

MS. GALL. QUART. 22

I Mémoire concernant l'artillerie, de l'année 1741 · II Mémoire concernant les fortifications, de l'année 1741 · III Pensions générales accordées par le Roy, en 1743

Binding:

Binding made of marbled calfskin with gilded ornaments, slightly damaged.

History:

Exactly the same binding can be found in the manuscripts gall. quart. 21 and 23-24. All four manuscripts discuss the matters of the Kingdom of France in the 1740s, with certain exceptions in the manuscript gall. quart. 21. Therefore, they are linked through their bindings and content. The copies were probably made in France, in 1743. On the outside front part of the binding there is the visible gilded super ex-libris in form of a heraldic shield, containing many elements, not very well preserved and therefore unidentified; there is an eagle and a crown at the top. This means that the first owner belonged to the royal family. On the outside back part of the binding there are the initials which can be deciphered as *MA* or *JA* – unidentified; above them there is a crown. It refers to the initials of the first owner. The manuscript was rewritten by the copyist who is the first copyist of the manuscript gall. quart. 21. The manuscript was incorporated in the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828. In the Archives of the Königliche Bibliothek: Acta III C 1 (fol. 105), there is the letter with the date of the 17th of August 1783 from someone called Herzler and addressed to the librarian Stosch, in which the first person informs the addressee that he gives the Königliche Bibliothek the four manuscripts (the mss. gall. quart. 21-24) which he received from someone called Breton and which comes from a person named Ammon.

Content:

The manuscript contains a group of three texts which are thematically close and which refer to the same period: the years 1741 and 1743. The very same texts can be found in the 18th-century manuscript 4570, in the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal in Paris. It is a very interesting

collection for the historians working on the period of the reign of Louis XV. With reference to this manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 16, and Krzysztof Kotuła, «Finances of the Kingdom of France in four Manuscripts of the Berlin collection», in «Fibula» 1/2008 (1), pp. 30-35.