

TO THE BENEVOLENT READER.

„His present royal Majesty is in Bohemia, and intends, as soon as He shall be returned from England and have carried home His royal consort, to cause some buildings belonging to His castle at Heidelberg (where He had purposed to reside regularly), to be put in better order, and, at the same time, to connect with it a pleasure-garden, and to have it adorned with various uncommon objects, that may be placed and produced in it. But whereas all things in this world are subject to unforeseen changes: it has pleased God Almighty to raise this prince to the royal crown and dignity of Bohemia, in consequence of which a stop has been put to the further planting of this garden. This shall not, however prevent me from giving a full statement of what is completely finished already, as well as of what still remains to be done. The castle to which this garden belongs, lies about three hundred feet (measured by the plummet) higher than the town; and the mount, on which the castle is situated, being still higher, there was at that time, no larger level plain to be procured near it, than one of about 200 feet square.“

(This raised level, which on the old plan Tab. XXIV, is marked 1 and 2, existed already in 1508, and was walled in, being at that time known by the name of the haregarden (*Hasengarten*\*). In the centre of this plane stood the cooper's house, in which the winecasks were hooped\*\*), and it is highly probable that this spot was raised and built upon already by Frederic I, or

\*) Leodius, p. 48.

\*\*) Seb. Münsters Abbildung von Heidelberg, p. 879, Tab. I, Fig. 65. and Tab. XXIV, Fig. 1 and 2.

his successor Philip the Sincere, between 1450 and 1500, whence this party, in every respect, may be considered as the original foundation of the garden of the castle of Heidelberg. The area of this spot, which was 200 feet long and of the same breadth, includes the greater part of the present economical garden on the plan Tab. I, at Fig. 65.)

„For which reason His royal Majesty's ancestors, the counts Palatine and electors, had their pleasure-garden planted at the foot of the mountain, in the suburb, the driving and riding into which from the palace was attended with some inconveniencies.“

(This ancient garden of the palace (denominated *Herrngarten*) was situated in the suburb between the *Plöck*- and the mainstreet, from the *Märzgasse* to the late cloister of the capuchins. In this garden there were already, in 1582, excellent waterworks, orange- and figtrees in the open air, and of a size, as large as almost any in Italy. They were covered in, in autumn, with a wooden house, which was removed in spring, and provided with stoves\*). On the spot on which at present the church of Providence is standing, this garden included the course and the tilt-yard, where chivalrous exercises and tournaments used to be performed\*\*). This plantation is very ancient, and, most probably, coeval with the foundation of the new castle. At the extremity of the Paris road, at the foot of the goat's-mount, there was a second garden belonging to the palace, called the sea-garden, which

\*) Michaeli Herberi Robinson, p. 9.

\*\*) Vermählungsfeierlichkeiten Friedrichs V, p. 205, at the conclusion of the book.