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Berlin Museum

The Museum of Berlin stands unrivaled in Europe; that is, if it is taken as a whole. As a building there are few that can surpass it. Its picture gallery may be surpassed by the picture gallery at Dresden, or the Uffizi gallery or Pitti palace at Florence; but they have not its Museum of Antiquities nor historical relics.

On the ground floor of the Berlin Museum is the Museum of Antiquities, on the first floor the sculpture gallery, and on the second floor the picture gallery. In the rear of the old Museum, and connected with it by a covered arcade, stands the new museum, a splendid building rich in antiquities, Egyptian and northern as well as historical and ethnological collections. In the front of the old museum is the Lustgarten, in the center of which stands the equestrian statue of Friedrich Wilhelm, III, by Wolff, erected 1871. On the other sides of the garden are the palace and the cathedral. Here may be seen the enormous waste of polished granite, 66 feet in circumference, the largest in the world. The block from which it was made was brought from Furstenwald, a distance of

33 miles, by floating it down the Spree.

It was polished by steam engines, and placed where it now is with incredible labor and expense. On the right of the staircase stands the celebrated group in bronze of a mounted Amazon repelling the attack of a tiger, by Kiss. On the left is a young horseman launching his spear at an overthrown lion, by Wolff.

The sculpture gallery is in debt for its origin to Frederick the Great, and is principally composed of the Cardinal Polignac. It comprises over 1000 pieces of ordinary merit. From the rotunda the visitor enters into the gallery of gods and heroes. The gem of this collection is the boy praying. It is of bronze and was found in the bed of the Tiber, and purchased by Frederick the Great for 30,000 marks.

In the gallery of modern sculpture there is a most admirable statue of Napoleon I, by Chaudet, and now considered the best likeness extant. A stairway facing the entrance from the rotunda into the gallery of gods and heroes descends to the ground floor, or the antiquarium, which contains a large collection of medals, vases, bronzes, etc. The cabinet

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