

MS. GALL. QUART. 55

Binding:

Binding made of very ordinary marbled paper, typical for the bindings made in Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin. Moreover, on the outside front side of the binding there is a gilded super ex-libris of this library. Therefore, the binding was made in that library. The protective cards are not made of mould-made paper, hence the binding was made in the 1830's at the earliest. Considering the fact that recto of the first page and verso of the last page are much dirtier than other pages, the manuscript had functioned for a long time without a binding; the present binding, although it is not original, is perhaps the first binding of the manuscript.

History:

The manuscript does not seem to be an autograph and it is probably a regular copy. Taking into consideration characteristic features of writing, the manuscript was made in the 17th century. Because there is a praise delivered in honour of César d'Estrées (born in Paris on 5th February 1628, deceased on 18th December 1714), on his receiving the cardinal dignity, the date of this event – 1674, constitutes terminus post quem for making this manuscript. Because of lack of other data, it has to be assumed that the copy was made in France. The manuscript was incorporated in Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin before 1828.

Content:

It is a series of praises of the new cardinal, César d'Estrées, composed by an outstanding anonymous orator. On fol. 19v^o-22v^o there is a further part devoted to Cardinal d'Estrées; it is the second part, which distinguishes from the first part by its character: apart from praises, there are also recollections of various events which led César d'Estrées to receiving the cardinal dignity. Compared to the first part, this part is some kind of a supplement. Both parts are distinctly separated from each other. The text does not seem to have been published in print, other manuscripts have not been found. With reference to this manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 18.