

Hisp. Fol. 18

Binding:

Made of parchment, most likely original. Its simplicity stands in contrast to the generally ornamental character of the manuscript, which suggests it might be a temporary binding.

History:

The manuscript is an example of a so called *carta ejectoria de hidalguia* – a document confirming nobility, in this case of Pedro Franco, a Spanish *hidalgo*. The certificate was issued by Chancilleria de Valladolid, on 24th September 1597 and confirmed in Toledo, by supplementing a notarial deed. The manuscript was written by an official, Cristóbal de Aulestia. We are most likely dealing with an authentic document, as indicated by the Archivo de la Real Chancillería de Valladolid catalogue. Only scant information on the history of the manuscript is available. It appears in the accession register of the Royal Library in Berlin, entered in 1845. It can be assumed that it was obtained by the Berlin library as an antiquarian purchase. The manuscript bears a slight trace of one of the previous owners – a hardly legible signature. Other details of the manuscripts history remain unknown.

Content:

The manuscript contains a certificate confirming the nobility of Pedro Franco of Toledo and a supplemented notarial deed. This type of document was usually made on paper but - as in the case of the Krakow manuscript - the applicant could request a more elaborate copy, written on parchment and illuminated. The manuscript deposited in the Jagiellonian Library has probably never been published. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm p. 97.