

which had crept into handicrafts and trades. It had long been the custom for journeymen to travel from town for a few years after completing their apprenticeship. This practice hitherto based on tradition and the rules of the guilds was now made compulsory by law, and journeymen were required to have "Kundschaften". These were in the shape of printed forms which were filled in with the status and qualifications of the bearer. In Prussia folios with huge initials had a vogue until some fertile brain conceived the notion of decorating the forms with the view of some town and making them travel mementos so to speak. Thus the young journeyman when looking through his "Kundschaften" could recall to mind the different stages of his "wanderings". About 1750 this custom was widespread in South and Central Germany, in Austria and the Crown-lands outside of the Empire, whereas in North Germany and especially in Prussia this practice was introduced at a later date and to a limited extent. We must differentiate here between two kinds of illustrated "Kundschaften". Firstly, those intended for the general use of members of any one guild; secondly, those ordered by certain guilds, particularly by the Builders' Guild, for their

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