

HISP. QUART. 39

**Papeles varios: Epilogador matritense y semanario curioso (31 de Agosto de 1754 – 7 de Abril de 1755) · Poesias · El extraordinario reloj (desde el día 3 de Noviembre de 1754)**

Binding:

Reinforced parchment binding with a string fastener, characteristic of many manuscripts dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (cf. *Hisp.Qu.6*, *Hisp.Qu.8*, *Hisp.Qu.57*, *Hisp.Qu.61*; cf. Miriello R., *Legature riccardiane*, Florence 2008, pp. 154-155, Bernardini M., *Medicea Volumina*, Pisa 2001, pp. 216-217).

History:

The manuscript consists of three parts written by three different copyists. Part a (ff. 1r°–185v°) originated in Spain in/after the period of 1754-1755. The date and location were established on the basis of the title on the spine of the binding : *GAZETAS Manuscritas de 1754* as well as information in the text, e.g. f. 1r° *Barzelona 31 de Agosto de 1754*, f. 10r° *Madrid 1° de Octubre de 1754*, f. 15r° *Campo de Gibraltar 5 de Octubre de 1754*, f. 123r° *Cadiz y Henero 28 de 1755*, f. 181r° *Madrid y marzo de 1755*. Watermarks (partly the same as in *Hisp.Qu.40*) found both in the Heawood catalogue (table 115) and in Galicia archives' catalogues (v. V, pp. 56, 458, v. VI, p. 108) as Spanish signs from the period 1746-1770, confirm the date and location.

We can see here two hands repeating alternately (the first hand in e.g. ff. 1r°-2v° or 50r°-58v°, the second hand in e.g. ff. 3r°-6v°), but there are no information about the copyists in the manuscript. Part b (ff. 186r°–189v°) comes from Spain from the same period as the other parts, which can be inferred from the title on the spine of the binding, the eighteenth-century spelling and watermarks of the same kind. It was written by one copyist about whom there is no information in the text. Documents referring to Manuel Guerrero and probably dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century can also be found in the *Hisp.Qu.13* and *Hisp.Qu.16* manuscripts. Part c (ff. 190r°–197v°) was written in Spain in 1754. The date and location were established on the basis of the title on the spine of the binding: *GAZETAS Manuscritas de 1754* and information on page 190r° *desde el día 3 de Noviembre de 1754*. The data and location are confirmed by watermarks of the same type as in the other parts. On page 197r° at the end of part c there is a signature saying *Lirueñes* and initials. It may be the copyist's signature or the

signature of a person who ordered the copy to be made. The manuscript is similar in many respects to three other manuscripts with the following catalogue numbers in the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin:

*Hisp.Qu.31*, *Hisp.Qu.40* and *Hisp.Qu.41*. In all four manuscripts we find the same type of documents (*Epilogador matritense*, *El extraordinario reloj* or *Semanario curioso*) dating from 1754-1755 (e.g. documents in *Hisp.Qu.40* date from 1754, in *Hisp.Qu.41* from 1755 r., and in *Hisp.Qu.31* from 1754 and 1755), the same kind of binding and the signature of *Joseph Moralex* under some documents. The above means that the documents were written and bound in the same period as a set consisting of 4 volumes. There are no information in the manuscript about its successive owners (apart from comments on the spine probably made by one of them). Lack of any accession number indicates that the manuscript was in the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828, when the accession register was established. The other three manuscripts *Hisp.Qu.31*, *Hisp.Qu.40* and *Hisp.Qu.41* also do not have any accession number, which allows us to believe that the whole set reached the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin at the same time.

#### Content:

Part I (ff. 1r<sup>o</sup>–185v<sup>o</sup>) includes copies of press notes from the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 1754 until the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 1755 in Spain (the dates *31 de Agosto de 1754* – *7 de Abril de 1755* appear in headings of every document) entitled *Epilogador matritense y semanario curioso*. The articles and notes concern events from different Spanish cities, many documents begin with the following formula: *las cartas de / participan de / escriben de* (city's name), from which it can be inferred that the information were sent in written form and that *Semanario Curioso* and *Epilogador Matritensse* were the most important magazines of the period publishing news from many different parts of the country. Just like in the other three volumes, the press notes refer to many various aspects of life in Spain of the time, such as events from the life of aristocracy (assuming of new functions of national importance, marriages and deaths), army (e.g. frequent desertions of soldiers), abnormal weather conditions (droughts, heavy rains), events in Spanish ports (landing and sailing away of ships under different flags) or events, mainly negative, from townsmen's lives (thefts, accidents, escapes of prisoners, etc). The articles are in chronological order. Information found in available sources concern only two

magazines with similar titles: *Semanario Literario y Curioso de Cartagena* and *Semanario erudito y curioso de Salamanca* appearing in the later period of 1786-1798 in the cities of Cartagena and Salamanca respectively ([http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semanario\\_Literario\\_y\\_Curioso\\_de\\_Cartagena](http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semanario_Literario_y_Curioso_de_Cartagena); <http://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/articulo?codigo=2054014>). On the basis of the above information we can assume that a series of magazines with similar titles of *Semanario curioso* were issued in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century in Spain.

Part II (ff. 186r°–189v°) includes three poetic pieces eulogising death of a Spanish theatre actor, Manuel Guerrero: *A estar de cuerpo pres.<sup>te</sup> Guerrero el mismo dia que se esperaba representarse en el Theatro* (soneto, f. 186r°); *A la muerte de dho Guerrero* (dezima, f. 186v°); *Al Fallezim. to de Man.<sup>l</sup> Guerrero* (octabas, ff. 187r°-188v°). Documents referring to Manuel Guerrero (as an actor and a member of a troupe of actors) dating probably from the 18<sup>th</sup> century can also be found in the following manuscripts: *Hisp.Qu.13* and *Hisp.Qu.16*. In the collection entitled *Apuntes biográficos de diversas personas, cartas y otros documentos, recopilados por Francisco A. Barbieri* from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and available at the Biblioteca Nacional de España (catalogue number MSS 14031/199) there is another copy of the poem *Al fallecimiento de Man.<sup>l</sup> Guerrero Octabas* (no differences in the text).

Part III (ff. 190r°–197v°): The content of a document entitled *El extraordinario Relox, ó Muestra de noticias, que apunta desde el dia 3. de Noviembre de 1754. con su sobre Caxa en Dialogo gustoso entre la Curiosidad, y el Desengaño* concerns events from various Spanish cities (such as Córdoba, Cartagena, Saragossa, Madrid) described in the form of a dialogue between Curiosity and Disappointment. The information discussed here are of the same kind as information in the first part of the manuscript (abnormal weather conditions, events in ports, events from the life of aristocracy, the Church and townsmen).