



VIENNA



VIENNA AND THE EMPEROR.

By ALFRED FREIHERR VON BERGER.

GRILLPARZER says in his autobiography "The love towards my country I would heartily also convey to its reigning family as the true representative of the same." These words express plainly the inmost secret of Austrian patriotism. Every true Austrian thinks as GRILLPARZER. The patriotic sentiment, which elsewhere may be connected with other ideas and matters, is in Austria most apparent in the affectionate attachment and the reverence towards the person of the Emperor and the imperial family. And otherwise it could not be. The vast realm of the Austrian Monarchy, composed of so many different countries and nations, is a political creation, too complicated and unconnectable, as to be, as a whole, an object of popular enthusiasm and veneration.

To comprehend the grand idea which created and governs the Austria of today, it needs to be a thorough politician, and even the trained thinker will hardly succeed in finding a solution for this, which would be satisfying, alike to the heart and to the mind. Not so easily then, as in a state of single nationality, can in Austria, the natural love for the country be fostered and kindled to fiery enthusiasm for the entire realm. This lofty feeling, however, is indispensable for so well mannered a people as the Austrian, and hence it is animated or enlivened by that which in Austria represents the real and visible embodiment of the State. This is the Emperor and the imperial family.

It would be an attractive, though not very easy task, to trace the development of the cordial relation that exists between the imperial house and the people. It might be shown that this is not accidentally, but that enlightened

sovereigns, who understood their people, had worked for this purpose with instinctive wisdom. MARIA THERESIA, as well as the Emperor FRANCIS did not discard the homely dialect which is spoken by Austrians of the capital and the Austrian Alps. To the members of the imperial dynasty the pastimes and enjoyments of their people were always well known. The "Wiener" who passes his Sunday after-

noons in the Prater or the Palace grounds of Schönbrunn and enjoys himself during the evening in the

Burg Theatre, considers himself a guest of the Emperor. He takes his dearest

Sunday enjoyments as coming from the person of the Emperor and not from the impersonal state. By

means of such powerfully acting causes and similar ones, an attachment and a devotion for the Emperor and his dynasty has sprung up amongst the Viennese, which, during

the many internal, as well as external trials and visitations, has proved to be the soundest

and most trustworthy foundation on which the state is built. The attachment to his

dynasty is with the Austrian a sentiment so keen and so unextinguishable, that it

is also found lingering there, where it was thought to have died out

long ago. However numerous and overpowering the changes and trials were, through

which it had to pass, it overcame them all. Not in his sorest trials will

the true Austrian show want of courage. He, who wishes to study this sentiment on

the spot, needs only to get into conversation with a true, Vienna born and bred individual, and turn the subject upon the Emperor. He

will then soon learn that the honest fellow has shared with his Emperor, during the past fifty years of his reign every joy and every grief that has

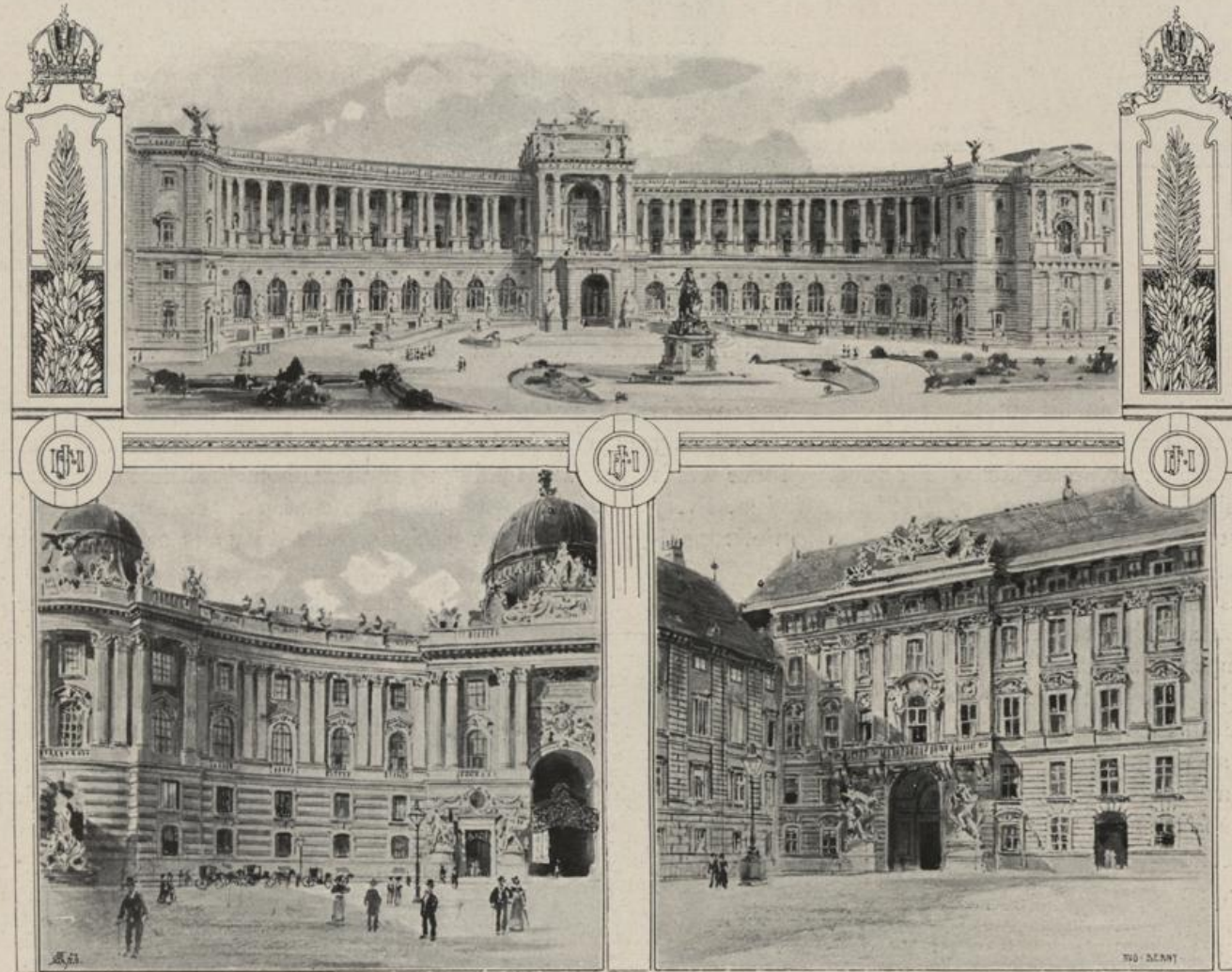


THE EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH.*)

*) After a picture by K. Pochwalski, reproduced by the Gesellschaft für vervielfältigende Kunst in Vienna.

fallen to his lot. He will deeply lament, that the Emperor has not been able to enjoy the years of his youth sufficiently, having been called to the throne at a very early age. The two great wars, which cost Austria two flourishing countries and her position among the German states, he looks upon as visitations, which have befallen the Emperor in person. And if peradventure the death of the unfortunate Crown Prince RUDOLPH should be mentioned, it will be seen that the unspeakable grief of the Emperor is fully shared by his subjects. And yet by the very way he speaks of these

having gained a great and noble victory ran through every heart. The same lofty and affecting manifestation has been noticed in these latter days, when a cruel fate deprived the Emperor of the august and deeply beloved companion of his throne, who had been the constant support and companion in all his trials. The nation of Austria and above all the Viennese may well boast of having ameliorated by the warmth of their affection and by the depth of their sympathy, this unutterable grief of their Emperor.



FRONT VIEW FROM THE MICHAELS PLATZ.

THE NEW WING.

THE FORMER "LORD CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE"
(now Study of the Emperor).

THE HOFBURG (IMPERIAL RESIDENCE).

Drawn by RUD. BERNT.

terrible events, a certain elevation seems to vibrate through his words, for during those days of sore trial, the dynastic sentiment that forms the fundamental pillars of the Austrian Empire, was brought to light in a most touching and thrilling manner. Millions of Austrians forgot their own personal cares and sorrows, and suffered unspeakable grief and sore distress for and with their Emperor. And when at last the Emperor's sense in duty proved to be stronger even than this greatest grief, he manfully subdued this heaviest visitation of his much tried life, and a lofty feeling as of

This affection still exists undiminished. It is the Austrians' hope and consolation. With deep emotion were the Emperor's words read, which he spoke to Burgermaster Doctor LUEGER on the occasion of the festival procession of the children, and in which he referred so touchingly to the many sorrows he had to undergo during the last year. This emotion will be an omen to us, that everything will end well, and that the proverb: "Austria will exist for ever until the end" will be verified. Love is, according to God's Holy Word, the greatest power of All.



THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARCHITECTURE IN VIENNA UNDER THE EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH.

By JOSEPH BAYER.

THE reign of the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH, the 50th year of which just now has been celebrated, comprises at the same time the most eventful epoch of the development of Vienna. In our time of galloping events, half a century means

much. The pace of its progress is continually on the increase and is almost forced to excess. This is shown in social relations, in commerce, and also in the great activity in architectural enterprise. Its aim is partly directed towards the outer periphery of the capital; but the inclination towards innovation has penetrated already into the inner parts of the old town, and endeavours to transform the centre part of Old Vienna into a new city.