

ITAL. OCT. 8

Binding:

Binding made of black leather, 18th/19th century (140 × 100 mm); 4 single ties. On the spine there is the title: *DELLA/TRASFORMAZ./DE'/METALLI/IN VOLGARE/1478*.

History:

The text was rewritten at the end of the 15th or at the beginning of the 16th century, probably in the region of Veneto, which is indicated by the linguistic features. As far as dating is concerned, the elements indicating the period of origin of the manuscript are writing and dates appearing in the text (the manuscript is made of parchment, hence there are no watermarks). There is no certain information about the first and the next owners of the manuscript until the 19th century, when the manuscript was in possession of Carlo Morbio (cf. catalogue W. Meyer-H. Simonsfeld, "Verzeichnis einer Sammlung wertvoller (...) des Cavaliere Carlo Morbio in Mailand", Leipzig 1889, p. 5), and then it was sold to Königliche Bibliothek by way of Harrasowitz' antiquarian bookshop.

Content:

1r^o-51v^o CHRISTOPHORUS PARISIENSIS(?) - LUCIDARIUM known also as Elucidarius. Lucidarius is an alchemical work which collects and popularizes alchemical teachings of various predecessors (Llul, Hortulanus etc.). The Italian version was not published. 52v^o-77r^o CHRISTOPHORUS PARISIENSIS(?): SUMMETTA. Summetta is a treatise addressed to Andrea Ognibene, a student of the alleged author of the works (Christophorus Parisiensis). It starts with the story of Christophorus who enters a monastic order and from the vision of Saint Francis who encourages him (Christophorus) to study and take up alchemy. 77v^o-90v^o CHRISTOPHORUS PARISIENSIS(?): VIOLETTA. A short alchemic treatise devoted to obstacles which the alchemist encounters. It was not published. 91r^o-93v^o CHRISTOPHORUS

PARISIENSIS(?): PRATICA (LETTER). A short treatise in form of a letter addressed to Andrea Ogniben, devoted to preparing various alchemical mixtures and medicines. It was not published. 94r^o-97r^o LETTER OF ANDREA OGNIBENE TO CHRISTOPHORUS PARISIENSIS. A letter-treatise devoted to alchemical and philosophical matters.