

HISP. QUART. 7

Antonio Pérez: Discurso al rey nuestro señor del estado que tienen sus reinos - Norte de príncipes

Binding:

Library binding of the reliure a coins (quarter binding) type. The origin of the binding is indicated by the embossed gold pressmark in the bottom part of the spine, similar to the title in the upper part of the spine.

History:

On the basis of the analysis of the watermarks it can be ascertained that the manuscript was made in the last quarter of the 18th century, in Spain or Paraguay. It contains the copies of two texts written by Antonio Pérez. The first part had been kept for a long time without a binding, because the verso of the last page is very soiled (we cannot state the same thing about the recto of the first page, which is missing). The first and the last page of the second part are not soiled, which indicates that the second part was made later and both parts were bound collectively. The first part might have been kept by the second copyist, who included in it some notes and made the corrections. Lack of an accession number indicates that the manuscript was catalogued in the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828, which is the year when the accession numbers were introduced. The library binding is probably the first binding which bound the two parts together. Foliation, which is common for both parts, was made at the Königliche Bibliothek after the binding had been made.

Content:

The content of both parts of the manuscript refers to the historical events concerning Antonio Pérez, an Aragonian who lived in the years 1540–1611, the secretary of King Philip II. The manuscript contains a short introduction in the form of a letter to the king, in which

Antonio Pérez, during his stay in prison, explains why he wrote another document entitled *Discurso Al Rey* and what it contains.

I (1r°-99r°) ANTONIO PEREZ: DISCURSO AL REY N[UEST]RO SEÑOR DEL ESTADO QUE TIENEN SUS REINOS. *Discurso Al Rey*, which is the first part of the manuscript, refers to the prevailing situation in the Kingdom of Spain, friends and enemies of the king; it also contains advice on how to act in the difficult matters of national importance and how to rule the kingdom (cf. 2r° *Discurso Al Rey Nro Señor, Del estado, que tienen sus Reynos, y señorios, y los de Amigos, y Enemig.^s con alg.^s advertencias sre el modo de proceder, y governarse, con los unos y con los otros*). A different copy of the text can be found on the pages (87r°-217r°) of the eleventh volume of the collection *Colección de varios papeles sobre distintos asuntos para el uso de D. Pedro Aparici, oficial de la Secretaría de Estado y del Despacho Universal de Indias* (pressmark MSS/12195 in the Biblioteca Nacional de España). While comparing both copies, no significant differences in the text have been noticed. On the other hand, while comparing the text of the available critical edition of Modesto Santos, written on the basis of the version of Baltasar Álamos de Barrientos, published in Madrid in 1990 under the title of *Discurso político al Rey Felipe III al comienzo de su reinado* (pressmark 9/91285 in the Biblioteca Nacional de España), it can be noticed that the minor differences in the text refer mainly to the lack or insertion of single words and, in some cases, to the different spelling. The differences in spelling indicate that the critical version was made on the basis of the later copy. Division of both documents into subchapters is the same, with the exception of the lack of *Indias Occidentales* and *Castilla* subchapters in the *Hisp.Qu.7*.

II (100r°-305v°) ANTONIO PEREZ: NORTE DE PRÍNCIPES. The subject of the second part entitled *Norte de Príncipes* does not differ from the other works of Antonio Perez. In this part he puts more emphasis on the opinions of the representatives of various groups of the Spanish society concerning the actions of the king. The work *Norte de Príncipes* was written for the Duque de Lerma in 1601, under the title of *Norte de príncipes, virreyes, presidentes, gobernadores. Y advertimientos politicos sobre lo público y particular de una monarquía*,

fundados en materia y razón de Estado, y Gobierno, but it was published only in 1788, also in Madrid, in the Imprenta de Pedro Marín (cf. L. Ballesteros Robles, *Diccionario biográfico matritense*, Imprenta Municipal, Madrid 1912, pp. 507-508). There are numerous copies of the work, which can be found for instance in Montserrat, at the Sorbonne, at the Real Academia de la Historia, in the Biblioteca de Castilla La Mancha de Toledo or in the Archivo Municipal de Úbeda (<http://www.vialibri.net>; <http://www.vbeda.com>). The manuscript with the pressmark *Hisp.Qu.61* includes the copy of this work made by a different copyist. Differences in the title can be noticed while comparing both versions (*Hisp.Qu.7* the title *NORTE DE PRINCIPES Virreyes Presidentes, Consejeros Governadores, y advertimientos politicos, sobre lo Publico, y Particular de una Monarquia importantisimos à los tales, fundados en materia i razon de Estado, i Gobierno POR Antonio Perez*; *Hisp.Qu.61* the title *Norte de Principes, Virreyes, Consejeros y Embaxadores, con adbertencias politicos, muy importantes sobre lo particular, y publico de una Monarquia, fundadas para el Gobierno de Estado, y Guerra por Antonio Perez, Secretario que fue de Estado de S.^{or} D.ⁿ Phelipe 2.^o y remitidas desde Paris al Duque de Lerma D.ⁿ Francisco Sandoval, y Roxas, Privado del S.^{or} D.ⁿ Phelipe 3.^o el en año de 1606*). In the *Hisp.Qu.61* on the pages (370r°-374r°) there is the *Dedicatoria* which is not present in the other copy. Moreover, the only differences refer to the different spelling in some cases and to the lack of certain single words or the replacement of them with other words. The text of the copy in the *Hisp.Qu.7* manuscript has been also compared with the prints available in the Biblioteca Nacional de España: *Norte de Príncipes, Virreyes, presidentes, Consejeros y Governadores. Y adbertencias politicos sobre lo público y particular de una monarquía importantisimos a los tales. Escritas por Antonio Perez... Para el uso del Duque de Lerma, gran Privado del Señor Rey Don Phelipe tercero*, Imprenta de Pedro Marín, Madrid 1788, pressmark 2/56812 (additionally there is the *Carta que acompañó a la obra presente*, lack of significant differences in the text, the introduction confirms the previous information); *Norte de Príncipes*, introduction by Francisco Ayala, Buenos Aires 1943, pressmark 1/247077 (the reprint of the version from 1788, no differences in the text); *Norte de Principes*, introduction by Martin de Riquer, Espasa-Calpe,

Madrid 1969, pressmark VC/7546/9 (the reprint of the version from 1788, with no alterations); *Norte de príncipes*, Madrid 1997, pressmark 10/83088 (on the basis of the facsimile of the version from 1788) and with the handwritten copies: *Norte de príncipes*, 18th century, pressmark MSS 10497 (it contains the *Carta que acompañó a la obra presente* with the same information as in the *Dedicatoria*, but with minor differences in the text; the remaining part of the copy is the same as the version from 1788); *Papeles varios*, 17th-18th century - *Norte de príncipes* (ff. 15r°-79v°), pressmark MSS 11004 (minor differences in the text); *Norte de príncipes*, 18th century, pressmark MSS 11272 (it is the collection of 5 copies of the work made by five different copyists; in each copy the initial fragments of the first part or the last fragments of the second part are missing; on the page (1r°) there is a note referring to the missing fragments and to the necessity of providing corrections and supplements); *Papeles varios políticos relativos a los siglos XVI-XVII*, 17th-18th century - *Norte de príncipes*, por Antonio Pérez (ff. 1r°-48r°), pressmark MSS/ 17635 (identical to the version from 1788). While comparing the available copies of the work, it might be assumed that they were made on the basis of the print edition from 1788 (all of them date from the 18th century, there are no big differences in the text). It cannot be firmly stated that one of those copies is a duplicate of a different copy. In many studies there are doubts whether Antonio Pérez is the author of the work. Most of the researchers point at Baltasar Álamos de Barrientos, the representative of Antonio Pérez (cf. *Norte de Príncipes*, introduction by Martin de Riquer, Espasa-Calpe, Madrid 1969).