

2342

Then answered Master Hildebrand: "The hour may come, God
wot,
Sir Hagen, when thus lightly disdain it thou shalt not
If any man such offer of peace shall make to thee.
Welcome might now my master's reconciliation be."

2343

"I'd take in sooth his friendship," Hagen gave reply,
"Ere that I so basely forth from a hall would fly.
As thou hast done but lately, O Master Hildebrand.
I weened with greater valor couldst thou 'fore a foeman stand."

2344

Thereto gave answer Hildebrand: "From thee reproach like that?
Who was then on shield so idle 'fore the Waskenstein that sat,
The while that Spanish Walter friend after friend laid low?
Such valor thou in plenty hast in thine own self to show."

2345

Outspake then Sir Dietrich: "Ill fits it warriors bold
That they one another like old wives should scold.
Thee forbid I, Hildebrand, aught to parley more.
Ah me, most sad misfortune weigheth on my heart full sore.

2346

"Let me hear, Sir Hagen," Dietrich further spake,
"What boast ye doughty warriors did there together make,
When that ye saw me hither come with sword in hand?
Thought ye then not singly me in combat to withstand?"

2347

"In sooth denieth no one," bold Sir Hagen spake,
"That of the same with sword-blow I would trial make,
An but the sword of Niblung burst not within my hand.
Yea, scorn I that to yield us thus haughtily thou mak'st demand."

2348

When Dietrich now perceivéd how Hagen raged amain,
Raise his shield full quickly did the doughty thane.
As quick upon him Hagen adown the perron sprang,
And the trusty sword of Niblung full loud on Dietrich's armor rang.