

MS. GALL. FOL. 146

Binding:

Half binding: the spine is made of brown leather, the veneers are made of green coloured paper (this is the same type of paper as the one used in the manuscript). It is the first binding of this manuscript and was probably made in Berlin.

History:

Considering the lack of an accession pressmark, the manuscript reached the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828 (the year when the accession register was introduced). The first text included in the manuscript was written in Berlin and it bears the date of the 26th of October 1698, whereas the copy of the journal written by Cuillaume Chenu de Laujardière was made after the author's overseas journey which took place in the years 1686-1688 – it has to be generally accepted that the copy was made at the end of the 17th century. Perhaps its first owner was the person who placed its signature under the German text which was bound together with the copy of the journal. From the very beginning the history of both manuscripts included in this volume is German, exactly the Berlin one.

Content:

There are two texts included in the manuscript. The first one (on the two initial pages) is anonymous: *Der Persianische Kauffman Saphar Dinerses, zu der Armenischen Compagnie in Persien zu gehörend, offeriret einen Handel nach Preussen mit [...] Seyde, auch Diamenten, anderen Edelsteinen und Perlen* – the Persian merchant, Saphar Dinerses, gives the Prussians the agency of trade in silk, pearls, diamonds and other precious stones. The second text contains a copy of the journal from the overseas journey written by Cuillaume Chenu de Laujardière. The Cracow manuscript predates the manuscript kept in Halle (Universitäts und Landesbibliothek Sachsen-Anhalt, Abteilung Sondersammlungen, Martin-Luther-Universität, Halle an der Saale, Zi 4) and is close to the manuscript from Magdeburg (it went missing during World War II). At present there are several editions of the journal, including the one based on the Cracow manuscript: «Relation d'un voyage à la côte des Cafres», in «Fureur et

barbarie. Récits de voyages chez les Cafres et les Hottentots (1665-1721)», Textes réunis et présentés par Dominique Lanni, Préface de François Moureau, éditions Cosmopole, Paris 2003, pp. 90-130. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 9.