

gall. oct. 4

Binding:

Binding made of brown leather. “Du Seuil” type binding decoration: the binding is decorated with fillets making up two frames around the boards, the smaller one inside the larger. The spine is richly decorated with gold embossed floral motifs. The first folio of the first quire and the last folio of the last quire is glued to the inside cover. The binding bears traces of damage: four ties were torn off. Considering the decorations of the binding, it is surely original.

History:

The manuscript comes from the 17th century without a doubt. Both the writing and the binding decorations point to that. On the front inside cover there is the ex-libris *Maximilian-Auguste Gans Baron de Pouttlitz*. It refers to Maximilian August Gans Edler Herr zu Putlitz, born on 1605, a member of a family residing in Brandenburg. Considering the handwriting, the manuscript is no later than 18th century. The back inside cover bears the call number 7: 181. Similar call numbers, written by the same hand, are found in manuscripts gall. oct. 11, gall. quart. 1, gall. quart. 18 and ital. oct. 1. Therefore, they were all part of the same collection. Due to the lack of other indications, their provenance could not be established. The manuscript bears no accession number, therefore it reached there before 1828, when the accession register was introduced.

Content:

The manuscript contains an anonymous text entitled *L'exercice de la picque*. It contains a detailed description of exercises with a pike, discussing one by one all the movements necessary for their proper execution. In its structure (short paragraphs describing each subsequent movement in detail), the text from manuscript gall. oct. 4 reminds other known treatises of its kind, e.g. François de la Valiere, *Pratique et maximes de la guerre*, Paris, Loyson, 1666, pp. 256-259; Chevy, *Véritable instruction de l'Exercice de la Pique & du Mousquet*, Paris, 1649; *Instruction prompte et facile aux Parisiens pour bien apprendre*

l'exercice du mousquet et de la pique et les rendre parfaits en l'art militaire, Paris, Cardin Besongne, 1649; Jacques Collombon, *Le Soldat militaire, montrant les mouvements, passages du jeu de la picque, du mousquet, de la hallebarde*, Dijon, Nicholas Spirinx, 1632; Johann Georg Pasche, *Declaration Ponctuelle de l'Exercice du Mousquet et de la Pique*, Halle, Melchior Ölschlegel, 1673 etc. The text has never been published in print. Other manuscripts containing the same text are not known. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm p. 23.