

HISP. QUART. 8

Antonio Valero: Máximas de Antonio Perez para el Señor D. Isidro del Olmo y Monroi

Binding:

Original parchment binding characteristic of many manuscripts dating from the 17th and 18th century.

History:

The manuscript is the copy made by Antonio Valero for D. Isidro del Olmo y Monroi in Spain, in the second half of the 18th century (in/after 1770). This dating and the place of origin have been established on the basis of the information in the title (*MAXIMAS de Antonio Perez Para El Señor D. Isidro del Olmo y Monroi. 25 de Agosto [de] 1770 Por Ant. Valero*) and the watermarks. Lack of an accession number indicates that the manuscript was included in the collection of the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828, which is the year when the accession numbers were introduced

Content:

The content of the manuscript refers to the historical events concerning Antonio Pérez, an Aragonian living in the years 1540–1611, the secretary of King Philip II. Antonio Pérez comments on the political and economic situation of Spain while giving advice to the king. The manuscript consists of 297 maxims and a short introduction. The first thirty-one maxims are numbered in words (*Primera – Treinta y uno*), the remaining ones are numbered in figures 32-297. The work *Maximas de Antonio Perez, secretario de estado de Phelipe segundo, escritas de orden de Enrique quarto, rey de Francia, y remitidas a Phelipe segundo, año de 1600* was made when Antonio Perez was staying in France and it was published and given to the king of Spain, Philip II, in 1600. The text has been compared with the copies available in the Biblioteca Nacional de España: with the copy from the 18th century entitled *Máximas políticas de Antonio Pérez, ministro de Felipe II, escritas por orden de Enrique IV de*

Francia, en 1600 and with the copy from the pages (1r°-85v°) of the eleventh volume of the collection *Colección de varios papeles sobre distintos asuntos para el uso de D. Pedro Aparici, oficial de la Secretaría de Estado y del Despacho Universal de Indias* (pressmark MSS/12195, there are no significant differences in the text); with another copy from the 18th century *Máximas políticas de Don Antonio Pérez, Ministro del Señor Felipe 2º, Rey de España escritas por orden de Enrique 4º de Francia, año de 1600* (pressmark MSS/10872, maxims 67 and 87 are missing); with the copy from the 18th century, which can be found on the pages 48r°-209r° of the collection *Papeles varios* (pressmark MSS/13691, the text is divided into three parts; in each part the maxims are numbered from the start; 3 additional maxims – 300 maxims in total; minor differences in the text referring to the change of single words or the addition of a few sentences) and with the copy from the 18th century, which is included on the pages 258r°-287v° of the collection *Colección de varios manuscritos útiles, curiosos y eruditos* (pressmark MSS/19575; one of the maxims is missing; numbering with figures; lack of significant differences in the text). Other copies of the manuscript are mentioned in the online catalogues of the Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de la Sorbonne (<http://www.calames.abes.fr>) and of the Biblioteca Regional de Madrid (<http://www.bibliotecavirtualmadrid.org>). One of the copies made by Felipe de Samaniego was noted in the catalogue of manuscripts of the Cervantes Institute (www.cervantesvirtual.com/servlet/sirveObras/.../023208_005.pdf).