

## 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 Friday from 10 o'clock a. m. It is advisable to apply previously at the cabinet for cards of admission, stating the names and number of visitors.

This remarkable collection consists of a vast number of antique household utensils, bronze vessels, Etruscan vases, lamps, and a great variety of cut stones; the apotheosis of emperor Augustus, an onix  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter with 20 beautiful figures; another onix with the head of Alexander the Great and his consort, and numerous other rarities. — The collection of Coins and Medals contains above 112,000 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. This collection which dates from Francis I, has been systematically arranged (1835) under the direction of Count Dietrichstein.

**The Imp. Cabinet of Egyptian Antiquities**, in the lower building of the *Belvedere*. Contains 5 large

rooms filled with such specimens of Egyptian antiquity as have found no room in the Cabinet at the Imp. Palace. These consist chiefly of vases, papyrus rolls, mummies, sarcophagus, statues, bronze and terra-cota (baked clay) curiosities. Very remarkable are: the lid of a coffin and a coat of mail made of the skin of a crocodile.

**The Collection of Ambras** (Ambraser-Sammlung), in the lower building of the Belvedere, Rennweg 6. Its name is 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 16<sup>th</sup> century, it was from thence, transferred to Vienna in 1806, when, subsequently to the peace of Presburgh, the 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. During the winter it remains closed. — This collection contains 143 authentical coats of mail once the property of Princes and other illustrious personages of the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries; — 1200 portraits representing illustrious men of the middle ages; — a library; a nice selection of cut stones; autographs and many other rarities.

**The Imperial Treasury** (k. k. Schatzkammer) open at 10 o' clock on Wednesdays. Tickets of admission may be obtained by a written application every Monday and Tuesday. — This collection, which occupies part of the Schweizerhof (Imperial Palace), contains many historical and very valuable objects, the principal of which are: *The Regalia* attributed to *Charlemagne*, consisting of a crown adorned with unpolished stones and bearing the inscription: *Conradus Dei gratia Romanorum imperator*,

together with an orb, a sceptre, a sword, a tunic, a pair of gloves, and shoes. — The Relics shown off on the occasion of an Emperor being crowned, viz; 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.; — the regal attire 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 sabre and battle-axe of *Apaffy*; the chains and necklaces of the different Austrian orders of distinction; — a crucifix carved by *Benvenuto Cellini*; finally the historical diamond called the "*Florentine*", lost by *Charles the Bold* at the battle of Grandson and picked up by a soldier who sold it for 5 florins; it weighs 133 carats (532 grains) and is worth about 1.000,000 florins.

**The Imperial Archives** (k. k. Hof- und Staats-Archiv) in the Imp. Palace, instituted by the Emperor *Maximilian*. A very valuable collection.

**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 by 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 bunch of his hair; — the coat of mail of General *Montecuccoli*; — the Polish flag of General *Kosciuszko*, and a good many more interesting reminiscences of old times. — The Arsenal may be visited daily, but it is indispensable to obtain permission from the War-Office (Kriegsministerium), Hof 17, or from the Commanding Officer (at the Arsenal itself; see under the head: Military Establishments and Edifices).

**The Civil Arsenal** (das bürgerliche Zeughaus), Hof 10; admission every Monday and Thursday, from 9 to 12. The arsenal originated in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, but the building which it now occupies dates from 1731. The rich collection of armours, exhibited in a hall two storeys high and 410 feet long, 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 1<sup>st</sup> bataillon of the 5<sup>th</sup> regiment of French infantry wrested from Caldiero's hands by Archduke *Charles* (1805); — that of the Viennese Volunteers rescued by *Richter* at the taking of Mantoua (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 winding-sheet and skull of *Kara Mustapha*: the ensigns of Field-Marshal *Loudon* with a tuft of his hair; — the shield of king *Mathias Corvin*; — the crescent which ornamented the spire of St. Stephen 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 (1693).

**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, etc.