



Pension Herter / Kirchgasse 4 / Berne

in a masterly fashion, enjoyed an enviable reputation even beyond the boundaries of Switzerland, and the leading aristocratic families of Berne used, for many generations, to hold their dinner-parties, balls, weddings and other festivities at the Pension Herter. Distinguished Diplomats such as the Marquis Turgot, Bombelles, Calvello, Baron von Krudener and many others chose the Pension Herter as their meeting-place and were frequently permanent guests there. Not to be forgotten is a well-known personage of that time, the lady-director of the orchestra, M^{me} Marti, who played the violin so skilfully on these festival occasions, that even the inert Bernese could not refrain, but joined in the merry dance.

In the years 1850—1865 the Pension Herter was the home of the Diplomatic Club of Count Siméon, who held his daily dinner-parties there, these being generally followed by lively card-parties. In its gorgeous rooms the Diplomatic Club used to give every year its solemn banquets, and the fine old Kramgasse, still one of the quaintest streets in Berne, used to convey a grand impression when the stately carriages of the nobility pulled up before the Pension Herter.

In the years 1870—1880 the soirées and other meetings of the nobility were held at the Pension Herter, also the splendid dinners of one of the most ancient Guilds of the Bernese, which still owns the house. The officers of the Swiss regiments in Naples passed their home leave at the Pension Herter. *Tempi passati.*

With the increase in the number of foreign visitors to Switzerland, the Pension Herter became the home from home of English and American guests, who preferred the quietude and spacious rooms, large corridors and halls of this old patrician house to the bustle of modern hotels."



Such a lot of information!