

MS. GALL. QUART. 23

Binding:

Binding made of brown leather, slightly damaged, with gildings, in the French style, original.

History:

Exactly the same binding as in the gall. quart. 21-22 and 24 manuscripts. All four manuscripts discuss the matters of the Kingdom of France in the 1740's, with certain exceptions in the gall. quart. 21 manuscript. Therefore, they are linked through their bindings and content. The copies were probably made in 1744 in France. On the outside front part of the binding there is a visible gilded super ex-libris in form of a heraldic shield, containing many elements, not very well preserved and therefore unidentified; there is an eagle and a crown at the top. This means that the first owner belonged to the royal family. On the outside back part of the binding there are initials which can be deciphered as *MA* or *JA* – unidentified; above them there is a crown. It refers to the initials of the first owner. The manuscript was rewritten by the copyist of the gall. quart. 24 manuscript. The manuscript was incorporated in Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828. Considering the closeness of pressmarks of the gall. quart. 21-24 manuscripts, all four were incorporated in Königliche Bibliothek at the same time, directly from the first collection to which they belonged.

Content:

The manuscript contains texts, the subject of which refers to the matters of the Kingdom of France and French church in the 1740's. Other manuscripts conveying the same texts have not been found. Only the copy of *Critique sur les impositions du clergé ...* is probably kept in Archives du Département des Affaires Etrangères (Affaires Intérieures, ms. 587; under the number 1327 w «Inventaire sommaire des Archives du Département des Affaires Etrangères», p. 216). It is a very interesting collection for the historians working on the period of reign of Louis XV. With reference to this manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 16, and Krzysztof Kotuła, «Finances of the Kingdom of France in four Manuscripts of the Berlin collection», in «Fibula» 1/2008 (1), pp. 30-35.