

2356

Then bade she forth lead Hagen to dungeon keep near by,
Wherein he lay fast bolted and hid from every eye.
Gunther, the noble monarch, with loudest voice did say:
"The knight of Bern who wrongs me, whither hath he fled away?"

2357

Meanwhile back towards him the doughty Dietrich came,
And found the royal Gunther a knight of worthy name.
Eke he might bide longer but down to meet him sprang,
And soon with angry clamor their swords before the palace rang.

2358

How famed soe'er Sir Dietrich and great the name he bore,
With wrath was filled King Gunther, and eke did rage full sore
At thought of grievous sorrow suffered at his hand:
Still tell they as high wonder how Dietrich might his blows with-
stand.

2359

In store of doughty valor each did nothing lack.
From palace and from tower the din of blows came back
As on well-fastened helmets the lusty swords came down,
And royal Gunther's valor in the fight full clear was shown.

2360

The knight of Bern yet tamed him as Hagen erst befell,
And oozing through his armor the blood was seen to swell
From cut of sharpest weapon in Dietrich's arm that swung.
Right worthily King Gunther had borne him after labors long.

2361

Bound was then the monarch by Sir Dietrich's hand,
Albeit bonds should suffer ne'er king of any land.
But deemed he, if King Gunther and Hagen yet were free,
Secure might never any from their searching vengeance be.

2362

When in such manner Dietrich the king secure had bound
By the hand he led him where Kriemhild he found.
At sight of his misfortune did sorrow from her flee:
Quoth she: "Welcome Gunther from out the land of Burgundy."