

## CHAPTER IV

### CUTS

We now pass on to the various methods of delivering CUTS, and this is where you will appreciate the Exercises laid down in Chapter II for they have all been devised with a definite object in view, as will now be demonstrated to you.

HEAD CUT (1).—*Never* strike at opponent's head as in illustration (Fig. 12) for, as you will see, he may save himself even if his stick is just above the level of his head. Always deliver a head cut with hand as high as possible (Fig. 13). Exercise 2 in the first chapter now comes to your aid in showing how a cut at your opponent's head should be delivered. From your FRONT GUARD position, which has been already explained to you, swing point of your stick downwards to brush left hip in circuitous motion to the rear, cut finishing up with hand high and arm fully extended, palm of hand up, body sideways and raised on toes. The point of your stick will finish up below level of your hand, stick sloping down with every chance of point getting home over your opponent's guard. The value of a high guard is obvious, hence the necessity for a straight arm in your HEAD GUARDS (1) and (3). In passing, just refer to Fig. 14 and see what a very effective means you have employing two cuts should your cut at the head fail to have reached. Merely a turn of the wrist and your stick travels backwards over the course it came, to opponent's body, hand or chin. This you will be able to accomplish like a flash after a little practice—all wrist work—hence the speed.

FACE OR NECK CUTS.—This is where Exercises 3 and 4 come in. They prepare you for the motion you will have to perform in delivering all Cuts either on the left or right side of your opponent.

CUT LEFT.—Get into FRONT GUARD position. From your FRONT GUARD, carry out the instructions in Exercise 3. Cut, with stick parallel to ground, right to left. Your stick should be held so as just to brush head. *Cut with the wrist*, keeping hand as far as possible in front of face and above level of eyes. The tendency at first will be to carry hand all round head, which means that the wrist is not being fully employed, but you will soon get the "Knack" if you carry out the initial Exercise 3. Let your Cut be of a glancing nature and finish up in FRONT GUARD position. Your stick should slide off opponent's body, face, etc., in the original direction of the Cut, back on its way to guard your head. In all such Cuts your stick completes a circle. No time is therefore lost in getting on to guard again. In other words, do not let your stick stop on opponent's body or his guard, if he has one; let it glance off in its original direction back to ON GUARD.

You are here learning how to look after two very vulnerable parts, the head and the hand. As has already been stated, you will in time automatically cover them the moment they have been exposed while delivering a Cut, etc. After every Cut cover your head and hand by getting into HEAD GUARD either FRONT GUARD or REAR GUARD, for your opponent may try to give you a quick reply. You must take no risks!

BODY CUT, KNEE CUT, SHIN CUT.—Exactly the same as above only drop to the level of the part you are cutting at (Figs. 15 and 16). Do not forget the glancing cut and back on to guard like a flash after every cut. Always cut inwards at knee or shin for the inside is less protected than the outside, and drop level with your cut. By dropping, the head is always under cover of a speedy guard. This is not the case if you stand up and cut low at opponent for your hand is taken a long distance from your head, and recovering of head is therefore much less speedy. You will



FIG. 20.



FIG. 21.

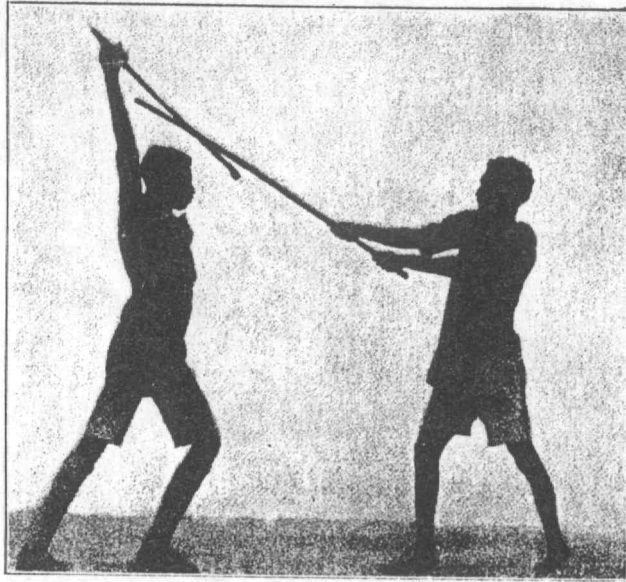


FIG. 22.

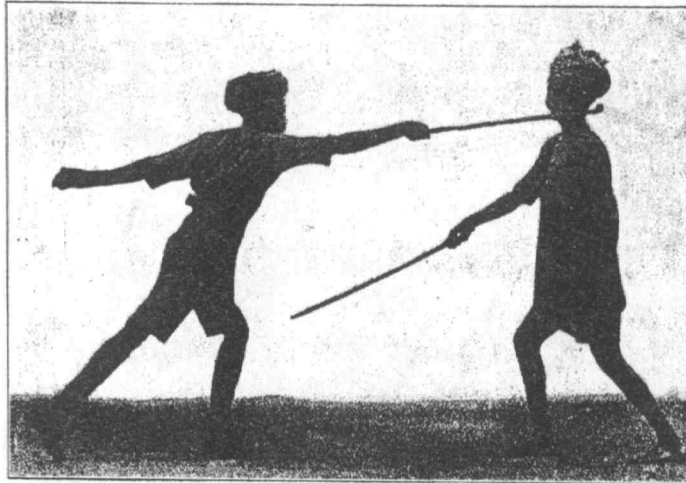


FIG. 23.

now realise the necessity for the emphasis laid on the fact that, as far as possible, *hand must be above level of eyes in delivering cuts*, so that it only has a little way to go back when you have to protect it and your head with a HEAD GUARD. Keep your hand as near home as you possibly can!

CUT RIGHT.—We will now consider cuts on the right side of your opponent's person. They are delivered in exactly the same way as cuts on his left side; but, at first, you will find this rather more difficult to perform because there is just a little "Preparation" required in commencing this cut which you do not experience in the more straightforward cut at his left side. It is well worth cultivating and will always be a surprise to the ordinary man when it comes in. Not to you, of course, because you have your FLANK GUARD to meet it! Practice this CUT RIGHT slowly at first. From FRONT GUARD position let your stick circle to the right, round your head (this is the "Preparation") and your hand acting as a pivot. When your stick point is coming to the front on the left side of your head, extend your arm, viz., reach out and get at opponent wherever you want to hit him—face, neck, body, etc. Like every-thing else speed will come with practice and force with it. Do not forget the glancing blow and back on to FRONT GUARD like a flash. Your stick will have performed a circle round your head. Practise cuts at different portions of your opponent's body in turn—imagining a post, tree or anything as your opponent.

Scientific reasons for Glancing Cut:—

1. There is very much more shock behind it than behind a dead blow. A glancing or wiping cut on the neck will sever the jugular vein.
2. Stick in delivering cut is on its way back to guard the head without a pause.
3. There is every chance of getting in on opponent after glancing off his guard; either getting in on face, side, or elbow, and there is also every chance of being able to employ a "Flick," to which you will soon be introduced.
4. A stick delivering a dead blow can be caught by an opponent—this is another reason why you are instructed to keep your hand ready for employment when an opportunity to employ it should arise. If a glancing blow is caught, do not forget there is a *pull* behind a glancing blow and none in a dead one, and the chances of a grip being maintained are slight. *A cut with the wrist is always a glancing cut.*



FIG. 24.



FIG. 25.

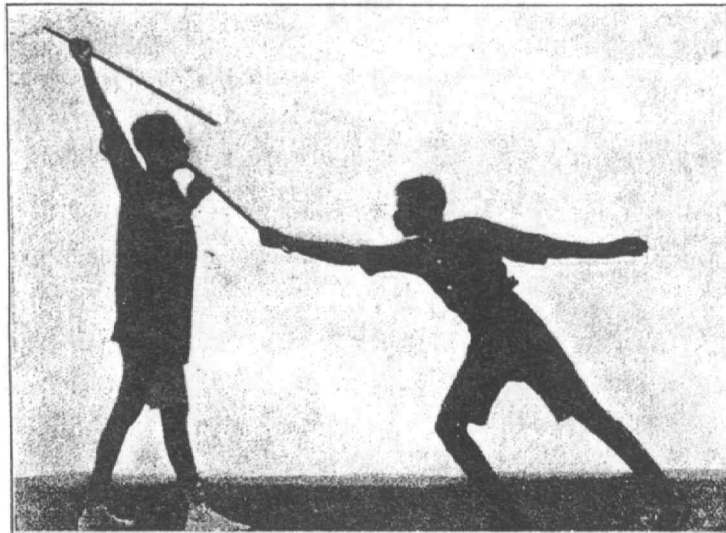


FIG. 26.

HOW TO DELIVER POINT.—From FRONT GUARD position jab down into opponent's face or chest. Let the point make contact with a jab with weight behind it. Do not withdraw hand before delivering a point. Never give an indication to opponent of what you intend doing.