

XI.—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY, TURKEY, AND GREECE.

Aus'tri-a-Hun'ga-ry.
Tur'key.

Vi-en'-na.
mosque [*mosk*].

Con-stan-ti-no'-ple.
Rou-ma'-ni-a.

1. THERE is in the central part of Europe, east of Germany, a large empire called AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. The western portion includes a part of the Alps, and is much like Switzerland and southern Germany. Through this the Danube flows, winding along beautiful valleys, or rushing down deep and narrow gorges in waterfalls and rapids.

2. East of the mountains, is a fine country of low hills and rich plains, in which are forests, grainfields, and vineyards. Everywhere are villages and cities, some of which have stood for hundreds of years; and here and there, on rugged hills, are strong old castles, like those in Germany. The largest of the cities is *Vienna*; which is situated beside the Danube, near the point where it leaves the mountains. It is the capital of the empire; and contains the palaces in which the emperor and his family live, and many other splendid buildings.

3. Beyond this varied country, a broad plain stretches eastward, without hills, without trees, without roads, without houses. Along the streams are immense marshes, which it is almost impossible to cross. Elsewhere the plain is sandy, covered only by grass or other low plants. In some places, even these do not grow; but the bare, loose sand is driven by the winds into ridges like snowdrifts.