

Of mellow wine, as long as e'er you wish ;
 And now that you should mere beholders be
 Is just as pleasant, though ten cohorts of the Greeks
 Should in your presence fight with ruthless sword."

Then looking at him sternly, thus Ulysses spoke :
 " O son of Atreus ! what a speech is this
 That hath escaped the boundary of thy teeth !
 How canst thou say that we keep back from war ?
 Whene'er against the steed-subduing Trojans
 We Greeks fierce battle urge, thou shalt behold,
 If thou shouldst wish and care for things as these,
 The father, well-beloved of Telemach,
 Take part against the first of Trojan knights.
 'Tis rash of thee that thou shouldst say such things."

But when he thus observed him angry grown,
 King Agamemnon, smiling, answer made,
 And thus withdrew his seeming hasty words :—

" O thou, Læertes' son, both noble-born and shrewd,
 I chide thee not in words unduly rash,
 Nor even thee exhort ; for well I ween,
 The soul within thy breast sweet counsel stores ;
 For thou dost think even as I do myself.
 But come, these things in time we shall arrange,
 If ought of evil hath been spoken now.

And may the gods decree them all as vain."
 Thus speaking left he them and took his way
 Among the others. Diomedes the brave,
 The son of Tydeus, found he standing near,
 Among his steeds and chariots brazen-bound.
 Beside him Sthenelus had ta'en his place,—
 Sthenelus, the son of Capaneus,—

And seeing him, King Agamemnon made rebuke,
 And, him accosting, spoke these winged words :

" Alas ! O son of Tydeus, valiant knight,
 Why tremblest thou, or why dost thou observe
 The spaces 'twixt the ranks. It was not so
 That Tydeus used to tremble, but to fight
 The foe, far in advance of comrades dear.
 Thus did they say, at least, who saw him toil ;
 Him never have I met nor once beheld ;
 But people say all others he surpassed.
 For, of a truth, without the pomp of war,
 A guest indeed, with Polynices brave,
 Mycenæ once he entered, listing men :
 These two an expedition had in train