

CHAPTER XLIV.

THE INDICATIVE MOOD AND ITS TENSES.

§ 200. The indicative is commonly used after indefinite relatives and those which have the suffix *cunque*, as : *quis* (whoever), *quotquot* (however many), *quicunque* (whoever), *quantuscunque* (however great), *utut*, *utcunque* (whoever)—e.g. :

Quidquid dicis.

Utcunque sese res habet.

Quicunque is est.

Whatever you may say.

However the matter may stand.

Whoever he may be.

NOTE.—Later writers sometimes use the subjunctive with these relatives.

§ 201. The indicative is used in both parts of an hypothetical sentence, when the supposition is regarded as true, or is assumed to be true for the sake of argument, as :

Siest boniconsulisferveopempatriae, If it is the part of a good consul
est etiam bonorum civium. (as it really is) to render help
to his country, it is also the
part of good citizens.

Si Deus aut anima aut ignis est, If God is either air or fire
idem est animus hominis. (assuming this to be true for
the sake of argument), the soul
of man is the same.

NOTE.—Respecting the subjunctive in hypothetical sentences, see the chapter on the subjunctive.

§ 202. The past tenses of the verbs *oporiet*, *necesse est*, *debeo*, *convenit*, *possum*, *licet*, and of the expressions *par*, *fas*, *aequum*, *justum*, *consentaneum*, *satis*, *satius*, *melius*, *aequius* *est*, are used in the indicative, where, according to the English idiom, we might expect the subjunctive. The imperfect in these cases signifies that something ought or might have been done, and that it is not too late yet ; whereas the perfect and pluperfect intimate that it is too late—e.g. :

Ad mortem te, Catilina, duci iam You, Catilina, ought long ago to
pridem oportebat. have been put to death (and it
may yet be done).