

ART EDUCATION.

AUSTRIA.

WHOEVER compared the results of instruction in drawing in the Austrian People's and Middle Schools, with those attained in the schools of a similar category in other countries, was forced to admit, that, on the whole, this subject is cultivated much more carefully and much more successfully in Austria than elsewhere. Even in the relatively short time which has elapsed since its introduction into the scheme of education, the methods of teaching have very generally shaped themselves in accordance with a uniform principle deduced from experience; and it was noticeable, that those schools took the lead, and shone as models before all others, which have the advantage of superior teachers, who perceive drawing to be an integral part of general education.

Drawing in the Austrian schools, like every thing that is new, had to pass through the phases of childhood, had to become naturalized among the existing subjects of study, and had to overcome prejudices, and to struggle against a number of other difficulties, before it succeeded in gaining a solid basis upon which to erect a superstructure of well-defined proportions. Art-science, industry, and instruction in drawing, have almost kept pace with each other in their development in Austria (where Vienna is looked upon as a common centre), since about the year 1850. Industry demanded forms, art-science pointed them out, and drawing stepped in as a bridge, as a connecting link between the two. The reform for which taste was prepared by these agents could only be accomplished by the aid of the drawing-classes; and as the industries