

**Add. 8588**

20 August 1518

**Carta Ejecutoria de Hidalguia**

Spanish

Parchment, 305 x 205 mm, 24 ff., numbered 1-24. Single Column, 40 lines to a page in the main text, the text ruled in hard point, 1<sup>v</sup> in ink.

1<sup>24</sup> (ff. 1-24)

Written in a Spanish fere-humanistica, apart from 23<sup>r</sup> which is in a formal 16th century humanistica.

On the front pastedown, which is of parchment, are painted the arms of Francisco Gil: quarterly first and fourth vert a building (?house/chapel) and its tower crenellated argent (five steps, two windows in the house and one in the tower, each with a door, the first closed and the other open), second and third gules a bend or, within a bordure argent eight saltires azure. (Where minor details differ, or where the depiction is not sufficiently detailed, the description here follows that given on 23<sup>r</sup>, see below). The arms are surmounted by a plumed helmet and set on a lilac ground. They are set within a four-sided rectangular border of intertwined gold and lilac; above, the monogram IHS in shell gold on red ground, within a laurel wreath and flanked by decorative foliage in red and blue with gold balls; below, the initials GF in shell gold on blue (G) and red (F) ground (divided vertically), within a laurel wreath and flanked by decorative foliage in the same style. The sides of the border are ornamented with conventional flower heads in red, blue and gold.

On 1<sup>v</sup>, a four-sided rectangular border in the similar style (except IHS in black, and the border of intertwined gold and pink. An initial D in shell gold on blue ground, enclosing the arms of Francisco Gil, in the same style. The first three lines are in large gold letters on three horizontal bands of colour, alternately red, blue and red, with very fine filigree in black.

Within the text, on 4<sup>v</sup>, 6<sup>v</sup>, 8<sup>r</sup>, 11<sup>r</sup>, 13<sup>v</sup>, 15<sup>v</sup>, 19<sup>v</sup> (twice) and 20<sup>v</sup>, three-, four- or five-line initials in shell gold in square frames, on ground of pink with white filigree. On 23<sup>r</sup>, an initial E in shell gold on square frame of black with filling of small gold splotches.

In the upper margin of each page (2<sup>r</sup>-22<sup>v</sup>) are three sets of double penstrokes. Since they show through from one side to the other, perhaps the intended effect was the appearance of three saltires, in reference to their appearance on Gil's coat of arms. Simple pen flourishing in the lower margins.

2<sup>o</sup> fo. *das e servi*1. 1<sup>v</sup>-22<sup>v</sup> Carta Ejecutoria de Hidalguia for Francisco Gil

*Dona luana e Don Carlos su hijo por la gracia de dios rreyna y rrey de Castilla de Leon de Aragon de las dos Secilias de Iherusalem ... (2r l. 8) a qual qujer o quales qujer de bos a qujen esta nuestra carta executoria fuere mostrada ... sepades que pleito paso y se trato en la nuestra corte y chancelleria que rresidia en la ciudad de ciudad. rreal ... el qual hera entre Françisco Gil vesino del dicho lugar de almoharin y su procurador en su monbre dela una parte y el bachiller lope del odio nuestro procurador fiscal... ending sellada con nuestro sello de plomo pendiente en filos de seda a colores, dada en la ciudad de Granada a veynte dias del mes de Agosto año del nascimiento de neustro Salvador Ihesu Christo de mill' y quinientos y dies y ocho anos <...> esperito en terri<.> gl<...>es o dis in obligados y soberraydo o dis liçenciatus val<e>(?). Followed by three official signatures and a further added inscription.*

In the above transcriptions, the ampersand has been rendered 'y'.

2. 23<sup>r</sup> *El linaie de los Giles umo antiguamente de Flandes y deciende de los esclarecidos Duques de Luzembourg (sic) ... ending mui pocos en España.*

An account of Gil's familial descent and of his arms, as they appear on i<sup>v</sup>.

On 1<sup>r</sup> are various signatures and additions in a hand or hands contemporary with those of the signatures on 22<sup>v</sup>. 23<sup>v</sup>-24<sup>v</sup> blank.

Binding: original 16th century dark brown leather over limp boards, with blind tooling and gilt flowers, and four small lions around the central gilt design, on both the upper and lower covers; two fabric ties, now gone. Parchment pastedowns.

Between 12<sup>v</sup> and 13<sup>r</sup>, the remains of a plaited silk cord formed of red, yellow, green and white strands, the lead seal described on 22<sup>v</sup> now missing.

Origin: written in Spain, at Granada (see 22<sup>v</sup>)

Provenance:

(1) Francisco Gil (fl. ?1504-18), to whom the grant of arms and patent of nobility was presented in 1518 (see 2<sup>r</sup>, 22<sup>v</sup>, 23<sup>r</sup>).

(2) F.J. Norton M.A. (1904-1986), Under-Librarian and sometime Deputy Librarian of Cambridge University Library, and Knight Grand Cross of Alfonso X the Wise. Acquired from Mr Norton's estate by Cambridge University Library, 30 May 1986.

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