

ITAL. QUART. 75

Binding:

Original, usual, semi-hard binding from the 18th century. Cardboard covered with grey paper.

History:

The manuscript might have been written in Italy, in Venice, which is suggested by watermarks. Exact dating on the basis of the colophon: 1754. The manuscript reached the Königliche Bibliothek in 1903 (accession number: *acc. ms. 1903.191*), purchased from an antiquarian bookseller called J. Kauffmann in Frankfurt a/M. No marks of previous owners.

Content:

The manuscript includes Italian translation of a theological and polemical treaty. It was rewritten from another manuscript in 1754 by Doctor Josef Samuel Penso. We were not able to identify the man, but the name Penso is characteristic of Jews from the Iberian Peninsula, it appears also in Italy, including Venice. The author of the original was Abraham Gher (Guer) de Cordova, also called Abraham Peregrino or Abraham Cordovero (his real name was Lorenço Escudero, ?-1683), a comic, poet, musician from Sevilla, converted to Judaism. The original of *Fortaleza del Judaismo y confuscion del extraño* was published without a date or place and was circulated in copies. The text consists of 2 parts: 23 and 30 chapters. Later copies include a uniform text of 53 chapters. This is also the form of the translation ital. quart. 75 entitled *Fortezza dell' Ebraismo, e Confusione dell' Estraneo*, which was not published in print and was circulated in copies. The author of the translation remains unknown.

With reference to the manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 83.