

LITERARY AND ARTISTIC PATRONAGE
IN ANCIENT ROME

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Literary and Artistic Patronage in Ancient Rome

EDITED BY BARBARA K. GOLD



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Seven years, my lord, have now passed since I waited in your outward rooms or was repulsed from your door, during which time I have been pushing on my work through difficulties of which it is useless to complain, and have brought it at last to the verge of publication, without one act of assistance, one word of encouragement, or one smile of favor. Such treatment I did not expect, for I had never had a patron before.

—Samuel Johnson,
“Letter to the Earl of Chesterfield,”
February 7, 1755

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