

Hisp. Qu. 77

Binding:

made of brown leather with simple gold ornaments, probably later than the manuscripts in the volume (19th-century, ca. 1824 as indicated by the date in the filigree on the protective card).

History:

The volume contains three manuscripts authored by Lope de Vega, made by anonymous copyists. The writing points to the 18th century and the location of the manuscripts is uncertain (Spain?). According to the accession register of the Berlin library, the volume first entered its collection in 1935, when the institution functioned under the name of the Preussische Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin (the change from the previous name of Königliche Bibliothek zu Berlin took place in 1918). However, the manuscript bears not only seals of the Prussian State Library, but also of the Royal Library in Berlin, which suggests that the volume was incorporated into the collection earlier than the accession date, i.e. before 1918. The provenance note informs that the volume was transferred from one internal unit of the Berlin library (the prints section, where it bore a different pressmark, present on its pages) to another, i.e. the manuscript section, where it received the current pressmark. The date of 1935 should probably be connected with this transfer of the volume (within the internal units of the Berlin library), which entered the institution's collection earlier, i.e. before 1918. Other details of the volume's history remain unknown.

Content:

Manuscript I is a transcript of a play entitled *La mayor virtud de un Rey*, written by Lope de Vega between 1634 and 1635, as researchers suspect, and published in *La vega del Parnaso* (1637). The transcript was probably based on printed editions of the work, just like the second of the copies included in the volume (manuscript II). It is a transcript of a play entitled *El guante de doña Blanca*, created between 1630 and 1635. The last manuscript (III),

a transcript of a drama entitled *Sembrar en buena tierra*, was studied in 1944 by William L. Fichter, who pointed out its convergence with the 1618 (Barcelona) and 1621 (Madrid) editions of the work. All manuscript grouped in this volume appear in Herman Tiemann's 1939 study, *Lope de Vega in Deutschland*.