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Binding:

Half leather and brown paper covered wooden boards, probably 19th-century. Spine damaged. On the front cover, a paper label with the title *Libretto De Sonetti appartenente a Dirceo F. G. Anno* 1760.

History:

Notes on the cover (cf. supra) and the title page indicate Berlin as the place of origin and mention the date 1760. Due to the fact that the manuscript contains works referring to events of 1763, this date should be accepted as the *terminus post quem*. The booklet was the property of Dirceo Fabbrini Gasparini, a teacher of Italian and translator, mentioned in documents from 1783. The works refer mostly to the events of the Seven Years' War, the battle of Rossbach and the characters of politicians and rulers active in the 1840s and 1850s. The binding bears no traces of owners other than Gasparini. The manuscript reached the Königliche Bibliothek collection in 1848, as a gift from one Mertersius.

Content:

The manuscript contains poetic texts, of which part (2r°-4v°;.21v°) refers to the events of the Seven Years' War (1755-1762), and particularly to the battle of Rossbach (5th November 1757). Other poems have themes like politics and the situation in Europe of the first half of the century, e.g. the War of the Polish Succession (4v°-7r°). Moreover, they contain pieces on the murder of count Girolamo Cipolla by his rival, count Battista Nogarola in Verona, on 7th March 1763 (7v°-8r°) and (ff. 17v°-18r°) two fragments of Vincenzo da Filicaia's poem (1642-1707), as well as a poem in French of unknown authorship (21v°). The author or translator of some of the texts might be Dirceo Fabbrini Gasparini, a translator and teacher of Italian, residing in Berlin at that time. Except for V. da Filicaia's poem, the text was not published.

With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 84.