



HEIDELBERG—PLAN OF CASTLE.

whose members wear caps of various colours are the "corps" (corporations). Next in public regard stand the *Burschenschaften* (fellowships), and then follow no end of so-called *Verbindungen* (unions) of little or no standing. There are, however, many clubs of good standing whose members do not wear any distinguishing insignia. The main object of all these associations is to "have a good time"—to drink, to fight, to play practical jokes on the police and the patient "philistines," the ordinary citizens.

The members of a regular association meet as a rule every day before dinner for the *Fruhschoppen* (appetizer), after dinner for a cup of coffee and a walk or drive, and in the evening for a more or less extended carousal. The officially great day, or rather evening, is Saturday, when all the members are expected to be at their club-houses or meeting-rooms and to take part in a solemn drinking exercise called *Kneipe*, which is conducted

according to a code of strict and elaborate rules. After the presiding officer has formally opened the *Kneipe* the company of jolly good fellows engage in talking, guying, joking, drinking to each other's health, and singing. It is strictly forbidden to "talk shop." The singing is quite a feature of the *Kneipe* and is as a rule very good. Most of the songs have great poetical and musical merit, as for instance the famous student-songs of Victor von Scheffel, the author of "The Trumpeter of Sakkigen."

As the hours advance the general hilarity increases and so does the



A BIT IN THE GREAT COURT.