

**MEMOIR OF THE LIFE OF HENRY-
FRANCIS D'AGUESSEAU, CHANCELLOR
OF FRANCE: AND OF HIS
ORDONNANCES FOR CONSOLIDATING
AND AMENDING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF
THE FRENCH LAW**

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Memoir of the Life of Henry-Francis D'Aguesseau, Chancellor of France: And of His Ordonnances for Consolidating and Amending Certain Portions of the French Law by Charles Butler

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CHARLES BUTLER

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^{14. 1830}
M E M O I R

OF THE LIFE OF

HENRY-FRANCIS D'AGUESSEAU,

CHANCELLOR OF FRANCE;

AND OF HIS

ORDONNANCES FOR CONSOLIDATING AND AMENDING

CERTAIN PORTIONS OF

THE FRENCH LAW:

AND

AN HISTORICAL AND LITERARY ACCOUNT

OF

THE ROMAN AND CANON LAW.

FOURTH EDITION.

BY

CHARLES BUTLER, ESQ.

BARRISTER AT LAW.

L O N D O N :

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE-STREET;

AND

J. & W. T. CLARKE, PORTUGAL-STREET, LINCOLN'S-INN.

M.DCCC.XXX.

422.

Quare quis tandem me reprehendat, aut quis mihi jure succenseat, si, quantum ceteris ad suas res obeundas, quantum ad festos dies ludorum celebrandos, quantum ad alias voluptates, et ad ipsam requiem animi et corporis conceditur temporis: quantum alii, tribuunt tempestivis convivis: quantum denique ales, quantum piles; tantum mihi egomet ad hæc studia recolenda sumsero?

Cicero pro Archia Poëtâ.



M E M O I R

OF

THE LIFE

OF

HENRY-FRANCIS D'AGUESSEAU,

CHANCELLOR OF FRANCE;

AND OF HIS

ORDONNANCES FOR CONSOLIDATING AND AMENDING

CERTAIN PORTIONS OF

THE FRENCH LAW.



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M E M O I R
OF THE LIFE OF
HENRY-FRANCIS D'AGUESSEAU,
CHANCELLOR OF FRANCE.

CHAPTER THE FIRST.

INTRODUCTION.

THERE is no condition, in which transcendent excellence in the discharge of its duties is more beneficial, either to the State, or to the individuals who compose it, than that of a magistrate, who presides in one of its supreme tribunals, and whose counsels considerably influence its civil legislation.

Such was Henry-Francis D'Aguesseau, Chancellor of France. Profoundly skilled in its constitution and laws, intimately versed in literature and science, a sincere lover of his country, religious, upright, indefatigable, patient and considerate, he filled, during thirty-four years, the highest of its magisterial digni-