

gall. fol. 233

Binding:

Half-binding made from blue linen. Covering from marbled paper, probably from the 20th century. Pastedowns and flyleaves from white paper.

History:

Fol. 1r^o includes the date *Janvier 1784*. It probably indicates the time of creation of the text in the manuscript. Based on the writing the text was copied in the same period. On the basis of the language we may assume that it was copied in France. Fols. 1r^o-4r^o contains a stamp *PR. ST. BIBL. 31. 7 acc. DARMST*, which means that the manuscript comes from the collection of Ludwig Darmstaedter (1846-1927), a collector of works on the history of science. In 1907 Darmstaedter donated all his collections to the Königlische Bibliothek in Berlin. They were not included to the collection of the Berlin library, which changed its name into the Preußische Staatsbibliothek, until 1933.

Content:

The manuscript includes a short treatise entitled *Essai sur la forme et la construction la plus avantageuse des machines aéronautiques*. Its author is unknown. The text, written shortly after brothers Montgolfier's attempts, describes problems of construction of flying machines and practical instructions in navigation. The text was not published in print, nor any other manuscript containing the text has been found. With reference to the manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 13.