

ITAL. QUART. 67

Binding:

Original 15th-century binding made of red leather (285 × 220 mm), in bad state of preservation, wooden boards, clasps with the symbol devised by St. Bernardine of Siena (YHS on a blazing sun). Tooled in blind. Coloured edges.

History:

Dating: watermarks on the paper, the binding and the handwriting allow dating to the half of the 15th century. Lemm mistakenly dates the manuscript to the 16th century. The manuscript probably comes from Northern Italy (premises for such location are the language and the binding). The copyist is indicated in the colophon on f. 74v^o (*Ego priamus zio scripsi*), but no closer information on him is available. It is not clear, who the addressee of the manuscript was – whether it was created in monastery circles (Franciscan?), or rather in a circle of professional physicians/barbers-surgeons.

In the 19th century the manuscript was a part of Carlo Morbio (1811-1881). Morbio was an Italian collector and historian, born in Novara. At an 1889 auction held in Leipzig, a large part of his collection (mainly the items dealing with the history of Lombardy) was purchased by the Biblioteca Braidense, while another group of manuscripts reached Berlin. Among the Italian mss they were: ital. oct. 8 i ital. quart. 67. The catalogue of the collection was prepared for the auction by H. Simonsfeld and W. Meyer (*erzeichnis einer Sammlung wertvoller (...) des Cavaliere Carlo Morbio in Mailand, List & Francke, Leipzig, 1889*). Accession number on f. 1r^o: *acc. 1889. 266*. Evidence of belonging to the Morbio library: (*Morbio 124*), in blue pencil: X.

Lemm, p. 82.

Content:

ff. 1r^o-15v^o PRATICA DI MEDICINA (Medical practice).

A short medical treatise, originally written in the vernacular (as evidenced by the prologue) presenting the so called humoral theory. The text was never published.

17v^o-69v^o LANFRANCO DA MILANO: CHIRIRGIA PARVA, italian translation.

A treatise on surgery in the form of a letter – unpublished.

ff. 70v^o-74v^o RICETTE VARIE IN VOLGARE (Various prescriptions in the vernacular).