

Hisp. Fol. 7

Binding:

Simple binding made of cardboard covered with marbled paper. On the front cover there is the super ex-libris of the Königlische Bibliothek in Berlin. Therefore, it is a library binding made in the period between 1818 and 1828 when the manuscript was included to the Berlin book collection.

History:

The volume is listed in one of the old catalogues of the Berlin Library, "Alte Manuskripte Kataloge," that had been successively prepared since 1818 (it contains notes from the 1820s and 1830s). In addition, the volume does not have the accession number, which means that it reached the Königlische Bibliothek collection prior to 1828 when the register of acquisitions was started in this institution. The above-mentioned German catalogue does not provide any indications as to the origin or earlier history of any of the seven manuscripts included in the volume. These manuscripts were written in the 17th century (manuscripts I, II, IV) or the 18th century (manuscripts III, V, VI, VII). With the exception of the first manuscript that was probably written in Italy, the remaining ones were most likely written in Spain (manuscripts II, III, IV, VII) or in South America (manuscripts V, VI). In one case we may be dealing with a manuscript made by another copyist and then marked with the author's signature (manuscript III). The manuscripts do not bear any information that would allow us to identify the copyists.

Content:

The volume contains seven manuscripts, including six manuscripts in Spanish and one manuscript in Italian. The subjects of the manuscripts are history and literature: poetical works and list of comedies in Italian staged during the 1691 conclave (manuscript I), fragment of a will dated 1648 (manuscript II), transcript of the memorial of Archbishop of Orihuela in Spain to King Charles III containing the petition for the prohibition of staging comedies in his diocese (manuscript III), poetical work, most likely by Vicente Espinel (manuscript IV), letter concerning property in America, probably a fragment of the travel account (manuscript V),

letter by Antonio de Zúñig, Spanish missionary in Peru, to King Philip II (manuscript VI), and a thanksgiving letter by Antonio José Rodríguez, Spanish monk, to José Cervi, court physician (manuscript VII).