DESCRIPTION

OF

A VIEW

OF THE

CITY OF VIENNA,

AND

THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY,

NOW EXHIBITING

AT

THE PANORAMA, LEICESTER SQUARE.

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ASSISTED BY H. C. SELOUS,

FROM DRAWINGS TAKEN BY HIMSELF IN 1847.

W.D. 8°

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IN THE UPPER CIRCLE,

IS A VIEW OF

THE HIMALAYA MOUNTAINS,

AND THE

PLAINS OF HINDOSTAN.

AND,

IN THE LOWER CIRCLE,

A VIEW OF

THE CITY OF ATHENS,

AND THE

SURROUNDING COUNTRY.

VIENNA.

VIENNA, the capital of the Austrian dominions, is a handsome bustling city, situated in a fine fruitful plain, on the South or right bank of the Danube; not strictly speaking on the main stream, being separated from it by the extensive suburb of Leopoldstadt, and by a vast park called the Prater. A navigable arm of the river, which here divides itself into several streams, washes the very walls on the Northern side, whilst on the Southern, it has the river Wien, an insignificant rivulet, from which, however, it takes its name.

Although at first sight Vienna does not strike the eye, so much as might be expected from the capital of so great and mighty an empire, yet its importance in much that belongs to the modern history of Europe, its being the residence of some of the wealthiest families in existence, together with the vast and invaluable treasures of the arts that are contained in its numerous palaces, renders it worthy to rank as one of the first cities in the world.

The ground on which Vienna stands, as well as most of the country around, is nearly a flat, scarcely raised above the level of the Danube; the whole, however, is bounded at various distances by hills and mountains of considerable elevation, their sides covered with fine woods, sprinkled with châteaux and villas, and ornamented everywhere by the picturesque ruins of decayed castles, the strongholds of feudal ages. Romantic valleys, villages, woods, farms, pastures, and gardens, spread far and wide, the grand and the simple blending harmoniously together under a clear sunshine, combine to fill up the rich features of the splendid landscape, over which the eye cannot but wonder with pleasure.

The present Panorama is taken from the church of St. Carlo in the suburb of Wiedon, on the very verge of the Glacis, which, with its fine trees and verdant lawns, intersected by the Wien, forms the immediate foreground of the view. Directly in front towards the North-West, lies the Bourg or old city, the cathedral nearly in the centre on the highest ground, proudly and prominently presenting itself and its rich

Gothic tower, far above the surrounding mass of buildings. Facing the Glacis, and within the ancient walls, is the wide extended façade of the Imperial palace, with the Emperor's garden, and the extensive grounds of the Volksgarten in front, and a long line of fine houses facing the ramparts; behind is one dense mass of buildings, churches, vast palaces, and immense public edifices, so closely built, that the streets dividing them can scarcely be defined. Towards the left, divided from the city by the broad green girdle of the Glacis, are seen several of the largest suburbs, and the view is closed by the lofty Kahlenberg and other mountains, forming part of a vast chain covered by forests and vineyards, that stretch far towards the South until they fade in the distance. To the right of the city the view extends over a similar range of suburbs, to the refreshing foliage and cool shades of the finely wooded Prater, and the many islands of the Danube. Towards the South and East the eye commands a vast extent of the suburbs of a somewhat Italian character, in which several churches and public buildings, and many magnificent palaces are seen; especially the Imperial galleries of the two Belvederes, and the palaces and gardens of the Princes Lichtenstein, Schwartzenberg, Metternich, and many others; beyond stretches an agreeable country, thickly studded with villages, villas, and pleasant retreats, and a vast plain spreading in all directions, in some parts to the very verge of the horizon, in others bounded by the mountains of Hungary. A multitude of objects of interest and beauty present themselves at every point; the Danube, now united in one broad stream, is seen winding its course in several parts, the famous villages of Aspern, Essling, Wagram, and Schonbrunn, with the lovely country around, backed by the Brühl and Baden hills, and the scarcely visible castle of Pressburg in the extreme distance, all combine to complete the varied and splendid scene.

The history of Vienna abounds in curious and stirring facts. The exact date of its foundation is uncertain, but the Romans had a station at or very near the spot called Vindobona, where the Emperor Marcus Aurelius breathed his last. On the decline of the Roman Empire it was successively a prey to the Goths and the Huns, until 791, when Charlemagne united it to the Empire of the Francs, and established Markgraves, under whom it flourished, was fortified, and in 1136 was made an Imperial city. In 1194 it was much enlarged and was surrounded by a strong wall, erected with the £.40,000 paid as ransom

for Richard I.

In 1484 the Hungarians became masters of the city, and King Matthias there established his court, and Maximilian having been received as Archduke, it became in 1529 the residence of the house of Austria.

Vienna sustained two vigorous sieges against the Turks, the first in 1529, from Solyman the Magnificent, with an army of 300,000 men, when it was relieved by the Emperor Charles V., the Turks losing 70,000; and the second in 1683, when, after being invested upwards of four months, at the last extremity it was saved by the valour of John Sobieski, King of Poland, who completely routed the unbelievers.

In 1797, Vienna was threatened with siege by the French, but was relieved by the treaty of Leoben. In 1805, they, however, had possession, also in 1809 it was bombarded and taken, when Buonaparte gained a victory over the Archduke Charles at Wagram.

Vienna has given its name to several celebrated treaties with Germany, Spain, France, and England, none, however, of more vital importance to Europe than that which was signed there, after the famous Congress of Sovereigns, and ministers of the allied powers, in 1815.

The Stadt, or city proper of Vienna, is nearly circular in form, and not more than three miles in circumference; yet in this limited space stands almost every object of interest and importance, including the fine cathedral, eight parish churches, seven convents for males, one for females, and many chapels; the Imperial palace, the offices of the government, and no less than 122 palaces of the Austrian nobility, ambassadors, &c., of a size not often met with in other countries; as well as most of the public galleries, libraries, &c. The streets, as in most fortified towns, are narrow, but are well paved, the squares and markets are small, and the houses lofty, and much crowded together.

The city was formerly strongly fortified, but the works were mostly destroyed in 1809. The ancient ramparts of brick and masonry remain, and following the inequalities of the ground are from fifty to seventy feet in height; their broad summits no longer bristling with cannon, are planted, and form, perhaps, the most beautiful town promenade in the world. Immediately beneath the walls the ancient and now dry ditch has been converted into a well-sheltered and agreeable drive and promenade, beyond which the broad level space forming the Glacis, formerly covered with outworks and defences, has been laid out with plantations, rides, public gardens, &c., forming a belt of verdure encircling the city, and completely separating it from the suburbs.

The Vorstädte, or suburbs, thirty-four in number, extend in every direction; they date only from 1684, those existing previously having been destroyed at the last Turkish invasion; the whole is again enclosed by a rampart twelve feet in height, with a ditch about fourteen miles in circuit, formed in 1703, to repel the incursions of the Hungarians.

Eleven gates open to the lines and the country.

In the suburbs the streets are tolerably regular and wide, and the houses are better built; they include forty churches, chapels, and convents, and many magnificent palaces and gardens of immense size,

numerous barracks, magazines, manufactories, theatres, &c.

Vienna, with its environs, is of an oval form, and has often been compared to an immense spider's web; the main streets radiating from a common centre near the cathedral, and passing by the twelve gates across the Glacis, and through the suburbs to the country; these are crossed by others at right angles, and there are communications by obscure passages through the lower floors of many of the houses. The public buildings are not remarkable for their external decorations, and as compared with other capitals, exhibit nothing pre-eminently deserving notice. Institutions of all kinds, for the benefit of the people, are endowed and supported on a most liberal and enlarged scale, few capitals

can vie with Vienna in the number and extent of its hospitals, schools, and charities. The fine museums and libraries are all open unreservedly to the public, in a manner so perfect as to arrangement and accommodation, as to render them practically and generally useful. The palaces of the nobles present a sober, solid stateliness, indicating, rather by their vastness than their beauty, the wealth of their owners; their interiors exhibit long suites of fine lofty apartments, with much grandeur of ornament and decoration, and usually contain treasures of art unequalled in

any other continental capital.

The houses, which by the last enumeration were 1214 in the city, and above 7000 in the suburbs, are massive and imposing, and if their architecture does not command admiration, they are at least free from that barbarous mixture of poverty and grandeur so often met with in Germany; they frequently rise to five or six stories in height, some even to seven or eight, and are rarely occupied by a single family, being let in flats, as in Paris and Edinburgh. Some of these houses, from their vast size and the number of occupants, resemble our inns of court, one of the largest, the Burgherspital, contains ten distinct internal courts, twenty staircases, and 220 suites of apartments, returning an annual rental of £.8500 sterling; another, called the Trattnerhaus, returns £.4000. The shops, the best of which are in the old city, present a gay appearance, and are filled with all the latest novelties and luxuries of Paris and London, as well as native produce, especially large quantities of the beautiful glass of Bohemia.

The population is estimated at \$80,000, about one-eighth of whom reside in the city, the remainder in the suburbs. The streets are usually much crowded, and present a motley assemblage of persons of various countries, in their national costumes, as well as numerous military.

The Viennese are, generally speaking, a gay and happy people, who hold abstinence and self-denial in supreme contempt; the city abounds in every luxury and comfort, and sets ennui at defiance, indeed few places possess such ample resources, and such general means of enjoyment, both physical and intellectual. The lower orders are sober and industrious, frugal, cheerful, and contented; they expend but little on their food and lodgings, in order to make a respectable appearance on Sundays and holidays, and to be able to frequent the public gardens; poverty scarcely appears in any shape, and beggary if it exists is kept out of sight. Dancing and music stand pre-eminent amongst the amusements of all classes. Cafés and dancing-rooms are found in all the parks and gardens, to which they form necessary appendages, and since the establishment of railroads, there is scarcely a village within ten or fifteen miles but has its grand concerts and balls.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE.

No. 1.—Church of S. Maria Trost,

A SMALL but neat Church, erected in 1721 on the spot where the Tent of the Grand Vizier Kara Mustapha, the leader of the Turkish army, was pitched at the siege of 1683.

No. 2.—Imperial Stables.

A superb edifice presenting a frontage of more than 600 feet in width, erected by Charles VI., in 1725. The ground floor contains stabling for 400 horses, a portion only of the fine and extensive stud of the Emperor. On the two floors above, are apartments for the equerries, grooms, &c., and a noble room called the Saddle Room, where the state harness of the various departments are kept. In the court are basins of water, and every necessary accommodation.

No. 4.—Dornbach,

An interesting point of the Wiener-wald mountains, about three miles from Vienna. The village is beautifully situated, and has a château and park, formerly the properly of the celebrated Marshal Lacey, but at present belonging to Prince Schwarzenberg. The house contains a fine collection of paintings, prints, &c., and the park, which is in the English style, and one of the largest in Austria, is embellished with miniature villages, pavilions, temples, grottoes, statues, &c., and the tombs of the Marshal, and his nephew, General Brown.

No. 5 .- Palace of the Noble Hungarian Guard,

A superb edifice, formerly belonging to the family of Trauthson, situated on the Glacis St. Ulric. The Hungarian guard, formed in 1764, consists of sixty young nobles of Hungary, Transylvania, and Croatia, who here receive a military education, and rank as lieutenants; after a certain period they enter the regular army with the same rank. Their uniform is the Hungarian costume of scarlet, laced with silver, over which they wear, on state occasions, a tiger skin pelisse; the cap is fur, with a high heron's plume, the boots yellow, and they are mounted on grey horses with green housings. Their duty is to mount guard daily with the noble German guard, in the Emperor's antichamber, and to assist on all state occasions as part of the body guard.

No. 6 .- Palace of Prince Auersperg,

At the entrance of the suburb Josephstadt. It is a fine building, furnished with taste and magnificence, and possessing, in common with all the palaces of Vienna, a numerous collection of paintings and works of art. It has also a winter garden, a temple of Flora, and a small theatre.

No. 9 .- Wahring,

A small neat village having an extensive Café, with a vast garden, much frequented by the inhabitants of the city, to enjoy cold breakfasts and suppers. The village and neighbourhood present many fine country seats, and the cemetery contains the tomb of Beethoven.

No. 12.—Himmel,

A small but fertile spot, occupying one of the salient points of the Kahlenberg mountain, facing the capital. It is the property of M. de Schosulan, and forms an assemblage of woods, gardens, rustic houses, hermitages, &c., of great beauty. At the foot of the mountain, immediately below, is the village of Sievering, possessing a church, said to have been founded by St. Severin, in 438.

No. 13.—Leopoldsberg.

Leopoldsberg, a picturesque mountain, 824 feet in height, is the last eminence of the chain of the Wienar-wald (Mons Cetius), which, branching off from the Alps of Styria, and embracing one side of the plain on which Vienna stands, stretches out like a cape or promontory, and descends abruptly towards the Danube. The mountain takes its name from the Margrave Leopold IV. having a palace on its summit where the church of St. Leopold now stands.

No. 13.—Gallitzinberg,

A fine property, situated on one of the salient points of the mountain. It takes its name from Prince Gallitzin, formerly Russian ambassador to the Court of Vienna, by whom it was embellished with gardens, temples, grottoes, &c. It now belongs to several individuals, and being only three miles from the city, is much frequented on account of the fine and extensive views.

No. 13.—Kahlenberg,

One of the most beautiful of the mountains of this part of the chain; the side towards the city presents innumerable handsome villas, and a well-kept road, winding through a succession of vineyards, conducts to the summit, the immense pile of buildings on which, originally, a convent, founded by Ferdinand II., is immortalized in the history of Vienna, from having been the head quarters of Sobieski, the Pole, in 1683, whence, in conjunction with the Imperial troops, he descended like a torrent on the Grand Vizier Kara Mustapha, and the beleaguering infidels, lying in unsuspecting security before the city. It afterwards became the property of the Prince de Ligne, the historian, who died, and is buried there. At the inn near the summit Mozart composed a portion of his celebrated opera of Zauberflöte. Travellers generally remain here a night to witness the sun rise. The mountain, also, during the heat of summer, when the sun attains a certain point, presents a splendid Fala Morgana, similar to that of Reggio in Calabria. Both Leopoldsberg and Kahlenberg, are now the property of Prince Lichterstein.

No. 15 .- Polytechnic Institute,

A splendid building, three stories in height, founded by Francis I. in 1816. The front is ornamented by six columns of the Ionic order, and has a fine group by Klieber. The Institution affords instruction in the arts and practical sciences, trade, commerce, and manufactures, to 500 pupils. It has a president, thirty professors, and two chiefs of works; and contains a fine library, chemical laboratory, and collection of philosophical instruments, 3000 models of machines, &c., and 25,000 specimens of indigenous fabrics.

No. 17 .- New and Old Bridges.

Solid structures, much more useful than ornamental, forming the communication between the city, by the Karntner Gate and Wieden, the largest of the suburbs, through which the road passes to the interior of Austria and Italy. Several other bridges of wood for carriages, and lesser ones for foot passengers only, cross the river at different points.

No. 18 .- River Wien.

This small River takes its rise about three leagues from Vienna, in the forest of Wien. It traverses several of the suburbs, turning many mills, then passes through above one-third of the Glacis, and falls into the arm of the Danube that runs between the city and Leopoldstadt. In fine weather, it is a very insignificant stream, in places nearly dry, but in winter, it often overflows its bounds and does much damage.

No. 19 .- Burg Thor.

The Palace Gate, constructed, in 1822, from plans by the director of the School of Architecture, is considered one of the finest modern works of the kind. It presents five arches, the central one being reserved for the Imperial family only, those on either side are for the public in general, and two of the Imperial guard occupy the two lateral. It is handsomely decorated with columns and other embellishments, and has inscriptions on both fronts. The road by this gate, through the suburb of Mariahilf, is the grand route to Bavaria and Western Germany.

No. 20 .- Volksgarten,

The People's Garden, was established, in 1823, by the Emperor Francis I., for the use of the public. It is large, well sheltered on all sides, and is laid out with lawns, parterres of flowers, shady groves, and pieces of water. It is one of the most frequented places of resort in Vienna at all seasons; and nothing can be imagined more inspiring than the thousands of well-dressed persons, with happy, smiling faces, seen there on Sundays and holidays. At its southern extremity stands a vast semicircular coffeehouse, which forms a dancing or promenade room in damp weather, in front of which is a pavilion for the civic band, and countless rows of seats for those who wish to enjoy the brilliant selections of German and Italian music here performed to perfection. Other bands attend on fête days; and the gardens are brilliantly illuminated.

No. 21.—Temple of Theseus,

A small, elegant building, classically true in its architecture, being a model of the Temple of Theseus, at Athens, recently erected to contain the fine work of Canova's Theseus Slaying the Minotaur, executed, by command of Buonaparte, for the Simplon Gate, at Milan. The Austrians having, at the termination of the war, become possessors of this masterpiece of sculpture, it was presented to the people of Vienna, by the Emperor Francis, and the Temple, by the recommendation of Canova, was erected to contain it. In the catacombs beneath the building are some curious remnants of Roman and other antique sculpture, found in various parts of Austria.

No. 22.—Imperial Garden.

The Emperor's Private Garden is small, but well laid out. It is chiefly remarkable for its very extensive range of conservatories; the wall of the fortifications, which is here of great height, forms the back to them; and they are divided into five compartments, having at each end elegant pavilions connected with the palace. In the centre is a noble saloon, above 100 feet in length, filled with choice exotics, tastefully arranged, in which the Empress occasionally gives floral fêtes. There is, also, an aviary of foreign birds, and a collection of monkeys.

No. 23 .- Paradise Garden,

A small but agreeable garden, on the Löwell bastion, recently added, together with its café, in front of which a band plays every day, to the People's Garden.

No. 24.—Imperial Palace,

A large gloomy, irregular structure, erected at various periods, and by no means imposing but from its vast size. It was commenced early in the thirteenth century; was several times partly destroyed by fire; and was rebuilt and enlarged by successive sovereigns. The long South front was built by Leopold I., 1660. The North front, formerly the chancery of the empire, a fine building, erected about 1728, by Fischer Von Erlach, and considered one of the most perfect specimens of modern architecture in Germany, was added, in 1807. The palace consists of three great quadrangles, the largest, in the centre, called the Burg platz; that to the East, the Schweitzer-hoff, from the old Swiss guard; and that on the West, the Amalien-hoff. The central portion contains a suite of grand saloons for court ceremonies, and the apartments of the Imperial family, which are much inferior to most royal residences, being more remarkable for their extreme comfort than their magnificence, demonstrating the unostentatious tastes, simple habits, and amiable character of their inhabitants.

The Schweitzer-hoff, the oldest portion, dates from the year 1210. It contains the apartments originally fitted up for the Empress Maria Theresa, with the costly hangings and faded gilding just as she left them, and the apartments of the Empress Mother; also a suite of four apartments and a large gallery, containing the Imperial treasury, in which is deposited all the jewels, plate, vases, clocks, religious relics, gems, &c., belonging to the Austrian crown, some of which are extremely rare and of immense value, especially the Florentine diamond, which is valued at 1,043,334 florins (£.102,166 14s.)

The Amalien-hoff, so called from the Empress Amelia, widow of Joseph I., having been the first to inhabit it, was erected towards the close of the 17th century. It is surmounted by a tower with a clock. The apartments are used for the members of the Imperial family, and illustrious strangers, during temporary visits to Vienna.

There are two chapels, that in the old portion, which forms the parish church of the district, was erected in 1448, and is profusely decorated with sculpture and painting. The choir, composed of twenty-eight musicians and eighteen singers, is very perfect. The second chapel is a small plain structure seldom used.

Included in what may be justly termed the Palace, are the winter Riding School, the Burg Theatre, the Imperial Library, and the Museums of botany, zoology, and the arts. The Riding School is considered the finest in Europe; it was erected in 1729 by Charles VI. From its great size and handsome construction, it is on great State occasions used as the Court ball-room; concerts are also sometimes given in it, with 800 or 900 performers. The Theatre is under the direction of the Grand Chamberlain, and has a regular company of twenty-six male and twenty-two female artistes, who, after a service of ten years, are entitled to pensions. The performances are confined to German pieces. The Library was founded by Maximilian, and has been increased by successive sovereigns. One vast hall, upwards of 250 feet in length, contains 300,000 volumes of printed books, and other apartments are occupied by 16,000 rare and valuable manuscripts, 6000 volumes of music, and 300,000 rare and precious engravings, collected by Prince Eugene. The Museums of zoology and botany, and the Museum of models, works of art, and manufactures, formed by the present Emperor, occupy many halls, and are complete in their several departments.

Between the Palace and the neighbouring church of the Augustins, is a long corridor, which contains the Imperial cabinets of antiquities, Egyptian marbles, medals and money, cameos and gems, and mineralogy, each containing gems of art both numerous and invaluable.

No. 26.—Italian Church.

This church, which formerly belonged to the convent of Minorites, was erected in the 13th century. When Joseph II., in 1786, removed the Minorites to the suburbs, he gave the church to a community of Italians, by whom it was entirely restored. The principal door is ornamented with some fine antique sculpture, and the interior contains a few good paintings.

No. 28 .- Palace of the Archduke Charles,

Erected by the wealthy Duke Albert of Saxe Teschin, in 1801, and now the residence of his illustrious heir, Prince Charles. It surpasses in its interior all the palaces of Vienna in taste, richness, and elegance. It contains a fine collection of paintings, 180,000 prints, 15,000 drawings by old masters, and two libraries, one of 30,000 volumes, and the second of military works, charts, &c., of 6000.

No. 29 .- Church of the Augustins.

The Court Church, a building without any very great pretensions to beauty, originally founded by Frederick-le-Bel, in fulfilment of a vow made during his imprisonment at Transnitz, and in 1630, given to the Augustin monks, whose convent adjoins. In the chapel of Our Lady of Loretto, erected by Eleonora of Mantua, in 1697, the hearts of the Emperors are preserved in silver vases. This church is very attractive to the lovers of the fine arts, from containing the magnificent monument of the Archduchess Maria Christina, the wife of Duke Albert of Saxe Teschin, by whom, at the expense of 20,000 golden ducats, this splendid cenotaph, considered one of the finest of Canova's works, was erected to her memory in 1805. It consists of a pyramid of grey marble, with a door, apparently open, leading to a dark sepulchre; around the

door are grouped nine figures and a lion, all the size of life, in white marble. The whole is of singular grace and beauty; and for harmony of design, and the great moral lesson it conveys, may be said without exception to be the most splendid monument in Europe.

No. 30 .- St. Michael's Church,

Founded by Leopold VII., in 1220, and several times destroyed by fire. The present church was erected by Albert V. in 1416, and was given, in 1626, together with the college adjoining, to the order of Barnabites. It is a handsome building, with a noble portico, over which is a well-executed group of St. Michael overthrowing a demon. The interior is spacious, and the fifteen altars are well decorated, one with a remarkable piece of statuary, representing St. Michael casting a rebellious Angel to the bottomless pit. This is a very fashionable church, and is notorious as a place for assignations. It is also interesting to the lovers of Italian poetry, from being the burial-place of Metastasio.

No. 31.—Capuchin Church and Convent,

In the New Market; both church and convent are remarkably simple in design and plain in architecture. The Monastery was founded by the Emperor Mathias and his wife in 1622. The Church is chiefly remarkable for the Imperial vault, where the bodies of the Imperial family have been deposited, with very few exceptions, since the time of Mathias. The various coffins, 85 in number, are ranged on each side of a vast vault; they are all of metal, some extremely simple in design, others in the highest style of magnificence; that of the Emperor Francis I. and his consort, Maria Theresa, for one sarcophagus contains them both, is the most splendid in workmanship; that of Joseph I. the richest, being wholly of silver; that of the last hope of the Buonaparte family, the Duke of Reichstadt, is of copper, having a cross in bold relief, and a short inscription.

No. 35 .- St. Peter's Church.

In the Place St. Peter's, erected by the Emperor Leopold I., in 1702, on the foundation of a church said to have been built by Charlemagne in 792. The present church is the work of Fischer D'Erlack, who took for his model St. Peter's at Rome. It is of an oval form, with a portico of grey marble, ornamented with figures in lead; the walls of the interior are covered with marble; the dome is painted by Rothmayer, and the choir by Bibieni.

No. 37 .- Santa Maria Stiegan Church,

An extremely richly wrought and beautiful little Cathedral, the handsome Gothic tower of which is a conspicuous ornament to the city from all points of view.

No. 38.—Karntner Thor.

The Carinthea Gate is one of the principal gates of the city, a long street, similarly named, leading direct to it from the cathedral. Close to the gate within the walls is a large theatre, also bearing the same name, where German and Italian operas and ballets are performed in a style not to be surpassed. In the suburb of Wieden, directly across the Glacis, stands the largest and handsomest of the theatres. It is celebrated for the manner in which melo-dramas and spectacles are produced, the stage being of such extent, that 500 men and 100 horses appear at one time upon it.

No. 39.—Ursuline Convent.

The nuns of the Ursuline order devote themselves entirely to the education of indigent girls; they consist of a superior, a catechist, and ten sisters. The pupils are divided into four classes, and are taught the early branches of education, useful arts, and various industrial works. In the chapel are some good pictures.

No. 41.—Cathedral.

To the admirers of pure Gothic architecture, this majestic edifice must give the highest gratification, uniting as it does all that is lofty, sublime, and imposing, with

beauty, vastness, and solidity. The graceful elegance of several parts, and the solemn and harmonious effect of the whole, place it decidedly in the first rank of churches. It is of hewn stone, decorated with statues, bas reliefs, and other ornaments; 350 feet in length, 222 in breadth, and about 80 in height, with five doors, and thirty-one windows. The tiles of the roof are coloured red, green, and white, and are glazed, and form a colossal crest of the house of Austria (the double-headed eagle) in a species of mosaic. The church was commenced, 1144, by Henry, the first Duke of Austria. During the following century it was three times nearly destroyed by fire; and the present edifice, some parts of the ancient being preserved, was completed by Rudolph IV. about 1480.

The architect originally intended that there should have been two spires, but one only has ever been finished, which is of exceeding beauty, light, graceful, and elegant. It rises to the majestic height of 465 feet, not as is usual from a tower, but commences gradually diminishing from its very base, in retreating arches, buttresses, &c. It was commenced, 1360, by an architect named Weagler, and was completed, 1433, by Anton Pilgram. The upper part, from the various bombardments of the city, was considerably out of the perpendicular; but about eight years back, one-sixth was taken down and rebuilt. The ascent is by 553 steps of stone and 200 of wood. The copper eagle, which crowns the top, is gained by means of ladders, and the view from thence is extremely grand. About midway up is an apartment where watchmen are always on the look out for fires, and the arrangements made for ascertaining their exact locality are peculiar: four telescopes command each one-fourth of the city; the quadrant of each is divided into circles and radii, so that the position of the glass points out, not only the section, but by a book of reference, the street and house where the fire is; an ingenious contrivance communicates this intelligence below, and the proper authorities are immediately acquainted therewith within a few moments of the outbreak. The works of the great clock are on the same floor; it only strikes the hours, and to prove the vigilance of the watchers they are compelled to strike the quarters. Amongst the various bells is a very large one named Josephine, weighing 3711 cwt; it was cast by order of Joseph I. from 180 pieces of cannon taken from the Turks in 1683.

The interior of the church is striking and majestic, and the proportions are graceful. The nave is lofty, and the eighteen pillars which support the roof are of vast size, and are richly ornamented; indeed there is a great profusion of rich stone carving in all parts; the ancient stained glass in the windows is also very fine, and the whole has a dark yellow tone of colouring which produces an exquisite effect of harmonious gloom and dim religious sanctity, according well with the character of the building. The relics and sacred vestments are very rich, as are some ancient and curious tapestries, but the pictures are neither numerous nor remarkable. The tombs of Prince Eugene, which cost 40,000 ducats, and that of Frederick IV., ornamented with 300 figures and thirty-eight coats of arms, are the only ones deserving notice.

Beneath the church is the crypt of the Imperial family, where, from 1365 to 1576, their bodies were interred; but from that period only their bowels, which are preserved in copper vases, the heart being sent to the Augustin's church, and the body to the Capuchins. There are also, at a great depth, thirty vaults or catacombs of vast extent, which are crowded by millions of uncoffined bodies, principally of persons who died in the great plague of 1713, which, from a peculiarity in the atmosphere, do not decompose, but resemble tanned leather.

The service, especially the musical portion, here, as well as in all the other churches of Vienna, is of a grand and imposing character, performed with masterly excellence by a numerous choir.

No. 42.-Wasser Kuntz Bastei.

The small building on the Bastion is so called from being a species of pump-room, where mineral waters, native and foreign, are sold.

No. 43.—Glacis.

The ancient fortifications having become, from the extension of the suburbs, nearly useless, Joseph II., in 1781, caused roads and walks to be formed through the entire Glacis, and the whole to be planted with limes, chesnuts, and acacias, thus forming a most agreeable park round the whole city.

No. 44.-S. Carlo.

This church, which is one of the handsomest in Vienna, was erected by Charles VI. in fulfilment of a vow made by him during the raging of the plague in 1713. It has a splendid but half barbaric front, and has frequently been compared to the Mosque of Santa Sophia at Constantinople. It is surmounted by a noble dome, from the lantern above which the present Panorama was taken, the church consequently is not seen. In front of the church stand two immense columns, of the Doric order, 41 feet in height, the upper portions of which are visible; round each is represented in relief, the principal events in the life of S. Charles Borromeo; the capitals are surmounted by small turrets with bells, and four eagles of bronze gilt, whose extended wings form a balustrade.

No. 45 .- Prater,

The far-famed Hyde Park of Vienna, is a drive and promenade of immense extent, formed on several islands of the Danube, and finely diversified with wood and lawn. The Prater is much frequented, and countless amusements are to be found for all classes and ages; there being a large hippodrome, a panorama, cafés, rooms for dancing, swings, roundabouts, and an endless variety of games. The end of April and the beginning of May is the time for the fashionables to visit the Prater: at the proper hour the carriages form a continuous line from the centre of the city, and at least 20,000 pedestrians are present.

Close to the Prater is the terminus of the Great Northern Railway, extending, at present, to Brunn, but to be continued to Cracow, 276 miles.

No. 47.—Hospital,

An enormous and well-regulated building, founded by Joseph II. It contains ten quadrangles, 111 wards, sixty-one for males, fifty for females, and 2212 beds. It receives annually from 18,000 to 20,000 patients, who are divided into four classes, according to their means, those who can afford it paying small sums for extra accommodation. The whole is under the direction of a chief, twenty physicians, eight surgeons, and thirty-one assistants. There is also a clinical school, with a professor.

No. 48.—University,

Established in 1237, and re-organised by Maria Theresa. The building is large and commodious, but very plain, and is surmounted by an observatory; besides a series of large halls, it contains a museum of natural history, and an extensive library. The professors are about eighty, and the pupils usually number 2000. The church has a handsome portico between two towers; it formerly belonged to the Jesuits, and has several good paintings at the various altars.

No. 51.—Church and Convent of Dominicans.

The convent was erected in the twelfth century, and belonged to the Knights Templars; at the extinction of the order it was given to the Dominicans. The church was built 1631, and is ornamented with some good statues, pictures, and frescos.

No. 53 .- Wasser Garten,

A good garden, taking its name from an establishment where all the mineral waters of Germany, &c., are to be obtained. It also contains a large cafe, and there is during the day a good band in attendance. This garden ranks as one of the principal fashionable promenades, from May to October.

No. 54.-Wagram,

A small village memorable for the battle fought July 5, 1809, between the Austrian and French armies, in which the latter were completely victorious, the Austrians being defeated at all points, with immense loss.

No. 58 .- Convent of Elizabethines.

The Nuns of Santa Elizabeth are a charitable order; they receive and carefully attend females suffering from severe maladies. The convent has 50 beds; and about 500 patients are relieved annually, who are attended by a physician and surgeon.

No. 59 .- Lichtenstein Palace,

Like all the other palaces of Vienna, remarkable for its great extent, and the noble collection of pictures and other works of art it contains.

No. 63.—Erdberg,

A small suburb erected on the spot where Richard Cœur de Lion was made prisoner, on his return from the Holy Land, in 1192, by Leopold Duke of Austria. Although now included within the lines, it was at that period a petty village at some distance.

No. 65.—Castle of Pressburg,

The capital of Upper Hungary and the seat of the Diet, is celebrated for the peace between France and Austria having been signed there in 1805. The castle or palace on the hill is visible, although 36 miles from Vienna. It is now merely a ruin, having been destroyed by fire in 1811. It was here that Maria Theresa, at the commencement of her reign in 1741, when deserted by her allies, and pressed hard by her enemies, received the deputation of the Hungarian Estates.

No. 66.—The Noble German Guard.

The German Body-Guard, or Archers, formed 1760, is the first military rank in Vienna. It is composed of seventy officers who have seen service, who wear a splendid uniform of scarlet, faced with black velvet, richly ornamented with gold.

No. 69 .- Danube, and Island of Lobau.

The first river in Europe, which, traversing Swabia, Bavaria, Austria, and Hungary falls into the Black Sea, after a course of 1300 miles. Half a league above the city it divides into several streams, forming many pleasant wooded islands, and about the same distance below, unites again into one stream. The river is hard frozen every winter, and the breaking of the ice in spring is generally attended with destruction of bridges, and wide-spreading inundation. In 1830 the ice broke at midnight, and inundated the dwellings of 50,000 persons, many of whom were drowned.

When the French invaded Austria in 1809, the bridges of the Danube having been destroyed, Buonaparte caused five to be formed, connecting the right bank with Lobau and other islands, and thence to the left bank, near the village of Asperne; and on the 20th of May, passed with his army, without opposition from the Archduke Charles, who was encamped in the neighbourhood, taking possession of the villages of Asperne and Essling, and the plain between. On the following day the Austrians attacked Asperne, which became the scene of a most desperate struggle, and was taken and lost many times during the day. On the 22nd the battle raged with great fury in both villages, and terminated in the defeat of the French, and their retreat to Lobau, with the loss of 20,000 men. Some fire-ships having in the meantime destroyed the other bridges, their further retreat was cut off, so that on this small island, not more than 21 miles long by 12 broad, and the adjoining one of Entzersdorf, which is much smaller, Buonaparte remained nearly two days, with an army of 150,000 foot and 30,000 horse, and had he been attacked, must have been destroyed. In that time, however, he reestablished the communication with the right bank, and fortified the island. On the 5th of July, having again constructed secretly three bridges, which were suddenly thrown across the river, the army during the night crossed, carried the two villages, and attacked Wagram, which was the scene of such fierce encounters, that by night only one house remained standing. The following day the great battle was fought which terminated the war.

No. 71.—Church of the Salesiennes.

The Church, belonging to the Sisters of the Visitation, called Salesiennes, stands in the Rennweg. It is built after the style of St. Peter's, in the city, and the cupola is finely painted by Pelligrini. It contains many good pictures.

No. 72.—Palace of Prince Schwarzenberg,

A superb edifice, facing the city, containing a noble collection of works of art. The extensive grounds are beautifully planted, and are ornamented with orangeries, conservatories, fountains, and statues; they are at all times open to the public; and are said to be the resort of love-sick maidens.

No. 73.—Botanic Garden of the University.

The old part of this fine garden was presented to the University by Maria Theresa, in 1756. It contains a fine collection of all the known medical plants, as well as a general collection. The new portion, presented by Francis I., comprises an assemblage of all that is rare and scarce from all parts of the world, amounting to at least 10,000 species. The garden is open to the public. Adjoining is the Botanic Garden. This extensive garden, which was planted, by order of Francis I., by the late eminent botanist, Dr. Host, contains a collection of all the plants that nature produces in Austria and the adjacent countries.

No. 75.—Palace of Belvedere.

The Upper Belvedere is a noble building, situated on a commanding eminence. It was built by Prince Eugene, who resided in it the latter years of his life; after his death, it was purchased by the Government, who placed in it the Imperial collection of paintings, amounting to no less than 2500, by the very best masters. From the upper palace a vast and well laid-out garden conducts to the Lower Belvedere, a palace but little inferior in outward magnificence to its namesake, and equally interesting from the fine collections it contains, namely, the gallery of paintings, a noble armoury of 140 complete suits, 1200 portraits of celebrated persons, and various works of art and curiosities of all kinds, brought from the Château Ambras, in Tyrol, in 1806; also, a museum of Egyptian antiquities, statues, busts, reliefs, &c.

No. 76 .- Railway Station.

There are three railways have their termini at Vienna—one to Cilly, the second to Prague, and the third to Bruck. They are, perhaps, the most magnificent in existence; the termini and stations are remarkable for their size and splendour, the waiting rooms are like drawing rooms, and the saloon carriages are furnished with looking glasses, divans, tables, &c.

No. 77 .- Road to Laxembourg and Italy.

Laxembourg is an Imperial residence of small extent, about nine miles from Vienna; the gardens are extensive, and are ornamented with castles, ruins, chapels, &c. It was the favourite resort of the late Emperor Francis.

No. 78 .- Ritter Theresa Academy,

In the summer palace of Charles VI., called the Favourite. It was established by Maria Theresa, in 1746; afterwards suppressed and re-opened in 1797. It is solely devoted to the education of young noblemen, who, to the number of 200, are taught by 27 professors, every European language, as well as every science, and ornamental art. It possesses a fine library, a museum of natural history, a collection of 12,000 coins, a botanic garden, riding school, &c.

No. 79 .- Institution for the Deaf and Dumb,

Founded by Joseph II., 1784, where sixty of the afflicted poor of both sexes are clothed, fed, and instructed, and at the age of fourteen are suitably provided for.

No. 80 .- Spinning Cross.

The Spinnerinn am Kreutz is a Gothic cross, standing high on the Wiener-wald, about a mile and a half from the lines, in the fine road to Carinthia and Italy. It is said to have been erected in 1547, by Crispin Pollitzer, who decorated it with statues of Crispinus and Crispianus, whence its present name was derived, and not, as popular tradition asserts, from a love-sick maiden, who vowed, when her lover set out for the Holy Land, to sit there and spin until his return. It also commemorates the retreat of Solyman the magnificent, and the valour of an ancestor of the present house of Schwarzenberg; who, by his courage and skill foiled every attempt of the infidels to take the city in 1529. The road leads to Nieudorf and Baden. Baden, situated at the foot of a branch of the Wiener-wald, is a large town, created and supported by the celebrity of its sulphur, springs, and baths. It used to be much frequented by the court, but the life of the present Emperor having been attempted there, he has taken a dislike to it. It has a Theatre, Assembly Rooms, and Gardens, and the usual amusements of a German Spa.

No. 81.—Modling, &c.,

A pretty town, with a venerable church, once forming part of a building occupied by the Knights Templars. In the crypt beneath, forty knights were barbarously murdered in one hour, when the order was abolished. The ancient castle was formerly the residence of the Margraves, and the Alteschloss, one of the most ancient strongholds of Germany, and the cradle of the Lichenstein family, is now occupied in summer by a restaurant, the neighbourhood being a favourite resort of the Viennese. The hill of Brühl, seen above Modling, is crowned by the Temple of Glory, erected by Prince Lichtenstein (to whom the whole extensive domain belongs) to the memory of the brave Hussars, who rescued him at the expense of their lives at the battle of Asperne.

No. 83 .- Schonbrunn,

An Imperial pleasure palace and gardens, about two miles from the city. It is large and handsome, and is richly furnished. It was inhabited by Buonaparte in 1809, when the treaty named after it was signed; his life was also attempted by an enthusiastic German student in the gardens. The Duke of Reichstadt generally resided there, and died in the same bed that had been occupied by his father. The Gloriette, a temple on the high ground behind the palace, presents a fine view of Vienna.

No. 85 .- Heideldorf, Hacking, St. Veit,

Small villages in the vicinity of Schonbrunn, containing a number of country and pleasure houses of the citizens, also many houses of entertainment, and gardens for music; there is also a Tivoli, the Vauxhall of Vienna, in the neighbourhood.

No. 86 .- Asylum for Lunatics,

A large fanciful building, surrounding a court, with a circulur tower five stories in height, in which the incurable patients are confined. The Asylum contains 250 beds.

No. 87.—Santa Maria Hilf,

The parish church of the suburb of Maria Hilf, is a small plain building, celebrated for a very sacred image of the Virgin that decorates the principal altar, to which great honours are paid by numerous pilgrims.

No. 90.—Church of the Academy of Engineers.

The Academy, founded in 1745, contains 200 pupils, who are taught all branches of civil and military engineering, and every branch of education and art connected with them. After a certain time they enter the troops of the line as officers.

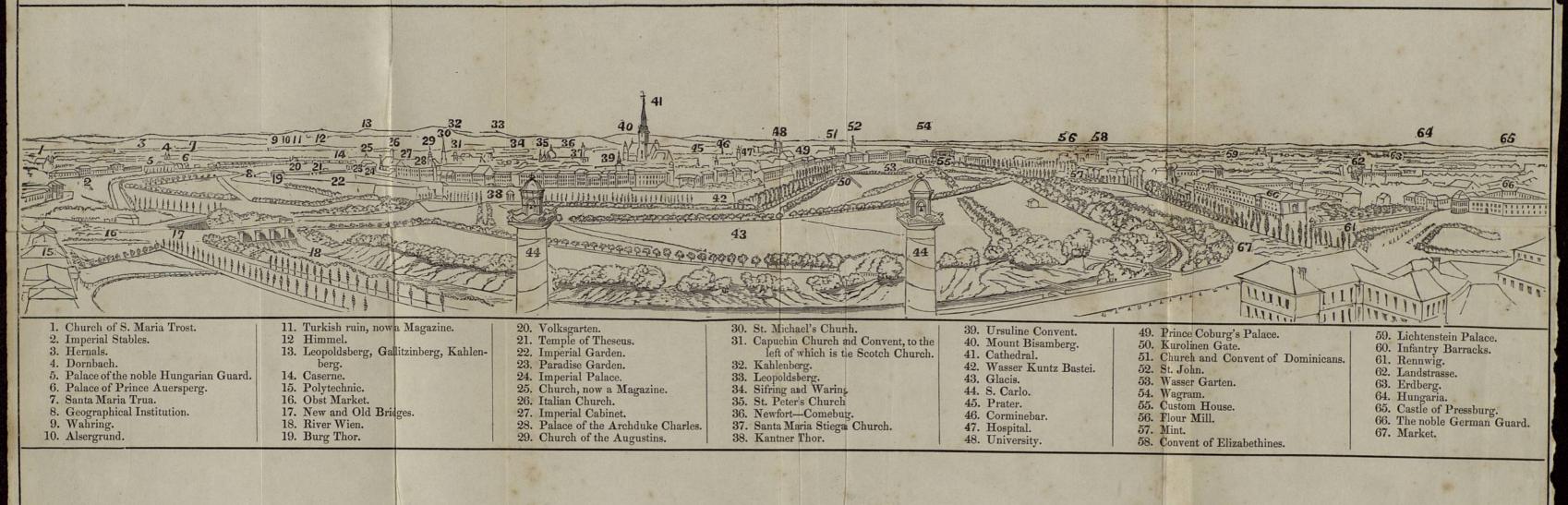
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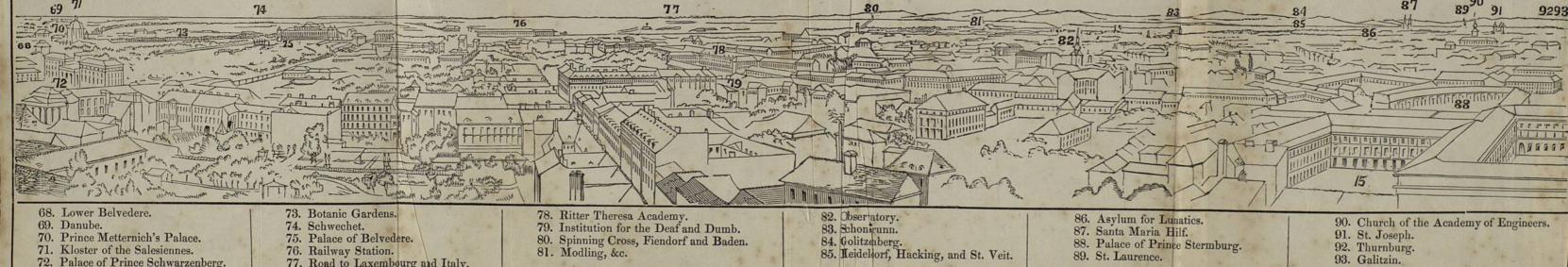
VIEW OF THE



LEICESTER SQUARE.

CITY OF VIENNA.





- 69. Danube.
- 70. Prince Metternich's Palace.
- 71. Kloster of the Salesiennes.
- 72. Palace of Prince Schwarzenberg.
- 74. Schwechet.
- 75. Palace of Belvedere.
- 76. Railway Station.
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- 80. Spinning Cross, Fiendorf and Baden.
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- 90. Church of the Academy of Engineers.
- 91. St. Joseph. 92. Thurnburg.
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