Studies in Latin Moods and Tenses

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Studies in Latin Moods and Tenses

by

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STUDIES

IN

LATIN MOODS AND TENSES

PART I: The Use of Tenses in Subjunctive Volitive Expressions.

PART II: The Use of Tenses in Expressions of Contingent Futurity.

PART III: The Supposed Potential Use of the Subjunctive.

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PREFACE.

While engaged in collecting material for my articles on The Latin Prohibitive, I became convinced that erroneous ideas are held by modern grammarians regarding the force of the perfect (aorist) tense of the Latin subjunctive in all those expressions in which that tense is used of future time. The present volume owes its existence chiefly to a desire to prove that this conviction was well-grounded. I had not progressed far in the study of the material I had collected before I discovered that, in the expression aliqua dixerit, if the common view that dixerit is a perfect subjunctive was to be accepted, the tense was out of harmony with what seemed to me the force of that tense in other classes of expressions. This apparent exception to my theory regarding the future uses of the Latin aorist tempted me to doubt the correctness of the prevailing view regarding aliqua dixerit and led to the investigation the results of which are embodied in Part III.

I wish here to express my gratitude to Professor C. E. Bennett for his thorough-going criticism of the subject-matter of these Studies, and to both Professor Bennett and Mr. C. L. Durham for the time and labor they have devoted to the reading of the proof sheets.

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