

MS. GALL. FOL. 192

Binding:

Half-binding: morocco leather and marbled paper. The manuscript had not been bound for a long time: recto of the first page and verso of the last page are dirtier than other pages. Initially it probably was not to have been bound at all. The protective cards are not made of mould-made paper, therefore the binding might have been made not earlier than in the 1830s. The marbled paper which covers the inner side of the binding, though, was used in the second half of the 19th century (cf. Wolfe, pl. XXI, example 6). The binding was made before 1867, while still in the collection of Charles Gérard (de Colmar). It is the first binding of the manuscript.

History:

The manuscript was made in Alsace, perhaps in the town of Colmar, probably somewhere between 8th August 1788 and the assembly of the States-General in May 1789. Its owner was Charles Gérard (de Colmar). Then, in 1867, the manuscript came into possession of William I, the king of Prussia, who immediately gave it to the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin. Information about this is on the ex-libris on the front endpaper, on which there is the emblem of the Prussian kings and the inscription: *BIBLIOTHECA REGIA BEROLINENSIS. / DONO / WILHELMI / REGIS AUGUSTISSIMI / D. XVIII. IUN. A. MDCCCLXVII. / EX BIBLIOTHECA ALSATICA / D. GERARDI / COLUMBARIENSIS*, as well as the accession entry to the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preussischer Kulturbesitz, where the manuscript was registered in 1867 under the number Acc. Gér. 317.

Content:

The memorial included in the manuscript is the work of an anonymous author or two authors. It is difficult to say whether it is a regular copy or an original. Although it is visible that the text was written by two different hands, this might be the original manuscript: the part written by the second hand is like a supplement to the part written by the first hand. The memorial refers to political and legislative matters of Alsace and its history. It was written between 8th

August 1788 and the assembly of the States-General in May 1789 (also a probable date of origin of the manuscript). The text is not likely to have been published. Other manuscripts have not been found. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 12.