

MS. GALL. FOL. 139

Les éléments de l'histoire universelle

Binding:

Binding made of brown leather, with gilding, original, made in France.

History:

This volume was made at the same time as ms. gall. fol. 138: written by the same hand, the same palaeographic features, bindings almost identical. The manuscript was made in France, in the half of the 18th century. The history of Saxony ends with the Treaty of Dresden (1745). Apart from this there is no reference to the death of Frederick Augustus III (known in Poland mainly as Augustus III the Saxon) which took place in 1763. Therefore the manuscript was made between 1745 and 1763, but considering the time of production of the marbled paper used in this manuscript, the middle of the 18th century should be accepted as the time when the manuscript was made. The manuscript does not bear any traces of collections earlier than the Königlische Bibliothek in Berlin, where it was incorporated before 1828. It might have been made for Frederick the Great, considering the praise of this king which can be found in the part devoted to the history of Brandenburg : *Depuis ce tems, ce Monarque jouit du fruit de ses travaux, et s'occupe à gouverner avec une sagesse infinie ses Etats, à y faire regner l'abondance, en y faisant fleurir les arts et les sciences* (213r^o).

Content:

This is the second volume of a larger work which begins with the gall. fol. 138 manuscript. This volume also contains part of the ancient history to which the first volume was entirely devoted. The work contains the following chapters: *Histoire Romaine* (4r^o-134r^o), *L'Empire d'Occident* et *L'Empire d'Orient* (134v^o-183r^o), *Histoire de Brandebourg* (184r^o-213r^o), *Histoire de l'Autriche* (214r^o-237r^o), *Histoire de Saxe* (238r^o-267r^o). Because the work is devoted to world history, there is no place for the history of France, which makes it more evident that the manuscript is of French origin. The work had not been published; other

manuscripts have not been found. The work is of high scientific value. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 8.