

# G U Y S

THE FIRST  
PICTORIAL REPORTER



Auf dem Balkon  
On the balcony

At the present day, in this age of rotary presses and cameras, pictorial reports of current events have become a matter of course, and it is only rarely that a photographic report is replaced by a sketch. But let us recall the days when the illustrating work was entrusted to artists whose sketches were carefully transferred to wood or stone. These early times are dominated by an adventurous figure, a man who grasped the meaning and requirements of modern pictorial reporting in an incredibly up-to-date way, namely Constantin Guys.

His life itself is thrilling enough. He belonged to a respected family of French officials, and was born in Holland, spending his youth in the colourful surroundings of seaports. At the age of eighteen we find him in London. Romantic and splendidly young, he at once joined Lord Byron in the struggle for the liberation of the Greeks. When victory had been secured he joined the army in France. He was an excellent soldier, and retired after some years as quartermaster of the dragoons. He had long been sketching, but when he began is unknown. In order to earn a living he went to London and was one of the founders of the "Illustrated London News". He was sent by the newspapers to all parts of Europe and Asia and developed into a pictorial reporter on a large scale. Finally, however, homesickness drove him back to Paris, and he, who had strolled with insatiable curiosity through the darkest lanes in Stamboul and travelled in mysterious India, the Bal-



Ein Daumont-Gespann

A Daumont equipage