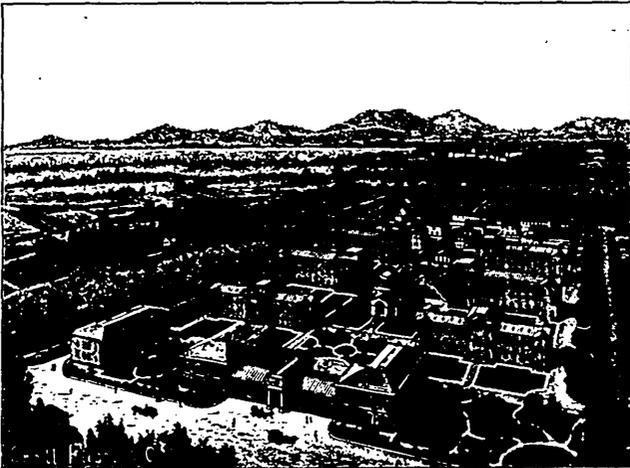


governmental policy, the exact reverse of the traditional policy of the whole Hapsburg dynasty. His first task proved beyond a doubt that he had become a genuine constitutional monarch.

Hungary got back its ancient constitution, obtained complete home rule, independence in all its internal affairs, and Austria henceforth became the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. In Austria proper, the old absolutism was swept away, and in 1867 the Reichsrat passed the "Funda-

patriotism of Deak were everywhere known and acknowledged; but it took a long time to discover that to the Empress Elizabeth, more than even to Deak, Hungary owed the recovery of its liberties. Up to this period, the life of the Empress had been far from happy. Long before the Emperor got his eyes opened, the Empress saw clearly that absolutism was doomed in Austria. Her efforts to influence the Emperor and his advisers were met with such coldness, and even insult, that life in



FRANCIS JOSEPH HOSPITAL, BUDA-PESTH.

mental Laws of the State," which included everything considered essential to constitutional government.

The wisdom of Francis Joseph was nowhere more signally demonstrated than in his choice of advisers in accomplishing these extremely difficult undertakings. Two persons, more than any others, were his chief assistants—Francis Deak, the greatest, the most unselfish patriot of Hungary, and his own wife, the Empress Elizabeth.

The consummate skill and lofty

the capital became almost unendurable, and for several years she passed much of her time abroad, especially at her beautiful palace in Corfu. But the Magyars found out at last who their best friend had been.

On June 8th, 1867, the Hungarians crowned their new king and queen at the capital, Buda-Pesth. Never had Magyar enthusiasm reached such fever-heat—perhaps not even at the ever-memorable scene at Presburg, with their Queen Maria Theresa. And their greatest of all demon-