

CHAPTER XLIII.

THE VOICES AND MOODS IN GENERAL.

§ 198. In regard to the use of the voices of a verb, it may be said in general that there is little difference between the Latin and the English, except that in Latin passive verbs are sometimes used in a reflective sense, as *vector*, I am turned, and I turn myself; and that owing to the want of a past participle in the active, recourse must sometimes be had to the passive, where in English the active is used, as :

Captam urbem militibus diripiendam permisit. Having taken the city, he gave it up to the soldiers for plunder.

§ 199. The general character of the moods is—

(1.) The indicative states a fact or asks a direct question, as :

Pater filium Athenas misit. The father sent his son to Athens.
Cur hoc fecisti ? Why have you done this ?

(2.) The subjunctive does not express a fact, but only actions conceived by the mind as possible, intended, wished for, or conditional, as :

Dicat aliquis. Some one may say.
Edo ut vivam. I eat that I may live
Venias ad me. May you come to me.
Si ad me venias. If you come to me.

(3.) The imperative expresses a command either to be complied with at once, or to be obeyed whenever occasion requires it, as :

Subvenite mihi misero. Help me wretched man.
Hominem in urbe ne sepelito. Thou shalt not bury a man in the city.

(4.) The infinitive can scarcely be called a mood ; it is only the name of an action, or a verbal substantive occurring only in the nominative and accusative, the remaining cases being supplied by the gerund, as :

Amare patriam honestum est. To love one's country is honourable.
Non potuit negare. He could not deny it.
Cupiditas habendi. The desire to possess.

The infinitive differs from ordinary substantives only by governing its case as a verb.

NOTE.—Participles are in form adjectives, but govern their cases as verbs.