

**THE TRUE DOCTRINE OF THE
LATIN SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD
PROVED UPON THE AUTHORITY
OF THE BEST LATIN CLASSICS**

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The True Doctrine of the Latin Subjunctive Mood Proved upon the Authority of the Best Latin Classics by R. Bathurst Greenlaw

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R. BATHURST GREENLAW

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OF THE
LATIN SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD,
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UPON
THE AUTHORITY OF THE BEST
LATIN CLASSICS.

BY
THE REV. R. BATHURST GREENLAW, M.A.
OF WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD.

"There is, I doubt not, a clue to this, as to every other mazy dance
of human thought, which we trace in the texture of language."—*Reply*
to the Calumnies of the Edinburgh Review against Oxford.

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426.



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TO
THE RIGHT REVEREND
EDWARD COPLESTON, D.D.
LORD BISHOP OF LLANDAFF, &c. &c.

MY LORD,

THE sentiments which you are generally supposed to hold respecting the doctrine of the LATIN SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD, induce me to dedicate to Your Lordship the following Work.

As I have not the honour of being personally known to you, I have not presumed to request your permission for the step which I am now taking. It will not, therefore, be supposed, that I introduce my Work to the public under the high sanction which the authority of your name would give it.

As a member of the University of Oxford, I am sensible of the great debt of gratitude which is due to Your Lordship, for the exertions which on all occasions you have made for the advancement of classical learning. And as the following Work rests itself upon the connexion which subsists between Logic and Grammar, I am anxious to introduce it to the notice of ONE, who shines pre-eminently in his refined and accurate knowledge of both those subjects.

With the sincerest respect, I have the honour to subscribe myself

Your Lordship's

Very humble and devoted Servant,

R. B. GREENLAW.

BLACKHEATH, KENT.

January 1, 1833.

PREFACE.

SO great a length of time has elapsed, since the following pages were first advertised for publication, that I consider, some apology is necessary for the delay which has taken place. Little will be required by those, whose experience has made them acquainted with the various occupations of persons employed in the instruction of youth.

While endeavouring to simplify the rules, which are usually given to students for the use of the subjunctive mood, I observed that a common property subsisted in several examples of different rules. It occurred to me, that this property might furnish a clue for the discovery of a single principle, upon which the Latins used the mood; as it evidently appeared to be a key to the right use of the subjunctive in a great

variety of cases. I prosecuted my inquiry by a careful examination of different Latin classics, with my attention fixed on *one* point, namely, the bearing which the subjunctive might have in each particular sentence. The great obscurity in which the subject was involved, and the acknowledged failure of all who have endeavoured to generalize upon the subject, were sufficient to destroy any confidence in my own powers for resolving this difficult question.

Having, however, once obtained a clue, I suffered nothing to deter me from prosecuting my research. Obstacles continually beset me, and oftentimes I feared that I should not succeed beyond simplifying the subject, by embodying under one the various rules which are given for the construction of the relative with the subjunctive. One grand difficulty presented itself, which arose from my being impressed with the common and prevailing notion, that conjunctions govern mood. I determined, therefore, to examine the ground on which this theory rested, and to trace it back