

MS. GALL. FOL. 140

#### Binding:

Very simple binding covered with white and pink paper, damaged. It is difficult to date the binding on the basis of its appearance. The title on the title page was written by a different hand than the hand which wrote the copy of the text, but the writing seems to be characteristic of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The manuscript probably predates the binding; although this is not the original binding and was not made at the same time as the manuscript, it certainly is the first binding.

#### History:

Considering the writing, the manuscript was made in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It does not seem to be the original manuscript; this is probably just a regular copy. It is not exactly certain where the manuscript was made; considering the presence of notes in German, it might have been made in Germany. The binding and the mise en page do not indicate that the manuscript was thought to have been a bibliophilic object; this is a book for scientific purposes. Considering the lack of an accession pressmark, the manuscript must have reached the Königlische Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828.

#### Content:

The manuscript contains the translation from German of Christian Wolff's "Metaphysics", made by an anonymous author whose identity is hidden behind the *N. N.* initials – cf. the title page: *Meta Physique de Wolff, 1. partie, qui contient le Dictionnaire de la Metaphysique, ou l'explication des termes dont il se servira dans [sic!] le cours de sa metaphysique. Traduit de l'alemens par N : N : (fol. 1r<sup>o</sup>)*. The translation contains the paragraphs 1-770, hence the text ends in the fifth chapter of the «German Metaphysics» which had been published in 1719, before the «Latin Metaphysics» of this author. «German Metaphysics» is divided into six chapters and it contains 1089 paragraphs. The division into paragraphs in the French text corresponds to the one in the Latin original. The edition of the translation has not been found.

A different French translation, dating from the same period, was published in «La Belle Wolfienne», La Haye, 1746 and 1753. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 8.