

gall. quart. 91

#### Binding:

Half-binding made of brown leather. On the spine there are gold embossed fillets and a title label of red leather, bearing the gold embossed title *PLUTARQUE*. Covering of marbled paper. The binding is not original – it most likely comes from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

#### History:

Under the dedication on folio 2r<sup>o</sup> of the manuscript there is the date *12, cal', Aug, Par, ex Lexo, gym, 1528* (21<sup>st</sup> August 1528). It could be the date of production of this copy; however, the colour of the ink in this place is lighter, which suggests that the date might have been added at a later time. The manuscript is dedicated to three members of the de Longueville family: Francis II d'Orléans (1478-1512, cf. f. 47v<sup>o</sup>); his brother, Louis d'Orléans (1480-1516, cf. f. 47v<sup>o</sup>), and Jean d'Orléans-Longueville (1484-1533), the archbishop of Toulouse from 1503. The author of the text introduces himself as Gulielmus Iodocus (cf. f. 2r<sup>o</sup>). Unfortunately, it was impossible to establish what historical character that might be. Since the original binding was replaced, all traces of the successive owners of the copy, usually found on the covers, pastedowns and flyleaves, were lost. A trace of the manuscript can only be found in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when it was incorporated into the Königliche Bibliothek collection. The accession register of this library informs us that the manuscript was acquired from Isaac St. Goar, an antiquarian, owner of a shop at 5 Junghoffstrasse in Frankfurt, and entered the register on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1853.

#### Content:

The manuscript contains the translation of Plutarch's *Apophthegmata*. It is a collection of maxims of famous rulers and commanders. In the gall. quart. 91 manuscript, the selected fragments of this work are presented in Latin and French. The Latin text comes from the translation by Raffaele Regio (~1440-1520), a famous Venetian humanist. The French translation was based on this version. Its author is most likely the previously mentioned Gulielmus Iodocus. It is a very interesting, previously unknown French translation of this

text. It has never been published in print. No other manuscripts containing this text are known. With reference to this manuscript cf. Krzysztof Kotuła, *The first French translation of Plutarch's Apophthegmata? Ms. Gall. Quart. 91 from the Berlin collection*, *Fibula* newsletter 2/2010, pp. 38-43, and Lemm, p. 19.