

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE WORLD^s THE BATTLE IS BEGUN
 and have good hope of vanquishing the enemy. But nevertheless I pray you as
 much as I know how to do and more that each one be a valiant man and that he
 exert himself beyond his power so that we shall put the enemy to destruction and
 to death. And then he is silent that he says no more. And on the other side the
 king Nogai makes his parliament and speaks so as you shall hear. Fair brothers
 and friends, says he, you know that we have already won many great battles and
 many great affrays, and we have already had to do with many better people
than these are, out of which we are come to a good end. And therefore since the z
 truth is thus as you yourselves know you ought indeed to encourage yourselves
 to win this battle. And also because we are very right and they are wrong. For
 you know well that he was not my [110d] master who ordered that I should be
 before him in his court to do justice to the others. Now I do not wish to say more
 to you but that I pray each one to set his mind on doing well and that we do such
 exploits in this battle that we make all the world talk of it, and that we and our
 heirs¹ may be feared for it for ever. Then the king Nogai is silent that he says no
 more. And after these two kings have made their talking they delay not at all
 but *early* the next day prepare and draw themselves up very well. The king Toctai z
indeed made twenty battalions and put a good leader and good captain in each. z
 And the king Nogai made fifteen battalions, because *in* each he put 10000 horsemen, z
and he put there a good captain and good leader. And what shall I tell you about z
 it? When the two kings have drawn up and prepared[each]his people well they
 set themselves both on the road and ride the one toward the other till they were
 come near by one crossbow shot; and there both sides stop and stay there awhile.
 Then they do not stay at all long before the drums begin to sound *on one side and* VB
on the other with very great noise and rumbling. And when the drums were sounded then
 they let the one run toward the others with the arrows cocked, *and they began to* z z
 let fly.² Now one can see arrows fly both from one side and from the other, *and* z
 they were so great a multitude that it was a wonder to see, *for the air was covered* z
with them like rain. Then could be seen horses [111a] and knights fall to the ground
 dead and wounded to death. The shouting was very great there and the uproar.
 And when they have shot all the arrows so that they had no more to shoot, they
 laid hands on the swords and on the clubs and run one upon another and give one
 another huge blows. They begin again the very cruel and most evil combat. Hands
 and arms and shoulders and heads were cut off. Now one can see knights fall to

¹ oir Z translates it as *heredes*. cf. p. cxxvii.

² *con les saiettes encocques il laissent aler* B.'s change of *con* to *et* does not seem to be completely satisfactory.