

HISP. OCT. 2

Johann Conrad Causenius: Methodus linguae hispanicae intra mensem mediocriter discendae

Binding:

Original parchment binding, characteristic for many manuscripts dating from the 17th and 18th century.

History:

The manuscript is probably a copy dating from the 17th century, which is indicated by the typical seventeenth-century spelling and watermarks. It was made on German or English paper. The author of the text is Johann Conrad Causenius. Many works from his collection were given to the monastery in Herborn. The accession number *1894.10.922* on the page 1r° indicates that the manuscript was transferred from the Herborn collection through Generalverwaltung in 1894. The next accession number *acc. ms.1897.43* on the same page indicates that the manuscript was registered in the catalogues of Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin on 26th July 1897.

Content:

The manuscript contains an abridged grammar of the Spanish language and a Spanish-Latin dictionary. The text begins with four quotations from the Scriptures (4v°), which are followed by the chapters: (8v°-9r°) *DE PRONUNCIATIONE*, in which the rules of Spanish pronunciation are discussed; (9v°-10r°) *DE DECLINATIONIBUS*, which contains the analysis of rules of pronoun declension; (10v°-12r°) *DE CONJUGATIONIBUS* with the rules of verb conjugation also in Latin; (12v°-22r°) examples of words in Spanish, which developed from Latin in a regular way, and several examples of irregularities. Further chapters contain a Spanish-Latin dictionary or single examples of Spanish words divided into categories: *EX I DECLIN. LATIN* (23r°-30v°); *EX II DECLIN. LATIN*. (31r°-41v°); *EX III DECLIN. LATIN*. (42r°-49r°); *ADJECTIVA* (49v°-58v°); *ADVERBIA* (59r°-64v°); *EX I CONJUG. LATIN* (65r°-88r°). On page (89r°) there is a fragment referring to numerals (*DE NUMERIS*), on page (89v°) a fragment referring

to months and days (*DE MENSIBUS, DE DIEBUS*), whereas on pages (90r°-93v°) there is a list of adverbs, prepositions and pronouns as well as linking verbs of various types of coordinate and subordinate clauses. On pages (96v°-99r°) there are proverbs in Spanish (*DICTERIA*), on (99v°-100r°) there is a fragment referring to proper names (*NOMINA PROPRIA*), and on (101r°-105r°) there are words of Germanic origin (*GERMANICO - HISPANICA*). On the final inside cover there are further quotations from the Scriptures and references to other grammars, e.g. to *Vocabulario della lingua spagnola*, written by Antonio de Nebrija and dating from 1495.