

independent kingdom, allied with the Austrian empire. It has its own parliament, not only managing its own affairs, but having a voice in all foreign matters in which the Austro-Hungarian government is concerned.

In 1867 Emperor Francis Joseph and Empress Elizabeth were crowned King and Queen of Hungary and the ancient constitution revived after a series of revolutions and troublous times, extending over the previous twenty years. It is only since 1872 that the cities of Buda and Pesth, one on each side of the river, with the smaller town of O'Buda united into one city, the capital of Hungary.

The last four decades have witnessed wonderful strides in the development of Budapest, so that it now compares favourably in administration, sanitation, education, art and philanthropy with the most progressive cities of Europe and America. This was a great surprise to many of the visitors who had considered Budapest itself, as it is geographically, on the edge of European civilization.

Each member of the Convention was given a book containing a resumé of the governmental and sanitary activities of the city, with facts regarding its climate, vital statistics, hygienic regulations and institutions, medical, educational and charitable.

The carefully compiled comparative statistics make interesting reading. In 1720, after the expulsion of the Turks, Buda and Pesth had only 12,000 inhabitants. In 1909 there is a population of 823,000, showing an annual increase of 125 per thousand in a hundred years. Munich, with 115 per thousand, is the only European city that approximates this growth. It would not be fair to make comparison with the towns of the new world.

The death rate has decreased from 42.2 per cent., in 1874, to 20.1, in 1907, now taking a middle place among the cities of Europe in the matter of health. An interesting fact is the preponderance of male children.

The water problem has been a serious one for the city since the old Roman times, when an aqueduct was constructed, the remains of which are among the interesting sights of Buda to-day. The entire country suffers terribly from drouth, but modern engineering has overcome all difficulties, and the city is not only well supplied, but the water-works are among the most profitable of the city's enterprises. The canal system of sewage, installed in 1890, has the great advantage of emptying all sewage into the river below the city and preventing a long-existing sanitary drawback.

The street-cleaning system is interesting in that one man is given a