

To conclude, I say, that Machiavel, who has every where been represented as a promoter of tyranny, was a greater enemy to it than perhaps any man of his time; as one may easily perceive from the tenth Chapter of the first book of his *Political Discourses*, where he bitterly inveighs against Tyrants. And Nardi, his cotemporary, says, "he was one of those that used to write panegyrics upon Liberty and Cardinal Juliano de' Medici, who after the death of Leo X, pretended that he would restore the liberties of his Country: and that he was suspected of being an accomplice in the conspiracy formed by Giacompo Diacetto, Zanobi Buondelmonti, Luigi Alamanni, and Cosimo Rucellai, against that Cardinal, on account of the strict acquaintance and connections he had with them and other *Libertines*." [o] Probably it was owing to this suspicion that he never received any reward for writing his History of Florence; though he composed it by the command of the same Cardinal, as appears from the beginning of the Dedication of it to him after he was exalted to the Papacy. This is all that I thought necessary to say at present concerning Machiavel and his writings; of which, I leave every one to judge as he pleases.

[o] The partizans of the Medici called those so, who they thought were conspiring to recover their liberties. *Nardi. Hist. Flor. l. iii.*

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