THE SYNTAX OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD IN FRENCH, FOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

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The Syntax of the Subjunctive Mood in French, for High Schools and Colleges by Alonzo Williams

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ALONZO WILLIAMS

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THE

Syntax of the Subjunctive Mood

IN FRENCH,

POP

HIGH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

BY

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THE SYNTAX OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

1. The Subjunctive Mood is used to express that which the speaker or writer regards as desirable, probable, possible, contingent, subjective, in contradistinction from the Indicative, which is used to express that which is regarded as actual, real, objective.

SECTION FIRST.

THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN PRINCIPAL CLAUSES.

I. Desire.

 Rule. — The Subjunctive is often used to express a Wish, Exhortation, Prayer or Imprecation.

[Compare the Subjunctive of Desire in Latin.]

- The PRESENT is used to express a wish whose fulfillment is possible in present or future time.
 - 1. Without que, mostly in idiomatic phrases.

Soit! Ainsi soit-il!

Be it so! Thus may it be! — Académie.

Vive le roi!
Qui vive!
Plaise à Dieu!
À Dieu ne plaise!
Dieu le veuille!
Dieu me pardonne!

Long live the king! — Littré.
Who goes there! — Littré.
God grant! — Littré.
God forbid! — Montesquieu.
May God grant it! — Littré.
May God pardon me! — Voltaire.