

HISP. QU. 71

Ángel González Carbajo · Estado Actual. Tragicomedia original de costumbres

Binding:

Contemporary, made of brown cloth (spine) and marbled paper imitating the Fantasy Marble type (covers), not original because of ff. II and IV, constituting the original covering of the manuscript. The manuscript was most probably bound at the Berlin Library after the accession of the manuscript to the collection of this institution (i.e. in/after 1927).

History:

Information contained in the manuscript allows for establishing the date and location of its making: 1913, Aluescar [Spain]. Ff. 2v^o, 3r^o, 21r^o, 54r^o, 55r^o and 81r^o have the author's signature, which means that this probably is an autograph. In the dedication (3r^o), the author addresses Mariano de Cavia, asking for an opinion on the text. This person was identified with high probability to be Mariano Francisco de Cavia y Lac (1855–1920), a well-known Spanish journalist. The manuscript has no markings from other collections, private or institutional, and therefore it is difficult to establish whether it came to the possession of Cavia or had other owners before it reached the bookshop of Karl Hiersemann (1854–1928) or his son Anton (1891–1969) in Leipzig, from where it was transferred directly to the Berlin Library. This institution purchased the manuscript alongside several hundred other printed items collectively referred to as the »Spanisches Theater« and seven manuscripts of stage works in the period between September 1926 and January 1927.

Content:

It is a manuscript of a two-act play of manners that takes place in Spain at the times of the author (the first decades of the 20th century). Main themes include upbringing and education (in particular of women), marriage in relation to a woman's social status and financial situation, in combination with demands for social changes in Spain. In the dedication, the author declares his small literary experience, explaining that this has been his first attempt at a

dramatic text. This is the probable reason for the fact that no information as regards the author or his work can be found in Spanish academic writings. No other manuscripts or printed editions of the text have been found, so it is very likely that this is a forgotten or unknown author and work. There are no studies or editions of this manuscript that have been produced in Kraków.