

Contents



Introduction ix

REPUBLICS AND KINGDOMS COMPARED

Preface 2

Book I · 12

Princely education during Lent 1 · *The rise and fall of empires explained* 6 · *The demise of ancient military discipline* 17 · *The problem introduced: Are republics or kingdoms better?* 23 · *The debate between King Mattias and Domenico Giugni is arranged* 27 · *Giugni's view: Republics are freer, juster and better governed; these claims to provide the structure of the debate* 35 · *Liberty defined; freedom in everyday life* 39 · *Freedom from taxes* 41 · *Freedom in administering the republic: Selection of magistrates by lot* 45 · *The freedom of the magistrate* 52 · *The freedom of elections and deliberation* 56 · *Freedom in the courts* 63 · *The freedom of kingdoms* 72 · *Republican and royal provincial government compared* 73 · *Conclusion* 75

Book II · 90

The relative justice of republics and kingdoms: Laws, commercial relations, and equality 2 · *The sources of republican laws: Individuals or deliberative bodies?* 3 · *Are the laws better observed in republics?* 8 · *Are kings or republics more easily corrupted?* 9 · *Is it better to be under law or under a king?* 12 · *Return to the subject of corruption,* 17 · *Justice in commercial relations,* 19 · *The corruptions of commerce,* 21 · *Is commerce even necessary or desirable?* 25 · *Free*

trade versus tariffs 29 • What is the best kind of equality? Equality of possessions 36 • Equality under law 44 • Is it equality that makes the arts flourish in Florence? 45 • Equality of honors 46 • Republican equality not enforceable: The poor are punished but not the rich 48 • The true reasons for Florence's cultural preëminence 51 • The ineffectiveness of republican education 58 • Why Florentine artists leave Florence 61 • Equality in kingdoms, 62

Book III • 160

Do many rulers govern more effectively or one? 1 • Examples of governance: the ship 4 • The army: Examples from Roman history 7 • The household 13 • The village 16 • The city 17 • What is the relationship between size and type of governance? Head of household, shepherd and king compared 18 • Do kings or the many better care for the common good? The rest of the debate outlined 26 • Does republican deliberation aid the discovery of justice? 30 • Is it possible to find a single excellent ruler? 35 • What can many do better than one? Factionalism and unity 37 • Lorenzo de'Medici praised 38 • Are kings or republican magistrates more easily corrupted by their passions? 41 • Will the many or one man better serve the common good? 47 • Republican versus royal deliberative councils 51 • Is the power of the many or of one more stable and enduring? 61 • The inevitability of political change 71 • Giugni's final capitulation; some further analogies and examples proving the superiority of kingship 74 • If kingship is natural, why do republics exist in nature? An explanation of constitutional change 84 • Nature, terrestrial and heavenly, prefers monarchy 87 • Most governments in history have been monarchical; republican governments have historically been shortlived and unstable 90 • Biblical proofs of monarchy 95 • A miniature mirror of kings 98 • Conclusions: Kingdoms under excellent kings are to be preferred 103

Appendix: Raffaele Brandolini's Dedication
to Cardinal Giovanni de' Medici · 260

Note on the Text and Translation · 267

Notes to the Text · 271

Notes to the Translation · 277

Bibliography · 289

Index · 291