

The People of Vienna.

The population of Vienna and suburbs is 650,000 inhabitants. It has a garrison of about 20,000 soldiers and 10,000 strangers are domiciliated here. In 1866 the sum of 32,000,000 florins was paid for house-rent. The established religion is the catholic, although there are 20,000 protestants, 2500 dissenting greeks, and 30,500 jews.

The Viennese were once described as a more eating, drinking, good-natured, and hospitable nation than any other in Germany, and Vienna was long considered "el Dorado" of a careless race who liked "to enjoy life" and had no objection to other people doing the same. The pleasures of the table, good music, and dancing, were highly prized. The Vienna of former days is now greatly changed, and the Viennese have assumed as earnest and reserved a deportment as the inhabitants of most other large European Cities. There are, however, many places of amusement, especially in the suburbs and environs of Vienna, which enjoy great popularity.

This city is very commercial, its tradesmen being reckoned the best in Germany; and the bustle in its streets is not equalled even in an English trading town. The art of effecting a safe passage through some of the principal thoroughfares on foot, amid a crowd of carriages, hackney-coaches, loaded waggons, and other ve-

hicles, there being in some instances but a very narrow foot-pavement, is said to remain a mystery for those who have had the most extensive London and Paris experience.

The language of the people of Vienna consists in a dialect greatly at variance with the German spoken in upper Germany. The better classes, particularly when speaking to strangers, express themselves in good German; but this seems to be an exertion, and they will soon be heard to relapse into some kind of unaffected dialect by far not so bad as that spoken by the lower classes, though by no means so correct as it should be. German is spoken at Court where, however, the Imperial princes are taught the French, English, and Italian languages in all of which, besides those of the empire, his Majesty the Emperor is said to excel. The children of the Austrian nobles are taught French and not seldom English since their earliest youth, and the better classes of tradesmen follow their example. Thus it is of no rare occurrence to meet with young people who have as yet never quitted the paternal roof, and are though possessed of no small degree of fluency in two, three, and even four languages. Music, drawing, and painting, are not overlooked, and in most families, education is carefully attended to.

As regards national costumes, Vienna can boast of displaying as great a variety of them as there are different nations comprised in the whole empire; to these we may add others belonging to the Greeks, Turks, and Polish jews, which latter, by the by, is not very picturesque.

It is a remarkable fact, that in proportion to the number of the inhabitants of Vienna, street-mendicity has been so effectually checked, that tattered clothes and haggard faces are seldom to be met with during day-time, a circumstance entirely owing to the unrelenting exertions of the police, which must be annoverated among the well-organized institutions of Austria.