

Observe the italicised words in the following :

Dashing forward, the horseman soon reached the spot.

The lads *shouting* with glee, ran to the water side.

The soldier *injured* by the blow, dropped his rifle.

A house *built* by the earliest settler, still remained.

When we wish to describe an action as incomplete and as going on at the present time we use a Present Participle. *Dashing* and *shouting* are Present Participles and are formed by adding *ing* to the simple form of the verb.

Injured and *built* are called Past Participles. They refer to past time.

There are a great many forms of the Verb. The Present tense, the Past tense and the Past Participle are the principal parts. Thus we have *drink, drunk, drunk; sing, sang, sung; love, loved, loved; bring, brought, brought; see, saw, seen*; and so on.

It is incorrect to use a past participle by itself as predicate. Such expressions as "I seen it," "He drunk the water," "The man done his work" are wrong.

RULE VI.—THE PAST PARTICIPLE WHEN USED IN FORMING THE PREDICATE OF A SENTENCE IS ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED BY AN AUXILIARY (BE OR HAVE).

Point out the past participles in the following :

Philosophers have often mistaken the source of true happiness.

The tired man lay down to rest.

This toast was drunk in silence.

The lady had sung many beautiful songs.