

## C H A P. IV.

BUDE—ROYAL PALACE—CASERNS—HOSPITALS—UNIVERSITY  
 —LIBRARY—THEATRES—COMBAT DES ANIMAUX—COFFEE-  
 HOUSES—HOT BATHS—ANTIQUITIES—FAIR—KETCHKEMET  
 HEATH—FIELD OF RÆKOSCH—SUPPOSED BASTILE, &c.

**T**HE entrance into Bude is the most unfavourable that can be conceived. There are no fortifications nor even gates to this city; and you enter the metropolis of Hungary as you do one of its villages: and as the Jews have occupied the first part of the town, it is not necessary to say, that the first thing that strikes you is poverty and filthiness.

If in this direction the metropolis does not strike you with its beauty, it does with its extent. From the time I took in going to my inn, I think the town must be three or four miles long; but as it has the Danube on the left, and the fortrefs on the right, it is very narrow.

When we speak of our metropolis, we generally consider the three towns which compose it, as one: so here we may consider the  
 cities



cities of Pest and Bude as one; for they are only separated by the Danube, over which there is a bridge of boats, and then this city is very respectable in its extent and population; Pest containing sixteen, and Bude or Offen twenty-two thousand inhabitants. The finest public and private buildings are in Pest, and within the fortrefs. The Royal Palace is a vast and stately pile of building. The Hospital for Invalids, now used I think as caserns, is fine and spacious, and the internal œconomy of it, good: it is calculated for four thousand men; but on emergencies can receive double that number. The Governor was so obliging as to conduct me through it himself. I was greatly pleased to see with what mildness he treated his men, and they in return looked up to him as to their friend. He receives no *seguiners* (gipsies) into his regiment; a most wise regulation. No doubt it was not the bad example which they might give, which alone induced him to exclude these vagabonds; but he wished to keep alive, in his regiment, a principle of honour, by considering his men as above being associated with thieves and vagrants; which is the common character of the *seguiners*; they would then, he thought, be less inclined to act like them; and, by entertaining a high opinion of themselves, require less the restraint of punishment. Nothing is so injudicious, and so injurious to the discipline of the army, as pressing into it the refuse of mankind. Likewise, to induce men to enter more readily into the service, and to make them bear their hardships more patiently, where such paltry pay is received, the soldier ought to be taught to consider his post to be a post of honour.

These



These soldiers seemed to live more comfortably than one would expect they could on two-pence-farthing a day (five creutzers); which is their pay; but they have a loaf of good rye bread, three pounds weight, every two days gratis. They in general mess together, and each gives daily a *gross*, which is something less than three-halfpence; this is only for their dinner, which takes place about ten or eleven o'clock. They had two or three good dishes. The Hospital belonging to this establishment is very good, and well managed.

For hospitals this town is badly off; that belonging to the University is good, but can admit very few; twelve or fifteen only; and that which belongs to the town, and is called the *Burgers Hospital*, is, I hope and really believe, the worst in Europe. Had I not seen it, I could not have believed such to have existed in this town. Every thing here, building, furniture, attendants, &c. &c. is miserable, stinking, and dirty. In a little shabby room, in which were eight beds, there was only one small window, and this shut, though the weather was hot. Seeing some flies on the face of a poor wretch, who appeared almost gone, I approached him; when one of the sick, thinking I doubted whether he was dead or asleep, said, "O, Sir, he is dead enough." Surely Joseph II. never was in this hospital, or he would have suppressed it as an insult to humanity. I believe there are in the town, as in most Catholic countries, some convents who undertake the painful but humane office of serving the sick.



The University has the rich foundation of twenty thousand pounds annual income\*; four thousand of which is applied to pay the salaries of the Professors. Besides the usual chairs which exist in every university, there are those of natural history, botany, and oeconomy. The collection of instruments for natural philosophy, and the models of machines, are good; and the Museum of Natural History, which contains the collection of the late Professor Piller, besides that of the University, may be ranked amongst the fine collections of Europe.

The Library occupies a very fine extensive hall; it possesses too few modern books of science, yet seems useful, by being very accessible, which is not usual with most public libraries; yet I found it not much frequented.

The Botanical Garden is good, but has very little hot-housing.

The Observatory is in one of the towers of the Royal Palace.

There are two theatres. That in Bude, which was originally a church, and was applied by the Emperor Joseph to this purpose, is a very good one; that in Pest is small, and with wretched scenery and wretched decorations. The pieces are generally played in German.

\* Korabinsky's Lexicon. As soon as the keeper  
but



but within these few years some have been given in the Hungarian language.

On *Sundays* and great festivals, the public is entertained as at Vienna with the *Hetze*. The proprietors have two very fine Wild-Bulls. The day I was a spectator of this polite and humane amusement one was turned out on the arena, and at the same time an Hungarian Ox: this attacked the former, but was immediately thrown down: but our English Bulls would have disputed the ground with him to greater advantage: an Hungarian Ox, and a *Bos ferus*, are very unequally matched. Then came a *Raube Bear*; this is a Bear that has been kept without food for several days, and rendered savage by hunger: on another Bear being let out a battle ensued: the latter was so much inferior in size that the contest did not last long: the *Raube Bear* kept the other, which seemed no ways ferocious, down with his paws, and strangled him, by seizing him by the throat, and then carried him into his den. The great disparity in size and strength rendered this a most disagreeable fight. The White Greenland Bear afforded more entertainment. In the middle of the arena there was a small pool of water, with a Duck in it. As soon as the Bear came to the edge of the pool, the Duck laid itself flat and motionless on the surface of the water: the Bear leaped in, the Duck dived, and the Bear dived after it; but the Duck escaped, through its superior diving. The next piece was a bold attempt of one of the keepers to wrestle with an Ox. As soon as the keeper  
came



came upon the arena, the Ox ran at him. The man, who was not above the middle size, seized his antagonist by the horns, who pushed him indeed from one side of the arena to the other, but could not toss him. After the battle had lasted some time, and the Ox had got the keeper near the side of the arena, and might have hurt him, some assistants came out, disengaged him from the wall, and gave him his dagger, which he immediately struck between the cervical vertebræ of his antagonist, which instantly fell lifeless to the ground; but small convulsive motions continued for a minute or two. In this manner the Oxen are killed by the butchers at Gibraltar, who, I am told, have learned it from their African neighbours. Might not the magistrates of towns recommend this method to their butchers, and, if found better than the usual manner of knocking them down, even compel them to adopt it? Every means of diminishing the sufferings of the brute creation should be recommended, not only from humanity towards them, but for the sake of our own society. Men accustomed to be cruel towards animals, will require but a small inducement to be so to their own species. A Lion came next upon the stage, and one with all his native majesty: conscious of his strength, he looked undauntedly about, to see if he had any opponent; but he was brought out only for show. From the hole in the upper part of the gate of the arena, a handkerchief was put out, and instantly drawn back: he flew at this in an instant. Some other animals were turned out, and were glad to get into their dens again. One of the keepers shewed his address in spearing a Wild Boar, which ran



at him as soon as he came on the arena. I found few other public amusements. Being summer, most of the *grand monde* was out of town; for the Hungarians are like the English, they live a great deal upon their estates. In winter no doubt I should have found the usual amusements, as concerts, balls, card parties, *conversaciones*, &c. The *Citizens* have a ball sometimes on the Sunday evenings, and in the neighbourhood there are several inns pleasantly situated in retired situations, where the great and small often go for recreation. Coffee-houses are little known in the northern part of the continent; but in the southern they are places of resort, time-killing places at least, if not places of amusement. This town has several good ones; but that facing the bridge is, I think, not to be equalled in Europe. Besides a very large handsome room elegantly fitted up, and with two or three billiard-tables, there is a private billiard-room for those who do not smoke; and two or three other rooms for giving entertainments in; and very comfortable dinners may be had. And here, according to the continental custom, all ranks and both sexes may come; and hair-dressers in their powdered coats, and old market-women, come here and take their coffee or drink their *rosolio* as well as Counts and Barons.

The hot baths are the most remarkable things of Bude: the water springs up in several places in great abundance, in that narrow scrap of land which lies between the Danube and the hill on which the fortress stands. The Turks, who so often have had possession of the city, could



could not fail of applying it to their favourite pastime; some of the baths, and the greatest, are Turkish remains. There are large common bath for the lower order of the people, and commodious private baths for those who can afford to pay for them. In a common baths I saw young men and maidens, old men and children, some in a state of nature, others with a fig-leaf covering, flouncing about like fish in spawning-time. But the observer must be just. I saw none of the *ladies* without a petticoat, though most were without their shifts. Some of the *gentlemen* were with drawers, some without; according, no doubt, to their degree of delicacy, and as they thought themselves favoured by nature or not. But no very voluptuous ideas arise in these suffocating humid steams; and as a further sedative, the surgeon is seen hard at work, cupping and scari-fying.

The first time I went into one of the private baths, I found the water so hot that I was glad to get out again: but this was my own fault; it may be made of all temperatures. I examined one of the hottest, and in the common bath I found the thermometer stand at 30 degrees of Reaumur; in a private one at 32; but at the spout, as it came from the source, it rose to 46.

Near to this bath is the pond of *hot* water full of fish. Warm water, hot water, water smoking hot, scalding hot, boiling hot, differ but in degree, which is a thing easily overlooked in a *lively* de-



scription. Yet what would be more surprising than to see fish swimming about in boiling water? In summer its warmth might pass unnoticed, and in winter might be denominated scalding. I found the thermometer immersed in it rise to  $20\frac{1}{2}$  of Reaumur, whilst the atmosphere was only 15. But the difference in a severe winter, when the rapid Danube is frozen over, must be very great; and this happens sometimes, though the latitude of Bude is but about 47. The army which called Matthew I. to the crown, when the states were undecided whom they should elect for their sovereign, the crown of Hungary being then elective, was encamped on the frozen Danube. This pond is very deep, and has a communication with the bath; it is commonly reported that the fish are not eatable, but this I believe is a mistake. I could see them, but not catch them; I think they belong to the genus *Cyprinus*.

As Alt Offen was a Roman station, under the name of *Sicambria*, it is very natural to suppose that many Roman antiquities have been found here. I was informed at Vienna that there was a building set apart for the reception of Pannonian antiquities. This is a mistake: they are shamefully scattered about the town. The gable end of the *Hoff Richters* house has the best collection: in the wall of this a great many inscriptions are stuck. Near the same place was discovered a few years ago a *Sudarium* in good preservation: it is about twelve yards long, and ten broad: the floor is supported by two hundred and forty-seven small pillars: Schœnwiesner has described it, and given a  
plate.



plate of it. Just without Alt Offen (Old Bude) there is a chain of ruins running near an English mile; they are drawn by Marfillii. If they are examined on that side furthest from the Danube, they will rather be taken for works of nature than of art; then nothing is seen but a stalagmitical body, or calcareous incrustation\*; but on going to the other side which is broken down, it is plainly seen that this calcareous matter is only a crust covering a work of art. This crust in some places is a foot thick. These remains were solid columns formed of filled up arches, a manner of building common amongst the Romans. The most entire I saw was about three yards high, and nearly as thick. From their lineal direction, and particularly from the calcareous deposition, I cannot suppose that they are any thing but the remains of an aqueduct, where the water, charged with calcareous matter, by running down these columns, has formed this incrustation.

Near these ruins are, or soon will be, other ruins; ruins of a silk-mill. This machine, which is very large, was erected a few years ago, and went on for a year or two; but for these last eight or ten years it has not been worked, and will soon be rotten. The inactivity of the machine, as well as the inactivity of Hungarian industry, is attributed to the court of Vienna, which, the Hungarians think, wishes to keep them as a colony.

The *Pest* fair happened whilst I was here. It is the greatest in the

\* *Tophus communis.*



kingdom, and lasts eight or ten days: many shop-keepers came from Vienna, and brought their merchandize with them. But the chief articles were the natural productions of Hungary, and the principal of these, Horses. These are driven to market in flocks like horned cattle, from the great *Pusztas* or commons: they are quite wild, and have never had a halter about their heads. When they come to market, they are driven into folds. In this manner they are shewn and sold. When a purchaser has bought one, it is not an easy matter to catch it, and take it away; for they do not suffer the near approach of their keepers, who are therefore obliged to catch them in this manner: A noose at the end of a long rope is put in a slit at the end of a long pole: this noose, by means of the pole, is endeavoured to be thrown over the Horse's head; but this is often impracticable: if so, then the noose is thrown on the ground, and they endeavour to catch it by the same means by the leg. From the great number of horses that are together, a good deal of time is often consumed in this first step. As soon as one is caught the greatest confusion takes place; and the spectators who are unaccustomed to this business cannot divest themselves of fear, in behalf of the keepers, from the great danger in which they appear to be in, who now endeavour to haul it a little aside to put a halter about its head, which it resists; then three or four stout fellows fly upon it and seize it by the ears, head, and neck: they can often then put on the halter; but the stronger and more spirited are obliged to be thrown down first. The leading it away gives

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often



often no less trouble. For this purpose the buyer has at hand a strong steady horse, and these two are fastened together by the head, with a very short rope: he is even then often very troublesome. The whole business is dangerous both to the keeper and to the horses. The smaller kind of Horses, such as are in use amongst the peasants, sold for about four or five pounds; those for the army, from seven to twelve pounds.

Another staple article are Oxen. A pair of fat Oxen sold for nine to twelve pounds: not fattened, for eight or nine pounds. Wool, from the Hungarian breed of sheep (*Ovis strepsiceros*), from thirty-six to forty-four shillings per hundred weight of Vienna; which, I believe, is about an English hundred weight of 112 pounds. The wool of these sheep is often sold by the pair of fleeces, at about two shillings the pair. The wool of the common German breed was about double this price. That of the mixed breed of German and Spanish fetched from five to six pounds the 100lb.

Tobacco is likewise a staple article: that from Funfkirchen sold at ten shillings per 100lb. of Vienna: that of Szegedin at fourteen shillings; and the best, which is from Debrec, at sixteen shillings.

Besides these staple articles, there were many cart-loads of hides and Knopporn. These latter are a kind of Gall, which grows upon the calix of the Acorns of the Common Oak; and are used as a substitute



tute for Galls, and for Oak Bark, in tanning. The quantity of common earthen-ware was surprising. A great many Jews, Greeks, and Armenians, who have most of the commerce of the kingdom in their hands, attended the fair.

The recruiting parties, which were not wanting here, any more than in our fairs, gave me an opportunity of seeing some Hungarian dances. They are very neat; but, being a kind of hornpipe, very fatiguing. The men wore the hussar dress, and looked well. The rowels of the spurs were very large, some of the size of an half-penny, but without points; and some had double rowels: these were for the sake of music, as throughout the dance a great deal of noise is made by striking the spurs against each other, and by slapping their hands upon their boots and breeches. They danced to the sound of the fiddle—So are men caught in Hungary!

The Turks having been in possession of Bude from 1541 to 1686, I expected to have found here some remnants of Turkish arts; either in buildings, manufactures, or handworks; but there are no remains of Turkish buildings, except the Baths, worth mentioning, nor any arts that I could hear of.

The common arts, here, as well as in the rest of Hungary, are chiefly in the hands of the Germans. On Corpus Christi day there was a great procession, principally of the different trades. The  
Germans



Germans wore the common dress, and the Hungarians their national dress: the latter made by far the best appearance, partly through their more elegant dress, and partly by being finer men; but the former greatly exceeded the latter in numbers.

Arms and agriculture are the great occupations of the Hungarians, nobles and plebeians; and few of them carry on trades, or enter into commercial affairs; but the equipment of an hussar, and every Hungarian is an hussar in his dress, is the business of Hungarian workmen. A common taylor would as soon think of making a pair of buckskin breeches as a pair of Hungarian breeches; these are entirely different in their construction from those worn in other countries. The flap before is not held up by buttons, but it has a hem, through which a leather strap, which lies likewise in a hem in the waistband, runs through, and fastens with a buckle. The boots are likewise quite different in their construction; the seams are on the side, and not behind; and the front part of the foot, and the front part of the leg, are in one piece; and the heels of them are often only formed of a semicircle of iron. The spurs are not fastened on by straps, but are riveted on. Nor are their saddles less different; they have, besides a general difference in the construction, a long process behind, like the saddles of the Arabs, as described by Hasselquist. The sabre, and its accompanying pendent pouch, are likewise made by Hungarian workmen, and so I believe is the bonnet or cap; but this is not so commonly worn, and the cocked hat, except on



*gala* days, supplies its place. The Hungarian dress is very costly; the breeches are always ornamented with lace; so is often the waistcoat, and the jacket both with fur and lace. The plume of *Raiger* feathers for their caps often costs several guineas; and the silk and lace girdle or sash is not less expensive. In this dress the Hungarians walk about, and carry on the common concerns of life, which gives a gay look and military appearance to their towns; and when they meet in large bodies they make a very fine appearance. Those who are not noble, are not allowed to wear the hanger.

The great concerns of commerce are chiefly in the hands of the Greeks and Armenians.

This city acquired a great addition of wealthy inhabitants in 1784, by the government and the public offices being transferred hither from Presburg. It was on this occasion that the citizens gave such a striking specimen of mean and despicable egotism, and the Emperor Joseph of such greatness and public spirit. Through this new colony of opulent men in the public offices, the citizens found they could let their houses, and sell their wines and other produce, to greater advantage: they therefore requested of Joseph the permission to erect to him in gratitude a statue. But mark the answer of the *man*: "When prejudices," said he, "shall be eradicated; when true patriotism, and just ideas of the general good of the kingdom, shall be established; when each, in an equal proportion, shall



shall with readines contribute his share to the wants of the state, its safety and prosperity; when true enlightening knowledge, improved studies, simplicity in the teaching of the clergy, and the union of true ideas of religion with the laws of society; a solid justice; riches through increased population and improved agriculture; acknowledgment of the true interest of the landlord towards his peasants, and of those towards their landlord; when industry, manufactures, and the demand of them, and general unanimity amongst the provinces of the monarchy shall be introduced, as I wish and hope; then I merit a statue: but not where the city, by my transferring thither the public offices, for a more easy inspection, obtains a greater consumption of its wines, and a higher rent of its houses."

I made two or three excursions amongst the hills at the back of Bude. The rocks that overhang the town belong chiefly to the alluvial (*aufgeschwemte*). By the water street I observed indurated Marl, with fragments of *Pectens*; and the Blockberg, at least on the side facing the Danube, is of *Breccia* \*, formed of small fragments of *Petrofalex* cemented by indurated Marl. But the hills I examined further back, I found to be of a whitish scaly limestone †; at a

\* Breccia.

Ex fragmentis minoribus Iaspidis & Petroflicis rufi & nigricantis angulis integris & detritis, in massa calcarea heterogenea terrea albo-ferruginea inspersis.

† Marmor micans.

Marmor isabellina ad angulos diaphanum, textura subtilissime spatoso-squamosa, micans, tarde effervescentis.



greater depth probably it might be fit to be used for Marble. I saw no signs of stratification, nor any petrifications. I observed likewise sand-stone in some places.

On the right hand, and a few hundred yards from the road which leads to the *Schöne Schæferinn*, I found in a hollow a very fine white sand \*, which, till I tried it with acids, I supposed to be a fine white siliceous sand; but it dissolves entirely in acids, with effervescence, though slowly. It is certainly calcareous, and I think it is formed by the decomposition of the scaly limestone. In some places there were small pieces, which did not fall into sand, till rubbed between the fingers.

I noticed few rare plants, but in one shady place I found the *Cypripedium Calceolus*, the *Digitalis ambigua*, and the *Melittis Mellissophyllum*, growing together in great plenty. In insects I was pretty fortunate; but I do not recollect which I here added to my collection, except the *Curculio Cynaræ*, which was in great abundance, and the *Curculio Bardanæ*, *Lamia tristis*, and the *Papillio Mesnymone*. But I missed the limestone hills, containing such immense quantities

\* As this cannot be classed under any genus of Fossils, of the Gmelinian edition of the *Syst. Nat.* of Linnæus, I have formed one to occupy the same place in the calcareous order, that *Arena* does in the siliceous.

*Pfammos pulverulenta.*

*Alba, granulis minutissimis opacis hebetibus.*

of



of *Chamites*, *Turbinites*, and *Pectens*, mentioned by Mr. Born; yet in the streets of this city I saw plenty of a stone much used for building, with abundance of the casts and impressions of these shells, but no petrifications: and the evening before I took my leave of this city, I found under the chisel of the mason, a real volcanic *Tufa*, used likewise for building; the fragments of pumice-stone were very evident; it contained a few spangles of *mica*. The workmen said they brought it from a quarry six or eight miles to the N. E. of Pest.

From the hills at the back of Bude I had a fine view of the Ketchkemet Heath, which lies on the other side of the Danube, and forms a part of that immense plain which extends southward from the hills by Watzen, the Matra, Tokay, and those that run from thence into the county of Marmorus, to Belgrade; and eastward from Bude and the lake Balaton, to the hills which separate Hungary from Transylvania. When I looked to the east or to the south, not a hill could I see.

Mr. Born, speaking of this plain, says, "The earth is covered with the *Glarea Linnæi*, which is mixed with small broken shells. Here one may often travel for half a day, without meeting with a tree or a house, except the post-houses; yet this plain, 250 miles long, and equally broad \*, feeds a great number of horned cattle."

\* Fifty German or Hungarian.

Here



Here are the great *pufztas*, or cattle-farms, fingle farm-houfes, fcattered about only for breeding and feeding of cattle; and it is principally from hence that the markets of Vienna, and far more diftant ones, are fupplied. Though this plain is in general dry and fandy, yet in fome places it is marfhy. This fandy foil begins as foon as you crofs the Danube from Bude to Peft; and the inhabitants of this latter city are much annoyed by fand in windy weather. I took a ride to a fmall farm a few miles from hence: the foil was fandy, but black, and bore excellent crops of wheat. The Earlefs Marmot, *Arctomys Citillus*, was very common here. We caught feveral by pouring water into their holes, and catching them as they came out, in a bag.

The Field of Räkofch, where the nation ufed often formerly to affemble, to elect their fovereigns, and hold their diets, is on this plain, only three or four miles from Peft. At fome of thefe great affemblies, eighty thoufand have here pitched their tents. Since the fatal battle of Mohatfch, in 1526, no fuch meetings have been held. Had Jofeph II. contemplated this field, and confidered the tranfactions which have paffed upon it, it might have given him fome ufeful hints in governing this fpirited nation. It ftill brings to their recollection their ancient freedom; and they venerate it now, as an altar on which their hardy forefathers have often fworn to defend their rights.

And



And there is a building on the same side of the Danube, and on its banks, which they consider as a sign of departed liberty: it is differently named, and differently spoken of, as the generous glow for freedom, or chilling indifference, is felt, and as affection or dissatisfaction to the court of Vienna may predominate. Its most common appellation is Bastile; an odious sound, and enough almost to damn a Work-house or a Bridewell: it was erected under the hated government of Joseph the reformer: inauspicious therefore to Hungarian liberty in its erection, and being built under a particular *direction*, it is still more so; and then, what makes its destination less doubtful, the rooms in general are so small as not to be in the least adapted for an hospital, work-house, or for any thing of this kind; so think the patriots here: it was never finished, and it was ordered by Leopold to be sold. Whether Joseph was apprehensive, that the innovations he was making in the rights of his Hungarian subjects, would bring on such discontents as might render a state prison necessary, or whether he built it only to intimidate them, or whether he had designed it for some quite different purpose, is not known; but had he not with one stroke of his pen, on his death-bed, cancelled the labours of reform of nine or ten years, he might have filled it with *rebellious* subjects.

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