

MS. GALL. QUART. 42

Friedrich-Wilhelm-Karl von Schmettau

Binding:

Damaged paper binding, probably original.

History:

The writing is characteristic of the second half of the 18th century and this is the time when the copy was made. During the making of the binding the quires had been glued on to the marbled paper which seems to be of German origin; on the other hand, the binding was probably made at the same time as the manuscript. On the plans of battles included in the manuscript there are inscriptions in French and German, therefore the copy must have certainly been made in Germany. The manuscript was registered in one of the old catalogues of the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin – Cat A 473, which had been kept from the beginning of 1818 and which includes certain supplements from the 1820s and 1830s.

Content:

The work was written by an author called Friedrich-Wilhelm-Karl von Schmettau (born in 1742 or 1743 and deceased in 1806), on the basis of the memoirs of his father, Karl-Christophe, and/or on the basis of the memoirs of his uncle, Samuel von Schmettau. The first edition of the work was published in Frankfurt (without the date of publishing); the next editions were also published in Frankfurt, in 1772 and 1786. The text was translated into Latin by Michel Horváth and was published in 1776: «Historia arcana belli Turcici anni 1737, 38 et 39. Cum animadversionibus criticis [...]. E Gallico sermone in Latinum» traduxit Michael Horvath. Tyrnau, typis Tyrnaviensibus, 1776. The manuscript lacks certain fragments of the text which are present in the printed editions from 1772 and 1786, the opposite can be noticed in the printed editions. The differences between the manuscript and the editions to which it was compared are so big that it is not possible to state direct relations between the texts. In comparison to the edition, the manuscript has the original page which is its characteristic

feature. Apart from this, the manuscript seems to predate the edition. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 17.