

ARMOUR & WEAPONS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649080564

Armour & weapons by Charles Ffoulkes

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
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CHARLES FFOULKES

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WEAPONS**



[Photograph by Hauser & Menet.]

Armour of Philip II. Madrid.

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BY
John
CHARLES FFOULKES
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WITH A PREFACE

BY

VISCOUNT DILLON, V.P.S.A.

CURATOR OF THE TOWER ARMOURIES

OXFORD
AT THE CLARENDON PRESS

1909

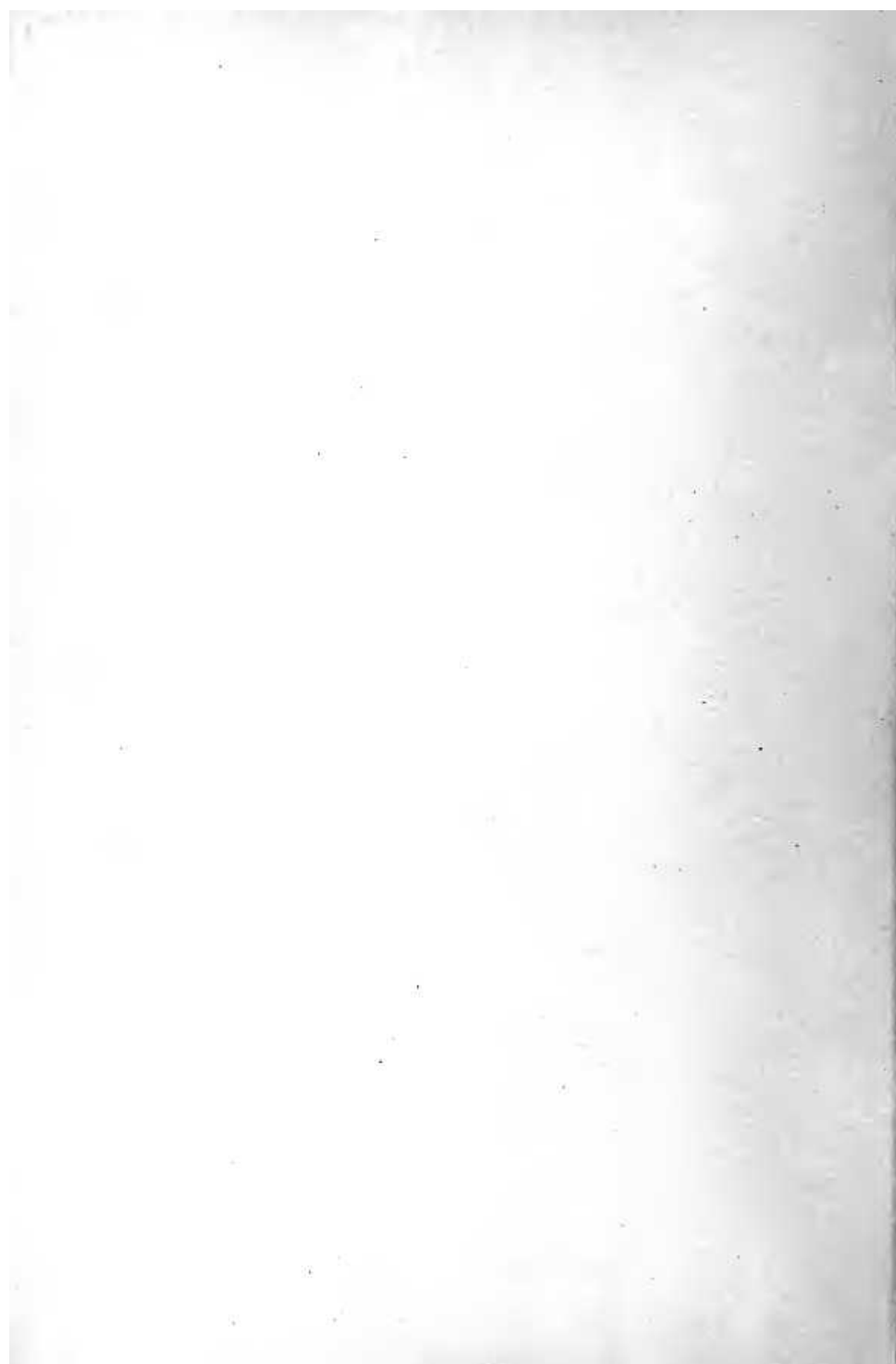
PREFACE

WRITERS on Arms and Armour have approached the subject from many points of view, but, as all students know, their works are generally so large in size, or, what is more essential, in price, that for many who do not have access to large libraries it is impossible to learn much that is required. Then again, the papers of the Proceedings of the various Antiquarian and Archaeological Societies are in all cases very scattered and, in some cases, unattainable, owing to their being out of print. Many writers on the subject have confined themselves to documentary evidence, while others have only written about such examples as have been spared by time and rust. These latter, it may be noted, are, in almost all cases, such as the brasses and effigies in our churches, quite exceptional, representing as they do the defences and weapons of the richer classes. What the ordinary man wore, how he wore it, and how it was made are all questions worthy of attention. The works of our greatest romancers have so little regarded the development of armour, and even to-day such anachronisms are seen in pictures and books, that though many comfortable and picturesque notions may be disturbed by the actual truth, yet the actual truth will be found to be no less interesting than fiction. A handy work, not excessive in size

or price, and giving really correct information, seems therefore to be needed and should be popular. Such a work is this which Mr. foulkes has undertaken, and if we recognize what an immense amount of information has to be condensed within the limits of a handbook, I think we shall fully appreciate his endeavours to give an appetite for larger feasts.

DILLON.

TOWER OF LONDON ARMOURIES.



AUTHOR'S NOTE

AT the request of many of those who attended my course of lectures, delivered before the University of Oxford during the Lent Term, 1909, I have collected and illustrated some of the more important notes dealing with the Development of European Defensive Armour and Weapons. These pages are not a mere reprint of those lectures, nor do they aspire to the dignity of a History of Armour. They are simply intended as a handbook for use in studying history and a short guide to the somewhat intricate technicalities of the Craft of the Armourer.

No work, even of the smallest dimensions, can be produced at the present day without laying its author under a deep sense of indebtedness to Baron de Cosson for his numerous notes on helms and helmets, and to Viscount Dillon for his minute and invaluable researches in every branch of this subject. To this must be added a personal indebtedness to the latter for much assistance, and for the use of many of the illustrations given in this work and also in my course of lectures.

CHARLES FFOULKES.

OXFORD, 1909.

The following works should be consulted by those who wish to study the subject of Armour and Weapons more minutely :—

A Critical Inquiry into Ancient Armour, Sir Samuel Meyrick ; *A Treatise on Ancient Armour*, F. Grose ; *Ancient Armour*, J. Hewitt ; *Arms and Armour*, Lacombe (trans. by Boutell) ; *Arms and Armour*, Demmin (trans. by Black) ; *Armour in England*, Starkie Gardner ; *Waffenkunde*, Wendelin Boeheim ; *Guida del Amatore di Armi Antiche*, J. Gelli ; *Dictionnaire du Mobilier Français* (vols. ii and vi), Viollet-le-Duc ; *Encyclopedia of Costume*, Planché ; *A Manual of Monumental Brasses*, Haines ; *Engraved Illustrations of Antient Armour*, Meyrick and Skelton ; *Monumental Effigies*, Stothard ; *The Art of War*, C. W. C. Oman ; *Archaeologia*, *The Archaeological Journal*, *The Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries* ; the Catalogues of the Armouries of Vienna, Madrid, Paris, Brussels, Turin, Dresden ; the Wallace Collection, London and Windsor Castle.

The author is indebted to the publishers of Wendelin Boeheim's *Waffenkunde* for the use of the illustrations 33 and 35, and to Messrs. Parker, publishers of Haines's *Monumental Brasses*, for the figures on Plate III.