

ITAL. QUART. 56

Binding:

17th-century half binding (250 × 190 mm), spine covered with parchment from an old, Latin manuscript (a missal). On the spine and old pressmark S22 and the pressmark of the Starhemberg collection *I. 131* (cf. an identical label on *Hisp. fol. 25*, *Gall. qu. 113*, *Gall. oct. 29*). 3 raised bands.

History:

The manuscript was created in the 17th century (approximately mid-century) – the ex-libris bears the date 1652. It was probably created in Austria (in 1652 it was in Riedegg Castle). The first, or one of the first owners, was Count Heinrich Wilhelm Starhemberg (1593-1675), Erasmus Starhemberg's cousin (cf. *Ital. qu. 53*). The count travelled a lot in his youth. He was in Italy during the Austro-Venetian war of 1613-1617. Perhaps it was in this period that he took interest in military art – his library was full of treatises on fortifications in various languages. Ex-libris on 1r^o: *Ex libr.[is] Illustr.[issimi] D.[omini]D [omini]. Hen.[rici] Gul.[ielmi] Com.[itis] à Staremberg. Rièdegg 1652*). Together with the entire Starhemberg collection, the manuscript reached the Königliche Bibliothek in 1889 (cf. the accession number: *acc. 1889.118*).

Lemm, p. 82.

Content:

ff. 2r^o-226r^o GIOVANNI SCALA: DELLE FORTIFICAZIONI (Fortifications).

115 prints (woodcuts?), of which 105 are 157 × 111 mm and 5 five are 160 × 160 mm. Some illustrations have descriptions and comments. The illustrations come from a printed book: Giovanni Scala, *Delle fortificazioni matematiche*, Rome 1596; (second edition: *Delle fortificazioni di Giovanni Scala Mathematico, nuovamente ristampate con aggiunta di diverse piante e fortezze*, Rome 1627). The manuscript is closely connected to the codex ital. quart. 55, lost during the war.