

References to the fencing treatise of
Jaime Pons de Perpiñan

Compiled and translated by
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Jaime Pons de Perpiñan

The treatise of this 15th century *maestro* from the city of Perpignan is important because it is the oldest known documentation of a method of Iberian swordplay. Any surviving copies of his work have not yet been located. The year of publication is cited in other works as 1474, and it is presumed to be written in Catalan.

Summary

The work is a minimum of 66 folios long, and covers sword and buckler, montante, sword and dagger, sword and cloak, dagger alone, trips and disarms (including one named “quail's wing”), and sword alone against spear or pike. Sword and buckler appears on the first page and throughout the pages referenced, so it is possibly the primary weapon combination. There does not appear to be a clear separation of instruction by weapon or combination based on the references. Two postures are taught, one high and one low, which are also used to invite attacks.

Notes on this compilation

References have been paraphrased and ordered by folio number to give a sense of how the treatise may be laid out. Each paraphrase is followed by a note in brackets denoting the work from which the reference was taken. The final section includes quotes of the denoted sections of the original, along with an English translation.

folio 1

The buckler is placed in front, and protects the right arm
[Nueva Ciencia 237]

When throwing a *reves* to the legs, the left foot has to be crossed over the right, and
When throwing a *tajo* to the legs, the right has to be crossed over the left
[Nueva Ciencia 641]

Reves from high to low followed by another, or
Cleaving *tajo* (*hendiente*) from high to low, or
Ascending *tajo*, or
Tajo to the knees, or
Reves to the feet and to the legs
[Nueva Ciencia 176]

Ascending *tajo* and *reves* with the *montante* (possibly another three techniques call the little friend, the baker, and the pig's foot)
[Nueva Ciencia 156]

folio 2

Reves from high to low followed by another, or
Cleaving *tajo* (*hendiente*) from high to low, or
Ascending *tajo*, or
Tajo to the knees, or
Reves to the feet and to the legs
[Nueva Ciencia 176]

Blow (*tajo* or *reves*) to the opposing sword to knock it out of their hand (vulgar technique of *remeson*)
[Engaño 48v] [Nueva Ciencia 599]

Sometimes the sword has to be placed across the legs, quillions close to the right hip
[Nueva Ciencia 612]

folio 3

Ascending *tajo* and *reves* with the *montante* (possibly another three techniques call the little friend, the baker, and the pig's foot)
[Nueva Ciencia 156]

folio 4

Reves to the feet, and
Reves to the legs

[Nueva Ciencia 176] [Nueva Ciencia 670]

The lefty doesn't have a greater advantage, only in being accustomed to fighting against righties

[Nueva Ciencia 674]

Techniques are the same on the right and left side, the only difference is knowing to change sides

[Engaño 54] [Nueva Ciencia 676]

folio 5

Posture to invite a blow to deceive the opponent (vulgar technique of *llamar*)

[Nueva Ciencia 605]

With the sword and dagger, one parries *tajos* and *reveses* deep inside with the sword and dagger together, and the dagger remains to detain the opponent's sword while the sword cuts or thrusts to the legs

[Engaño 50v]

Both parries and deflections can be made with the buckler and shield

[Engaño 51]

folio 6

Look over the shield or buckler, the circumference of the buckler or shield has to be placed in the middle of the nose, and the rest of that surface has to slope to the floor

[Nueva Ciencia 240]

The point of the sword does not go outside of the buckler

[Nueva Ciencia 238]

folio 8

Reves to the feet and to the legs

[Nueva Ciencia 176]

With sword and buckler, all cuts are thrown to the legs

[Nueva Ciencia 670]

folio 10

With the sword and dagger, one parries *tajos* and *reveses* deep inside with the sword and dagger together, and the dagger remains to detain the opponent's sword while the sword cuts or thrusts to the legs

[Engaño 50v]

Both parries and deflections can be made with the buckler and shield

[Engaño 51]

folio 11

Two guards: one high, one low, and you can change them without losing or gaining time

[Nueva Ciencia 34] [Nueva Ciencia 612]

The point of the sword does not go outside of the buckler

[Nueva Ciencia 238]

folio 12

The buckler is placed above the head, the point of the sword to the floor and to the left

[Nueva Ciencia 238]

folio 13

Throwing the cloak at the enemy's eyes and wounding him before he can untangle (*encapar al enemigo*)

[Nueva Ciencia 666]

folio 15

With the sword alone against two-handed weapons, take a low posture

[Nueva Ciencia 520]

In the low guard, the point of the sword is close to the left foot

[Nueva Ciencia 612]

Reves from high to low followed by another, or

Cleaving *tajo* (*hendiente*) from high to low, or

Ascending *tajo*, or

Tajo to the knees, or

Reves to the feet and to the legs

[Nueva Ciencia 176]

folio 16

When establishing yourself, have one foot raised on the tiptoe, which is for care, prevention, reserve, and promptness against the determinations of the opponent

[Nueva Ciencia 62]

folio 18

When establishing yourself, have one foot raised on the tiptoe

[Nueva Ciencia 62]

With the sword and dagger, one parries *tajos* and *reveses* deep inside with the sword and dagger together, and the dagger remains to detain the opponent's sword while the sword cuts or thrusts to the legs

[Engaño 50v]

Place the sword below the buckler, with the point somewhat low

[Nueva Ciencia 238]

Both parries and deflections can be made with the buckler and shield

[Engaño 51]

If you have an inferior weapon, carry a stone or knife and pretend to throw it two or three times, then throw it at the legs or feet, using the disruption to enter and wound him

[Engaño 53] [Nueva Ciencia 563]

A *diestro* fighting dagger against dagger will stand with the left side forward, because being right side forward runs the risk of the arm or dagger being grabbed

[Nueva Ciencia 575]

folio 20

When establishing yourself, have one foot raised on the tiptoe

[Nueva Ciencia 62]

folio 21

Half steps

[Engaño 49] [Resumen 19]

With the sword and dagger, one parries *tajos* and *reveses* deep inside with the sword and dagger together, and the dagger remains to detain the opponent's sword while the sword cuts or thrusts to the legs

[Engaño 50v]

Both parries and deflections can be made with the buckler and shield

[Engaño 51]

Presa called the quail's wing: after parrying, put the left hand below the right arm with much force, and the left foot passes to trip and disarm

[Nueva Ciencia 387]

folio 23

The sword alone can counter the pike

[Nueva Ciencia 515]

When establishing yourself, have one foot raised on the tiptoe

[Nueva Ciencia 62]

To parry a spear, put the right hand on the pommel and the left on the middle of the blade, as Fabris shows

[Nueva Ciencia 521]

With the sword, sets aside a spear blow, enter until catching it below the arm, all the actions in one time, before he can retreat, and if there will be distance to reach the body, wound it

[Nueva Ciencia 522]

Deflection with the cloak

[Engaño 51] [Engaño 114]

folio 24

Deflection with the cloak

[Engaño 51] [Engaño 114]

folio 25

Deflection with the cloak
[Engaño 51] [Engaño 114]

Techniques are the same on the right and left side, the only difference is knowing to change the sides
[Engaño 54] [Nueva Ciencia 674] [Nueva Ciencia 676]

With sword and buckler against a lefty, go toward the opposing left foot and catch the sword, then put the buckler above it
[Nueva Ciencia 674]

Thrust to the foot
[Nueva Ciencia 519]

folio 28 (Chapter 13)

Give a blow to the opposing sword (vulgar technique of *golpe a la espada*)
[Resumen 122]

Thrust to the foot
[Nueva Ciencia 519]

folio 30

Use the buckler to strike the face
[Nueva Ciencia 674]

Thrust to the foot
[Nueva Ciencia 519]

folio 32

Thrust to the foot
[Nueva Ciencia 519]

folio 35

When establishing yourself, have one foot raised on the tiptoe
[Nueva Ciencia 62]

folio 38

The eyes are directed to the middle of the body, so they can see the movement of the hands and the feet

[Nueva Ciencia 140]

A *diestro* fighting dagger against dagger will stand with the left side forward, because being right side forward runs the risk of the arm or dagger being grabbed

[Nueva Ciencia 575]

folio 39

Presa to counter the opponent grabbing your right hand or dagger: put your right foot behind his legs, and lift one with your left hand to throw him

[Nueva Ciencia 387] [Nueva Ciencia 576]

folio 41-43

All weapons are deceptions, and all who deal with them are deceivers

[Engaño 52]

folio 49

When establishing yourself, have one foot raised on the tiptoe

[Nueva Ciencia 62]

folio 54

When establishing yourself, have one foot raised on the tiptoe

[Nueva Ciencia 62]

folio 65

When parrying, it has to be when it starts to lower, and not after

[Engaño 53v]

folio 66

When establishing yourself against a lefty, if he puts in the right foot, you put in the left, and vice-versa

[Nueva Ciencia 674]

[Engaño 48v]

Pacheco de Narvaez, Luis. *Engaño y Desengaño* (Madrid, 1635), fol. 48v

“Iayme Ponz fol. 2 y Camilo Agripa cap. 13 fol. 28 dixeron, que el diestro dè con su espada un golpe en la contraria para derrivarsela de la mano.”

(Jaime Pons, fol. 2, and Camillo Agrippa, ch. 13, fol. 28, said that the *diestro* gives a blow with his sword in the opposing sword in order to knock it out of the hand.)

[Engaño 49]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 49

“Y porque Iayme Ponz folio 21. Pedro Monzio folio 19. Pedro de la Torre folio 13. Agripa folio 6. 10. Grasi, folio 14. 65. dixeron medios compases, Carrança en folio 162. dixo lo mismo”

(And because Jaime Pons, folio 21, Pietro Monte, folio 19, Pedro de la Torre, folio 13, Agrippa, folio 6 and 10, di Grassi, folio 14 and 65, said half steps, Carranza, in folio 162, said the same)

[Engaño 50v]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 50v

“Fuerça es proseguir esta materia de reparos, con las armas que llaman dobles, que son espada, y daga, para que se vea quan fiel, y legalmente trasladò Carrança, sin exceder en una letra, lo que dexaron escrito los autores que nacieron primero que el, y despues nos los venido por fruta nueva de florido jardin de su ingenio: Iayme Ponz, folio 5. 10. 18. 21. dio por general percepto, que contra los tajos, y rebeses, se reparasse con la espada, y la daga juntas, y muy adentro, y que la daga quedasse deteniendo la espada contraria, en quanto la de su escolar hiriese de estocada, ò cuchillada a las piernas.”

(It is necessary to continue this matter of parries with the weapons that they call double, that are sword and dagger, so that it is seen how faithful and legally Carranza copied to the letter that which the authors that were born before him left written, and after it came to us as the new fruit of the florid garden of his imagination: Jaime Pons, folio 5, 10, 18, and 21, gave by general precept, that against the *tajos* and *reveses*, one parries with the sword and dagger together deep inside, and that the dagger stays, detaining the opposing sword, as his scholar's sword wounds with a thrust or cut to the legs.)

[Engaño 51]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 51

“Iayme Ponz, fol. 23. 24. 25. Pedro de la Torre, fol. 18. 19. 20. Marozo cap. 62. 67. 68. Grasi, fol. 26. 55. le dieron el desvio a la capa. Al broquel, y rodela le dieron el reparo, y el desvio Iayme Ponz fol. 5 10 18 21 Pedro de la Torre fol. 8 15 Francisco Roman fol. 5 Marozo desde el cap. 87 hasta el 157 Grasi, fol. 62 83 84 94 y nuestro autor Geronimo de Carrança, como si los Españoles fueros Chichimecos, ò nacidos en Monicongo, y q' no avia de aver quié supiesse averiguar lo que dixo, y de quien lo tomò, haziendose universal juez, y primer distributor de la potècia de cada una de las armas, sentado en el tribunal de su satisfacion (sin mas trabajo que el leerlo, no de especularlo) declaro, como có motu proprio gobernado por el espiritu de su cófianza, de q' ninguna destas cosas estuvierá en la memoria de los hóbres, todas, y cada una dellas partes, sin acrecentar, ni disminuir una silaba, como se halla en su libro, fol. 160.”

(Jaime Pons, fol. 23-25, Pedro de la Torre, fol. 18-20, Marozzo, ch. 62, and 67-68, Grasi, fol. 26 and 55, gave the deflection to the cloak. Jaime Pons, fol. 5, 10, 18, 21, Pedro de la Torre, fol. 8, 15, Francisco Roman, fol. 5, Marozzo, from ch. 87 to 157, di Grassi, fol. 62, 83, 84, 94, and our author Jeronimo de Carranza gave the parry and the deflection to the buckler and shield, as if we Spanish were Chichimecs, or born in the Congo, and have not had to find out who knew what he said, and from whom he took it, becoming the universal judge and first distributor of the potency of each one of the weapons, seated in the court of his satisfaction (with no more work than reading it, not speculating it) declared, as with *motu proprio* governed by the spirit of his confidence, of which none of the things they had in the memory of men, all and each one of the parts, without adding or diminishing one syllable, as is found in his book, fol. 160.)

[Engaño 52]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 52

“que las armas todas son engaños; y dezirle, que si las armas son engaños, que todos los que tratan en ellas, son engañadores, no advirtiendo que en esta generalidad hablava contra si, y que pues el tratava dellas, y los ponía por uno de los materiales de su doctrina, que peligrava en la consecuencia: pero saquela el mas piadoso, en quanto yo pàsso a dezir, que ni aun este con ser tan dessatinado, no fue pensamiento suyo; porque Iayme Ponz fue el primero que lo produjo, como se halla en su libro fol. 41. 42. 43.”

(that all the weapons are deceptions; and saying that if the weapons are deceptions, that all those that deal with them are deceivers, not taking note that in this generality he had spoken against himself, and that as he dealt with them and placed them by one of the materials of his doctrine, that he was jeopardized in the consequence: but the most devout removes it, as soon as I happen to say, that not even this, being so foolish, was his thinking; because Jaime Pons was the first that produced it, as is found in his book, fol. 41-43.)

[Engaño 53]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 53

“que Iayme Ponz lo engendro, y dexò dicho en fol. 18. que si el diestro se hallare con arma inferior a la de su contrario, lleve con sigo una piedra, y haga que se la tira, y que por fuerça tendra temor, y se descompondra, o afirmará derecho, y entonzes podrá entrar có el y herirle;”

(that Jaime Pons engendered it and left it said on fol. 18, that if the *diestro* will be found with a weapon inferior to his opponent's, he carries with him a stone and pretends to throw it, and that he will necessarily be afraid and discomposed or straighten, and then he will be able to enter with it and wound him.)

[Engaño 53v]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 53v

“Iayme Ponz fol. 65. generalmente dixo que con qualquier arma sola, o acompañada, si huviesse de reparar, avia de ser quando començasse a bajar, y no despues, porque en aquel giro, o buelta tan grande que haze la espada, cobra fuerça, y se forifica quanto mas se va llegando a su centro.”

(Jaime Pons, fol. 65, generally said that with whichever weapon, alone or accompanied, if one has to parry, it had to be when it started to lower, and not after, because in that large rotation or turn that the sword makes, it collects force and is strengthened by how much as it goes arriving to its center.)

[Engaño 54]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 54

“Iayme Ponz folio .4. 25. dixo solamente, que las tretas son todas unas, en el derecho, y el izquierdo, y que solo està la diferencia en el saber trocar los lados.”

(Jaime Pons, folio 4 and 25, only said that the techniques are all one on the right and the left, and that the only difference is in knowing to change sides.)

[Engaño 114]

Pacheco. *Engaño y Desengaño*, fol. 114

“y comun opinion de q' a la capa se le avian de dar los desvios, antes la puse por doctrina de Carráça, por averla escrito en fol. 158. aunque como queda citado, fue de Iayme Póz, de Pedro de la Torre, y de Achile Marozo”

(and the common opinion in which the deflections have to be given to the cloak, I placed before in Carranza's doctrine, by having it written in fol. 158; although, as it remains cited, it was from Jaime Pons, Pedro de la Torre, and Achille Marozzo.)

[Nueva Ciencia 34]

Pacheco de Narvaez, Luis. *Nueva Ciencia* (Madrid, 1672), p. 34

“Pedro Moncio fue el primer Autor, entre los que avemos hallado, que tratô de guardias, que es lo mismo de posturas, y dixo, que no avia mas de dos en la espada, e que la primera es afirmarse, teniendo el braço alto sobre el ombro derecho, y la segunda en el izquierdo. Iayme Pons puso otras dos, una alta, y otra baxa, y que se puede mudar de la una a la otra, sin perder, ni gastar tiempo”

(Pietro Monte was the first author, among those that we have found, that dealt with guards, which are the same as postures, and said that there were no more than two in the sword, and that the first is being established, having the arm high above the right shoulder, and the second on the left. Jaime Pons laid out two others, one high and the other low, and that one can change from one to the other without losing or gaining time)

[Nueva Ciencia 62]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 62

“quan ageno, y contrario de la razon anduvo Iayme Pons, en acósejar, que quando se afirme el hombre, tenga el un pie levantando, y sobre la puntilla, llamando a esto, cuydado, prevencion, recato, y promptitud, contra las determinaciones del contrario”

(how foreign, and contrary to reason, Jaime Pons went in advising that when the man is established, he has one foot rising up on the tiptoe, calling this care, prevention, reserve, and promptness against the determinations of the opponent)

[Nueva Ciencia 140]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 140

“Iayme Pons, por huir de los extremos, dexô decretado que se pongan los ojos en medio del cuerpo, porque se puedan ver los movimientos de los pies, y de las manos”

(Jaime Pons, by avoiding the extremes, left decreed that the eyes are directed to the middle of the body, because they are able to see the movements of the feet and the hands)

[Nueva Ciencia 156]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 156

“contra la opinion de Carrança, *que lo que se puede hazer en el montante, y las demas armas es en infinito*, cuyo parecer siguiô Nicoletto Giganti, y el de Iayme Pons (a quien imitaron Pedro de la Torre, y Marozo) dizen que ay tajo, y revês ascendiente; y de mas desto pone otras tres especies, a quien llama el poco amigo, el hornero, y el pie de puerco”

(against the opinion of Carranza, *that which can be done with the montante and the other weapons is infinite*, whose opinion followed that of Nicoletto Giganti and Jaime Pons (whom Pedro de la Torre and Marozzo imitated), they say that there are ascending *tajo* and *reves*; and more than this he lays out another three types, which he calls the little friend, the baker, and the pig's foot)

[Nueva Ciencia 176]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 176

“lean a Iayme Pons, y a Pedro de la Torre, y veràn como quieren que se tiren dos reveses, uno de alto abaxo, y otro redondo por la cara, y demàs desto, ponen tajo hendiente, que es de arriba abaxo, y tajo ascendiente, que es de abaxo arriba, manderecho a las rodillas, y revês a los pies, y a las piernas.”

(they read Jaime Pons and Pedro de la Torre and will see how they want that two *reveses* are thrown, one from high to low, and another rounded by the face, and besides this, they lay out a cleaving *tajo*, that is from high to low, and an ascending *tajo*, that is from low to high, right-handed to the knees, and *reves* to the feet and to the legs.)

[Nueva Ciencia 237]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 237

“Iayme Pons quiere, que el broquel estê amparando al braço derecho, aunque primero determinô que se ponga delante”

(Jaime Pons wants that the buckler is protecting the right arm, although he first decided that it is placed in front)

[Nueva Ciencia 238]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 238

“antes dixo Iayme Pons, que la punta de la espada no salga fuera del broquel; aunque se satisfizo poco de su misma sentencia, e para mejor emendarla, diô en otro mayor error, diciendo, que el broquel se ponga encima de la cabeça, y la punta de la espada en el suelo, àzia el lado izquierdo; y tampoco le satisfizo esto, que flutuando su entendimiento en el tempestuoso mar de la confusion, dixo tercera vez (y plegue à Dios que pare en esto) que se ponga la espada de baxo del broquel, y la punta algo baxa: Y assi contra esto, (y lo demàs semejante à ello dicho, por cualquiera que aya sido, ô fuere en el tiempo futuro) decimos que fue error general el suyo; y porque en casos de tanta importancia no ha de valer êl, *basta que lo diga yo* (de que usan los muy confiados en sus afirmaciones) proponemos assi: El reparo particular, à quien se dizen detencion, se establecio intencionalmente para guardar de la cabeça, contra las cuchilladas verticales, ô la que llaman altibaxo, que se dirigen à ella, assi como el desvio à las estocadas que se tiran al cuerpo en comun, y cada una de sus partes, y contra los medios tajos, y reverses”

(Jaime Pons said before that the point of the sword doesn't leave outside of the buckler; although little satisfied with his own sentence and amending it for the better, he gave another greater error, saying that the buckler is placed above the head, and the point of the sword on the floor, toward the left side; and this satisfied him so little, his understanding floating in the tempestuous sea of confusion, that he said a third time (and God grant that he stops with this) that the sword is placed below the buckler, with the point somewhat low: And so against this, (and the others said similar to that, by whatever that has been or will be in the future time) we say that the general error was his; and because in cases of such importance it doesn't have to be worth it, *it is enough that I say it* (which the very confident use in their affirmations), we propose this: The particular parry, which they call detention, was established intentionally in order to guard the head against vertical cuts, or that which they call high-to-low, that are directed to it, as well as the deflection to the thrusts that are thrown to the body in common, and each one of their parts, and against half *tajos* and *reveses*)

[Nueva Ciencia 240]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 240

“como lo resuelve Iayme Pons, diziendo, que el diestro mire por encima de la rodela, ô el broquel, y no por otra parte, y se conocerà, que por lo menos se ha de poner la linea de la circunferencia del broquel, ô rodela, en el medio de la nariz, y lo demàs de aquella superficie ha de declinar al suelo”

(as Jaime Pons resolves it, saying that the *diestro* looks over the shield or buckler, and not by another part, and it will be known that at least the line of the circumference of the buckler or shield has to be placed in the middle of the nose, and the rest of that surface has to slope to the floor)

[Nueva Ciencia 387]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 387

“porque dezir que otros Autores, a quien venerô la antiguedad, descubieron el movimiento de conclusion, a quien llaman presa, y que hubo quien puso veinte diferencias dël, es manifestar que bascan, y agonizan con los intolerables dolores de la embidia, y para que no culpen de poco diligente nuestro cuidado en ver lo mas que en esto ay escrito, les advertimos a ellos, que Iayme Pons fue el primero que indignamente tratô de la presa, y quiso que para quitarle al enemigo la espada, y derribarle en el suelo, por fuerte que sea, se le repare el golpe que tirare, y luego se le ponga la mano izquierda debaxo del braço derecho con mucha fuerça, y passando el pie izquierdo se le arme la çacadilla, y haga caer, y a esta presa le llamô ala de perdiz, y por segúdo documéto dixo, q' si el contrario quisiere asir la mano derecha, se le póga el pie derecho detràs de sus piernas, y q' con la mano izquierda le alce la una, y le harà dar en el suelo.”

(because it is said that other authors, whom antiquity venerated, discovered the movement of conclusion, which they call *presa*, and that there were those who laid out twenty differences of it, it is showing that they anguish and agonize with the intolerable pains of envy, and so that they do not blame our care of being lax in seeing the most that is written on this, we advise them that Jaime Pons was the first that unworthily dealt with the *presa* and wanted that in order to remove the sword from the enemy and knock him to the floor, however strong he is, one parries the blow that he will throw, and then the left hand is placed below the right arm with much force, and the left foot passing, one arms the trip and makes him fall, and this *presa* is called quail's wing, and by second document he said that if the enemy will want to grab the right hand, the right foot is placed behind his legs, and that with the left hand he lifts the one and will make him hit the floor.)

[Nueva Ciencia 515]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 515

“No le damos nuevo motivo a la admiracion, ni se le ocasiona al credito mas escrupuloso a negar su creencia con el proponer afirmado, que la espada sola pueda contra la pica; pues en el otro siglo antes del presente oyó a Pedro de la Torre, y a Iayme Pós de Perpiñan que lo afirmaron asi, a quíe Salvador de Fabres, y otros imitaron, no solo siguiendo en esto su parecer, sino las palabras con que lo dixeron”

(We don't give new motive to the admiration, nor is the most scrupulous credit produced to negate their belief in the affirmed proposal, that the sword alone can counter the pike; as in the century before the present they heard Pedro de la Torre and Jaime Pons de Perpiñan that affirmed it so, whom Salvator Fabris and others imitated, not only following their opinion in this, but the words with which they said it)

[Nueva Ciencia 519]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 519

“y mucho menos si el adversario dirigiesse la estocada al pie, como lo aconseja Iayme Pons, de que los Berberiscos, y sus fronterizos establecieron por comun adagio: si lo quieres coger vivo, dale en el tobillo; y en el otro su opuesto (tan amado de Iayme Pons, que en el gran concepto que hizo dêl, dixo, que el hierro de la lança se ponga tan baxo, que esté junto a la tierra) la tendrà en el notorio peligro la tardança en el subir para hazer la execucion”

(and much less if the adversary chooses the thrust to the foot, as Jaime Pons advises, which the Berbers and their frontiersmen established by common adage: if you want to catch it alive, hit it in the ankle; and in the other its opposite (so beloved of Jaime Pons, that in the grand concept that he made from it, said that the head of the spear is placed so low that it touches the ground) will have it in the notorious danger of the delay in rising in order to do the execution)

[Nueva Ciencia 520]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 520

“y en contra claramente dixeron Iayme Pons, y Salvador de Fabres; el uno, que el de la espada sola contra la de dos manos (que tambien es arma enastada, y no difiere en mas, que en ser menos larga que la pica) se afirme en la postura baxa, tanto que ponga la punta junto al pie izquierdo”

(and in counter Jaime Pons and Salvator Fabris clearly said; the one, that one with the sword alone against a two-handed (that also is a hafted weapon, and doesn't differ in more than in not being as long as the pike) establishes in the low posture, such that he places the point close to the left foot)

[Nueva Ciencia 521]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 521

“y deseádo remedio contra ellos, tenga por errado parecer el de Pedro de la Torre (y de los que en esto antes, ô despues lo huvieré dado) en q' dize, q' si el de la espada sola, batallare có alguno de lança, y este tirare un golpe q' lo repare: y el de Iayme PóS, donde quiere q' para este reparo (que aprueba, y haze ciencia dêl) se tome el pomo de la espada con la mano derecha, y con la izquierda, por medio de la cuchilla, novedad q' satisfizo, a Salvador de Fabres, tanto que la obligô a ponerla en estápa con dos figuras”

(and wanting a remedy against them, Pedro de la Torre has the erroneous opinion (and those that have given it before or after) in which he says that if one with the sword alone will battle someone with a spear, he will throw a blow that parries it: and Jaime Pons, where he wants that, for this parry (that he proves and makes science of it), one takes the pommel of the sword with the right hand, and the middle of the blade with the left, a novelty that satisfied Salvator Fabris, such that it obligated him to put it in print with two figures)

[Nueva Ciencia 522]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 522

“juzgue por de mal acierto, y de peligro certissimo, lo que contra esto predixo Iayme Pons, que si el de la lança tirare bote al de la espada, este la aparte con la punta della, y sin dexarla entre hasta cogerla debaxo de el braço, pues ni con parte tan flaca se podrá vencer movimiento tan vehemente, ni debaxo del braço la podrá sugetar, tanto, que no se le retire la fuerça de los dos braços, y el cuerpo; haga lo que dezimos, acabando todas las acciones a un tiempo, antes que la pueda retirar con el movimiento estraño; si estuviere distancia para alcançar al cuerpo, hiera en êl”

(judge by bad outcome and certain danger, which against this Jaime Pons predicted, that if one with the spear will give a blow to one with the sword, he sets it aside with the point of it and, without leaving it, enters until catching it below the arm, as he will neither be able to defeat such a vehement movement with such a weak part, nor will he be able to subject it under the arm, such that the force of the two arms and the body does not withdraw it; he does that which we say, finishing all the actions in one time, before he can retreat with the backward movement; if there will be distance to reach the body, he wounds it)

[Nueva Ciencia 563]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 563

“que en este pensamiento siguiô imitando a Iayme Pons, que primero que otro dixo, que hallandose el diestro con arma desigual (en lo menor) a la de su contrario, que lleve consigo una piedra, ô un puñal, y haga que se la tira dos, ô tres vezes, y que se la tire a las piernas, ô pies, y luego con presteza arremeta detràs de la piedra, ô puñal, y lo hallarà turbado, y le podrá herir”

(in this thinking he continued imitating Jaime Pons, who said before any other that the *diestro* being found with a weapon unequal (in the lesser) to his opponent's, that he carries with him a stone, or a knife, and pretends to throw it two or three times, and that it is thrown to the legs or feet, and then he attacks quickly after the stone or knife, and he will find him disturbed and be able to wound him)

[Nueva Ciencia 575]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 575

“fue el primero Iayme Pons, que con humilde, y mal acertado discurso dixo, que en la batalla de los dagueros (sin averles dado algun documento de lo q' avian de hazer, y las tretas de q' huviessen de usar) se afirme el diestro con el pie izquierdo delante, porque dize, que si estuviesse con el derecho, estando el contrario con el mismo, corria riesgo de poder asirle el braço, ô la daga con la mano izquierda”

(Jaime Pons was the first, who said with humble and unsuccessful discourse, that in the battle of the dagger-wielders (without having given them some document of that which they have to do, and the techniques which they had to use), the *diestro* is established with the left foot forward, because he says that if it was with the right, the opponent being with the same, one runs the risk of the arm or dagger being able to be grabbed with the left hand)

[Nueva Ciencia 576]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 576

“y mucho menos defensible serà su concepto, en que parece puso su mayor cuidado, diziendo, que si el contrario quisiere asirle la daga, ô la mano, le ponga el pie detrás de sus piernas, y con la mano izquierda la alce la una, y le harà dar en el suelo; pues considerando bien esto, se hallarà, que quando fuere a tomar la daga, ô la mano ha de ser con la izquierda, y que con la misma ha de ir a levantarle la pierna, en que por ser los perfiles iguales, la pierna que ha de poner detrás de su enemigo ha de ser la derecha, por detras de la izquierda, llegando a corresponder con la linea vertical de la espalda, y entonces le serà imposible (quando la flaqueza desta imaginacion tuviera algun fundamento) hazer lo que ordena”

(and his concept will be much less defensible, in which it appears he placed his greatest care, saying that if the opponent will want to grab the dagger or the hand, he places the foot behind his legs and lifts one with the left hand and makes him hit the floor; so considering this well, it will be found that when he went to take the dagger or the hand, it had to be with the left, and that he has to go to lift the leg with the same, that because of the profiles being equal, the leg that has to be behind his enemy has to be the right, because behind the left, arriving to correspond with the vertical line of the back, and then it will be impossible (when the weakness of this imagination will have some foundation) to do that which is ordered)

[Nueva Ciencia 599]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 599

“en otro tiempo era dar un golpe de tajo, ô revês, para derribarla de la mano, y desta trataremos primero, a quien por antigua, mas que por buena, ni ilustrada con alguna razon, fue estimada de muchos en Italia, movidas del respecto que guarden a Marozzo, y a Camilo Agripa, pues cada uno la dexô debaxo de la essencial precepto; si bien lo pudieron tomar de Iayme Pons, que fue primero que ellos”

(in another time it was giving a blow of *tajo*, or *reves*, in order to knock it out of the hand, and we will deal with this first, which by age, more than by value, nor illustrated with some reason, it was esteemed by many in Italy, moved by the respect that they keep for Marozzo and Camilla Agrippa, as each one left it below the essential precept; although they were able to take it from Jaime Pons, who was before them)

[Nueva Ciencia 605]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 605

“Iayme Pons fue el primero (entre los que hasta aora se han visto) que ordenô que se engañasse al contrario có la postura, descubriendo alguna parte del cuerpo donde se aficionasse a herir”

(Jaime Pons was the first (among those that have been seen up to now) that ordered that the opponent was deceived with the posture, uncovering some part of the body where he was enticed to wound)

[Nueva Ciencia 612]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 612

“y el primero con quien pudo encontrar fue Iayme Pons, de cuyas obras se retirô la honorifica alabança, juzgando las indignas de su calificacion, este dixo, que la espada se ha de poner algunas vezes atravesada a las piernas, y la guarnicion junto a la ingle derecha, preveniendo este requisito para venir a dezir, que ay dos guardias, una alta, y otra baxa, y que se puede mudar la una a la otra sin perder tiempo, y despues dar por consejo en forma de precepto, que se ponga la punta de la espada junta al pie izquierdo.”

(and the first which one could find was Jaime Pons, from whose works the honorific praise was drawn, judging the unworthiness of his qualification, said that the sword has to sometimes be placed across the legs, and the quillions close to the right hip, cautioning this requirement in order to come to say, that there are two guards, one high and the other low, and that one is able to be changed to the other without losing time, and after giving advice in the form of a precept, that the point of the sword is placed close to the left foot.)

[Nueva Ciencia 641]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 641

“y aunque Iayme Pons no fue quien la inventô (porque solo la ignorancia pudo ser su progenitora) tuvo culpa en ponerla por una de sus encarecidas prevenciones, diziendo, que quando se tirare el revês a las piernas se atravesasse el pie izquierdo sobre el derecho, y quando huviere de ser tajo el derecho sobre el izquierdo”

(and although Jaime Pons was not who invented it (because only ignorance can be its progenitor) he had blame in placing it by one of its expensive precautions, saying that when the *reves* will be thrown to the legs the left foot was crossed over the right, and when *tajo* it will have to be the right over the left)

[Nueva Ciencia 666]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 666

“la una es la que llaman encapar al enemigo, que es tanto como arrojarle la capa a los ojos, y herirle antes que se desembarace della; la otra, arrojarse la sobre la espada, cuyo peso dicen que se la tendrá oprimida, y dará tiempo para poderle herir. De la primera fue Iayme Pons, que escrivio sucintamente”

(the one is what they call encloaking the enemy, which is throwing the cloak at his eyes and wounding him before he is untangled from it; the other, it being thrown on the sword, whose weight they say will have pressed it down and will give time in order to be able to wound him. Jaime Pons was the first, who wrote succinctly)

[Nueva Ciencia 670]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 670

“y mas que satisfechos de averlo assi ordenado Iayme Pons, y dicho con palabras expressas que se tire un revês a los pies, y otro a las piernas, y con temor del olvido, ô por nuevo encarecimiento de su imaginada importancia, bolviô a reiterar este precepto, diziendo que con espada, y broquel se tiren todas la cuchilladas a las piernas”

(and more than satisfied with having it like this Jaime Pons ordered and said with express words that a *reves* is thrown to the feet and another to the legs, and with fear of forgetfulness, or by new appreciation of its imagined importance, returned to reiterate this precept, saying that with sword and buckler, all the cuts are thrown to the legs)

[Nueva Ciencia 674]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 674

“Iayme Pons diô el primer seguro, de q' el izquierdo no tiene mas ventaja que el derecho, solo en la costúbre puso la diferencia, a cuyo credito ha estado siépre rédido lo menos capaz del pueblo. Y en otro lugar dixo, q' las tretas son todos unas en el derecho, y el izquierdo, y q' solo està la diferencia en el trocar los lados, y en un solo precepto cifró sus vigilátes especulaciones, diziendo, q' si el derecho pelear con el izquierdo con espadas, y broqueles, q' el derecho vaya àzia el pie izquierdo cótrario, y le coja la espada, y luego ponga sobre ella el broquel, no teniendo temor q' el contrario le ofenda, porq' el broquel no hiere; aúq' poco mas adelante, como si tal no huviera dicho, aconseja q' se hiera con el broquel en la cara. Y en quanto el afirmarse, por no injuriar a la incerteza, a quien siguiô en lo demàs, si aora se corrigiera, dixo, que si el izquierdo metiere el pie derecho, se ha de meter el izquierdo, y todo por el contrario.”

(Jaime Pons gave the first assurance, that the lefty doesn't have more advantage than the righty, the difference placed only in the custom, whose credit had always been rendered the least capable of the people. And in another place he said that the techniques are all one on the right and the left, and that the difference is only in changing sides, and in one lone precept he encoded their vigilant speculations, saying that if the righty will fight with the lefty with swords and bucklers, that the righty goes toward the opposing left foot, and catches the sword, and then puts the buckler above it, not being afraid that the opponent offends, because the buckler doesn't wound; although a little later, as if he had not said such, he advises that one wounds with the buckler in the face. And as soon as he establishes, by not insulting the uncertainty which followed in the rest, if it was now correct, he said that if the lefty put in the right foot, the left has to be put in, and vice versa.)

[Nueva Ciencia 676]

Pacheco. *Nueva Ciencia*, p. 676

“Y si el discipulo es izquierdo, unos le oconsejan que trayga la espada por defuera, y otros que la trayga por de dentro, siendo las tretas iguales por la una y por la otra parte, sabiendolas convertir, y aplicar: no acrecentando una silaba a lo que dixo Iayme Pons”

(And if the disciple is a lefty, some advise him that he should bring the sword on the outside, and others that he should bring it on the inside, the techniques being equal by the one and by the other part, knowing to convert and apply them: not adding one syllable to that which Jaime Pons said)

[Resumen 19]

Arias de Porres, Gomez. *Resumen de la Verdadera Destreza* (Salamanca, 1667), p. 19

“Iayme Pons, Pedro Monçio, Pedro de la Torre, Agripa, Grasi, y Carrança quisieron huuiese medio compas”

(Jaime Pons, Pietro Monte, Pedro de la Torre, Agrippa, di Grassi, and Carranza wanted that there was a half step)

[Resumen 122]

Porres. *Resumen de la Verdadera Destreza*, p. 122

“lo qual es no otra cosa que vn movimiento remiso de union de armas, que hazen para privar al contrario, de mas ò menos progreso, à quien los antiguos llamaron golpe a la espada”

(which is nothing other than an offline lateral movement with union of weapons, that they make in order to deprive the opponent of more or less progress, which the old authors called blow to the sword)