

ITAL. QUART. 48

Binding:

Original binding of the Medici family (227 × 147 mm), in a bad condition. Covered in green silk; Coat of arms of the House of Medici embroidered in the middle. Remains of clasps and leather spine. A protective box covered in marbled paper (240 × 167 mm) from the 19th century

History:

The manuscript was made between 1513 and 1516 which can be inferred from watermarks (1512) and the text of a dedication, especially the following words: *Dominum Suum*; Giuliano de' Medici Duca di Nemours (1478-1516) became the ruler of Florence in 1513 as the successor of Giovanni de' Medici, who was elected Pope and chose the name Leon X.

It is probably a copy made under the supervision of the author. There is one more manuscript with the text: Magl. 15 classe IX in the National Library in Florence. An auction label (part of a catalogue?) (cf. ital.fol.155) as well as the accession book in the Königliche Bibliothek indicate that the manuscript was purchased at an auction in the Franchi antiquarian bookshop in Florence (February 1885).

Lemm, p. 81.

Content:

IIr^o-176v^o PIERO DA FILICAIA: GIUOCHI MATHEMATICI (Mathematical games) (IIr^o-Vv^o) Table of contents. (1r^o-3r^o) Dedication. (3r^o-4v^o) Prologue. (4v^o-175v^o) Text.

Unpublished work, preserved only in one copy (apart from ital. quart. 48) – Magliabecchiano CL XI 15 of the National Library in Florence. The Florence codex is unfinished, without initials, with partial drawings or without them, whereas ital. quart. 48 is an elegant copy, completed and decorated. Both codexes have similar order and were written by the same person. Some elements indicate that the Florence codex might have been copied from the ital. quart. 48 manuscript.

Filicaia's work is a collection of different riddles and mathematical games worked out with a literary flair. Although such games could be found in most of arithmetical treatises, separate works

were almost never dedicated to them. Filicaia's text is one of very few works of this kind (with Luca Pacioli's "De viribus quantitatis") (cf. G. Arrighi, "Il Libro dicto giuochi...", p. 51). The dedication, the prologue and some pages were published (according to the Florence copy) in G. Arrighi, "Il Libro dicto giuochi...", p. 51-61.

Additionally the manuscript includes:

VIr^o-VIv^o FRA PASCHASIO DI BORGO SAN SEPOLCRO: EPIGRAMMI (EPIGRAMS). Two epigrams published by G. Arrighi, "Il Libro dicto giuochi...", pp. 53-54 (according to the Florence copy).

176r^o-176v^o PIERO DA FILICAIA: SONETTI. (SONNETS). Sonets published by G. Arrighi, "Il Libro dicto giuochi...", p. 61 (according to the Florence copy).