

2349

Then knew full well Sir Dietrich that the warrior kien
Savage was of humor, and best himself to kien
Sought of Bern the hero from many a murderous blow,
Whereby the valiant Hagen straightway came he well to know

2350

Eke fear he had of Balmung, a strong and trusty blade.
Each blow meanwhile Sir Dietrich with cunning set repaid,
Till that he dealt to Hagen a wound both deep and long,
Whereat give o'er the struggle must the valiant knight and strong.

2351

Bethought him then Sir Dietrich: "Through toil thy strength has
fled,
And little honor had I shouldst thou lie before me dead.
So will I yet make trial if I may not subdue
Thee unto me as hostage." Light task 'twas not the same to do.

2352

His shield down cast he from him and with what strength he found
About the knight of Tronje fast his arms he wound.
In such wise was subdued by him the doughty knight;
Gunther the noble monarch did weep to see his sorry plight.

2353

Bind Hagen then did Dietrich, and led him where did stand
Kriemhild the royal lady, and gave into her hand
Of all the bravest warrior that ever weapon bore.
After her mickle sorrow had she merry heart once more.

2354

For joy before Sir Dietrich bent royal Etzel's wife:
"Blessed be thou ever in heart while lasteth life.
Through thee is now forgotten all my dire need;
An death do not prevent me, from me shall ever be thy meed."

2355

Then spake to her Sir Dietrich, "Take not his life away,
High and royal lady, for full will he repay
Thee for the mickle evil on thee have wrought his hands.
Be it not his misfortune that bound before thee here he stands."