

AN ENGLISH HOME ABROAD.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CUMBERLAND.

ONE of the best known provinces of the Austrian Empire is Salzburg. Distinguished by unsurpassed mountain and lake scenery, it is the principal rock-salt depository (Salz Kammergut) of Southern Europe, and has ever been selected by lovers of natural beauty for their summer sojourn; it abounds, therefore, in castles, ancient and modern, villas and large farms, and is one of the favourite resorts of the travelling public.

When, in the eventful war of 1866, the late King of Hanover lost his crown and lands because he espoused the cause of Austria against Prussia, he accepted the prof-fered hospitality of

his defeated ally and settled in the Austrian capital. His son, then Crown Prince, entered the Austrian army, in which he still holds an honorary command. When it became evident that Prussia would keep her grasp on the rich kingdom of Hanover, the Guelphs (with the exception of Princess Frederika, who married the Baron von Pawel-Rammingen and settled in England) decided to make the Southern Empire their permanent home.

Prince Bismarck was very anxious to induce the deposed King of Hanover to abdicate formally, and the refusal to do so

has deprived both the King and, after his death in 1878, the Crown Prince of an enormous fortune, it having been confiscated and held out as a bribe for the exiles, to be paid over to them as soon as

they would agree to give up their claim to the Crown. As a matter of fact, the affair is still pending, and even the friendly intervention of Queen Victoria has not been able to bring the controversy to a satisfactory issue. The Prince is now better known under his English titles—namely, Duke of Cumberland and Earl of Armagh. He was born in 1845, is a great-grandson in direct descent of George III., there-fore closely related



Photo by Augerer, Vienna.

THE DUKE OF CUMBERLAND, K.G.

to our reigning house, and is a Knight of the Garter. Through his marriage with the youngest sister of the Princess of Wales, the ties between our royal family and the Cumberlands have become still more strongly cemented.

The Duke has selected a beautiful situation on the Traunsee (Lake of the Traun), in the province above mentioned, for his country home, and has erected there a palatial castle, surrounded by a charming park. The style of the building is the old German, but the interior is thoroughly English—in fact, we may well say that the

Castle Cumberland is an English Home, although it stands on the banks of an Austrian lake and on Austrian soil. The towns of Gmünden and Traunkirchen are



Photo by C. Jagersbacher, Gmünden.

PRINCESS MARY OF HANOVER.

in the neighbourhood. A large Hanoverian lion (the same as we find on our lion shillings) stands prominently on the terrace in front of the mansion, and is visible far and wide as a landmark.

We are able to give our readers a view of the picturesque castle at Gmünden, and also a view of the town of Traunkirchen.

The Duke and Duchess with their children, as well as the venerable Queen-Mother, who is in her eighty-first year, and Princess Mary of Hanover, who have their home near the Duke, are universally beloved by high and low. Their affability, their benevolence, their kind neighbourly interest in the well-being of the surrounding country, has ingratiated them with everyone who knows them. By the Austrian Imperial family they are held in the highest esteem, and they are on the most friendly terms with every member of the reigning house.

Their home-life is simple, unostentatious, and marked by the most cheerful intercourse between the members of the

family amongst themselves and ladies of the household. No doubt it is partly for this reason that the castle has become the favourite visiting-place of the Danish royal family and of our own Princess of Wales and her children; no year passes without the presence of some of these august persons at the palace. The invigorating mountain air, the beautiful surrounding scenery, the comfort of the stately mansion, and the happy home-life of the ducal couple offer pleasures to their exalted visitors, which they can hardly find so thoroughly in their own homes, where there ever must exist a certain amount of unavoidable ceremonial.

The Duke and Duchess of Cumberland live the lives of a country squire and squires, and their pleasures are found in the companionship of their children and relations. Particularly interesting is their yearly Christmas party. They celebrate the day in the good old German fashion, and there are Christmas-trees in the great hall after dinner. These are loaded with charming gifts, and on tables round the room, carrying cards with the names of the various recipients (both the members of the family and those of the household participate in the festivity), there are displayed the presents given on the occasion. The aged Queen, the Duke and Duchess, the Princes and Princesses, all give something, and no one is forgotten. In many cases the gifts are very handsome and valuable, consisting of jewellery and other ornaments. The evening is generally wound up with music and games for the children.

Unfortunately this devoted couple have seen dark days during their idyllic life. The Duchess has been extremely ill for a long period, and it even became necessary to remove her from her beloved home and place her under the care of an experienced physician.

What terrible pain and grief the disturbed state of the mind of the adored wife and mother brought upon the Duke and his children, as well as upon the whole household, can be more easily imagined than described. However, her health is now fully restored, and since then she has

always been able to fulfil her manifold duties with her accustomed grace and amiability. Another great anxiety and affliction came to disturb the serenity of

long since entered upon the path leading to the complete restoration of his normal health.

Early this year the Duke and Duchess

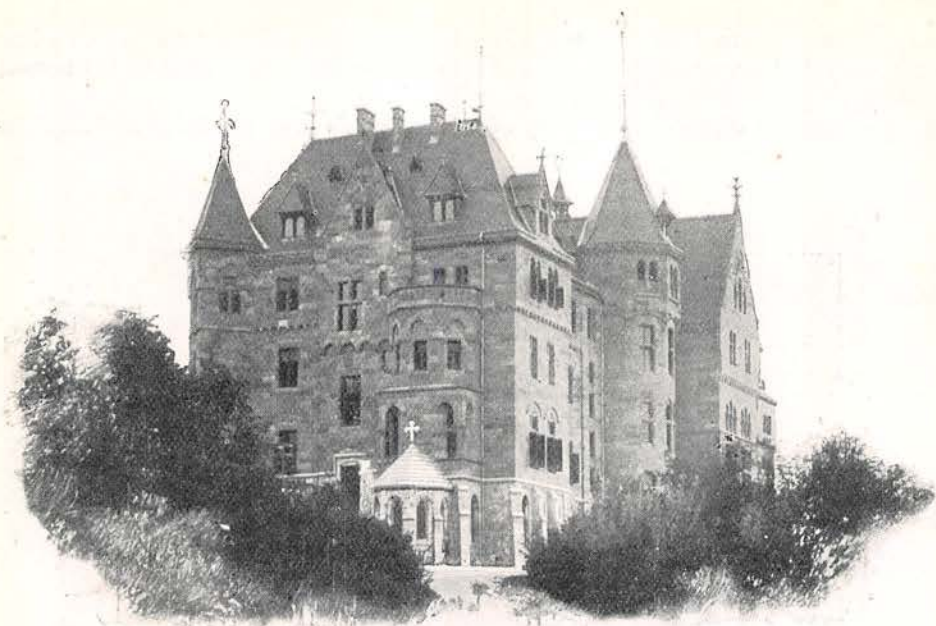


Photo by C. Jagerspaeker, Gmünden

THE EX-QUEEN OF HANOVER.

the home in the shape of a serious illness by which their eldest son was brought to the brink of an early grave. The skill of the greatest medical specialists called to the bedside of the youthful sufferer seemed to be incapable of stemming the course of the dire malady. But this sorrow also has come to a happy ending: the patient has

presented their eldest daughter formally at the Austrian Court. The young Princess is charming, clever, and amiable, and her entry into Society created quite a sensation. Naturally the young lady, Marie Louise (named after her two grandmothers, the ex-Queen of Hanover and the Queen of Denmark, who are the two oldest majesties in



CASTLE CUMBERLAND, AT GMÜNDEN.

Europe), has been already betrothed to various eligible Princes by rumour, and it is even whispered that the heir to the Austrian throne is very anxious to become

the possessor of the heart and hand of the lovely Princess; but there is the obstacle of difference of religion in the way, which is of the utmost importance in a Catholic



THE TOWN OF TRAUNKIRCHEN.

reigning family. However, the expected visit of the Archduke in question to Castle Cumberland, which is shortly to take place, is of some significance, and it was

from the Emperor a palace in Vienna, and is now making alterations and putting it in such a state that it may suit the requirements of himself and his family.



Photo by C. Jagerspacher, Gmünden.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CUMBERLAND AND FAMILY.

also strongly commented upon that during the last season the Emperor paid special attention to the Duchess of Cumberland at the Court balls at Vienna, singling her out on every occasion to lead at his arm the Imperial procession into the ball-room.

The Duke of Cumberland has bought

The portraits we present with this sketch were taken in Gmünden, and show the Duke and Duchess with their six children (the Duke in uniform as Colonel of his Austrian infantry regiment), and Princess Mary of Hanover and the ex-Queen of Hanover.

A. DE BURGH.