

MS. GALL. QUART. 28

Binding:

Binding made of brown leather, in a very bad state of preservation, with gildings, on the outside parts there is a royal super ex-libris with the *FR* initials, probably original.

History:

Similar to the binding, the manuscript was probably made at the beginning of the 18th century in Germany. Super ex-libris seems to indicate the affiliation of the manuscript from the very beginning until the Prussian kings. The manuscript together with its binding was made probably for Frederick I, who became the king in 1701, or for his successor, Frederick William I.

Content:

The manuscript includes a work written by an author named Louis Senault: *Méditations chrestiennes d'un proselite sur les dogmes les plus importens de la religion avec un cacologue ou denombrement de toutes les erreurs, superstitions et idolatries qu'il a reconnu avoir la vogue dans l'Eglise Romaine*. This work had not been published in print and other potential manuscripts have not been found. Not much is known about the author; only the facts which can be found in the text: he was born in the 1640's, when he was thirty years old, he withdrew from the Catholic Church and became a Protestant, he was a citizen of Charenton. Special attention deserves the author's colophon: *fecit Dominus et Dei gratia scripsit Ludovicus Senault, filius Danielis Senault, tabellionis Regii praesidialis curiae urbis Cenomani et Mariae Gasselin sponsae eius, anno Domini millesimo sexentesimo octagesimo, 1680* (fol. 307v^o). Hence, the author wrote this work, which is a criticism of the Catholic Church, in 1680. In this work he raises various subjects: Communion, cult of religious paintings and relics, Purgatory, celibacy, authority of kings and shepherds of Church, etc. Two sonnets at the end of the manuscripts are probably written by him, however, it is not certain: *Sonnet à la Sainte Vierge* and *Sonnet aux Saints glorifiez*. They are composed in the

Protestant spirit. It seems to be the original manuscript, written by the hand of the author.
With reference to this manuscript cf. Lemm, pp. 16-17.