

ITAL. QUART. 9

Binding:

Original semi-hard binding in parchment from 17th/18th century. Spine and boards embossed. White pastedowns. The front pastedown bears the ex-libris of Filippo Domenico Beraudo, Count of Pralormo.

History:

The manuscript contains Bartolomeo Dotti's (1651-1713) sonnets. They were published in one edition in Venice, in 1689. If the manuscript was transcribed from print, the date of publication is the *terminus post quem*. It cannot be established beyond any doubt, since it is not identical with the print. Paleographical traits and the character of the binding allows a dating to the late 17th or early 18th century. In the 18th century, the manuscript reached the collection of a Piedmont aristocrat, Filippo Domenico Beraudo, Count of Pralormo (1678-1758), as evidenced by the ex-libris on the pastedown of the front cover. Traces of other owners are also noticeable. On the lower part of the spine there is an old pressmark 3, repeated in ink on the front pastedown. The front cover bears the pressmark *XLII.A.V.*; the back pastedown bears letters which are probably pressmarks: *N. 34; B308*, some crossed out: *N. 49; 324*. The manuscript reached the Prussian Library in 1830, purchased from Francesco Valentini, a professor of the Italian language and literature in Berlin, author of Italian language textbooks, Italian-German dictionaries and treatises on Italian theatre, published in Germany in the first half of the 19th century.

Content:

A collection of poems (194 sonnets + 1 ode) by Bartolomeo Dotti (1651-1713). The manuscript is probably a transcript from a printed edition, as evidenced by the dedication of the first sonnet, reproducing almost completely the title of the print, together with the name of the addressee of the dedication, as well as the fact that all pieces in the manuscript are also present in print. The copyist did not transcribe all poems – the missing sonnets are usually erotic. A few occasional sonnets are also missing. In several places the order of the sonnets is different from the print. The printed edition „Delle rime di Bartolomeo Dotti i Sonetti consacrati a Sua Eccellenza il Signor Girolamo

Cornaro cavalier, procuratore di S. Marco, proveditor generale da Mar con autorità di capitano generale”, Venice 1689, contains 445 Dotti’s sonnets in part I, and in part II – one ode and pieces by various authors and Dotti’s replies to them. It is a rare print, which was favourable for the circulation of manuscripts of these poems. Among ca. 170 manuscripts, the bibliography prepared by V. Boggione does not mention *ital.quart.9*. (cf. V. Boggione, „Poi che tutto corre al nulla: le Rime di Bartolomeo Dotti”, Dipartimento di Scienze Letterarie e Filologiche, Università degli Studi di Torino 1997. pp. 303-316: “Nota bibliografica”).

With reference to the manuscript: cf. Lemm, p. 78.