

*Caesari omnia uno tempore erant agenda.* Caesar had to do all things at one and the same time.

*Vix credendum est.*

It is scarcely to be believed.

NOTE 1.—It is only in cases where ambiguity would arise from the use of the dative with a gerundive, that the ablative with *a* or *ab* is preferable, as: *aguntur bona multorum civium, quibus est a vobis consulendum*, the property of many citizens is at stake, whom you ought to care for; *admonendum te potius a me quam rogandum puto*, I think you ought rather to be encouraged than to be asked by me.

NOTE 2.—As intransitive verbs can only have an impersonal passive, so their gerundive can occur only in the neuter gender, as: *currendum est*, there must be running, or they must run; *pugnandum erat*, there was a necessity for fighting, or they had to fight.

§ 253. When the gerund belongs to a transitive verb, and should accordingly have its object in the accusative, it is generally changed into the gerundive and takes its object along with it, agreeing with it as an ordinary adjective, as:

*Consilium urbis condendae* (for The plan of founding a city.

*urbem condendi).*

*Consul placantis diis* (for *placando* The consul devotes himself to

*deos) operum diti.*

*Comitia consulibus creandis* (for The comitia for electing the

*consules creando).*

consuls.

NOTE 1.—The same is the case sometimes even with verbs which do not govern the accusative, especially *utor, fruor, fungor, potior, and vescor*, as: *tenuendus est voluptatis fruendae modus*, moderation must be observed in the enjoyment of pleasure; *hostes in spem potiundorum castrorum venerunt*, the enemy conceived the hope of gaining possession of the camp. Otherwise the gerundive governs the case of its verb, *valetudini parcendum est*, we must be careful of our health; *utendum est viribus*, we must use our strength; *consilii nostri nobis poenitendum est*, we must repent of our plan.

NOTE 2.—When the object of a gerundive is a neuter adjective or pronoun, it remains in the accusative, as: *studium aliquid agendi* (not *alicujus*), the desire to do something; *cupiditas plura habendi* (not *plurium habendorum*), the eagerness to have more.

NOTE 3.—The gerundive sometimes supplies the place of a present participle passive, which the Latin language wants, as: *quis est, qui nullis officii praeceptis tradendis philosophum se audeat dicere*, who is he that ventures to call himself a philosopher, who does not give rules about duty? *meo nomine recitando*, by my name being mentioned.

NOTE 4.—In English we frequently use the preposition "without" with a gerund; but *sine* (without) is never used in Latin with the ablative of a gerund, and whenever "without" is so used, it must be expressed in Latin by a participle, or by the ablative absolute, as: I say this without fearing any one's blame, *haec dico nullius reprehensionem verens*; the consul began the battle without waiting for his colleague, *consul non expectato collega proelium commisit*.