

MS. GALL. QUART. 4

Binding:

Binding made of grey-blue paper, very modest, perhaps it was made in Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin. It is an original binding of the manuscript.

History:

Writing is characteristic for the 18th century, maybe even for the end of the 18th century. This is the period the manuscript dates from. It is difficult to determine whether it is a regular copy or an autograph. Because of lack of information, it has to be assumed that a francophone area is the place of origin of the manuscript. Perhaps the first owner is the author of the compilation included in the manuscript and the author of this copy, i.e. the copyist. Because there is no accession number, the manuscript was incorporated in Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828 when the accession register starts.

Content:

It is a history of the Second Punic War of an anonymous author, contrary to what can be read on the first page of the manuscript: *Sommaire de l'Histoire d'Annibal et de Scipion*, and contrary to Lemm's point of view. Summary of the history of Hannibal and Scipio Africanus the Elder constitutes only the first chapter. The author uses various sources, e.g.: Titus Livius, Polybius (from among the ancient authors), Guillaume-Louis de Nassau (from among the authors who were almost the author's contemporaries). The author gives many details concerning infantry, cavalry, plans of battles etc. Very often he provides his own comments. This is a work of a real historian who uses reliable methods of history research and his aim is a clear presentation. This work is a result of a long search and mature reflection. The manuscript appears to have been prepared in such a way so it could have been used for preparing print edition. However, this work is not likely to have been published in print and its other potential manuscripts have not been found. With reference to this manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 15.