

**Badische Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

**Digitale Sammlung der Badischen Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

**Illustrations of northern antiquities, from the earlier  
Teutonic and Scandinavian romances**

**Weber, Henry William**

**Edinburgh [u.a.], 1814**

Der Nibelungen Lied - The song of the Nibelungen

[urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-161450](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-161450)

Der Nibelungen Lied.  
THE  
SONG OF THE NIBELUNGEN.

---

ADVENTURE I.—OF THE NIBELUNGEN.

IN ancient song and story    marvels high are told,  
Of knights of high emprise,    and adventures manifold ;  
Of joy and merry feasting ;    of lamenting, woe, and fear ;  
Of champions' bloody battles    many marvels shall ye hear.

A noble maid, and fair,    grew up in Burgundy ;  
In all the land about    fairer none might be :  
She became a queen full high ;    Chrimhild was she hight ;  
But for her matchless beauty    fell many a blade of might.

For love and for delight    was framed that lady gay ;  
Many a champion bold    sighed for the gentle may :  
Full beauteous was her form,    beauteous without compare ;  
The virgin's virtues might adorn    many a lady fair.

Three kings of might and power    had the maiden in their care,—  
King Gunter and King Ghernot,    (champions bold they were,)  
And Ghiseler the young,    a chosen, peerless blade :<sup>a</sup>  
The lady was their sister,    and much they loved the maid.

<sup>a</sup> Original, *dëgen*, a sword. The term is very often used for a knight or hero, and in

These lords were mild and gentle,    born of the noblest blood ;  
 Unmatched for power and strength    were the heroes good :  
 Their realm was Burgundy,    a realm of mickle might,  
 Since then, in the land of Etzel,    dauntless did they fight.

At Worms, upon the Rhine,    dwelt they with their meiny bold ;  
 Many champions served them,    of countries manifold ;  
 With praise and honour nobly,    even to their latest day,  
 When, by the hate of two noble dames,    dead on the ground they lay.

Bold were the kings, and noble,    as I before have said ;  
 Of virtues high and matchless,    and served by many a blade ;  
 By the best of all the champions    whose deeds were ever sung ;  
 Of trust and truth withouten fail ;    hardy, bold, and strong.

There was Hagen of Tronek,    and Dankwart, Hagen's brother,  
 (For swiftness was he famed,)    with heroes many other ;  
 Ortwin of Metz, with Eckewart    and Gherè, two markgraves they ;  
 And Folker of Alsàce ;    no braver was in his day.

Rumold was caterer to the king ;    a chosen knight was he ;  
 Sir Sindold and Sir Hunold    bore them full manfully ;  
 In court and in the presence    they served the princes three,  
 With many other knights ;    bolder none might be.

Dankwart was the marshal ;    his nephew Ortèwin,  
 Was sewer \* to the king ;    much honour did he win :  
 Sindold held the cup    the royal prince before :  
 Chamberlain was Hunold :    braver knights ne'er hauberk bore.

Of the court's gay splendour ;    of all the champions free ;  
 Of their high and knightly worth,    and of the chivalry,

one instance is applied even to the Deity. Perhaps this is the original meaning of the word, and the present sense (*i. e.* sword) derived from it. In that case, *degen* may be traced from *taugen*, *tuegen*, (Lower German dialect, *degen*), to be useful, or virtuous. In the same way, *tugend* (virtue) frequently occurs for valour, prowess.

\* The office of a *truchsess* was to set the meat upon the table of his lord.

Which still they held in honour to their latest day,  
No minstrel, in his song, could rightly sing or say.

One night the queen Chrimhilt dreamt her, as she lay,  
How she had trained and nourished a falcon wild and gay,  
When suddenly two eagles fierce the gentle hawk have slain :  
Never, in this world, felt she such bitter pain.

To her mother, Dame Uta, she told her dream with fear :  
Full mournfully she answered to what the maid did speir,—  
“ The falcon whom you nourished, a noble knight is he ;  
God take him to his ward ! thou must lose him suddenly.”—

“ What speak you of the knight? dearest mother, say :  
Without the love of champion, to my dying day,  
Ever thus fair will I remain, nor take a wedded fere,  
To gain such pain and sorrow, though the knight were without peer.”—

“ Speak thou not too rashly,” her mother spake again ;  
“ If ever in this world thou heartfelt joy wilt gain,  
Maiden must thou be no more ; leman must thou have :  
God will grant thee for thy mate some gentle knight, and brave.”—

“ Oh, leave thy words, lady mother, nor speak of wedded mate :  
Full many a gentle maiden has found the truth too late ;  
Still has their fondest love ended with woe and pain :  
Virgin will I ever be, nor the love of leman gain.”—

In virtues high and noble that gentle maiden dwelt  
Full many a night and day, nor love for leman felt ;  
To never a knight or champion would she plight her truth,  
Till she was gained for wedded fere by a right noble youth.

That youth he was the falcon she in her dream beheld,  
Who by the two fierce eagles dead to the ground was felled ;  
But since right dreadful vengeance she took upon his foen :  
For the death of that bold hero died full many a mother's son.

ADVENTURE II. OF SIEGFRIED.—Siegmond, king of Netherland, had, by his queen Sieghelind, a son of high renown, who, in his earliest youth, achieved many marvellous deeds of chivalry. He did not remain with his father in the burgh of Santen,<sup>1</sup> but traversed many a country, ever distinguished for the strength of his arm, and the courtesy of his behaviour; so that he obtained the love of many a fair lady. When he came to a ripe age, he returned to court. Then his father, the king, caused proclamation to be made, and commanded his knights to assemble on the day of the turn of summer,<sup>2</sup> when his son should be knighted, together with four hundred sons of the noblest of the realm. The ladies were employed in embroidering rich garments with many a precious stone, for the young prince. In honour of his knighthood, mass was sung at the cathedral, and a splendid tournament and jousting was held.

There they run and saddled    many a tilting horse;  
In the court of Siegmund    run they many a course,  
That far and wide the noise was heard,    in palace and in hall:  
There many a high-bred hero's name    heralds did loudly call.

Many a fall to youthful knights,    by ancient kemp's was given:  
Lances shiv'ring, clash of swords,    resounded to the heaven:  
Full high the splinters flew    about the warlike throng:  
There was mirth and jollity    virgins and dames among.

The king he bade them stint the strife;    the horse were led away:  
There many a buckler strong    to shivers broken lay:  
Many a stone of mound    down in the grass was seen,  
Struck from the edge of shields,    by the falchions sharp and keen.

The evening was concluded with a splendid feast; palmers and pil-

<sup>1</sup> Xanten, in the ci-devant duchy of Juliers, forming now the department of the Boer.

<sup>2</sup> In the original, *sunnewende*, the turn of the sun, solstice. That of summer fell upon St John's day, and the winter-solstice on Christmas day. Both periods, particularly the former, were devoted to festivities, as well as Whitsuntide.

grims from distant countries were royally regaled. Siegfried was invited in his father's dominions, and his sword-companions<sup>1</sup> presented with rich gifts. In this manner the high feast was celebrated for seven days; at the end of which Siegfried took his leave, to search for deeds of arms; and refused the request of his father, who wished to resign to him his crown.

ADVENTURE III. HOW SIEGFRIED CAME TO WORMS.—During his search for adventures, Siegfried heard of the matchless beauty of Chrimhilt, and of her determination to refuse the love of any man. He immediately resolved to obtain her, and no other, for his spouse. This resolution he communicated to his parents, who spared no entreaties to dissuade him from the enterprise; and warned him to beware of the pride of Gunter and Ghernot, and the savage fierceness of Haghen. When they found themselves unable to divert him from his purpose, they advised him to conquer her by force of arms, and invade Burgundy with a large army; but Siegfried refused the offer, and only demanded twelve knights to accompany him, to the great sorrow of Siegmund and Sieghelind, and of the whole country. Then they provided him and his knights with the richest garments, and the most splendid armour.

Arrayed in this guise, they took leave at the court, and set out for Worms, where they arrived in seven days. The splendour of their apparel drew great crowds about them, who wished to take their horses and shields, and to lead them into the town. But Siegfried refused their offer, demanded where he could find Gunter, the king of Burgundy, and was informed that he was at that time sitting in his hall of state.

The king had by this time been informed of the arrival of these strangers, and beheld them from a window. Marvelling who they might be, he sent for his uncle Haghen, who had travelled far and

<sup>1</sup> This term (*schwert-genossen*, *Schwert-degen*) was peculiarly applied to squires who were knighted with a young sovereign, or the son of their suzerain; and were consequently in a peculiar manner attached to his service.

wide, and demanded of him who the leader of the champions was. Haghen went to the window, but declared he had never seen him. However, he guessed that no hero could be of such a knightly stature and martial aspect, but Siegfried, the prince of Netherland. He took the occasion to relate the wonderful adventures which had been achieved by him. "The arm of that hero struck down the bold Nibelungen, and killed Schilbung and Nibelung, the rich sons of a king. As he travelled alone in their country, he found, before a mountain, many a man of might around the treasure of the Nibelungen, which had been brought thither from a cave in the hill, and which they were about to divide among them. When Siegfried approached, he was recognised, and courteously received by Schilbung and Nibelung; and by them requested to take the partition of the treasure upon himself, which was of immense value. There were precious stones in such quantity, that an hundred waggons could not have carried them away; and gold to a still greater amount, from the mines of Nibelung-land. As a reward for his service, the kings presented him with Balmung, the invaluable sword of their father. Siegfried found himself unable to divide the treasure; whereat the Nibelungen were so enraged, that they began a furious battle with him. But the hero struck them dead with the sword of their father, and then killed their twelve companions, who were giants of mighty strength. Thus he conquered the treasure, and then subdued the whole country, forcing seven hundred champions to do him service. But he was suddenly attacked by the powerful dwarf Alberich, who, not aware of his invincible strength, attacked him with his pigmy army, and sought to revenge the death of his sovereigns.<sup>1</sup> Siegfried chased them into the cave, took from Alberich the magic tarn-cap,<sup>2</sup> and forced him to swear fidelity to him. Then he again placed the treasure in the cave.—Another marvellous adventure," continued Haghen, "have I heard

<sup>1</sup> See the preceding abstract of the Book of Heroes, p. 48.

<sup>2</sup> The qualities of this singular magic utensil have been already explained, p. 41.—The origin of the fiction may perhaps be traced to the passages in Homer and Virgil, where the heroes are rendered invisible by a fog cast around them by some deity.

of him ; how he killed a fire-drake,<sup>1</sup> and bathed him in the blood ; whereby his skin became of a horny consistence, which no sword or other weapon can penetrate. Therefore I advise you, sir king, that ye give him good welcome, and not draw the wrath of the hero upon yourself and your subjects."

Gunter, with his brothers and his knights, went down into the court of the palace, and welcomed Sir Siegfried right courteously. Then he demanded of him what purpose had brought him into Burgundy. Siegfried answered, in his pride, that he had heard how the best knights and the boldest champions served at the court of Burgundy ; but that, in despite of their strength, he would bring them and the whole kingdom under his subjection. Thereat were the kings and champions greatly moved ; and Ortwin and Haghen defied him. But Ghernot and Ghiseler softened their wrath, and conducted the guests into the palace, where they were feasted right royally. There Siegfried dwelt many a day ; and in every sport and game, both at jousting and throwing the stone, he was ever accounted the best ; winning the love of many a fair lady. But he was still intent how he might behold Chrimhilt. That maiden often viewed him from her window, bearing away the prize from her brother's champions ; but she thought not what joy and what sorrow she should have of him. Thus Siegfried dwelt one year at the court of Burgundy, and achieved many knightly deeds.

ADVENTURE IV. HOW SIEGFRIED FOUGHT WITH THE SAXONS.—One day it befel, that messengers came from Ludeger, king of Saxony, and Ludegast, king of Denmark, to defy King Gunter and his brothers. They threatened him with war and invasion, unless he would pay them tribute. Haghen advised the king to send for Siegfried, and crave his help. But Siegfried had seen the king's sorrow, and the little cheer that was made at his court, and demanded of Gunter what had thus depressed his spirit. When he heard of the defiance

<sup>1</sup> See p. 60.



of the two kings, he offered to go against them with a thousand men only, though the enemy had thirty thousand. The messengers were presented with rich gifts, and returned to their homes. But when the kings of Denmark and Saxony heard that the strong hero of Netherland was coming against them, they were greatly dismayed, and levied mighty armies, to the number of forty thousand warriors.

Siegfried appointed Folker his standard-bearer, and Haghen master of the camp. Sindold, Hunold, Dankwart, and Ortwin served also in the army, which traversed Hussia, and safely reached the lands of Ludeger, which they wasted with fire and sword. Siegfried left the command of his host to Haghen, and proceeded to view that of the enemy. There he met the strong king of Denmark, who, after defending him nobly, yielded himself prisoner; nor were thirty of his knights able to rescue him. Now a cruel battle began between the two hosts, and the heroes of Burgundy fought with great valour. But Siegfried, with his twelve champions, outdid them all. Thrice he traversed the adverse host, and at last met with the Saxon king, who was full of rage, when he heard that his brother Ludegast had yielded himself prisoner. The combat was now general, and the blood flowed in torrents. But when Ludeger beheld the crown on the shield of his opponent, he despaired of success.

He cried, "Give o'er the fight,      champions of my host;  
I behold the son of Siegmund;      I fear the battle's lost:  
The mighty hero Siegfried      amid the field I see:  
The evil fiend has sent him      to the realm of Saxony."

Ludeger then ordered his standard to be lowered, and begged for peace, yielding himself as hostage. Five hundred prisoners did Siegfried take along with him; the rest returned sorrowfully to their homes. Ghernot sent the welcome news of the victory to Worms, where Chrimhilt rejoiced in the deeds of the knights, but, above all, in the matchless achievements of Siegfried. When the host returned with the prisoners, they were full royally received by the king, and

great care was taken of the wounded. The two captive kings were allowed to return to their countries, leaving hostages, and promising to return to a high feast, to be celebrated in six weeks.

ADVENTURE V. HOW SIEGFRIED FIRST BEHELD CHRIMHILT.—When the time which was appointed for the high feast came, many knights and other guests thronged to the city of Worms, and, among others, two-and-thirty princes, emulating one another in the richness of their attire. On the morning of Whitsunday, no less than five thousand guests were assembled at the court. The king had long observed the fervent love which Siegfried bore to Chrimhilt, and yielding to the persuasions of Ortwin and Ghernot, he sent to Uta and her daughter to prepare themselves, and grace the feast with their presence. A hundred knights were chosen to attend the two queens, who bore glittering falchions in their hands.

And now the beauteous lady,     like the rosy morn,  
Dispersed the misty clouds;     and he, who long had borne  
In his heart the maiden,     banished pain and care,  
As now before his eyes     stood the glorious maiden fair.

From her broidered garment     glittered many a gem,  
And upon her lovely cheek     the rosy red did gleam:  
Whoever in his glowing soul     had imaged lady bright,  
Confessed that fairer maiden     never stood before his sight.

And as the moon, at night,     stands high the stars among,  
And moves the mirky clouds above,     with lustre bright and strong;  
So stood before her maidens     the maid without compare:  
Higher swelled the courage     of many a champion there.\*

\* That the author of this abstract may not be suspected of embellishing, the original of these stanzas is subjoined, (v. 1112—1123.)

Nu gie dia minnechliche     also der morgen rot  
Tuot uz truoben wolchen:     do schiet von maniger not

And full of love and beauty stood the child of Sighelind,  
 As if upon the parchment by master's hand design'd:  
 He gained the prize of beauty from all the knightly train;  
 They swore that lady never a lovelier mate could gain.

Gunter, the more to honour the hero, bade his sister, "who never before had saluted man," to bestow that favour upon Siegfried.

The feast was held for twelve days, and Siegfried enjoyed the sight, and obtained the thanks of Chrimhilt daily. When the guests prepared to leave the court, Gunter demanded of Siegfried how he should deal with the captive kings, who, for their ransom, had offered five hundred sumpter-horses, laden with gold. By his advice, the king refused the treasure, and dismissed them, taking surety for their remaining at peace with him in future. Siegfried also wished to take his leave of the king; but at the request of Ghiseler, he was content to remain at the court of Burgundy.

ADVENTURE VI. HOW GUNTER PROCEEDED TO ISENLAND, TO OBTAIN THE HAND OF BRUNHILD.—Tidings came to the court of King Gunter, of a queen of matchless beauty, who dwelt in a land far over the sea. But she was haughty of mind, and so mighty was her strength, that she forced every champion who came to woo her to contend with her at the three masculine games of throwing the spear, of leaping, and of casting the stone. Whoever was unable to match her strength, lost his life for presuming to make the attempt. Many champions had endea-

Der si da truoch im herzen, und lange hete getan:  
 Er sach die minnechlichen nu vil herlichen stan.

la luhte ir von ir waete vil manich edel stein;  
 Ir rosen rotiu varwe vil minnechlichen schein.  
 Ob ieman wunsen solde der kunde niht geiehen  
 Daz er ce dirre werlde hete iht schæners gesehen.

Sam der lichte mane vor den sternen stat,  
 Der schin so luterliche ob den wolchen gat,  
 Dem stuont sie nu geliche vor andern frouwen guot:  
 Des wart wol gehæhet vil maniges heldes muot.

voured to win the maid, but none of them had returned. Gunter determined to undertake the voyage; nor could Siegfried dissuade him from the resolution. By the advice of Haghen, that hero was requested to give his assistance, and consented, upon the condition, that, on their return with Brunhild, he should obtain the hand of the king's sister.

Great preparations were made for the voyage. Siegfried carried along with him the miraculous tarn-cap which he had gained from the dwarf Alberich. It had the property to render the person enveloped in it invisible, and to give him the strength of twelve men. Gunter wished to take thirty thousand kemps with him; but by the advice of Siegfried, the number was diminished to four—Gunter, Haghen, Dankwart, and himself. Chrimhilt undertook to provide for each three suits of the richest apparel; and, with thirty of her virgins, she was employed for seven weeks in the task. Their mantles were made of white silk, brought from Arabia, and of green silk, from the land of Zazamank, embroidered with many a gem. The covers of the mantles were made of the skins of strange fishes, covered with silk, from Morocco and Lybia. The choicest ermine was procured, and the heroes richly adorned with gems set in Arabian gold. When they were thus apparelled, they parted, with many tears, from Uta and Chrimhilt, and embarked in a strong ship, which Siegfried undertook to steer. They sailed prosperously down the Rhine, and on the twelfth morning arrived at the strong castle of Isenstein, in the land of Brunhild.

ADVENTURE VII. HOW GUNTER OBTAINED THE HAND OF BRUNHILD.—  
When the ship was arrived at the castle, the king beheld many a fair lady at the window, and Siegfried demanded of him whom he would choose for his spouse. Gunter pointed to one clad in a snow-white robe, and Siegfried informed him that he had chosen the fair Brunhild. The ladies were ordered by the queen to leave the window, which they were full loth to do. In the mean time the four knights landed, and proceeded to the castle, which they found to contain

eighty-six towers, three spacious palaces, and one splendid hall, built of marble, "green as grass." When they entered, their horses and swords were demanded of them. Hagen refused to deliver his falchion; but when Siegfried informed him that it was the custom of the court, he reluctantly complied. The guests were splendidly entertained, and welcomed by the knights of Brunhild. The queen inquired of one of her chamberlains, who might be the strangers come to her court.

Up and spake the chamberlain,— "Lady fair and free,  
Never to this day those champions did I see:  
One, if rightly I areed, is Siegfried, of high-born blood:  
I warn ye, lady queen, that ye give him welcome good.

"The second of the champions, full richly is he dight;  
His form is brave and noble; he seems a king of might  
O'er many a wide dominion, and many a distant land:  
Proudly, and full lord-like, by the others does he stand.

"The third of those bold champions, of sullen mood seems he;  
But tall of form, and noble, and of courage brave and free;  
Fiercely his looks he throws around; his eyes full grimly roll;  
I ween his mind is cruel, deadly and dark his soul.

"The youngest kemp among them seems a knight of high emprise,  
But gentler far his mind; right courteous is his guise:  
With countenance full mild, he stands the four among.—  
Much may we fear the wrath of those champions bold and strong."

The queen, however, declared, that she would not even dread the combat with Siegfried himself. She welcomed the guests with great courtesy, and being informed of the object of their enterprise, ordered immediate preparations to be made for the three several games, which were to decide the fate of Gunter and herself.

Siegfried mean while proceeded secretly to the ship, and returned enveloped in his tarn-cap, so that no one on the field could see where

he stood. He found every thing ready, and Brunhild in complete armour, with a shield of the thickness of three spans, and of such weight, that four chamberlains could scarcely bear it. Hagen fiercely exclaimed,

“ And how is't now, King Gunter? Here must you tine your life!  
The lady you would gain, well may she be the devil's wife.”

But when the king beheld a mighty spear, carried by three knights, and a stone of such weight, that no less than twelve carried it along, he would fain have been safe in his castle, without the love of Brunhild. When Hagen loudly complained that their swords had been taken from them, the queen, with a scornful smile, ordered her knights to restore them. Siegfried, to the great astonishment of Gunter, who could not see him, instructed him to give the shield to him, and to imitate the actions which he was to perform. Brunhild shot the shaft with marvellous force; Siegfried received it upon the shield; but both he and Gunter were struck to the ground, that the blood flew out of their mouths. Siegfried returned the spear, and struck her down. Wrathfully she heaved up the weighty stone, threw it to a great distance, and leaped after it, that her armour resounded loudly. Siegfried took up the stone, and threw it to a far greater distance, and leaped after it, taking up Gunter in his arms. The maid was enraged, but seeing herself conquered, fell down at the king's feet, and acknowledged herself vanquished. Siegfried having laid aside his tarn-cap, returned, and pretending ignorance, asked when the games were to begin; and when the queen informed him that they were over, he seemed much astonished.

When Gunter wished to return with his bride to Worms, she refused to go till she had assembled her vassals; whereat the heroes of Burgundy, fearing to be treacherously slain, were greatly dismayed. Siegfried, however, comforted them, promising to proceed to his own dominions, and to return with a thousand knights to their relief.

ADVENTURE VIII. HOW SIEGFRIED WENT TO THE NIBELUNGEN.—  
 Siegfried went into the ship in his tarn-cap, and sailed away. The knights of Brunhild seeing no mariners on board, imagined that the wind had drifted the vessel away. Before the next night was ended, he reached a castle upon a mountain, in the land of the Nibelungen, where his treasure was deposited. He went ashore, and in order to try the vigilance of his vassals, proceeded to the gate, and in manner of a pilgrim, knocked at the gate. The porter, who was a giant of great strength, demanded who asked for admittance. Siegfried, in an altered tone of voice, exclaimed, "A champion I am; and unless you instantly unlock the gate, many a one who wishes to lie at his ease in the chambers shall feel the effects of my anger." The porter having armed himself, threw the gate open, and attacked the hero with his iron pole. His master was highly delighted with the severe blows he received from his servant, but at length struck him down, and bound him.

But now the battle fierce      did in the cave resound :  
 The wild dwarf Albèrich      heard the blows rebound ;  
 Quick he put his armour on,      and sped him where he found  
 The noble guest of might,      where he the giant bound.

Full fierce was Albèrich,      and of mickle strength ;  
 Shirt of mail and helmet bore      the kemp of little length ;  
 And in his hand he brandished      a scourge of the gold so red :  
 Where stood the hero Siegfried,      full quickly is he sped.

And from his scourge adown      hung seven knots of weight,  
 With which he struck the champion,      and on his buckler beat ;  
 With his blows the splinters      far from the shield did fly :  
 Of his life Sir Siegfried      was in bitter jeopardy.

Far the shivered buckler      threw the hero strong,  
 And he pushed into the sheath      his weapon sharp and long :

His faithful chamberlain, he would not strike him dead,  
 But saved his trusty vassal ; for in virtues was he bred.  
 Suddenly to Alberich, Siegfried, the hero, ran,  
 And by his hoary beard he caught the ancient man ;  
 Down to the earth he threw him : for mercy did he pray,  
 When, by the champion's might, on the ground he lay.

The dwarf acknowledged himself vanquished, and said he would have become the knight's vassal, if he had not sworn fidelity to another. Then he was bound down like the giant. When he asked the victor's name, and heard that he was Siegfried, he rejoiced greatly, and offered him any service. The hero unbound him and the giant, and bade him go to the Nibelung champions, and awake them. In a short time thirty thousand were ready in their armour, out of which number a thousand of the best were chosen. They were clad in splendid apparel, and embarked.

When they arrived at the burgh of Isenstein, Brunhild demanded who the warriors were, and was told by Gunter that they were his men, whom he had left behind, and who had followed him. Rich gifts were distributed among the heroes, and the remainder of Brunhild's treasure embarked. The government of the country, in Gunter's absence, was intrusted to her uncle. With her she took six-and-eighty dames, a hundred maidens, and two thousand champions. Gunter was refused any familiarity with his bride during the voyage.

ADVENTURE IX. HOW SIEGFRIED WAS SENT TO WORMS.—When the heroes had sailed nine days, it was resolved that a messenger should be sent to Worms, to Chrimhilt and Uta, to inform them how they had sped in their enterprise, and to bid them prepare for the reception of the bride. Siegfried was chosen to bear the message, and, accompanied by four-and-twenty knights, speedily arrived at the capital of Burgundy, where he soon quieted the fears of the two queens, and the rest of the court, and received many thanks. Chrimhilt rewarded him for his message, with twenty-four bracelets, which he dis-



tributed among her maidens. The preparations made for the reception of Gunter and Brunhild were of the most splendid description; and when their approach was discerned, Chrimhilt, accompanied by eighty-six dames, and fifty maidens of supreme beauty, and with many champions in her train, proceeded before the town gates, to give them welcome.

ADVENTURE X. HOW GUNTER HELD HIS BRIDAL FEAST WITH BRUNHILD.—Gunter's arrival with his bride was celebrated on the plain before the city, with tournaments and other games; nor did they return to the palace till the sun had gone down. As they were washing their hands, previous to supper, Siegfried reminded the king how he had promised him his sister for his spouse, if he should achieve his expedition to obtain the hand of Brunhild. Gunter readily complied, and Chrimhilt was that night given in marriage to Siegfried. But Brunhild was greatly mortified at what she conceived a match below the dignity of her sister; and roundly informed the king, that he should not obtain any favour of her, unless he declared to her why he had given his assent to a marriage between a vassal of his and his sister. He informed her that Siegfried was a king in Netherland, not far inferior in power to himself; but she was not satisfied with his answer. The supper appeared very long to the two bridegrooms, who soon dismissed their attendants, and retired to their chambers. The scene which was transacted in that of Siegfried was, however, of a very different nature from that which happened in that of Gunter.

When the king was alone with his bride, indulging in the hope of being supremely happy, he found, to his great sorrow, every favour denied, unless he would acquaint Brunhild with the real reason of his giving Chrimhilt to the hero of Netherland; and when he endeavoured to use force, he found his strength far unequal. She took her girdle, and, tying his feet and hands together, hung him upon a nail in the wall; nor could his lamentations and entreaties prevail with her to release him, nor prevent her from enjoying a sound sleep. When the morning came, she unbound him; and after he had promised not to

touch her body, she allowed him to lie by her side, and thus obviate the shame he would have received, had his chamberlains found him in that disgraceful situation.\*

It will readily be supposed that the king was not in good humour during the day: Neither the tournament, the dubbing of six hundred new knights, nor the mass in the cathedral, could divert his melancholy. Siegfried had shrewd suspicions of the cause, and found them verified, when, upon inquiry, the king related the dreadful situation in which he had passed the night.

To his guest spake Gunter,— “ With shame and woe I sped;  
I have brought the evil devil, and took her to my bed:  
When I hop'd her love to gain, she bound me as her thrall;  
To a nail she bore me, and hung me on the wall.

“ There I hung with fear and anguish till the sun of morning shone,  
While soundly in the bed slept Brunhild all alone.  
Loudly to thee I plain of my shame and sorrow sore.”  
Then spake the hero Siegfried,— “ Right sorry am I therefore.”

He, however, consoled the poor king, and promised to put Brun-

\* Josian, in the far-famed history of Sir Bevis, proves herself as great an Amazon as her predecessor Brunhild. Being treacherously decoyed into marriage by Earl Miles, she persuades him to dismiss out of his bed-chamber all attendants:

Than was before his bed i-tight,  
As fele han of this gentil knight,  
A coverture on raile-tre,  
For no man schold on bed i-se.  
Josian bethoughte on highing;  
On a towaile she made knotte riding;  
Aboute his nekke she hit threw,  
And on the raile-tre she drew;  
Be the nekke she hath him up-tight,  
And let him so ride al the night.

AUCHINLECK MS. v. 3213—3222.

For the whole of this curious adventure the reader is referred to Mr Ellis's elegant abstract of the romance, in his *Specimens of Romances*, vol. II. p. 144, et seq.

hild completely in his power the next night; and for that purpose required to be admitted to their bed-chamber, where he would render himself invisible, by the means of his tarn-cap. Gunter consented, upon his swearing not to take advantage of the opportunity.

When the night came, and the bridegrooms had retired with their wives, Chrimhilt was astonished at the sudden disappearance of her husband, who had put on his tarn-cap, and joining the chamberlains of Gunter, entered the chamber. When the chamberlains and attendant maids retired, and the lights were extinguished, Siegfried entered the bed, and a most violent and singular combat commenced. Brunhild threw him out of the bed at the very beginning, that his head "loudly resounded on the footstool." He again resumed his task, and was again defeated. She embraced him with great force, and bearing him out of the bed, pressed him between a door and the wall, that he cried aloud with pain. Ashamed of this defeat, he again commenced the attack, and threw her on the bed, where she pressed his hand, that the blood flowed from his nails. He took from her the girdle and ring which he gave in his pride to Chrimhilt some time after; and for this gift he and many other champions lost their lives. At length the knight of Netherland bruised her so violently, and held her so close, that she surrendered at discretion. Siegfried then retired, as if to take off his dress, and leaving the joyful king to reap the fruits of his hard-gained victory, rejoined his own spouse.

In the morning the king was in high good humour, and dispensed many rich gifts to the knights and courtiers. The high feast lasted fourteen days, at the end of which the guests parted for their several homes.

ADVENTURE XI. HOW SIEGFRIED CAME HOME WITH CHRIMHILT TO NETHERLAND.—When the other guests had taken their leaves, Siegfried also desired to return to his country, and Chrimhilt was content. But she first wished to obtain a part of the dominions of Burgundy for her husband; which were readily offered to him by the three royal brothers. But Siegfried refused them, saying, that he himself would

make his queen the richest on the face of the earth. At last he was persuaded to take five hundred champions. Chrimhilt desired to take Haghen and Ortwin with her, but the former sternly refused. Duke Eckewart, however, accompanied her.

The hero was splendidly received with his spouse at his father's court, who resigned his kingdom in his favour. For ten years he bore the crown with great honour, and also had the land of the Nibelungen under his command. Chrimhilt bore him a son, who was named Gunter; and a son of the king of Burgundy was, in return, called after the king of Netherland.

ADVENTURE XII. HOW GUNTER INVITED SIEGFRIED AND CHRIMHILT TO A HIGH FEAST.—Brunhild one day was ruminating how Siegfried was vassal to Gunter, and had not for a long time done any service for his lord. She persuaded the king to invite him and Chrimhilt to a high feast at Worms. Ghere was accordingly chosen messenger, and, with thirty other knights, proceeded to the burgh of the Nibelungen, in the marches of Norway, where they arrived in three weeks. Siegfried, after consulting with his barons, determined to accept the invitation, and to proceed to Worms, accompanied by a thousand of his knights, and by his father Siegmund, with a hundred of his own knights.

ADVENTURE XIII. HOW SIEGFRIED AND CHRIMHILT WENT TO THE HIGH FEAST.—The guests came safely to Worms, and were welcomed by the king, with his usual magnificence. For eleven days, tournaments and other chivalrous games were celebrated, and the most complete harmony prevailed; but at length, in a procession to hear mass celebrated at the cathedral, their concord was fatally interrupted.

ADVENTURE XIV. OF THE ALTERCATION BETWEEN THE QUEENS.—One day Brunhild and Chrimhilt began to praise the several perfections of their husbands; and when they grew warm upon the subject, the former asserted that Siegfried was the vassal of Gunter, because he

had declared himself so when he came to Isenland. Chrimhilt denied it, and said she would precede her in the procession to the cathedral. Accordingly she went, accompanied by forty-three maidens, in far more splendid apparel than those of Brunhild, and by all the knights Siegfried had brought with him, and preceded her sister-in-law. When Brunhild saw this, she exclaimed, that no wife of a vassal should go before a queen. Chrimhilt, enraged at these words, told her that she had been concubine to another than her husband, but that Siegfried had gained her virginity. She then went into the cathedral before Brunhild, who was highly afflicted and enraged. When mass was over, she again assailed Chrimhilt, and demanded what proofs she could adduce. The latter immediately shewed the ring and girdle which Siegfried had given her; upon which the queen departed, in great anger, and complained to Gunter of the insulting words which his sister had spoken of her. Siegfried swore an oath that he had not said the words, and the queens were at last parted.

Haghen of Tronek hearing the lamentations of Brunhild, undertook to revenge her injuries upon Siegfried, and Ortwin and Ghernot joined with him to procure his death. Ghiseler wished to dissuade them from the resolution, and the king himself was at first unwilling to give his consent, but at last agreed, when he heard in what manner the treason was to be executed.

ADVENTURE XV. HOW SIEGFRIED WAS BETRAYED.—The conspirators, with the king's consent, procured thirty messengers, who pretended to have been sent from the kings of Denmark and Saxony, to defy Gunter. Siegfried offered immediately to go against them, and assembled his thousand heroes for the purpose. Haghen then proceeded to Chrimhilt, and pretending great friendship for her husband, asked her if there was any part of his body which required peculiar defence in battle. She regretted that she had offended Brunhild, and told him that her husband "beat her black and blue for it." Then she informed him, that when Siegfried bathed himself in the dragon's blood, a leaf had stuck between his shoulders, and had prevented that

part from becoming impenetrable. Hagen instructed her to sew a small cross upon his garment, in the place where the spot was, and promised to defend that part with peculiar care. Siegfried now was informed, to his great mortification, that peace had been concluded. The king then proposed a great chace of boars and bears, in the forests of Vasgovia, where the treason was to be executed.

ADVENTURE XVI. HOW SIEGFRIED WAS SLAIN.—Great preparations were made for the chace; and, by the advice of Brunhild, every kind of meat was carried to a well in the forest, but no wine. Siegfried took his leave of Chrimhilt, who made every exertion to dissuade him from the chace, as she had been warned of his fate in two dreams: But his fate was irrevocable. When the chace began, no one distinguished himself so much as he; killing every kind of ferocious animals, and among them a demi-wolf, a lion, a buffalo, an elk, a bison, four ure-oxen,<sup>1</sup> and one fierce bull, besides deer and boars. Gunter then ordered a horn to be blown, to give notice that he would dine at the well. Siegfried caught a great bear alive, to make disport for the king, and brought him to the well, where the animal made great havoc among the kitchen utensils, to the exceeding amusement of the company. He was at last killed by his victor, who then rode back to the well.

In gorgeous guise the hero      did to the fountain ride:  
Down unto his spurs,      his sword hung by his side;  
His weighty spear was broad,      of mighty length, and strong;  
A horn, of the gold so red,      o'er the champion's shoulder hung.

Of fairer hunting garments      ne'er heard I say before:  
A coat of the black velvet      the noble hero wore;

<sup>1</sup> A demi-wolf (halb-wolf) is probably an animal bred between a wolf and a dog. The *lyciscæ* of Virgil (Ecl. iii. v. 18.) are by Servius explained to be *canes nati ex lupis et canibus, cum inter se forte miscuntur*. The *uri*, mentioned by Cæsar and other writers, seem to have been common in Germany down to the thirteenth or fourteenth century, but are not to be found at present in any part of that country, though they are to be met with in Poland and Prussia.

His hat was of the sable, full richly was it dight ;  
 Ho, with what gorgeous belts was hung his quiver bright !

A fleece of the panther wild about the shafts was roll'd ;  
 A bow of weight and strength bore the huntsman bold :  
 No hero on this middle earth, but Sir Siegfried, I avow,  
 Without some engine quaint, could draw the mighty bow.

His garment fair was made of the savage lynx's hide ;  
 With gold the fur was sprinkled richly on every side ;  
 There many a golden leaf glittered right gorgeously,  
 And shone with brightest splendour round the huntsman bold and free.

And by his side hung Balmung, that sword of mickle might ;  
 When in the field Sir Siegfried struck on the helmets bright,  
 Not the truest metal the noble blade withstood :  
 Thus right gloriously rode the huntsman good.

If right I shall areed the champion's hunting guise,  
 Well was stored his quiver with shafts of wond'rous size ;  
 More than a span in breadth were the heads of might and main :  
 Whom with those arrows sharp he pierced, quickly was he slain.

The huntsmen commenced their meal ; and Sir Siegfried was full wroth with Haghen, for having forgotten the wine ; but that treacherous knight pretended it had been sent to another part of the forest. Siegfried then proposed to him a foot-race to the well, and for that purpose stripped himself to the shirt ; and bearing his garments on his back, far out-ran his rival. Then he laid down his weapons, which Haghen carried secretly to a great distance. Gunter first drank of the well ; Siegfried followed his example, and lying down to drink, was treacherously pierced with a lance in the vulnerable spot, by Haghen. He started up, and pursued his murderer ; and though mortally wounded, and weaponless, struck him down, and broke his shield in two. Then he fell down with the loss of blood, and upbraided his murderers with ingratitude and cowardice, but recom-

mended his spouse to the mercy of the king. When he was dead, Gunter wished to give out that he had been slain by robbers; but the fierce knight of Tronek expressed his perfect indifference whether the truth was made known or concealed.

ADVENTURE XVII. HOW SIEGFRIED WAS BEWAILED AND INTERRED.—Haghen caused the dead body to be laid before the door of Chrimhilt's chamber. When she came out in the morning, and discovered that her husband lay there murdered, her lamentations were boundless. She sent for his father Siegmund, who, as well as his eleven hundred champions, swore immediate revenge. But Chrimhilt persuaded him to leave the vengeance to her, for which she would find some fitting opportunity. She ordered a splendid coffin of gold and silver to be made, in which the body was carried to the cathedral. Gunter, with Haghen and his attendants, came to bewail the death of Siegfried, and pretended it had been perpetrated by robbers; but Chrimhilt bade those who knew themselves innocent go and touch the dead body.

A marvel high and strange is seen full many a time :  
 When to the murdered body nighs the man who did the crime,  
 Afresh the wounds will bleed : the marvel now was found,—  
 That Haghen felled the champion with treason to the ground.\*

Ghernot and Ghiseler seemed to bewail the hero with unfeigned sorrow; and the lamentations, whether sincere or feigned, resounded through the whole court. Three days and three nights Chrimhilt watched the body, without food or drink; and when the corpse was about to be sunk into the grave, she caused it to be again opened, and once more took leave of her husband. More than thirty thousand

\* This is perhaps the earliest instance in which this kind of ordeal (the *bahr-recht* of the Germans) is mentioned. The subject has received full illustration in Mr Scott's notes on the ballad of Earl Richard, (*Minstrelsy of the Border*, ed. 1810, II. 419.)



marks of gold were distributed among the poor, for the welfare and repose of his soul.

ADVENTURE XVIII. HOW SIEGMUND DEPARTED FROM WORMS.—Siegmund went to Chrimhilt, and used strong persuasions to induce her to return with him, promising that she should bear the crown in her husband's dominions. But her youngest brother Ghiseler dissuaded her from leaving Worms, and was seconded in his solicitations by Queen Uta and Ghernot. Siegmund and the Nibelung heroes left the city of Worms without taking leave of any one. But Ghernot and Ghiseler followed them, and assured Siegmund that they were innocent of the murder. The king returned to his country, and the disconsolate Chrimhilt was left to bear the insolence of her rival Brunhild, for which she cruelly revenged herself subsequently.

ADVENTURE XIX. HOW THE NIBELUNG TREASURE CAME TO WORMS.—When Chrimhilt had bewailed her husband for three years and a half, without seeing Gunter or Haghen, the latter advised the king to reconcile himself with her, in order to get the invaluable treasure of the Nibelungen into his possession; which she had received from Siegfried as her jointure. She consented, after some difficulty, and Ghernot and Ghiseler were sent to bring it to Worms. They embarked with eight thousand knights, and the treasure was delivered to them by the dwarf Alberich, who greatly bewailed the loss of Siegfried's tarn-cap. The treasure was now embarked, for which purpose twelve waggons were employed for the space of four days and nights. Under the treasure lay a wishing-rod, \* which enabled the possessor to be master over the whole world; but this quality appears to have been unknown to the knights of Burgundy.

\* The wishing-rod of Fortunatus has given to this fiction very extensive popularity. The passage in the text is very remarkable; but the mention of it in an ancient Teutonic glossary, of the ninth or tenth century, discovered by Junius, and published by Nyerup, proves the existence of the superstition among the Germans at a still earlier period. *Caduceuma* is there rendered *nunshiligarta*.

When the treasure arrived, Chrimhilt so prodigally distributed rich gifts, and obtained such popularity thereby, that Haghen advised Gunter to take it from her; undertaking to obtain the keys, and guard it himself. When Ghernot and Ghiseler saw his intention executed, they were highly enraged; and the former said, it would be far better to sink it to the bottom of the Rhine. Accordingly the king and his whole court for some days absented themselves from the city; during which time Haghen, who had remained behind, sunk the whole treasure into the river, and all the conspirators were sworn never to reveal the place. Chrimhilt, after enduring this additional injury, dwelt thirteen years at court, unable to forget the losses she had sustained.

ADVENTURE XX. HOW KING ETZEL SENT TO BURGUNDY TO OBTAIN THE HAND OF CHRIMHILT.—It happened that at this time Helka, the wife of Etzel, king of the Huns, died, and his counsellors advised him to send messengers to Worms, and sue for the hand of Chrimhilt. He expressed his fear that she would refuse him, he being a heathen, and she Christian. Markgrave Rudiger, of Bechelaren, however, undertook the expedition, and provided himself with apparel and arms at Vienna. He was accompanied by five hundred knights, and taking leave of his wife Gotiland, set out for Worms. He was well received upon his arrival, and Gunter, with his brothers, were well content to give their sister in marriage to King Etzel; but the fierce Haghen strongly opposed the resolution. It was at last determined that Chrimhilt should decide herself. At first she declared her firm resolution to remain a widow, and particularly never to espouse a heathen, though Rudiger told her that twelve kings and thirty princes were vassals to the king of the Huns; and Ghiseler exclaimed,

From the Rhone unto the Rhine,      from the Elbe to the distant sea,  
No king of greater riches      and greater power may be.

Rudiger at last found the means to conquer her disinclination, by

swearing that he and his men would be ever ready to revenge her injuries, and would never refuse her any request.

Preparations were made for her departure, but she wished previously to distribute the treasure which was still in her possession. But Hagen seized upon it, and kept it back from her. Ghernot, however, took it from him by force, and returned it to her; but Rudiger bade her leave it behind, as she would stand in no need of bringing any into the realm of Hungary, where she would command riches of incalculable value. Eckewart, with five hundred men, swore to continue his fidelity to her, and follow her to Hungary. Gunter accompanied her only before the gates; but Ghernot and Ghiseler, and a thousand of their meiny, did not take leave of her till she came to the banks of the Danube.

ADVENTURE XXI. HOW CHRIMHILT CAME TO THE HUNS.—Messengers were sent to apprise King Etzel that Chrimhilt would speedily arrive. At Passau she was received by her uncle, Bishop Pilgerin, who accompanied her to Bechelaren, where splendid feasts were given to her by the margrave and his wife and daughter. She then proceeded to Medilke and Mautern, and reposed for three days at Traisemaur, a strong castle which King Etzel had built upon the river Traisem.\*

ADVENTURE XXII. HOW ETZEL AND CHRIMHILT HELD THEIR BRIDAL FEAST.—Etzel received his new bride at the town of Tuln, accompanied by a great host of vassals, among whom were Russians, Greeks, Poles, Wallachians, Kyben, the savage Petscheners, and many other nations. He had four-and-twenty princes in his train, among whom were Ramung, sovereign of the Wallachians; Gibecke, Hornbog, Hawart, and Iring, from Denmark; Irnfried, duke of Thuringia; Blodelin, the king's brother; and, finally, Dietrich of Bern. Chrim-

\* Most of the towns mentioned in this and the following adventure still exist in Austria and Hungary.

hilt was instructed by Rudiger to kiss twelve of the noblest champions: the others she also received with great courtesy. A tournament was held till the evening broke in, and the whole train then proceeded to Vienna, where the bridal feast was celebrated for seventeen days. The gifts distributed by Etzel and his subject princes were incalculable; and his two minstrels, <sup>1</sup> Werbel and Swemmel, received no less than a thousand marks. At the end of the feast, the king, with his bride and his attendants, left Vienna, and proceeded by the old fortress of Hunenburg, and by Misenburg, to his own residence, at the castle of Etzelenburg. Chrimhilt was served by seven daughters of kings, and particularly by Herrat, niece to Etzel, and wife of Dietrich of Bern.

ADVENTURE XXIII. HOW CHRIMHILT INVITED HER BROTHERS TO A HIGH FEAST.—Chrimhilt dwelt with King Etzel for thirteen years, during which time she bore him a son, who, by her influence, was baptised, and called Ortlieb. Chrimhilt, ever intent on her meditated revenge, persuaded King Etzel to send his two minstrels, Swemmel and Werbel, to the Rhine, and to invite King Gunter and his brothers, with all their knights, to a high feast in Hungary. She instructed the messengers secretly to give out that she lived in perfect happiness at the court of Etzel, and not to suffer any one of her brothers' principal champions to remain behind.

ADVENTURE XXIV. HOW WERBEL AND SWEMMEL DID THEIR MESSAGE.—The messengers arrived safely at Worms, and were received with every mark of attention; but the answer to their message was deferred to the seventh day. Hagen strongly opposed accepting the invitation, from which he presaged utter ruin, and was not won over to give his consent till Ghernot and Ghiseler taunted him, and bade him remain behind, if he feared to go with them. Rumold, the mas-

<sup>1</sup> This passage, and the honourable reception of the minstrels at the court of Burgundy, fully prove the rank held by minstrels in former ages, and their frequent occupation in confidential embassies; and strongly militate against the general degradation they have suffered from the learned, but capricious and tasteless Ritson.

ter of the kitchen, also made a very characteristic, but ineffectual attempt to persuade the kings from the journey, by painting their present felicity, having abundance of meat, drink, and clothes. When Hagen found all were fully determined on the expedition, he undertook to select a thousand of the best knights, among whom were his brother Dankwart, and the hero Folker of Alsace, who was called the Minstrel, or the Fiddler, on account of the excellence of his playing and singing.\* The messengers from the Huns were detained till every thing was ready for the journey, by Hagen, to prevent them from coming too soon back to Chrimhilt, and giving her an opportunity of making great preparations for the destruction of himself and the other knights.

ADVENTURE XXV. HOW THE NIBELUNGEN WENT TO THE HUNS.— Queen Uta dreamt that all the birds in the kingdom had dropt down dead ; but Hagen, urged on by the taunts of Ghernot, was now bent on proceeding. The care of the two queens and the kingdom being left to Rumold, the host, consisting of a thousand knights, and nine thousand esquires, proceeded on their journey, and traversing Swabia and Franconia, under the conduct of Hagen, who was their guide, and of Dankwart, marshal of the host, arrived on the banks of the Danube.

Hagen of Tronek rode before the noble host,  
Guiding the Niblung knights, their leader and their boast :  
Now from his horse the champion leaped upon the ground ;  
Full soon unto an oak the courser has he bound. -----

The ferryman he sought by the river far and wide :  
He heard the water bullering closely by his side :  
In a fountain fair, sage women he espied,  
Their lovely bodies bathing, all in the cooling tide.

\* Folker is not a professed minstrel, but, like many of the French, German, and northern princes and knights, cultivated music and poetry as an accomplishment.

And when he saw the mermaids,\* he sped him silently;  
 But soon they heard his footsteps, and quickly did they hie,  
 Glad and joyful in their hearts, that they 'scaped the hero's arm:  
 From the ground he took their garments, did them none other harm.

Up and spake a mermaid, Hildburg was she hight:—  
 "Noble hero Haghen, your fate will I reed aright;  
 At King Etzel's court what adventures ye shall have,  
 If back thou give our garments, thou champion bold and brave."

Like birds they flew before him upon the watery flood,  
 And as they flew, the mermaid's form thought him so fair and good,  
 That he believed full well what of his fate she spoke;  
 But for the hero's boldness she thought to be awroke.

"Well may ye ride," she said, "to the rich King Etzel's court;  
 I pledge my head in troth, that in more royal sort  
 Heroes never were received in countries far and near;  
 Nor with greater honours; then hie ye without fear."

Glad of their speech was Haghen, right joyous in his heart:  
 He gave them back their garments, and sped him to depart:  
 But when their bodies they had dight in that full wond'rous guise,  
 Rightly the journey to the Huns told the women wise.

Then spake the other mermaid, Sighlind was her name:—  
 "I will warn thee, son of Aldrian, Haghen, thou knight of fame;  
 For the garments fair, my sister loudly did she lie:  
 Foully must ye all be shent, if to the Huns ye hie.

"Turn thee back, Sir Haghen, back unto the Rhine,  
 Nor ride ye to the Huns with those bold feres of thine;

\* In the same manner the knight Gruelan, (or Graclent,) in the lay so denominated, steals the garments of the beautiful fairy. See the original, in the new edition of Barbazan, (IV, 57,) and a beautiful translation in Way's Fabliaux, (I, 177.) The reader is referred for much curious information on the subject of mermaids to a note subjoined to the Danish ballad of Lady Grimild's Wrack, (relating the adventures of the present

Ye are trained unto your death, into King Etzel's land :  
All who ride to Hungary their death may they not withstand."

Up and spake Sir Haghen,— "Fouly dost thou lie:  
How might it come to pass, when to the Huns we hie,  
That I, and all our champions bold, should to the death be dight?"  
The Niblung knights' adventures they told unto the knight.

Lady Hildburg spoke:— "Turn ye back to Burgundy:  
None will return from Etzel, of all your knights so free;  
None but the chaplain of the king; your cruel fate to tell,  
Back to Lady Brunhild comes he safe and well."

Fiercely spake Sir Haghen to that prophetic maid,—  
"Never to King Gunter your tidings shall be said,  
How he and all his champions must die at Etzel's court.—  
How may we pass the Danube, ladies sage, report."

"If yet thou wilt not turn back to Burgundy,  
Speed ye up the river's edge, where thou a house wilt see;  
There dwells a ferryman bold; no other mayst thou find:  
But speak him fair and courteously, and bear my saw in mind.

"He will not bring you over, for savage is his mood,  
If angrily ye call him, with wrathful words, and lewd:  
Give him the gold and silver, if he guides you o'er the flood:—  
Ghelfrat of Bavaria serves the champion good.

"If he will not pass the river, call o'er the flood aloud,  
That your name is Amelrich: he was a hero proud,  
Who for wrath and eumity left Bavaria's land:  
Soon will he ferry over from the further strand."—

Haghen then dis-spued him from the mermaids wise:  
The champion said no more, but bowed in courteous guise:

poem, abridged,) translated by Mr Jamieson, which will be found in a subsequent part of this volume.

He hied him down the river, and on the further side,  
The house of that proud ferryman quickly has he spied.

Loud and oft Sir Haghen shouted o'er the flood :—  
" Now fetch me over speedily," so spake the hero good :  
" A bracelet of the rich red gold will I give thee to thy need :  
To cross the swelling Danube full mickle have I need."

Rich and right proud of mood was that ferryman bold ;  
Full seldom would he serve for silver or for gold :  
His servants and his hinds haughty of mind they were.  
Alone the knight of Tronek stood in wrath and care.

With wond'rous force he shouted, that with the dreadful sound,  
Up and down the river did the waves and rocks rebound :—  
" Fetch ye over Sir Amelrich, soon and speedily,  
Who left Bavaria's land for wrath and enmity."

A weighty bracelet on his sword the hero held full soon,  
That to the sun the gold so red fair and brightly shone :  
He bade him bring him over to the noble Ghelfrat's land :  
Speedily the ferryman took the rudder in his hand.

O'er the swelling Danube rowed he speedily ;  
But when his uncle Amelrich in the boat he did not see ;  
Fearful grew his wrath, to Haghen loud he spake,—  
" Leave the boat, thou champion, or thy boldness will I wreak."

Up he heaved the rudder, broad, and of mickle weight,  
And on the hero Haghen he struck with main and might ;  
In the ship he felled him down upon his knee :  
Never such fierce ferryman did the knight of Tronek see.

He seized a sturdy oar, right wrathful was his mood ;  
Upon the glittering helmet he struck the champion good,  
That o'er his head he broke the oar with all his might ;  
But for that blow the ferryman soon to the death was dight.



Up started hero Haghen, unsheathed his trusty blade,  
 Grasped it strongly in his hand, and off he struck his head:  
 Loudly did he shout, as he threw it on the ground:  
 Glad were the knights of Burgundy, when they heard his voice resound.

During their fight, the ship had drifted down the river, and in endeavouring to row himself ashore, he broke the rudder. He tied it together with his sword-belt, and at last succeeded to bring it to the land. Haghen himself undertook the office of ferryman, and was employed the whole day in bringing over the host. When he espied the chaplain, he thought to frustrate the prophecy of the mermaids, and threw him into the river. The friar, however, reached the opposite shore in safety, and returned to Worms. The whole army being ferried over, Haghen destroyed the ship; and being asked by Dankwart, why he thus prevented their return from the Huns, he answered, that it was done to frustrate any opportunity for cowards to fly.

ADVENTURE XXVI. HOW GHELFRAT WAS SLAIN BY DANKWART.—  
 Haghen now acquainted the heroes with the prophecy of the mermaids, and the death of the ferryman; and it was resolved to march with the greatest circumspection; Folker commanding the van, and Haghen, with Dankwart, the rear. The following night, the latter was attacked by the Bavarian dukes Ghelfrat and Elscè, with seven hundred horse, in revenge for the slaughter of their ferryman. Ghelfrat struck Haghen from his horse, but was himself killed by Dankwart, upon which Elscè fled, with the loss of a hundred of his men.

Having marched forwards all the night, they found a knight, who lay sleeping by the way. Haghen took away his arms, but returned them when he found him to be Duke Eckewart. The latter told them of the inimical disposition of his mistress; but Haghen exclaimed, that they stood in need of no information, but where they might rest from the fatigues of the night. Eckewart informed them that they were near Bechelaren, the burgh of the hospitable Rudiger.

ADVENTURE XXVII. HOW THE NIBELUNGEN WERE RECEIVED BY RUDIGER.—Rudiger, with Gotelind and her beautiful daughter, welcomed the guests at the gate; and the latter was instructed to salute the three kings and the principal heroes; but when Haghen was presented to her, she was appalled by his fierce countenance; and it required the interference of her father, to make her shew due respect to the hero. During the feast, it was determined to give the beautiful Dietelind in marriage to Ghiseler, the youngest of the kings. When the guests were about to proceed on their journey, many gifts were distributed among them by Rudiger. Among others, he gave to Gunter a coat of mail, and to Ghernot a sword, which was fatally destined to end his own life. Haghen requested of Gotelind the gift of a shield, which had been borne by Nudung, who was slain by Wittich.<sup>1</sup> Folker, when he took his leave, played “sweet tones” upon his fiddle, and sung his songs before Gotelind, who rewarded him with six bracelets, which she stuck on his arm.<sup>2</sup> The news of the arrival of the Nibelungen were soon brought to King Etzel; and Chrimhilt rejoiced in the near prospect of revenge.

ADVENTURE XXVIII. HOW THE NIBELUNGEN CAME TO THE HUNS.—Old Master Hildebrand had informed Dietrich of Bern of the approach of the knights of Burgundy, and they proceeded to meet them on the road, where Dietrich gave the Nibelungen a full account of the unabated sorrow of Chrimhilt, and warned them of its effects. When they arrived at Etzelenburg, the residence of Etzel, the queen received young Ghiseler with great affability, but took little notice of the others. When Haghen saw that, he tied his helmet faster. She asked what presents they had brought to her from the Rhine; and Haghen

<sup>1</sup> This is the only mention of Wittich, who is the Achilles of the Wilkina-Saga, in this poem. See page 31 of the Dissertation prefixed to this work.

<sup>2</sup> Bracelets, in the times of chivalry, were not confined to the ladies, but frequently worn by knights. According to the learned Suhm, bracelets, twisted in a serpentine manner, have been found in Scandinavia, of the weight of 159 ducats.

replied scornfully, that he regretted not having brought her some gift from his own treasure. She asked him why they had not brought the Niblung treasure? He replied, that it was sufficient for a knight to carry his armour and his sword. She bade them give up their arms before they entered the hall, and when Hagen and Gunter refused, she discovered that some one had warned the heroes, and swore vengeance against him; but Dietrich took Hagen by the hand, and openly avowed that he had done it. Etzel asked who the fierce hero was whom King Dietrich led by the hand; and when he heard his name, he recollected that his father Aldrian had been his subject, and that Hagen and Walter of Spain, who since eloped with Hildegund, had been his hostages.\*

ADVENTURE XXIX. HOW HAGEN AND FOLKER SAT BEFORE THE HALL OF CHRIMHILT.—Hagen took Folker aside, and they went together across the court, and sat them down on a bench before the hall of Chrimhilt. When she beheld them, she wept bitterly, and complained to her sixty knights of the indignity, and what injuries Hagen had done to her. They offered immediately to avenge her, and to slay the two champions; but she informed them that they were too few. They increased their number to a hundred, and went down to the court with Chrimhilt, who had told them they should have a confirmation of his crimes from the mouth of Hagen himself. When she approached, Folker wished to rise from his seat, but Hagen hindered him, saying, their enemies would take it for a sign of their fear.

'Twas then the hero Hagen      across his lap he laid,  
Glittering to the sun,      a broad and weighty blade;  
In the hilt a jasper stone,      greener than the grass:  
Well knew the lady Chrimhilt      that Siegfried's sword it was.

When she beheld sword Balmung,      woe and sorrow did she feel:  
The hilt was of the precious gold,      the blade of shining steel:

\* The adventures here alluded to are [related in the Latin epic analysed in this work, (p. 23,) and in the Wilkina-Saga, (chap. 85, *et seq.*)

It minded her of all her woes : Chrimhilt to weep began :  
Well I ween Sir Haghen in her scorn the sword had drawn.

Folker, knight of courage bold, by his side sat he ;  
A sharp and mighty fiddlestick \* held the hero free ;  
Much like a glittering sword it was ; sharp, and broad, and long :  
Fierce, without all fear, sat there the champions strong.

Chrimhilt bitterly upbraided Haghen with the injuries he had done her, which he readily acknowledged. Mean time one of the Huns began to relate the deeds of Haghen (whom he had seen in his youth distinguish himself in two-and-twenty battles) to the others ; in consequence of which they resolved not to encounter the two champions, but departed from them in peace. Then Haghen and Folker rejoined the kings, and they all proceeded to the hall of King Etzel, who received them with every mark of courtesy.

ADVENTURE XXIX. HOW HAGHEN AND FOLKER GUARDED THE KINGS.  
—When night broke in, and the guests were retiring to the large hall, where their beds were prepared, Haghen undertook the guard, and Folker readily associated himself with him in the charge.

Before the palace door Folker sat him on a stone ;  
Bolder and more knight-like fiddler ne'er shone the sun upon :  
Sweetly from his strings resounded many a lay ;  
And many thanks the heroes to the knight of fame did say.

At first his tones resounded loudly the hall around ;  
The champion's strength and art was heard in every sound :  
But sweeter lays, and softer, the hero now began,  
That gently closed his eyes full many a way-tir'd man.

Folker having resumed his sword and shield, discovered helmets glit-

\* Continual jokes upon the musical accomplishments of Folker occur in the original, a few of which have been translated.

tering by the light of the moon. They were knights whom Chrimhilt had sent to murder Hagen in his sleep. But when they viewed the hall door guarded, they retired, taunted for their cowardice by Folker, who wished to follow and attack them, but was prevented by Hagen.

ADVENTURE XXXI. HOW THE KINGS WENT TO HEAR MASS.

"Cold grows my shirt of mail : I ween the mirky night  
Will soon be at an end, and the morning sun shine bright ;  
For I feel the air grows sharper." Thus Sir Folker spake,  
And soon the sleeping knights did the champions two awake.

By the advice of Hagen, they prepared themselves to go to the church and hear mass, and for that purpose were about to put on rich dresses.

But up spake hero Hagen :— "Other garments must ye wear :  
Not dight with flow'rs and roses, glittering falchions must ye bear ;  
For your rich-gemm'd chaplets \* put on your helmets good :  
Well know ye, noble gentlemen, Lady Chrimhilt's angry mood.

"Fiercely must we fight to-day, and try our fortune soon :  
Doff your silken shirts, and gird your hauberks on ;  
For your spacious mantles must each one bear his shield :  
If ye meet your enemies, your weapons bravely wield."

When King Etzel beheld his guests in complete armour, he marvelled greatly ; but Hagen disdainful to tell the real cause, pretended it was the common custom of Burgundy. After the mass, a tournament was held ; but Dietrich and Rudiger, when they saw the angry mind of the Nibelungen, restrained their knights from engaging among the others. Folker seeing a Hun arrayed in splendid ar-

\* In the original, *schapel*, from the French, *chapelet*, a kind of diadem of gold, inlaid with pearls and precious stones.

mour, could not restrain his wrath, but rode into the throng, and pierced him with his lance. A general engagement began, which was interrupted by the interference of Etzel, who threatened to hang any one who did harm to the guests from Burgundy. The knights then proceeded into the palace, and sat down to dinner in complete armour, every one mistrusting the other. Chrimhilt endeavoured in vain to persuade Dietrich and Hildebrand to revenge her upon Haghen. Blodelin, Etzel's brother, at last undertook the deed, after receiving the promise of large possessions, and the wife of Nudung, a king, who had been slain by Wittich. Towards the end of the dinner, Ortlieb, the young son of Chrimhilt and Etzel, was brought in, and the latter expressed his wish that he might accompany the kings to Burgundy, and be educated at their court. But Haghen spoke lightly of him, and declared that he would full seldom go and pay his court to him if he came to Worms; at which speech King Etzel was wroth, and began to detest the knight of Tronek.

ADVENTURE XXXII. HOW BLODELIN FOUGHT WITH DANKWART.—  
In the mean time Blodelin had assembled his knights, went to the hall where Dankwart dined with the squires, and immediately defied him. Dankwart denied having had any hand in Siegfried's death, but was notwithstanding assailed. At the very first blow he severed the head of Blodelin from his body; and though few of the squires were armed, they at last succeeded in driving out the Huns. But they returned, with two thousand others, and slaughtered all the youths. Dankwart, however, fought his way through his foes, and at last reached the hall where the kings and knights were dining, at the very moment when Ortlieb was borne out of the hall-door.

ADVENTURE XXXIII. HOW DANKWART BROUGHT THE NEWS OF THE SLAUGHTER TO HIS MASTERS.—When Dankwart was come to the court, and had informed his brother aloud what had happened to him and his men, Haghen bade him keep the door, and prevent any one from escaping. He then began the slaughter, by striking off the head of

Ortlieb, which fell into his mother's lap. Folker, as well as he, commenced a dreadful battle; but at the request of Haghen, he joined Dankwart, to guard the door. Chrimhilt began to be in fear of her life, when she saw the battle become general, and requested Dietrich of Bern to bring her out of the hall. That hero immediately leapt on the table, and demanded to be allowed to leave the hall with his knights. His request was granted, and he quitted the hall, bearing Chrimhilt under one arm, and Etzel in the other. Truce was also granted by the interference of Ghiseler, to Rudiger and his champions. But when he was departed, no one was spared, and the Burgundian heroes soon found no enemy to oppose. No one distinguished himself like Folker.

King Etzel cried, "Alas and woe, that to this feast they came,  
For there a fearful champion fights, Folker is his name,  
Raging like a savage boar; a fiddler mad is he:  
Praised be my luck, that from the fiend safely I could flee.

"Fouly his lays resound; his fiddlestick is red;  
And ah! the dreadful tones strike many a champion dead!"

The champions of Burgundy threw the dead bodies, to the number of seven thousand, out of the windows, and with their spears prevented any of the Huns on the outside of the palace from approaching them. Chrimhilt offered great riches to any one who would attack Haghen, but no knight seemed inclined to undertake the enterprise.

ADVENTURE XXXIV. HOW IRING WAS SLAIN.—At last Iring, margrave of Denmark, resolved to encounter Haghen. Irnfried, landgrave of Thuringia, and Hawart, with a thousand men, would fain have accompanied him, but he prevailed upon them to let him proceed alone. Finding himself unable to slay Haghen, he successively attacked Folker, Gunter, and his two brothers, and then returned to

Haghen, whom he wounded in the head, and returned to his countrymen. But when he had rested a while he renewed the fight, and was killed by Haghen with a spear. Irnfried and Hawart, who went to revenge his death, were also slain by Folker and Haghen, and their knights shared the same fate.

ADVENTURE XXXV. HOW THE THREE KINGS SPOKE WITH ETZEL AND  
CHRIMHILT OF A TRUCE.

"Be ye proud of mood, my champions," Haghen aloud did say;  
"For aye the Huns shall rue that they brought us here this day;  
Ever the feast shall they lament which the queen for us has dight:  
What boots it now to Chrimhilt that she brought us here to fight?"

"Unlace ye now your helmets," so spake the champion;  
"I, and my fellow, Folker, will shield you from the foen;  
And if King Etzel's meiny dare try the combat bold,  
I warn ye, noble gentlemen, your courage to unfold."

There many goodly kemps unlac'd their helmets good;  
Down they sat them on the dead, (amongst the tide of blood,)  
Whom they had done to death in the sturdy fight:  
But soon of Etzel's noble guests fell many a hardy knight.

Before the evening-tide, King Etzel did command,  
And so did Lady Chrimhilt, that the kemps of Hunnen-land  
Graithe them for the battle: and straight before them stood,  
Ready for the fight, twenty thousand champions good.

In the hall, and eke without, a fearfull fight was fought:  
Dankwart, Haghen's brother, noble deeds he wrought;  
To his enemies he leapt rathly through the door:  
When they ween'd he had bled to death, he was hardier than before.

Ev'n till the night did sever them, they fought the fight of blood:  
The guests defended them, as noble heroes should,



Against the champions of the Huns a full long summer's day :  
Ho! how many a noble blade dead before them lay !

At the turn of summer<sup>1</sup> was done this murd'rous deed :  
'Twas for the Lady Chrimhilt the champions bold did bleed :  
There fell her nearest kindred, and many a man of fame ;  
For which King Etzel never more knew nor joy nor game.

She never thought such battle fierce among them would be fought ;  
For she had bent her mind all only to have brought  
To the death the hero Haghen ; but while his blood she sought,  
All this bloody mischief by the foul fiend was wrought.

Gunter and his brothers now issued before the hall, and demanded truce, which was refused to them by King Etzel. He was, however, willing to allow them to come out and rest from the fight, but Chrimhilt ordered her champions to drive them in, and set fire to the hall. The heroes of Burgundy, now reduced to six hundred, were driven to the last extremity. They had no means to quench the raging thirst caused by the fire, till, by the advice of Haghen, they drank the blood of their enemies.<sup>2</sup> Fortunately the hall-roof was arched, which prevented a general conflagration. They remained quiet till the morning, when they were attacked by twelve hundred Huns, allured by the offers of Chrimhilt, who were slain to the last man.

ADVENTURE XXXVI. HOW RUDIGER WAS SLAIN.—Rudiger was disconsolate to see such dreadful havoc among his friends. A Hun, who saw him standing unarmed, upbraided him with cowardice, but was struck dead to the ground by the hand of the margrave. Both Etzel and Chrimhilt used every prayer, and even fell on their knees, to persuade him to attack the Burgundians. Long did he deny their request, pleading his friendship for them, and the hospitality which they

<sup>1</sup> See the note on p. 170.

<sup>2</sup> This circumstance has been transferred, with considerable improvements, into the Danish ballad of Lady Grimild's Wrack, printed in this volume.

had enjoyed in his house. At length the tears of Chrimhilt prevailed, and he prepared himself and his men, with heavy hearts, for the attack. He told the knights of Burgundy to get ready to withstand him, and informed them that he was only persuaded to it by the commands and entreaties of Etzel and Chrimhilt. Haghen told him that the shield he had presented to him at Bechelaren was hewn to pieces; and Rudiger insisted that he should accept the one he then bore in return. Touched with the generosity of the gift, Haghen vowed not to attack Rudiger, and Folker followed his example. The battle became general, and was very bloody. In the end, Ghernot and Rudiger met. The latter wounded his opponent in the head mortally, but was in return struck dead by the very sword he had given to Ghernot. The remainder of Rudiger's knights were slain, one after another. When Chrimhilt heard that the noise had ceased, she supposed that Rudiger had made his peace with her brothers, and upbraided him aloud for his treachery. But Folker shewed her his dead body, and she began to despair of accomplishing her vengeance.

ADVENTURE XXXVII. HOW DIETRICH'S CHAMPIONS WERE SLAIN.—

A champion of Dietrich of Bern heard the lamentations of the Huns, and dreading that Etzel himself was slain, communicated his fears to his master. Wolfhart, the nephew of Dietrich, and one of his bravest knights, offered to inquire the truth of the Burgundians; but the hero of Bern fearing his rashness, sent Helfrich, who returned with the intelligence that the noble Rudiger had been slain. Dietrich then ordered old Hildebrand to demand the dead body. Wolfhart and all the others prepared themselves to accompany him, notwithstanding the command of their master to the contrary. When they entered the hall, and found Rudiger lying dead, their lamentations were excessive, and Wolfhart could not refrain from insulting the heroes of Burgundy, who had refused delivering the body. Folker answering him in the same style, he broke loose from Hildebrand, and struck the fiddler a mighty blow, but was felled down by him in return. Nothing could now restrain the heroes from the fight. Folker slew Sigbestab,

another nephew of Dietrich, and was himself slain by Hildebrand. Ghiseler and Wolfhart gave the death-wound one to the other; and at length no one remained on either side, excepting Haghen, Gunter, and Hildebrand. The latter endeavouring to carry off the body of the brave Wolfhart, was put to flight by the knight of Tronek, and communicated the disastrous intelligence to his master, that he alone of all his champions remained alive.

ADVENTURE XXXVIII. THE DEATH OF GUNTER AND HAGHEN.—Dietrich armed himself, and went to the hall where Gunter and Haghen stood among the dead, and demanded that they should yield themselves prisoners to him. They refused; upon which he attacked Haghen, and after a fierce combat, wounded him severely, bound him down, and brought him prisoner to Chrimhilt, to whom he gave him in charge, conjuring her not to take his life. Then he returned to Gunter, and commenced another combat with him. At length he also succeeded in binding him, and delivering him to Chrimhilt, who caused him to be taken to a separate prison. Dietrich then departed, loudly lamenting.

Chrimhilt offered Haghen his life, if he would discover the Niblung treasure; but he refused, saying, he had taken a strong oath not to reveal the place, and well knowing that Chrimhilt would never pardon the offences he had committed against her.

“Then I'll bring it to an end,” spake the noble Siegfried's wife.  
Grimly she bade her meiny take King Gunter's life.  
Off they struck his head; she grasped it by the hair:  
To the woeful kemp of Tronek the bloody head she bare.

When the sorrowing hero his master's head did see,  
Thus to Lady Chrimhilt spake he wrathfully:  
“Thou hast brought it to an end, and quenched thy bloody thirst;  
All thy savage murders I prophesied at first.

“The noble king of Burgundy lies welt'ring in his blood,  
With Ghiseler and Folker, Dankwart and Ghernot good.

Where was sunk the Niblung treasure    knows none but God and I :  
Never, thou fiend-like woman,    that treasure shalt thou nigh."

"Fouly hast thou spoken,"    thus she spake with eager word ;  
"But still I hold in my right hand    Balmung, that noble sword,  
That bore my Siegfried dear,    when by your treacherous deed  
Basely he was murdered ;    nor shall you the better speed."

From out the sheath she drew    that blade so good and true ;  
She meant the noble champion    with his life the deed should rue :  
Up she heaved the falchion,    and off she struck his head.  
Loudly mourned King Etzel,    when he saw the hero dead.

He wept and mourn'd aloud :    "Oh woe ! by woman's hand  
Lies low the boldest champion,    the noblest in the land,  
Who ever shield and trusty sword    to the bloody combat bore !  
Though he was my fiercest foe,    I shall mourn him evermore."

Up and spake old Hildèbrand,—    "Thus she shall not speed ;  
She has dared to strike the champion dead,    and it's I will 'quite the deed.  
Full oft he wrought me wrong,    oft I felt his direful wrath ;  
But bloody vengeance will I have    for the noble hero's death."

Wrathfully Sir Hildèbrand    to Queen Chrimhilt he hied :  
Grimly he struck his falchion    all through the lady's side :  
In sooth she stood aghast,    when she viewed the hero's blade :  
What might her cries avail her ?    On the ground the queen fell dead.

There bled full many a champion,    slaughtered on that day ;  
Among them Lady Chrimhilt,    cut in pieces, lay.  
Dietrich and King Etzel    began to weep and mourn,  
For their kemps, and for their kindred,    who there their lives had lorn.

Men of strength and honour    welt'ring lay that morrow ;  
All the knights and vassals    had mickle pain and sorrow.  
King Etzel's merry feast was done,    but with mourning did it end :  
Thus evermore does Love    with pain and sorrow send.

What sithence there befel, I cannot sing or say—  
 Heathens bold and Christians full sorely wept that day,  
 With many a swain and lady, and many maidens young.—  
 Here ends the tale adventurous, hight the Niblung song.\*

\* The MS. in the Munich library has been followed in the concluding stanza, out of which, in the Hohenembs MS., two are formed, containing mere repetitions and needless tautology.