

Ms. Gall. Fol. 204

### **Binding:**

Marbled paper binding, the spine covered with black linen. Binding used in the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **History:**

The volume includes two texts which are probably autographs. The copy was entered into the accession register of the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 1867, under the number 9362. Before, the manuscript belonged to Karl Ritter (1779-1859), a geographer, professor of the University of Berlin (cf. *Neue deutsche Biographie*, t. 21, p. 655-656). There is a short text half French-half Latin on page 6v<sup>o</sup>. The note indicates that a mention of the origin of the same island (cf. *infra*) can be found in the documents of the Society of Jesus concerning the Aegean Sea which were published in 1753.

### **Content:**

LETTRE SUR UNE NOUVELLE ÎLE PRÈS DE SANTORIN. The manuscript includes an anonymous letter depicting the origin of a new island which came into being as a result of volcanic activity on the Aegean Sea. Today the island is called Nea Kameni. The text is an autograph. An anonymous author gives the date and place of the text editing: *à Santorin, le 20 Novembre 1707* (fol. 4r<sup>o</sup>). He was probably a monk, a member of the mission, which is mentioned in the text. Moreover, the name of bishop Francisco Crispo (a figure which appeared in a similar context in “Relation en forme de journal de la nouvelle isle sortie de la mer dans le golfe de Santorin” (p. 292) published in: “Nouveaux memoires des missions de la compagnie de Jesus, dans le Levant”, by Th. C. Fleurian D'Armenonville, Paris, Nicolas Le Clerc, 1715, v. 1, pp. 262-297) is also referred to. The letter is addressed to a church dignitary, because its author uses the expression “Monseigneur,” reserved in French for important church figures, such as bishops or cardinals. The text describes the new island, gradual growth of its area and beginnings of volcanic activity. Apart from the natural phenomena it also includes a description of people's reactions. The letter remains unpublished.

