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Unknown print of Pest-Buda cityscape found in London

(DN) — It is very likely that the enclosed lithograph, a view of Pest and Buda seen from the slopes of Rose Hill in north Buda, is the only extant copy of a work originally printed in the establishment of Miklós Szerelmey in Pest some time between 1845-1848. It is a fine view of the spectacular site of the city. It is based on a drawing by Franz Pracher (1825-1885).

The print reproduced here is owned by Mr. Alfred Bellaire of London, a collector possessing many interesting prints on Hungarian subjects.

Miklós Szerelmey, the engineer-turned-soldier, who also travelled extensively in Europe, Asia and Africa, became a lithographer in Vienna, and later in Pest between 1845-1849, where he owned a lithographic establishment. He published, for

instance, the Punch type humour journal *Charivari* here.

Szerelmey rose to the rank of lieutenant-colonel while fighting in the Hungarian Honvéd army, during the War of Independence against Hapsburg rule. After the capitulation at Komárom, he emigrated to England. He there invented a new method for the "face-lifting" of buildings, through a stone cleaning process. He died in 1875 at the

age of 72, while the Szerelmey firm is still active in Britain.

The 33×43 cm print shows clearly Gül Baba's turbeh, or mausoleum, on Rose Hill itself, and the Franciscan Church in Mártírok útja. In the foreground are seen vineyards, which must have covered the slopes of Rose Hill. The slopes of Castle Hill look to be bare. The construction of Lánchíd (Chain Bridge) seems to be in progress.