

Public Safety and Comfort.

The internal city, comprising the *Ring*, forms one Police district; the suburbs are divided into 8 districts, each district having a Commissary Director with a certain number of functionaries under him, a physician, a surgeon, and a midwife. The general Direction of Police (Tuchlauben 4), comprises among other offices, those for foreigners, for cab and omnibus drivers, servants, and the conscription office.

The Austrian detective Police is generally acknowledged to be as efficient as that of London and Paris. During the day, policemen, whose duty it is to watch over public safety and order, are posted in different streets; At night they are replaced by watchmen who have to look to the shops and house doors on their round being properly closed and bolted.

The severity with which strangers used to be asked for their passport in former years has quite subsided in Austria. Passports are now only asked for at the Russian and Turkish Frontiers.

The omnibuses which traverse the town in all directions, occasionally causing great confusion in its narrow streets, are not allowed to stop during their drives except a few minutes at Stephen Square, Freiung, Hof, Neumarkt, and Hohenmarkt.

When driving through Vienna and its environs the coachman must keep on the left hand side of the street or road, and drive past any carriage before him to the right. — The doors of private houses are closed at 10 oclock p. m. Any body returning home after that time must pay the porter 10 krs. Dogs must not be allowed to run about the streets without wearing a wire muzzle.

Fire-men and Fire-engines, Hof, in the civil Arsenal. — In this establishment 7 large fire-engines, 27 water-carts, 50 fire-men, and 3 sweeps are always in readiness to answer the fire-bell of St. Stephen from whose belfrey a watchman by means of an electric telegraph gives the alarm, and signalizes the direction in which the fire has broken out; this takes place during day time by means of a red flag being hoisted up, and during the night by a lighted lanthorn.

The Establishments for supplying the Town with Water are, comparatively speaking, few. They mostly have to take their supplies partly from distant fountains, and partly from the Danube. Some of the water used in Vienna has to pass through 16,000 pipes before it reaches its destination. — Owing to this scarcity of water, Emperor Ferdinand caused a new water conduit to be constructed 1838, which bears the name of that monarch (Kaiser Ferdinands-Wasserleitung).

The Gas Illumination of Vienna (offices Bauernmarkt 8, and Erdbergerlande 14), is supplied by a branch of the London Imperial Gas Company; — the gazometers are in the suburbs Erdberg, Rossau, and Fünfhaus.

Prisons.

The Police House-of-Detention (k. k. Polizeihaus), Sterngasse 8. — A place for punishing trifling offences.

The Jail for the Punishment of Crimes (k. k. Strafericht und Criminal), Paradeplatz 19, for such criminals who have been sentenced to one year's imprisonment and for those who are still awaiting the verdict of the Court.

The Court of Justice itself and an hospital for the delinquents are comprised in the building, which can accommodate 350 criminals and 170 patients.