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THE FLOWER OF BATTLE

Connecting the Dots

Michael Chidester

Symposium on Historical Arts and Swordsmanship

27 April 2013



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AGENDA

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- Intro
- Ludwig von Eyb
- “Die Blume des Kampfes”
- Fiore dei Liberi
- *Il Fior di Battaglia*
- Comparison
- Outro and Questions





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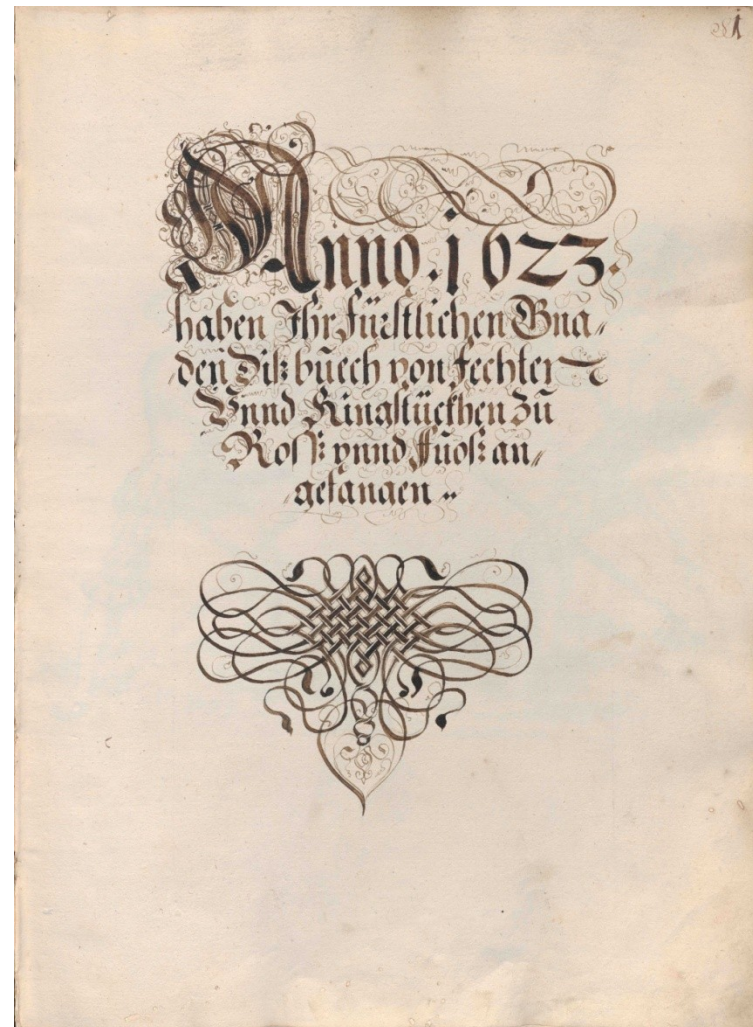
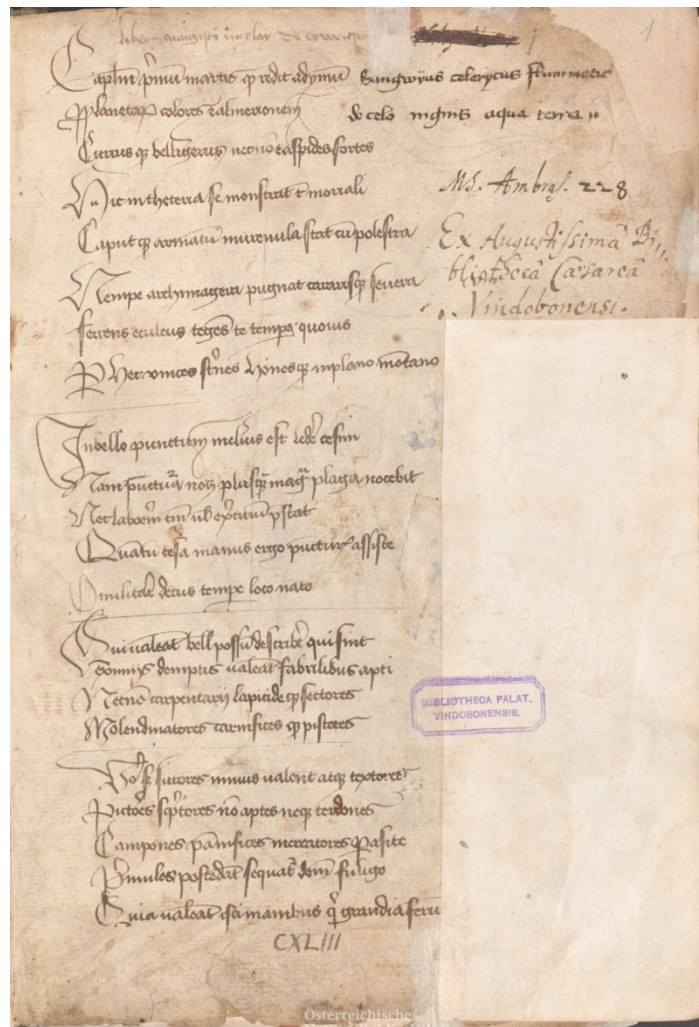
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DIE BLUME DES KAMPFES

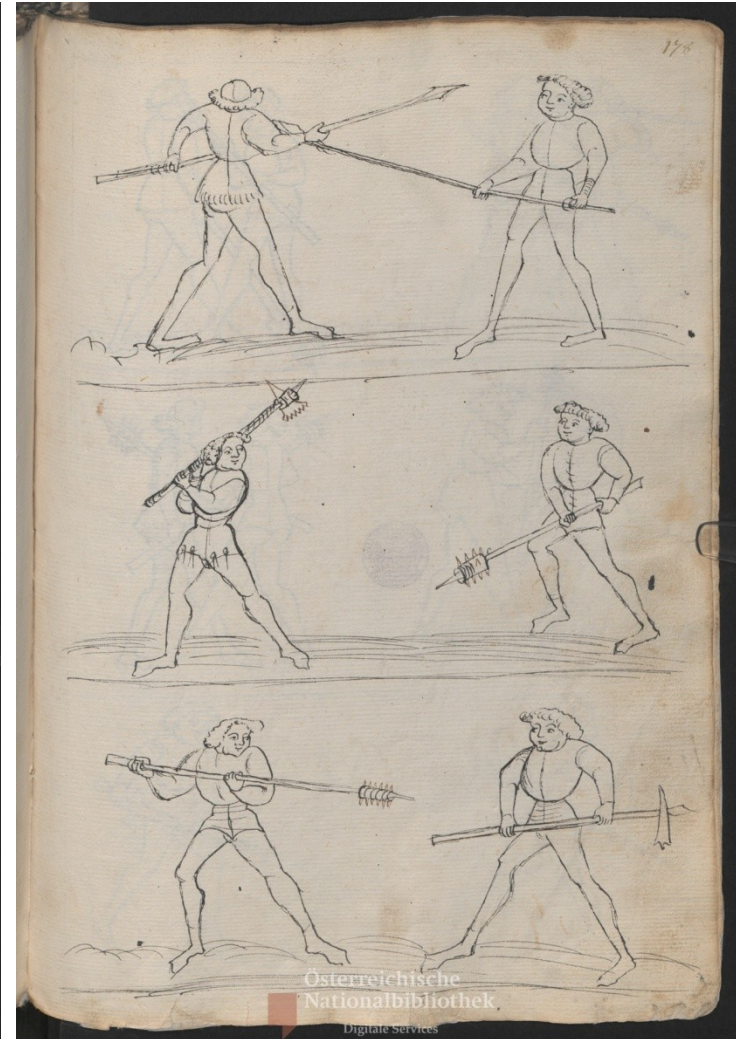
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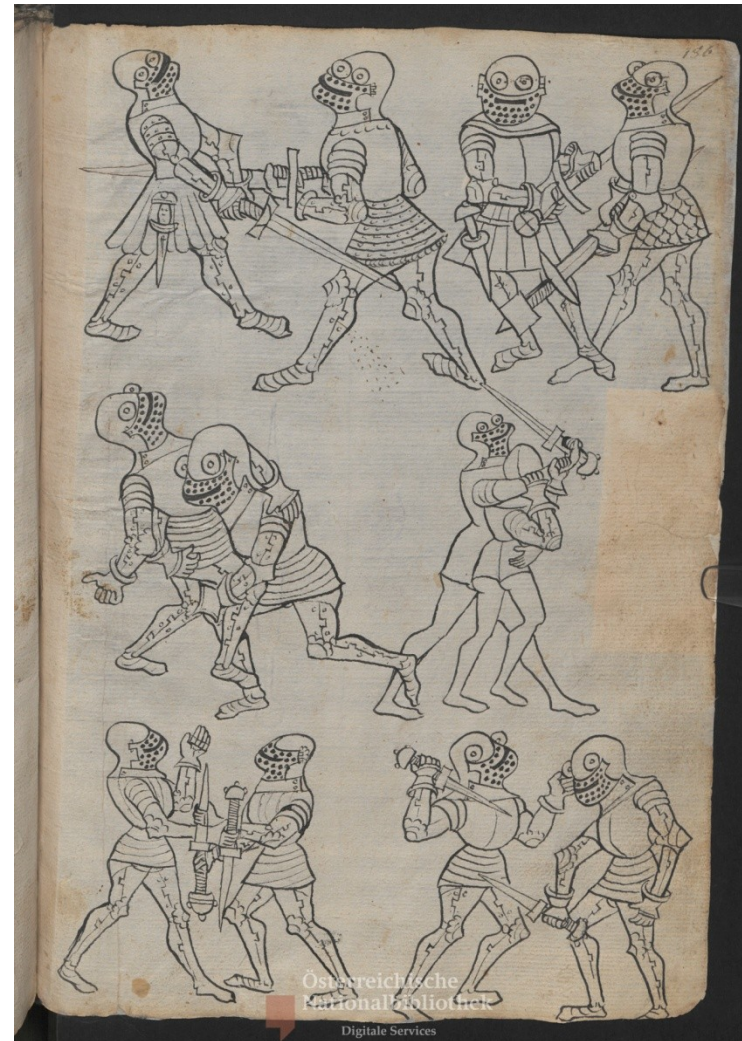
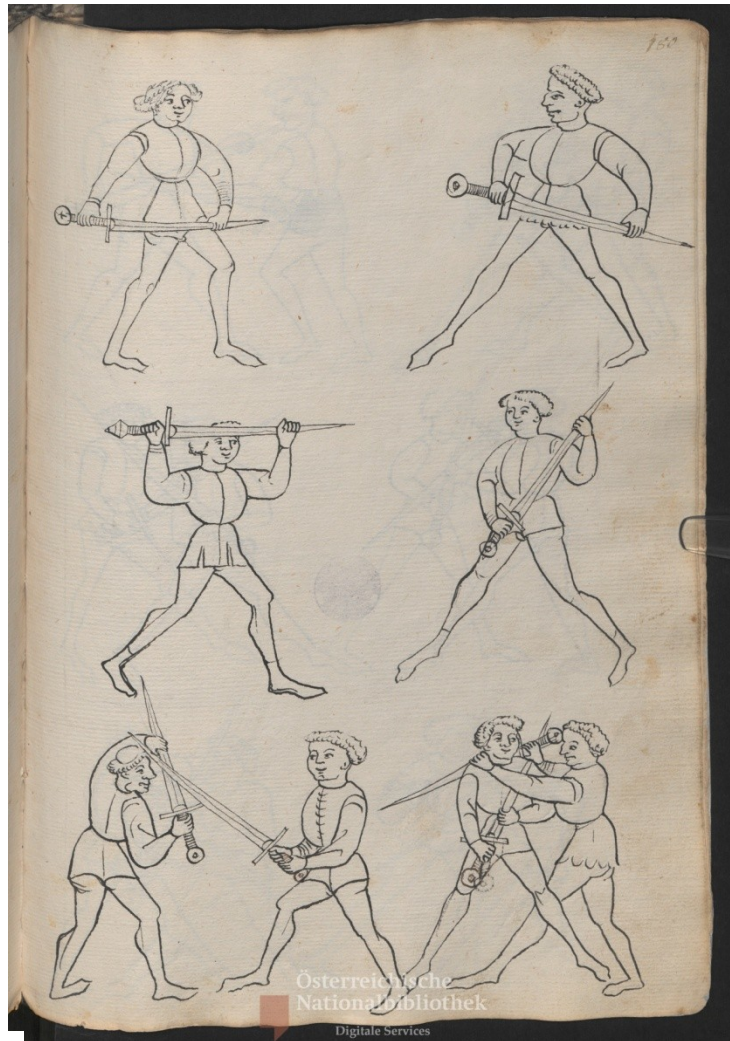
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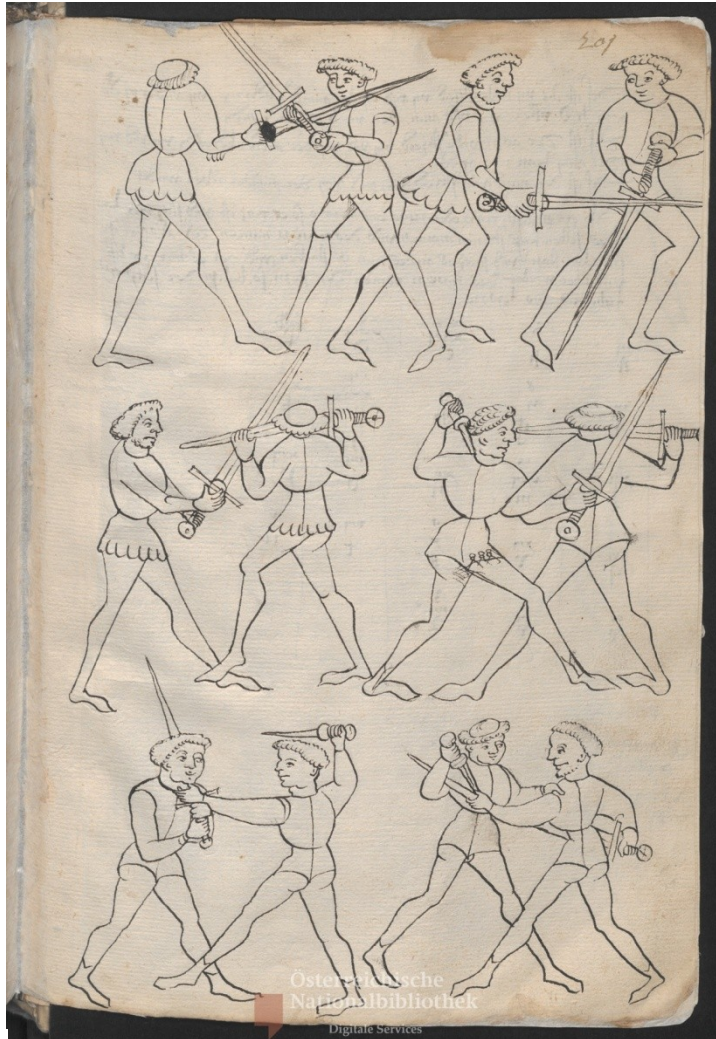
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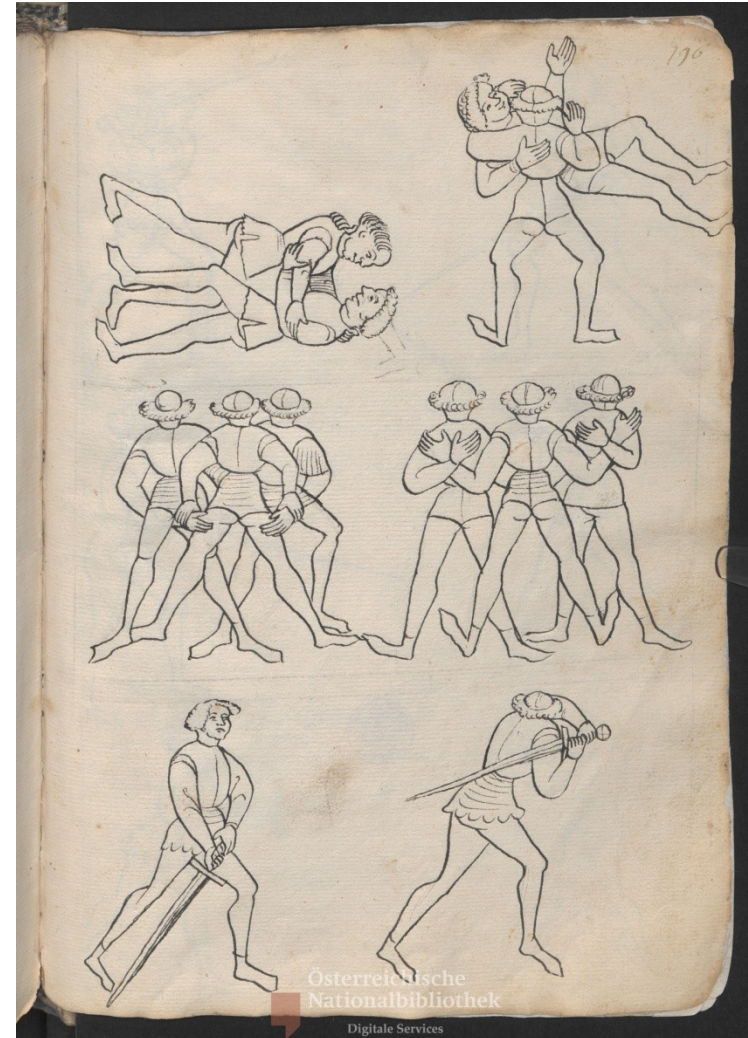
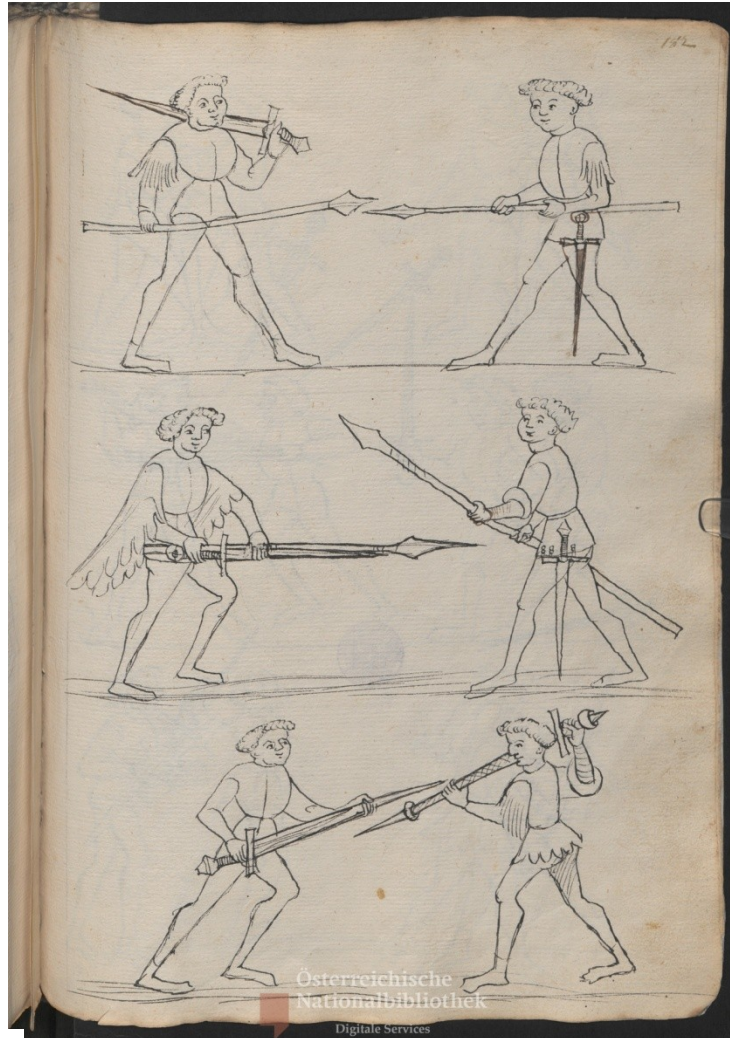
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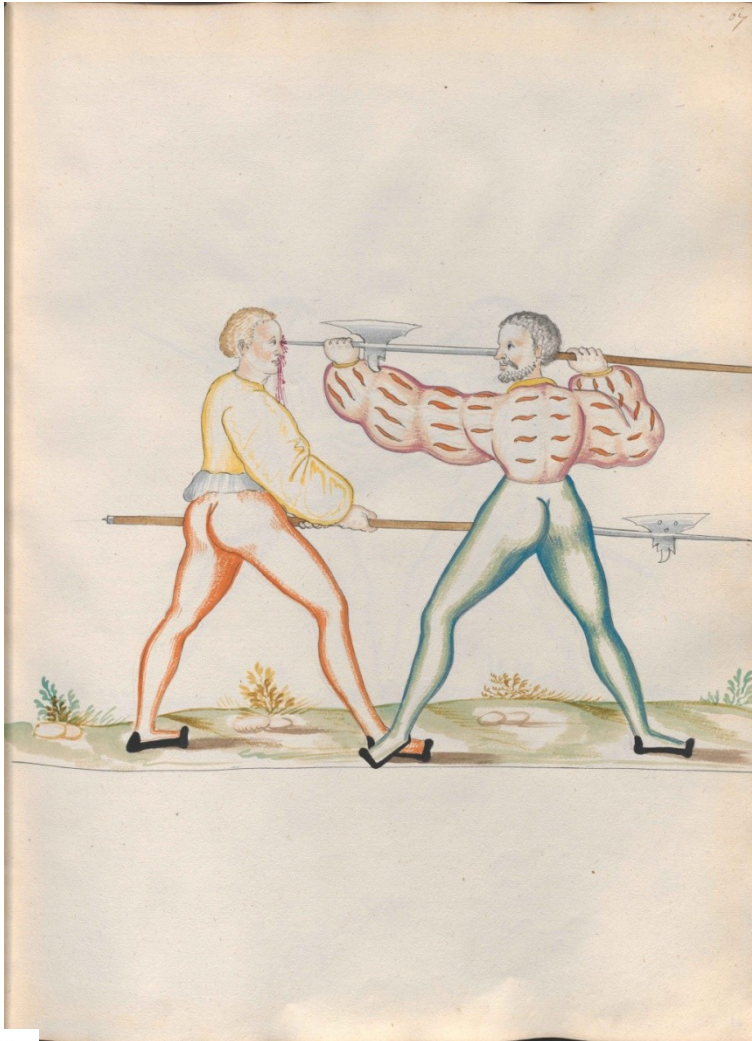
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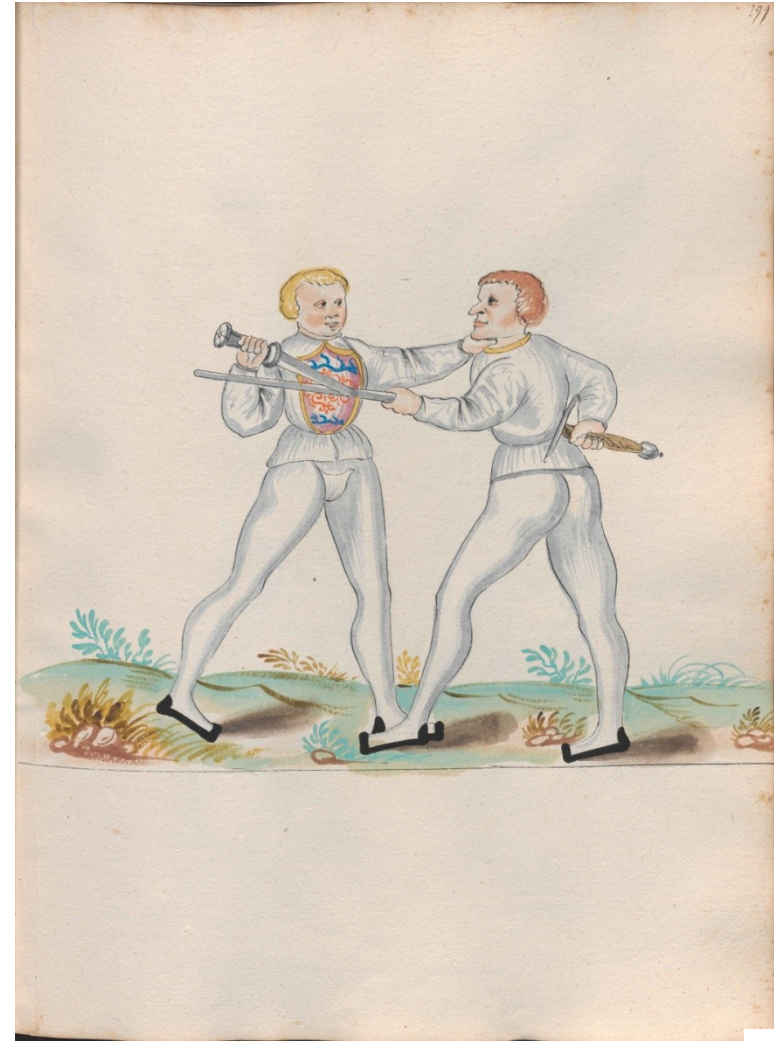
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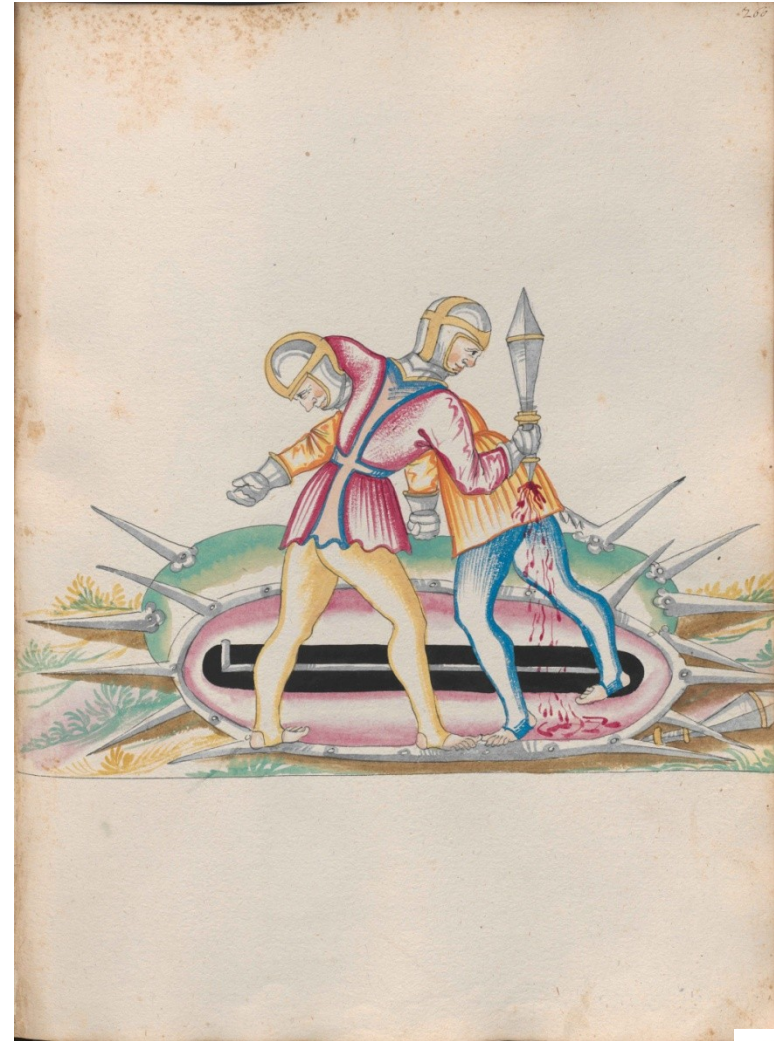
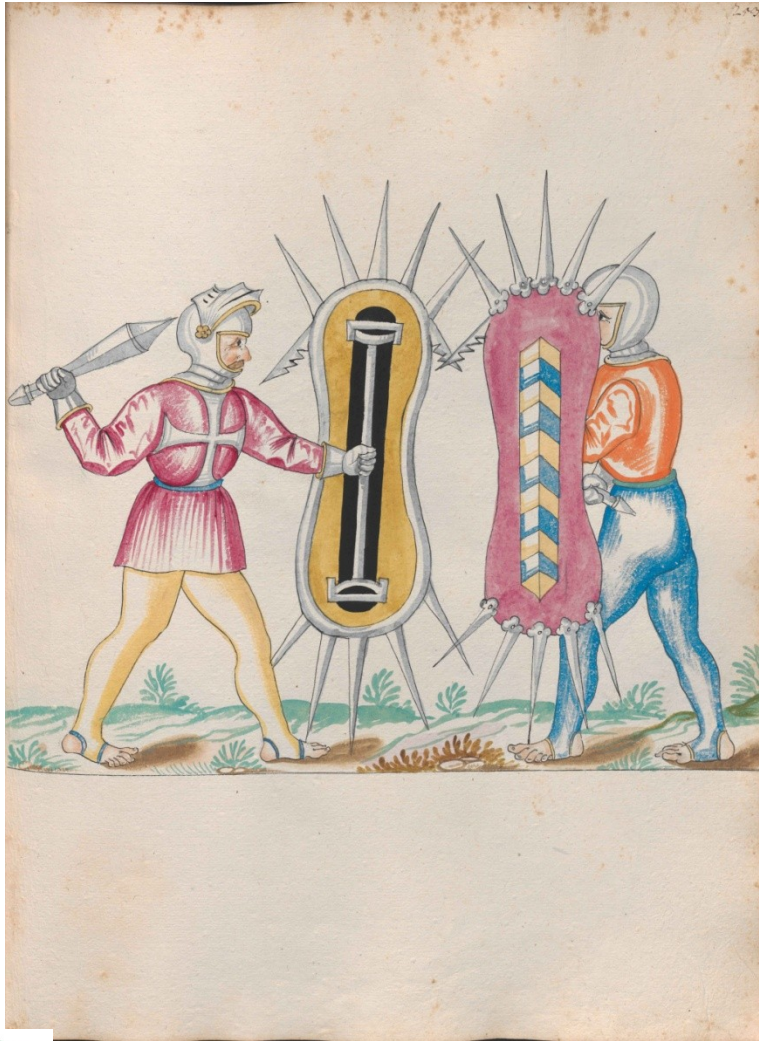
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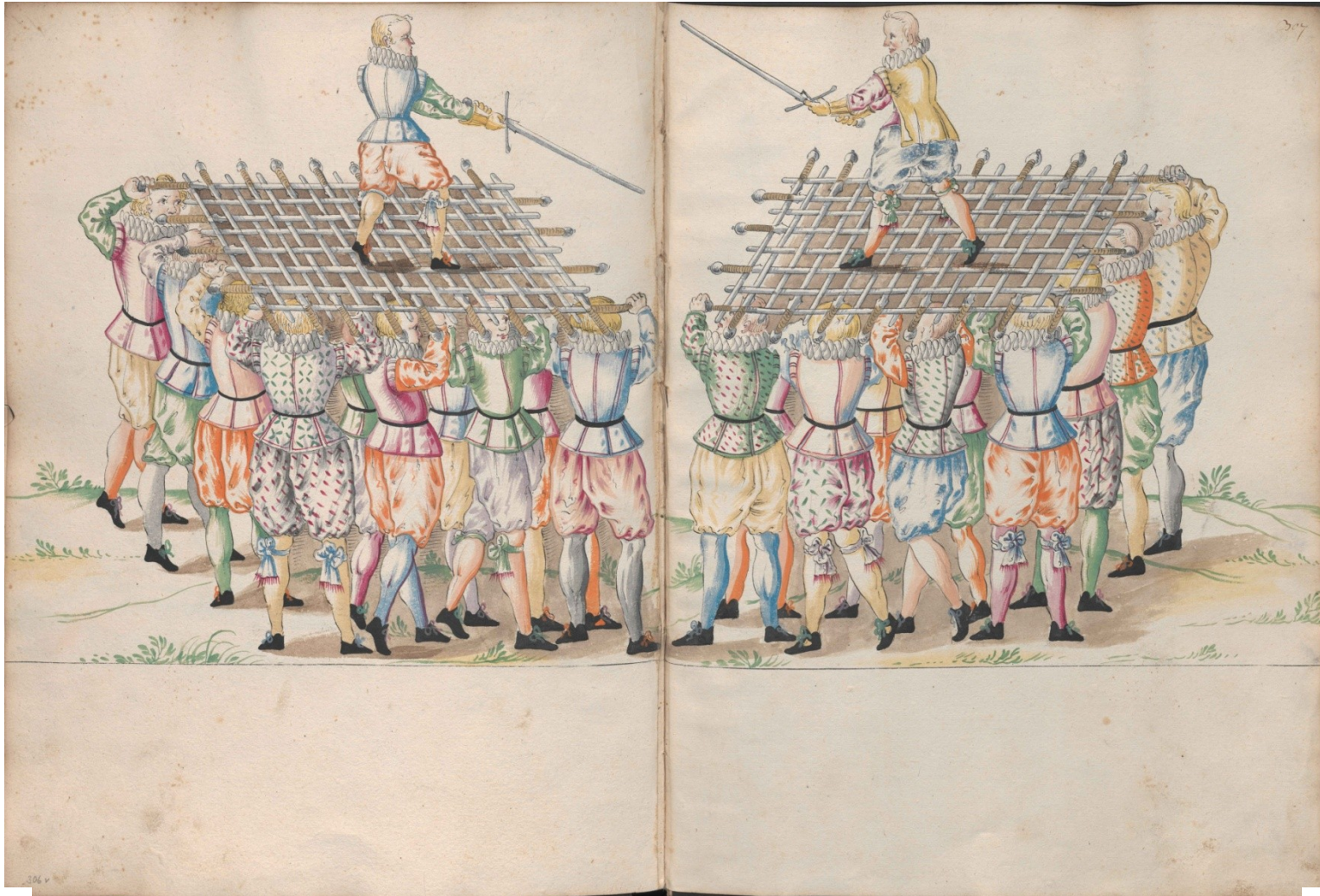
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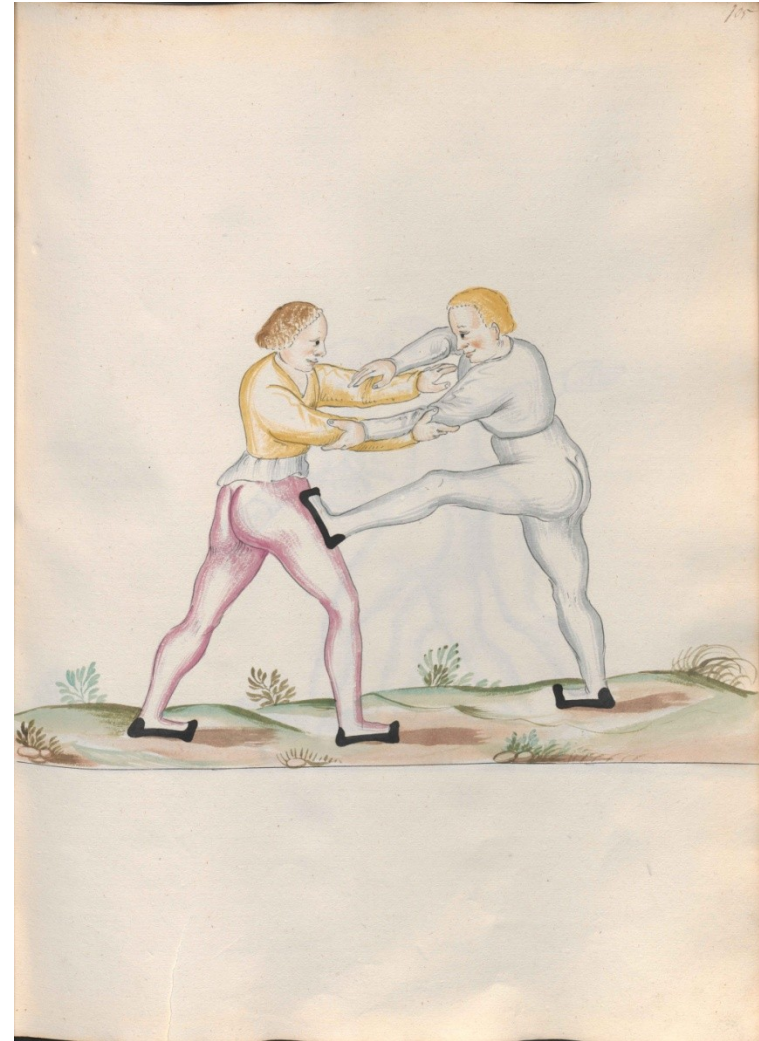
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GRAPPLING

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GRAPPLING

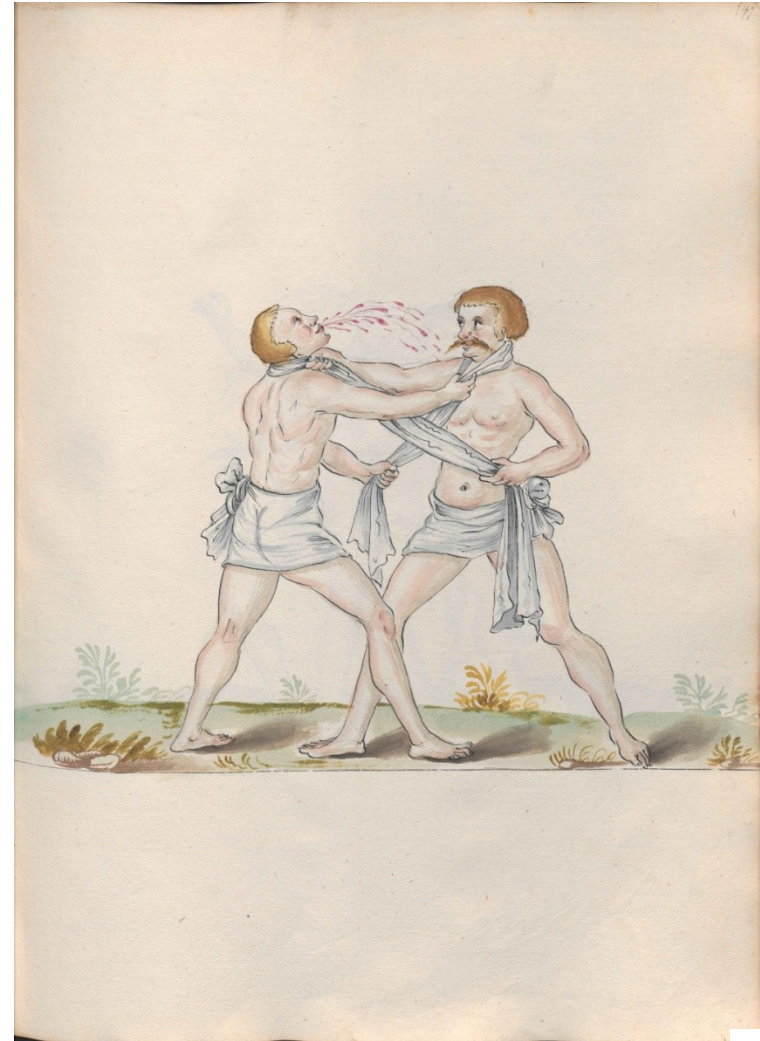
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SWORD AND SHIELD

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[Mark where the Sun gleams upon the gold or polish of the harness and goes thereafter. So shall a manly fighter advance the shield and overcome his foe with the Sun's help. The Sun glints in the gilding, or shines in the mirroring, of the pretty plate-armour, which thus sends rays thereout and into the foe's eyes.]





SWORD AND SHIELD

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Item; Here there are three techniques hereafter described. The first is a shot with the spear, the other a lower stab with the sword, the third is an upper stab with the sword and these three German techniques are for when someone in duelling armour and is armed in accordance with the German duel custom.

Thus take your spear in your right hand to shoot away and a strut and a sword with a heavy pommel open by the blade both together in your left hand and cover your openings and peer out and from there with the Pauessen and tread as well toward him and shoot the spear strongly in at him and if he receives the shot, then seize your sword by the hilt and run in at him.

Thus you run his spear away and give him a low waving leading stab with the approach from the balance of his helmet repelled and projected with the same stab. Stab an opponent through all Duelling combat.





SWORD AND SHIELD

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The alternate technique is when you have thrown your spear and during the shot thus seize your sword by the hilt for a low leading stab and run in. Running thus, you are off his spear so he shalt receive a shot and give him also from below a waving towards him to his stomach or made a strong shot, pushing stab and have his sword separate for a stabbing and not offline, to let your paussen drop and strike in at the head, and off the arm and hand, as long as you shall be separate from him and let his sword then not come any further toward you.





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The third is for when you have subsequently shot your spear and you have run in towards him and he gives a strong heavy stab with a wave at you treading out of balance that you do through as his Armour, so Stand him and have the sword up at him ready to Hammer And exposure the hand to cover your openings well with the Hammer and tread again to the back and Your sword in the hand off the high glove stab strike and tread in towards him again and always cover your openings well and give him yet another upper-glove strike stab under his neck, strongly from the balance, and tread then yet again to the back and drive that always as long as it is with stabbing and with the high stab to him so that you do harm him.





SWORD AND SHIELD

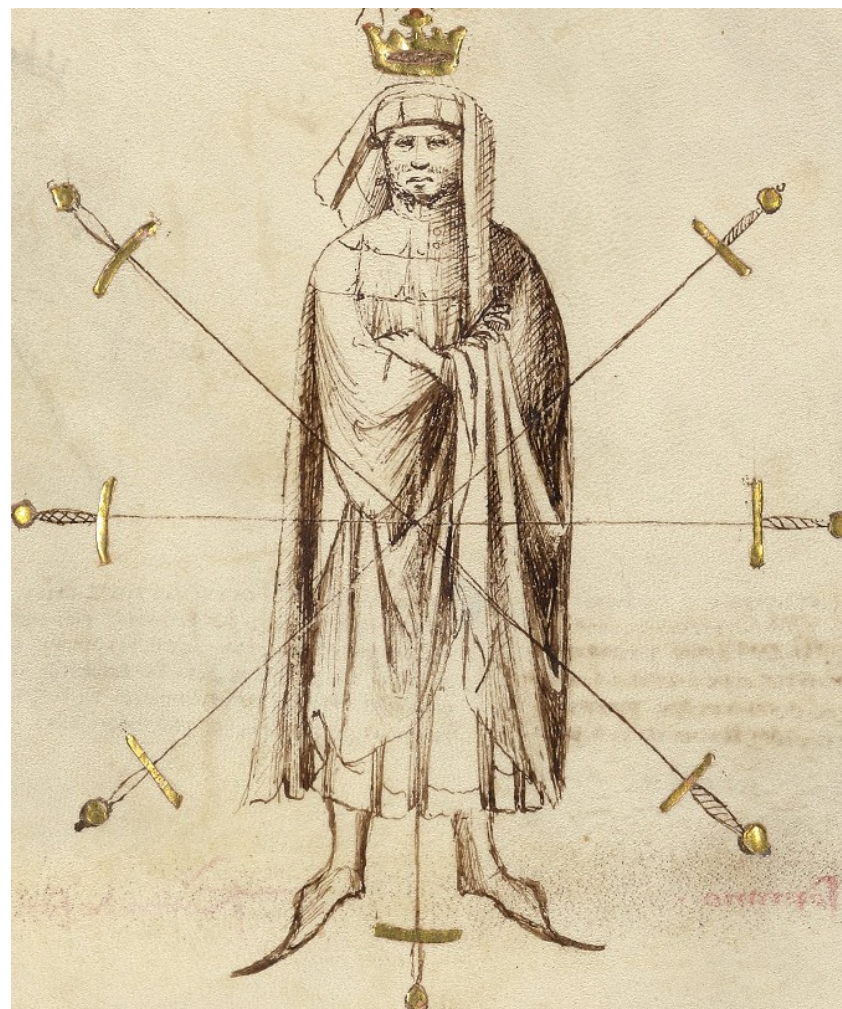
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FIORE FURLANO

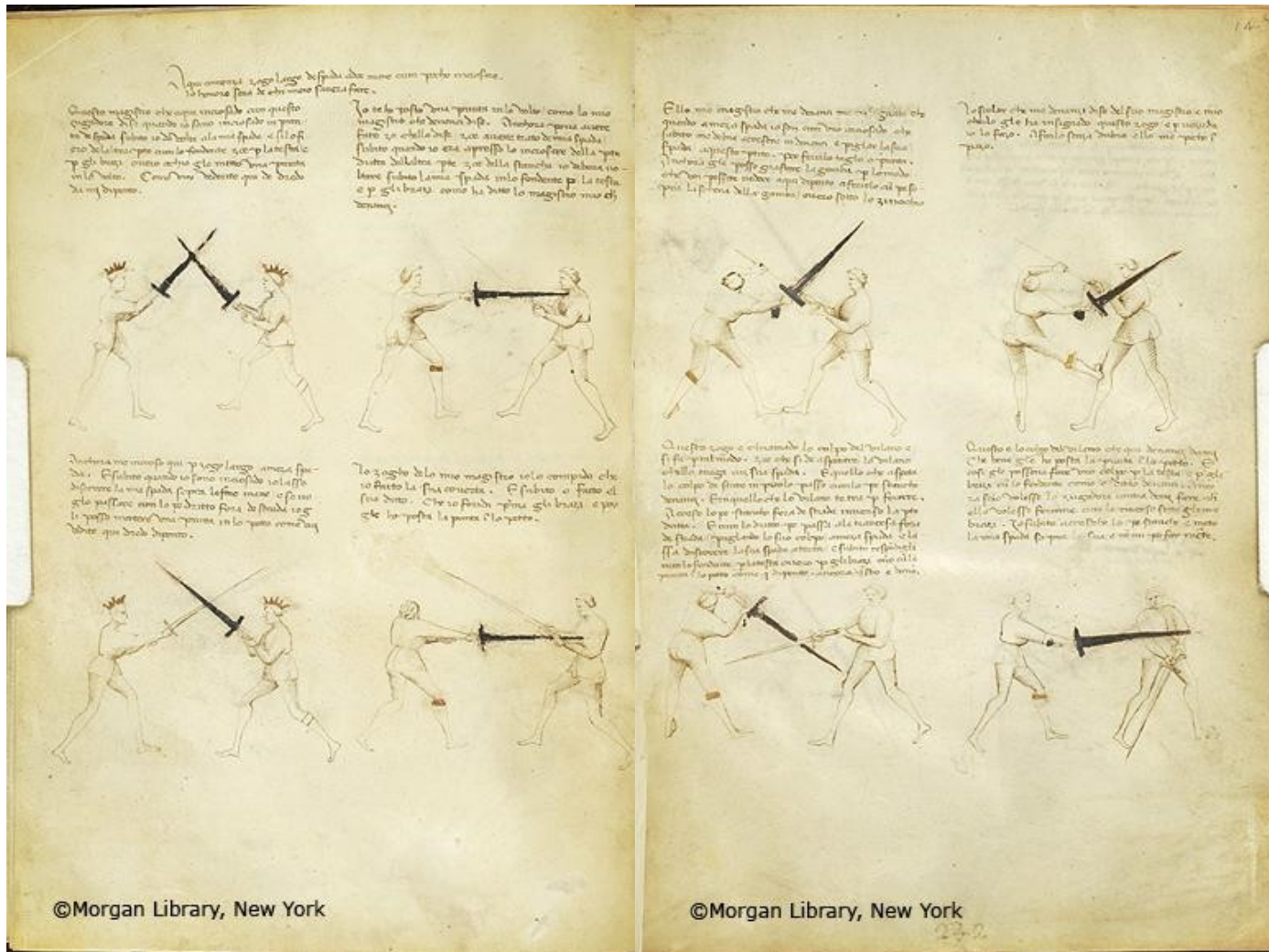
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MORGAN (MS. M.383)

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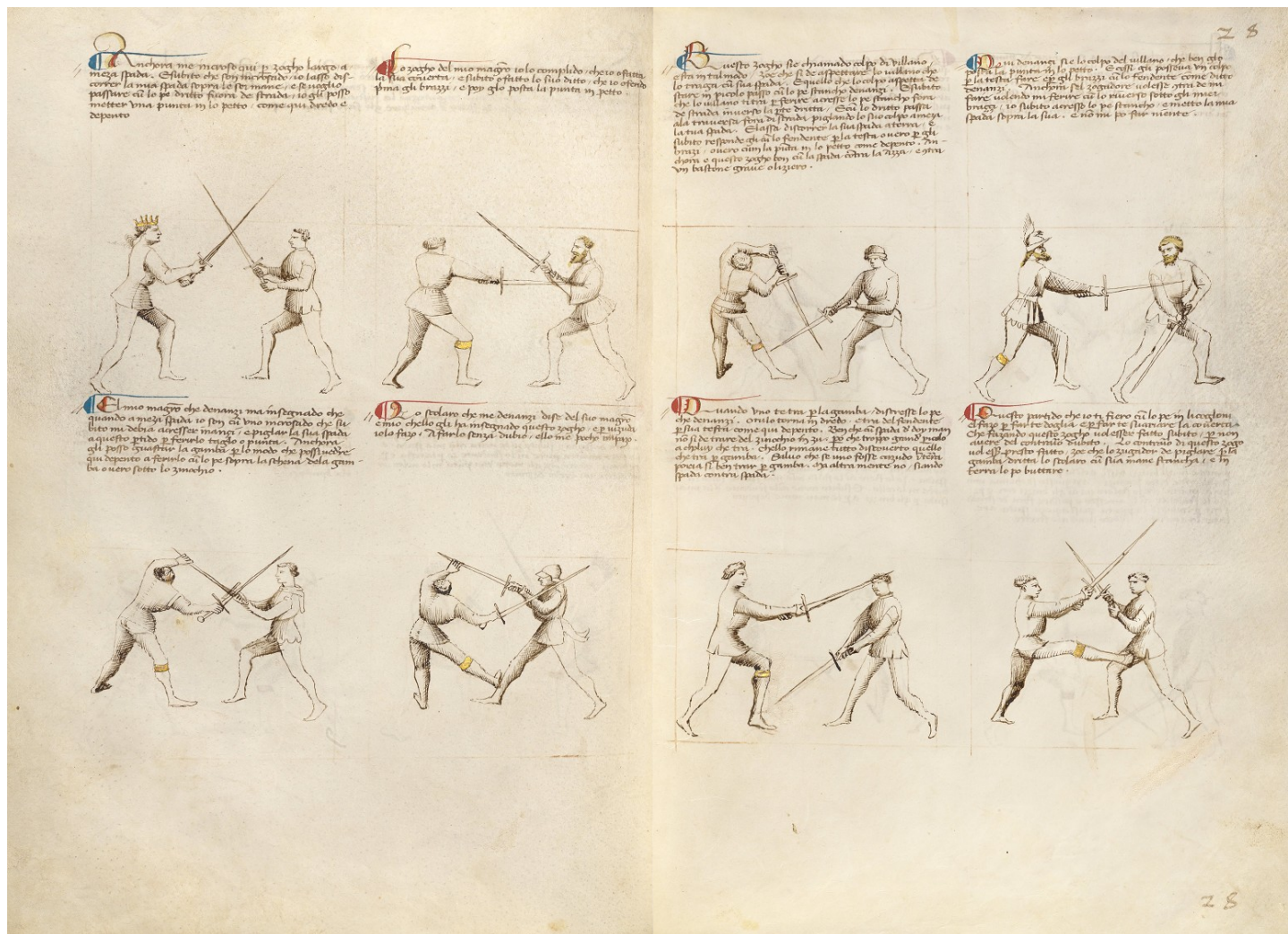
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GETTY (MS. LUDWIG XV 13)

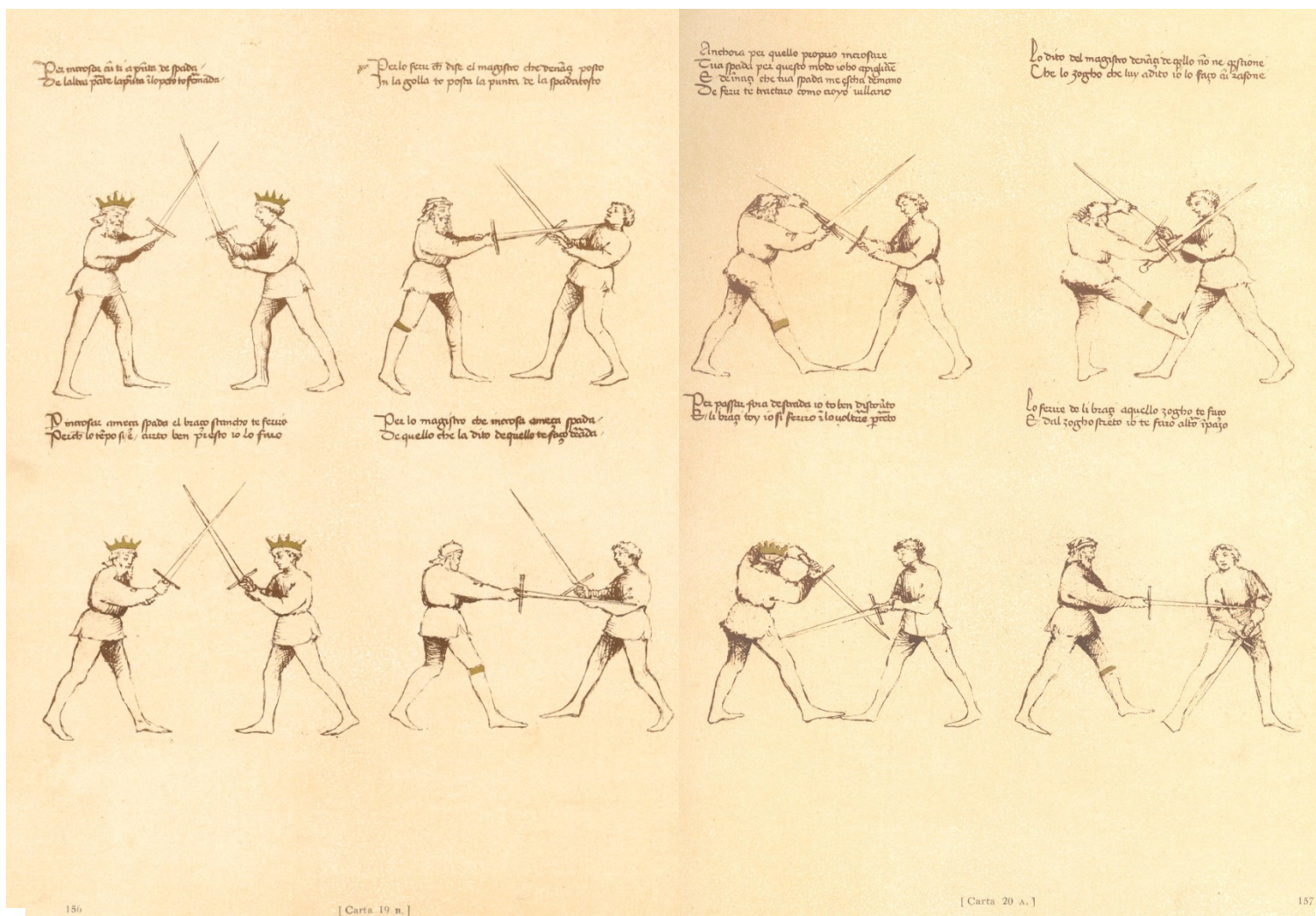
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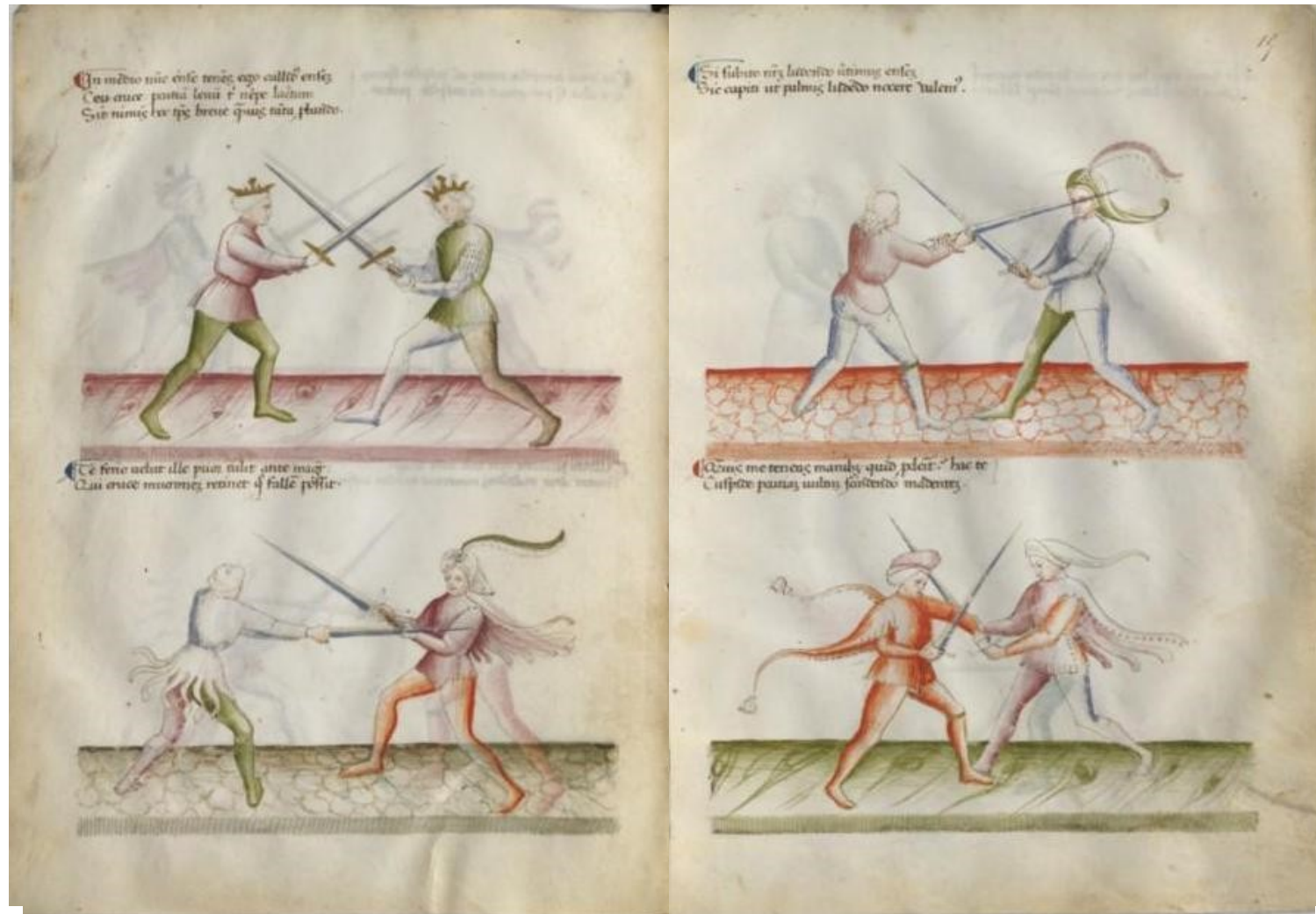
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STRUCTURE

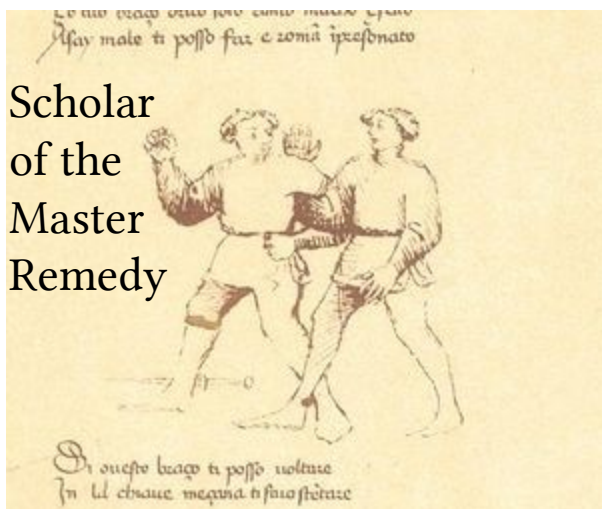
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Master
in
Guard



Master Remedy



Scholar
of the
Master
Remedy



Master
Contrary



Master
Contra-
Contrary





THE IRON GATE

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THE CROWN

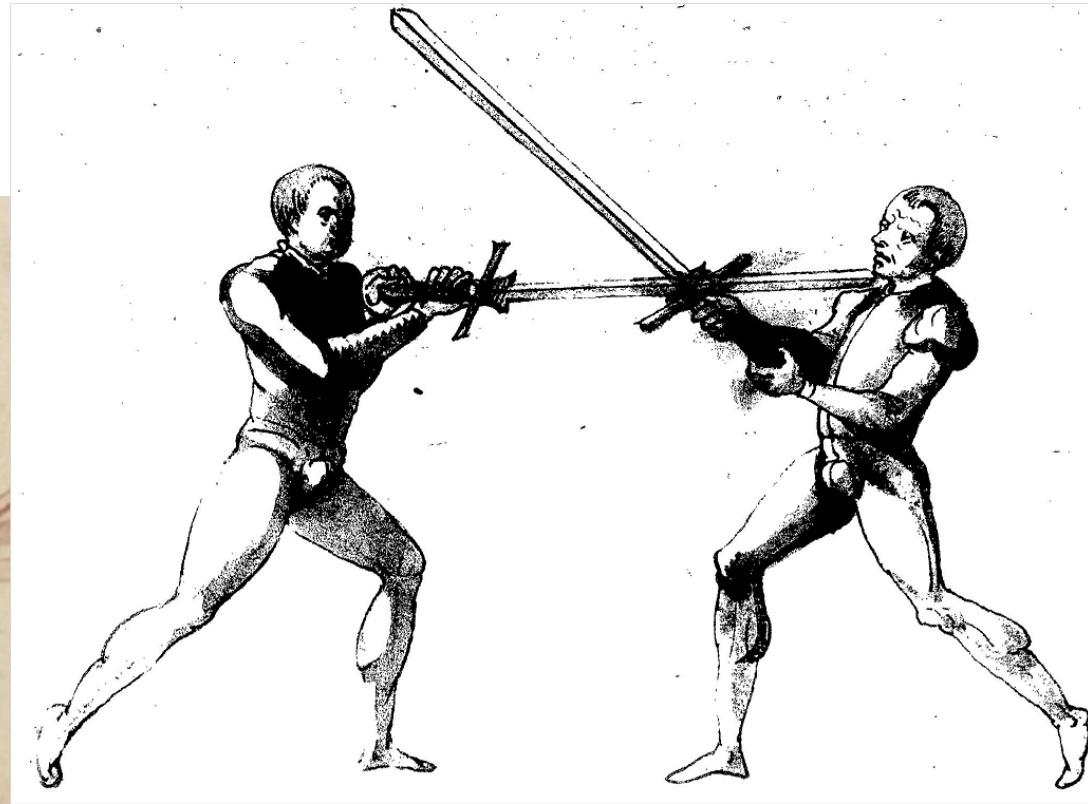
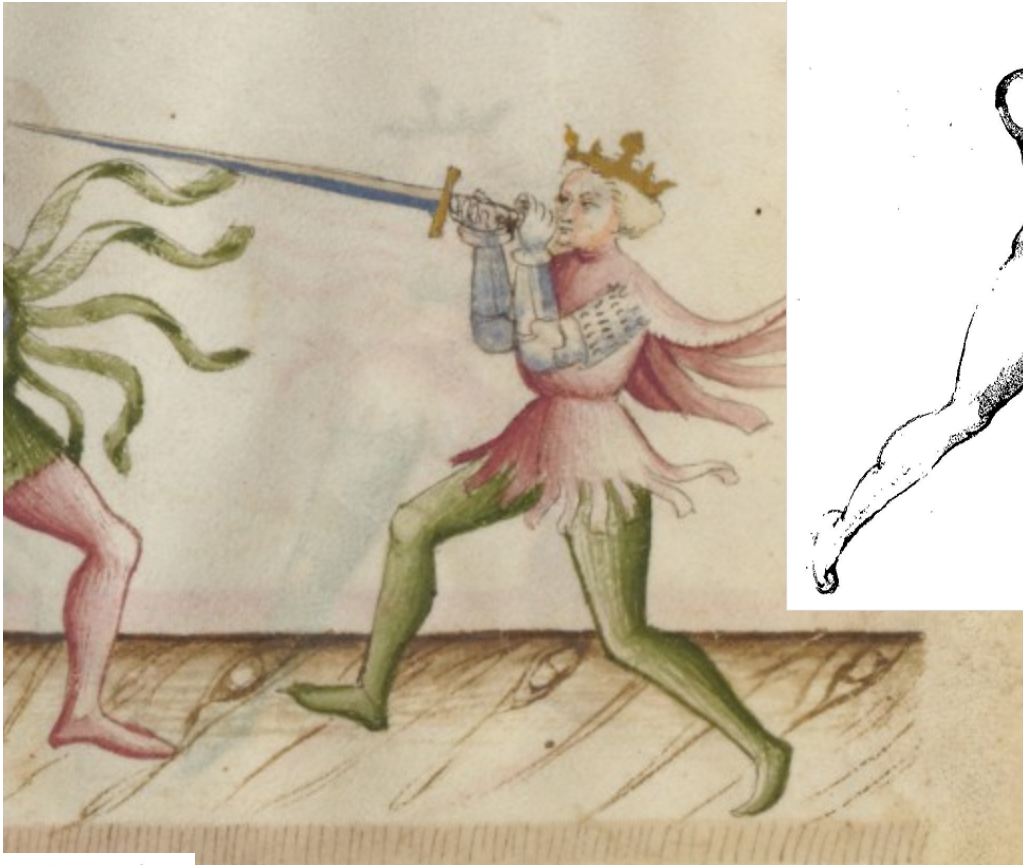
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THE HORNED ANVIL

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THE HORNED ANVIL

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COMPARISON

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*“Here begin Peter's devices: the sword-taking
with counters and grappling...”*



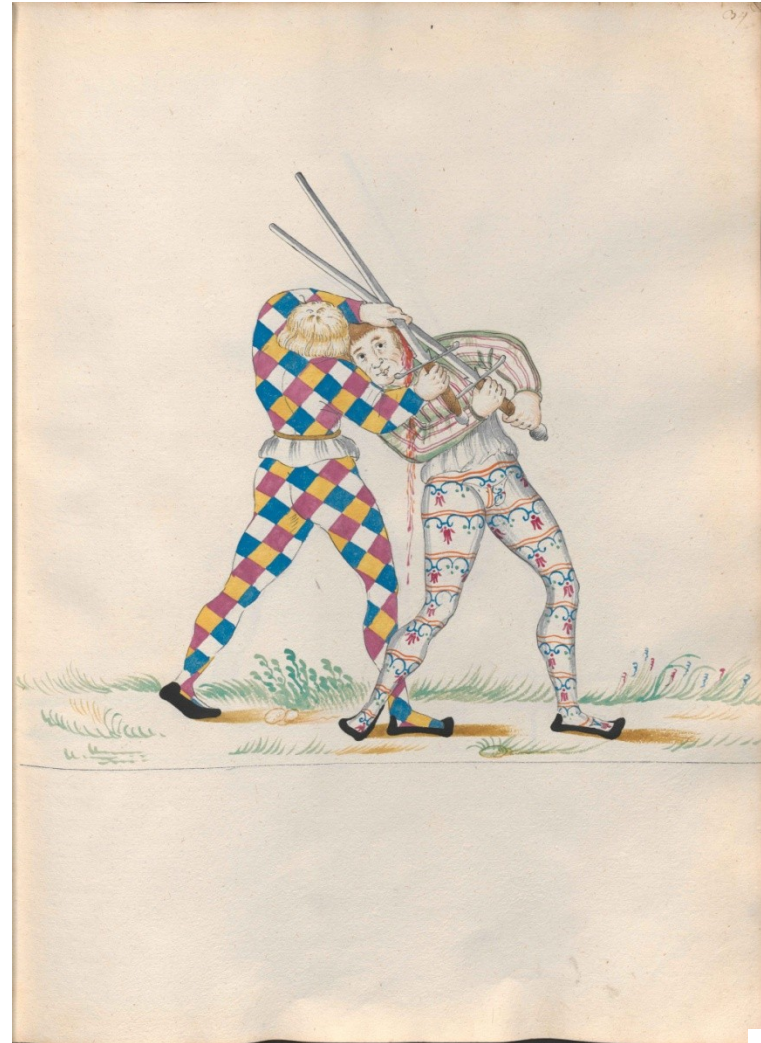
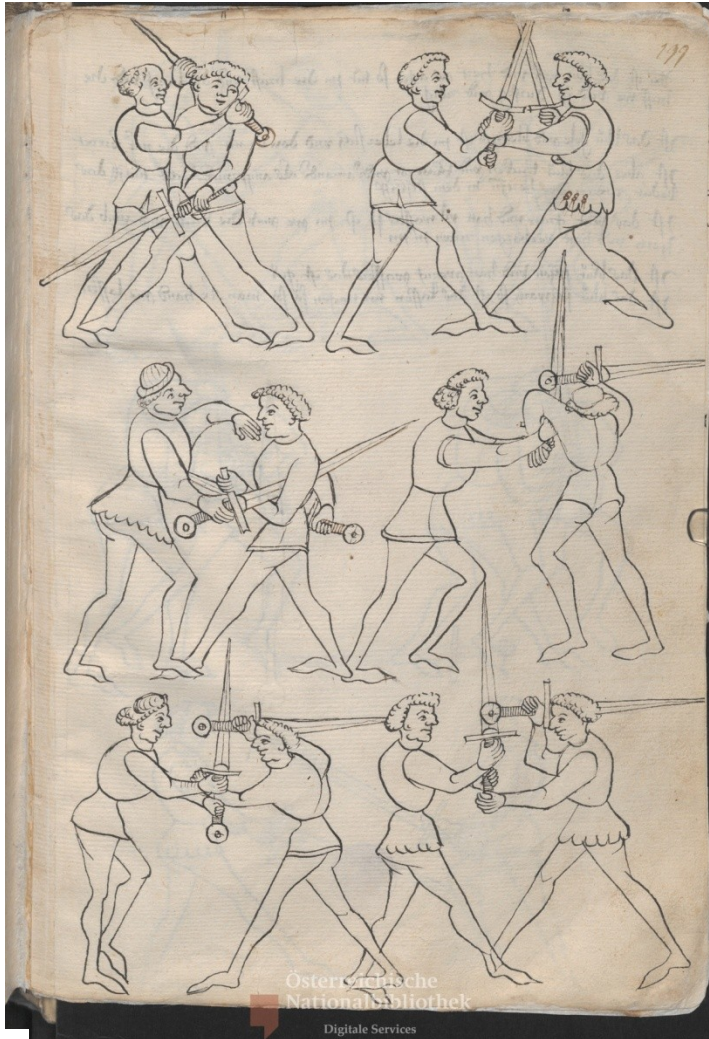
Peter's actual device.





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3RD MASTER OF DAGGER

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3RD MASTER OF DAGGER

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*You will go to the ground because
of your lack of knowledge,
And in armour this is a particularly
safe throw.*

With this method you will be
driven into the ground. And I
could not make a safer throw,
being armoured. But even without
armour, there is nothing you can
do. And even if you were strong
and powerful, I would still be able
to do this to you.



3RD MASTER OF DAGGER

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A good wrestle with the dagger when armed in accordance with the German duel, when someone wishes to strike at you from above, thus seize him underneath the stab with the right hand under his arm close to his hand and pull his arm strongly toward you to one side, and during the pull, thus allow him to come forward and tread around him with two treads, and during the step, then seize him by the neck with his right arm and place his right leg behind his right leg and break him strongly from above by his neck over your right left onto his back.





LOWER BIND

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LOWER BIND

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*This is called the strong lower lock,
And it is a bind with a great risk of death
But this lock, truth to tell,
If not properly applied can be escaped
from.*

This is called the lower lock, also known as the “strong key”, and from this bind I can kill you, whether you are armoured or unarmoured, because from here I can strike you in all of your most vulnerable places. And no one can escape from this bind. And if you are put into it, as depicted in the drawing, there you will remain enduring much pain and suffering.



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But a similar targeted technique using the dagger, when someone wants to strike you from above, so you will stoop down and catch the strike on your hand by his arm and step around with two steps and twist his arm up around the back and shove your left arm through it to hold him by the shoulder, and weight his arm up and throw him on his face because he must fall or break his arm.





SWORD IN ARMOR

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SWORD IN ARMOR

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This play is also of the Stance of the True Cross, in this way: that is that when the scholar is in that guard, and a player comes against him and suddenly attacks, the scholar should step out of the way and thrust the point in his face as you see here done.



SWORD IN ARMOR

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The fourth technique you can but do from an armoured hand with a high stab, so move in and push his point off upward and away, and in the outward motion approach ever more strongly afterward and in the approach and bind in by his left and between your hand with the blade and the piece in thus to the back and stab in at his left leg. If he prohibits this, so let your sword drop over the pommel and seize him strongly by the leg with both hands and arms and pull the legs strongly away and throw him on his back.





NEXT STEP: GLADIATORIA

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Ms. Germ. Quart. 16
(1435-1440)

Ms. U860.F46.1450 (1440s)

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(1465-1480)

Ms. CL23842 (1490s)





NEXT STEP: GLADIATORIA

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NEXT STEP: GLADIATORIA

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NEXT STEP: GLADIATORIA

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Merckes das newende stuck des degen ob er seinen Rechten fuß heft fur gesetzt
vnd stach von seiner tenden Rechten zu demer prust so walt den fuß erweisen
beide deine hende auf dem klingen vnd greiff nach mit deiner linken handt
auf sein arm hinder allwegen vnd stozt vast von dir dar er dir den ruckg aber
als du es oben gemalt sehest

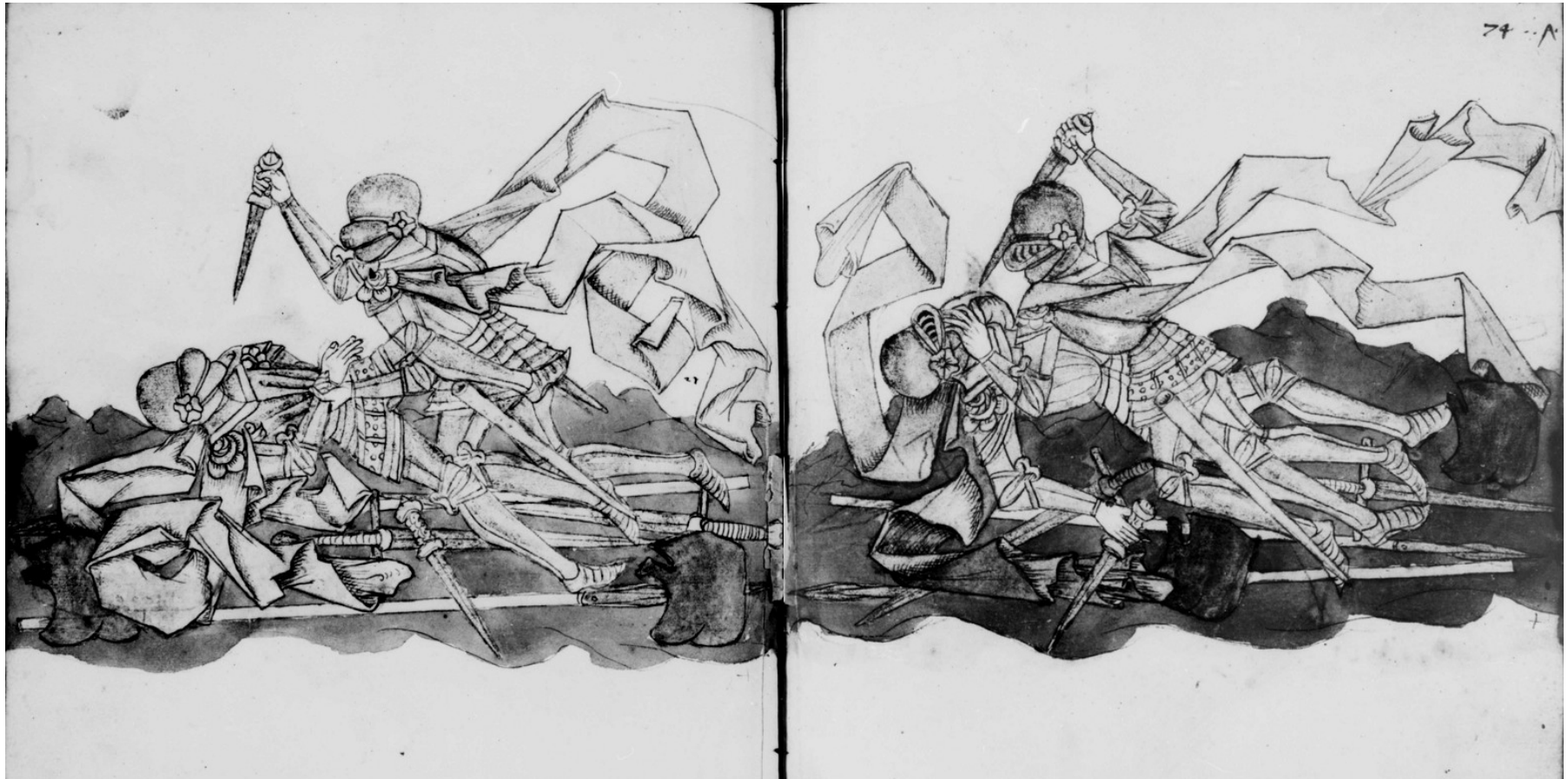


Merckes das newende stuck des degen ob er von oben zu dem gesicht stich vnd zu demer
degen nicht chome müßst so leg dem rechten handt auf die tenden kreuzweis vnd ruck
den fuß auf deine arm vnd greiff mit deiner linken handt vmb sein glid hinder
degen vnd mit der rechten handt überstich auf in sein klingen So hinstich in sein
degen als du es oben gemalt sehest



NEXT STEP: GLADIATORIA

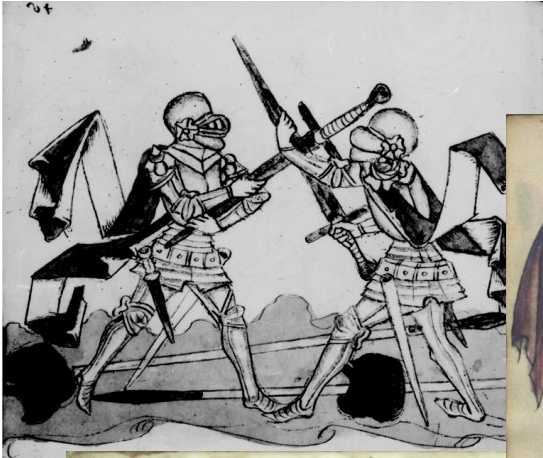
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NEXT STEP: GLADIATORIA

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NEXT STEP: GLADIATORIA

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*De andar i tēza tentene ceto e seguio
E de tua daga pocho o mēte me auro*





FURTHER READING

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Charrette, Robert N. *Fiore dei Liberi's Armizare: The Chivalric Martial Arts System of Il Fior di Battaglia*. Wheaton, IL: Freelance Academy Press, 2011. ISBN 978-0-9825911-7-8

dei Liberi, Fiore; Leoni, Tommaso. *Fiore de' Liberi's Fior di Battaglia*. Wheaton, IL: Freelance Academy Press, 2012.

dei Liberi, Fiore; Rubboli, Marco; Cesari, Luca. *Flos Duellatorum. Manuale di Arte del Combattimento del XV secolo*. Rome: Il Cerchio Iniziative Editoriali, 2002. ISBN 88-8474-023-1

Malipiero, Massimo. *Il Fior di battaglia di Fiore dei Liberi da Cividale: Il Codice Ludwing XV 13 del J. Paul Getty Museum*. Udine: Ribis, 2006. ISBN 887-44503-5-4



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CONCLUSION

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Questions?



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