UM Libraries Depository

103274902002

a subject to
regulations

Herrnleben. Infinitive in the Nibelungenlied

UMLD

THESIS

378.7M71
XH436

THE GIFT OF

This Thesis Has Been

MICROFILMED

Negative No. T- 653

Form 26

The Infinitive in the Nibelungenlied,

(Note),

The Nibelungenlied, or the Great-Middle High German Epic, was written in the form we now have it in the first half of the 13th century, and contains over 8,000 lines written in four-line strophes in hexameters. Its original home was in northern Europe in the land south and west of the North Sea. Its home is rich in myth and legendary lore, whether the myths and legends so nicely woven into this work are all of Germanic origin is of course not definitely known, still history allows us to make that claim. Neither is it known whether it comes to us as the achievement of one mind or of many

but as that may be sufficient it to say that able critics have placed it among the best of its kind in existence, Homers "Iliad", not excepted.

It has been selected as the subject of this paper because of its high rank in Mediaeval Literature as well as for its dignity of expression and its purity of language.

The Infinitive.

In collecting and preparing the subject-matter for this paper it was found that the use of the Infinitive in Middle-High German has much in common with the Infinitive in the German of to-day; for more than one would think, realizing that almost six hundred years have

elapsed since the "Schriftsprache" (written language), known as Middle High German was being used by the poets and other men of learning.

It may be said that every phrase of the Infinitive now used in Modern German will be found in the classification given below, although every Infinitive in the text would not be rendered by an Infinitive construction to-day. Quite a number of the uses especially the Substantive Infinitive, Infinitive expressing continued action, the Infinitive with the Modal, and the Infinitive with Subject-Accusative have undergone practically no change.

I have been guided in my arrangement and classification by Thomas's "Princ. German Grammar", Paul's "Mittelhochdeutsche Grammatik", and Kehrein's

"Gram. der deutschen Sprache"

The examples cited are taken from
Bartsch's edition of the Nibelungenlied.

The Substantive Infinitive.

The Substantive Infinitive is the
Infinitive used as a verbal noun
and as such may occur as either
the subject or object of a verb.
This Infinitive or verbal noun
is formed only in the singular
number and is always neuter gen-
der.

As Subject:

- 208-l 1. Dô wart ein mîchel dringen und grôzer sweter ^{[Klanc,}
80-l 2 dô wart ein mîchel dringen von helden dar getan.
67-l 2 icht wânt daz daz pinsen hînte solde sin.

As object.

- 20-l 1 lât innew gîonen stân

- 492 l 2 dô hôte man daz diezen in Nibelungen sal.
 493 l 1 dô hôte daz grimme striten vone durch den berg,
 71 l 1 Albrîch der vil kröne
 156 l 1 lât iûwer weinen sîn.
 167 l 4 wand' er uns striten verbât,

The Substantive Infinitive is also formed after prepositions.

- 1 l 3 Durch strîten her ze Rîne.
 158-1 An' ezzen und an' trînken helîp dâ manic man.

Infinitive with ze (zû).

The Infinitive with "ze" is not very frequently formed in the Nibelungenlied. This use of the Infinitive is closely related with the use of the Gerundive with "ze", which has now, by losing its inflectional ending, become identical with it in form and in meaning. Note the Gerundive with ze and its translation.

430 l ê dag wir beginnen hier ze jagen

"Ehe (dass) wir beginnen hier zu jagen."

49 l 4 inu jaeme wal ze minnen der ricken kungeerne lîp.

438 l 4 der is dâ gert ~~ger~~ minnen diû is der timweler wîp.

676 l 3 hi' is starken vinden was in ze wesen leit.

35 l 1 und gesûchet is ze minnen den kînce in kînnen laut.

Infinitive without ze

(Pure Infinitive).

This Infinitive is called by some grammarians the Pure Infinitive. It is especially noticeable after the Modals and after certain verbs; such as lâzen, heizen, bitten, hoeren, helpen, and sometimes after raten.

Mâgen

2 l 2 man mochte michel wunder von Sionide sagen

25 l 4 der mochte er wal gewinnen heidiû lîut und laut.

27 l 2 Sigenunt rûnd Sigeliut die mochten wal bejâhen.

7 l 3 er mochte val verdienen soolner vroinnen lîp.

- 4813 daz er dan eine wunche diu in mächte gemein
 10311 daz münch-ir, ~~ir~~ sprach Hagen, wol mit iren tün.
 1512 si rungen mit-ir reise wol dâ hime sin.

Können

- 1114 si künden höher iren pflegen.
 1714 wie liebe mit leide ze jüngeſt lönen kan.
 4014 si künden ~~to~~ wol gedienen daz ihm diſ liute waren halt.
 5214 swaz imen reden künde.
 7312 diſ wol ze dienen künden daz küntheres guot, golt.
 13912 kündeſtû noch gewizen daz waere diſ guot.
 8414 ~~841~~ done künde im niht entrinnen der künec küntheres, ^{Künec}

Sollen

- 1714 ich sol si riden beide!
 2811 swâ man vant dekinen der ritter solde sin.
 3011 vier hundert ^{sevent-} dezene diſ solden tragen kleit.
 5812 daz wir sûlen recken ze Rine volgen mit.
 5913 dor sulst ir mir helfen, Vater Sigemunt.
 10214, wir sulen in engezene hin wider zûs dem recken gâv.
 1413 der sol onch ir gewiezen in Bûrgonden laut

Volken

- 15 l 2 so wil ich immer sine
17 l 4 sus scoene ich wil beliben iunz minnen tot.
18 l 2 er wolde hohgezite^{mit} lieben vrienwenden han,
19 l 1 di si mit porten wolden muerken iuf ir wat.
20 l 3 daz si den jüngen wolden ze eime herren han,
21 l 2 nicht wolden trogen krone ir beider liebes kint.
22 l 2 so wil ich Kriemhilde nemen.
23 l 4 daz er werben wolde di vil herlichen meit.

Müezen,

- 136 l 2 der müoz ich trüene gestan.
137 l 1 so müezen auch die mit in al gehant
138 l 1 Dine zwölf wochen diu reise müoz geschehen
139 l 4 da von verderben müezen vil grüoter ritter gemeit.
140 l 3 doch müos er werden gisil in güntheres laut
141 l 2 die müezen mi gevangen die Güntheres sin.
142 l 1 Du müost in verliessen daz er dir immer bi
wone dekiner dienste.
143 l 1 daz müoz et mi geschehen.
144 l 1 Nu müeze got erbarmen deich ie gewan den sun.

Dürfen

- 56 l3 dirne dörfest nimmer gersten in daz laut.
15 l4 jame dörfen nicht die groefte mit sträte nimmer besten.
15 l2 dörfet er in sime herzen nimmer nür getragen
7 l2 ir endürfet irus nicht reizen.

Infinitive withoute ofter certain verbs.

heizen

- 66 l1 Sin vater hiez in ziernen sin ritterlich gewant.
98 l2 den scaz den hiez er solde führen in die tragen.
16 l4 do hiez man den gerten schenken den büntheren wun
1 l1 man hiez den Burgonden ir vunen binden an.
1 l1 si hiezen das gewaifen wider sammen on den Riu.
6 l1 do hiez si solde boten rören allentholben dan.
24 iut hiez in geben allen rich iut kerklich gewant.

Bitten

- 36 l1 Der wint der hat ez lögzen.
52 l3 der krünec bat in bringen in die sine man.

91 l 3 den scay in baten teilen den waitlichen man,
 189 l 1 er bat sich leben lügen und bat im sinne laut,
 256 l 2 die bat man noch beliken als man vürwenden tuot
 45 l 3 ein licht- bat si ir bringen und auch ir gewant,
 17 l 1 mich bat nâch in gân
 Kriemhilde min vrouwe,

As an exception to the Definitive without
 ze after bitten note the following exam-
 ple.

331 l 2 ir lîet Sînsfride mit in ze tragen,
 die vil starken swære,

helfen

1088 l 3. die mir helfen klagen.
 135 l 3. sô helfet mir besorgen minen lôhen man.

hoeren

12 l 1 er sach sô vil gestîmes, sô wir hoeren sagen,
 18 l 1 ick wil euch lügen hoeren wânîmbe ick traure stân.

382 l 1 dō wir hoeren sagen

441 l 1 von des gēnes swære hōret wūnder sagen.

lāzen.

17 l 1 die rede lāt beliben, sprach si, frōuwe mīn.

25 l 1 vil selten āne hūste man rōten lie daz kint.

6 l 3 lāt iust stēn die mōre mir iust mīnen man.

l 2 sīn oūge er dō wēken zū den gēsten lie.

8 l 1 ich wil iuch lāzen hoeren warum ich trānec stān,

13 l 1 lāt mich iū enwerken iere iūde farnen.

14 l 1 den sul wir roget wesen lān.

aten -- May be followed by The Infinitive
with or without *ge*.

37 l 1 dō giengen's winter gēste dā man in sitzen riet.

270 l 3 ja rieten si ir *ge* mīnnen den kīnec iūz ^[lānt] kīnnen.

The Infinitive Omitted.

When the Infinitive is dependent upon a
preceding verb it is often omitted, and

especially the Infinitive "gân." This omission is quite common in Modern German and is of frequent occurrence in the older English writings. "I must to Denmark" L. "Ich muss nach der Stadt." "Sie muss fort" L. "Ich kann nicht, es muss raus" L. "Meine Ruh ist hin" L.

6/ 30 L. der wint hat es lügen.

76 L. wir wollen siene hinne; der icht ^{hân} gueten willen.

127 L. dâ mitê muss' aüch Livât.

329 L. icht wil wider an den sê hin ze Prünhilde.

413 L. 2 dâ wil icht gerne mit.

The verb of motion which has been omitted in the foregoing examples is expressed in the following line.

1 L. 3. dâ suct is hine gân.

The Infinitive with Subject-Accusative.

The Infinitive with Subject-accusative is of frequent occurrence in the Nibelungenlied. This use has come down to the present time without any change worthy of note. This Infinitive is not preceded by *ze*, but is found simply in the form of the pure Infinitive.

- 29 l 4 der sah man vil der fründen zio z' in riden in daz land.
34 l 3 daz man erdigen horte palas iud sal.
45 l 3 trünzine sach man vliezen für den palas dan.
82 l 4 man sach in kirtliche mit recken lin zu hove gân.
95 l 1 rîch hove icht in selben der degen heite jehen.
101 l 4 man hiez die boten balde ze hove für den künec gân.
111 l 4 man sah dâ sêfte vliezen iude manegen scharfen gîr
116 l 2 die bot man noch belîhen also man vîrîwenden; ^{tîst.}
128 l 2 dâ sah man die geste für Kriemhilde gân.

The Gerundive.

The Gerundive is closely akin to the Infinitive.

47

with *ge* in usage and in form it is simply the Dative singular of the verbal noun, inflected after the strong declension; for Ex. *dag weinen, der weinens dem weinene, dag weinen.*

The Gerundium is always preceded with the preposition *ge*. In Modern German the Gerundium has lost its inflection of ending and become identical in form with the Infinitive with *ge*

41-3 *Sam si ge lehen hēten nīht-mēr deheinē tac.*

331-12 *ir hētē Sīvīde mit in ge troene
die vil storken swære.*

21-14 *da bedorftē wir ge troene vor frāwēn kērlīch gewant.*

31-2 *ge sehe vrende in lēuten.*

11-3 *sīn sōlden dā nīht stān
den frēunden an ge sehe.*

19-3 *also vil ge sehe dag wir ^{des} ~~dag~~ hohen rāt*

21-14 *dag lēhet an ge sehe vil manigen recken lōbelīch.*

24-2 *den schilt den mir vrou ^{Gatelin} gab ge troene.*

The Infinitive as Object.

The Infinitive is quite often found as the object of a verb and is as a rule written without the preposition *zu*, where in Modern German the same construction would require the preposition.

- 126 l 3 er begunde mit sinnen werken soenich wib.
203 l 4 dō begunde er nimmliche an frouen Kriemhilde sehen
321 l 4 Gienther mit Hozene dar umbe lachen begân.
23 l 4 Kriemhilde die vil schoene vil sine zürnen begân.
38 l 2 als er begunde rliehen.

Infinitive Expressing Continued Action.

The Infinitive is often used to express continued action. This use is still quite common in Modern German, where it may, as in the Nibelungenlied, often, be replaced by the Present Participle. In the Nibelungenlied the Present Participle thus used is found declined to agree in gender and number with the subject. See Ex. with Pres. Part.

6864 Weinende er si vant.

431 l. 3, da er sine tränkappen verborgen ligen vant.

679-l. 1 ligen lie er die mit

226-l. 1 di gime im eugegene zies der türe stän.

783-1 Dā er si sitzen vant.

Infinitive Expressing Purpose.

This construction which is so freely used by modern writers, and which is quite common

in the conversational language of to-day is
not so frequently met in the Miblungentext.

394 l 2 sîn solden da niht stân
den vrenden an ze sehen.

394 l 2 den schilt den mir von Gotelint gab ze tragen.

73 l 3 daz trakte man ze sehen der drier künige man.

Complementary Infinitive.

By a Complementary ^{Inf.} is meant the Infinitive
which completes the meaning of the verb idea.

55 l 4 ich tranne an im erdingen heidiu lînt rûnd laut.

10 l 3 daz vorht si verliesen von künthene man.

1 l 3 ich trûte wol erstriten daz der künene man

4 dîz starkez übermüete von waren schulden müese lân

1 l 3 dâ helfet mir besorgen mînen lîben man.

1 l 3 danc traste, ^{Hozene} für si niht gezân.

18.
Perfect Infinitive.

hp 93714 dem sol man jehen darne, den man sich gewinnen kan.

Genitive of the Infinitive.

The Genitive of the Infinitive is probably wanting in modern German. We have something resembling it in the Genitive of the Substantive Infinitive, but the Substantive Infinitive in Modern German is simply a noun and cannot be said to replace this construction.

hp 1062-3 von den lautklutern weinens also vol.

1161-2 ein teil was ir beide weinens si gezam.

Infinitive Following a Reflexive Pronoun.
This use of the Infinitive is so often seen in the Michelungelic that one is certainly ^{justified} in coining the name for it, by which it is here

designated.

- ¹⁸⁹⁻¹
~~256~~ l 2 er hat sich leben lügen
 1005 l 3 ein licht hat si in bringen
 1011 l 1 die vrouwe hat sich wisen da si den helt vant
 1311 l 4 und hat sich leben von dem satete dan

Wesen and Sîn.

Wesen and sîn are used interchangeably in the *Nibelungenlied*. It seem to be partly a matter of choice on the part of the writer.

- 81 l 2 rîche iude kîene moht, er wol sîn.
 170 l 4 diu sîlen dir undertaene sîn.
 672 l 3 (daz mîr et alsô sîn.)
 568 l 2 die an dem zûfaze antpfange mit mir wellen sîn
 678 l 4 daz kanst du vrouwen meister ^{sîn}
 109-4 dar iûwe suet mîn hantet wesen pfant-
 225 l 4 ick wil dir immer wesen halt.
 235 l 3 daz ez Lîndegîre mag immer wesen leit.
 126-11 ir suet uns wesen willekommen.

Sin with Subject-Accusative.

Sin with Subject-Accusative is a construction very seldom found in the *Mihelungelied*, and its use is to-day no more tolerated by the exact Grammarian. Thomas in his "Practical German Grammar" when speaking of this Infinitive says: "The chief difference is that German does not tolerate an Infinitive with Subject-Accusative: for I know him to be a liar, I judge him to be about 30 years old, German says: ich weiss dass er ein Lügner ist; ich glaube dass er 30 j. alt ist. Still classical writers, notably Lessing, sometimes use the construction in imitation of the Latin,"

// 314

läst mich den schuldigen sin.

Passive Infinitive.

The Infinitives often *lâzen*, *hoeren*, and *heizen* are sometimes used in a passive sense.

lâzen.
635 l 1 ir sult ez lâzen stân.

1050 l 3 in wolde noch diu frouwe ~~de~~ lâzen nicht begraben.

192 l 3 ir sult si lâzen hoeren mit iunt mine man.

Heizen, er hiez gewinnen Hogenen iunt ander sine man.

148 l 0

248 l 4, dō hiez man herbergen die recken in die stat.

63 l 1, dō hiez der künec besenden beide wîge iunde man.

Hoeren.

402 l 2 wir hoeren sagen maere.

441 l 1 von des gēnez swaere hōret wūnder sagen.

It might be well to state that this paper has not been intended for an exhaustive treatment of the Infinitive, but to merely show the relative number of times that each use might occur and how they correspond to modern uses.

Henry Heronken.
B. F. Hoffman

University of Missouri - Columbia

010-100740067

378.7M71
XH436

~~This sheet is not to be left in this room.~~
~~Neither is it to be checked out overnight.~~