

**THE SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD
IN DON QUIJOTE DE LA
MANCHA: DISSERTATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649251155

The Subjunctive Mood in Don Quijote de la Mancha: Dissertation by William Elford Gould

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WILLIAM ELFORD GOULD

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IN DON QUIJOTE DE LA
MANCHA: DISSERTATION**

TO
PROFESSOR CHARLES CARROLL MARDEN
AS A TOKEN OF THE APPRECIATION AND REGARD OF HIS PUPIL
THIS MONOGRAPH
IS
RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

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INTRODUCTION.

Although we have many grammars of the Castilian language in addition to Boheman's dissertation on the Subjunctive in Gonzalo de Berceo, Gessner's treatise on the Hypothetical sentence in Spanish, and the work of such writers as Diez, Foth, Meyer-Lübke, nevertheless, as compared with French, little has been written on Spanish syntax in general or the Spanish subjunctive in particular. It was felt, therefore, that it would be profitable to make a study of the Subjunctive Mood in the *Quijote*; on the one hand, because the present writer already had some familiarity with the great work of Cervántes, and again more particularly on account of its pre-eminent position as a monument of Castilian prose. A most important reason also, was the fact that we have access to the original form of the *Quijote*, both in the edition of Fitzmaurice-Kelly,¹ and in the fac-simile text.²

The object of the present dissertation has been, first, to offer a collection of all the examples of the Subjunctive Mood in the *Quijote*; secondly, to establish the laws governing the use of this Subjunctive; thirdly, to show, wherever possible, that this Subjunctive was an historical development from the Latin; and fourthly, to emphasize those usages which are characteristic of the *Quijote*, in contrast with the Castilian of an earlier or later period.

The text used is that of Fitzmaurice-Kelly which reproduces the text of the *editio princeps* of Madrid, 1605. It contains the variants of the editions of Valencia 1605, Brussels 1607, Madrid 1605, 1608 and 1637, together with the Madrid reprints of 1647, 1652 and 1668, as well as the variants of the more modern and standard editions up to his time. The present writer has made careful comparison with the fac-simile of the first edition, and in the case of the not infrequent errors in the Fitzmaurice-Kelly text, the corrections are given in the foot-notes, where emendations are

¹ Cf. Bibliography, No. 10.

² Cf. Bibliography, No. 14.

necessary in the cases of the examples treated. In the use and omission of accents, the edition of Fitzmaurice-Kelly has been followed. In 1, 22, 198; 1, 34, 344; 2, 17, 134; 2, 58, 448; and 2, 71, 539 the Fitzmaurice-Kelly text reads *llameis, pareciera, maten, paseis* and *vuelvas*, respectively, thus giving us five Subjunctive forms which are in every case contrary to Castilian syntax. Reference to the fac-simile show that the correct readings are *llamais, parecia, matan, pasais* and *vuelves*. Therefore no notice has been taken of the pseudo-Subjunctive forms. On the other hand, in several cases when Fitzmaurice-Kelly has given us an Indicative where the fac-simile gives us a Subjunctive as required by the syntax, attention has been called to the error in the foot-notes.

As to the arrangement of the material, it should be stated that the idea of presenting first the Adverbial Clauses was suggested by the relatively greater importance of the Subjunctive in the Subordinate Clause, and carrying this idea one step further, the Subjunctive in Hypothetical Clauses was presented first of all on account of the amount of the material, and also because of the exceptional number of the important types displayed. Since in the normal type of the Hypothetical Sentence in Castilian, we have a Subjunctive Mood in both the Principal and Subordinate Clause, and since, furthermore, it is impossible to study one clause of the Hypothetical Sentence without taking the other into consideration, the entire treatment of Hypothetical Sentences has been disposed of in connexion with Part I (Subordinate Clauses). The same treatment has been followed in the cases of Concessive Sentences of Unreality, and Concessive Sentences of the type *Sea lo que fuere*.

Regarding the system of citation of examples, the figures 1, 26, 245, for instance, would signify that the example is found in Vol. I, Chapter xxvi, p. 245, and in the case of 1, 26, 245-246, one part of the sentence containing the example would be found at the bottom of page 245, and the rest at the top of page 246. The figures 2, 9, 75, would, of course, refer to Vol. II, Chapter ix, p. 75. In cases where Vol. I and Vol. II are mentioned at the head of a list of references, the figures 20, 168, for instance, would indicate a reference to Chapter xx, p. 168. It is understood, in every case, that all the examples are given; and should there be

more than one example of the same kind on one page, the second example is referred to as *bis*, the third as *ter*, etc., the figures being repeated in every case. The Chapters are cited as well as the Volume and page, in order to make the material accessible to readers not having at hand the Fitzmaurice-Kelly edition.

To conclude, attention should here be called to an exceptional use of *fuera*. In the following two stanzas of a ballad, the form *fuera* is not used with the force of the Imperfect Subjunctive, but represents a rare use in the sense of the Preterit, often met with in the old Ballads.¹ This latter fact accounts for the use in the *Quijote*.

Nunca *fuera* caballero
De damas tan bien servido,
Como *fuera* Don Quixote
Cuando de su aldea vino. (1, 2, 32).

Nunca *fuera* caballero
De damas tan bien servido,
Como *fuera* Lanzarote
Cuando de Bretaña vino. (1, 13, 99).

¹ Cf. Foerster, *Spanische Sprachlehre*, p. 350, § 434, 3; Cuervo, *Notas à la Gram. de Bello*, p. 93, § 94.