

Pascha's Partisan

A translation of Johann Georg Pascha's section on the Partisan included in his
“*Deutliche Beschreibung Unterschiedener Fahnen-Lectionen, In Acht Spiel
eingetheilet / Nebst dem Piquen-Spiel / Pertuisan und halben Piquen / oder
Jägerstock*” (1673).

Reinier van Noort
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School voor Historische Schermkunsten – www.bruchius.com



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This is an English translation of the section on using the Partisan (“*Pertuisan*”) included in a bi-lingual German and French treatise written by Johann Georg Pascha, and published in Halle in Sachsen, in 1673. In addition to the use of the partisan, this treatise also describes flagwaving, using the pike, and using the half pike, also known as the hunting staff. The current translation is based on the German version of the text, and minor differences between the French and German versions exist. A thorough comparison has not been undertaken.

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank Jan Schäfer once again, for reviewing this translation.

Please note the following:

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Partisan

1. The first reverence. Put the partisan down close to your right foot, with the point away from the body, as No. 1. demonstrates. Go down with the right hand on the partisan, take the thick end under your right arm, and make a reverence with the right foot, as can be seen in No. 2. Take the partisan back with the right hand, while you slide up it a little, step back with the right foot, and grip the partisan at the bottom with the left hand, as No. 3 demonstrates. Put this down, place the right foot to the partisan, as done in No. 1., and make a reverence with the left foot and hat, as No. 4 shows.

2. The second reverence. Move the partisan back, at the same time set the right foot back, and grip the partisan with the left hand, as done in No. 3. Let it fall forwards with the point, take hold of the thick end with the right hand, hold the point low in front, and the right hand high behind, [and] make a reverence with the left foot and at the same time with the point towards the earth, as No. 5. demonstrates. Set the left foot in front, and take the partisan back, grip the partisan at the top with the right hand, set the right foot back a little more, as done in No. 3. Put the partisan down, and the right foot to the partisan, as done in No. 1., and make a reverence, as done in No. 4.

3. The third reverence. Grip the partisan three span from the thick end with your turned around right hand, so that the fingers come below next to the thumb, as No. 6. shows, and turn it to the right over the head below the right arm, as can be seen in No. 7. Make a reverence as done in No. 2. Lift the partisan up high, grip with turned around left hand at the bottom of the partisan as No. 8. demonstrates. Turn the partisan from the body, put the point back, while you slide up a little with the right hand, and step back a little more with the right foot, as done in No. 3. Put the partisan down, place the right foot to the partisan, and make a reverence, as done in No. 4.

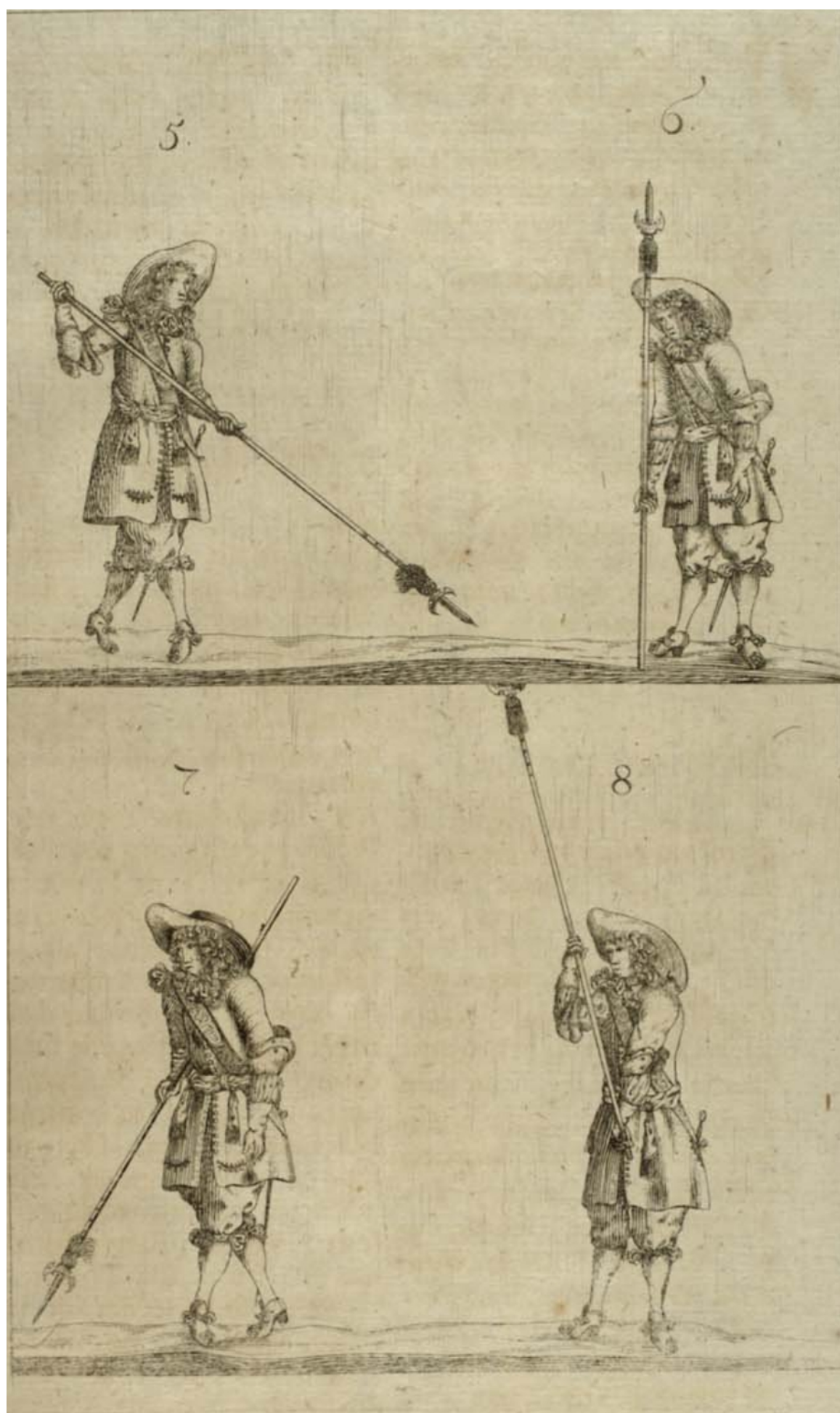
Reverence in marching.

4. When you stand with the partisan, as done in No. 1., then slide down a little with the right hand to the end of the langets¹, [and] take this under your right arm, as No. 9. demonstrates. March so that every time when you set your right foot forward, the edge [goes] up high, and when you set the left foot forward the edge goes down again. Now, while your right foot comes in front, then move the partisan over the head, grip with the left hand almost at the thick end, as No. 10. shows. Thrust the partisan forward with the left hand, step with the left foot in front, and at the same time grip with the right hand at the thick end. Hold the right hand high behind, and the point low in front. Make several reverences with the right foot while walking, as can be seen in No. 11. Go forth with the left and right feet, and direct the partisan to the left side again. Let the thick end go past by your body, place the right hand under the partisan, not far from the point, as No. 12. demonstrates. Let the partisan go over your head to your right hand, so that you receive this under your right arm, as done in No. 9., and at the same time step with the left foot in front. After this make several reverences with the right foot and partisan, as No. 13. shows.

5. When you now want to hold still, then put the partisan back, while your left foot is in front, and step back a little more with the right foot. Grip the partisan at the bottom with the left hand, while you slide up with the right hand along the partisan. Put the partisan down, and step with the foot to the partisan. Slide down a little with the right hand, and make a half circle to the left foot, and a full circle back again, and turn yourself half around to the right, so that the feet come to stand equal. Put down the partisan equal to your feet, as done in No. 1.

¹ The German reads “*Scheeren*”, which is interpreted to indicate the metal strips with which the head of the partisan is attached to the shaft, and that protect the shaft. A literal translation would be “shears”.





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JJ.



6. Knock the partisan backwards from you with the outside flat of the right foot finely gently and gracefully, so that the point comes down in front, as No. 14. demonstrates. Then march down again and make the reverences as you have made them above.

7. When you now come to the end again, then thrust out the partisan-point in front up high, and step forward with the right foot at the same time, as No. 15. demonstrates. Step forward with the left foot, and hold the partisan back, as can be seen in No. 16. Step back far right with the right foot, while you turn the face where the back was before, and hold the partisan point back high. Grip the partisan with the left hand, and slide up along this with the right hand, as done in No. 3. Put this down, as done in No. 1.

Parade, or various methods to carry the partisan.

8. Slide down with the right hand along the partisan. Throw the partisan up a little, catch it almost at the bottom with a turned around right hand, so that the flat hand and the fingers come backwards, as No. 17. shows. Let the point run around completely by the right side, behind forwards up from below, so that the partisan comes to lie on the right arm, and the point is up high backwards, as No. 18. demonstrates. March several steps until in the middle. When the left foot now comes in front, then let the point run around completely in front from above past by the right side, so that it comes to lie on the left hand, as can be seen in No. 19. Let this go over the head, so that you receive the partisan under your left arm, as can be seen in No. 20. and march several steps. When your right foot now comes in front, then perform a half slide forwards on the right hand, so that the right hand lies under the partisan, as done in No. 12. Let the partisan go over the head, so that you receive this under the right arm, and step with the left foot in front and march.

9. When you now come to the end again, then lay the partisan over the head, while you step to with the right foot, grip almost at the thick end of the partisan with the left hand. Thrust it past in front of your body with the left hand, while you step to with the left foot. Turn yourself half around to the right, and in the meantime let the partisan go over the head, and step back with the right foot at the same time. Lay the partisan in the right hand, and slide up a little. Put it down as done in No. 1.

10. Slide down a little with the right hand. Knock the partisan backwards from you with the outside flat of the right foot, so that the thick end comes high, and the point comes low in front, as done in No. 14., and march until the end. When the right foot now comes in front, then throw the partisan up a little, so that the thick end stays high behind, and the point stays below. Catch it right above the point, close to the tassel, as No. 21. shows. Lay it above on the left hand, as can be seen in No. 22., while you step to with the left foot. Let it go over your head, so the the point comes below, as No. 23. demonstrates. Step to with the right foot, grid the partisan again, close to the tassel, hold the hand stretched out from you to your right side, lay the partisan on the right shoulder, as No. 24. shows, and march while you turn yourself half around to the left, until in the middle.

12.



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14.



15.



16.



17.



18.



19.



20.



21.



22.



23.



24.



25.



Now follow the Lessons that serve for the defense.

11. Step with the left foot in front. Lay the partisan on the left hand, so that the thick end is in front, and the point behind, as No. 25. shows. Let the partisan run around the left hand, so that the point comes where the thick end was before. Swiftly grip the partisan three span from the thick end with a turned around hand, and let the point run downwards past by your right side. When it now comes up high again by your right side, then step with your right foot in front, and then strike down in front, while you grip at the thick end with the left hand, as No. 26. demonstrates. Stretch out the right hand along the partisan, as can be seen in No. 27.

12. Perform the false jump twice, around to the left hand. Pass with the right foot fully to the left hand, so that the left comes behind, and you have the face where it was at first. While you pass with the right foot, you direct the partisan low by the right foot up from below, so that, when you set the left foot back, the point is up high by the right leg, but the thick end is quite low by the left leg, as No. 28. demonstrates. Then you turn yourself on the toes somewhat to the left, and make the false jump once more.

13. Two Spanish thrusts forwards. Slide the right hand to the left until the thick end, and with the left hand slide out to the place where the right hand was, and step with your left foot in front, as with the half pike. Slide the left hand to the right until the thick end, and with the right hand slide out to the place, where the left hand was, and step with your right foot in front, likewise as with the half pike. You can perform this many times.

14. Two Spanish thrusts backwards. Here you proceed as in the Spanish thrust forwards, except that instead, where you stepped forwards before, here always step backwards.

15. When you now stand with the left foot in front, and have the partisan by the right side, then make two Spanish thrusts in all four directions².

16. Perform the two Spanish thrusts half around. Firstly behind you, after that half around again to the same place where you stood before, then on your left side, further half around on your right side, [and] finally again to the place, where you stood at the start.

17. Perform only one Spanish thrust half around. Make one thrust behind yourself half around to the left. After that a Spanish thrust again to the place where you stood first, half around to the right, further on your left side, following on your right side half around to the right, and finally around to the left to the side where you began, and make a thrust.

18. Let the right hand run up along the partisan until the left. Release the left hand, and, while you step forwards with the right foot, strike with the thick end of the partisan in front down from above, as can be seen in No. 29., and let it go past below by the left side and up again, so that the point points forward and the thick end backward, and grip the partisan three spans from the thick end with the left hand. Thereon make a Spanish thrust, and you can perform this upwards several times.

19. Perform this eighteenth lesson thus backwards again, only that you, where before you stepped to, here you step back, and finally perform no thrust.

20. When you now stand with the right foot in front, and have the partisan by the left side, then make a Spanish thrust to the right hand [side], and then strike as in the nineteenth lesson, and so forth in all four corners, around to the right.

²“Ecken” is more literally translated as “corners”.

26.



27.



28.



29.



21. *La grand Charge* (the great charge). When you stand with your right foot in front, and direct the partisan by your left side, so that the point is in front, and the thick end at the back, then, while you release the left hand, let the thick end go forward up high from below, so that the point comes completely downwards. Then step with the right foot half around to the left, and let the thick end run down in front by the left³ side, until the point comes forward again, and you again have the partisan in both hands. Again perform this half around to the left, so that you get the face where you had it at the start. Perform two Spanish thrusts to the right hand [side], and then the great charge as before, and this in all directions, and finally only one Spanish thrust, so that you have the partisan by the right side.

22. Jump forwards with both feet at the same time, and thrust from you with the partisan, while you direct the left hand close to the point, but the right hand about three spans from the thick end, as No. 30. demonstrates. Release the left hand, and let the point run around the head to the left. Grip with the left hand under the right, and strike behind you, as No. 31. shows. Then pass a quarter to the right hand with the left foot, and make a Spanish thrust, so that you receive the partisan on the right side. And you perform this in all four corners, except that you never jump, as in the first time.

23. Perform this thrust once more. Thrust the partisan from you with only the right hand, so that it comes on your left side, and pass with the right foot, so that the left comes behind. Lay the partisan on the right arm, as can be seen in No. 32. Grip with the left hand almost at the thick end of the partisan, turn yourself around to the left on your toes, and meanwhile strike with the partisan fully around to the left, as No. 33. shows, and step with the right foot in front. Make a Spanish thrust half around to the right, and after that twice the false jump, so that you turn the face there where you began.

24. Perform the previous lesson once more, so that you come to stand where you began.

25. Take the partisan at the end with a turned around right hand, as can be seen in No. 34. Jump forth with both feet at the same time, and thrust from you, as done in the twenty-second lesson. Step with the right foot in front, and perform the slide through the right hand over the left shoulder, as No. 35. demonstrates. Grip with the left hand close to the point, let the thick end go to the left around the head and strike to. Slide the hands apart. Release the left hand, let the point go around below past by your right side, until it comes up high, step with the right foot half around to the left, as No. 36. shows, and strike with the partisan in front down from above, until the point points out level in front. Grip with the left hand below almost at the end. Slide the hands apart, and make the false jump twice, so that you turn the face there where you began. After that make a Spanish thrusts.

26. Perform this previous lesson once more, so that you come to stand where you began.

27. The Windmill. When you have the partisan in the right hand, then let this run back over the right hand, as No. 37. demonstrates, so that the point comes in front again. Grip the partisan with the left hand under the right hand, so that the fingers come above, as No. 38. demonstrates. Let the partisan run around backwards from above to the right hand, until the point comes in front again, and step with the right foot in front. Let the partisan run back over the left hand, so that the point comes in front again. Grip the partisan with the right hand under the left hand, so that the fingers come above, as No. 39 shows. Let the partisan run around backwards from above to the left hand, until the point comes in front again, and step with the left foot in front.

28. You can perform the twenty-seventh lesson forwards, backwards, half around, and with the pass, and also with three steps and the pass.

3 In the French version of the text this reads "*costé droit*", i.e. "right side" .

30.



31.



32.



33.



34



35



36





29. Put the partisan down next to the right foot, as done in No. 1. Slide down a little with the right hand. First let the point, after that the thick end, run to the left hand around the head, so that the partisan comes to lie on the right arm, and the point forwards. At the same time make a reverence with the right foot, as No. 40. demonstrates. Let the partisan run back again thus from the left to the right hand, so that you receive this under your right arm. Step with the right foot to the right hand, and make a reverence with the left foot and partisan point, as done in No. 2. Set the right foot back, and lay the partisan back. Grip the partisan with the left hand, and slide up a little with the right hand, as done in No. 3. Put this down next to the right foot, set the right foot to the left, and make a reverence, as done in No. 4.