

WESTERN, AUGUST

**Om de med hjælpeverbet be og nutids
particip omskrevne verbalformer i engelsk.**

Christiania
1895

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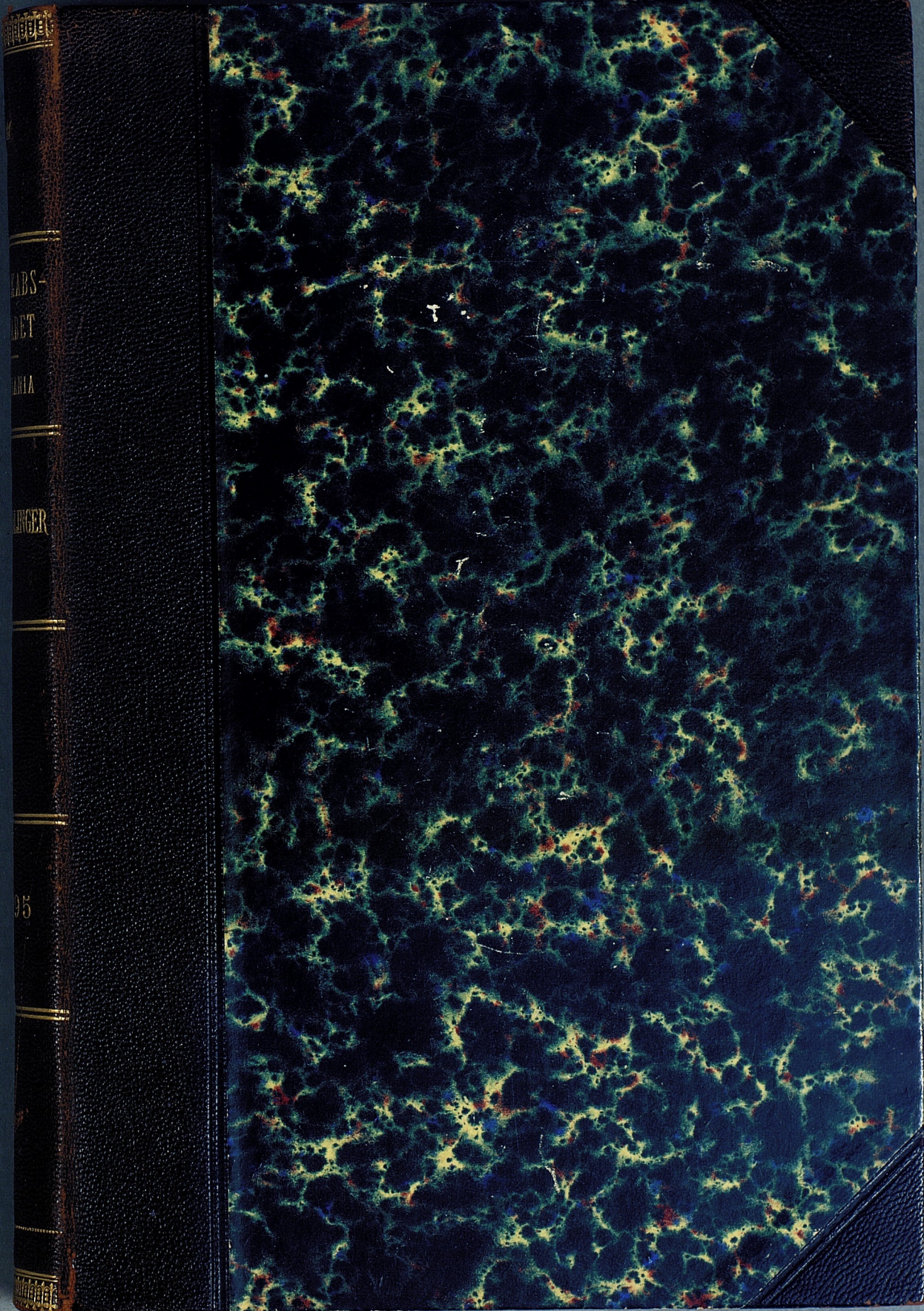
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Om de med hjælpeverbet **be** og nutids particip
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Af

Dr. Aug. Western

⟨Christiania Videnskabs-Selskabs Forhandlinger 1895. No. 7⟩

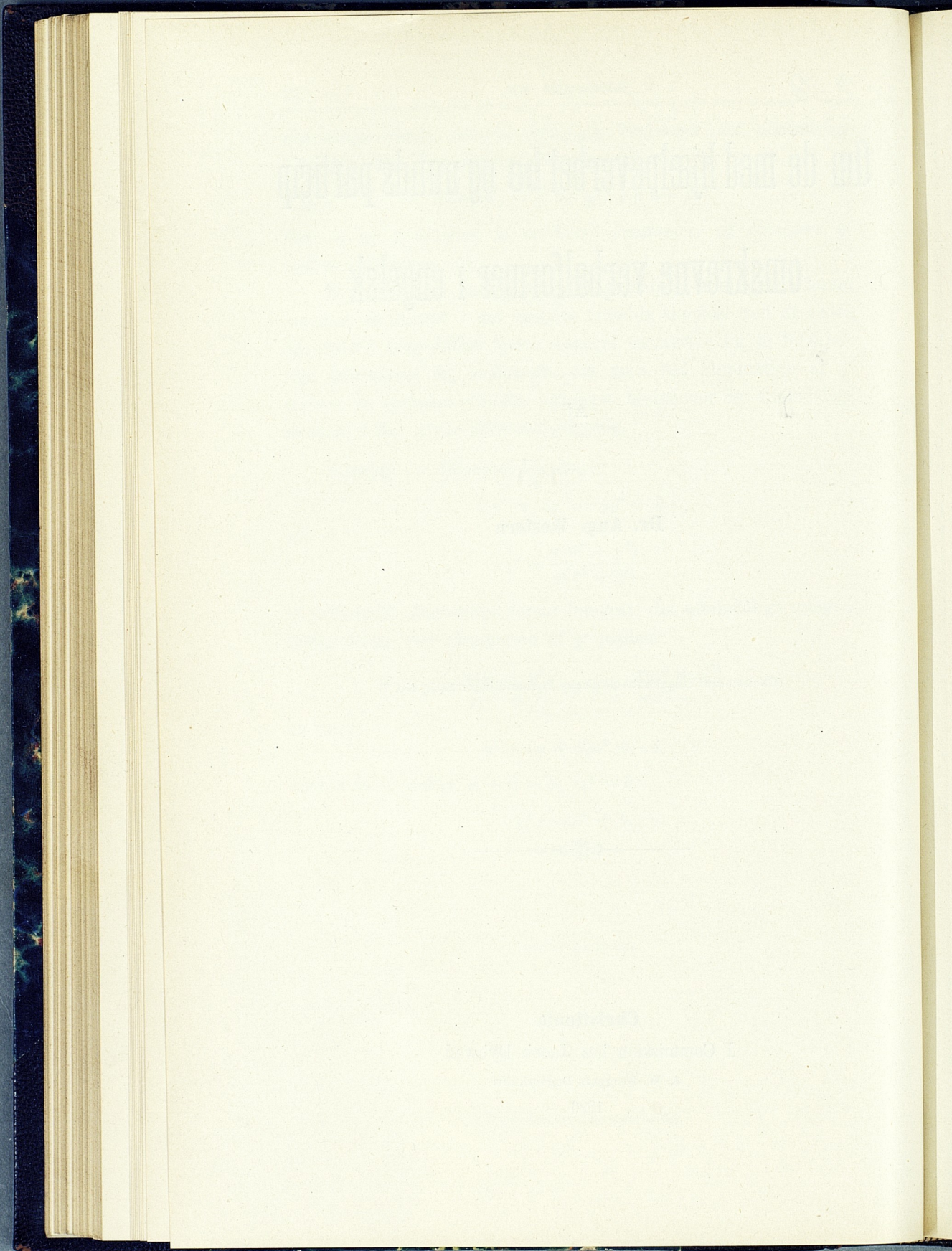


Christiania

I Commission hos Jacob Dybwad

A. W. Brøggers Bogtrykkeri

1896



Om de med hjælpeverbet *be* og nutids particip omskrevne verbalformer i engelsk.

Af

dr. Aug. Western.

(Fremlagt i fællesmødet den 4de oktober 1895 af A. Ræder.)

Indledning.

1. At gi nogen udtømmende og nøiagtig definition af de omskrevne verbalformers brug i engelsk er neppe muligt. De forsøg, som er gjort herpå i de større grammatiker, kan heller ikke siges at være heldige. Fiedler-Sachs (Wissenschaftliche Grammatik der englischen Sprache, II, s. 2) og Koch (Historische Grammatik der englischen Sprache, II, s. 62 fg.) siger blot, at denne omskrivning bruges „um das Anhalten der Handlung zu bezeichnen“ eller „um die Dauer den Zeitformen gegenüber hervorzuheben“, hvilket er ganske utilstrækkeligt, især da de begge blot nævner ganske få eksempler. — Mätzner derimod (Englische Grammatik II, s. 55) bemerker udtrykkelig, at forskjellen i betydning mellem *He studies his ease* og *He is studying his ease* ikke ligger „in der unmittelbar nothwendig gegebenen Vorstellung des andauernden durch *is studying*“, og han finder, at det sidste udtryk snarere indtar „eine mittlere Stellung zwischen: *He studies his ease*, und dem in allgemeiner Weise die Eigenschaft vom Subjekte prädicirenden: *He is studious of his ease*“. Han mener derfor, at nyengelsk i denne omskrivning

fremhæver „die Bedeutung des dermaligen Verharrens oder Begriffenseins in einer Thätigkeit“, hvilken forklaring, om end bedre end de af Fiedler-Sachs og Koch givne, dog heller ikke er udtømmende.

2. I almindelighed kan man vel blot si, at medens de uomskrevne tider betegner det uendelige og ubegrænsede, f. eks. *the church stands on a hill, I have never seen him*, eller det momentane, f. eks. *he fell dead*, eller en rækkefølge af begivenheder, f. eks. *when he had gone I sat down, and wept*, — så betegner de omskrevne former handlingen eller tilstanden som begrænset indenfor et nærmere angivet eller underforstået tidsrum. f. eks. *he has been sleeping for six hours*, eller som samtidig med en anden handling, f. eks. *he was dressing when I entered the room*.

3. Omskrivningen kan derfor benyttes til at fremhæve modsætningen til, hvad der ellers finder sted. Når således Shelley (*Essays and Letters*¹ s. 358) siger om Byron: *He is now quite reformed, and is leading a most sober and decent life*, så ligger der heri en antydning af, at hans tidligere liv ikke har været „sober and decent“. Om en person, om hvem man aldrig havde hørt noget ufordelagtigt i den retning, vilde man si: *He leads a sober and decent life*. Men også i førstnævnte tilfælde kan man anvende den uomskrevne form, når man ikke ønsker at fremhæve modsætningen. Således siger Shelley på et andet sted (*Ess.* 357) om den samme Byron: *Lord Byron is reformed as far as gallantry goes, and lives with a beautiful and sentimental Italian lady*. Hovedvegten ligger nemlig her på *a beautiful and sentimental Italian lady*, medens prædikatet blot udtrykker forholdet til hende som en kjendsgjerning uden hensyn til varigheden af dette forhold.

4. Denne dobbelte udtryksmåde kan især anvendes med held, hvor det gjælder at fremstille en situation. Ved hjælp af omskrivningen sættes man istand til at gjøre billedet mere

¹ „*Essays and Letters* by Percy Bysshe Shelley. Edited, with Introductory Note, By Ernest Rhys. The Scott Library. London: Walter Scott, Ltd.“ — Citeres nedenfor blot „*Ess.*“

levende og fremkalde tanken på en virksomhed, medens de uomskrevne tider mere fremmaner et størknet billede, så at si gir et stykke „stilleben“. — Således ved beskrivelser af malerier og billedhuggerverker eller gjengivelser af gangen i bøger, som i følgende eks. fra Shelley under beskrivelsen af nogle græske relieffer:

The lady *is lying* on a couch, supported by a young woman, and *looking* extremely exhausted; her dishevelled hair *is floating* about her shoulder (Ess. 143). — To the left of the couch a nurse *is sitting* on the ground (ib. 144). — An old man *is standing* beside him (ib. 145).

Derimod i den samme beskrivelse:

At the side of the couch *sits* a woman as in grief (ib. 144). — Ligeså: The shades *darken* and *gather* as the catastrophe *approaches* (ib. 360, om indholdet af en roman).

Undertiden forenes begge udtryksmåder, f. eks.:

One represents Agave . . .; a second has a spear . . .; another *dances* with mad voluptuousness; the fourth *is beating* a kind of tambourine (ib. 142).

Det samme findes også ved fremstillingen af andre situationer, hvor ligeledes begge udtryksmåder findes forenede, f. eks.:

The moon *halts* opposite to the window at which I *sit* (Bulw. K. Chillingly IV, 80; Tauchn.). — Reuben Grieve *sat* at the door of the farmhouse, his pipe in his hand, a „good book“ on his knee. Beyond the wall which bounded the farmyard he could hear occasional voices. The children *were sitting* there he supposed. (Humphrey Ward, David Grieve, I, 46; Tauchn.).

I dette sidste eksempel er den forskjellige udtryksmåde anvendt med megen kunst. Reuben sidder der ubevægelig, uden

liv; børnene derimod gir netop ved sine stemmer tilkjende, at de er i virksomhed. Hos Mrs. H. Ward findes oftere en sådan om fin opfatning vidnende udtryksmåde. Således:

On a certain November day David *was sitting* opposite to 'Lias. The fire *burnt* between them (ib. I, 120). — Dora *stood* and *looked* at him . . . her whole, soft, rounded figure *trembled* with animation and sympathy (ib. II, 9);

hun stod der som en billedstøtte, ligesom fortryllet ved synet af ham. Men også hos andre forfattere kan det samme iagtages, f. eks.:

Dombey *sat* in the corner of the darkened room in the great arm-chair by the bed-side, and Son *lay* tucked up warm in a little basket bed-stead. (Dickens, Dombey and Son I, 1; Tauchn.).

Havde der her stået *was sitting* og *was lying*, vilde man have ventet, at der i næste øieblik skulde hænde noget; men der hænder intet på en lang stund; der hviler en tung ro over værelset. — Således fremstilles ofte naturfænomener eller lignende fremtoninger ved hjælp af de uomskrevne tider for derved at skabe en ramme eller baggrund for de begivenheder, som skal berettes:

My godmother *read* the evening paper, while she waited; I *sewed*. It was a wet night; the rain *lashed* the panes, and the wind *sounded* angry and restless (Bell, Villette I, 5; Tauchn.). — The stormy wind and rain *beat* in great waves of sound and flood against the breast of the mountain; the Kinder stream and the Red Brook *danced* under the heavy drops (Ward, Grieve I, 200). — The kettle *sang*, the fire *crackled*, and the wind *shook* the windows and doors (ib.).

Således må det opfattes, når Macaulay, idet han skal fortælle om William af Oraniens tog til England eller om kong James's flugt, siger:

The wind *blew* fresh from the east (Hist. of Engl. III, 282; Tauchn.). — There *lay* the hoy in which he was to sail. He went on board: but the wind *blew* fresh (ib. III, 361).

Ligeoverfor de betydningsfulde begivenheder, som her skal berettes, er vindens styrke eller skibets beliggenhed biomstændigheder, der vistnok må nævnes, men som ikke tør lægge beslag på tanken. Således også:

Next [morning found us moored, hard and fast and hopelessly blocked by af great steamer which *lay* some hundred yards in front of us (Black and White, August 25th 1894, s. 237 a).

Hovedsagen her er, at deres eget skib var kommet i en ubekvem stilling, medens hindringens art er af underordnet betydning. — Således blir anvendelsen og ikke-anvendelsen af de omskrevne former udtryk for en høi grad af stilistisk fuldkomnethed.

§ 5. Ved den følgende mere detaljerede fremstilling behandles tiderne i tre grupper: 1) præsens og imperfektum, 2) perfektum og pluskvamperfektum, 3) futurum og fortidsfuturum, hvilken inddeling her viser sig mere praktisk end den almindelige i nutidstider (præsens, perfektum, futurum) og fortidstider (imperfektum, pluskvamperfektum, fortidsfuturum). Fremdeles behandles den omskrevne infinitiv under den tid, som sætningen i sin helhed tilhører.

I. Præsens og imperfektum.

6. Sweet siger i sin Elementarbuch des gesprochenen Englisch s. LXI: „Der unterschied des bestimmten und unbestimmten prät. gestaltet sich anders (nml. end i præsens). Im präsens ist das bestimmte (o: omskrevne) tempus absolut, das unbestimmte

relativ¹; in prät. dagegen ist das unbestimmte *I wrote a letter yesterday* „ich schrieb einen Brief gestern“ absolut, während das best. *I was writing a letter yesterday* einer ergänzung wie *when he came* „als er kam“ bedarf um die durch *was writing* ausgedrückte handlung als während des eintretens der durch das unbest. prät. *came* ausgedrückten begebenheit schon eingetreten oder dauernd zu bezeichnen.“

Det forekommer mig, at man af disse ord får det indtryk, at der skulde være en væsensforskjel mellem *I am writing* og *I was writing*. Sweet siger, at i præsens er det omskrevne *I am writing* absolut, medens i imperfektum netop det uomskrevne *I wrote a letter yesterday* er absolut. Men han synes mig at glemme, at han i det sidste eksempel har tilføiet *yesterday*, og at dette er ligeså meget en „ergänzung“ til *I wrote a letter* som *when he came* til *I was writing a letter*. Ganske vist kræver det sidste udtryk en nærmere tidsbestemmelse for at bli fuldstændigt; men dette udgjør ingen væsensforskjel fra præsens; ti når dette sidste (*I am writing a letter*) ikke kræver nogen sådan, så er det, fordi der ved præsens stadig underforståes „*in this moment*“. Heller ikke det omskrevne imperfektum kræver noget tillæg, når tidsbestemmelsen tydelig fremgår af sammenhængen, f. eks. *what were you doing yesterday when he came?* Svar: *I was writing a letter*. Både det omskrevne præsens og det omskrevne imperfektum betegner nemlig hvad der går eller gik for sig i et bestemt øieblik; men medens der blot kan eksistere ett nutidigt øieblik, hvorfor det er unødvendigt at tilføie dette, kan der tænkes mange forskjellige øieblkke i fortiden, hvorfor det øieblik, som menes, må nævnes, hvis det ikke kan udledes af sammenhængen. — I de af Sweet anvendte eksempler er det ikke de omskrevne, men de uomskrevne tider, som udviser en væsensforskjel. *I write a letter* er ubegrænset, selv om man

¹ Denne forskjel forklares således: „*he is writing a letter*“ bedeutet also eigentlich „er schreibt einen brief in diesem augenblick“, während *he writes a letter* die vorstellung des unmittelbar gegenwärtigen fast ausschliesst, und einer ergänzung wie *every day* „jeden tag“, *now and then* „dann und wann“ oder dgl. bedarf, um die gewohnheit oder wiederholung des schreibens hervorzuheben.“

tilføier *every day*, da man alligevel ikke får vide, hvortil længe denne vane har varet eller vil vedvare; derimod er *I wrote a letter yesterday* så sterkt begrænset, at det endog i forhold til *I write a letter* kan siges at betegne noget momentant, i ethvert fald et enkelt faktum. I modsætning til begge disse er både *I am writing* og *I was writing* begrænsede og lige meget absolute, idet den handling, som idag udtrykkes ved *I am writing*, imorgen må omtales med *I was writing*. Det sidste er jo også ofte blot det indirekte udtryk for det første, f. eks. direkte: *I can't go out, because I am writing a letter*, indirekte: *He said that he could not go out, because he was writing a letter*; den nærmere tidsbestemmelse fremgår i begge tilfælder af sammenhængen. Der kan derfor ikke være noget iveien for at behandle disse to tider sammen.

7. Præsens betegner først og fremst, hvad der går for sig i dette øieblik (i disse dage, nu for tiden), imperfektum hvad der gik for sig i et nærmere bestemt eller af sammenhængen underforstået øieblik:

A. Præsens, i almindelighed uden tidsbestemmelse:

Consider that everything *I am writing* of took place in an almost pre-historic era in the history of British India (R. Kipling, Plain Tales from the Hills 69, Tauchn.). — A schoolfellow of mine from India *is staying* with me, and we *are beginning* Arabic together. Mary *is writing* a novel, illustrative of the manners of the Middle Ages in Italy (Shelley, Ess. 327). — In this connection all the universities of England *are having* a good deal of attention turned to them (The 19th Century, May 1893, s. 857). — You should read the books that *are being talked* about (Black & Wh. April 28, 94, 512, b). — *I am having* a great holiday, am I not, said Maggie (Eliot, Mill on the Floss II, 196; Tauchn.). — Some of the smartest people *are having* their poetry

made in France (Black & Wh. April 28, 94, 512, b).
 She *is waiting* there until something shall be
 decided as to their emigration (Shelley, Ess. 343).
 — I *am reading* Anastasius (ib. 350). — Infinitiv:
 Lucy, you ought *to be going* home (Ward,
 Grieve II, 44).

Undertiden findes dog en nærmere tidsbestemmelse tilføjet:

Many mothers among the upper-middle classes
are, in these days, anxiously puzzling over the
 problem how best to educate their daughters
 (19th Cent. June 95, 955).

Anm. En handling, som ikke finder sted, fordi den er afhængig
 af en mod virkeligheden stridende betingelse, udtrykkes
 som også ellers ved konditionalis: „Congestion of the
 lungs,“ said the girl with pride. „They just stopped it,
 or *you'd be laying* me out now (Ward, Grieve II, 29 3:
you are not laying me out now, because they stopped it).

B. Imperfektum. Øieblikket betegnes

a) ved et tidsadverbium:

Great multitudes of the Irish inhabitants of that
 province had migrated southward, and *were now*
leading a vagrant life in Connaught and Munster
 (Mac. Hist. VI, 58). — *Here* the Khyber Rifles,
 a fine body of men *were being inspected*
 by their commanding officer (19th Cent. Oct. 93,
 536). — High up on the dark moor-side stood
 what remained of the primitive workshop
 . . . a stone door-way with its lintel *was still*
standing (Ward, Grieve I, 18). — He lay looking
 at David muttering to himself. He *was*
still tramping in the snow with the French army
 (ib. I, 203).

b) ved et komplement:

On a certain November day David *was sitting*
 opposite to 'Lias (Ward, Grieve I, 120). — *By*

the end of six months he was receiving a wage of fourteen shillings (ib. I, 250). — I was at that moment reading Plato's Ion (Shelley, Ess. 330). — Infinitiv: Early last year we heard of an extremely powerful army under Colonel Monteil which was reported to be marching from the rapids (19th Cent. June 95, 899).

c) ved en tidsbisætning:

Slowly the lawyer rose, and, *as he turned*, saw that Tulliver's arms *were being held* by a girl (Eliot, Mill II, 120). — It's worse to find out that you've been an idiot just *when you considered* that you *were being* particularly smart (Black & Wh. Christmas 1894, 27, a).

d) det fremgår af sammenhængen:

Maggie was too entirely filled with a more agonizing anxiety, to spend any thought on the view that *was being taken* of her conduct by the world of St. Ogg's (Eliot, Mill II, 308). — A country house about three miles off, which *was being put* in repair (Eliot, Adam Bede I, 277; Tauchn.) — The wind *was wailing* at the windows; it had wailed all day (Bell, Vilette I, 50). — There was to be an afternoon excursion through the Bois to Longchamps, where some of the May races *were being run* (Ward, Grieve II, 159). — It was a time when men *were being lifted* into nobleness by the new moral energy (Green, A Short History of the Engl. People 368). — Infinitiv: Meanwhile David and Louie . . . were speculating with a fearful joy as to what might *be happening* at the farm (Ward, Grieve I, 85). — David guessed that Uncle Reuben must *be searching* the Smithy (ib. I, 101). — He seemed to her *to be growing* careless about expenses (ib. II, 27).

Anm. En betingelse, der gjælder fortiden, men som strider mod virkeligheden, udtrykkes som sedvanlig ved pluskvamperfektum: *Had Ancrum been looking* he must have been touched by the change in the lad's expression (Ward, Grieve I, 261 3: but he *was not looking*).

8. Når to eller flere tilstande eller netop for sig gående handlinger er samtidige, skulde man vente omskrivningen brugt i alle sætninger, således som i følgende eks.: As the hymn after the prayers *was being sung*, and the chapel *was getting* a little dark, he *was beginning* to feel that he had been really worshipping (Tom Brown's Schooldays 120; Tauchn.). Det er dog sjelden, at man finder omskrivningen brugt i mere end en sætning, f. eks.:

As we *write* the Japanese land and sea forces *are* vigorously *laying* siege to the key of the whole situation (Black & Wh. Nov. 10, 94, 583, a). — Louie *stood* in an impatient silence while she *was being* thus *talked* over (Ward, Grieve II, 158).

Meget ofte bruges derimod uomskreven tid i begge sætninger:

As we *steam* slowly away from the harbour, the Southern Cross *shine* brilliantly on the far horizon (Black & Wh. Aug. 25, 94, 237, a). — As the afternoon *drew* on, the „City of Palaces“ *rose* slowly and grandly into sight (ib. 238, b). — As they *neared* Manchester, David *grew* plainly restless and ill at ease (Ward, Grieve III, 10). — But as David Grieve *walked* back along Market Street, his heart *danced* within him (ib. I, 215). — Reuben, as he *leant* against the gate, *blew* his smoke contemptuously in the air (ib. I, 78). — As he *moved* about in the shop or in the streets, he was conscious of a gulf between his present self and his self of yesterday (ib. III,

44). — His hands were tightly gripped as he *lay* and *thought* of it (Black & Wh. Aug. 25, 94, 236, b).

Også hvor den ene sætning udtrykker noget momentant, finder man den samme vaklen mellem omskreven og uomskreven tid i sætninger, der indledes med *as* og *while*:

a) omskrevet:

As the afternoon sun *was sinking* in the West, we *caught* a splendid glimpse of the sacred mount of Sinai (Black & Wh. Aug. 25, 94, 237, a). — They *passed* noiselessly through the gate, just as Aunt Hannah *was lifting* the kettle off the fire for tea (Ward, Grieve I, 86). — Suddenly, as he *was speaking*, he *noticed* his companion more closely (ib. III, 21). — While it *was going* on, David *looked* round to see (ib. II, 194).

b) uomskrevet:

There as they *lay* stretched at their ease the wanderer said to Kenelm (Bulw. Chill. II, 163), — The man raised himself upon his elbow as he *followed* the scene with his eyes (Black & Wh. Aug. 25, 94, 236, b) — While she *carried* out her small services, she made bold to wish Miss Overton joy on her engagement (ib. 242, b).

9. De omskrevne tider bruges ikke om det, der gjentar sig eller pleier at ske; derfor: *he writes a letter every day, he came to see me every Sunday*. Derimod kan selve den situation, hvorunder noget sker, gjenta sig. Siger jeg således: Yesterday, when I came, he was writing, and the day before yesterday, when I came, he was also writing, and the day before that, when I came, he was also writing etc., så kan alt dette samles til det ene udtryk: *Whenever he was writing, I came*. Således:

Whenever there *is* business *being done* at the House of Commons, some of the Clerks are present (Black & Wh. May 19, 94, 609, a). — They caused trouble only when they believed they *were being defrauded* (19th Cent. Oct. 93. 536). — His temper only failed him when he *was being nursed*. Which was some seventeen days in each month (Kipling, Plain Tales 96). — When Elise Delaunay . . . *was being scandalously handled* by the talkers in her stuffy salon, Madame Cervin sat silent (Ward, Grieve II, 233).

10. Heller ikke bruges omskrivningen, når en handling eller tilstand i sin almindelighed skal udtrykkes, f. eks. The handsome English-looking club, which *stands* not far away (Black & Wh. Aug. 25, 94, 238, a). Derimod bruges den netop for at betegne det stedsevarende ved tilstanden eller handlingen i sådanne tilfælder, hvor man enten ikke skulde vente, at den var stedsevarende, eller hvor dette ialfald ikke er selvsagt. Men der må da altid tilføies et adverbium som *always* eller *for ever*, f. eks.:

The quartz sheddings which wind and weather *are for ever teasing* out of the grit (Ward, Grieve I, 94). — She is a saint, she is. *She's always going* to church; *she's always doing* things for poor people (ib. I, 242). — Infinitiv: I can't *be always putting* myself forward to help you meet him (ib. I, 298). — I remember his wife a great many years ago, when she *was always having* children (Mrs. Oliphant, The Orphans, London, 1865, s. 10). — At this stage of youth he *was constantly falling out* with and resenting his own faculty of pity (Ward, Grieve I, 126). — She *was*, as it were, *always watching* him with a sort of secret discontent (ib. I, 114). — The great swing-door into the street *was for ever opening*

and shutting (ib. I, 266). — Infinitiv: He used to be always coming to our place (ib. I, 292).

11. Sjelden bruges det omskrevne præsens og imperfektum om det fremtidige:

Lord Byron is immediately coming to Pisa (Shelley, Ess. 354). — Infinitiv: When do you want to be starting? (Ward, Grieve II, 107). — He reminded him that a tradesman, who lived at a distance, was coming over next day (Bulw. What will he do with it? III, 226; Tauchn.).

II. Perfektum og pluskvamperfektum.

12. Der er samme forhold mellem perfektum og pluskvamperfektum som mellem præsens og imperfektum, idet det, som i dette øieblik er eller har været, i fremtiden må omtales som det, der var eller havde været. Hvad der gjælder perfektum, gjælder derfor også — betragtet fra et fremtidigt standpunkt — pluskvamperfektum.

13. Ligesom det uomskrevne perfektum betegner en enkelt handling, der har fundet sted indenfor et tidsrum, der kan være af større eller mindre udstrækning, men som altid grænser ind på nutiden, således betegner det omskrevne perfektum en tilstand, der har været, eller en handling, der har gåt for sig, gennem et sådant ind på nutiden grænsende tidsrum, pluskvamperfektum hvad der havde været eller havde gåt for sig i et lignende tidsrum i fortiden, f. eks.:

A. Perfektum:

I have been trying to cheat myself these last few weeks (Ward, Marcella III, 193; Tauchn.). — Is that all you have been doing these four years? (Ward, Grieve I, 256). — He's been buying up house property in Manchester for some time past (ib. II, 9). — What sort of life has she been

leading all these years? (ib. III, 197). — Marianna is with me, hardly recovered of the fever which *has been attacking* all Italy last winter (Byron, Letters¹ s. 125). — I *have been thinking, and talking, and reading* Agriculture this last week (Shelley, Ess. 316). — I *have been expecting* every day a writ to attend at your court (ib. 340). — Infinitiv: We are much pained to hear of the illness you all seem *to have been suffering* (ib. 316).

B. Pluskvamperfektum:

All the morning he *had been lying* hidden in a corner of the sheepfold (Ward, Grieve I, 96). — He *had been conducting* a difficult negotiation all day (ib. I, 242). — During the three weeks which had ended for David and Elise in this scene of passion, Louie *had been deliberately going* her own way (ib. II, 232). — The French, meanwhile, *had been gradually extending* eastwards from their possessions i Senegambia (19. Cent. June 95, 892).

Anm. Imidlertid finder man her ikke sjelden det uomskevne udtryk. A. Perfektum: Dick Patton and one or two others gave evidence as to the language he *has habitually used* about Westall for months past (Grieve, Marcella II, 116). — I *have drawn* since I was eight years old (Ward, Grieve II, 139). — You've had a will of your own ever since I've *known* you (ib. III, 72). — I *have suffered* extremely this winter (Shelley, Ess. 319). — B. Pluskvamperfektum: The girl was just twenty, but she *had lived* for years, first with a disreputable father, and then — (Ward, Marcella II, 162). — The wind was wailing at the windows; it *had wailed* all day (Bell, Villette I, 50). — That complete dearth of love in which he *had lived* ever since his father died (Ward,

¹ „The Letters of Lord Byron (Selected). Edited, with Introduction, by Mathilde Blind. The Scott Library. London, Walter Scott 1887“.

Grieve I, 111). — She *had lived* a decent life at any rate since her marriage (ib. II, 233). — For some time past she *had gathered* about her a train of small artists (ib. II, 234). — There *had long lurked* in the garrets of London printers who worked steadily (Mac. Hist. VI, 43). — For ages *had* this fertile valley *lain* concealed from the adventurous search of man (Shelley, Ess. 162). — Ved anvendelsen af de uomskrevne tider fremsættes sætningens indhold mere som et simpelt faktum, ligesom man af de anførte eksempler vil se, at hovedvekten gjerne ligger på et andet ord end prædikatet. Forresten vil naturligvis anvendelsen eller ikke-anvendelsen af omskrivning her i almindelighed bero på et individuelt skjøn, for hvilket det er umuligt at opstille regler. Jfr. også hvad der er sagt ovenfor § 4 om præsens og imperfektum.

14. Noget bestemt tidsrum behøver ligeså lidt som ved det uomskrevne perf. og pluskv. at nævnes, idet tiden alligevel er begrænset til den ene side, nemlig mod nutiden:

You imagined that it was to me that you owed some moneys which you *have been honestly paying off* (Bulw. Chill. IV, 15), nml. fra du fik låne pengene og indtil nu. — I know you *have been slaving* your eyes out, and it's a nice day (Ward, Grieve I, 294); af tillægget: *it's a nice day* sees tydelig, hvor længe det har varet. — I *have been reading* nothing but Greek and Spanish (Shelley, Ess. 327). — I *have been reading* over and over again Faust (ib. 368). — He was as yet much too troubled and shaken by what he *had been going* through (Ward, Grieve I, 187). — She, too, *had been watching*, had seen the light vanish (ib. I, 101). — Person after person at the prayer-meetings he *had been frequenting* had spoken of attaining it with ecstasy (ib. I, 186), — My spirits are much improved; they *had been improving*, indeed, before I left the baths (Shelley, Ess. 350), — Infinitiv: The nurse, who stood

over her trembling with anger . . . might *have been talking* to the wall (Ward, Grieve II, 104).

15. Men da handlingen således ikke længer er begrænset til to sider, behøver den heller ikke længer at opfattes som gående for sig uafbrudt, men blot som tilhørende et eller flere tidspunkter indenfor den sidste tid:

Where *have you been meeting* her? (Ward, Marcella I, 90); af sammenhængen fremgår, at han har truffet hende nogle gange i den senere tid; her betegnes altså enkelte tilfælder, som er indtrufne nylig:

Well, so *you've been learning* French, I can hear (Ward, Grieve I, 255). — Well, *he's been coming* several times and giving orders (ib. I, 292). — What *have you been making* secrets about? (ib. II, 8). — We are just now occupying the Ghisborne's house at Leghorn . . . I *have been reading* with much pleasure the Greek romances (Shelley, Ess. 323). — Smiles played about her lips as she thought of that quiet, grave gentleman of thirty she *had been meeting* at the Hardens (Ward, Marcella I. 51). She *had been attending* one or two cases in and near Brown's Buildings (Ward, Marcella III, 172). — Every word he *had been saying* rang false to her (ib. III, 191). — The pirate *had* apparently *been taking* some of the planks on board (Marryat, Percival Keane; Listov, Eng. læsestykker s. 4).

16. Men dette fører videre til en brug af det omskrevne perf. og pluskv., som i virkeligheden er stik modsat omskrivningens egentlige princip, idet derved (også kan betegnes en enkelt handling, som nylig har fundet sted. Formidlingen sees i følgende eks.:

Well, then, Dr. Kenn *has been preaching* against buckram, and you ladies *have all been sending* him a round-robin (Eliot, Mill. II, 128).

Medens her *has been preaching* betegner en handling, som både kan ha strakt sig gennem en længere tid og kan ha gjentat sig til forskellige tider, er det klart, at *have been sending him a round-robin* kun kan betegne en enkelt handling. Fremdeles:

I *have been obtaining* the release of about nine and twenty Turkish prisoners . . . and have sent them home (Byron, Letters 339).

Her er det ikke nødvendigt at opfatte *have been obtaining*, som en enkelt handling, da han ikke behøver at ha opnået alles frihed på engang; men det følgende *have sent them* synes dog at antyde, at dette er tilfældet. Således også i følgende eks.:

He wants me to teach in Sunday school — and the minister's wife *has been talking* to him about my dress (Ward, Grieve I, 290). — „Is his lordship in?“ he asked. „Yes, sir, in the library. He *has been asking* for you, sir.“ (Ward, Marcella I, 86).

Men medens der i disse eks. kan være tale om flere enkelte handlinger, er dette udelukket i følgende, hvor det kun kan gjælde én enkelt handling:

She is depressed, because she *has been finding* Elizabeth out in some waste or other (Ward, Robert Elsmere I, 14; Tauchn.). — A labourer *has been getting* into trouble for shooting a keeper (Ward, Marcella II, 97). — *You've been getting* into mischief (ib. III, 105). — „Well, now, Mrs. Grieve,“ he said cheerily, „we *have been agreeing* — your husband and I — that it will be best for you to go up to London (Ward, Grieve III, 252). — On the moorside the steep, broken ground of the hill came up to the rocky line they *had been descending* (ib. I, 90). — The lad whose bruised face and torn clothes showed he *had been fighting* (ib. I, 133). — She might have run

off to the farm with the news of what he *had been saying* (ib. I, 147). — She *had been carrying* a bundle to a distant farm . . . and she looked dragged and worn (ib. I, 180).

A n m. Det samme kan naturligvis også udtrykkes ved de uomskrevne former, men da tilføies et adverbium som *just* eller *recently* for at vise, at handlingen nylig har fundet sted, f. eks.: I *have just received* a letter from Hunt (Shelley, Ess. 375). — The slimy moss she *had just gathered* (Ward, Grieve I, 15). — He went out on the pretext of seeing to a cow that *had lately calved* (ib. I, 84). — Panting from the long tug uphill through which he *had just dragged* the donkey (ib. I, 155). — He reached out his hand for the glass he *had just emptied* (ib. I, 195). — The spiritual glory he *had just passed* through (ib. I, 308).

Ved kontamination opstår da udtryk som:

This indefatigable man *has recently been astonishing* the learned world by his complete revolution against the accepted topography of Athens (19th Cent. May 94, 857). — Oaths were naturally regarded as insufficient guarantees by men who *had just been swearing* allegiance to a king against whom they were conspiring (Mac. Hist. VI, 83). — I *had just been getting* the cheque cashed when I met you (Bulw. What — III, 252). — He *had just been explaining* to her in detail . . . his device (Ward, Grieve II, 71).

III. Futurum og fortidsfuturum.

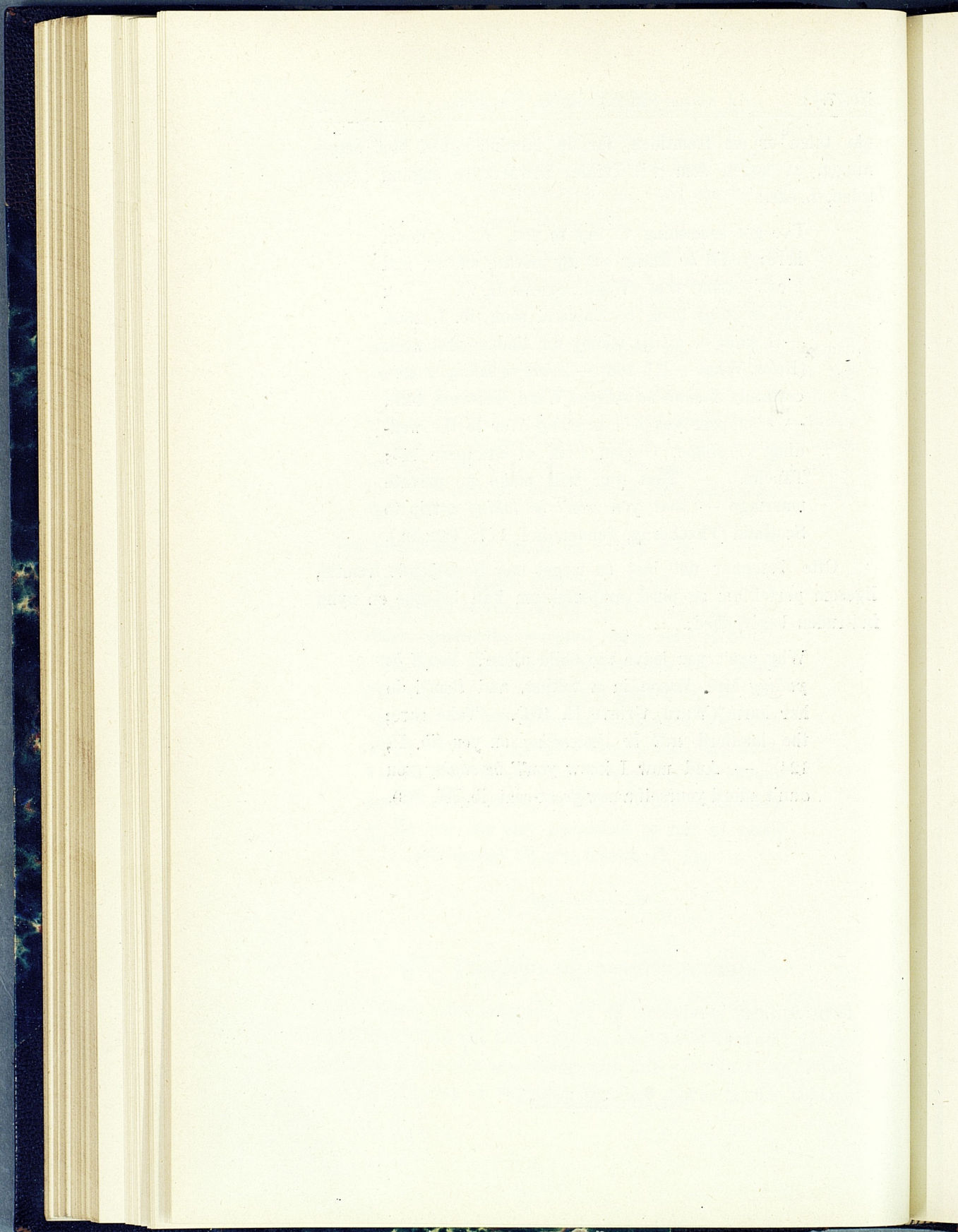
17. Disse tider betegner, når de omskrives, egentlig, hvad der vil eller vilde gå for sig i en nærmere bestemt fremtid, f. eks. I *should be quarrelling* with him all the time (Ward, Grieve II, 17); men da begrebet varighed gjerne træder tilbage,

når talen er om fremtiden, får de ialmindelighed blot betydningen af noget, som vil (vilde) indtræffe engang i fremtiden, f. eks.:

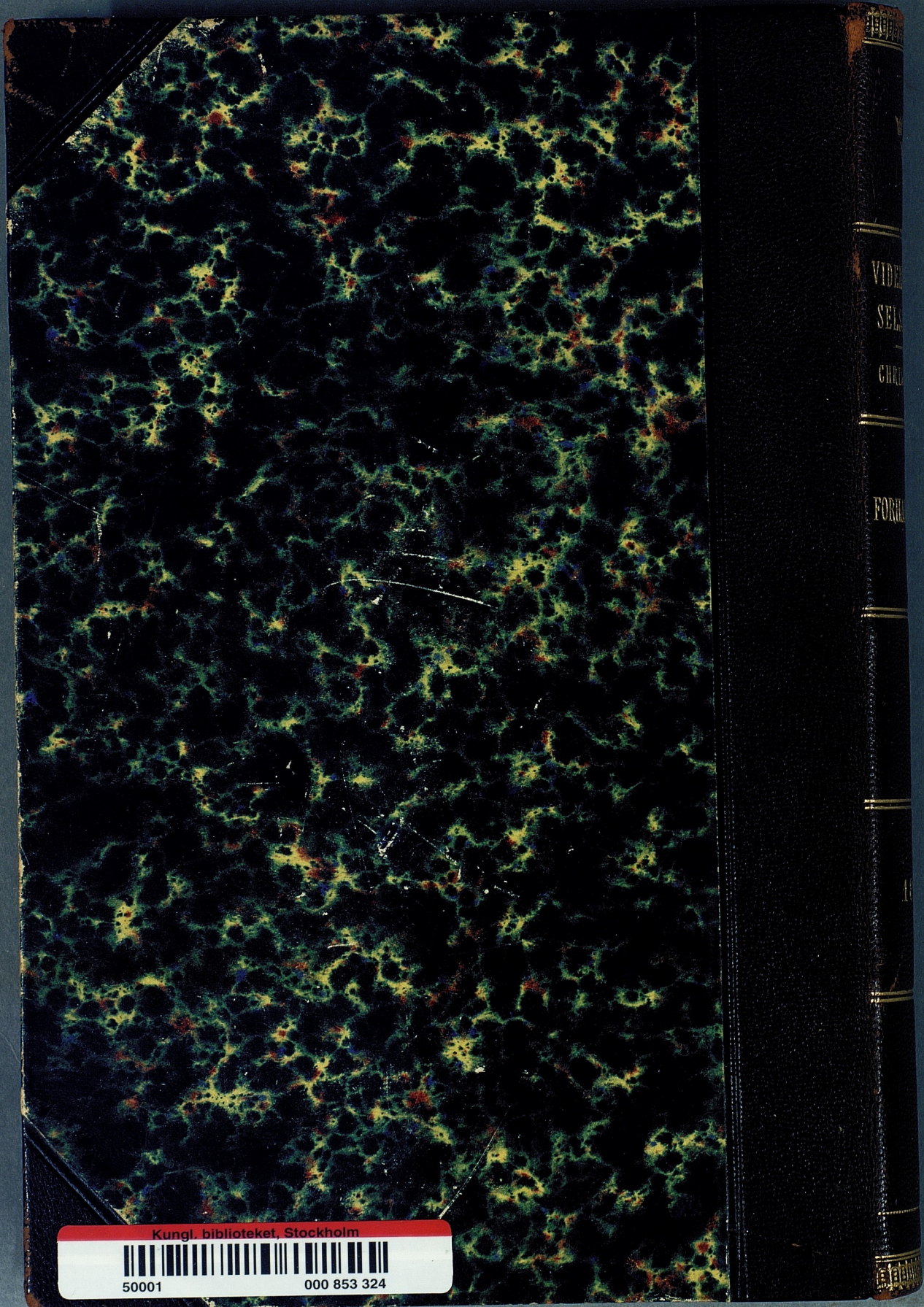
I've got something to say to you, but not down here: you'll be *letting out* my private affairs, and I can't stand that (Ward, Grieve II, 7). — You will be *going* back to England soon (ib. I, 230). — I shall be *taking* money for timber next week (Bulw. What — III, 266). — I shall be *selling* soon — certainly I shall be *selling* (Ward, Grieve I, 142). — I suppose you will be *going* over to the wedding (Trollope, Golden Lion of Granpere 143; Tauchn.). — That you will make no private marriage — that you *won't be taking* a trip to Scotland (Thackeray, Pendennis I, 117; Tauchn.).

Ofte betegner det blot en meget nær forestående fremtid, ligesom perfektum og pluskvamperfektum kan betegne en nylig indtruffen begivenhed:

Why can't you leave the child alone? You'll be *putting* Mrs. Mason in a taking, and that'll do her harm. (Ward, Grieve II, 104). — Take care; the landlord will be *descending* on you (ib. II, 124). — And now I know you'll be *saying* you can't afford yourself a new great-coat (ib. III, 188),



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