

Bremont House -

New York Oct: 17/82

Messrs J. R. Osgood & Co:

Boston

Dear Sir

Since writing you yesterday I have read in the first set of sheets which you kindly sent me, the preface and the life of Machiavelli, and find several errors in the Italian inscription at the end of the life, which I think it very important to correct, and which can most readily be done by having the correct Italian inscription printed on a small slip and pasted over the faulty one. The correct inscription on the marble slab placed by order of the Govt over the door of Machiavelli's house is as follows:

A Niccolò Machiavelli,  
Dell' Unità nazionale, precursore audace e  
indovino  
E d' armi proprie e non aventizie primo istitutore  
E maestro, l' Italia una e armata pose il 3  
Maggio 1859,  
Il quarto di lui Centenario. -

I have not my MS. of the life here, as you sent it to me to Paris with the proof sheets of the life, and I kept and left it in Paris. - It is quite possible that I returned to you the printed proofs without having examined and corrected this Italian inscription, but I have my original memorandum book into which I copied the inscription from the marble itself, and there I find it correct as above. As I close "the life" with this inscription it is important to have it exact, apart from the opportunity which the inscription as it now reads, would afford to the Critics for Censure or ridicule. -

I therefore beg most earnestly to have the correct inscription pasted over the present erroneous one, even if it were to cause a delay in bringing out the printed work. I regret very much causing you this extra trouble - but it would be unfortunate to let the book go to the public with such great errors as in the inscription as it is now printed. -

I repeat the correct inscription on the next page & beg you will see that the slip is printed in exact conformity with it. - The binder wants

paste the slip with correct inscription, very neatly over the present faulty one. -

May I beg you to send me a set of the Engravings, so that I may have them bound with the copy which you have sent me in sheets. -

Most truly & deeply  
Ours

C. E. Detmold  
C. E. Detmold

Correct inscription

A Niccolò Machiavelli,

Dell' Unità Nazionale precursore audace e indovinato  
E d'armi proprie e non avventizie primo istitutore  
E maestro, l'Italia una e armata pose il 3 Maggio 1860  
Il quarto di lui Centenario.