall then make him come creeping vnto you with his belly and head close to the ground so farre or so little a way as you shall thinke good, and this you shall do by saying, *Come nearer, Come nearer, or the like*; and at first (till he vnderstand
your

your meaning) by shewing him a peece of bread or some other foode which may intice him and draw him with more willingness to come vnto you, and in this lesson you must obserue that when he offereth to come vnto you, if he either raise from the ground his fore-parts, or his hinder-parts, or if he doe but so much as offer to lift vp his head, that then presently you doe not onely with your hand thrust his body downe in such sort as you would haue him, but also accompany that action with the terror of your voice, and such ratings as may not onely affright the Whelp, but make him with greater care to strue to performe your pleasure, which performance if it come not so speedily as you thinke fit, or not with the willingness which is to be required in such an action, if then to the terror of your voice you adde a sharpe ierke or two with a whip-coad lash, it shall not be amisse, but much auailable: onely by all meanes forbear buffetings about the dogges head with your fists, for such correction is naught, and not onely makes a dogge dull and of a slow spirit, but also takes away from him a pleasure

pleasure and delight in that which is and should bee his naturall exercise. Now when hee doth performe your will, whether fully as you would desire, or in part according to the apprehension of his first knowledge, you shall then by no means forget not onely to cherish him, but also to feede him, and then renew his lesson againe, till hee doe every thing as perfectly as arte can require it, couching when you command him, creeping upon his belly as farre as you will have him, and pausing and staying, when and as oft as you bid him, and in this practis you shall continue him, and make him so perfect and ready that when at any time you change to walke abroad, and that the wanton whelp begins to play in the fieldes, (for rainge you shall not suffer him till hee have full strength) if you see him most busie, euen then you shall speake unto him, and make him in the height of his pastime, presently fall to the ground, and not onely lye close, but also come creeping on his belly vnto you, this when you haue perswaded you shall then teach him to leade in a stringe or line, and to follow you at your heele close

close without either trouble or straining of his collar, in which there is small art to be vsed, more then a daily labour and practise, and not struing too roughly with the Whelp, but by all gentle means, first giuing him vnderstanding what to doe, and then shewing the manner how to doe, you shall see that in a day or lesse, hee will doe as much as can be desired.

When all these things aforesaid are perfectly learned, it is to be imagined that by this time the whelp will be at least twelue moneths of age, at which time (the season of the yeare being fit) you may very well aduenture to goe into the field and suffer him to raunge and hunt therein, yet with such carefulnesse and obedience, that albe his spirit and mettall do neuer so much transport him, yet vpon the first (*Hem*) or warning of your voice that he stop and looke backe vpon you, as who should say (doe you call) and vpon the second, or reiteration of your voice, that forthwith he either forbear hunt further, or else come into your foote and walke by you, till you giue him new encouragement; and in this

this raunging or hunting of the whelpes, you finde that through wantonnesse or foolishnesse he be giuen to babling or opening without cause, you shall then at first chide him therefore, but if that preuaile not, you shall then correct him much more sharpely, as by biting him hard with your teeth at the rootes of his eares, or else lashing him hard with a sharpe whip-corde, lath, till you haue made him so staunch that he will hunt close and warily, without once opening either through wantonnesse or the rising vp of any small birds before him.

Now when you haue brought your dogge to this staunch and obedient manner of hunting, and that he will bestow himselfe in such manner as you please to appoint him, then as soone as you finde him to come vpon the haunt of any *Partridge* (which you shall know both by his greater eagernesse in hunting, as also by a kinde of whimpering and whining in his voice being greedily desirous to open, onely feare and awe keepes him in an vnwilling obedience) you shall then speake vnto him as warning him to take

heede

heede, by saying, (*Be wise, Take heede*) or the like, but if notwithstanding he either rush in and so spring them, or else open or vse any other meanes by which the *Partridge* escapeth, you shall then presently take him and correct him verry soundly, and then cast him off againe and either let him hunt those in such places as you haue markt them, or else in some other haunts where you are assured some *Couey* lodgeth; and then as before shewed, being commed vpon the haunts, giue the dogge warning, and if you see that out of feare he standeth still and waueth his taile, looking forward as if he did point at something, then you may be sure that the *Partridge*, or that he hunteth, is before him, then you shall make him lie close, and your selfe taking a lardge raunge or ring about him, shall looke if you can finde the *Partridge*: which as soone as you haue found, if he haue set them farre off, you shall then by saying (*goe nearer*) make the dogge creepe on his belly nearer to the *Couey*, but if he be neare enough you shall then make him lye close without stirring, and then drawing your nets

T 2

take

take the *Partridge* as hath beene before shewed, and then cheerish the dogge exceeding much, first by giuing him the heads, necks and pinions of the *Partridge*, and then by clawing and clapping him, and by giuing him either bread or other foode which you must euermore at those times carry about you; but if it happen that as before, so againe hee chance to spring vp the game, by his want of taking heede or other rudenesse, then againe you shall correct him more then before, and so take him vp into your string and leade him home, tying him vp for that night, without giuing him any thing more then a bit of bread and water to keepe and maintaine life in his bosome, and then the next day haue him to the field, and doe as before shewed, yet with somewhat more terror and hard countenance, that hee may not onely call to minde his former fault, but also see that yet he hath not gotten your fauour, and there is no question but he will be much more carefull then hee was before, & strue in al things more readily to obey your commandements; and then when he performeth your will
and

and doth according to your expectation you must by no meanes forget to bestow vpon him all the cheerishings that may be, as those of the voice, the hands, and of foode also, whereby the dogge may be delighted and encouraged to increafe and goe forward in his well doing. And heerein you are to obserue also, that when your dogge setteth the *Partridge*, if he doe stand vp right vpon his legges looking as it were at, or ouer the *Partridge*, that then such standing is a fault and may giue a blinke or offence to the *Partridge*, and therefore in this case you shall speake vnto the dogge and chide him, saying vnto him, Be wise, or lye close, not leauing till you see him lay himselfe downe vpon his belly on the ground.

Againe, you shall obserue, that when you goe in vnto the Couey to spring the *Partridge* vp into your nets, that if the dogge rush hastily after you, and offer to spring them either before, or as soone as you, that likewise it is a great fault, and you must correct him very bitterly for the same; and to the ende
no that fault in you, may bring on that
fault

fault in the dogge, you must obserue to goe very leasurely and with great discretion into the Couey and euer as you goe speake to the dogge to be wise and to lye close, terrifying him in such sort that he may not mooue till you giue him libertie.

Many other obseruations there be, but none more materiall then these already rehearsed; so that being carefull and diligent to vse and obserue these according to the truth of their natures, there is no doubt but you shall bring your whelp in one foure or fve moneths to that full perfection which can be required of any reasonable iudgement. And thus much for the bringing vp of any Spaniell-Whelp to this excellent art of Setting.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVII.

Of the making of the best Lym, and of the preservation, as also of the Lyming of Roddes, Bushes, Strings, &c.



Ow for as much as the perfection of this Art consisteth in the perfection of the Instruments which are to be imployed therein, and that whereas any of them shall either grow or bee defectiue, that there the whole worke must necessarily perish and fall to ruine, and for as much as there is no instrument more auailable or more casuall then Bird-lime is, both by reason of the strength, and vigour, and ability to hold and intangle when it is good and perfit, and also the aptnesse to loose, not to cleaue or stick, when it is either weake rotten or defectiue: I think it

it not heere amisse to declare vnto you how and in what manner to make and compound the most excellentest and perfectest Bird-lime, for all manner of vses or purposes, wherein soeuer it shall be employed, whether it be in Winter or in Sommer, in the Frost or in the Thawe, or whether it be by Water or by Land, or for any generall vse to be employed in this art of Fowling.

Making of Bird-lime To make then the best and most excellentest Bird-lime, you shall take at Midsomer the Barke of Holly and pill it from the Tree, so much as will fill a reasonable bigge vessell, then put it in running water, and set it on the fire, and boyle it till the gray and white Barke rise from the greene, which will take for the most part, a whole day or better in boyling, then take it from the fire and seperate the Barkes after the water is very well drained from it, which done, take all the greene Barke and lay it on the ground in a close place, and a moist floare, as in some low Vault or Cellar, and then with all manner of green weedes, as Docks, Hemlock, Thystles and the like, couer it quite ouer a good thick.

thicknesse, and so let it lye for the space of tenne or twelue daies, in which time it will rot and turne to a filthie and flymie matter, then take it vp from the ground and put it into a lardge mortar, and there beate and grinde it exceedingly till it be comed to one vniuersall paste or toughnesse, without the diserning of any part of the Barke or other substance, which as soone as you see, you shall take it out of the mortar, and carry it to a quicke and swift-running streame, and there wash it exceedingly, not leaning any moate or fouleneffe within it, then put it vp in a very close earthen pot, and let it stand and purge for diuers daies together, not omitting but to skum it and clense it as any fouleneffe rises, for at least three or foure daies together, and then perceiuing no more skum will arise, you shall then take it out of that pot and put it in another cleane earthen vessell, and couer it close, and so keepe it.

Now when you haue occasion to vse *How to vse your Lyme,* you shall take of it such a quantitie as you shall thinke fit, and putting it into an earthen pipkin, with a third part of Hogges-grease, Capons-grease

grease or Goose-grease, finely clarified (but Capons-grease or Goose-grease is the best) and set it one a very gentle fire and there let them melt together, and stirre them continually, till they be both incorporated together, and that you cannot discerne any seperation of bodies, but all one entire and perfit substance, then take it from the fire and coole it, stirring it still till it be cold.

*Lyming of
Roddes,
Strings,
&c.*

As soone as your Lime is well coold, you shall then take your Lyme-rodde, and beaking or warming them a little ouer the fire to make them warme and drye, then take some of the Lyme (so prepared as aforesaid) and winde it about the tops of the rodde, then draw the rodde asunder one from another and close them againe, then open them and shut them againe, continually plying and working them together, till by smearing one vpon another you haue equally bestowed on euery rodde a like quantitie of lyme, not any rodde hauing more or lesse then another, but all alike both in thicke-nesse and depth, alwaies provided that you keepe the full and entyre breadth of your hand (at least) free and

and without any lime at all, euer and anon warming the rodde before the fire to make the lime spread and bedde vpon them the better and to make it lye smoother and plainer, without any grosse or palpable shew, whereby the Foule may take affright or amazement before they come to touch it; If you lime any strings, you shall doe it when the lime is very hot and at the thinnest, besmearing the strings on all sides, by foulding them vp together and vndoing them againe, and by laying the places that are vntoucht to the places that are toucht, till all be generally touched and no part of the corde free from lime, nor any part thicker or thinner then another, the knots only excepted, which must be a little better lymed then any other part of the corde; both because of their waight and that they may fasten a great deale the sooner. Now lastly for the lyming of Strawes, it must be done also when the lyme is very hot, and in such manner as the rodde are done, before the fire, onely you must not doe a fewe, but a great heape together, 'as much as you can well gripe in your hands, for so they are the

the stronger, and not so apt to bruise or breake in pieces, and therefore in the opening and working of them you shall not doe it with a little quantitie or a few together, but still as many as you can well gripe, tossing and turning them, and working them before the fire, till they be all besmeared, and that every straw haue his true proportion and quantitie of lyme, which as soone as you see it is done in perfection, you shall then haue cases made of leather, in which to put in your seuerall bunches of rodde, and so set them vp and keepe them till you haue occasion to vse them.

Now if it so fall out that the weather doe prooue so extreame sharpe and frostie, that your Lime-rodde doe freeze, and thereby loose all their strength and vigor, so as they cannot hold any thing at all; then when you mixe your grease and lyme together, you shall take a quarter so much of the oyle of *Peter* (which the Pothecaries call *Petroleum*) as you doe of Capons-grease, and mixing them together well, and working it vp on the rodde, it will euer keepe your lime so supple, tough, fine and gentle, that

that no frost how great or violent soeuer, shall by any meanes annoy or offend you. And thus much for the knowledge of Lyme and the seuerall vses, with which I end this brieft Treatise or Summarie Collection of this pleasant and delightful Art of Fowling, which if it giue any small satisfaction or contentment, to the industrious and diligent Reader, I haue the full accomplishment of my desire, and hold my paine sufficiently rewarded.

FINIS.
