§ 249. The accusative with the infinitive is sometimes used in exclamations or questions expressing wonder, astonishment, or indignation, as :

Mene incepto desistere victam ?	Am I to give up my undertaking as conquered ?
Adeone hominem esse infelicem quemquam ut ego sum !	That any man should be so unhappy as I am !
Te in tantas aerumnas incidisse.	That you should have fallen into such troubles !

It is evident that these accusatives with the infinitive are dependent upon some expression understood—*e.g. :* " is it possible," or " is it conceivable."

§250. The present infinitive is often used in animated narratives, or rather descriptions, instead of the imperfect indicative. This infinitive is called the **historical** or better the **descriptive infinitive**; its subject is always in the nominative. It is sometimes found even after the conjunction *quum*—*e.g. :*

Verres minitari absenti Diodoro, vociferari palam, lacrimas vix interdum tenere.	Verres threatened the absent Diodorus, shouted publicly, and sometimes scarcely kept from weeping.
Senatus expectabat quum Appius jus de creditis pecuniis quam asperrime dicere.	The senate was waiting, when Appius pronounced sentence about the lent money in a most harsh manner.

NOTE.—The student must be careful in the use of the infinitive after the verb *spero* (I hope), *promitto* (I promise) *polliceor* (I promise), *minor* or *minitor* (I threaten), which in Latin are regularly followed by the future infinitive, while in English we use the present, as, I promise you to come, *promitto* or *polliceor tibi me venturum esse*

CHAPTER XLVIII.

THE GERUND AND THE GERUNDIVE.

§ 251. The **gerund**, like the infinitive, is a verbal substantive; it has four cases, the genitive, dative, accusative, and ablative, and governs the same case as its verb. The nominative is supplied by the infinitive; and the accusative is used