

ITAL. OCT. 14

Binding:

Binding made of leather, dating from the second half of the 15th century (193 × 142 mm), tooled in blind, similar to the ms. MA23 from the library in Bergamo.

History:

The manuscript, as its language indicates, comes from northern Italy and dates from the beginning of the 15th century. The date can be established on the basis of the writing and the information about the history of the congregation. The manuscript is most likely to have been made in the years 1425-1430. The manuscript predates the binding. There are no signs of further owners until the 19th century. In 1889 the manuscript was certainly in the collection of Robert Forrer (1866-1947), a Swiss archaeologist, writer and collector, cf. Forrer's ex-libris on the inside of the cover. In 1933 (the accession number on Ir^o: *acc. ms 1933.26*) the manuscript was purchased by the Preussische Staatsbibliothek from the Wein und Co. München antiquarian bookshop. (1r^o, 14v^o) the seal of the Preussische Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin.

Content:

ff. 1r^o-15v^o REGOLA DELL'ORDINE DELLE SERVE DI MARIA . >*Comintia le sacre ordinatione de le moniche de li servi de observantia de la gloriosa madre maria. De la riverentia che debono havere le sorelle nostre a la vergine madre maria. Capitolo. primo< / Per Riverentia de nostra donna ogni sabbato ...-... Dapoi facta la confessione comuna faciale la absolutione e finalmente a tutte sia datta la benedictione et c[etera].*

It contains the rule of the Servite Sisters order (Servite Sisters of Mary). The congregation was established in the 13th century; at the beginning of the 15th century there was the so-called period

of observance. The rule of the order dates from this period. It consists of 24 chapters which provide detailed regulations of life in the order. Generally the text is the translation of the “Constitutiones antiquae servorum beate Marie” into Italian, with two exceptions: the change of numbering between the chapters VIII and IX (“de colatione” and “de cibo”) and also lack of the chapter “de rasura” (it is the thirteenth chapter in the Latin text), cf. A.M. Dal Pino, “Spazi e figure lungo la storia dei Servi di santa Maria (secoli XIII-XX)”, Roma 1997, p. 201 and further on.