

## Palaces and other Remarkable Edifices.

The Imperial Palace consists of a pile of buildings built at different epochs, which in their structure present no other remarkable feature save that of being exceedingly plain.

The oldest part of the pile is the side-wing to the east, built about the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. In the year 1275 it was destroyed by fire. Ottokar II caused it to be rebuilt, and Ferdinand I had the whole palace enlarged. Leopold I began the long south front in 1660, and towards the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century the side-wing to the west was commenced. The north side, closing the oblong square, contains the *Reichskanzlei* (chancery of the empire). It is considered one of the finest pieces of modern architecture in Germany, and was built by *Fischer of Erlach* in 1728. The figures that adorn the two gateways, representing four labours of Hercules, are by *Mathielly*.

The long south front is that part of the palace inhabited by the present Emperor. — Here may be seen the reception rooms and the splendid gala-room built under Emperor *Francis I* (1805). — The imperial apartments are open to visitors during the absence of his Majesty the Emperor. The most remarkable part of them is the *Rittersaal*, in which court balls and state ceremonies are held and foreign ambassadors received. Between the palace of *Leopold* and the Swiss-Court (*Schweizerhof*) is to be seen the grand staircase called

*Adlerstiege*, which was constructed under *Charles VI* (1730). The buildings adjoining the palace again form two squares called Swiss-Court and Joseph Square, one of the sides of which latter belongs to the imperial library, one of *Fischer's* greatest master-pieces. The large room in the library measures 78 M. by 17; — eight columns support its ceiling which is adorned with twelve statues representing the princes of the House of Habsburg, *Charles VI*, and the bust of *Van Swieten* in marble. The paintings on the ceiling are by *D. Gran*. The ball-room in the *Redoute* (Redoutensaal) and the Winter Riding-School, the finest in Europe, are on the west side of the square, and were constructed by *Fischer of Erlach*.

**The Court Theatre**, adjoining the Winter Riding-School was commenced in 1741 and enlarged in 1760 (see the article Theatres).

The Swiss-Court leads to the Cabinet of the Emperor, the private Court Library, the Treasury, the Astronomical Cabinet, and the Court Fountain.

The northern side of the Palace (chancery of the kingdom) contains the Archives of State and the apartments destined to the reception of foreigners of distinction. The magnificent stair-case called *Batthyany-Stiege* was constructed by *Fischer of Erlach* (1761). The appellation of „Augustiner-Gang“ has been given to the passage which unites the Swiss-Court to the Augustin Church and to the palace of Archduke *Albert*, and contains a rich collection of ancient coins and other antiquities as well as the Cabinet of Mineralogy. The „Laternengang“ (Lantern passage) leads under ground from the „Augustinergang“ to the Court garden.

**The Palace of the Government of Lower Austria** (Statthalterei), Herrengasse 11, built by *Sprenger* (1847).

**The Palace of the States of Lower Austria**, Herrengasse 13, was begun in 1838 and finished in 1844 by architect *L. Pichl*. The frescoes in the large room are by *Pozzo*, the paintings on glass in the chapel by *Geyling* from drawings by *Schnorr*. In the Court-yard belonging to this building broke out the revolution of 1848.

**The National Bank**, Herrengasse 15, 17, at the corner of the Strauchgasse, facing the *Freiung*, was built between the years 1856 and 1860, after the plans of *Ferstel* in the Italian Renaissance style. It is a fine structure in bricks covered over with hewn stone. Here is a passage which communicates between the *Freiung* and the Herrengasse; the frescoes on the stair-case are by *C. Geiger*.

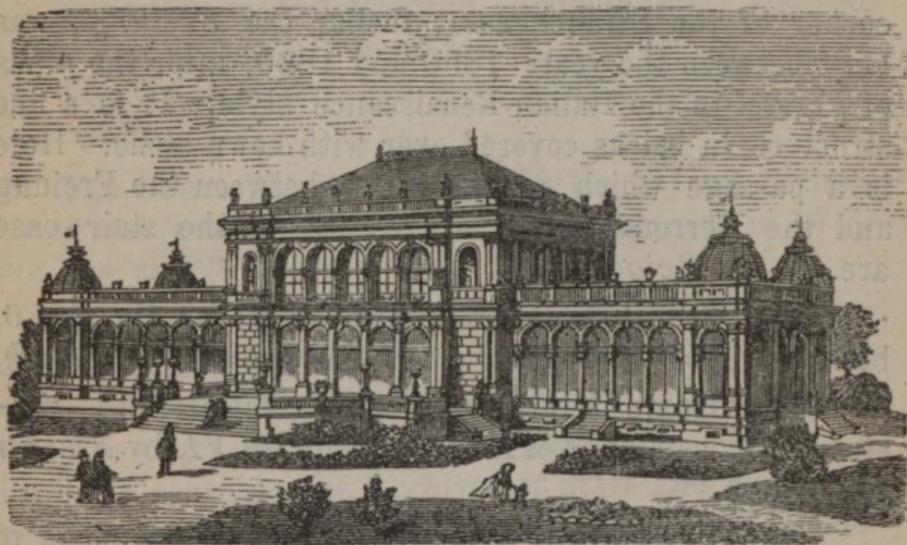
**The Credit-Bank** (Crédit mobilier) on the Hof 6, built in 1858 and 1859 after the plans of *Fröhlich*.

**The Home Ministry**, Wipplingerstrasse 11, constructed by command of Emperor *Charles VI*, by *Fischer of Erlach*.

**The Town-Hall**, Wipplingerstrasse 8, consists of a cluster of houses which have successively become the property of the corporation. The most ancient part of the building, dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and is situated Salvatorgasse, near the chapel. It has since been restored. The large room in which the Municipal-Corporation meet, is adorned with statues by *Rammelmeier*, with Cariatides, basreliefs, and coat-of-arms by *Gasser*, the paintings on glass by *Geyling*. In the Court-yard is to be seen a fountain with a basrelief in metal, by *Donner*.

**The Ministry of Finances**, Himmelpfortgasse 8, 10, 12, its construction was commenced in 1703, by *Hildebrand* and completed by *Fischer of Erlach*, for the Prince *Eugene of Savoy*. The stair-case and hall produce a great effect. The whole edifice is a good specimen of the quaint old style.

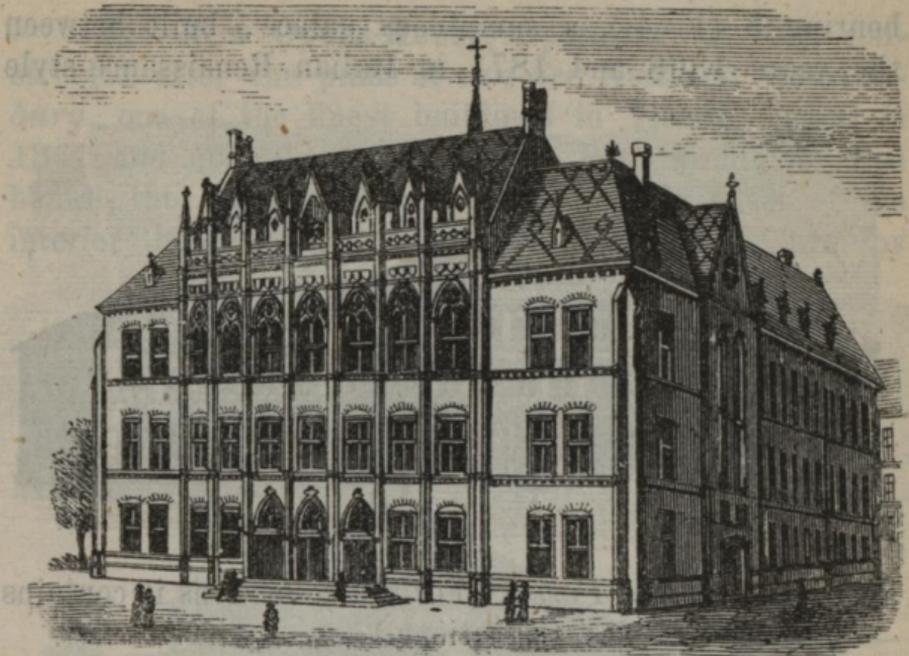
**The Academy of Sciences**, Universitätsplatz 2, built in 1754 under the patronage of *Maria-Theresia*. The frescoes in the large hall (Aula) by *Guglielmi*. Till 1848 the university had its seat in this building.



**The Cur-Salon**, Stadtpark, built 1865 after the plan of *J. Garben*.

**The Building of the Horticultural Society** in Parkring, built under the direction of *A. Weber* in 1864, contains a very beautiful room on each side of which are two smaller ones and two hot-houses.

**The Academic Gymnasium** on the bank of the Wien (river), Christinengasse, was constructed under the direction and after the plans of *Frederic Schmidt* between the years 1863 and 1866. This building is remarkable



for the great simplicity of its style. Its main front on the Christinengasse is the only part which is ornamented. Its chapel is very pretty.

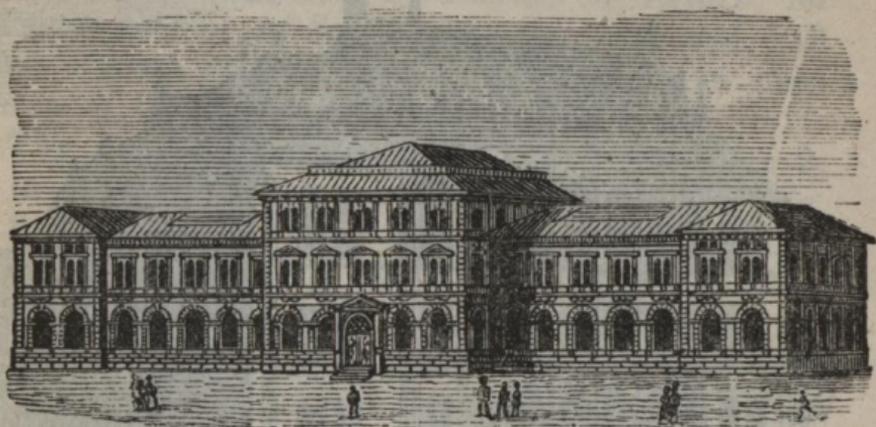
**The Academy of Commerce**, Akademiestrasse 12 (E. 5.), after the plan of architect *F. Fellner*, was built between 1860 and 1862. The two statues of *Christoph Columb* and *Adam Smith* on the main front are by *Cesar*. This institution was founded in 1857 and counts now 830 pupils and 43 professors.

**The Protestant School**, Technikerstrasse, built at the expense of the community by *Th. Hansen* between 1860 and 1862.

**The Building belonging to the Society of Arts** (Künstlerhaus) (E. 5.) facing the Academy of Commerce, built after the designs of *August Weber*, is also of recent construction (1865).

**The Imp. Austrian Museum of Art and Industry** (k. k. österr. Museum für Kunst und Industrie), Stu-

benring 5 (F. 4.), a sumptuous palace, built between the years 1868 and 1871 in Italian Renaissance style



after the plans of *Ferstl*. (For the collections it contains — see the article: Collections.)

**The Building belonging to the Society of the Friends of Music**, Lothringerstrasse (E. 5.), was constructed by Architect *Hansen* in 1867. This building can boast of a splendid concertroom with accomodation for more than 2000 persons. The number of members belonging to this society is very large. It has a Conservatory of Music conducted by 43 professors, and attended by 490 pupils.

**The Court Stables**, Hofstallstrasse 1. This building was constructed by *Fischer of Erlach* in 1725 and renovated in 1845. 400 horses can find accomodation in it. There is besides a very interesting collection of saddles and harnesses as well as of shooting requisites. (To be seen every day of the week; entrance tickets are to be obtained in the „*Amalienhof*“ of the Imperial Palace.)

**The Polytechnic**, Wieden, Technikergasse 13, was built in 1816.

**The New Opera-House**, Opernring (E. 5.), constructed after the plans of *van der Nüll* and *Siccardsburg*, one of the finest buildings in Vienna, begun in 1861 and opened in Mai 1869. Both architects died before the building was completed. The effect of the interior is really imposing; the decorations are by



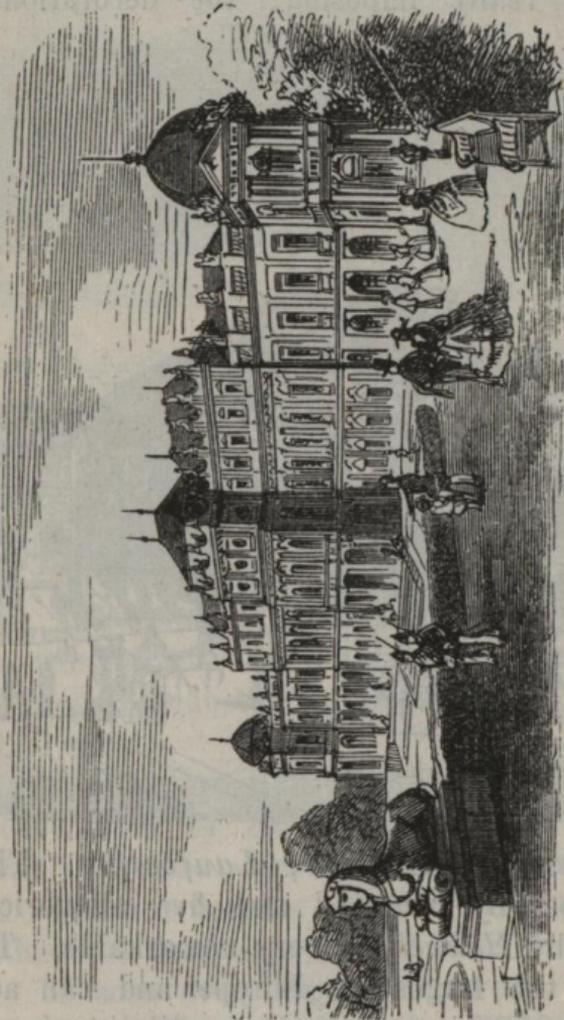
*Rahl*, *Schwind*, *Engerth*, *Laufberger*. The loggia, with frescoes by *Schwind* and five allegorical figures in bronze by *Hähnel*, is very remarkable. The Opera is one of the largest in Europe and can accommodate more than 3000 persons; the ventilation is admirable.

**The Theresianum**, Wieden, Favoritenstrasse 15. *Leopold I* caused this edifice to be constructed, and it subsequently became the summer residence of all the

Austrian Emperors, until *Maria-Theresia* devoted it to an educational institution for noblemen's sons.

**The Mint**, Landstrasse, Heumarkt 1, built by *Sprenger* in 1836. Interior to be seen every Thursday.

**The Belvedere Palace**, Rennweg 6 (F. 6.), foun-

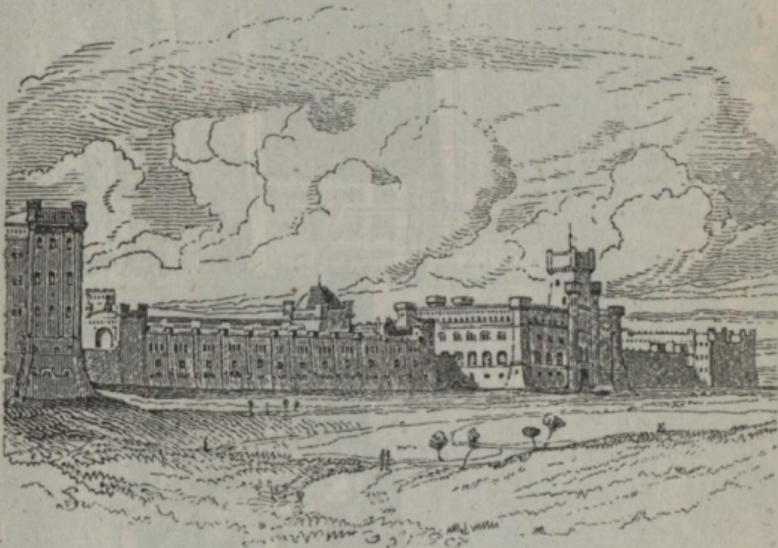


det by Prince *Eugene* (1693) and terminated in 1724 contains the renowned Collection of paintings (see the article: Picture Galleries).

**Imperial Military Riding-School**, Ungergasse 61, built by *Picchioni* in 1850 is divided into three wings; one contains the riding-school, a second, the apartments of the directors, and a third the board of Administration. The monumental group of a rider on a rearing horse is by *Meixner*.

**The Rodolph Hospital**, Landstrasse, Rudolphsgasse, built between the years 1860 and 1864, after the plan of *J. Horky*. Over 1000 patients find accomodation in it.

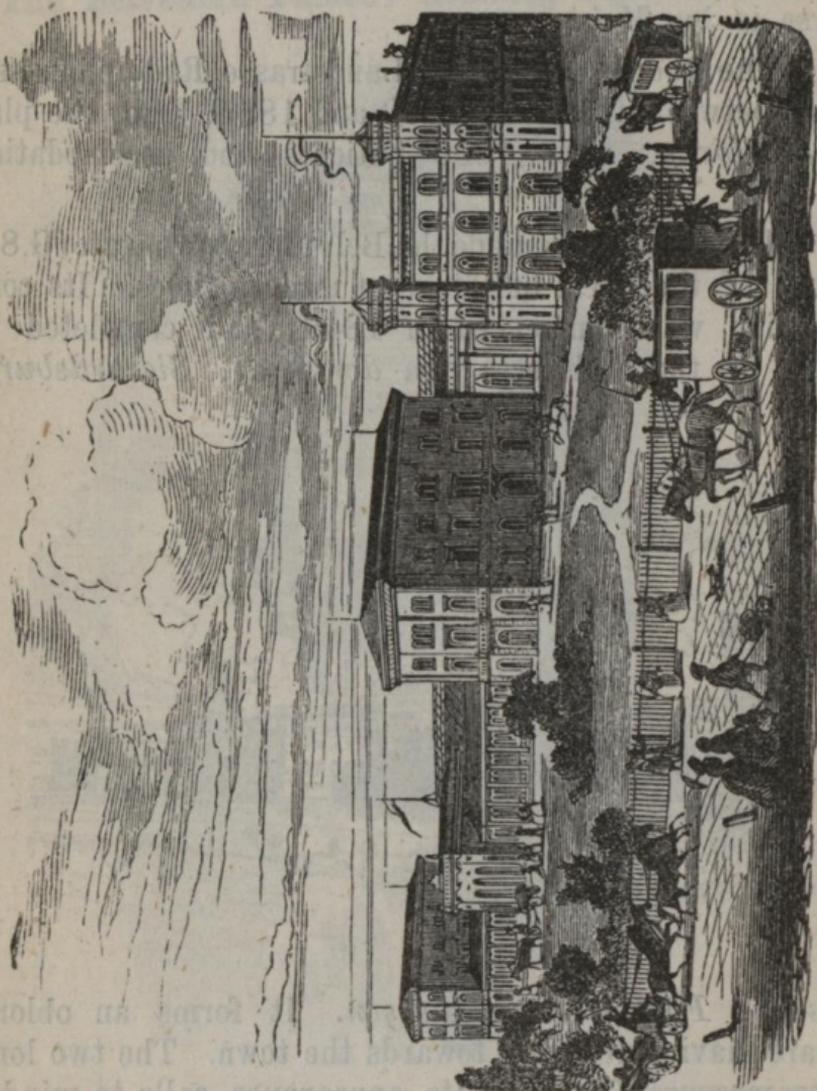
**The Arsenal**, outside the Belvedere town-gate (G.8.), is one of the finest buildings of modern times. Its construction was commenced in 1849, and completed in 1855 by the architects *van der Nüll*, *Siccardsburg*,



*Rösner*, *Förster*, and *Hansen*. It forms an oblong square having its front towards the town. The two long sides measure 690 M. Its appearance calls to mind a fortress consisting of four square pavilions. The central pavilion with the porch is inhabited by the comman-

ding officer. Its sculptures are by *Gasser*. In the centre is to be seen the church of our „Lady of Victory“. This vast pile of buildings can accomodate 3000 soldiers. — 2000 workmen are daily occupied here.

**The Terminus of the Western-Railway near**



the gate of Mariahilf (A. 6.), was constructed on the plan of *Löhr* between the years 1854 and 1858.

The sculptures on the main front are by *Meixner*; the marble statue of the Empress *Elizabeth*, in the hall, is the work of *Gasser*.

The **Terminus of the Northern-Railway** in the Leopoldstadt (G. 2.), in its present state dates



from 1865 in which year it was completed. — The architects *Stummer*, *Ehrenhaus*, *Hoffmann*, and *Hermann* directed the construction of this edifice. Its large

hall and waiting-rooms impress the visitor with admiration for the sumptuousness of their decoration.

**The Medico-Surgical Academy**, Währingergasse 15, built 1785 by express command of Emperor *Joseph II.*

**The Great Hospital**, Alserstrasse 4, founded by Emperor *Joseph II.*, in 1783. This vast building contains over 100 large rooms for patients, 60 private rooms, etc.

**The Lunatic Asylum**, Alsergrund, Lazarethgasse 14, built on the plan of *Nadherny*, was completed in 1851. It can receive 500 lunatics.

### Private Palaces.

**The Palace of Archduke William**, constructed in 1856 and 1866, under the direction of *Hansen*, in the



best Italian Renaissance style, is remarkable for the sumptuousness of its marble front. This palace is deemed one of the best specimens of modern architecture.

The Palace of Archduke Louis-Victor, Schwarzenbergplatz, built on the plan of *Ferstel* in the Italian



*Renaissance* style of the 16<sup>th</sup> century faces the square, and commands a view of the Kolowratring.

The Palace of Archduke Albert (Augustiner-Bastei) was constructed by architect *Montoyer* (1801 till 1804). This Palace is built upon a terrace, the last remnants of the ancient ramparts, and communicates, by a covered passage, with the new building (constructed in 1863 on the plan of *Hefst*), which faces the Hofburg-gardens, and is inhabited by functionaries of the Archduke.

**The Palace of Prince Montenuovo**, Strauchgasse, built in 1851—1852. The court-yard is embellished by a beautiful equestrian statue, representing St. George in the act of killing the dragon, by *Fernkorn*.

**The Palace of the Duke of Württemberg**, Kärntnerring, built on the plan of *Zanetti* (of Munich) between the years 1863 and 1864, was purchased in 1872



by Chevalier *Horace de Landau* and adapted to the now existing „Hôtel Imperial“, the most splendid of Vienna (see: Hôtels).

**The Palace of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg**, Seilerstätte 1, was constructed between 1843—1847 after the plans of *Schleps*, *Korompay*, etc.

**The Palace of Prince Liechtenstein**, Schenkenstrasse 9, *Hildebrand's* built (1694), one of the most splendid palaces of Vienna. This edifice has been very effectually renovated in 1847 by *Devignes*. The expense of its repairs amounted to some millions of florins.

**The Palace of Marquis Pallavicini**, Josephsplatz 5, was built (1784) for Count *M. Fries*, by *Hohenberg*. The Cariatides are by *Zauner*.

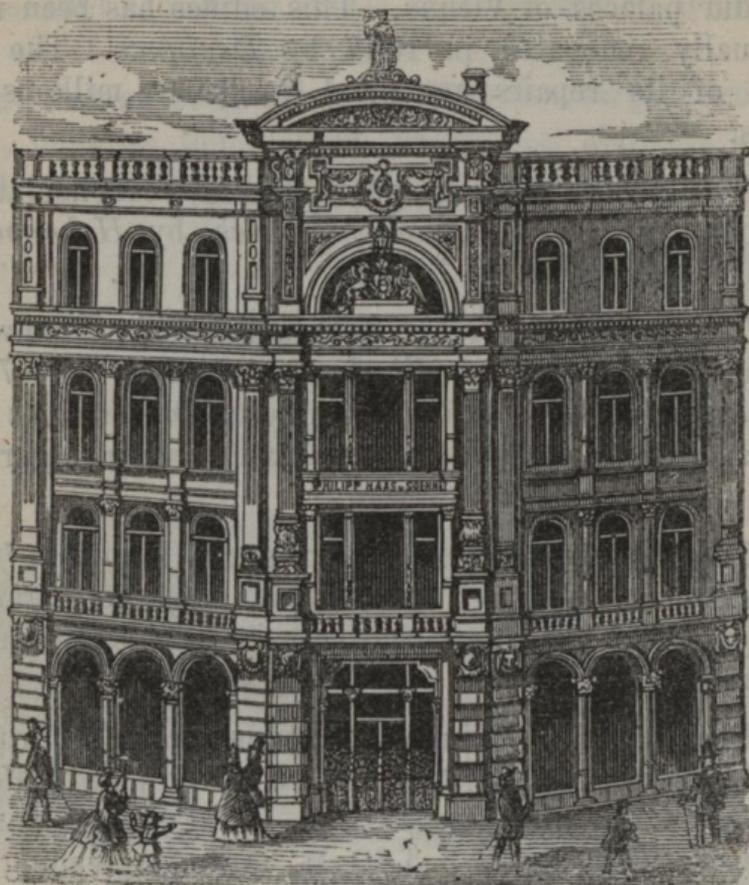
**The Palace of Prince Schwarzenberg**, Rennweg, begun on the plan of *Fischer of Erlach* in 1706, and terminated in 1725. The internal decorations are very sumptuous. Behind the palace is a large garden open to the public.

**The Palace of Prince Auersperg**, built in 1724, by *Fischer of Erlach*, Josephstadt, Auerspergstrasse. The temple of Flora (a pavilion) is considered as a masterpiece of that age.

**The Palace of Prince Liechtenstein**, Alsergrund, Liechtensteinstrasse 36, constructed on the plan of *Martinelli* between the years 1701—1712. A wonderful staircase of red marble, 3.80 M. large, is leading to the reception hall on the first floor with 18 marble columns and frescoes by *Pozzo*; it contains the celebrated gallery of paintings (see this Article).

**The Palace of Mr. Drasche** (Heinrichshof), Opernring, opposite the Opera. Six ordinary sized houses might have been built on the space allotted to this one large edifice, the work of architect *Hansen*. The frescoes between the windows of the fourth floor are by *Rahl*. This sumptuous building was constructed between the years 1861 and 1863.

The Warehouse of Philipp Haas and Sons, Stock-im-Eisenplatz 6, built in 1867 by *van der Nüll*



and *Siccardsburg*. The whole of the splendid building is occupied by the stores of this far-famed Carpet-Manufacturers.

To the preceding list we will add the names of a few dwelling-houses remarkable for their size, and the great number of lodgers they contain.

In the **Bürgerspital**, of very ancient built, *Kärntnerstrasse*, about 1000 persons find accomodation.

The **Freihaus**, property of Prince *Starhemberg*, *Wieden*, has 22 courts and over 200 dwellings inhabited by about 1200 persons.

There remain still to be mentioned some important buildings actually in construction, which, when completed will rank among the most splendid monuments of architecture of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

First of all — the new *Town-Hall* near the Franzensring (D. 4.) in the gothic style after the plans of *Frederic Schmidt*, will certainly be the grandest building of Vienna; it covers more than 18.000 □ M. and the anticipated time required for its construction is from 8 to 9 years, at an expence of 10 Millions of florins. — On both sides of the Town-Hall, divided by a Park with grand fountains, will stand, on the right, the *Houses of Parliament* in greek style after the plans of *Hansen* — to the left, the new *University* in Italian Renaissance after the plans of *Ferstl*. The whole of the lecture-halls of the latter (more than 40) will have to accomodate over 6000 students at a time; the Library united with the University will be similar in construction to that of St. Genéviève in Paris; a hall with 3 naves, 24 M. high, supported by 20 columns with accomodation for more than 400 students is destined to receive about 350.000 volumes.

On the Burgring two *Museums* are in construction after the plans of *Hasenauer* and *Semper*, one of which, near the Babenbergerstrasse (D. 5.) is predestined for the reception of the Picture Gallery actually in the Belvedere, the historical collections etc., the other, near the Bellariagasse is destined for the collections of natural history.

Last, but not least, we can mention the *New Exchange* on the Schottenring (F. 3.), after the plans of *Hansen* in Renaissance, a gigantic building, which occupies a space of nearly 9000 □ M.