

Ms. Gall. Fol. 186

Binding :

Marbled paper binding, the spine from dark blue linen. This kind of binding was used in the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin in the 19th century. The following copies have the same binding: Gall. Fol. 181, 183-185

History:

The manuscript was written between 1813 and 1854 in England (?). It is a copy of documents initially belonging to Sir Hudson Lowe (1769-1844). The second owner of the originals was

Harris Nicolas (1799-1848), who was about to publish them, however, the undertaking was finally given up. The whole series was then bought by the British Museum in 1854, nota bene, the current copy, together with the Gall. Fol. 181, 183-185 series was included in the collections of the Königliche Bibliothek in the very same year. In 1973 the documents, once in possession of Sir Hudson Lowe, were transferred from the British Museum to the British Library and have been kept there to his day. On account of the place where the documents were kept (England) and mistakes both in the French text, as well as in German names, we may assume that the author of the copy was probably a native speaker of English. There are numerous corrections made in the text by an employee of the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin. The manuscript was entered into the accession register of the library on the 28th of February 1854, under the number 3904.

Content:

SCHWARZENBERG, BLÜCHER, WREDE, BERTHIER, ALEXANDRE IER, NAPOLÉON IER. CORRESPONDENCE. The manuscript includes a copy of general Blücher's (Gebhard Leberecht von Blücher, 1742-1819) and field Marshall Schwartzberg's (Karl Philipp Fürst zu Schwarzenberg, 1771-1820) correspondence from 1814. There are also copies of letters written by other figures of the anti-Napoleon coalition, such as field marshal Karla Philipp von Wrede, (1767-1838), Louis-Alexandre Berthier (1753-1815), Alexander I of Russia (1777-1825), the Emperor of Russia. The manuscript also contains a copy of Napoleon I

Bonaparte's letter. Almost all the above letters include exact indications concerning manoeuvres of the anti-Napoleon coalition army on the French territory; the letters are dated from the 8th of February to the 17/29th of March 1814.