

MS. GALL. QUART. 131

Binding:

Binding made of brown leather, richly gilded, in the French style, original.

History:

The manuscript is the third volume of the gall. quart. 129-132 series. All four manuscripts have identical bindings, they were written by the same hand, writing is characteristic for the 18th century; the texts refer to the years 1713-1725, therefore, the copies included in these four volumes were probably made at the beginning of the second quarter of the 18th century. These four manuscripts reached Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin in 1904. Before that they had been kept in the collection of Thomas Phillipps (1792-1872), in Middle Hill, then probably in Cheltenham. They share their history with the ital. fol. 151 and gall. quart. 123-128 manuscripts. Between the collection of Thomas Phillipps and Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin there was a middleman: Karl von Hiersemann, antiquarian in Leipzig.

Content:

The gall. quart. 129-132 manuscripts have similar content: vaudevilles, letters, satires, etc. These are occasional pieces in verse and prose, illustrating the period from the end of 1713 until 1725. They are very numerous; there are around 540 of those pieces. Inspiration for their composition came from the events of that period (particular events are mentioned in the texts), actions of particular persons, court intrigues and others. However, not all of them refer to the contemporary events: cf. *Chanson[s] sur l'entree du Roy Louis 13 apres la prise de la Rochelle*, in the gall. quart. 130 manuscript (pp. 471-78). Although they are a work of many authors, considering their character, they can be treated as a whole. No other collections containing the same texts and organised in the same order have been found. But some pieces were published in «Recueil dit de Maurepas, pièces libres, chansons, épigrammes et autres vers satiriques sur divers personnages des siècles de Louis XIV et Louis XV, accompagnés de remarques curieuses du temps; publiés pour la première fois,

d'après les manuscrits conservés à la Bibliothèque impériale, à Paris, avec des notices, des tables, etc.», Leyde 1865.