

him the space of a month." "The tree of life yielded her fruit every month." "In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks." "Whoever shall urge thee to go a mile, go with him twicein." "To walk a mile, or a league."

"Effects occurring every moment to ourselves." Pope. "You have asked me news a hundred times." Words expressing particular or precise points of time, are usually preceded by a preposition; as, "at that hour;" "on that day." But to both these rules there are exceptions.

RULE XXIX.—The verb *be* has the same case after it as before it; or two-subjects connected with *be* in construction are in the same case. "It is I, I do not say afraid." "Thou art she." "It is he." "Who was he?" "Who do men say that I am?" "Whom do they represent me to be." But "Ruler do men say that I am," is incorrect.

RULE XXX.—Transitive verbs and their participles admit of a sentence, a clause or number of words as their object; as, "He is not alarmed so far, as to consider how much nearer he approaches to his end."

Consider what? The whole following clause, which is the object of the verb.

"If he escapes being banished by others, I fear he will banish himself." "Here being banished stands in the place of a noun, as the object after escapes."

"Add to this, what, from its antiquity is but little known, has from that very circumstance, the recommendation of novelty." *Hermes, Preface.* In this sentence the whole of the clauses in italics, is what is to be added, and is the actual object governed by the verb *add*.

"Suppose then the world are *in* to have had a creator?" "Suppose the disposition which dictated this council to continue." *Paley, Ev. 1.*

"For that mortal dint, Save he who reigns above, none can resist." *Milton, 2. 815.*

"I wish I could give you any good reasons for your coming hither, except that, I earnestly invite you." *Pope, Let.*

"Lord Balhurst is too great a husbandman to like barren hills, except they are his own to improve." *Pope, Let. Sept. 3, 1726.*

"These and similar passages, the object of the verb is a whole proposition or statement, in the construction of a sentence. In this passage, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish," the fact excepted is affirmed in a single verb. Take away this fact "that you shall repent," and the consequence must be, you will perish. This is one of the modes of abbreviation in language which I have so frequently mentioned, and which constitutes a principal excellence of the English.

We observe, in some of the passages here cited, the pronoun *that*, after the verb. This probably the true original construction; the substitute, *that*, pointing to the whole following clause. "He could do no mighty works there, save *that*, [except that single fact which follows:] he laid his hand on a few sick and healed them."

NOTE.—It may be here observed that in some of the passages cited the verb has no definitive nominative; the verbs *save*, *except*, *suppose*, *add*, &c. are in the imperative mode, but the address is not made to any particular person or persons. And this probably has led authors to class *save* and *except* among conjunctions, prepositions or adverbs, or to consider them as used adverbially; for it has been already observed that the class of adverbs has been a sort of common sink to receive all words which authors have not been able to comprehend.

Is it not strange that *suppose*, *add*, *admit*, *allow*, and other verbs, which are constantly used in the same manner, should have hitherto escaped the same doom? In the passages above cited from *Paley*, *suppose* is used precisely in the same manner, as *except* and *save* in others. Indeed nothing but the most inexcusable negligence could have led critics to this classification of *save* and *except*—for in many passages of scripture, these very words, in the sense in which they are called conjunctions or adverbs, have an object following them, like other transitive verbs; as, "Israel burned none of them, save Hazeor only." *Josh. x. 13.* "Ye shall not come into the land, save Caleb and Joshua." *Num. xiv. 30.* "I would that all were as I am, except these bonds." *Acts, xxvi.*

This use of verbs without a definite nominative occasions no inconvenience; for the address is not made to any particular person, but is equally applicable to any one who will apply it. See the subject further explained under rule 38. The following passage in *Locke*, 2. 27. 2, contains another verb used in the same manner: "Could two bodies be in the same place at the same time, then those two parcels of matter must be one and the same, take them great or little."

The error of considering *save* as an adverb or conjunction, has however produced a multitude of mistakes in construction, as in these passages: "Save he who reigns above." *Milton.* "Which no man knoweth, saving he that receiveth it." *Rev. ii. 17.* The nominative he cannot be reconciled to any principle of true construction. He ought to be *him*, the object after *save*. *Except* might have been used, and this word being called a preposition, would have required after it the objective case. But both words are verbs, and ought to have the same construction.

RULE XXXI.—The infinitive mode follows, first, another verb or participle; as, "he loves to cherish the social affections;" "he persuaded to abandon a vicious life;" "he is willing to encounter danger;" "he was proceeding to relate his adventures."

2dly. The infinitive follows a noun; as, "The next thing natural for the mind to do." *Locke.* "He has a task to perform."

3dly. It follows an adjective or verbal attribute; as, "a question difficult to be solved." "It is delightful to contemplate the goodness of Providence." "God is worthy to be loved and trusted." "Be prepared to receive your friend."

4thly. It follows as; thus, "an object so high as to be invisible;" "a question so difficult as to perplex the understanding."

5thly. It follows after a comparison; as, "Nothing makes a man suspicious much, more than to know little." "It follows the preposition *for*, noting cause or motive; as, "What went ye out for to see?"

This is the true original idiom, but it is usual now to omit *for*; as, "He went to see a reed shaken with the wind." In every phrase of this sort, *for* is implied in the sense; but the use of the word is vulgar.

The infinitive mode is independent, standing as a substitute for a whole phrase; as, "It is not easy in ten attempts that you can find the case you seek, in any law book; to say nothing of those numerous points of conduct concerning which the law professes not to prescribe." *Paley, Phil. ch. 1.*

RULE XXXII.—The verbs, *bid*, *make*, *see*, *hear*, *feel*, *let*, with the auxiliaries, may, can, must, shall and will, and dare and need, when used as auxiliaries, are followed by the infinitive without the prefix *to*; as, "he bids me come;" "we cannot make them understand;" "let me see you write;" "we heard him relate the story;" "we felt the earth tremble." "Which they let pass." *Locke.* "He may go, can go, must go, shall go, will go." "I dare engage; I dare say." "He need not be anxious."

NOTE 1.—In the uses of *dare* and *need*, there are some peculiarities which deserve remark.

When *dare* signifies to *defy* or *challenge*, it is regular in the tenses and persons, is a transitive verb, and is followed by the infinitive with the usual prefix; as, "he dares me to enter the list." But when it is intransitive, denoting to *have courage*, it more generally drops the personal terminations, has an anomalous past tense, and is followed by the infinitive without *to*; in the auxiliaries. Examples: "I dare engage." *Pope's Works, Letter to Gay.* "I dare not confess." *Swift to Gay.* "I dare say." "My Lord, you dare not do either." *Junius, Let. 28.* "Durst I venture to deliver my own sentiments." *Hume, Es. 7.*

The past tense, when regular, is followed by the infinitive with the usual prefix. "You have dared to throw more than a suspicion upon mine." *Junius, Let. 20.* The same remark may be extended to the future tense. "He will not dare to attack his adversary."

In like manner, when the transitive verb, regular in its inflections; as, "A man needs more prudence." "The army needs provisions." But when intransitive, it drops the personal terminations in the present tense, is formed like an auxiliary, and is followed by a verb, without the prefix *to*; as, "Nobody need be afraid he shall not have scope enough." *Locke, 2. 22. 9.* "I need not go any farther." *Ibm.* "Nor need we wonder." *Ibm.* "The lender need br under no fear." *Anarch, ch. 69.* "There need be no difficulty." *Beddoes, Hygeia, 1. 27.* "She need dig no more." *Spectator, No. 121.* "A man need not be uneasy on these grounds." *Boswell, 3. 41.* "He need not urge to this honorable court." *Judge Chase.*

In the use of this verb, there is another irregularity, which is peculiar, the verb being without a nominative, expressed or implied. "Whereof here needs no account." *Milton, P. L. 4. 235.* "There is no evidence of the fact, and there needs none." This is an established use of *need*.

NOTE 2.—The infinitive mode has, in its sense and use, a near affinity to a noun and often has the construction of one. It is much employed to introduce sentences which are the nominatives to verbs, as well as the objects following them; as, "To will is present with me, but to perform that which is good I find not." Here the first infinitive is the nominative to *is*, and the second being the sentence which is the object after *find*.

NOTE 3.—A common mistake in the use of the infinitive, is to use the perfect tense after another verb in the past time, when in fact one of the verbs in the past time would correctly express the sense; thus, "It would have been no difficult matter to have compiled a volume of such amusing precedents." *Cooper to Hill, Let. 29.* Here the first verb states the time past, and the second was not difficult to compile a volume; at that time the compilation could not be past; the verb therefore should have been *to compile*, which is present and always indefinite.

In the following passage, we have a like use of verbs which is correct. "A free pardon was granted to the son, who was known to have offered indignities to the body of Varus." *Murphy's Tacitus, 6. 1.* Here the offering of indignities was a fact precedent to the time stated in the verb *was known*; and therefore the verb, to have offered, is well employed.

RULE XXXIII.—The infinitive signifying motive or purpose, often introduces a clause or sentence which is not the nominative or objective to any verb; as, "To see how far this reaches, and what are the causes of wrong judgment, we must remember that things are judged good or bad in a double