

The Use of the Two-hand Sworde

The ferste pleyng & begynnyng of the substansce of ye too honde swerde / ye ferst gronde be gynyth w an hauke beryng inwt ye foote wt a double rownde wt. iij . fete howtewarde & as meny homward making ende of ye play wt a quarter cros smetyn wt an hauke snach setting down by ye foote.

The . ij . lesson ys . ij . haukys wt ij . halfe haukys cleuyg ye elbowys wyth ye same . ij . doublylrowndys forsayde wt. iij . foote owtward . & as meny hamward.

The . iij . lesson ys a sprynge vpward . wt an hauke quarter . downe by ye cheke . wt iij . doublylrowndys stondyg borne on ye hed . wt a dowbylrownde born in wt ye foote . w . iij . outwards.

The . iiij . lesson . ys wt a dowbil hauke wyth . ij . doubil rowndis beryg inwt a step vp on bothe feete.

The . 5 . lesson ys wt an hauke menyd our ye hede . but bere ht vp wt a step . breke of ye erthe wt renyng rowndis on ye hede wt. ij . halfe havkis born wt. ij . koc stappis of ye foete.

The . 6 . lesson bere ovte ye erthe wt. iij . koc stapps & so come home ovte of danger a gayne.

The . 7 . lesson ys . Smyte an hauke cros . cros our ye elbovis wt a bak stop & so smyte ht on ye fet.

The . 8 . lesson ys wt. an hauke cros smytÿ wt a bakstep born wt bothe fete & a contrary hauke hamward born wt. ij . steppis.

These ben stroke & revle of ye . ij . hondswerd to make hys hond & ys foete a corde.

The pley of ye . ij . hondswerd by twene . ij . bokelers ys . fyrst take a sygne Of ye gonde ther ye pley by twene . ij . bokelers . make ferst a sygne to hē wt a large hauke down to ye grownde . w . iij . rollyng strokis . wt an hauke to ye oder side.

The . ij . lesson ys a chase . or an hauke wyt a quartr born in wt a kocstep & an hauke born in wt a chase foyn . y made vp wt a lygte sprÿg

The . 3 . lesson ys . a chase . vt . ij . havkys cleuyng ye elbovis.

The . 4 . lesson . ys a chase smetÿ wt . ij . half rowndis . wt . ij . kocstoppis . a qrter wt a steppe an hauke wt a chase foyn . wt ye stroke a venture smetÿ on . iij . fete . & made vp wt a rake down . ~ bore vp wt a dovbil hauke . & so serue ye stroke aüetur vp on bothe fete.

The . 5 . lesson . ys a chase wt an hauke & wt a bakstep stondyg on ye foote . & playng on yt othr syde a qrter & ye same chase . & an hauk wt a step . & an hauke wt a chase foyn contry smyten . & so smyte in wt bothe feete i made vp wt . ij . halfe hauke . wt. ij . bakstoppis . & wt ye renyng.

The . 6 . lesson ys . ij . hauke qrters rovnys wt a brokyn halfe hauke a leyng down to ye foete wt a contrary honde ys is ye fyrst leyng a dovne.

The . 7 . lesson & ye fyrst takyng vp ys . iij . rakys vpward & . iij . dovnward . & gan inwt a grete steppe . wt doubyl qrter wel smytÿ . beryg ovte wt ye foete a brokyn halfe hauke settÿg downe ye swerde by ye foete.

The . 8 . lesson & ye secnde leyg a dovne of thy swerde . ij . haukys wt a qrter & iii wt ye foete wt a brokyn hauke . a leyg dovne to ye foete wt a cōtrary honde.

The . 9 . lesson & ye secnde takÿg vp of thy swerde ys . iij . haukys on euych syde stonyng on ye erthe stil wt a stop bor menyd on ye erthe. wt an hauke quartr born wt a step . and wt a doubyl qrter honde & foete born our ye hede . an hauke menyd setting thy swerd by thy foete.

The . 10 . lesson & ye . iij . Ieyng dovne of thy swerd ys a qrter & in wt ye foete & an hauke brokÿg at ye cheke & then a doubil hauke a bovt ye hed brokyn . & then in wt a sprÿge of ye foete . wt a

stroke auëtüre . wt a qrter & wt a snache . leyng to ye erthe wt a cötrary hond.

The . II . lesson & ye iij . takÿg vp ys wt a sprynge wt yt on hond rigte vp on to ye visage wt an halfe rounde broky in to a step wt a reuence to ye cros of thy hilde wt a long cartar stroke smety flat dovne by ye bak . wt a doubil brokÿ spryng bak ye foete a drawyng . & in wt a long rake dobil . in wyth ye foete walkyng & on eche foete . ij . rakys . & at ye alurys ende smyte in . iiij . rakys doubille born into a step . & so ye other rakys in to ye alure ende . & dovbil yt on in to a step . a gayn turnÿg in wt a long dovbil rake wt a step . & wt yt othr hond spryng vp thy swerd to thy rygt shulder & smyte thy stroke auëtür wt an hauke settÿg dovne thy swerd by thy foete.

To Incounter wth the Two Hand Sworde

And as for ye first contenance of ye . ij . höd swerd . thou shalt walk in wt . iij . foete to thy adursary wt a bold spyрте & a mery herte wt a sengyl qrter . & a sengil quartr wastyd wt a cartr stroke and thus smyte thy conter bothe of & on & lete thy hond & thy foet a corde to geder in goede afense.

[T] he . ij . conter ys wt a doubil quartr wt thy foete goyng . & a dobyl quartr wastid in to a step & in wt thy foete & smyte a large hauke vp in to ye skye . wt a doubil snache.

[T]he . 3 . lesson of ye countr ys . a rake on eche foete goyng till thou come to thy adusary . wt a doubil quartr wt hole defence born wt an othr dobil qrter wt hole defence breke in & a sygne a toche wt a large sprynge & smyte wt fers stroke menyd wt hole defence & so smyte ys cowntr bothe of & on . & bovrel thy strokis of eche of thy cowntris.

[T]he . 4 . cowntr ys . ij . halfe roundys . Wyth a tnye foyne . beryng in ye foyne wt a qrter . & an hauke at ye skye wt a snache wt thy hole defence born a for the . & ths cowntr most be smete wt tnsposyng of thy erthe of bothe fete for surenesse of defence.

[T]he . 5 . cowntr is an halfe rownde of ye secnde foete . & than smyte . ij . dobil haukys & bothe sides hole . & brokë enter hÿ wt ye ferst foete . wt a dobil qrter . & so smyte a cartr stroke but tne hym wt a stroke auëtüre wt hole defence . & thvs smyte ths cowntr bothe of & on . & lete thy eye . thy foete . & thy honde a corde in thy defence ye cause of stroke auëtüre is callyd . for a ma tnyth hys bak to hys enmy.

[T] he . 6 . cowntr ys beryng in wt . iij . foynys on bothe fete . & loke thou t'ne hond & foete & smyte a large qrter . & ber in a stop wt thy bak nakyd born . & smyte a large hauke wt fers hert & draw hym sor vp to ye skye.

[T]he . 7 . cowntr ys menyd . iij . menyd foyns & träspose hä bothe goyng & comyng . & smyte thy foynys wt in thy sengyl quartr . & at ye last quartr smyte a large sprynge wt a lusty stop a fore & then a chace foyne.

The Play with the Two Hand Sword in Verse

Man yt wol to ye to hond swerd lern bothe close

& clere /

He most haue a goode eye both fer & nere

& an in stop . & an owte stop . & an hauke

qrter . A cantel . a doblet . an half for hys

fere

Too rowndys . & an halfe wt a goede cher .

This ys ye ferst cownter of ye too hond
swerd sere
Bynde hē to gedere & sey god spede . Two
qarters & a rownde a stop thou hÿ bede
A rake wt a spryng yer thou hÿ a byde . ffalle
in v an hauke & stride nogte to wyde
Smyte a rēnyg qarter owte for hys syde
ffal a pō hys harneys yf he wole a byde
Come in wt a rake in euy a syde
An hole rownde & an halfe . Wath so ht be
tyde
. iiij. qarters & a rownd . & aucture stroke wyth
Bere vp hys harnes & gete thou ye gryth
Dobyl vp lygtly & do as y seye
ffal in wt an hauke & ber a goede eye
A spryn~ & a rownde & stap in wyth
Spar nogth ä hauke yf he lye in thy kyth
Smyte a rēnyg qarter for owte of thy honde
A byde a pon a pēdent & lese not thy londe
Smyte in ye lyfte foete & cleue rygt dovne
Geder ovte of thy rygte hond & smyte a hauke
rovnde
ffresly smyte thy strokis by dene
And hold wel thy lond thath hyt may be sene
Thy rakys . thy rowndis . thy qarters a bowte
Thy stoppis . thy foynys . lete he fast rowte
Thy sprynys . thy quarters . thy rabetis also
Bere a goede eye & lete thy hond go
ffy on a false hert yt dar not a byde
en he seyth rovndys & rakys rēnyng by hs side
ffle not hastily for a lytil pryde
ffor lytil wote thy adusary wath hÿ shal be tide
lete strokys fast folowe aftr hys honde
And hauk rovnde wt a stop & stil yt thou stond
Greue not gretly thov yu be tochyd a lÿte
ffor a aftr stroke ys betr yf thou dar hÿ smyte
A gode rovnde wt an hauke & smyte rygt dovne

Gedyr vp a doblet & spar not hys crowne
Wt a rownde & a rake a byde at a bay
Wt a rēnyg qrter sette hÿ oute of hys way
Thys beeth ye lettr yt stondÿ in hys sygte
To teche . or to play . or ellys for to fygte
These beeth ye strokys of thy hole grovnde
ffor hurte . or for dynte or ell~s for dethys
wonde.