

LEO CADOGAN RARE BOOKS

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[Gauthier]: [Bound collection of sheets and booklets of manuscript poetry, 16th-18th centuries].

MS, folio (31.5 cms. x 22 cms.), 405 leaves, folio and 4to. 18th-cent. binding of boards made from cartonnage, covered (along with spine) in reused vellum, painted brown, (rubbed, worn, loss to spine).

Large bound collection of manuscript sheets and booklets of poetry dating from the sixteenth through to the eighteenth centuries - a 'recueil' in its original rough form (not subsequently recopied into a clean book). Because of the way it has been put together, its interest extends beyond the texts. It is a collection of early modern writing hands. It was assembled in the earlier eighteenth century by one Gauthier or Gauthier de Balagny, who we believe was secretary general of the intendance of Châlons (the last date we find is from 1746). The volume may incorporate an earlier collection made in the Touraine region - and also a collection of Gauthier himself of 1711 - and contains items of considerable curiosity. It has early modern ephemeral political and occasional literature, and copies of texts by known writers that invite comparison with published versions. Nearer to his time, the compiler shows interest in Voltaire, Rousseau, and Bayle. It is a multi-layered assemblage, with for example, commentary added in the eighteenth century to the margins of earlier sheets, poems written out in the eighteenth century below or to verso of copies from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and some occasional apparent censorship.

A full list of contents is available. These include: a sonnet 'Le triomphe de l'amour sur la mort au trepas de St. Joseph' (begins "Admire icy passant") (fol. 5), by the Minim François Tuffière (d. 1684), which has folds, address and seal for sending. The addressee (to verso) was one Father Julien de Saint-Joseph, Minim at the du Plessis convent of Tours. At fols. 6r-7r is a 14- stanza poem with date 1620 and title 'Version du pseume super flumina faite par Le Vivier' (begins "Quand nous"). At fol. 12 r, a four-stanza anonymous poem titled 'Le jeu de premiere du temps de la Ligue' with date 1587 (begins "voyant de nre temps"). At fol. 14 r is a six-stanza poem 'Tombeau du Roy Henri troisieme' with date 1589 (begins "puisque l'ingratte"). At fols. 15r - 17v is a 26-stanza poem 'Chant triumphal sur les versions du nom du Roy tres chrestien Henry Quatrieme Roy de France et de Navarre' (Henri IV, 1553-1610) (begins "Un ciel en toutes parts"). Again celebrating Henri IV, we find (fols. 19r - 21r) a 20-stanza 'Chant nuptial sur les versions du nom du Roy treschrestien Henry quatrieme Roy de France et de Navarre', and (at fols. 23r-24r) 15 stanzas 'Larmes sur la mort du Roy Henry 4 Respondue sur son Tombeau' and 20 lines 'Epitaphe sur le tombeau de Henry le grand 4 Roy de France & de Navarre &c'. At bottom of this last is name or signature Habert (i.e. Isaac

Habert (1560-1625) and these poems on Henri IV's death are probably from his 'Stances sur la mort pitoyable de Henry III' (1610). At fols. 25r -26v are two items by the soldier Anne d'Anglure de Givry (c.1560-1594) the first to his wife the Marquise de Nesle on their marriage (1593), the second four sonnets to the same ('A tres illustre dame Madame la Marquise de Nesle sur l'anagramme de monsieur de Givry et d'elle pour le soir de ses accords ou le Roy assista' and 'Sonnets du seigneur de Givry a tres illustre dame Madame la marquize de Nesle'). At fol. 83r is a poem on an anagram, 'Au Roy, sur l'anagramme de son nom, et celuy de la tresillustre et tresexcellente Princesse d'Espagne, Anne de Austriche', (begins: "Deslors que vostre Dieu vous eust"). The copy has a carefully-drawn decorative initial. Another poem on an anagram is addressed to Great Britain's James II and VII (fol. 85r-v: 'Au Roy d'Angleterre, anagramme sur son nom. Ou se trouve preditte la punition future du Prince d'Orange', begins: "Sire ces derniers jours"). At fols. 86r-89v are a collection of twelve sonnets by E. De La Guette, 'Les amours de E. De La Guette Parisien. 1616' (first sonnet begins: "Est trop souffert"). They were intended for the press but never made it, and carry a note at bottom: "le poete vouloit mectre ses douze sonnets au commencement de ses Amours quil a esté empesché de parachever". At fols. 98r-99v and 101r, are 25 four-line stanzas, 'Stances de ce temps 1612 Au Roy'. The work begins:"En fin leur faux". At fol. 321rv is an 'Epitaphium Petri Ronsardi' (epitaph on Pierre Ronsard (1524-1585), begins: "Cave, viator, cave"). At fols. 322r-v is a poem with date 1626, 'Les comme de la cour' 1626 (begins "Comme dans une bonne ville"). At fol. 343r is an 'Ode présentée a Madame par Monsr le Consr de Carleil de la part de Monseigneur le Prince d'Angleterre sur le mariage d'Henriette de France avec Charles Ier'. This begins: "Cheres delices de la France". At fol. 345-6r-v is a period copy of 'Contre ung juif' by Philippe Desportes (1546-1606) (first printed 1662).

Except where indicated we have not located the verse we list in this description.

Provenance: Collections Aristophil 14 November 2018 lot 196.

[ref: 3506] **£18000**