

# OF NICOLAS MACHIAVEL.

495

any other man [k]. The following Epitaph made upon him by Antonio Vacca, may serve as a conclusion to these Anecdotes.

Quisquis ades, sacro flores & Serta Sepulchro  
Adde, puer, cineri debita dona ferens.  
Nam veteris belli & pacis qui reddidit artes,  
Jampridem ignotas regibus & populis,  
Hetruſcæ Machiavellus honos & gloria linguæ,  
Hic jacet, hoc saxum, non coluisse, nefas.

[k] "He was neither much espoused nor supported by the great men and Princes of his time (says the above-cited M. Gohory in the same piece) such as Pope Clement VII. to whom he dedicated his History of Florence, or Lorenzo de' Medici, to whom he presented his *Prince*, though it was he that restored the Golden Age of Letters in Italy, caressing and rewarding all those that were distinguished for their learning, as Marſilius Ficinus (who addressed his translation of Plato's Works, and a Commentary upon them to him) Angelus Politianus, Hieronymus Donatus, and many others, whose Epistles are to be met with in a Collection, intituled, *Epistolæ virorum illustrium*. Machiavel complains to him of having been neglected, and tacitly implores his aid in the dedication of his *Prince*, in these terms. "If you should sometime or other vouchsafe to look down from the summit of your greatness, upon a man in so humble a station, you will see how long and how unworthily I have been persecuted in the most cruel manner, by the extreme and unrelenting malevolence of Fortune." But Gohory is here mistaken, in imagining, that Lorenzo de' Medici, who was the Patron of Politian, &c. was the same Lorenzo to whom Machiavel dedicated his *Prince*; for this Lorenzo was the other's Grandson.

Monſieur