

MS. GALL. QUART. 9

Binding:

Binding made of brown leather, bibliophilic (rich gilded ornaments), original, with features of French bindings.

History:

The manuscript, together with its binding, might have been made in France, where the author emigrated with her parents still in her childhood, in the environment of the French Protestants. Considering the fact that the first edition was published in 1738 (cf. *infra* regarding the textological value of the manuscript) and the manuscript was included in the collection of A. F. W. Sack (cf. inscription on the verso of the first protective card: *Reliquia bibliothecae Sackianae, cuius quondam pars fuit, p. 97 n. 194. 195.*) sold at an auction in 1786, after the owner's death, the described copy was made in the years 1738-1786. On the initial endpaper there is a printed ex-libris: *Ex / libris / Viri Venerabilis / GOTTL. ERN. SCHMID / Sacror. Antist. Berol. / Regiae Bibliothecae / Dono / aut / minus commendabilium exemplorum / Permutationi / oblati / MDCCCIII.* It probably refers to Gottlieb Ernest Schmid (1727-1814), a Protestant minister in Berlin sympathizing with the Enlightenment. This is another stage of the manuscript's "journey". In 1803, Gottlieb Ernest Schmid gives his collection or part of it to Königl. Bibliothek in Berlin.

Content:

The manuscript contains the first part of *Lettres sur la religion essentielle à l'homme, distinguée de ce qui n'en est que l'accessoire*, written by Marie Huber. It is a copy made on the basis of the print edition, therefore it has no textological value. The first edition of these letters was published in Amsterdam in 1783 and then they had been reprinted many times. Marie Huber (1695-1753), born in Geneva, deceased in Lyon, a Protestant author of theological works who is regarded as a precursor of liberal Protestantism. This work was on the List of Prohibited Books. With reference to this manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 15.