

Historical Collections.

The Imp. Cabinet of Antiquities, Coins and Medals (k. k. Münz- und Antiken-Cabinet) in the Imp. Palace, entrance from Joseph square, east of the library, the staircase in the right-hand corner. Admission every Monday and Thursday from 10 till 2 o' clock.

This remarkable collection consists of a vast number of bronzes, Etruscan vases, terracottas, mosaics, ancient lamps, antique household utensils, and a great variety of intaglios. — No other Museum in Europe can boast of a similar collection of Cameos, among others, the *Apotheosis of emperor Augustus*, an onix 23 Centm. in diameter, with 20 beautiful figures, is a Cameo, which, although in size is surpassed by one in Paris, as to the workmanship is the finest roman specimen of the Augustinian age and has non to equal it in the world; — a head of Tiberius, and another of Mercurius are also very fine.

The same Cabinet (V) contains a Cup of oriental agat, 740 Mm. in diameter; it is an unicum as no other jewel of this size is known. — The collection of Coins and Medals contains over 130.000 specimens of ancient Greek and Roman Coins, dollars, florins, and false coins of the middle ages and modern times, ducats, and groschens; bronze medals, and oriental coins. From this rich collection was selected the most interesting portion and is exhibited in the first room at the right from the entrance.

The Imp. Cabinet of Egyptian Antiquities, in the lower building of the *Belvedere*. Contains 4 rooms

filled with specimens of Egyptian antiquities that have found no room in the Cabinet of the Imp. Palace. These consist chiefly of vases, papyrus rolls, mummies, sarcophagus, statues, bronze and terra-cotta (baked clay) curiosities. Very remarkable is a large *sarcophagus* with its lid of black granit, covered inside and outside with reliefs and hieroglyphs of an admirable workmanship; one of the finest sarcophagus of all which are known.

The Collection of antique Sculptures, Inscriptions and Mosaics in the same building, belonging likewise to the Imp. Cabinet of antiquities, is a collection of no great importance, but it contains two objects of the best period of grecian art, which by themselves fully indemnify the visitor, viz, a *bronze statue of Hermes* found in Carinthia and a sarcophagus, called the *Sarcophagus of the Fugger family*, with basreliefs of the *Battle of the Amazones*, of an extraordinary beauty.

The Collection of Ambras (Ambraser-Sammlung), in the lower building of the Belvedere, Rennweg 6. Its name its derived from the Castle of Ambras in Tyrol, where it was founded by the Archduke *Ferdinand* (second son of the Emperor *Ferdinand I*), in the second half of the 16th century, it was from thence, transferred to Vienna in 1806, when, subsequently to the peace of Presburg, Tyrol was given up to Bavaria. It is open to the public every tuesday and friday from 9 to 12, a. m. and from 3 to 6 p. m. and sunday from 9 to 1 o'clock. During the winter it remains closed. — This collection contains 143 authentic coat of mails, once the property of Princes and other illustrious personages of the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries; the most interesting collection of this kind in

Europe and of undoubtable authority; — great number of portraits representing illustrious men of the middle ages; — a nice selection of cut stones and many other rarities which occupy 7 saloons and cabinets.

This collection contains now the celebrated *mass-robes* worn at the foundation of the order of the golden fleece by order of *Philipp the good of Burgundy* which formerly were to be found in the Imp. Treasury — they are covered with 280 wonderful figures in embroidery after the designs of *Van Eyck* or one of his foremost scholars.

The Imperial Treasury (k. k. Schatzkammer). Admission is given on tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 to 1 o'clock. Tickets are to be obtained the day before presenting a card de visite from 10—12 at the passage between the Schweizerhof and the Josephsplatz. This collection, which occupies part of the Schweizerhof (Imperial Palace), contains a precious selection of vases and basins of gold, silver rocky cristal and jewels, partly of the most wonderful workmanship; — a great many specimens of ancient watches, surpassed perhaps by no other collection of this kind; — many historical and very valuable objects, the principal of which are: *the sacred relics used at the coronation of the German emperors* for many centuries, consisting of a crown adorned with uncut stones and bearing the inscription: *Chuo[n]radus Dei gratia Romanorum Imperator Augustus*, together with an orb, a sceptre, a sword, a tunic, a pair of gloves, and shoes. — To the Relics displayed on the occasion of an Emperors being crowned, belong besides the spear with which Jesus-Christ was transfixed by a soldier, nails from the holy Cross, one of John the Baptist's teeth, a fragment of St. John the Evangelist's gown, etc.

The imperial crown, the orb and sceptre of Austria, dating from *Rudolph II* and worn by the German Emperors when, after their proclamation, they solemnly entered the town of Frankfort (this crown studded with unpolished precious stones weighs 1189 grains; the orb, 484 ducats and the sceptre, 194 ducats); — the crowns worn by their Majesties the Emperor *Ferdinand I* and his Empress during the ceremony of their coronation at Prague (1837); the crown of the emperor, an imitation of that of *Rudolph II*, contains 20 large diamands, 504 small ones, 122 large round pearls, 745 small ones, etc.; finally the historical diamond called the „*Florentine*“, lost by *Charles the Bold* at the battle of Murten and picked up by a soldier who sold it for 1 florin; it weighs 133 carats (532 grains) and is worth about 1,000.000 florins. The collection of vases and basins contains the celebrated Salt-cellar made by *Benvenuto Cellini* of exquisite workmanship. Among the historical curiosities are to be mentioned: The crown, sceptre and robes worn by *Napoleon* at the time he was crowned king at Milan; — the cradle of the king of Rome; — the hunter's horn of Landgrave *Albert of Alsatia* and *Habsburg* (1190); — the sabre of *Tamerlan*; the swords of *John Huniadi*, *Maximilian I* and *Charles V*; the Horoscop of the Duke of Friedland (Wallenstein); the chains and necklaces of the different Austrian orders of distinction.

The Imperial Archives (k. k. Hof- und Staats-Archiv) in the Imp. Palace, instituted in 1749. A very valuable collection which, as to the relations of the Austrian Empire with Spain, the Netherlands and Italy is one of the most important Archives in Europe.

The Imperial Arsenal, outside of the Belvedere gate, rich in specimens of historical worth, among which are remarkable:

The armour of *Attila*, king of the Huns; — the hat of *Geoffrey of Bouillon* given to this warrior by the Pope when the former placed himself at the head of the crusaders on their pilgrimage to the Holy Land; — the attire of *Frederic the Martial*, last of the Babenbergs' race; — the armour of *Louis II*, king of Hungary, slain at the battle of Mohacz; the armour of *Charles V*; — the armours of the three *Ferdinands*; — that of *Rudiger of Starhemberg*, defensor of Vienna during the siege of the Turks (1683); — The flag of the Grand-Vizier and leader of the Turks during the said siege; — the armour worn by king *Sobieski* on the day of the battle which freed Vienna from its besiegers; — the leather collar worn by Prince *Eugene* with a bunsh of his hair; — the coat of mail of General *Montécucculi*; — the Polish flag of General *Kozciuszko*, and a good many more interesting reminiscence of old times. — The Arsenal may be visited daily.

The Civil Arsenal (das bürgerliche Zeughaus), Hof 10; admission every Monday and Thursday, from 9 to 12. The arsenal was founded in the 16th century, but the building which it now occupies dates from 1631. The rich collection of armours, exhibited in a hall is most splendid and well deserves to be seen; — the most remarkable objects are: 100 complete sets of armour, among which that of St. Hilary and of Philip, Count Palatine of the Rhine; — the flag of the 1st bataillon of the 5th regiment of French infantry wrested from Caldiero's hands by Archduke *Charles* (1805); — that of the Viennese Volunteers rescued by *Richter* at

the capture of Montoua (1797); — the standard of the Great-Master of the knights of Malta, Count John of Herberstein; — the Turkish banner which *Charles of Lorraine* carried off from Buda (Hungary) and which was before deposited in the Stephen's Church; — the ensigns of Field-Marshal *Loudon* with a tuft of his hair; — the crescent which ornamented the spire of St. Stephen's Church; — a standard of the town of Vienna (1529); — one of *Charles V.*; — one of *Ottocar of Bohemia*; — a mountain staff used by *Andreas Hofer*; the banner with which the Viennese Citizens effected a sally during the siege of Vienna (1683). —

The sheet and skull of *Kara Mustapha*; — which are shown here, lately have been acknowledged as false.

The Collection of Saddles (k. k. Sattelkammer) and the **Collection of Hunting Requisites** (k. k. Jagdkammer), without the Burgthor, Hofstallstrasse 1, contain a great many articles which deserve to be seen, such as caparisons, saddles, harness, etc., that have figured at the crowning ceremonies of princes, guns of great value, the arquebuse of *Charles VI*, the hunting suit worn by *Joseph II* and torn by a wilful stag, which in self-defence attacked and wounded the Emperor, and many other historical curiosities. At the same time may be seen the *Court Stables*. — see page 34.

Fine Arts.

The Imperial Academy of Fine Arts, Annagasse 3 (E. 5.), founded by *Joseph I* in 1705, later