THE OMISSION OF THE RELATIVE PRONOUN
IN HANS SACHS' WORKS.

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Authorities agree that parataxis, the ranging of propositions side by side in co-ordinate sentences was the original form of construction used to express thought; and that hypotaxis, the subordinative construction in which the connection between the two propositions was closer, was a later step in the development of thought expression. Both constructions were originally asyndetic, that is without expressed connection; hence the two terms asyndetic parataxis, unconnected propositions of equal importance; and asyndetic hypotaxis, unconnected propositions, one of which was subordinate in importance to the other. The distinction lay therefore in the thought, not in the form. Later there arose the feeling that this subordinate relation should be indicated by some form of expression, and, therefore, connectives were introduced. The use of this hypotactical construction and the connectives has increased so much that both modern German and modern English have sacrificed much of the fine distinctions of thought which the older dialect expressed.

In the language of those early German writers of whose work we possess fragments, there are frequent instances of this primitive construction. Where modern speech employs various connectives to introduce sub-
ordination, there was merely a series of propositions placed side by side. To speak therefore of the omission of any of these connectives is strictly speaking incorrect.

This asyndetic construction prevailed in relative clauses as well as in other subordinate clauses. Hence in using the term, the omission of the relative pronoun, one is looking backward from the present point of view since it is the modern construction which demands the expression of this hypotactical relationship and has inserted the relative pronoun wherever this subordinate construction is felt. This is especially true of modern German where only a few examples of the old hypotactical construction are to be found. The pronoun "der" is sometimes used instead of the correlative "der, der" or "derjenige, der". Example: "Der mich liebt, ist in der Weite." (1) A hypotactical clause with "heiszen" is found occasionally. Example: "Gegen Frankfurt liegt ein Ding über, heiszt Sachsenhausen." (2)


"Welch" as indefinite relative adjective is followed by clauses without any connective. Example: "In welcher Unternehmung er sich auch einlässt, stets hat er Glück." (1) And the indefinites "wer" and "was" have no correlative expressed. Example: "Wer das gesagt hat, ist ein Lügner." (2) "Was er sagt, ist gut." (3)

Modern colloquial English, however, has many examples of this old asyndetic construction. Most common is the omitted accusative. Example: "The book you brought lies on the table." But the nominative construction may also lack a connective. Example: "I am not the man I was." "There is a dish needs cleaning." "Who ever sees this, will wonder."

According to Gustav Neckel in his work, "Über die altgermanischen Relativsätze," (4) a relative sentence is formed by every finite verb that is used to limit a noun idea. This relative sentence may limit the noun idea expressed by a whole sentence or limit the noun

2. Curme, A Grammar of the German Language, P.211 Sec.156.
3. " , " " " " " " Sec.157.
itself; the first has the nature of a paraphrasing clause, the second that of an adjective clause. Neckel says of the latter; "Die einfachste form der adnominal relativesätze ist wie namentlich Jolly (Curtius' Studien zur griechischen und lateinischen Gramm. VI, 215-246) gezeigt hat, die asyndetische hypotaxe, Z.B. ahd. "Mit dem brunnen, thu nu quîst, (Otfr. II. 14, 14.) mit dem brunnen, von dem du sprichst." He sees in this, a construction corresponding to that of the attributive modifier and its noun; for example: Goth. "in airthai gôdai;" (1) ahd."thiob hebigger;" (2) mhd."die lewen wilde, ein degen guot." He also finds that the asyndetic form was used in the paraphrasing clause, and corresponds to the noun without the article; for example: "nist untar in thaz thulte, thaz kuning iro walte." (3)

Other authorities as well as Neckel regard the relative pronoun as development from the demonstrative or definite article, "sa" in German. Just as this

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1. Luk. 8. 8.
2. Otfr. IV. 2. 29.
definite article placed before the noun or adjective developed from an anaphorical pronoun after which a noun or adjective was expressed to explain any doubt in the mind of the hearer as to the object referred to, so this anaphorical pronoun was used to introduce both the paraphrasing and adjective clause. For example: "so manasêths; sa sandida; ahma sa unhrainja; atta saesi sandida." There must have been a time when the distinction between the definite article and the relative was not felt, and the article or relative was really as Neckel states merely a "sentence article or demonstrative."

Professor George O. Curme in his article, A History of the English Relative Construction, (1) has pointed out that the primitive construction, namely; that in which the relative idea is expressed without a connecting word, is found in the oldest Germanic dialects and has been preserved in modern English. Professor Curme has already shown in a previous article,

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Is the Gothic Bible Gothic?, (1) that this construction appears in Gothic, and is evidently used entirely independent of Greek influence, that it is an evidence that Gothic was an Indo-Germanic dialect which was more independently developed than scholars have heretofore considered it. In the example: "thaimei iupa sind frathjaith, ni thaim thêei ana áirthai sind," (2) Professor Curme sees in the "thaimei" a demonstrative pointing to the following asyndetic relative clause.

The O. H. G. writers have made free use of this construction, especially those authors whose language is more popular. Many such constructions are found in the works of Otfried: "in droume sie in zelitun then weg, sie faran scoltun." (3) The demonstrative "then" in this quotation seems to have the effect of pointing to the asyndetic adjective clause which follows. The sentence already quoted from Neckel has the same demonstrative pointing to the clause following: "mit them brunnen, thu nu quist." Neckel explains the

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2. Coloss. 3, 2.

3. Otfried I. 17. 74.
position of the article from analogy with the order used when a noun was limited by an adjective. Originally the adjective construction was "áirtha gôdô", then this was limited by the article "sô", and became "áirtha sô gôdô". Likewise "gôdô áirtha" became confused and the order "sô áirtha gôdô" appeared; that is the demonstrative, then the noun and then the adjective. This is an analogy to the construction in Otfried's sentences "then weg, sie faran scoltun"; the demonstrative "then", then the noun "weg" and then the adjective clause "sie faran scoltun". In the sentence "Ih bin iz rehto der du quîs" (1) the paraphrasing clause is introduced by the demonstrative "der" which belonged at the period in which it was written, not to the clause, but to the main proposition. The modern German construction with "der" (used in the masculine and feminine only) is a remnant of this. But it is now considered a relative since it is set off from the main proposition by a comma and followed by transposed order. Example: "Du bist nicht, der du scheinst." (Fulda's Talisman, I. 4.) (2)

1. Otfried IV. 19, 53.
2. Curme, A Grammar of the German Language, p. 207, Section 151, D.
Wolfram as well as Otfried uses the asyndetic construction frequently: "Sus wart für Artūsen brâht an dem got wünsches het erdâht." (1)

Sometimes the demonstrative was put in the case demanded by the clause, as in the above quotation, and sometimes it agreed with the principal proposition: "ein teiul des ich von iu verlôs." (2) This agreement, according to Professor Curme, depended on the closeness of the connection. If the second proposition was clearly a subordinate one, the demonstrative was put in the case demanded by the principal proposition, if the two propositions were more nearly co-ordinate, the demonstrative was put in the case required by the second proposition.

In some cases the definite article or demonstrative followed the noun: "Dô sageter Parzivûl danc prîses des erwarp sîn hant." (3) The demonstrative "des" here agrees with its noun "prîses", which it follows, and serves to point to the asyndetic relative clause. Again, the demon-

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2. Parz. 327, 11.
3. Parz. 156, 12, 13.
strative was used before and after the noun also: "Thie furiston thiz gisâhun, es harto hinterquâmun." (1)
The repetition of the "thie" ("thiz"-"thieiz") was a step farther in the development of the relative pronoun from the demonstrative. Its repetitions can be logically explained as a combination of the two constructions, the one with the demonstrative before the noun: "then weg, sie faran scoltun"; and the one with the demonstrative after the noun: "danc prîses des erwarz sin hant."

Acting on Professor Curme's suggestion that this name construction was to be found in Hans Sachs, the first volume of Hans Sachs' Sämmtliche Fabeln und Sch-wänke (2) has been read, and the cases in which asyndetic parataxis and hypotaxis occur noted and classified.

The reason for the appearance in the works of Hans Sachs of this old German construction which had almost entirely disappeared by the beginning of the N.H.G. period, is easily understood, since Hans Sachs more than any other writer of German literature was a man of the people and had come in contact with the people. In his five years of journeymanship, he must have become

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1. Otfr. IV. 4, 71.

familiar with the popular idioms and peculiarities of speech. These common people had not come under the influence of the classical writers, and had retained the simple speech of their ancestors. Hans Sachs had a message for his own people and addressed them in their own language. Hermann Päschel in his Inaugural-Dissertation (1) says in speaking of co-ordination found in Hans Sachs' works: "Als Mann aus dem Volke steht Hans Sachs dem Prinzip der Unterordnung der Sätze ziemlich fern. Ohne den innern Zusammenhang zu berücksichtigen, reiht er mit Vorliebe einen Gedanken an den andern durch blose Nebeneinanderstellung an." And again; "Allerdings müssen wir zugeben, dass sich bei Hans Sachs mehr Fälle als bei andern Dichtern nachweisen lassen, in denen er, um mit der Schule zu reden, aus der Construction gefallen ist. So finden wir für unser Sprachgefühl oft unverständliche Übergänge aus Nebensatzkonstruktion in Hauptsatzkonstruktion und umgekehrt."

The primitive asyndetic paratactical construction appears in every poem. For example in eight lines of the poem "der Hauptmann der Faulen" there is a succession of short unconnected sentences in which it is difficult
to distinguish between the propositions that are co-
ordinate and those that are subordinate in thought.

"Da kam mir vnterwegen
Geritten ein Hauptman
Der sach mich schleffrich an;
Auff einem Esel sasz;
Ein käss sein satel was;
Vol stro hing har, vnd part,
Sach gantz düszmicher art;
Sein rock vol federn hing." (1)

Frequently these paratactical constructions are so
confused that it is only by a careful examination that
subjects and objects of the sentences and the clauses
can be distinguished:

"Den dreyen ging aus der angst schwais
Im krais sich hin vnd wider schmüegen,
Draffen sie oft, das sie sich püegen,
Vmb pain vnd lent, auch vmb die köpff." (2)

In this example, the subject of "sich schmüegen" must
be the unexpressed pronoun "sie" referring to "den

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1. Der Hauptmann der Faulen. No.48, Lines 4-12.
dreyen," the three peasants; while the first "sie" of the next line, subject of "draffen", must refer to the wags who were making sport of the peasants; and the second "sie" subject of "sich püegen" must mean the peasants. In the sentence:

"Eua diese ding thet erwegen,
Weil der herr so mit milter hant
Die hett gesegnet allesant,
Dacht;"

Modern German would make the first of these clauses a relative clause introduced by "die", but as it stands here there are two asyndetic co-ordinate propositions, "Eua thet erwegen," und "Eua dacht." It is often hard to decide the question as to whether a construction is parataxis or hypotaxis. The same poem contains a sentence of this doubtful construction:

"Als aber nun der herre kam,
Die schönen kinder allesam,
Het sie gestelet nach ainander,
Entpfingen den herrn allesander,
Naigten sich höfflich an dem ent

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1. Die Ungleichhen Kinder der Eva. No.194, L.92-95.
Vnd poten im all ire hent." (1)

"Sie" the subject of "het gestelet" refers to Eva; the object "die schönen kinder" must also be the subject of "entpfingen", "naigten" and "poten"; but there is no connective and no pronoun. The old cobbler poet has made the propositions co-ordinate but the constructions involved would in N.H.G. demand in each case hypotaxis.

Parataxis is used where a part in the second proposition refers to the whole in the first:

"Dardurch die alt gerämpften
Hinein die Pegnicz pflämpften,
Darin mündens al paden,
Yder entpfing ein schaden
Wurden pluetrüstig ser." (2)

Between the "sie" in "mündens" and the "yder" in the following line there is no connective, no relative pronoun in the genitive such as the German of today would use; nor is there anything to express the return to the plural in the next line except in the plural form of the verb "wurden". Still farther removed from modern hypotaxis.

1. Die Ungleichens Kinder der Eva, No.194, L.63-68.
2. Eulenspiegel auf dem Henkersteg, No.56, L.45-49.
taxis is the case where the whole is object in the first proposition and the part is subject in the second.

"Yetz hab der Herren ich so vil, Yder vber mich herschen will." (1)

The paratactical relative construction is most common in Hans Sachs particularly after forms of "sein". There are 18 instances of these clauses with "sein" in volume one. In 15 of them the verb is in the preterite tense:

"Am Rein ein pawer sas, Alt und vughöret was." (2)

In three the present is used:

"Erstlich ich ainen esel hab, Ist gescheider, wan der pfarer grab." (3)

In all these 18 cases the modern construction would call for a relative clause introduced by a pronoun in the nominative case. The antecedent noun is in eight cases, in the nominative case as in the first example above; in nine cases it is in the accusative as in the second example.

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2. Der taube Bauer, No.156, L.1-2.

In one instance the pronoun "er" is used:

"Der Koch peraitet nach dem pesten
Den kranich, mit wuerzen einpaist
Vnd priet in, er war jung vnd faist," (1)

In one case the antecedent is in the dative after a preposition.

Nachdem die pauren zw
Lappenhausen
Die hielten rat, zw pawen aßsen
Vor dem dorff in auch ain malmuel
Am ainem pach, war frisch vnd kütel." (2)

This quotation contains an interesting repetition of the article "die" before "hielten", and doubtless confused with the demonstrative used to introduce a paratactical clause. In the quotation:

"Es sas ein vischer an der Rön,
Der het ein weib, was zart vnd schön," (3)

there is not only an example of the clause with "sein",

1. Der Koch mit dem Kranich, No.64, L.8-10.
but also an example of a construction which is the next step in the development of the relative with expressed connective. The "der" introducing the clause, "Der het ein Weib," is not the relative but the demonstrative introducing the paratactical clause. This is analogous with the construction in the quotation from Otfried: (cf. p.8)

"Thie furiston thiz gisähun es harto hintar quämun." (1)

Almost as numerous as the clauses with "sein" are those with "heiszen". Example:

"Zwo meyl von der Stat Nürnberg legd Ein Dorff, heist Nerrat." (2)

This construction has been retained in N.H.G. in a few instances: Cf. "Gegen Frankfurt liegt ein Ding über, heiszt Sachsenhausen." (cf. p.2, note 2.)

The following quotation contains two asyndetic clauses with "heiszen" and one of the same constructions introduced by "det". There is also a paratactical relative clause introduced by the demonstrative "der" in "der was einfeltig."

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1. Otfr. IV. 4, 71.

"Wie zw Florencz ein verber sas,
Johannes Lotringer, der was
Einfeltig, früm vnd schlechtdarpey,
Ein gaister vol pockstenczlerey,
Het vberaus eine schöne frauen
Hies Thessa, det im schaloksperg hawen,
Vnd gewan lieb in pruensticlich Einen," (1)

Other paratactical relative clauses are to be found in many of the poems; but in many instances, particularly where the noun in the first clause is in the nominative and the succeeding clause has no expressed subject, it is often hard to detect any difference in the importance of the thought in the two sentences. Thus, in the sentence:

"Kain mensch maint vns mit ganczen trewen,
Als wir zway, khören ie zw samen" (2)

there must clearly be two co-ordinate sentences. But in the following instance the relationship seems closer:

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1. Der Geistbeschwörer, No.62, L.3-10.
"On geferr sassen in dem wirczhaus
Zwen pauren, lebten in dem saus."  (1)
The main thought: "sassen in dem wirczhaus zwen pauren", is stated first, then the limiting idea that these two peasants had this particular characteristic that they "lebten in dem saus."

Also in the following:

"Nachdem sic sich pegaben
All auf die pulerey,
Wart in erlaubet frey."  (2)
the principal statement is: "sie sich pegaben all auf die pulerey", which now "Wart in erlaubet frey."

Several appositional constructions which can only be explained as asyndetic paratactical relative clauses, appear:

"Vil mer sol icz zw nuser zeit
Ein Crist, mit gottes gaist pefewcht
Vnd mit gotes gaist ist erlewcht

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2. Die Aebtissin mit der Hose, No.85, L.66-68.
Döttten alle seine wohlest," etc. (1)
The fable of the ant and the cricket contains an asyndetic relative clause which is just as closely related to its main proposition:

"Zum andern versteht bey dem grillen,
Ein jungen man voller mutwillen,

Montag, ertag zum sontag feyret,
Vnd anderm gaugkelspiel nach leyret," (2)

Where the noun antecedent is in the accusative case it is not so difficult to distinguish whether the thought relation is somewhat subordinate. In such lines:

"Frw schickt der eyffrer einen schüler
Sam vom caplon, fragt, ob der pueler,
Fey ir gewest wer," (3)

there seems to be less co-ordination than in some of the preceeding quotations. And in:

"Im erbel het ein langen spon,

Den lies er hoschen auf die bent,
Hueb auf das eysen, in nit prent,
Vnd es heraus dem kraise trüeg," (1)

it cannot be said that Hans Sachs had any feeling of subordination in the different propositions, yet some of them must stand out as more important than others. And one feels justified in seeing in the clause: "in nit brent" an omitted demonstrative construction which is only a step removed from the hypotactical construction. And the N.H.G. idiom would certainly demand hypotaxis.

The important thought in:

"Wir, * * * zaigen on
Dir, kunig, das wir ain jünkprunen Haben, kümbt aus eim perg gerünn." (2)

is in the statement "wir ain jünkprunen haben", and subordinate to this is added that statement that this "jünkprunen, kümbt aus eim perg gerünnen."

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In most of these examples of the asyndetic relative clauses, those whose antecedent noun is preceded by the indefinite article "ein" are more closely connected than those whose noun is limited by the definite article "der".

The succeeding lines of this same "Schwank" contain some interesting examples of the disregard of dependent construction and connecting words:

"Der (antecedent jünckprünen hailet gar mancherley schaden;
Welich mensch darinen thüet paden-
Er hat fawls flaisch oder den stein;
Die plab hüesten oder den zipperlein,
Den mewchler oder drüncken zw vil,
Odern grim gwünen ob dem spil,
Die eyffersucht oder das senen,
Das lawffent oder mit posen zenen
Oder sünst kranckheit, was das sey-
Ist der jünckprün ein güet arzney." (1)

1. Drei Missive aus India, Cypern, Schweden,
   No.174, L.5-14.
The indefinite "welich" and its noun "mensch" are clearly nominative subjects of "thuet paden"; then intervenes the long parenthetical clause and then comes the second proposition, "Ist der jünckprän ein gëet arzeney", which requires the dative case of the noun. The clause seems to be hypotactical since the "welich mensch" must serve as subject of the clause and also the dative object of "Ist der jünckprän ein gëet arzeney." The case of the hypotactical use of "welich" occurs several times and will be discussed later.

This quotation, however, explains the lines which follow in the same poem:

"Der geleichen den gar vralten
Geränzelten vnd vngestalten,
In dem prünen sich auch verjüngeng,
Das sie daher gent in den sprdengen,
Gamoz freudenreich vnd wolgeperig,
Sam weren sie erst zwainzig jerig." (1)

This incomplete proposition refers to the preceding statement:

"(Den) ist der jünckprän ein gëet arzney."

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1. Drei Missive aus India, Cypern, Schweden,
This dative construction which is not expressed in the first sentence, is expressed in the, "Der gelsichen den gar uralten", etc, after which follows a hypotactical asyndetic clause, "In dem prünen sich auch verjüngen."

This is very similar to a construction in a sentence from Parzival quoted by Professor Curme: "Dechein sül stuont dar unde/ diu sich geglichen kunde der grözen sül dâ zwisch stuont." (1) In this sentence, "der grözen sül" is in the dative case in the main proposition while the clause demands the nominative. This same is true of Hans Sachs' words, "Den gar uralten," being in the dative in agreement with the thought of the preceding while the clause calls for the nominative case.

The clause in:

"Und würt ein alt vnwerder gaûl,
Des förwercks nimer kunt ausharn
Würt ich verkauft in einen karren." (2)

seems to be another hypotactical clause where the thought connection is close since "des förwercks nimer kunt ausharen", defines "gaûl" in the same degree that "alt"

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1. Parz, 589. 29.

2. Die arme klagende Rosshaut, No.67, L.100-102.
and "vnwerder" do.

Likewise the connection between the two propositions in the following quotations seems to be subordinate:

"Schaw! eben gleich solicher mas
Hat ainerley natur der wein
Vor sich selber alzeit allein,
Zimlich getrunken und fein messig
Erfrwt das hercz und ist zvlessig
Wie kng Daisid sagen thst."

From the punctuation in the example:

"Den reichen wundert sein pescheit
Wart pewegt inparmherzigkeit
Vnd det dem armen zv gedencken
Hundert gtrer golt gilden schencken,"

with the two clauses: "Wart pewegt inparmherzigkeit" and "det dem armen zv gedencken" etc, it must be concluded that there was thought to be close connection between them and the first statement; so close that it was not necessary to employ a connective or even set

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2. Der arme Schuster und der reiche Geizhals, No.154, L.33-36.
the clauses off by a comma:

"Mein speisz die was
Allein das fleisch der Thier, ich ass." (1)

In this sentence the omitted relative is in the accusative. Interesting is the demonstrative "die" after "speisz" which is intended to point to the clause "ich asz". The above example is one quoted by Professor Curme. In another found by him:

"Mein Herr, ich bin der man
Die männer ich gefressen han,
Die selber waren Herr im hausz." (2)

has "all the earmarks of the primitive German" in that the demonstrative "der" before "man" points to the hypotactical clause, "die Männer ich gefressen han"; just as, in the quotation from Otfried: "In droume si in zelitun then weg, sie faran scoltun", the "then" before "weg", points to the clause, "sie faran scoltun".

The demonstrative is likewise the forerunner of the clause in:

"Wan sie fuerchten sich von den frechen

In this clause the noun antecedent is in the dative, and the relative, if it had been expressed, would have been in the nominative.

There is no doubt of the omission of a relative in the example:

"Nachdem folg gwonlich alle mal
Entlauffen oder sünst verterben
Oder zw leczt im spital sterben,
Gros armet, ellent vnd træebsal,
Vereterey, raub und diebstal
Vnd dergleich ander pöse dat
Aus füll auch seinen vrsprung hat." (2)

In the quotation placed at the beginning of Schwank No. 26:

"Hie werden im Pflug getrieben
Die Maydt von Fasznacht sindt vberblieben." (3)

is one of the clearest cases of hypotaxis where both the antecedent and the omitted relative are in the nominative case. Hans Sachs himself in the "Schwank"

3. Die Mädchen im Pfluge, No.26,
quotes the thought indirectly, inserting the relative "welch".

"Im Pflug werden getrieben
Die Hauszmaydt, welch sind vberblieben."

The thought in:

"Zw Yngolstat im Payerlant
Ligt ain dorff, Winterspach genant,
Ein ainfeltiger pawer sas,
Der nit ser reich an guetern was,"  

would from the modern view-point call for the so-called adverbial relative "wo" to introduce the clause: "Ein ainfeltiger pawer sas:" or according to the older construction "darin".

The same construction appears in the sentence:

"Dardurch wüt ich yn einer wysn,
Die külen morgen wintlein blysn." 

The demonstrative "der", which, as has been quoted, is still occasionally used in modern German instead of some of the correlative constructions "der, der" or "derjenige der", (Die's befehlichen, sind

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alle in eine Schul' gegangen,") (1) is much more frequent in Hans Sachs. This use in the nominative appears a number of times:

"Ich frage: "Wer sind, die also wünseln"", (2)

Also the lines:

"Die letzte schwarz ich nicht nennen kann;
Ist, die ich ausgenommen han," (3)

contain the hypotactical relative clause, "die ich ausgenommen han". This same hypotactical relative clause may be the subject:

"Die irem man vertrawet nicht,
War selbst an hawt vnd har entwich." (4)

In the following:

"Ich sprach: "Kain anders spil ich kan,
Dann die ich euch erzelet han."" (5)

"die" is the object of "kan" also the object of "erzelet han" in "apo coinu" construction. In two instances

2. Das Höllenbad, No.65, L.310.
3. Die 18 Schönheiten, No.1, L.63-64.
4. Das Heisze Eisen, No.113, L.57.
5. Das Untreue-Spiel, No.18, L.40-41.
the demonstrative "die" serves as the object of a preposition and as the object of the clause:

"Habe den viel Pfeffer körnlein geben,
Vorausz, wos sich reymet eß'en,
On die ich selber gar erdicht," etc. (1)

Closely akin to the above sentences is the loose relative construction in:

"Vnd als der tantz am besten war,
Do erhöb sich ein gross schlagen
Am Kugelplatz, die wurden jagen
Einander her." (2)

The relationship between "die" and "ein grosses schlagen" is only a degree removed from these demonstrative hypotactical constructions, and from the viewpoint of modern thought can be regarded in no other light. However Hans Sachs probably neglected to consider that the first of these two propositions contained the neuter noun "schlagen", and that in the following the demonstrative "die" referred to those who received the beating.

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One of the most common hypotactical constructions used by Hans Sachs is that with "welch". This determinative "welch" was used in M.H.G. without distinction just as "er", "der", "jener", and "solch". The relative pronoun was employed after "er" and "jener" but was frequently omitted after "der" and "solch" and "welch". This old asyndetic construction is still found with "welch", as well as with "die" in N.H.G., as has been elsewhere quoted.

"In welcher Unternehmung er sich auch einlässt, stets hat er Glück." (1)

In Hans Sachs the older determinative idea of "welch" now expressed by "derjenige der" or "der, der", rather than the modern indefinite idea prevails. In most of the cases "welch" and its noun are used in the nominative case and is followed by the present tense of the verb.

"Welch kawfman nicht helt glauben,
Dregt nicht lang mardren schwaben." (2)


One "Schwank" contains a past tense:

"Welcher helt war verzagt im handel,
Pracht füer sich fier oder füenff kandel." (1)

"Welcher" is used as a co-relative pronoun in only one instance:

"Der dewffel sprach: "Welche auf ern,
Hat der feintselig neid pessessen
Das sie sich selb haben gefressen,
Dünt icz zw hel auch selbert schlagen." (2)

In only one place is "was" used in the same way as "welch", i.e., as an indefinite pronominal adjective without an expressed relative.

"Als sie nun stiegen auf die aichen,
Was aychel sie künden eraichen
Schlüegen sie mit den Stangen ab." (3)

This volume contains one excellent example in which the old determinative "solch" points to the asyndetic hypothetical clause which follows:

"Die weil er ist ain gaist der lüegen

1. Das Bier-Turnier, No.142, L.51-52.
2. Das Höllenbad, No.65, L.112-114.
Der all den vnrat zw ist füegen
So im gelauben und vertrauen
Auf solch sein phantasey thün pawn."

Elsewhere both "welch" and "solch" are used with the relative "der" just as in modern usage.

"Etlich" the indefinite numeral now usually replaced by "einin", is used in one instance in a sentence containing a relative clause without connective:

"Pit, wolst zv vns schaffen schwind
Entlich aüs deinem hoffgesind,
Von den man saget vnferhol,
Wie das sie muegen zechen wol,
Den wein etwan gar knollet drincken,
Das sie nachtz haim an wenden hincken,
Etlich müegen weintragen wol,
Sauffen sich ains mals zwayne fol--
Derselben wolst mir schicken zw", etc. (2)

The second "etlich" is in the same construction as the first, that is the object of "schaffen" while "müegen" calls for the nominative case.

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The indefinite "wer" is often used just as in modern German, examples of which have already been quoted. Such sentences are frequent: "Wer Pferd hat, wird ein reycher Mayer." (1) Those with the demonstrative expressed are used also. Similarly "was" has the indefinite force just as in the N.H.G. thought. It is, however, more often used by Hans Sachs and in some cases also where the present construction would be "das was".

"Und was geschleckwerks sie erhascht,
Von Wein vnd pier, das hat verspielt
On was sic ayr im schmalz abstielt." (2)

In the lines:

"Derhalb so räum sein mund nimant,
Den was er selb mit aigner hant
Mit aarer that verpringen kan," (3)

the "was" is the object of "ruem" and also of "verpringen kan".

Examples of the older use of "das" as a substitute for the present indefinite "was" seem to preserve the

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1. Das Schlauraffenland, No.4, L.47.
2. Die faule Hausmagd, No.40, L.80-82.
3. Der ruhmredige Frosch, No.149, L.79-81.
earmarks of the old construction in which "das" was used as the old demonstrative and was not yet felt to be a relative.

"Also geschicht oft in trunkenheit,
Das söñst nit gschech in næchterkeit,
Mit unglimpff, sünden, schant vnd schaden,
On was trunkenheit selber bringt," etc. (1)
The "was" in the last clause is another case of the indefinite construction already discussed.

The lines:

"Den müs mit spot der rämer fliehen
Vnd vor dem garn wider abziehen
Vnd wird zv schand vor idermon,
Weil er sich räembt, das er nit kon." (2)

contain a most excellent example of attraction; for the "das" is in the construction demanded by the clause and not that of the main proposition whose verb governs the genitive case. This has its counterpart in a quotation from Parzival cited by Professor Curme:

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2. Der ruhmredige Frosch, No.149, L.75-78.
Du zihst in das doch nie geschah." (1)

In connection with the same verb "räemben" Hans Sachs uses the construction in which the pronoun is in the case demanded by the main clause:

"Pey dem frosch zaigt Esopus on
Ein man, der vil geschweczes kon,
Vnd räemet sich ainr künst ser hoch,
Der er nie hat gelernt doch." (2)

Here "der" is in the construction demanded by the main proposition and agrees with "künst". These two instances which occur in the same poem serve to substantiate the theory that the case of the demonstrative was regulated by the relative importance of the two propositions. In the first quotation there are two statements almost co-ordinate, in the second the clause is subordinate limiting the noun "künst".

The use of the contracted form "da" instead of "wo" with prepositions, (N.H.G.wovon, woraus, etc) is so general that it occurs in almost every poem.

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2. Der ruhmredige Frosch, No.149, L.59-62.
"Bedewt das er nicht für sich tracht,
Darhynter er blyb sicher fro."

Also:

"In ain schön gedeffelten sal,
Darin wir asen das nachtmal."

Hans Sachs does not always use the asyndetic hypothetical construction. There is scarcely a "Schwank" which does not contain relative clauses introduced by the relative pronoun "der" just as in the modern construction. In Der Harrenfresser there are, for instance, ten clauses introduced by the relative "der". In one "Schwank" there appears the modern correlative "die,die":

"Diesz nicht will glauben, die erfars!"

"Welcher" appears frequently as a relative adjective, for example:

"Welcher frawen der port sol sein,
Gieb ich eich, maister vnd geselen,

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3. Der Harrenfresser, No.25,
4. Drei Hausmägde klagen über ihre Herrschaften, No.29, L.64.
In der sach ein vrtail zv fallen." (1)

it is also used as relative pronoun. There are, however, not a large number of instances where it is used as the relative, "der" being much more frequently used. The first line of "Die neun elenden Wanderer" contains one example of "welch" as relative pronoun:

"Der erst, weloher mit Karren fert
Dem ist milhe vnd arbeit beschert." (2)

There is even an occasional example of the old relative "so":

"Es pescreibet vns Plutarchus
Drey schwenck, so der philosophus
Diogenes volendet hat." (3)

It must be concluded from the many examples cited that Hans Sachs employed the asyndetic paratactical construction more frequently than any other, and that he frequently made use of the asyndetic hypotactical construction; that he used these constructions because he wrote in the popular language which had retained its

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original simplicity and had not yet come under the
ingfluence of the complicated Latin constructions.