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Switzerland

A HANDY COMPANION FOR THE TOURIST



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Switzerland

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SWITZERLAND is admittedly synonymous with scenery. The first impression the mind receives is that of a panorama of marvelous scenic beauty, showing nature at its finest. Switzerland is the Rest Seeker's Delight where every mountain vale is a hidden paradise, endearing in its simple, natural charm and uplifting in the incomparable grandeur of its beauty. A realm for rest, recuperation and recreation. It is the Perennial, Rejuvenating Fountain of Health where many of Mother Earth's finest mineral springs have been put to medical use in wonderfully equipped establishments and in regions whose bracing Alpine climate is another vital and priceless factor in the achievement of successful cures. Here in the carefree surroundings where delightful pastimes and up-to-date sports are the order of the day, Health, Strength and Youth may become yours. It is the Realization of a Beauty Lover's Dream where azure lakes, flower-strewn pastures and fragrant pine forests repose like precious gems in a setting of glorious mountain heights. The land where sight-seeing can be done in utmost comfort, whether it be by the ancient diligence, the ultra modern post-automobile, mountain railway or lake steamer. It is the Motorists Paradise where some of the finest built Alpine roads and some of the most exquisite mountain regions have lately been thrown open to automobiles, so that from the verdant plains to the realms of perpetual snow and ice motorists can now travel with perfect ease, while vistas of Swiss life in town and country open before them in kaleidoscopic splendor. It is the Student's Guide Through the Ages where the eventful epochs in the history and development of the Old World from the period of the lake dwellers on, are vividly portraved through many priceless gems of ancient art and architecture. The haunt of lovers of the quaint and curious, and an inspiration to those who finish their education in one of the country's numerous private or public schools. And finally it is the Land of Picturesque Customs and Costumes where century-old traditions are still honored and observed by the generation of today. Modernists as caterers to tourists but charmingly old-fashioned in their private life and personal beliefs-such are the Swiss of the beauteous Alpine realms. Make it your pleasure to know them !

USEFUL HINTS

Season

While the great majority of tourists visit Switzerland between middle of July and the end of September, May and June are ideal months for those who wish to enjoy besides the scenery, the vegetation and Alpine flora at their best. Snow disappears in the lowland as early as middle of March, so that some of the resorts along the Swiss-Italian lakes and the lakes of Geneva, Thun and Lucerne, show signs of lively animation during the Spring months.

Spring, Summer and Autumn in the land of the Alps are continued periods of enchantment and providers of endless opportunities for every conceivable variety of sports and diversions, but Switzerland in Winter too has become the rendezvous of the world's leaders in sports and fashions.

Expenses

The cost of a tour depends, of course, upon the tastes and purse of the individual traveler. Generally speaking, Switzerland is one of the least expensive countries in which to spend a holiday. The ordinary tourist's daily expenditure, exclusive of special guides, may be estimated at from \$4 up.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

A great comfort to know is that the Swiss hotel service is just as efficient in a small establishment as in the largest hostelry. The tourist has every opportunity of finding just the sort of hotel which will suit him. In the large and magnificent palaces the wealthy guest will find every comfort and luxury that he is accustomed to, while those with more modest requirements have every want supplied by the less pretentious hotels.

While the daily rate on the "American Plan" for transient guests is from \$5 up in the very best class hotels, the charges in first and second class establishments range from \$2.75 to \$5. For a stay of at least 5 days in the same hotel a pension rate is granted. There are also boarding houses, called Pensions, where guests for longer periods are received at rates of as low as \$2 a day.

RAILROAD TICKETS

Single tickets are good for one day (day of issue). Excursion tickets (both ways) issued at 20% reduction, have a validity of ten days. Children from four to twelve years are charged half fare; over twelve full fare. Parties of from twelve to sixty people are granted 20 per cent. reduction on the fares and parties numbering from sixty-one to one hundred and twenty people are entitled to 30 per cent. reduction.

Swiss Season Tickets, available 15 and 30 days, permitting unlimited travel by rail or steamboat over more than 3000 miles. The holders of Season Tickets are entitled to reductions on the ordinary fares on a number of Railway Companies not included in the Saison Ticket system.

Swiss Combined Tickets, for journeys of not less than 300 km, available 45 days. Reduction 20%.

A ticket can be composed of rail and steamboat coupons of different classes; it can also include postal autocar coupons, but for the latter no reduction is allowed on the ordinary fares.

International Combined Tickets for journeys of not less than 500 km. The validity of tickets is 45 days for journeys of 500 to 1000 km, 60 days for 1000 to 3000 km and 90 days for journeys exceeding 3000 km. Reduction on Swiss sections 20%.

BAGGAGE

No free baggage is allowed on the Swiss railways, except hand luggage, that can conveniently be placed in the luggage racks. Travelers should under no circumstances seek to take into the compartments heavy or bulky luggage, but should avail themselves of the easier method of having it registered.

As a rule, only personal effects, in trunks, gladstone bags, etc., can be registered. The following objects can also be registered, provided they belong to passengers traveling by the same train: Perambulators, invalid chairs, bicycles and motorcycles for one person (with benzine or petrol tanks properly emptied or electric accumulators removed), skis, ordinary luges and toboggans (bobsleighs excepted); also commercial travelers' sample trunks. The weight of any package must not exceed 100 kilos.

CUSTOMS EXAMINATIONS

At frontier stations. Passengers or their duly authorized representatives must be present at the Customs' examination of their luggage, which takes place at the frontier stations.

In transit via Switzerland. Luggage registered through to destinations beyond Switzerland is not examined by the Swiss Customs.

In Switzerland. Should the owners of luggage registered through to Berne, Coire, Interlaken, Lausanne, Lucerne, Lugano, Montreux, St. Gall, St. Moritz, Vevey or Zurich not be present at the frontier station when the Customs' examination takes place, such luggage will be sent on to the inland Customs' Offices at the aforesaid stations, where it will be examined.

PASSPORT

Citizens of the United States intending to visit Switzerland need no Swiss visa. The presentation of the passport at the frontier is sufficient to enter or leave Switzerland. This applies also to subjects of the following countries: Great Britain & Colonies, France, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain, China, Japan and South American States.

, IN TRANSIT VIA SWITZERLAND

With the exception of nationals of the above mentioned countries, passengers travelling to destination beyond Switzerland should apply for a SWISS TRANSIT VISA, which is given free of charge by any Swiss Consulate or by the Control-officer at the Swiss Frontier station, when entering Switzerland.

TENNIS

This has become so favorite a sport in Switzerland that visitors can enjoy a game in whichever part of the country they may make a sojourn. International tournaments are arranged regularly.

FISHING

Devotecs of this ever fascinating sport can tour the land of the Alps in all directions without ever having to deprive themselves of the companionship of a rod. While fishing is free in many parts of the country, the licenses and fishing tickets sold in the restricted sections are issued at ridiculously modest rates.

BOATING

Water sports in this land of lakes and rivers are, of course, at their best and the Swiss rowing and sailing clubs welcome foreign visitors as temporary members. International regattas are a special feature on many of the big lakes and Venetian night festivals are another attraction which are always enjoyed by the summer guests.

GOLF LINKS

List of links: Brunnen, Engelberg, Flims-Waldhaus, Geneva, Interlaken-Thun, Lausanne, Les Rasses, Lucerne, Lugano, Maloja, Montana, Montreux-Aigle, Ragaz, Samaden, St. Moritz, Thun, Villars, Vulpera-Tarasp and Zurich.

WALKING AND MOUNTAINEERING

In a beautiful country like Switzerland one cannot and should not resist the lure of tramping and climbing. Mountaineering is greatly aided by the efforts of the Swiss Alpine Club (S. A. C.) which has erected club huts in all important positions, and keeps them in admirable condition. Trained and experienced guides are to be had wherever necessary. Some of the most important points for starting high Alpine tours are: Grindelwald, Lauterbrunnen, Meiringen, Engelberg, Kandersteg, Evolène, Zinal, Zermatt, Pontresina, etc.

Difficult high Alpine tours should not be undertaken without guides and not at all by travelers who have not had any previous training for this strenuous task. Inexperienced persons desirous of exploring the mountain regions should avail themselves of the fine and comparatively easy, but most attractive walking tours over the bridle paths and Alpine highways leading from beauteous pasture land to many unique points of view.

SPECIAL RECOMMENDATION

One should not fail to include a sail on one of the lakes, automobiling over one of the passes, an ascension of one of the mountains by railroad, a visit to one of the famous ravines or gorges, and a walk through at least one of the many old picture towns. In this manner the tourist will gain impressions of Switzerland that will long remain pleasant memories.

THE TOUR

At least six weeks are required for a visit to Switzerland's chief places of scenic interest, but glimpses of the most beautiful and most characteristic features of the country may be enjoyed in a more limited period, provided a careful program is made in advance. A little forethought and study will materially add to the enjoyment of such a tour, which should be planned so as to take in several of the typical sections. Thus, whenever possible, the itinerary should include a trip on one of the lakes, a coaching or automobile tour over one of the passes, an ascension of one of the mountains by railroad, a visit to one of the famous ravines or gorges and a walk through both an old and modern town. In this manner the tourist will gain impressions of Switzerland and the Swiss which will forever remain pleasant memories.

Entering the country at Basle, the gate of Switzerland, as it is frequently described, where many of the principal railway lines of Europe meet, the following route may be considered as the most beneficial to see the country on an initial visit to the land of the Alps and can serve as a basis for journeys of shorter or longer periods.

NORTHWESTERN SWITZERLAND AND THE JURA

Basle, 860 feet a/s, the old Basilea of the Romans, is safely enthroned upon the stately banks of the Rhine, where that majestic river, dividing the town into two sections, known as Klein-Basle and Gross-Basle, dashes in a sweeping curve towards the north.

After gaining its independence in the early Middle Ages,

the city acquired international fame after the Council of Basle (1431-1448), one of the consequences of which was the foundation of the university in 1460. The city then became the residence of the most learned scholars and celebrated artists of that period. In order to better protect herself against the covetous Austrian nobility of the neighboring Alsace and Breisgau, Basle joined the Swiss Confederation in 1501 and ever since has remained a Swiss city.

Basle's characteristic landmark is the Cathedral, since the Reformation known as the Münster. Like its sister temples on the banks of the Rhine it is a truly magnificent building and altogether unique in its lines and coloring. The material used is a brilliant red sandstone and the roof is covered with green, white and red tiles that look like enamel. Emperor Henry II founded the Münster in 1010 A.D., and the orginial structure was in the Byzantine style; in 1356, a fire, resulting from an earthquake, did great damage and the church was consequently rebuilt in Gothic and consecrated anew. The northern portal, known as St. Gallus Gateway, remains of the original Romanesque construction, its statues, reliefs and ornamentations being well preserved. The choir is also of that period, while the western front, towers and other parts are of the later Gothic.

To the east, adjoining the Cathedral, is a beautiful old cloister, wonderful in its solemn effect, with some of the richest and most varied tablets in Renaissance and Baroque style.

The Cathedral terrace, shaded by fine old chestnut trees and known as the Pfalz, overlooks the Rhine Valley and the Black Forest.

Nearby on the Market Square, is the Town Hall, an imposing Gothic structure with a remarkable, delicately carved front. Its iron gate is like a great window shade, embroidered in open-work. All over there are statues, doors of carved



Basle

wood and in a prominent position, the coat-of-arms of Basle, held on one side by the Holy Virgin and on the other side by Henry II.

As an ancient seat of culture and learning, Basle possesses a most noteworthy Historical Museum in the old Barfüsser Church. Among the many priceless treasures shown therein are relics of the Basle "Death Dance," the Cathedral plate, tankards, bowls and jewels of the various Guilds; the carved altar of St. Mary Calanca: war trophies and weapons: heirlooms of Erasmus of Rotterdam, etc. A curiosity with a rather humorous touch is a quaint piece of mechanism, known as the Lällenkönig. This figure used to stand on the bridge tower, facing Klein-Basle, and pulled out its tongue every quarter of an hour with absolute regularity. At one time the figure was taken to be an insult to Klein-Basle, on the other side of the Rhine; this, however, is now denied and it is said that the Lällenkönig was meant to be an expression of cordial contempt for all outsiders in general. At all events it was removed in 1839

Opposite the entrance to the museum is a handsome fountain with exquisite figures representing Samson and Delilah. Basle, like other mediaeval cities in Switzerland, prides itself with several handsome fountain statues. Of these, the Fischmarktbrunnen, a 15th Century Gothic piece of work, the Spalenbrunnen, with bagpipe players and peasants' dance, after Dürrer and Holbein, and the Rebhausbrunnen, in German Renaissance, are the most noteworthy.

In the Augustinergasse is the Museum with a picture gallery interesting for its paintings and drawings by the two great artists Hans Holbein and Arnold Böcklin, both natives of Basle.

Basle is a veritable gem for well-preserved mediaeval architecture. Besides the Cathedral, 10 churches dating from the Middle Ages are still existing; among these St. Alban's with early Romanesque cloisters; the Dominican Church with a graceful vane on the roof, and the Barfüsser Church—now containing the Historical Museum—with an exceedingly high chancel. Among the public buildings of the Middle Ages, there are some richly decorated guild houses, also imposing City Gates of real artistic value. The Spalengate, built at the beginning of the 15th Century and which, in 1473 was decorated by a front structure and graceful statues, the work of Sarbach, is declared to be the most beautiful specimen, but the St. Johanngate and the St. Albangate are also interesting mediaeval reliques.

A noble monument portraying Helvetia presenting the crown of victory to the heroes of St. Jakob an der Birs, commemorates that glorious battle, which was fought in the environs of Basle on August 26, 1444. "Our souls to God, our bodies to the enemy" was the war cry of the gallant 1300 confederates who opposed an army of 40,000 barbaric Armagnac invaders, led by the Dauphin Louis (afterwards Louis XI).

Another exquisite monument, the Strassburger Denkmal, presented to Basle in 1895, by Baron Hervé de Gruyer, commemorates the assistance given in 1870 to the besieged City of Strassburg, when delegates from Basle and Zürich took the women, children and aged people of that city into Switzerland.

The neighboring village of *Augst* "Augusta Rauracorum" boasts of remains of a Roman settlement with a spacious amphitheatre.

Rheinfelden (940 feet a/s), is renowned as a delightful Spa with excellent saline springs, the strongest of the kind on the European continent. It is a quaint old town with walls and towers dating back to the feudal days of the Middle Ages.

Stein-Säckingen, the latter sung in Scheffel's immortal poem, is passed en route to

[13]

Brugg, (1160 feet a/s) whence we will visit Roman Vindonissa—with ruins of an amphitheatre and the Castle of Habsburg, the cradle of the former Austrian Imperial family. The Castle of Habsburg dates back to the year 1020. The tower, with walls eight feet thick, is the only part now standing which belonged to the original structure; in it, the room said to have been occupied by Rudolph of Habsburg is still shown. The Government of the Canton of Argovie, which is the owner of the ancient stronghold, has had the same renovated a few years ago. The adjoining dwelling house, where refreshments are sold, is rented to a farmer. Further on is

Baden (1256 feet a/s), the Aquae Helvetiae of the Romans. It is an acknowledged fact that in Roman times the principal military road of Helvetia led through Baden, connecting the watering-place with Vindonissa, the great Helvetian fortress, six miles away. In the year 1872, beyond the Roman road in Baden, in the direction of Vindonissa, there were discovered, in a fine state of preservation, the foundations of a large connected block of buildings, which, when fully excavated, revealed fourteen apartments of various sizes, from 10 to 88 feet in length. The peculiar architecture of the same, the numerous medical and surgical instruments and utensils found there, the proximity of the before-mentioned fortress, where Roman soldiers were stationed, the thermal springs and the excellent arrangement already existing for their use. all these facts make it clear that the building in question served as a Roman military hospital.

Later on in the Middle Age, the little watering-place, which is picturesquely situated on the River Limmat, was a fortress, and down to the 15th Century often the residence of the Counts of Habsburg. With these ancient historic connections the town possesses an Old World charm of its own and inasmuch as its equipments as a spa are faultless, this Swiss Baden is constantly gaining in favor. Nearby beckons.

[14]



Morat



The Watering place of Loèche les Bains (Leuk)

Wildegg, with another stately feudal residence dating back to the 12th Century.

Schinznach (1046 feet a/s), is another well-known watering place with hot sulphur springs of highly curative qualities.

Aarau (1171 feet a/s), a busy, intellectually inclined town at the foot of the Jura, presents a captivating combination of the mediaeval and modern.

Olten (1220 feet a/s), is important as one of the busiest railway junctions in the country.

Pursuing our course along the foot of the Jura, we presently reach

Soleure or Solothurn (1298 feet a/s). In the years 272 A.D., when the Allemans threatened the Romans, a fortification was erected on the river Aar, where the present city stands and remnants of walls of the same are still visible in the Löwengasse and on the cemetery. A legend relates that Ursus and Victor, two of the early Christians who had fled to Soleure from Agaunum, the present Saint Maurice in the Rhone Valley, in the year 303, had been tortured and put to death in Soleure by the Romans on account of their faith. The Cathedral is dedicated to their memory and their sufferings are immortalized by three reliefs on the facade.

The Cathedral of St. Ursus at Soleure, built by Pisoni in 1762-73 on a site, which, according to tradition, was formerly occupied by a Roman temple to Apollo, is considered to be the finest specimen of late Italian Renaissance in Switzerland.

Two interesting fountains, bearing statues of Moses and Gideon, stand at each side of the imposing marble stairs which lead in three times eleven steps to the entrance. Eleven marble altars of exquisite design, individual masterpieces of as many artists, add to the beauty of the interior, which has been conceived in the shape of a Latin cross. The church treasury in the sacristy contains a very ancient collection of artistic work in metal and textile fabrics. While the bustle of modern commercial life has transformed the placid mediaeval quarters of Soleure—the city now being recognized as one of the leading Swiss watchmaking centers—there still exists in the vicinity a little oasis of absolute worldly peace, the Hermitage in the romantic gorge of St. Verena.

Rocks and grottoes, clad with a verdure and foliage of the most refreshing green, form the entrance to this appealingly lovely shrine; a brook saunters merrily along the little road and a choir of golden-voiced, feathered songsters offer their never-ending anthems.

Then comes a burst of golden sunlight, an opening into a tiny, but luxuriant patch of land, the hermit's domain. To the right stands his dwelling house—a little gem in a setting of rocks, shrubbery and flowers—to the left are two chapels of diminutive dimension, but altogether ideal for quiet meditation. A goat and a few chickens contribute to the hermit's support and help to enliven this picturesque retreat.

Weissenstein (3920 feet a/s), with Kurhaus in close proximity, is frequented as a summer resort and for winter sports. It is one of the favorite points of view in Western Switzerland, affording an unobstructed outlook on the whole Alpine chain, from the Eastern Alps to the peaks of Savoy. A little farther on is

Bienne or Biel (1332 feet a/s), situated on the lake of the same name and dating back to those early days of the lakedwellers, is a thriving place with important watch factories. Many delightful excursions can be made in this district, among which the "Taubenloch" Gorge and the heights of *Macolin* are particular favorites.

One railway line branches off to *Moutier*, *Delémont* and *Porrentruy* and at *Glovelier*, a station just before reaching Porrentruy, another branches off to *Saignelégier*, *Noiremont* and *La Chaux-de-Fonds*.

Still another line serves the industrial towns of Sonceboz and St. Imier (2670 feet a/s) whence a cable railway climbs to Mont Soleil, (4100 feet a/s), a favorite summer resort and winter sport place. From St. Imier the Mount Chasseral (5280 feet a/s) can be easily reached.

La Chaux-de-Fonds (3267 feet a/s) and Le Locle (3109 feet a/s), just a little farther on, are world known for their watch-making industry.

Neuchâtel or Neuenburg (1433 feet a/s), is a prosperous town charmingly situated on the lake of the same name and is particularly well known as an educational center, with a university, a commercial college and a number of private day and boarding schools.

The charm of the Lake of Neuchâtel lies in its wide expanse of pale green waters, in the uninterrupted view to be enjoyed, especially from the Jura side, and in the gentle loveliness of the vine-clad shores.

Besides trading vessels, a whole fleet of pretty passenger steamers keep the traffic open on the Lake of Neuchâtel as far as Estavayer in the south, and from Neuchâtel through the Broye to the Lake of Morat.

The Lake of Morat or Murten, as well as the Lake of Neuchâtel have many relics of the lake-dwellers. Morat, with its proud old Castle (1522 feet a/s) is an ancient little town on the right bank of the lake named after it. It is dear to all the Swiss, in memory of the great battle in which the troops of the Confederation repulsed Charles the Bold of Burgundy and his army. An electric railway connects Morat with

Fribourg or Freiburg (2073 feet a/s), the capital of the Canton of Fribourg, the ancient Uechtland.

The palm for artistic beauty should, with little doubt, be awarded to this city, of which Ruskin writes: "No other town has so faithfully preserved its mediaeval character." This time-honored city was founded in 1178 by Berthold IV of Zähringen and occupies a rocky height almost surrounded by the River Sarine. Fribourg, a pronounced Roman Catholic center, is the seat of the Bishop of Lausanne and a Roman Catholic University. The city's most revered place of worship is the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, a marvelous work of Gothic art, towering above all the roofs.

On June 8, 1182, Roger, Bishop of Lausanne, consecrated the first place of worship at Fribourg. A century later, in 1283, the foundation was laid to the present edifice, of which the Gothic nave was completed in 1343, the handsome tower, with a winding staircase of 365 steps and 250 feet high, in 1492, and the choir in 1631. In 1512 the church received the collegiate degree under Pope Julius II.

The main portal represents "The Last Judgment" in a most impressive and dramatic scene. The lofty interior, with no less than twelve side chapels, distinguishes itself by its impressive spaciousness and harmony. To the right is the Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre, dating back to 1433. The figure of Christ, stretched out on the tomb, and the various emotion-filled personages surrounding Him—all cut in sandstone, form a noteworthy group. Stained glass windows from the ancient abbey of Hauterive, near Fribourg, decorate the choir and modern stained glass is seen in the nave.

Of universal fame is undoubtedly the organ of the Fribourg Cathedral and those who love music must hear this wonderful instrument themselves, to appreciate the various effects it can be made to produce. Built in 1824–34 by Al. Mooser, whose bust has been placed to the left of the entrance, it has 74 stops and 7,800 pipes, some of them 32 feet in length. There may be more powerful organs in Europe, but none surpasses this one in its marvelous purity of tone. The ringing peals of praise that fall, refined and rarefied, from the vaulted ceiling, the golden, angelic arpeggios that are whispered through the

[19]

carved stalls, or the plaintive tones of prayer that penetrate to the very altars of the side chapels, leave a perpetual echo in the human soul.

With its university, its technical college and numerous other public and private educational establishments, Fribourg is one of the leading Swiss Roman Catholic centers of education.

The Lac Noir, Schwarzsee (3365 feet a/s), a health resort situated amidst Alpine scenery 25 kilometres south of Fribourg, is much frequented.

From Lyss, on the line between Berne and Bienne, a branch line runs via Morat up the valley of the Broye to Avenches (Aventicum, the capital of Roman Helvetia) with a beautiful mediaeval castle on a height, and then to Payerne. The church and Benedictine Abbey at Payerne were erected in the 10th Century by Queen Bertha of Swabia, the wife of Rudolf II. Passing Moudon, a little town with a noteworthy Gothic church, and the Châteaux of Carouge and Rochefort the branch line joins the main line from Berne to Lausanne at Palézieux.

Payerne is the junction for the railway connecting Fribourg with the Lake of Neuchâtel. The lake is reached at Estavayer, where there is a picturesque château dating from the 12th and 13th Century. The line ends at Yverdon, a junction with the line coming from Neuchâtel, which follows the much admired shores of the lake of this name all the way to

Yverdon (1433 feet a/s), a watering place with hot sulphur springs, renowned as very beneficial in cases of gout, rheumatism and arthritism. There the traveler may board a narrow gauge railway, which, rapidly ascending the verdant and well-wooded slopes of the Jura, will at the end of one hour bring him to

Ste. Croix (3510 feet a/s), which, together with its neighbor Les Rasses (3950 feet a/s), is privileged as far as climate is concerned. In summer, the burning and oppressive



Geneva



Castle of Chillon on lake Geneva

heat of the sun is always tempered by light breezes which, combined with the bracing air of these altitudes, restore to the visitor health, strength and energy. Golf course, 9 holes.

Lovely walks and excursions can be made in all directions, along good roads or paths, through beautiful forests of fir.

In winter the many slopes provide splendid surfaces for ski-ing and tobogganing and Ste. Croix as well as Les Rasses have in latter years gained fame as ideal winter sport centers.

LAKE GENEVA AND THE RHONE VALLEY

Coming from Yverdon we reach the region of Lake Leman. This largest lake of Switzerland is at the same time considered to be one of the most beautiful, and as its shores have always been a favorite abode of the world's greatest writers and artists, its history and associations are truly of a classical nature.

• Lake Leman or Lake of Geneva, under which latter name this glorious expanse of water is generally known, presents in all seasons a picture of unique and captivating charm. During the summer months the dazzling sunshine sheds silvery streaks on the sluggish ripples which spend themselves on the beach. Then in the evening, when the mountains fade in the mist and the stars twinkle in mischievous merriment above the slumbering waves, when the white-sailed barques glide gracefully and silently hither and thither, the spectator is spellbound by the lake's enchanting loveliness.

In winter, when the entire country has donned its spotless garments of ermine, the lake reposes like a precious sapphire in a jewel case lined with white, and we too feel compelled to echo the poet's appreciation:

> "O blue Leman, ever great, ever beautiful! Would that my grave at least were on thy bo. lers!"

To visit the different towns and villages which line the

Swiss border of Lake Leman is like looking at a string of carefully matched pearls.

Geneva (1243 feet a/s), the western gateway of Switzerland, at the southern end of the glorious lake, combines beauty, wealth and intellect and offers all sports including golf.

Geneva was occupied by a settlement long ago, but there is no exact record when the colony began. Caesar found here a town of the Allobroges that he called Geneva and he actually cut the bridge over the Rhone which connected it with the right bank of the river, in order to prevent the passage of the Helvetes. When Gaul was organized under Roman administration, Geneva was included in the province of Gallia Narbonensis. The city adopted Christianity in the 4th Century and quickly became the religious capital of a great diocese. Occupied in the 5th Century by the Burgundians, Geneva formed part of the first kingdom of Burgundy, and fell along with it, in 534, into the hands of the Franks.

In 888 the second Burgundian kingdom, east of the Jura. was founded on the ruins of the Carlovingian Empire and Geneva became one of its chief towns. The last king. Rudolf III, left his crown to the Emperor Conrad the Salic in the year 1032 and Geneva thus became an imperial city and the local government, at that time administered by a Bishop, was permitted to develop with considerable freedom. The prelate was at the same time temporal ruler of the city and spiritual head of a diocese partly occupied by nobles as powerful as himself, and in the end even more powerful. One of these, the Count of Savoy, succeeded, after having destroyed the power of the Counts of Geneva, his rivals, in possessing himself of the episcopal castle and of the dignity of the vide inat, or temporal function of the Church (in 1290).

From this moment the pretended claims of the House of Savoy to sovereignty over Geneva took more and more the character of veritable encroachments. It required all the zeal of the citizens—municipal government had been instituted at the close of the 13th Century—to prevent the same from transforming themselves into possessions by force, which was for some centuries the principal object of the Savoyard princes.

The beginning of the 16th Century was marked by the breaking out of the final struggle between the people of Geneva and the Duke of Savoy, when the citizens were divided into two parties, the Mamelukes, or followers of the House of Savoy, and the Huguenots (from Eidgenossen— Confederates). After having seen two of its patriotic chiefs perish—Berthelier in 1519, and Lévrier in 1524—the latter party finally won the day. Treaties of fellow-citizenship, made with the various Swiss Cantons, assured to Geneva a security which only became definite and final after the adoption of the doctrine of the Reformation, as preached by Farel, in 1535. The episcopal authority was then abolished; Geneva became a Republic governed by syndics and councils elected by the people.

On the fifth day of August, 1536, there arrived in Geneva the man whose name lives still in the town itself and in the system of theology which is called after him—Jean Calvin. He was a native of Noyon in Picardy, who espoused the new religious belief and had gone to the French capital, but found it necessary to seek an asylum abroad.

Calvin attached himself to the new party in Geneva and soon acquired immense influence in that city as well as in the whole of Europe. He established not only the Reformed Church, but also the State; he developed public instruction, at that time already in a flourishing condition, founded the Geneva Academy which became in those days the leading school of Protestant theology with the gentle Beza, Calvin's devoted friend, as its first rector. He worked out civil and sumptuary laws, investing old institutions with a simplicity and austerity which attracted the attention and obtained the support of reformers in all countries. Geneva thus became the stronghold of the Reformed Faith and a refuge for persecuted Protestants of all nationalities, especially Frenchmen. The refugees soon assimilated themselves in their new home and they and their descendants have greatly contributed to the importance of Geneva, which was also visited by John Knox when he was exiled from Great Britain.

The final emancipation of Geneva from Savoy occurred in the year 1602, when the army of the latter, in the night of December 11, in the midst of peace, treacherously strove to surprise the sleeping city by climbing the ramparts. This attempt, called "escalade," was a failure, and from that time on to the French Revolution Geneva was able to develop its own fortunes.

Jean Jacques Rousseau, son of a watchmaker, born in Geneva in the year 1712, is one of Geneva's best known literary celebrities. He disapproved of the unjust distinction then made between the aristocracy and the poorer classes and as champion of the latter he exposed his convictions in the "Contrat Social," which, together with his "Emile," were committed to the flames by the public executioner. But the very descendants of his fierce opponents erected a statue in his honor on the tiny island he—as an almost pious devotee to Nature—loved so much and which is now known as Rousseau's Isle.

Rousseau gave the first impulse to modern mountain worship. He especially loved wild and gloomy scenes and tells us in his "Confessions" that he required "torrents, rocks, dark forest, mountains and precipices." His description of the retreat at Meillerie, given in the "Nouvelle Héloise," was especially famous and among others deeply affected Goethe, Byron and Shelley. Gradually Geneva and its lake became the Mecca of leaders in science and literature. Voltaire, Mme. de Stäel, Georges Sand, Dumas, Daudet and Byron, Gibbon, Dickens, Ruskin, Frances Havergal, Sismondi, De Saussure, Amiel—a veritable parade of illustrious poets, novelists, essayists, philosophers and scientists—whose intimate connections with that fair and intellectual city and its environs are forever interwoven in its history.

After the French Revolution, Geneva was the capital of a French Department, but in 1815, it became the 22d Canton of the Swiss Confederation. Since that time, the history of this city, as regards its foreign policy, has been identical with that of the Confederation.

The actual founder of the Red Cross Society was Jean Henri Dunant, a philanthropic citizen of Geneva. On June 14, 1859, he chanced to be present at the battle of Solferino and was an eye-witness to the vast amount of unnecessary suffering that resulted from the inability of the regular surgical corps for the thousands of wounded who lay upon the field.

Three years later he published a book on his experiences and advocated an international convention to provide for the aiding of the wounded in war. This convention, which took place at Geneva and which was concluded and signed on August 22, 1864, neutralized the surgical corps of hostile armies and volunteer societies caring for the wounded. As a compliment to Switzerland, the Swiss flag in reversed colors, *i. e.*, a red cross on a white field, was to be adopted universally and worn on arm bands by all members of the neutral staffs.

Geneva has since that time been the headquarters of the International Red Cross Society, which distinguished itself during the World War with its gigantic activity on behalf of suffering mankind.



In the year 1864 the Alabama room in the City Hall, which was formerly used for marriage ceremonies, was placed at the disposal of the First International Red Cross Convention which was signed on August 22 of that year. In memory thereof a marble tablet with the following inscription was affixed to one of the walls:

"In this room on August 22, 1864, was concluded and signed the Geneva convention for the betterment of the lot of wounded soldiers of armies in the field."

A large oil painting shows the representatives of the different powers on the point of signing the document.

This same room, in which the noblest sentiments of universal charity and fraternity have been displayed, was the place of meeting of the famous Alabama Claims Commission from December 15, 1871,-September 14, 1872, which on the occasion of the 32d conference ended the disputes between England and the United States after the Secession war. Great Britain was then obliged to pay \$15,500,000 damages in favor of the United States.

Here was a first demonstration of the value of inter-



Les Avants-Montreux

national arbitrage to avoid wars and at that time already the two powers in question chose as their meeting place the City of Geneva in neutral Switzerland, where foreign influence did not prevail. A marble tablet also commemorates this historic event in this chamber, which then became officially known as the "Alabama Room."

The revised text of the Geneva Convention was furthermore also signed in the Alabama room.

In the year 1876 the Universal Peace Union of Philadelphia celebrated the foundation of the United States of America and the tenth anniversary of its own existence. The officers present at that meeting were overcome by a profound consciousness of prevailing peace and offered their swords to be converted into agricultural implements. One of the members present, Thomas Atkinson, offered ten dollars for the first cart which would be cast from the metal of these weapons.

This cart figured first as a symbol of peace in the 1878 Paris Exposition and was then, by a unanimous decision of the Universal Peace Union and through the intermediary of Charles Lemonnier, President of the International League for Peace and Freedom, offered to the city and people of Geneva to be placed in the "Alabama Room" and to remain there as a token of universal accord and peace.

In the Alabama room we find, moreover, a small facsimile of the gigantic Liberty Bell, which was cast in the United States from the metal of swords and cannon on the occasion of the Hundredth Anniversary of American Independence. This little bell coming from the bell foundry at Baltimore has now taken the character of a bell of peace destined to announce to the whole world "Peace on earth and goodwill among men," and it bears the inscription:

"May this emblem of Peace engender the spirit which should reign over the whole world." Whether it be a stroll along the imposing promenades skirting the lake, where the distant Alpine Chain with Mont Blanc beckons alluringly, or whether it be through the old and new quarters of the city, one encounters constantly vivid proof of Geneva's dominant leadership throughout the ages.

The very names of the streets, the rue Calvin, the rue Necker, the rue de la Croix Rouge, the rue Voltaire, the rue Farel, the rue Jean Jacques Rousseau, where Rousseau's father lived, the Grand' Rue, where Rousseau himself was born, are perpetual reminders of the city's glorious past. During the war, as a compliment to the United States of America, the rue d'Allemagne became the rue Wilson.

Old Geneva prides itself of St. Peter's Cathedral, that dignified memorial to its spiritual leader Calvin. The construction of this edifice was started in the 10th Century, on the site of an ancient pagan temple, and completed in the 13th Century. Begun at a time when the round-arched Romanesque architecture was at its height, the structure was finished when the Gothic period had attained its full glory. The interior, with fine stained-glass choir windows, is of rare, dignified beauty and the magnificent Cathedral organ has for centuries heen the delight of all music lovers.

In close vicinity to the Cathedral is the ancient City Hall with the before-mentioned historic Alabama room and opposite is the Arsenal, containing Geneva's Museum of History.

The College St. Antoine, founded by Calvin in 1559 and restored in 1888, is a further testimonial to the great Reformer, same as the University whose history dates back to Calvin's Academy, also founded in 1559. The University has acquired world fame and the numerous public and private educational institutions, contributing to the industrial, intellectual and artistic phases of life, are largely frequented.

Quite recently Geneva has been enriched by the Monument

of the Reformation which has been planned on the most comprehensive lines, so as to epitomize the history of the Reformation throughout the world, and not merely that part of it which took place in Geneva.

It is a great mural monument on the Promenade des Bastions, where a remainder is left of one of the former city walls, bearing the inscription "Post Tenebras Lux" (Light after Darkness). The four figures of Calvin, Farel, Beza and Knox stand in alto-relievo and heroic size in the center. Eight panels, crowded with figures, are cut in bas-relief, with appropriate inscriptions. The signing of the compact in the cabin of the Mayflower is also pictured. This is an international monument and France, Germany, Switzerland, Scotland, Holland, England and the United States are represented.

In addition to the before-indicated intimate historic and spiritual connections with the leading nations of the world, this remarkable monument forms another lasting and universal bond of mutual appreciation and understanding. And last but not least Geneva as the Capital of the League of Nations is more than ever interesting.

Coppet (1300 feet a/s), with its fine old castle reminds of Jacques Necker, a Genevese, who became finance minister to Louis XVI, and his brilliant daughter, Madame de Stäel.

Nyon (1322 feet a/s), so much admired by Voltaire, is a charming spot indeed, with ancient buildings and remarkable 14th Century Castle. Nearby is **Prangins** with its extensive buildings and parks where ex-Emperor Charles of Austria, after the war, took up his first residence in exile. From Nyon a railroad leads to the summer and winter resort of **St. Cergue** (3432 feet a/s). Thence an ascent may be made of The Dôle (5595 feet a/s) the highest point of the Swiss Jura.



Lausanne



Château d'Oex

Rolle (1325 feet a/s), with the charming health resort **Gimel** (2395 feet a/s) and

Morges (1240 feet a/s) with its interesting old château are delightfully restful spots and great favorites in the artists' world. The well-preserved mediaeval Castle of Vufflens, in close proximity, is well worth seeing. This ancient stronghold is said to have been erected by Queen Bertha of Swabia, wife of Rudolf II, 912-937.

Ouchy (1246 feet a/s), where Byron composed in 1817 his "Prisoner of Chillon" is the port of

Lausanne (1714 feet a/s), the city where Gibbon wrote the last three volumes of his "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire."

Proudly seated on the lower slope of the Mount Jorat and crowned by its ancient cathedral and castle, the beautiful capital of Canton Vaud is as fascinating as it is picturesque—with its steep streets, its high-pointed roofs and its fine terraces overlooking beautiful Lake Leman and the Savoy Alps.

On the Place Montbenon is the Federal Palace of Justice, a beautiful building in the Italian Renaissance style, site of the Supreme Court, the highest judicial authority in Switzerland.

Lausanne has an enviable reputation as an extremely healthy and pleasant residential town, enjoying a mild and equable winter climate. It is a suitable place of residence not only for the strong and healthy but also for the delicate.

As an educational center Lausanne is equally well known. It possesses numerous public and private schools for both sexes, headed by the university, which is attended by students of all nationalities.

The social amenities of Lausanne are very great and there are many excellent entertainments at the theatre, Kursaal, Casino, etc. The rendezvous of the Anglo-American colony is at the English and American Assembly Rooms, close to the English church. Sports of every kind including golf flourish in this fair city and the skating-rinks and tobogganruns at Sauvabelin and at Ste. Catherine are scenes of constant animation during the season of white.

Vevey (1263 feet a/s) has often been called the "Pearl of the Leman." And well it deserves that name. The visitor never tires of the magnificent panorama of mountains, lake and open country which spreads before him in this beauteous spot. Vevey is a center for agreeable walks and excursions of great variety. A funicular climbs the Mont Pélérin (2952 feet a/s), an all-year health and pleasure resort. An electric line runs to the charming villages of the vineyard section: St. Légier (1760 feet a/s), Blonay (2000 feet a/s) and Chamby (2461 feet a/s), and a rack and pinion railway makes the ascent from Chamby to the favorite point of view of Les Pleiades (4542 feet a/s). Another memorable excursion can be made into the pieturesque Gruyères district, via Châtel St. Denis-Bulle-Gruyères-Montboven, returning via Chexbres.

Montreux (1310 feet a/s) with Clarens and Territet forms undoubtedly one of the stellar features of Lake Leman. Besides being endowed with an extremely mild climate Montreux is also known for its excellent mineral springs. All sports including golf. The nearby resorts of

Glion (2270 feet a/s) and Caux (3610 feet a/s) are conveniently reached by mountain railways, same as the Rochers-de-Naye (6710 feet a/s), the "Rigi" of this region. A sojourn at Montreux would, of course, be incomplete without a visit to the Castle of Chillon. It has an unusually impressive situation on an isolated rock 22 yards from the bank of the lake, with which it is connected by a bridge. Still more impressive than its stately silhouette is the carefully renovated interior of the castle with its gloomy dungeons. "Chillon! thy prison is a holy place, And thy sad floor an altar,— for 'twas trod Until his very steps have left a trace, Worn, as if the cold pavement were a sod, By Bonivard!—may none those marks efface, For they appeal from tyranny to God."

So sang Byron in his "Prisoner of Chillon," that classic poem which will never die.

Montreux is the western terminus of the Montreux-Bernese Oberland railway, connecting the Lake of Geneva with the Lake of Thun. (See page 63).

Villeneuve, an old-fashioned little town, already inhabited in Roman times, is the last landing place on the northern bank of Lake Leman. The Rhone flows into the lake three miles to the west, near **Bouveret** and the Rhone Valley, about one hundred miles long, extends from this district to the Rhone Glacier (10,450 feet a/s), from which issues the Rhone as a narrow stream. The first important community in the Rhone Valley is

Aigle (1375 feet a/s), an attractive town with a spacious château. A carriage road leads to

Corbeyrier (3280 feet a/s), and an electric railway to

Leysin (4150 feet a/s), the latter one of Switzerland's most beneficial summer and winter health resorts. Another railroad ascends to the all-year resort of

Les Diablerets (3815 feet a/s), whence we may cross the Col de Pillon on foot or by diligence to Gsteig and Gstaad. (See page 65).

An electric railroad runs also from Aigle by way of Ollon to Monthey (1380 feet a/s), and into the Val d'Illiez, one of the most.exquisite Swiss Alpine valleys, with Champéry (3423 feet a/s) as the terminus.

Morgins (4405 feet a/s), a watering-place with chalybeate springs, can be reached by diligence from Troistorrents



Pissevache Falls near Martigny

station of the Monthey-Champéry line and has, like Champéry, become a winter sport center as well.

Continuing along the main line, the next spot which deserves attention is

Bex-les-Bains (1427 feet a/s), situated at the foot of the Dent du Midi (10,450 feet a/s), a watering place and climatic resort of increasing importance. In fall it is much frequented for the "grape cure." An electric railway connects with the trio

Gryon (3716 feet a/s), Villars (4120 feet a/s), and Chesières (3970 feet a/s), favorite resorts in summer and winter. A climb to the Grand Muveran (10,403 feet a/s) from Les Plans (3612 feet a/s), a summer and winter resort, is relatively easy. A little further on is

St. Maurice (1377 feet a/s), one of the most historical places in the Valais. It was already a fortress in the days of Julius Caesar. Its abbey was endowed by many kings, emperors and potentates, some of Charlemagne's gifts to it being still preserved in the treasury. One mile and a half above St. Maurice are the much frequented

Baths of Lavey (1377 feet a/s).

Martigny (1564 feet a/s), is the starting point of the scenic Martigny-Châtelard railway connecting Switzerland with Chamonix and the Mont Blanc region. Few mountain railways offer, considering the short distance, such a wealth of picturesque and ever-varying scenery, the road being boldly laid out on the surface of the mountain, over romantic gorges and in closest proximity of glistening glaciers.

Leaving Martigny the railway proceeds to Vernayaz at the entrance of the Gorges du Trient. Immédiately after this station starts the only cog-wheel section of the line, and with a maximum gradient of 20 per cent. it climbs the rocky cliffs towering above Vernayaz, now directly below. A wonderful and ever-extending panorama is unfolded before the eyes of the traveler as the train mounts, and after a short climb, which distinguishes itself by many technical features, we reach Salvan (3230 feet a/s), a popular summer resort.

Still ascending in curves through verdant pastures with weather-beaten châlets clustering in the midst of them, the train reaches the charmingly situated summer station of Les Marécottes and continues its way over the precipitous hill slopes commanding the Gorges du Trient, until it arrives at Finhaut (4025 feet a/s), a picturesque village which commands a unique situation opposite the Glacier du Trient.

From here the line descends gradually to Châtelard and then proceeds to Vallorcine, on the Franco-Swiss frontier, where passengers change from the carriages of the Martigny-Châtelard Railway to those of the Paris-Lyon Mediterranean Railway, which latter line conveys them to Chamonix.

From Martigny another railway leads to Sembrancher (2330 feet a/s), and Orsières (2894 feet a/s), connecting here with the postal auto-bus service to the Great St. Bernard Hospice (8110 feet a/s). From the Hospice the road leads to Aosta (Italy).

The Great St. Bernard Pass is one of the best known highways in the Alps. A temple of Jupiter stood in Roman times, not far from the summit of the pass. In connection with this place of worship the Romans also built a shelter for the benefit of the Imperial messengers and soldiers. Christian rulers transformed the same later on into a regular Hospice, an inn for the accommodation of wayfarers, but it was destroyed in the 9th Century.

Later on, a wise and saintly priest of Aosta, Bernard 'de Menthon, erected a new Hospice on the summit of the pass, on the border of a sombre little lake. This new foundation grew rapidly, and although it had to undergo numerous trials—several times it was destroyed by fire it constantly gained in importance.

The Hospice itself is a plain gray structure with a Hotel-Annex catering to the ever-increasing number of tourists during the summer season.



The monks who live and work at the Hospice, which is also famous for its very beautiful church and valuable library, are canons of the Order of St. Augustine. Most of them are splendid specimens of manhood, but the hard climate of this region is too great a strain for the strongest of them. Eight or nine months in an isolated, snow-bound country, at an altitude of 8110 feet a/s, combined with the constant dangers connected with their heroic rescuing work, wears these brave men out and it has therefore been found necessary that they should be relieved at regular intervals. For this reason there exists a constant interchange of men between the headquarters of the order stationed at Martigny and the Hospice of the Great St. Bernard and the one on the Simplon Pass.

¹Life is very strict and simple at the Hospice, and the original purpose of the foundation, to save poor wayfarers, when the same have lost their way in a blinding snowstorm, is still fulfilled to the letter. For this rescue work the monks have some 20 wonderful assistants—not human beings, but



On the Gornergrat above Zermatt



Sion

dogs, animals which are famous throughout the world and known as St. Bernard dogs.

From the time the dogs are little more than puppies, they are gradually trained for the great work of life-saving for which they are destined. It is reckoned that it generally requires two years to teach a dog all he must know, before he can be trusted out alone as a seeker and guide, and even then his training is not stopped. The dogs are taught to find the wanderers lost or buried in the snow; they are instructed to bark when they have discovered someone and to wake up those whom they find asleep. If the person thus discovered has the strength to walk, the dog conducts him to the Hospice, but if he is not equal to such an exertion, the dog will drag him for a certain distance and then bark for further assistance.

During the winter months when the temperature is far below zero, the snow is piled as high as 12 to 15 feet. Blinding snowstorms are frequent during that season and it is just in such days of peril that the monks and their dogs have to work hardest of all.

A telephone connection was established between the Hospice and the nearest villages on both sides of the pass a few years ago, and the monks are now informed in advance of the number of travelers bound for the Hospice. This, of course, facilitates the rescue work. The dogs are so cleverly trained that it is only necessary to indicate to them the direction and they will start off alone to meet the arrivals and to lead them to the Hospice.

Champex (4821 feet a/s), a romantic summer resort with a lake, is reached from Orsières; and Châbles, Lourtier, Fionnay and Mauvoisin, all interesting villages in the beautiful Valley de Baynes, are reached from Sembrancher.

The journey further up the Rhone offers many inspiring sights.

Sion or Sitten (1710 feet a/s), capital of the Canton of

Valais and an episcopal see, with its two castles on isolated hills, looks very picturesque. On the higher hill are the ruins of the Castle of Tourbillon, erected in 1294 and destroyed by fire in 1788, and on the lower hill to the right stands the old Castle of Valeria with the beautifully restored Church of Notre Dame de Valère, dating back to the 10th Century. In the town itself beckon the Gothic Cathedral with a tower from the 9th Century, and the Church of St. Théodule. From Sion we may pass into the Val d'Hérens, with Mayens de Sion (4267 feet a/s), a favorite summer resort, and Evolène (4520 feet a/s), a tio of Alpine resorts whose somewhat secluded position has endeared them to all lovers of rural Alpine beauty.

Sierre or Siders (1765 feet a/s) is the next important place on the main line and the starting point of the funicular railway climbing up to the well-known all-year resort of Montana-Vermala (5120 feet a/s), with a renowned 18-hole golf course. South of Sierre open the Val d'Anniviers with Vissoye (4000 feet a/s), St. Luc (5495 feet a/s), Chandolin (6350 feet a/s), Grimence and Zinal (5505 feet a/s), a veritable galaxy of Alpine villages, which form part of the "climbers' paradise."

Leuk (2470 feet a/s) is the starting point of a little railway leading up to the much visited Baths of Leuk (4628 feet a/s), which have in recent years also been open in winter for every variety of snow and ice sports. From here a bridle path, easy and interesting, leads over the Gemmi Pass—seven hours' walk—to Kandersteg (see page 61) in the Bernese Oberland. South of Leuk, a bridle path leads to the summer resort of Gruben-Meiden in the Turtmann Valley.

Viège or Visp (2155 feet a/s) is the starting point for Stalden (2736 feet a/s), a beautifully situated village at the entrance of the Valley of Saas, whence a remarkably fine road leads to **Saas-Fee** (5900 feet a/s), one of Switzerland's most celebrated Alpine health resorts and starting point for numerous high Alpine tours for experienced mountaineers. The "Dom," 14,940 feet a/s, is the most formidable summit in this district.

From Stalden the train crosses boldly constructed bridges and ascends through scenery of striking grandeur, to

St. Niklaus (3708 feet a/s), a favorite of those in search of a restful spot. The line then follows the romantic course of the River Visp, and still ascending, passes the picturesque resorts of **Randa** and **Täsch**, both centers for excursions into the high Alps.

Once more the train crosses the turbulent mountain stream, for a brief moment the mountains draw closer, and then comes a burst of light, a radiant expanse of velvety pastures, with a group of nutbrown châlets and comfortable hotels, a mountain silhoueted like a pyramid of marble against the deep blue sky—Zermatt and the Matterhorn.

Zermatt (5315 feet a/s) has become one of the most popular haunts of travelers in quest of sublime, unspoiled Alpine scenery. In the morning when the Matterhorn (14,782 feet a/s) glistens in fairy-like splendor hardly a tourist can resist the lure of an excursion to the Gornergrat. In one and a half hours the railroad climbs to an altitude of 10,289 feet into the realm of eternal ice and snow. Glaciers are below and around, and in the distance on both sides of the Matterhorn one beholds many of the noblest peaks of the Alps, such as the Monte Rosa (15,217 feet), Lyskanm (14,889 feet a/s), and Breithorn (13,380 feet a/s) on the left, and the Dent Blanche (14,318 feet a/s), Zinal Rothorn (13,856 feet a/s), Weisshorn (14,804 feet a/s), and the Mischabels (14,982 feet a/s) on the right. These mountains form the classic high Alpine tours from Zermatt. Another favorite excursion for the average tourist is a walking tour to the tiny pilgrimage chapel of Maria zum Schnee on the solitary Schwarzsee, 8393 feet a/s. The pious natives flock to this spot every Sunday during the summer (weather permitting) to attend mass.

From Zermatt the St. Théodule Pass (10,900 feet a/s), offering magnificent views of this grandiose Alpine realm, leads to Le Breuil in Italy. While this tour is not of great difficulty, it will nevertheless be wise to hire a guide.

Returning back to the Rhone Valley

Brig (2244 feet a/s), a delightfully old-fashioned town, is presently reached. Its shining metal cupolas give the town a somewhat oriental character. Among the noteworthy sights of Brig is the picturesque old château of the Stockalper family, with square towers, large courtyard and wide archways. This formidable residence was built in 1642 by Kaspar Stockalper, a wealthy and influential man, who in those days dominated the trade over the Simplon, protecting the road with 70 guardsmen.

In modern times Brig has gained importance as a railroad junction. It is the northern portal of the Simplon tunnel (12 miles, 537 yards long) and the famous Lötschberg line (tunnel is 9 miles) from Berne and the Bernese Oberland (see page 61) connects at this point with the Simplon trains.

The Simplon road over the pass (6591 feet a/s) is still much used as an entrance to Italy, even since the tunnel has been made, on account of the splendid views to be had en route; it passes the mountain village of Bérisal (5006 feet a/s), the Simplon Hospice and the village of Simplon or Simpeln (4855 feet a/s), which are much frequented in summer. Postal auto-bus service is maintained over the Pass. North of Brig lies Belalp (7009 feet a/s) a wonderful excursion point for those who like to have a close view of the glacier world.

Ascending from Brig by the Furka Railway to the Rhone Glacier, we pass many delightful villages, which on account of their scenic beauty, their endearing simplicity and their splendid Alpine climate have become regular summer resorts:

Mörel (2525 feet a/s), the starting point for Riederalp (6315 feet a/s), an interesting Alpine excursion requiring about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours for the ascent, is reached after a brief twenty minutes ride. It is a typical mountain village with an attractive church and weather-beaten châlets whose sombre color is relieved by the brilliant red of fuchsias, geraniums and carnations which bloom on every window-ledge. The River Rhone has already assumed all the characteristics of a rushing glacier torrent. A little higher up it receives the tempestuous Binna, which rushes down through a solitary vale of the same name, and from now on up to Gletsch the district is known as the Goms valley.

The inhabitants of this section are of the sturdy peasant type, conservative and obstinate in the highest degree. In the history of their canton they played an important rôle during the time of the Reformation and again in 1799, when their natural seclusion enabled them to ward off the French invasion. Cardinal Matthew Schinner, the famous Count-Bishop of Sion, was born in this district. His boyhood was spent in great poverty, but he struggled bravely against all difficulties and succeeded to educate himself for the church.

Visitors to the Rhone Valley are generally interested in the remarkable water conduits, or "bisses," as they are called by the natives, which are found in nearly every side-valley, and by which water is conveyed from a considerable distance to the villages and pastures. By means of these irrigation chaunels the fields are kept green even in the hottest summer weather. The ceaseless care and even peril which their construction and repair entail have been most graphically described by the famous Swiss writer, J. C. Heer, in his book, "By the Sacred Springs."

Delightful woods fringe the extensive pastures which are covered with soft, velvety grass on which Nature has lavishly strewn the prettiest of Alpine blossoms. But the natives of Goms have no time for sentimental flower study, and men, women and children toil hard in summer to gather their not overabundant crop of hay. The dairy and cheese industries are cultivated with great care and certain varieties of Goms cheese are hailed as a special delicacy by connoisseurs. In the Binnen and Fiescher valleys—two small side-valleys in this district—it used to be the custom to keep cheeses of this kind for many years as a sort of family heirloom. Specimens of them, some dating back to the 17th Century, are still shown in the City Hall of

Fiesch (3515 feet a/s). This little village is the starting point for the well-known summer hotel Jungfrau-Eggishorn (7195 feet a/s). The summit of the mountain may be reached from here in about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. This is also a good starting point for a visit to the famous Märjelen Lake (7710 feet a/s) and the Aletsch Glacier.

One of the most beautiful glacier walks can now be enjoyed over this greatest of Europe's glaciers to the Jungfraujoch. (See page 58). The tour from the Eggishorn Hotel is generally interrupted at the Concordia Hut en route; the first section of the trip requires about five hours, and the walk from the Concordia to the Jungfraujoch takes another three hours. These tours should, of course, be made with a guide.

A delightful excursion of an hour's duration may also be hade from here to the Fiesch Glacier, and another even shorter walk, leads to the curious village of Ernen.

Gletsch (5750 feet a/s) is, as its name implice- in close



Quaint old Berne



Thun

vicinity to the glacier of the Rhone, in fact the terminal face of this majestic, awe-inspiring ice-cascade is half an hour's walk from the railway station, the path following the milky stream all along, right up to its fairy-like cradle, hewn in the purest of crystal.

From Gletsch we can reach the Bernese Oberland via the Grimsel Pass leading to Meiringen, either tramping (about 8½ hours) or per post auto-bus, or else, we may proceed via the Furka Pass per post auto-bus to Andermatt—continue from here by post auto-bus to Disentis in the Grisons (page 102) or branch off at Andermatt for Goeschenen (page 76) and connect with the Gothard route for Lucerne (page 66) or the Swiss-Italian lake district (page 104).

BERNE AND THE BERNESE OBERLAND

Berne (1765 feet a/s), capital of Switzerland and seat of the Government since 1848 is, of all important Swiss cities, the one which has most carefully preserved its Old World The city was founded by Duke Berthold V of charm. Zähringen in 1191. The old part, which occupies a rocky peninsula formed by the River Aar, winding its way a hundred feet below, has carefully preserved its attractive mediaeval features, and bridges, towers and gates are maintained in excellent condition. In the middle of the streets, which are flanked with numerous arcades ("Lauben"), are the many handsome fountains, mostly dating from the 16th Century, and recently restored in their original gay colors. These fountain figures, which are mainly emblems of the various trade corporations, or guilds, are the most precious remainders of renaissance art in Berne. Strolling along the chief artery of the town, the Spitalgasse, Marktgasse, Kramgasse and Gerechtigkeitsgasse, we perceive first of all the comical Bagpiper fountain, put up by the fraternity of that joyous profession, which also included the wandering musicians. The statue represents a handsome young man blowing the ancient instrument of his guild; a monkey behind his back seconds him in his performance and a goose at his feet plays the attentive listener. His garb is typical of the unconcerned life of wandering minstrels. His shoes permit of an ample display of the toes and the only bright feature of his upper garments are the gilt fringes which adorn it.

Two interesting fountains stand in the adjoining Marktgasse. One statue commemorates Mrs. Anna Seiler, the founder of the Seiler Hospital which, in later years, developed into the now famous Insel Hospital. The figure shows a graceful, handsomely dressed woman pouring water into a basin. The other statue, which was erected by the fraternity of the sharpshooters, right in front of their guild house, represents a warrior in uniform, ready to take part in some friendly military tournament. In his right hand he is holding the banner of the sharpshooters and a small bear seated at his feet points his rifle in a protectory manner toward the entrance door of the guild house.

Further on is the Zähringer fountain, erected by the city in honor of Berthold V of Zähringen, the founder of Berne. The figure consists of a bear in full armor, carrying the banner and coat-of-arms of the house of Zähringen—a golden lion on a red background. A cub nestles comfortably at his feet and feeling perfectly safe in such protection, it gracefully devours some grapes.

A visitor to the Kramgasse will, of course, not overlook the ancient Clock Tower with its famous astronomical clock. Here again, as everywhere in Berne, friend Bruin plays a most prominent rôle, and the chronicles referring to the complicated mechanism of the clock state that:

"As often as the hour strikes a troop of little bears go round in a circle, a cock crows three times before and once after the clock strikes. A sitting man, holding a staff in one



Near Wengen



Grindelwald

hand and an hour-glass in the other, counts the strokes by opening his mouth and smiting with his stick at every stroke of the clock. Another wooden manniken rings two little bells when the hour is about to strike. In the belfry at the top of the tower are the bells, and beside them stands a figure of the Duke of Zahringen in armour, who strikes the hours on the bells with his sceptre (as this was too feeble it was replaced by a hammer)."

The Clock Tower, this oldest of Berne's ancient gateways, dates from the 15th Century, and together with the pretty oriel windows of the adjoining houses and the stately Zähringer fountain close by, it makes a picture of rare charm.

From the Kramgasse we emerge into the Gerechtigkeitsgasse, in the middle of which we perceive the fountain of the same name, *i. e.*, the Fountain of Justice. The statue shows a blindfolded woman with a pair of scales in her left hand. At her feet are four small figures, Pope, King, Sultan and Burghermaster, the representatives of the different kinds of state legislation. All listen earnestly, and with closed eyes to Justice, admitting her sovereignty in each and every land.

The most curious of Berne's fountains is, however, the Ogre fountain on the Kornhausplatz, representing a Jew in the act of devouring a child, while several other infants are held in readiness in his pockets. The sight of this statue has still an awe-inspiring effect on all the youngsters, and the name of it alone frequently suffices to change a naughty behavior into a docile one. The figure is said to have been erected in memory of a little boy believed to have been murdered by the Jews.

At the lower end of the town, beyond the Nydeck Bridge, there is the bear pit, a pet possession of the Swiss Capital. The bear, as the heraldic animal of the city, has always been held in high honor, and specimens of the real live Bruin have been maintained by the city for over 400 years. Of special attraction are, also, the noble Gothic structure of the Cathedral of St. Vincent, commenced in the year 1421 and completed in 1896. The numerous public buildings in Bernc and the imposing monuments betray the artistic and refined taste of the citizens. The Federal Palace, an edifice in Florentine renaissance style, the Rathaus, exquisitely preserved from the Middle Ages, the University, an inspiringly noble temple of education, the various museums, etc., all are buildings of rare beauty and interest.

For a longer sojourn Berne is ideal for, besides the attractions the city itself provides the picturesque environs offer endless opportunities for delightful excursions. Nearby

Gurtenkulm (2600 feet a/s), a much frequented health resort, is reached by trolley car and an electric cable railway, and the famous

Baths of Gurnigel (3788 feet a/s) can be conveniently visited by way of Thurnen or direct from the city by regular automobile service.

A side trip to the Emmenthal—of cheese fame—with the opulent villages of Langnau, Lüzelflüh, Sumiswald, Grünen and Huttwil and return via Burgdorf is to be recommended.

Thun (1844 feet a/s). This picturesque town is charmingly situated on the lake of the same name, at the outflow of the rapid River Aar. With its quaint streets and mediaeval architecture, its proud old castle Zähringen-Kyburg, erected 1182, towering above, Thun is indeed a fitting portal to the Bernese Oberland.

The town offers a vast variety of fascinating walks and promenades of which the most interesting are the Schwäbis promenade, skirting the Aar, and the Bächimatt promenade, lined with some splendid specimens of old trees, along the right bank of the Aar and the lake. A magnificent panorama of this enchanting spot, with its turquoise lake reposing in a rare setting of dazzling mountains may be enjoyed from the pavilion of the Jakobshübeli. As the immediate guardians of Thun the spectator beholds the Stockhorn chain and the pyramid of the Niesen, rising from the lake above; a little further away glitter the immense snowfields of the immaculate Blümlisalp and somewhat more distant yet, beckon in all their glory the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau.

Thun, owing to its sheltered position. has an ideal climate and is a pronounced favorite among vacationists. Golf.

From Thun, one may proceed by rail or boat to Interlaken. Going by boat on the Lake of Thun, which is numbered as one of the lovliest in Switzerland, can be highly recommended. We pass in succession on the right bank Hilterfingen, Oberhofen, Gunten, Merligen, and Beatenbucht with the Beatus caves, worthy of a visit. An electric cable railway climbs to Beatenberg (3766 feet a/s) a favorite summer. resort and winter station. On the left bank nestles charmingly

Spiez (1977 feet a/s), a flourishing summer resort.

From Spiez three routes are open:

Via Erlenbach-Zweisimmen to the Lake of Geneva (see page 63) or to Interlaken, and the other via the gigantic electric railway of normal gauge traction, the Lötschberg line, to Brig (see page 61).

Interlaken (1863 feet a/s) is the gay tourist metropolis of the Bernese Oberland. It lies in a smiling, blossoming valley, between the beautiful lakes of Thun and Brienz, at the portal of some of the grandest mountain scenery in Europe, for in the background towers in all her overwhelming radiance the queen of the Bernese Alps—the Jungfrau.

The Kursaal on the Höheweg, with its auditorium accommodating several thousand persons, is a scene of constant animation and brilliant social life during the season.

Mountain railways ascend, of course, all the well known



Interlaken

points of view in the vicinity. There are for instance the delightful half-day and day excursions to the Harder (3988 feet a/s), the Heimwehfluh (2218 feet a/s), the Schynige Platte (6463 feet a/s), Mürren (5385 feet a/s) via Lauterbrunnen, Grindelwald (3468 feet a/s), and most famous of all, the memorable circular tour Interlaken-Lauterbrunnen-Wengernalp-Scheidegg-Jungfraujoch-Scheidegg-Grindelwald-Interlaken.

From Interlaken the so-called Bernese Oberland Railway takes us through a pleasant orchard country to Wilderswil. a delightful summer resort of diminutive size which is the starting point for the Schynige Platte, one of the most celebrated natural observatories of this region. A milky glacier stream flows with youthful buoyancy at our feet and sombre stretches of forests accompany us, past luxuriantly green meadows on which the dearest little châlets are dotted in bewitching fashion. At Zweilütschinen (2150 feet a/s), so-called because it is the junction of the Black and White Lütschine, the former descending from Grindelwald, the latter from the Lauterbrunnen valley, the railway branches off in both directions and the travelers separate according to their plans. Choosing the White Lütschine as our guide, we now proceed into the poetic valley of Lauterbrunnen. As we advance and notice on all sides the waterfalls leaping from the cliffs, we understand why this district was given the name "Nothing but Springs." The valley itself is extremely narrow, but of wondrous beauty, and as the train approaches the village of Lauterbrunnen (2615 feet a/s) itself, there is hardly a passenger who attempts to conceal his excitement, for there, in all its overwhelming beauty is the Fall of the world-renowned Staubbach, which throws itself from a perpendicular precipice, one thousand feet high, into the valley below. A glittering silver ribbon at first it swiftly disperses into a filmy cloud of spray in which. as if by magic, is now reflected a rainbow in a bewildering

riot of colors. The Trümmelbach and Schmadribach are two other magnificent cascades.

Lauterbrunnen is the terminal station of this branch of the Bernese Oberland line and the starting point of the Wengernalp Railway.

Mürren (5385 feet a/s) a delightful summer and winter sport station is reached from here by cable railway.

Proceeding by the Wengernalp railway we pass

Wengen (4243 feet a/s), a prosperous village in the midst of luxuriant pastures, a favorite summer and winter sport center.

Wengernalp (6184 feet a/s) and Kleine Scheidegg (6770 feet a/s) where the traveler becomes more and more enthusiastic and delighted with the glorious Alpine scenery spread before him. He is in a realm of pastures strewn with blossoms of every hue, with herds of well-kept cattle grazing in happy contentment, to the tuneful tinkling of their bells, and the background of this idyll is formed by the Eiger (13,042 feet a/s), the Mönch (13,465 feet a/s) and the Bernese Alps.

At Scheidegg we board the luxuriously appointed cars of the Jungfrau railway, which will carry us from an altitude of 6770 feet a/s to a height of 11,480 feet a/s. Through verdant pastures the train begins to climb noiselessly uphill, while the spacious plate-glass windows afford an unobstructed view of the surroundings. Presently we reach

Eigergletscher (7624 feet a/s), the first station of the Jungfrau railway, where a regular little colony has settled down since the construction of the line. An excellent restaurant caters to tourists and the director of the railway with his family and some 170 employees live in various comfortable dwellings within a few feet of one of Switzerland's wondrous glaciers—the Eigerglacier.

The engineers and workmen employed in the construction and maintenance of the Jungfrau railway live here all the year round. Cooking and baking is done by electricity, and the necessary water supply between November and May has likewise to be produced by electrically melting ice and snow. As the Jungfrau railway now also maintains a reduced traffic during the winter-sport season, the colony at Eigergletscher has practically become a resident population of those snow-bound regions.

From this point the Eiger Glacier is easily accessible to good walkers, and those make it naturally a point of visiting the celebrated ice grotto first of all. It is said that these grottos are a much more accurate weather forecaster than the average weather bureau. If their ice is a clear, turquoise blue or a dark sapphire shade the weather will be fair next day, but if it shows a dull green color, snow may surely be expected and probably rain in the valley. The Eiger glacier grotto is about 86 feet long and 4 feet wide. The roof is arched and about 7 or 8 feet high in the center. The glacier at this point is said to be a solid mass of ice 150 feet thick.

Leaving Eigergletscher Station the train enters the big, brilliantly lighted tunnel cut into the colossal bodies of the Eiger and Mönch. After a scarcely perceptible climb lasting 17 minutes we make the first stop at **Eigerwand Station**, 9410 feet a/s, a spacious room hewn out of the mountain with natural rock pillars supporting its ceiling. Three large windows on the north side afford a magnificent view of the lower peaks beyond which the distant ranges of the Jura, the Vosges and the Black Forest become visible. Grindelvald, in the valley below, appears like a toy village, indicating the lofty altitude which we have already reached.

From Eigerwand the tunnel winds round to the south side of the Eiger and within a brief 10 minutes we reach **Eismeer** Station, 10,370 feet a/s, a veritable masterpiece of technical skill. It is also entirely cut out of solid rock, and contains a wonderful restaurant for 200 people, an electric kitchen and a real postoffice. The restaurant, to continue with the description of these material attractions, is as handsome and comfortable a dining-room as one finds them in good American hotels, and the products of the adjoining spotless kitchen have from the beginning enjoyed a most enviable reputation. The tiny postoffice distinguishes itself by its enormous sale of picture post cards and postage stamps, and it would require someone familiar with high figures to estimate the legions of post-card greetings which it has already dispatched. From the main portion of the station rock windows, similar to the apertures on the Axenstrasse along the Lake of Lucerne, open out on the mountainside, temporary balconies being erected outside which can be taken in and stored away during winter. Below and directly in front of the station, with a flight of steps leading down to it, lies the Grindelwaldfiescherfirn, a glacier with deep crevices and fissures, extending over several miles until it joins the Grindelwaldglacier in the "lower Eismeer."

Emerging from the semi-darkness of the tunnel we find the views offered by those rock stations doubly striking and imposing. Eismeer, as its name implies, is in truth a sea of ice. So-called séracs, rocks of ice of fantastic form, tower one above the other, and between, sometimes hidden with a light cover of snow, are the treacherous crevices whose location is only known to the experienced guides. While the outlook from Eigerwand is on mountains of moderate height, the view from Eismeer embraces a region where ice and snow reign absolute—a contrast unique in its kind which never fails to fascinate the tourists.

In another, still more handsomely appointed train, we start on the last section of our trip, to Jungfraujoch, (11,480 feet a/s), requiring 15 minutes. The line leaves Eismeer in a straight line westward. First comes an adhesion section 17% miles in length, with a gradient of 6.6 per cent, changing to the cogwheel system with 25 per cent gradient shortly before Jungfraujoch is reached.

While every stopping point of the Jungfrau railway has a distinctive surprise in store for the wondering traveler, Jungfraujoch, the present terminal, certainly forms the crowning glory of the whole enterprise. It is situated in the glaciated ridge between the Jungfrau and the Mönch. Flanked by these two great peaks, the station affords a combination of the advantages of the lower stations in the glorious panorama visible from here. To the north are seen the verdant central Alps and extensive plains; to the south, Europe's greatest glacier, the Aletsch glacier, 15 miles in length, framed by countless pinnacles of rock and ice. An excellent telescope permits of a closer view of this gigantic "frozen river" and enables us to gaze at the Concordia Hut and the celebrated Märjelen Lake at the foot of the glacier. A narrow gallery leads us to the vast snow plateau of the Jungfraujoch which has become a regular playground for its visitors. Here in these lofty regions which are bathed in glorious sunshine we can enjoy ski-ing and sleigh riding (the sleighs being drawn by specially trained Polar dogs) in the middle of summer! Jungfraujoch, this unique all-year playground for lovers of snow sports, is also an advantageous starting point for glacier excursions and mountain ascents in the Jungfrau-Finsteraarhorn section. From here the summit of the Jungfrau may be reached within three to four hours, but guides are, of course, always essential for expeditions in this region.

Jungfraujoch has now a modern hotel with an attractive restaurant, and a post and telegraph office. It is at present the highest railway station in Europe. We now return to Scheidegg Station and Interlaken by way of

Grindelwald (3468 feet a/s), called the glacier village and pioneer place of winter-sports in the Bernese Oberland. It owes its reputation to the exceptional situation it enjoys in the heart of this Alpine region, offering a great variety of easy excursions as well as fascinating and difficult tours for the experienced climber.

One of the most delightful walking excursions is from Grindelwald over the Great Scheidegg via the **Baths** of **Ros**enlaui (4363 feet a/s) to Meiringen.

Proceeding from Interlaken by rail or boat we reach

Brienz (1873 feet a/s). The charming little capital of woodcarvers, where the finest products of this art can be viewed and purchased, is well worth a visit. Nearby, on the left bank of lovely Lake Brienz, are the well-known resorts of Iseltwald and Giessbach.

Meiringen (1960 feet a/s) has long been a favorite tourist resort for it is one of the loveliest villages in the Bernese Oberland, combining unusual scenic beauty with an altogether charming style of architecture. Here are the silvery cascades of the Alpbach and the Reichenbach which, in their wonderful illumination at night make a picture of unforgetable, fairy-like splendor. It was at the Reichenbach Falls, as readers of Conan Doyle will remember, that Sherlock Holmes was supposed to have disappeared from this mundane sphere of existence, and from where he was brought back to furnish fresh tales of marvel to his admirers. The grandiose gorge of the River Aar, which forms the chief attraction of Meiringen, must be visited by all means.

From Meiringen the railway leads via the Brünig Pass to Lucerne (page 77), and the Post road over the Grimsel Pass to Gletsch (page 46). A bridle path connects via the Joch Pass with Engelberg (page 74), and via the Susten Pass with Wassen on the Gothard line (page 76). The scenic Great Scheidegg Pass leads from here to Grindelwald (see page 60). Carriages may be hired to the Baths of Rosenlani, a drive of two hours, and the remainder of the tour is made on foot in about five hours. A guide is not necessary.

FROM THE LAKE OF THUN VIA THE LÖTSCHBERG.

Traveling from Spiez via the electric railway of normal gauge traction—the Lötschberg line (tunnel is 9 miles long)—which was opened in 1913, we encounter

Heustrich Baths (2295 feet a/s) with old and famous sulphur springs.

Mülenen-Aeschi (2825 feet a/s), whence a cable railway offers a very attractive excursion to the Niesen (7763 feet a/s).

Reichenbach (2336 feet a/s), a quiet summer health resort with quaint old peasants' homes and the gateway to the romantic Kiental with the popular Griesalp.

Frutigen (2717 feet a/s), a very charming and prosperous village with important cattle markets. An attractive road leads from here through the Engstligenbach Valley to

Adelboden (4467 feet a/s), an Alpine village of indescribable beauty and charm which is becoming one of the leading all-year resorts.

Between Frutigen and Kandersteg lies the Blausee, the much admired "Blue Lake" whose coloring is even dwelt upon in Bernese folk-lore.

Kandersteg (3840 feet a/s), is a name familiar to sportloving people in summer and winter alike. Surrounded by a majestic assembly of mountains, it offers a great variety of easy and more difficult excursions. The Oeschinen lake, the valleys of Gastern and Ueschinen and the mighty falls of the Kander in the Klus can easily be visited by the average tourist.

[61]



Adelboden in Winter



In the Loetschen Valley

The bridle path over the Gemmi (7553 feet a/s), one of Switzerland's most scenic mountain trails, leads to the Baths of Leuk in the Valais (see page 42).

A favorite day's excursion is by train to

Goppenstein, on the southern side of the Lötschberg tunnel and then a tramp into the romantic Lötschen Valley, where the customs and costumes of the natives are unusually ancient and quaint.

Soon after leaving Goppenstein we obtain a glimpse of a small portion of the Rhone Valley in the distance, but the whole beautiful picture of the Valaisan landscape does not open out until we emerge from the last tunnel just before arriving at *Hothen*. Exclamations of surprise and astonishment at the beauty of the scenery escape from everyone who is making this journey for the first time. Suddenly the wide plain of the Rhone Valley is spread out at our feet 1300 feet below, and a wonderful view of the country is obtained.

After having crossed 20 tunnels and 7 gigantic viaducts we reach Brig (page 44), the terminus of the line.

DIRECT ROUTE FROM LAKE OF THUN TO LAKE OF GENEVA.

The Bernese Oberland and the Lake of Geneva region are directly connected by electric train service leading from Spiez to Zweisimmen and Montreux.

Traveling from Spiez (page 53), we pass Wimmis, Oey-Diemtigen, with the Alpine resort of Grimmialp (5150 feet a/s) to the south, reaching Erlenbach and then Weissenburg (2919 feet a/s) with noted mineral springs.

Zweisimmen (3215 feet a/s). A friendly mountain village with all advantages necessary to a summer and winter resort. It is also the starting point of a branch line of the Montreux-Bernese Oberland railroad, leading to

Lenk (3527 feet a/s), prettily situated in full view of the



Furka Pass with Rhone Glacier



Gstaad in Winter

snow-clad Wildstrubel (10,673 feet a/s), which forms a wonderful termination of the valley. Owing to its strong sulphur and iron springs it is a much frequented health resort. A little farther on beckons

Gstaad (3450 feet a/s), another picturesque mountain village which now occupies a high rank as a summer and winter sport center. It is the starting place for numerous Alpine excursions, and the junction of the two picturesque valleys. Gsteig (3911 feet a/s), whence good roads lead over the Col de Pillon (5086 feet a/s) to Les Diablerets in the Ormonts Valley (see page 35), and over the Sanetsch Pass to Sion in the Rhone Valley (page 41).

Saanen (3382 feet a/s) is the chief locality in the Upper Valley of the Sarine, a very picturesque village, the home of the Gruyères and Vacherin cheese of world renown. The line follows the Valley of the Sarine and reaches

Château d'Oex (3180 feet a/s), a favorite all-year resort, with excellent sport opportunities. It is set in a cluster of lovely mountains and enjoys an ideal climate.

Passing Rossinière with its wonderful "Grand Châlet" we reach

Montbovon (2620 feet a/s), at the upper end of the Gruyères Valley, which presents a striking contrast to the preceding valley. Here the traveler finds himself carried into a wild and romantic country, into beautiful pasturelands, inhabited by a race of herdsmen clinging to their ancient customs. It is the home of the Ranz des Vaches or Kuhreihen, the yodel or herd song, which has been made familiar by Swiss singers to the outside world. Presently we reach

Les Avants (3190 feet a/s), a favorite summer resort and winter sport center, whose funicular railway, climbing from the Montreux-Bernese Oberland railway station to the Col de Sonloup, has proven a great boon to the patrons of the wonderful bobsleigh run which descends from this point to Les Avants. Lower down is

Chamby (2200 feet a/s) an incomparable "Belvédère." Gazing upon the distant Rhone Valley we behold the stately Dent du Midi—a glorious vision of immaculate ermine—and at our feet smiles the beautiful Lake Leman, so much beloved by the great poets. On the opposite shore rise proudly the Savoy Alps and beyond lies the bluish silhouette of the Jura. Chamby is a village of wine-growers and pensions, a place to rest in in summer and to toboggan in winter. After another short descent we reach

Montreux (1237 feet a/s), "beautiful as a dream," as Byron called it (see page 34).

CENTRAL SWITZERLAND WITH LUCERNE AS ITS FOCUS.

Lucerne (1437 feet a/s) is situated at the northwest end of the classic lake of the same name, at the issue of the bluegreen river Reuss. Owing to its privileged position it pulsates from spring to autumn with a cosmopolitan life. Indeed, Lucerne is the center of the Swiss tourist traffic and the noble mountains surrounding it, the Rigi, the Pilatus, the Bürgenstock and Stanserhorn, are familiar figures in the mind of every tourist who has visited this spot, same as the proud old Musegg towers which crown old Lucerne, and the ancient wooden bridges spanning the Reuss.

History relates that a colony of monks from the Alsatian Benedictine Abbey of the Murbach founded a little monastery on the spot where the River Reuss leaves the Lake of the Four Cantons, and that the foundation being dedicated to Saint Leodegar was known as "Luciaria." The village which was gradually built around the ecclesiastical settlement soon developed into a town, and documents of the 12th Century mention the same under the name of "Luzzeron" or "Lucerren." These facts show that the supposition that



Lucerne.

Lucerne derives its name from the Latin Lucerna—lighthouse—is altogether of legendary origin, as archaeologists have ascertained that no Roman lighthouse has ever stood at the outlet of the Reuss.

Considering that the history of Lucerne is so closely connected with the Church of St. Leodegar, the traveler who cares about old Lucerne should first of all visit the timehonored place of worship which had, however, to be partly restored after a fire in 1633. As we enter the door we notice a curious early 16th Century stone-carving which represents the betrayal of Christ in the garden in a most characteristic manner. The figure of St. James to the left-a weary man in his heavy sleep: St. Peter, making a heroic effort to appear to be awake, and St. John, peacefully slumbering with the scriptures under his arm. The figure of Christ himself reflects all the devotion and obedience He showed to His Father's will as He lifts His face toward the rock of His salvation, wherefrom an angel with the Cup of Agony in his hands appears. The tail of a serpent which has slipped into a crevice of the rock serves as a suggestion of the powers of evil. Waiting behind Judas are Christ's captors, some with fear and misgivings already visible in their faces, and leaning on the garden railing are Moorish soldiers and ruffians-a clever study in brute power and gaping wonder.

The interior of the church is of classic beauty and is particularly remarkable for its exquisitely carved choir-stalls, its artistic forged ironwork, old stained-glass windows and its great organ. The latter is one of the oldest and finest instruments of its kind. It contains no fewer than 4950 pipes, and is fitted with a wonderful "vox humana" and a "vox celesta."

Beyond the church is the old graveyard enclosed by an arcade which contains a number of interesting frescoes by Deschwanden.

In close vicinity to this ancient church is the celebrated "Lion of Lucerne," executed in 1821 to the memory of 26 officers and 760 soldiers of the Swiss guard who fell in defending the Tuileries on August 10, 1792. The monument, which actually measures 26 feet in length, was chiselled in the face of a rocky cliff 60 feet in height, and forms, owing to its romantic natural surroundings, a most impressive picture. A spring flows down on one side of the rock and gathers in a tiny pool at its base, surrounded by graceful trees and dark-green shrubs. In a recess occupying the center of the cliff lies the Lion, pierced by a broken lance, his face contorted by physical pain, but still protecting the Bourbon shield with his paw. Above the animal is the simple inscription "Helvetiorum fidei ac virtuti," together with the names of the fallen officers.

A few steps further on is the Glacier Garden, a monument of unique geological interest, left by Nature herself. It consists of nine so-called "pot-holes," of an old glacier, and was discovered in 1872 by some workmen who were digging the foundation of a house. The largest of them is 31 feet deep and measures 27 feet in diameter. Scientists say that these holes must evidently have been formed in prehistoric times by waters flowing beneath the glacier which then extended from the St. Gothard to the northern frontier of Switzerland. Water trickling through the fissures of the glacier imparted a rotatory motion to stones which, after falling upon the ice, also found their way through the fissures. In the course of centuries those stones hollowed out the holes in the rock beneath and were left in them when the glaciers receded; they consist of gneiss, granite of the St. Gothard and Alpine limestones, and are yet to be seen in their respective places.

The time-honored towers of the city wall—the Musegg, which date from the year 1385 and which are now carefully preserved—are particular landmarks of Lucerne. Passing beneath the gate by the side of the Nöllitor and coming townwards by the Brüggligasse, one is at once fascinated by the many quaint and beautifully painted gables.

Lucerne, some 400 years ago, was frequently nicknamed "the wooden stork's nest," for all its principal buildings and bridges at that time were of wood, and according to the tendency of those days they were gaily decorated with paintings of varied descriptions. Up-to-date Lucerne has, however, long ere realized the immense value of those mediaeval structures and every effort has hence been made to restore those which remained.

We now approach the Spreuer Bridge, one of the two picturesque covered wooden bridges which have been preserved for the generations to come. It dates from the year 1408, and between the years 1626 and 1632, Kaspar Meglingen decorated it with panels of the "Dance of Death," that gruesome allegory which was so much fashion in those days. Longfellow in his "Hyperion" refers to them: "In almost all languages is it written-the apparition of the grim spectre putting a sudden stop to all business and leading men away into the remarkable retirement of the grave. It is written in an ancient Spanish poem and painted on a wooden bridge in Switzerland. The designs of Holbein are well known. The most striking among them is that where, from a group of children sitting round a cottage hearth, death has taken one by the hand and is leading it out of the door. Quietly and unresistingly goes the little child and on its countenance no grief but wonder only; while the other children are weeping and stretching forth their hands in vain toward their departing brother. It is a beautiful design in all save the skeleton. An angel had been better, with folded wings and torch inverted."

The other wooden bridge, i. c., the Kapellbrücke is one

of Lucerne's most typical landmarks. Same as the Spreuerbrücke it crosses the Reuss diagonally, stopping to confer almost in mid-stream with a weather-beaten octagonal tower, the Wasserturm. In the Kapellbrücke, which was built in 1333, are 154 painted scenes from Swiss history and from the lives of the patron saints of Lucerne: St. Leodegar and St. Maurice.

The Wasserturm, to which tradition refers as a Roman lighthouse, was in reality—like the Musegg—nothing more than a part of the fortifications of the city. While it formerly contained the town treasury, it is still the storehouse of the municipal archives and documents.

When we have passed over the bridge from the left shore of the Reuss, we must devote a few moments to the adjacent humble St. Peter's Chapel, with its early 16th Century stonecarving of the Nativity and the impressing figure of Niklaus von der Flüe, that old hermit who did such great work for peace in Switzerland.

Just a few steps farther on we perceive the grand old Rathaus in the Kornmarkt. This building which is in the purest Renaissance style, contains a Gothic staircase and some exquisite inlaid wainscoting and ancient carved woodwork, also portraits of magistrates of Lucerne and large mural paintings by Reinhard and Wyrsch. On the ground floor of this mediaeval edifice, there is a permanent Fine Arts Exhibition and an Historical Museum of Applied Arts, including the antiquarian collection of the Historical Society of the First Five Cantons. Here we find objects from the lake dwellings and from prehistoric tombs, numerous weapons and trophies from the old Swiss wars, Duke Leopold's coat of mail from the Battle of Sempach, and various other relics connected with the most interesting events in the history of Lucerne.

Adjoining the steps of the Kornmarkt is the "Gasthaus zu



The Axenstrasse between Brunnen and Flüelen



A bit of Old Lucerne

Phistern," one of the most noteworthy old Lucerne houses. It belonged to the guild of bakers and thus bears the coatot-arms of that profession. On the white background is painted a spreading vine, from the branches of which hang sacks of flour, drinking pots and loaves of bread. Near at hand is the so-called "Haus zum Frieden," on which is painted a domestic scene, the subject being the return of a Swiss soldier from war and the welcome by his family.

Skillful fresco works can be seen on many other houses, as on the Gasthaus zu Metzgern, the Hotel Waage, the Hotel Hirschen and others.

Lucerne is the starting point for an inexhaustible variety of excursions, and the lake in particular affords a most varied choice of enjoyable trips. Golf course of 18 holes.

The Rigi (5900 feet a/s) rises above the lake whose waters reflect it in marvelous spectacle. From its top is unfolded a sierralike expanse in a radius of 180 miles. The ascent via Vitznau, a delightful summer resort, and descent via Arth-Goldau and Immensee on the Lake of Zug is a round trip never to be forgotten.

The Pilatus (6995 feet a/s). This is a trip either by boat or rail to Alpnachstad then with the Pilatus Railway, one of the boldest railways in the world to Pilatus Kulm in an hour and 20 minutes. The Pilatus Railway is the only rack-and-pinion railway which has vertical teeth on both sides, into which two parts of toothed wheels attached to the train work horizontally. The maximum gradient is 48 per cent, and the panorama enjoyed from the summit of this stately mountain is indeed "a glimpse into paradise."

The Stanserhorn (6236 feet a/s) is another attractive excursion point, easily reached from Lucerne in two hours. A steamer plies between Lucerne and Stansstad. From there an electric railway conveys the traveler in one-quarter of an hour to Stans, whence the Stanserhornbahn, an electric cable railway, ascends with a maximum gradient of 60 per cent. to the summit in 50 minutes.

Stans (1510 feet a/s) itself is an interesting little town full of historic associations, with an imposing monument to the great patriot, Arnold von Winkelried, whose heroic deeds in the titanic struggle of the Swiss against their oppressors ranks second only to William Tell's exploits in Swiss history.

From Stansstad and Stans an electric railway carries the tourist in an hour and 40 minutes to the prettily situated and idyllic village of

Engelberg (3356 feet a/s), a delightful summer resort and winter sport center, at the foot of the snow-covered Titlis (10,527 feet a/s). Engelberg offers a variety of easy excursions as well as high Alpine tours for which guides are necessary.

Bridle paths lead over the Joch Pass (7267 feet a/s) to Meiringen (page 60), and over the Surenen Pass (7562 feet a/s) to Altdorf (page 76).

On our further explorations of the lake region we are invited by such idyllic places as Kehrsiten with the Bürgenstock, Beckenried, Treib with the Seelisberg and the Rütli, a spot sacred in Swiss history as the cradle of the country's liberty. On the opposite bank beckon Weggis with its very modern lake baths, Vitznau (the starting point for the Rigi) and Gersau. From Brunnen, another delightful summer resort, an electric cogwheel railway runs via the prettily situated hamlet of Morschach to Axenfels and Axenstein, whence a most beautiful outlook is to be had on the lake. Golf course of 9 holes in close vicinity. From Brunnen the Axenstrasse—one of the most famous specimens of highway construction in the world—leads to Flüelen, passing on the way Tell's Chapel at Sisikon,



Near Engelberg

where the hero is said to have sprung from the boat in which Bailiff Gessler was taking him to prison.

Flüelen (1483 feet a/s) is the last steamboat station at the the southern end of Lake Lucerne. We may return hence via Schwyz to Lucerne or continue the tour to

Altdorf (1465 feet a/s), which, with the memorial of the patriot William Tell, is well worthy of a visit. The little town prides itself of a theatre where performances of Schiller's great drama are given from time to time.

From here the Klausen Pass, one of the finest Alpine roads leads past Bürglen—Tell's birthplace—to Linthal (page 84).

The next station on the Gothard road is Erstfeld in the Valley of the Reuss, followed by Amsteg, whence one begins to obtain a conception of the stupendous engineering difficulties that were encountered and overcome in the construction of the famous Gothard line, which is now entirely electrified.

Goeschenen (3640 feet a/s) is the northern entrance to the world's second largest—the Gothard—tunnel (9¹/₄ miles long).

Before that point is reached the line has circled the village of Wassen in two spiral tunnels and crossed the Maienreuss thrice upon lofty bridges. From Wassen the Susten Pass connects with Meiringen in the Bernese Oberland (page 60).

Andermatt (4738 feet a/s), connected with Goeschenen by the electric Schöllenen Railroad, is a very attractive summer resort and winter sport center. It is the focus for excursions in the St. Gothard region.

An excellently constructed road leads over the Oberalp Pass to Disentis in the Grisons (page 102 and another road climbs via the Furka Pass to Gletsch, the base of the Rhone Glacier (page 46). Post auto-bus service is maintained on both of these passes.

Another favorite excursion from Lucerne leads into the

so-called Seetal, a smiling valley with the two pretty lakes of Baldegg and Hallwil. Near the latter stands the ancient château of Hallwil, recently beautifully renovated and open to visitors.

A little further on beckons the quaint little town of Lenzburg, guarded by two graceful vineclad hills; the Staufen with its friendly church and the Schlossberg with its imposing castle which is now the summer residence of James W. Ellsworth, a wealthy New Yorker.

Being a great lover of music this gentleman recently hit upon a rather novel idea, by making an arrangement with the brass band of Lenzburg city, which enables him to command those amateur musicians to the castle whenever he feels disposed to hear a few selections!

A direct railway connecting Lucerne and Berne traverses the valley of the **Entlebuch**, a rich farming district.

Still another attractive excursion is to Küssnacht, then a walk or drive through the Hohle Gasse, a narrow defile, where Tell is said to have shot the bailiff Gessler, which event is immortalized by a chapel, the Tellskapelle. A little further on lies Immensee whence a delightful trip on the idyllic Lake of Zug takes us to the diminutive capital of that canton, Zug (1385 feet a/s), a most picturesque, ancient town, whence a cable railway carries the tourists to the heights of the Zugerberg (3130 feet a/s).

The most picturesque and probably the most familiar route from Lucerne to the Bernese Oberland is by railway over the Brünig Pass to Meiringen. After passing Alpnachstad (1440 feet a/s), starting point of the Pilatus railway, the line enters the pasturelands of Obwalden, with Kerns-Kägiswil (1620 feet a/s), as the next station and entrance to the idyllic Melchtal, with Fluehli-Ranft (2450 feet a/s) and the Alpine hamlet and health resort of



Zürich



Andermatt

Melchtal (2933 feet a/s), the land of St. Nikolaus von der Flüe.

Passing Sarnen (1555 feet a/s), the capital of Obwalden and Sachseln (1558 feet a/s), picturesquely situated on the Lake of Sarnen, the line now ascends a little and changes to the rack-and-pinion system at Giswil (1665 feet a/s). Presently the placid Lake of Lungern (2160 feet a/s) is reached, and after a few minutes' climb Brünig (3295 feet a/s) the highest point of the Pass and a truly wonderful point of view is attained. From here the line descends in 25 minutes to Meiringen (page 60).

EASTERN SWITZERLAND

Zürich (1345 feet a/s), called the "Athens on the Limmat" is Switzerland's most populous city. It dates back to those early days when a village of lake dwellings stood near the spot where the Limmat leaves the Lake of Zürich. The Lindenhof and the Uetliberg-the latter still showing the ruins of the "Refugium" ramparts, are said to have been chosen for the first colonies of these primitive settlers on terra firma. On the mound of the Lindenhof, the Helvetians erected the first fortress of "Turicum," which in the year 58 B.C., after the battle of Bibrakte, fell under the power of the Romans. When the Romans withdrew their legions the Alemanns became masters of the country, and the Roman Turicum became Alemannic Zürich. Under the dominion of the German kings and emperors the town acquired importance through the monasteries and chapter of the Fraumünster and Grossmünster, the latter of which is said to have been founded by Charlemagne and the former, in 853, by Louis the German, who appointed his daughter, Hildegard, as Lady Abbess.

The city enjoys a wonderful situation on the north end of the charming lake, nestling between gently sloping shores, vineyards and orchards, imposing villas and flourishing villages. In the background tower the snow-covered giants of the Alps. The River Limmat divides the town into 'the "Altstadt" (old town) and the "Neu-Stadt" (new town). While the former reminds one forcibly of the past, the latter, especially such parts of it as the Bahnhofstrasse give us the impression of an intensely busy modern town, where brilliant shops and stately buildings testify to its commercial standing and importance. These contrasts of the old and the new, the practical and the artistic, constitute the greatest charm of Zürich.

The Swiss National Museum, a stately building in mediaeval style, with a unique historical collection, is the special pride of the town, and the Künstlerhaus (Art Gallery) containing pictures of the famous Swiss painters, Böcklin, Welti and Hodler is another favored haunt of artists and lovers of art. Beautiful theatres and spacious concert halls, among which the great Tonhalle is internationally known, are dignified temples of drama and music in which classic and modern plays, operas and operettas are successfully given.

Zürich's most famous place of worship is undoubtedly the Grossmünster, erected in the Romanesque style with the upper stories of the towers completed later in the Gothic style. On the west tower is enthroned Charlemagne with gilded crown and sword in recognition of his donations to the church. The interior contains pillars with Romanesque capitals, and three large modern stained-glass windows decorate the choir. The early 13th Century cloisters have been restored and are well worthy of a careful visit.

The Grossmünster is moreover famous for its intimate connection with the great Swiss Reformer Zwingli who, for a period of twelve years, beginning with New Year's day, 1519, was in charge of this church. A monument is erected to his memory at the chancel end of the former Wasserkirche lying

[80]

opposite. This particular edifice contains now the most interesting municipal library.

Zürich has often been described as an intellectual paradise. It is the birthplace of the great pedagogue Heinrich Pestalozzi, whose methods of education were adopted little by little by every civilized country. It is the site of the Swiss Polytechnical School, of a university and a number of private and preparatory institutions in which young people from all parts of the world are educated.

Benevenuto Cellini, the celebrated sculptor of three and onehalf centuries ago, termed Zürich an "exquisite gem, worthy of all admiration" and this holds true to-day.

There are innumerable pleasant walks and easy excursions in the immediate vicinity of the town. Especially frequented are the delightful woods on the Zürichberg and the Uetliberg (2677 feet a/s) as well as the Valley of the Sihl. Sport at Zürich is at its best including golf.

Rapperswil (1350 feet a/s), picturesquely situated at the upper end of the lake, reached either by boat or train, is worthy of a visit. The old castle, dating from the 14th Century, contained the Polish national collection of treasures and relics until 1925 when they were removed to Poland.

Traveling from Zürich by railway along the left bank of the lake, the first point of note is

Thalwil (1436 feet a/s), a very busy silk manufacturing town, doubly important as the junction of the two main lines from Central Switzerland (Lucerne) and the Grisons. At

Wädenswil (1348 feet a/s) a line branches off to the famous pilgrimage place of Einsiedeln with its extensive Benedictine Monastery and sacred shrines, visited yearly by more than 100,000 pilgrims and tourists. At

Pfäffikon connection is made with Rapperswil on the right bank of the lake.



Castle of Rapperswil

At Ziegelbrücke, a station before the line skirts the romantic Wallen See, a branch line enters into the charm ing Glarnerland, where Näfels (1434 feet a/s) is the first point of interest en route. It was in this region where on April 9, 1388, the natives freed themselves from Austrian tyranny and in the Rautifelder, where eleven attacks were made, stand eleven memorial stones, which are visited yearly by the people of Glarus on the anniversary day.

A short distance higher up beckons the tiny village of Netstal (1485 feet a/s), well known as the entrance to the Klöntal, one of the most exquisite Alpine valleys in Switzerland, with a lake whose perfect beauty has been the inspiration of countless artists and poets. From Netstal the railway reaches

Glarus (1490 feet a/s), the capital of the Canton of this name, situated at the foot of the noble Glärnisch. Although it occupies a part of the country which possesses a pronounced pastoral character, Glarus has, besides its dairying, many thriving industries such as wool-weaving, cotton-spinning and dyeing. As the city was the victim of several disastrous fires it possesses a rather modern appearance. However, it is not without its interesting features, and the church which is harmoniously shared between Protestants and Catholics, the town hall and other public buildings are well worth a visit.

Glarus is an excellent center for a variety of delightful excursions for amateur and experienced climbers.

An electric railway leading from Schwanden (1720 feet a/s), a thriving village above Glarus, to the summer resort of Elm (3220 feet a/s) has helped to enliven the lovely Sernf Valley, which is another paradise for Alpinists. The interesting, but rather fatiguing Segnes Pass leads in eight hours from Elm to Flims in the Grisons (page 91), and the equally strenuous Panixer Pass connects in $9\frac{1}{2}$ hours with *Ilanz* in the Grisons (page 102).

One of the most important points in the Canton of Glarus is Linthal (2168 feet a/s), once a forgotten hamlet and now a pleasing resort. It is the starting point for the much admired Klausen Pass (6437 feet a/s) leading to Altdorf (page 76.) Being now covered by post auto-busses; the traffic on this scenic Alpine highway has greatly increased and a drive over the Klausen is certainly well worth while.

The Fätschbach Falls, the Thierfehd, the Ueli Alp and the wondrous array of mountains all around combine to make Linthal one of the most delightful places for persons who seek beautiful scenery and a choice of easy and more difficult excursions and mountain tours.

A cable railway climbs from Linthal to

Braunwald (4113 feet a/s), an Alpine resort of poetic charm whose sunburnt châlets lie scattered here and there on the undulating slopes of the Glärnisch (9580 feet a/s), half hidden by luxuriant maple and fir trees.

Retracing our steps via Näfels to Weesen (1404 feet a/s), a smart little resort on the Wallen See, we now skirt this truly superb lake to the end, i.e., to

Wallenstadt (1400 feet a/s), whence the line takes a southeasterly direction via Sargans to

Ragaz-Pfäfers (1500 feet a/s) with its world renowned thermal springs, prettily situated at the mouth of the boisterous Tamina. This is one of the favorite Swiss Spas and a much frequented intermediate station to and from the Grisons health resorts. With its magnificent gorge of the Tamina and its great choice of excursions into the surrounding mountain realm, Ragaz is not only a delightful place to sojourn for the visitors who take the cure, but can also be made headquarters by tourists bent upon climbing achievements. Ragaz has a golf course of 9 holes. Leaving Zurich in the opposite direction via Bülach and Eglisau the traveler reaches

Schaffhausen (1332 feet a/s), whose well preserved mediaeval buildings give the town the unmistakable stamp of a Swabian town of the empire. It well deserves the name of "Nuremberg of Switzerland." The Romanesque Cathedral (1101 A.D.), now a Protestant church, is of particular interest. The cloisters (Kreuzgang) are partly Romanesque, partly Gothic. The churchyard was once the burial place of the nobility and is now a picturesque wilderness. The old bell, cast in 1486, with the inscription, "Vivos voco, mortuos plango, fulgura frango," which suggested to Schiller his immortal "Song of the Bell" was replaced in 1898 by a new one with the same inscription. On the Fronweg-Platz is the venerable Grosse Haus, a patrician mansion, erected in the 14th Century and renovated since. The Munot, a stronghold from the 16th Century, with walls 16 feet thick, commands the town, The Rathaus with its artistically panelled hall, the Museum of Natural History, the many painted houses and fountain statues, never fail to delight the lover of the quaint and ancient. But Schaffhausen is primarily associated with the Falls of the Rhine

Station reached by train or trolley.

Here the Rhine descends 380 feet wide in a 100-foot plunge, over an irregular rocky ledge. It is one of the finest cascades in Europe, and who could describe it better than Ruskin?

"Stand for an hour beside the Falls of Schaffhausen, on the north side, where the rapids are long, and watch how the vault of water first bends unbroken in pure polished velocity over the arching rocks at the brow of the cataract, covering them with a dome of crystal twenty feet thick, so swift that its motion is unseen except when a foam-globe from above

[85]

darts over it like a falling star; and how the trees are lighted above it under all their leaves at the instant that it breaks into foam; and how all the hollows of that foam burn with green fire, like so much shattering chrysoprase; and how, ever and anon startling you with its white flash, a jet of spray leaps out, hissing, like a rocket bursting in the wind and driven away in dust, filling the air with light; and how, through the curdling wreaths of the restless, crashing abyss below, the blue of the water, paled by the foam in its body, shows purer than the sky through white rain cloud; while the shuddering iris stoops in tremulous stillness over all, fading and flushing alternately through the chocking spray and shattered sunshine, hiding itself at last among the thick golden leaves which toss to and fro in sympathy with the wild waters, their dripping masses lifted at intervals, like sheaves of loaded corn, by some stronger gush from the cataract, and bowed again upon the mossy rocks as its roar dies away."

From Neuhausen we may return to Zürich via the busy manufacturing town of Winterthur and visit the Castle of Kyburg, one of the best preserved mediaeval strongholds, or we may continue our trip by rail to the region of Lake Constance.

A charming trip is by steamer from Schaffhausen up the Rhine, passing the picturesque old town of

Stein am Rhein (1364 feet a/s) with the stately Castle of Hohenklingen and several other pretty villages and romantic ruins sprinkled in between; a delightful journey indeed, until one reaches the old imperial town of

Constance on the southern shore of the Bodensee. Proceeding along the lake via the chief Swiss stations of Romanshorn, Arbon and Rorschach, we now turn inland to

St. Gall (2195 feet a/s) the famous embroidery seat of modern days and one of the most influential centers of Christian civilization in Central Europe. The city owes its foundation to the Irish Apostle, Gallus, who, in the year 614, founded a hermitage near the brook, Steinach. In the resulting monastery of St. Gall, the strict rules of the Irish Church were enforced until 720, when those of St. Benedict were substituted by an abbot, Othmar. In 1061, the Abbot Norpert of St. Gall erected a convent on the Sitter River, the place taking the name of Abbatis Cella-Appenzell, and the abbots of St. Gall became the dominating influence in the land until the subsequently much oppressed mountaineers resorted to force and succeeded in shaking off their yoke.

The Benedictine Abbey itself was suppressed in 1805, and accommodates now the cantonal offices, the bishop's residence and the famous library. This library comprises some 30,000 volumes and a wealth of valuable manuscripts. It prides itself for instance of the celebrated "Psalteruim Aureum"—the Golden Psalter—so-called on account of its golden writing on white parchment; of a Nibelungenlied of the 13th Century, of manuscripts relating to Parsifal and other heroes sung by Wagner.

The abbey church itself, rebuilt in 1756-68 in the Rococo style, is very imposing without and lavishly decorated inside. In addition to the finely carved choir stalls and a beautiful iron choir screen, which form one of the chief attractions of the interior, the organ, the chancel, the lovely frescoes on the ceiling and the church treasury are renowned features of this Cathedral.

The town is extremely rich in a variety of enjoyable excursions, particularly into the rich pastureland of the Canton of Appenzell, with such delightful places as:

Heiden (2657 feet a/s), Trogen (2975 feet a/s), Speicher (3070 feet a/s) and Gais (3075 feet a/s).

The capital of this diminutive Cantom

Appenzell (2595 feet a/s) deserves also a visit. Its foundation dates back to 1061 A.D., and the place has to day

yet retained much of its old-fashioned charm. Handembroidery is a highly developed home industry in this region. In close proximity is

Weissbad (2680 feet a/s), a well-known health resort, and about one hour and a half above, in an interesting and extensive region of caves, which is noted for prehistoric finds, stands the picturesque retreat of the Wildkirchli, whose founder, a priest from Appenzell, erected here in the year 1656 a little hermitage with chapel for himself. In the year 1679 he willed the Wildkirchli to the State of Innerrhoden. specifying that it should remain a hermitage forever. Some 16 hermits lived consecutively in this mountainous solitude, until 1851, when the hermit's dwelling was abandoned as such and transformed into a commodious inn, in order to accommodate the great number of pilgrims and tourists who yearly flock to the hermit's chapel of St. Michael. A memorial tablet in the vicinity also reminds of the poet Victor you Scheffel, author of "Ekkehard," who completed this wellknown novel up here in the year 1854.

From here the Ebenalp (5250 feet a/s), the Seealpsee (3747 feet a/s) and the Hohen Kasten (5900 feet a/s) are favorite excursion points. From

Herisau (2550 feet a/s), another delightful spot in this region, we continue our trip into the charming and historically known Toggenburg, with the chief places of Lichtensteig, Wattwil, Ebnat, Kappel and Nesslau (2470 feet a/s). A carriage road connects with Wildhaus (3600 feet a/s), starting point for excursions into the higher Alpine region of the Churfirsten (7576 feet a/s) and Säntis (8216 feet a/s) group.

The new post road from Wildhaus connects with Buchs in the Rhine Valley, frontier station of the Zürich-Vienna line, whence we may proceed to the Grisons.



Tschierva Glacier with Piz Rosegg

THE GRISONS

The Grisons, Switzerland's largest canton, may readily be described as an Alpine wonderland. It is broken up by no fewer than 150 valleys, varying greatly in size, traversed by wild rushing torrents and streams and animated by roaring waterfalls and transparent mountain lakes. Dark green firwoods and velvety pastures cover the slopes and form the transition from the region of the hills to the realm of the high Alps.

While the unusually mountainous nature of this section of the country would lead one to believe that its history would be of comparatively modern date, existing records show that Raetus, Prince of the Etruscan tribe, had invaded this district as early as 600 B.c. He named the conquered territory Rhaetia, but the same included at that time the Tyrol and Vorarlberg, the Bavarian highlands and the northern stretch of Lombardy as well.

One of the most venerable spots in the entire region is

Chur or **Coire** (1936 feet a/s), the capital of the Canton, which traces its foundation back to the Roman Era, when it was generally known as Curia Rhaetorum. The old quarters of this unpretentious, yet strangely fascinating city prove an inspiration to photographers and artists. Narrow, crudely paved streets; massive stone houses with quaintly contrived entrances, stairs and gates; here a turn and there a turn and suddenly a diminutive open square, suitable for small public gatherings in comparative safety and privacy, an important factor in feudal days. One of these picturesque haunts is known as—"der süsse Winkel"—"the sweet corner," and when beheld in the silvery glimmer of a full moon, this nook is indeed worthy of its designation.

What is known as the Episcopal Court occupies high ground. Here the Cathedral of St. Lucius, begun in the 12th Century and consecrated in 1282, and the Bishop's Palace, face upon a square, adorned with a fountain, the entire quarter being surrounded with walls, so that its general appearance is like a fortress. The bishopric is first mentioned in the Acts of a Synod of Milan, in 452; but there is the legend of a missionary, a certain Saint Lucius, from Britain, who is supposed to have established himself here at an earlier time. In close vicinity of Chur are the

Baths of Passugg (2720 feet a/s), much frequented for the curative effects of their chalybeate springs. A pleasant excursion from Chur is per post auto-bus to Parpan (4356 fee a/s), Lenzerheide (4844 feet a/s) and Tiefenkastel (2811 feet a/s), all three charming summer and winter resorts.

Arosa (5904 feet a/s), reached from Chur by one of the most picturesque electric railways, is one of the highest health resorts in the country. It reposes like a jewel on a cushion of luxuriant green; fragrant pine forests and a glorious cluster of snow-crowned Alpine peaks form its setting. On account of its lofty, sunny position, which is nevertheless sheltered, Arosa has become one of the most famous Swiss health and pleasure resorts.

From Chur the main route takes us to

Reichenau-Tamins (1995 feet a/s), whence post autobusses take visitors to

Flims-Waldhaus (3621 feet a/s), a forest-enclosed resort on the romantic Lake of Cauma.

The Segnes group with Piz Segnes (10,230 feet a/s) forms inviting ground for mountaineering excursions.

Proceeding from Reichenau in a southerly direction we soon reach

Thusis (2369 feet a/s), a friendly town encircled by luxuriant orchards—and yet in closest vicinity to one of the wildest chasms which nature has wrought into the Grisons mountains—the Via Mala, a gorge of stupendous grandeur in the depths of which the Rhine is thundering in ceaseless indignation against its oppressing forces.

From here the Post road leads via the lovely health resort of Andeer (3212 feet a/s), (whence Cresta, 6438 feet a/s, another climatic resort in the Aversertal is reached) to Splügen, excursions which can be highly recommended. From Splügen the diligence connects via the Splügen Pass with Chiavenna (page 96), and another Alpine Post leads via the San Bernardino Pass (4821 feet a/s) to Mesocco, whence connection is made by rail with Bellinzona (page 105).

The section of the Rhaetian Railway between Thusis and St. Moritz is known as the Albula line. While it is but 38.34 miles long, the nature of the mountains traversed is such that the number and length of the tunnels and viaducts on this line are extraordinarily great. Besides the Albula tunnel. which is 334 miles in length, and which is the longest tunnel ever built on a narrow gauge railway, there are 38 smaller tunnels, the total length of which is 33,350 feet. While a trip over this road of scenic and technical wonders has always been a rare delight, it has become more so still, since every possible inconvenience through smoke in tunnels has been eliminated with the electrification of the railway.

From Thusis the railroad serves in succession Tiefenkastel (see page 91). Alvaneu (3285 feet a/s) with the well frequented Baths of Alvaneu, Filisur (3550 feet a/s) at the junction of the line from Davos, Bergün (4505 feet a/s), a pretty village which has lately also joined the rank of the winter stations; Preda (5880 feet a/s), the starting point of the interesting old Albula Road, which leads across to Ponte in the Upper Engadine, and Bevers (5620 feet a/s) at the foot of the Crasta Mora, whence a branch line of the Rhaetian Railway proceeds to Schuls-Vulpera-Tarasp in the Lower Engadine. (See page 98). The next point of interest en route is Samaden (5670 feet

a/s), the chief locality of the Upper Engadine, with many handsome private dwellings, whose style of architecture is typical of this region.

The village enjoys a particularly fine location in full view of the wondrous Bernina chain with its unforgetable group of peaks. Piz Palü (12,835 feet), Piz Morteratsch (12,317 feet), Piz Tschierva (11,693 feet), Piz Roseg (12,934 feet), Piz Rosatsch (10,100 feet) and Piz della Margna (10,376 feet)—they are indeed true monarchs of the Alps and the ambition of all experienced climbers.

Samaden offers a great variety of delightful walks through woods and pastures and is an ideal starting point for many interesting excursions which can safely be made by amateur climbers.

An almost obligatory trip is to the Muottas Muraigl (8200 feet a/s), easily reached by a mountain railway; from this point the visitor will enjoy a far-sweeping outlook on the wonder valley of the Inn. To golfers Samaden is a particularly important spot in the Grisons, possessing, as it does, a perfect 18-hole course with well-equipped club house. A branch line of the railway proceeds from Samaden to Pontresina (page 96).

Passing Celerina (5685 feet a/s), a very pleasant summer and winter resort, we presently reach St. Moritz, this world famous summer resort and winter sport center, which is the terminus of the Upper Engadine section of the Rhaetian Railway.

St. Moritz lies on the beautiful lake of the same name in the loftiest valley in Europe, on the sunny slope of Piz Nair (10,045 feet), and although it has an altitude of 6089 feet a/s, it is celebrated for the extraordinary wealth of its flora. While it is generally known as a very modern leader of sports and fashions, it has nevertheless a very old history, it being referred to as a pilgrimage place in the 15th Century. The

[93]

leaning tower of the old church, which is all that is left of that edifice and which is a characteristic feature of the village, dates back to the year 1573.

The resort is divided into two sections, "the village" and "the Baths," the latter with extensive cure establishments where the health-giving chalybeate waters, whose wonderful qualities were already known in the Roman era, are taken advantage of by visitors from all lands.

The most delightful walks and drives can be taken from here and the place offers facilities for all sports, including golf.

Campfèr (6020 feet a/s), a diminutive village at the entrance to the Suvretta Valley, is the first resort we encounter on this excursion. Its radiant reflection is mirrored in the crystal depths of its charming lake which we follow to Silvaplana (5955 feet a/s), another fairy-like spot with another and larger lake. Silvaplana is situated on the alluvial deposits of the j'ulier brook, which separates these two lakes of Campfèr and Silvaplana.

Skirting the Lake of Silvaplana we next reach

Sils (5930 feet a/s), embracing the picturesque hamlets of Sils-Baselgia and Sils Maria; from the latter a most enchanting walk can be had into the lovely Fex Valley. From Sils the magnificent Lake of Sils extends to

Maloja (5940 feet a/s), the summit of the lowest pass between Switzerland and Italy, which descends rapidly from here into the Val Bregaglia.

Every one of the little villages scattered along this wonder road of transparent Alpine lakes may be considered as excellent headquarters for a great variety of delightful excursions and Alpine tours, and it is therefore not surprising that this lofty realm is also well patronized during the season of white.

At Maloja are ten large glacier mills or giant cauldrons which serve as an excellent illustration of the action of the



Dischma Valley near Davos



The Watering Place of Tarasp-Vulpera

glacier which once covered this region. One of the multitude of excursions which can be made from Maloja should include a visit to the Lunghino Lake from which the River Inn emerges. Maloja has a 9 hole golf course.

From Maloja a post road leads to Chiavenna with connection to the Lake of Como.

From Silvaplana a post road leads over the Julier Pass to Tiefenkastel, then to Churwalden-Chur (page 90).

From St. Moritz we now proceed by the electric Bernina Railway via Celerina to

Pontresina (5915 feet a/s), one of the most enchantingly situated spots in the Upper Engadine. Sombre pine forests encircle this stately village which on account of its very convenient proximity to the finest glaciers and mountains in the Grisons is equally well patronized in summer and in winter. Shady wood promenades lure those who cannot undertake strenuous excursions and the glorious outlook enjoyed from the same into the wondrous Roseg Valley and adjacent peaks fills the beholder with visions of paradise.

Excursions to the Morteratsch and Roseg glaciers can be taken by everybody, as the available transportation facilities make this a delightful half-day's outing; more ambitious walkers may undertake the easy $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours' climb of the Schafberg (8965 feet a/s), a splendid point of view, which can also be reached by donkey. A little more fatiguing is the ascent of Piz Languard (10,716 feet a/s), requiring about four hours, but this expedition would provide good training for a still more strenuous climb.

From Pontresina the Bernina Railway, one of the most scenic of Swiss Alpine railways, follows the old Bernina Post Road over the Pass to Tirano in Italy. Morteratsch, this gate of the glacier of the same name, Bernina Hospice (7575 feet a/s) romantically situated above the Lago Bianco facing the Cambrena Glacier, Alp Grüm (7182 feet a/s) where the Palü Glacier and the Poschiavo Valley below form an unforgetable picture, they are spots on the line which make this trip one of the obligatory outings from the Upper Engadine.

This marvelous railway is kept open all the year, powerful locomotives being employed in winter for the clearing of the tracks from snow.

From Alp Grüm the line descends in wonderful curves to

Poschiavo (3315 feet a/s), the ancient little capital of the valley, and proceeds via **Brusio** (2477 feet a/s) and **Campo Cologno** (1835 feet a/s) (the frontier station) to Tirano, starting point of the railway to Colico on Lake Como, and of the Alpine highway to Bormio-Stelvio Pass and Trafoi. Near Poschiavo is Le Prese (3156 feet a/s), a watering place with alkaline and sulphurous springs.

From the heights of the Upper Engadine, which extends from Maloja to Punt Ota in a distance of 25 miles and with an average altitude of 6000 feet a/s, we now proceed by a branch line of the Rhaetian Railway to the Lower Engadine, which reaches as far as Martinsbruck on the Tyrolese frontier, a distance of 331/2 miles, with an altitude gradually descending from 4920 to 3280 feet a/s. Owing to the less elevated situation, the climate in the Lower Engadine is considerably warmer than in the Upper Engadine and vegetation is consequently far more luxuriant. Meadows and fields clad with the most beautiful of verdure and flowers rise from the banks of the River Inn and all the mountain heights are covered with splendid woods. Ruins of ancient strongholds and castles peep here and there through the dark-green forestssilent reminders of the eventful days gone by when this part of Switzerland had to endure the yoke of Austrian tyranny.

From Samaden the train winds its way past Ponte to

Zuoz (5615 feet a/s), a stately village which once held the rank of capital of the Engadine, with a number of typical Engadine houses and the ancient "Tuor," the former seat of the aristocratic Grisons family von Planta. A little further down are

Scanfs (5413 feet a/s) and Cinuskel (5300 feet a/s), two delightful Alpine resorts, and presently we perceive the picturesque old wooden bridge, the "Punt Ota," which forms the dividing line between the Upper and Lower Engadine.

The valley nov contracts and the train winds its way through several tunnels on to

Zernez (4910 feet a/s), the starting point of the Ofen Pass to Santa Maria (whence the Umbrail leads to the Stelvio) and Münster (whence a diligence runs to Mals).

Zernez is also a starting point for the Swiss National Park, a great reservation established on the same principle as the American National parks, where flora and fauna have for almost two decades been left entirely undisturbed.

Süs (4689 feet a/s), another delightful Engadine village with a wealth of the quaint and curious, and very fine carnation nurseries, is the starting point for a walk or drive over the Flüela Pass leading to Davos.

Past the picturesque resorts of Lavin (4690 feet a/s), Guarda (5423 feet a/s) and Ardetz (4812 feet a/s) we still follow the course of the Inn, but the railroad is now high above the deeply embedded river. The landscape assumes a more and more romantic aspect until we reach

Tarasp-Schuls-Vulpera, one of Europe's finest spas, formed by a cluster of three resorts separated from each other by a short walking distance only.

While Schuls (4080 feet a/s) is the terminal of the railroad, carriages are at the disposal of guests of Tarasp (3946 feet a/s), with its extensive Kurhaus establishments, and Vulpera (4183 feet a/s), facing Schuls on the opposite side of the river, a gateway also to the National Park and starting point for numerous tours and climbing expeditions.



Autumn at Ilanz

Chronicles relate how in the 15th and 16th centuries a few solitary pilgrims in quest of health journeyed to the "saltsprings" of Tarasp; how they took the waters there but were guided by some strange instinct to establish their temporary homes higher up, on the sunlit plateau where the hotels of Vulpera, enframed by woods and meadows, beckon to 20th Century visitors.

One of the most delightful side trips to be made from Vulpera is to the beautifully renovated Castle of Tarasp, the seat of the Austrian Governors up to 1803, and at present the home of the ex-Duke and ex-Duchess of Hessen. A tiny lake and a dear little hamlet dream at the foot of this rocky height which is one of the best known landmarks in the country. Facing Vull era on the other side of the Inn beckons the pretty resort of Fetan (5404 feet a/s).

From Schuls a diligence road leads to

Val Sinestra (5000 feet a/s), a well-known watering place, and to MartinsLuck, thence to Austria.

The Flüela Pass (7835 feet a/s), between Süs and Davos, forms the connecting link between the Lower Engadine and the Davos Valley. It is an ancient thoroughfare, but the present scientifically built road dates back only to 1868. A comfortable little hotel, described as "the Hospice." on the summit caters to travelers and wayfarers. In the vicinity are two diminutive lakes of entirely different characteristics; one with greenish-white glacier water, the other with transparently clear spring water. As this region offers an unsually large variety of mountain excursions, it is more and more becoming the rendezvous of Alpinists in summer and winter. Skis are, of course, the means of locomotion during the season of white.

Davos (5200 feet a/s), formerly principally known as one of the foremost pioneers among the Swiss health resorts, is on account of its splendid scenic advantages—steadily gaining in popularity as a tourist and sport center. Divided into two distinct quarters, Dorf and Platz, this formerly tiny settlement has become a miniature capital of the Grisons highlands, with imposing hotels and restaurants, and shops, whose ultra-smart displays never fail to attract and delight the feminine visitors.

As the climatic-curative advantages of Davos are about equal throughout the year it is frequented in summer as an enchanting abode for a restful change.

Priding itself with the largest skating rink in Europe, with numerous opportunities for fine ski tours to realms of varying altitude, and a choice of wonderful toboggan and bob-sleigh runs, this resort is one of the liveliest sport centers in the land of the Alps in winter. As a health resort it is primarily visited for chest, throat and nerve complaints, but amateur and expert climbers regard Davos as a veritable paradise for interesting tours and ascents.

A bridle path leads from Davos over the Strela Pass into the Schanfigg Valley, with Arosa (page 91) and the Scaletta Pass, forms a direct connection with Scanfs in the Upper Engadine. Train connection can be made via Wiesen and Spinabad (4816 feet) with Filisur (page 92).

Klosters (3965 feet a/s), consisting of three hamletc, Dörfli, Platz and Brücke, is another pleasant summer resort and winter sport center, offering wonderful excursions into the glaciers of the Silvretta group, etc. We pass Serneus (3225 feet a/s), a watering place, and reach

Küblis (2664 feet a/s), another picturesque village lower down, whence a coach road leads to the charming resort of

St. Antönien (4659 feet a/s). Fideris with Fideris Baths (3463 feet a/s), the latter known for its mineral springs, are charming places a little further on from Küblis. Past Landquart this Prättigau branch of the Rhaetian Railway leads to Chur. Starting from Chur via Reichenau we now proceed into the Grisons Oberland, to Ilanz and Disentis.

The numerous quaint villages along and in the neighborhood of the line are well worth a visit. There is

Versan-Safien (2095 feet a/s) for instance, the starting point for the Safien Valley, which is a veritable paradise for botanists and lovers of flowers. The next village,

Valendas (2700 feet a/s), possesses a most unique fountain surmounted by a mermaid wearing an enormously large hat. The statue dates from the 18th Century, when a retired Dutch Admiral settled here, together with some of his nautical acquaintances, and it is supposed that this style of fountain was chosen as a reminder of the sea.

Presently we reach

Ilanz (2345 feet a/s) the "first town on the Rhine," with many beautiful old-fashioned houses, churches and remainders of former fortifications. It is dominated by Piz Mundaun, the Rigi of the Grisons Oberland.

History voices her presence everywhere. There is

Truns (2835 feet a/s), a prosperous little commune with an ancient church and Rathaus, decorated with fine portraits and coat-of-arms. Most famous, however, are the exquisite frescoes of St. Aun's Chapel, built in memory of the formation of the "Gray League" in 1424 A.D.

Somvix (3440 feet a/s), a beautifully situated Alpine village, beckons a little farther on. Here opens the pretty Somvix Valley with the well known **Teniger Bad** (4176 feet a/s), a favorite Spa with chalybeate springs.

And now we reach

Disentis (3765 feet a/s), the seat of the oldest existing Monastery in Switzerland, which was founded by St. Sigisbert, a disciple of St. Columbanus, in the year 614 A.D. Disentis has become particularly famous as a health resort on account of its strong radio-active mineral spring, which was



Locarno

found in the extensive park of the Kurhaus Disentiserhof. The village enjoys a most ideal situation. It is embedded on a carpet of soft green meadows and encircled by splendid woods over which tower the Alps in glorious splendor.

From Disentis we may leave the Grisons by diligence over the Oberalp Pass to Andermatt and Goeschenen to connect with the Gothard route (page 76) or proceed by diligence via the Lukmanier road to Acquarossa (page 105).

SOUTHERN SWITZERLAND

From the sedate north, with its luxuriously green pastures, its fragrant forests and dainty homelike châlets, the electrified St. Gothard Railway takes us within a brief fifteen minutes through the tunnel into the sun-kissed land of Goethe's Heroine. From Teutonic Switzerland we have entered the threshold of Italian Switzerland, buoyant with sunshine, warmth and color. Walnut and chestnut groves climb up the hillsides and extensive areas of well-tended vineyards indicate that viticulture has attained a remarkably high degree in this region. A distinctive southern brightness is prevalent everywhere, from the gayly decorated houses to the brilliant Lombard Campanile. The whole atmosphere has changed and the inhabitants, too, show evidence of the proverbial light-hearted southern temperament.

Airolo (3755 feet a/s) is at the southern end of the St. Gothard Tunnel. A path leads to the picturesque lake of Ritom (6000 feet a/s), which supplies the electric power for the Gothard line, with the holiday resort of

Piora (6125 feet a/s). A path over the Uoma Pass (7257 feet a/s) connects with the post route Disentis-Acquarossa.

Above and along the course of the foaming Ticino winds our track; frequent waterfalls relieve in silvery clouds the monotony of the rocky mountain sides and a diminutive chapel or shrine perched here and there high on a precipice makes us wonder just why anybody could select such an inaccessible spot as a place of devotion.

Rodi-Fiesso (3100 feet a/s), Faido (2485 feet a/s), Lavorgo (2025 feet a/s) and historical Giornico (1480 feet a/s), picturesque villages situated on a section of the line which abounds in technical marvels, pass in succession and we reach

Biasca (971 feet a/s) an interesting village at the opening of Val Blenio, where fig-trees and mulberries begin to appear.

Acquarossa (1740 feet a/s), a much frequented watering place, with arsenous chalybeate springs, is connected with Biasca by rail, and a post route leads from Acquarossa to

Olivone (2925 feet a/s), the highest point of the valley. From here the diligence road goes over the Lukmanier Pass (6290 feet a/s) to Disentis (page 102), and a footpath climbs over the Greina Pass into the Somvix Valley (page 102).

Bellinzona (760 feet a/s), the picturesque capital of the Canton of Ticino, is the key to the three passes over the St. Gothard, the Lukmanier and the San Bernardino. The three proud old fortresses which command every visitor's attention are the Castle of San Michele or Uri, the Castle of Montebello or Schwyz and the Castle of Corbario or Unterwalden. These names date back to the time when the strongholds were the residence of the bailiffs of the three districts so designated near the Lake of Lucerne. These bailiffs also ruled over the lower Ticino Valley.

An electric railway runs to **Mesocco** (2522 feet a/s), connecting there with the San Bernardino post route leading into the Grisons.

From Bellinzona, branching off to the right is

Locarno (680 feet a/s) the fair queen of Lago Maggiore, that beautiful lake which forms a connecting link between



the rugged glories of the Alps and the quiet fertile plains of Lombardy. Locarno's history dates back to the time of the Romans and Celts. It has gained added fame as seat of the Security Conference of 1925.

The Piazza Grande, a great square, traverses the town almost in its entire length from the quay to the Via Alla Motta. On one side it is bordered by picturesque houses with arcades, and on the other side lie the public gardens enclosing the Casino and post office. The center of the old town with its many quaint little streets and numerous ancient houses of fine architecture is the business quarter and at the same time the site of various venerable churches.

Perched on a wooded rock high above the town, overlooking the deep blue lake, is the pilgrimage church of the Madonna del Sasso reached by the funicular. A footpath leads up a very steep mountainside and is lined with the fourteen Stations of the Cross. Natives and visiting pilgrims, in outlandish garb, are often in evidence on this road.

On the hilltop the peaceful stillness of the cloisters dwells. The interior of the church, which was founded in 1480 and rebuilt in 1569, contains two choice oil paintings, "The Flight Into Egypt," by Bramantino and "The Entombment," by Ciseri. Locarno is now only at a few hours from Lausanne by the electric railway leading through the Centovalli to Domodossola and connecting there with the Simplon line.

Bignasco in the Valle Maggia, a picturesque vale with hamlets and villages amidst an almost tropical vegetation, and yet with a climate rarely exceeding 82° Fahrenheit, is a delight, and the outskirts of the town itself, at **Muralto** on the left and at **Ascona**, **Ronco** and **Brissago** on the right, one encounters some of the most exquisite bits of southern life.

[107]

Lugano (932 feet a/s), direct on the Gothard line, or reached via Luino-Ponte Tresa by steamer and rail, presents with its wonderful suburbs of **Paradiso** and **Cassarate** a picture of a miniature Naples.

Lugano, like Locarno, traces its origin back to the Roman era. By the 10th Century the town had acquired some degree of importance, for Otto I, Emperor of Germany, presented the marketplace to Bishop Adelgirus of Como. For five centuries Lugano and the surrounding country were the scenes of continual conflicts between the Lords of Como and Milan and other Italian factions. Later on, under the rule of the Confederated Cantons, Lugano enjoyed peace for more than three centuries, and in 1803 it became a regular member of the Swiss Confederation.

The old town, with narrow arcaded streets, lies on a strip of flat land on the shore of the lake, but the new town, a smart community of hotels and villas, spreads itself in amphitheatre fashion on the lake shore and low hills adjoining. The church of Santa Maria degli Angioli, bears a fine fresco by Luini in three sections of "The Passion," "The Last Supper" and "The Madonna." Further specimens of Luini's work or that of his pupils may be found in various other churches in the district. The Cathedral of San Lorenzo possesses a costly marble facade by Tommaso Rodari and a statue of rare beauty, "La Desolazione" (Desolation) by Vincenzo Vela, adorns the city park.

Nearby Ligornetto prides itself with the Museum Vela, the dignified home of the works of Vincenzo Vela, one of Switzerland's most prominent sculptors.

The Lake of Lugano is the very embodiment of bewitching loveliness and tender harmony. Day and night, dawn and twilight, they all reveal some special charm of this heavenly expanse of water, this glorious wonder which reposes in fairy bowers of blossoms, shrubberies and trees. Delightful excursion points beckon here in bewildering numbers:

Castagnola, Gandria, Sorengo, Morcote and Melide, Capolago whence a railway leads to the summit of Monte Generoso—the Rigi of the South—Cassarate with a funicular to the Monte Bré. A mile long cable railway leads also to the Monte San Salvatore, the immediate guardian of Lugano. Golf is the favorite sport in this paradise.

From Lugano we may proceed by rail or boat to Ponte Tresa, thence by rail to Luino and steamer to the Borromean Islands, Pallanza, Stresa, Baveno, joining the Simplon route; or we may reach the Lake of Como region via Chiasso or via Porlezza Menaggio-Bellagio.



Gandria near Lugano

[109]

INDEX

	PAGE
AarauAccommodation	16
Accommodation	4
Acquarossa Adelboden	105
Adelboden	61
Aeschi	61
Aeschi Aigle Airolo Aletsch Glacier.	35
Airolo	104
Aletsch Glacier	59
Alp Grüm	96
Alphachstad	77 76
Altdorf Alvaneu Amsteg	76
Alvaneu	92
Amsteg	76
Andeer	92
Andermatt	76
Appenzell	87
Arbon	86
Ardetz	98
Arolla	42
Arosa	91
Arth-Goldau	73
Ascona	107
Augst	13
Avenches	20
Axenfels	74
Axenstein	74
Alvaneu Amater Andeer Andermatt Appenzell Arbon Ardetz Aroba Arola Arola Arosa Arosa Arosa Arosa Arosa Arosa Augst Avenches Axenfels Axenfels Axenstein Axenstein Baden	74
Baden Baggage Baldegg and Lake	14
Baggage	6
Baldegg and Lake	77
Basle	9
Basle Baveno Beatenbucht	109
Beatenbucht	53 53
Beatenberg Beckenried Belalp	53 74
Beckenried	44
Belaip	
Bellagio Bellinzona	$\frac{109}{105}$
Bellinzona	92
Bergün Bérisal	44
Berisal	48
Berne	48
Revers	92
Bevers Bex-les-Bains	37
Biasca	105
Biasca Bienne and Lake	17
Bignasco	107
Bignasco Bloney	34
Bormio	97
Boromean Islands	109
Bouveret	35
Bouveret Braunwald	84

	PAGE
Breithorn	43
Brienz and Lake.	- 60
Brigue (Brig)	44
Brissago	107
Brugg	14
Brissago Brugg Brünig Pass	77
Drung 1855	74
Brunnen Brusio Buchs Bulle Burgdorf Bürgenstock Börglen	97
Drusio	
Buchs	88
Bulle	34
Burgdort	52
Bürgenstock	74
Bürglen	- 76
Campfèr	94
Campocologno	97
Capolago	109
Cassarate	109
Castagnola	109
Castle of Chillon	34
Bürglen Campocologno Capolago Cassarate Castagnola Casta of Chillon Cau	34
	07
Celerina	93
Chables	41
Chamby	66
Champéry	35
Champex	41
Chamonix	- 38
Celerina Châbles Champéry Champéry Champex Chamonix Chadolin Chadolin Château d'Oeux. Châtel St. Denis. Châtelard	42
Château d'Oeux	65
Châtel St. Denis.	34
Châtelard	38
Chasseral Mount	18
Chevbres	34
Chosióros	34 37
Chiesee	109
Châtel St. Denis. Châtelard Chasseral, Mount Chexbres Chesiéres Chiaseo Chiavenna Chilon	96
Chiavenna	34
Chillon Chur (Coire)	- 34
Chur (Corre)	
Churmsten	88
Cinuskel	98
Clarens Colico Col de Pillon	34
Colico	- 97
Col de Pillon	- 65
Coire (Chur)	- 90
Coire (Chur) Como, Lake	109
Constance and Lake	
Constance and Lak	31
Coppet	
Corbeyrier	35
Cresta	92
Customs	6
Davos	100
Dent Blanche	43
Dent Blanche Dent du Midi	37
bent un bildi	01

	PAGE
Delémont Diablerets, Les Disentis	17
Diablerets, Les	35
Disentis	102
Dom	43
Ebnat	88
	46
Eiger	56
Eiger Eigergletscher Eigerwand	56
Eigerwand	57
inomeet	57
Einsiedeln	81
Elm	83
Emmenthal	52 97
Engadine, Lower.	97
Engadine, Upper.	93 74
Engelberg	77
Entlebuch	63
Ericibacii	76
Estavaver	20
Estavayer	4
Expenses	42
Faido	105
Falls of the Rhine	85
Fetan	100
Fideris	101
Einsiedeln Elm Engadine, Lower. Engadine, Upper. Engadine, Upper. Engleberg Entlebuch Erstavayer Estavayer Estavayer Estavayer Estavayer Faido Fails of the Rhine Fetan Fido Fiesch Fiisur Finhaut Fionnay Flüelen Flüelen Flüelen Frübourg Frutka Pass	46
Filisur	92
Finhaut	38
Fionnay	41
Flims	91
Flüela Pass	- 98
Flüelen	76
Flüehli-Ranft	77
Fribourg	18
Frutigen	61
Furka Pass	48
Gais	87
Gandria Gemmi Pass	$ \frac{109}{63} $
Geneva and Lake.	23
Cercou	74
Gersau Giessbach	60
Giessbach	33
Giornico	105
Gimel Giornico Giswil Glarus Glarus Glarnisch Gletsch	79
Glarus	83
Glärnisch	84
Gletsch	46
Glion	34
Glovelier	17
Goeschenen	76 73
Glovelier Goeschenen Goldau	73

PAGE	PAGE	PAGE
Goppenstein 63	Le Locle 18	Monte Rosa 43
Gorges du Trient 38	Le Prese 97	Monthey 35
Gornergrat 43	Lenk 63	Montreux 34
Great St. Bernard 38	Lenzburg 77	Morat and Lake 18
	Lenzerheide 91	Morcote 109
		Mörel 45
Grimmialp 63	Les Diablerets 35	Morges 33
Grimsel Pass 48	Les Haudères 42	Morgins 35
Grindelwald 60	Les Marècottes 38	Morschach 74
Grisons 90	Les Pleiades 34	Moudon 18
Gruben-Meiden 42	Les Plans 37	Moutier 20
Grünen 52	Les Rasses 20	Mülenen 61
Gruyères 34	Leuk 42	Muottas Muraigl. 93
Gryon 37	Leysin 35	Muralto 107
Gstaad 65	Lichtensteig 88	Mürren 56
Gsteig 65	Ligornetto 108	Münster 98
Guarda 98	Linthal 84	Näfels 83
Gunten	Locarno and	National Park 98
Gunten 53 Gurnigel 52		
Gurtenkulm 52		
	Lotschberg 61	
Hallwil and Lake 77	Lourtier 41	Neuchâtel and Lake 18
Hapsburg, Castle 14	Lucerne and Lake 66	Neuhausen 85
Harder 55	Lugano and Lake 108	Niesen 61
Heiden 87	Luino 108	Noiremont 17
Heimwehfluh 55	Lukmanier Pass 104	Nyon 31
Herisau 88	Lungern and Lake 79	Oberalp Pass 76
Heustrich Baths 61	Lützelflüh 52	Oberhofen 53
Hilterfingen 53	Lyss 20	Oey-Diemtigen 63
Hohle Gasse 77	Lyskamm 43	Ofen Pass 97
Huttwil 52	Macolin : 17	Olivone 105
Ilanz 102	Maloja 94	Olten 16
Immensee 77	Mals 98	Orsières 38
Interlaken 53	Märjelen Lake 46	Ouchy 33
Iseltwald 60	Martigny 37	Palèzieux 20
Joch Pass 74	Martinsbruck 97	Pallanza 109
Jungfrau 56	Mayens de Sion . 42	Paradiso 108
Jungfraujoch 58	Mauvoisin 41	Parpan 91
Kandersteg 61	Meiringen 60	Passports 6
Kappel 88	Melchtal 79	Passugg 91
Kehrsiten 74	Melide 109	Payerne 20
Kerns-Kagiswil . 77	Menaggio 109	Pfäfers 84
Klausen Pass 84	Merligen 53	Pfäffikon 81
Klosters 101	Mesocco 105	Pilatus 73
Konstanz and Lake 86	Mischabels 43	Piora 104
Küblis 101	Mönch 56	Piz della Margna 93
Küssnacht 77	Montana-Vermala, 42	Piz Languard 96
	Monthovon 65	Piz Morteratsch . 93
		A HE HEOT CONTROL FOR
Langnau 52		A IL A GIG TO TO TO TO TO TO
Lausaune 33	Mont Soleil 18	Piz Rosatsch 93
Lauterbrunnen 55	Monte Bré 109	Piz Roseg 93
Lavey-les-Bains 37	Monte Generoso 109	Piz Segnes 91
Lavin 98	Monte San	Piz Tschierva 93
Lavorgo 105	Salvatore 109	Planning the Tour 9

PAGE	PAGE	PAGE
Ponte Tresa 108	Sils Baselgia 94	Tirano 97
Pontresina 96	Sils Maria 94	Trafoi 97
Porlezza 109	Silvaplana 94	Treib 74
Porrentruy 17	Simplon Pass 44	Trogen 07
		Trogen 87
		Truns 102
Preda 92	Sisikon 74	Uetliberg 81
Prangins 31	Soleure 16	Umbrail Pass 100
Ragaz 84	Somvix 102	Uomo Pass 104
Randa 43	Sonceboz 18	Valendas 102
Rapperswil 81	Sonloup 65	Vallorcine 38
Reichenbach 61	Sorengo 109	Val Sinestra 100
Reichenau-Tamins 91	Speicher 87	Vernayaz 37
Rheinfall 85	Spiez 53	Versan-Safien 102
Rheinfelden 13	Spinabad 101	Vevey 34
Rhone Glacier 48	Splügen Pass 105	Via Mala 91
Riederalp 45	Sports	Viège (Visp) 42
Rigi 73	Stachelberg 84	Villoro 27
	Stalden 42	Villars 37
		Villeneuve 35
Rochers de Naye 34	Stans 74	Vissoye 42
Rodi-Fiesso 105	Stanserhorn 73	Vitznau 74
Rolle 33	Stein am Rhein 86	Vulpera 98
Romanshorn 86	Stein-Säkingen 13	Wädenswil 81
Ronco 107	Stelvio Pass 97	Waldhaus-Flims 91
Rorschach 86	Strela Pass 101	Wallenstadt 84
Rosenlaui 60	Stresa 109	Wassen 76
Rossinière 65	St. Antonien 101	Wattwil 88
Rütli 74	St. Bernard Pass 38	Weesen 84
Saanen 65	St. Cerque 37	Weggis 74
Saas-Fee 43	Ste. Croix 20	Weissbad 88
Sachseln 79	St. Gall	Weissenhurg 63
Saignelégier 17	St. Gothard 104	Weissenstein 17
Duighteregree	St. Imier 18	Weisshorn 43
	St. Luc 42	Wengernalp 56
San Salvatore 109	St. Maurice 37	Wetterhorn 60
Sanetsch Pass 65	St. Moritz and	Wiesen 101
Santa Maria 98	Lake 93	Wildegg 16
Säntis 88	St. Niklaus 43	Wilderswil 55
Sarnen and Lake. 79	St. Théodule Pass 44	Wildhaus 88
Scaletta Pass 101	Sumiswald 52	Wildstrubel 65
Scanfs 98	Surenen Pass 74	Wimmis 63
Schauffhausen 85	Süs 98	Windisch 14
Scheidegg, Kleine 56	Susten Pass 76	Winterthur 86
Scheidegg, Grosse 60	Tarasp 98	Yverdon 20
Schinznach 16	Täsch 43	Zermatt 43
Schuls 98	Tell's Birthplace. 76	Zernez 98
Schwanden 83	Tell's Chapel 74	Ziegelbrücke 83
		Zinal 42
Schwyz 76 Schynige Platte. 55		Zinal Rothorn 43
Senynige Flatte 55		
Season 4	Thalwil 81	
Seelisberg 74	Thun and Lake 52	
Segnes Pass 83	Thusis 91	Zuoz 97
Sembrancher 38	Tickets, Railroads 5	Zürich and Lake 79
Serneus 101	Tiefenkastel 91	Zweilütschinen 55
Sierre (Siders) 42	Titlis 74	Zweisimmen 63

HEIGHTS OF THE MAIN PEAKS In the Valais

	FEET		FEET
Monte Rosa	15,217	Pollux	13,430
Dom (Mischabel)	14,940	Breithorn	13,380
Lyskamm	14,889	Ober Gabelhorn	13,364
Weisshorn	14,804	Allalinhorn	13,236
Matterhorn	14,782	Grand Cornier	13,022
Dent Blanche	14,318	Mont Blanc of Seilon	12,700
Grand Combin	14,164	Pigne d'Arolla	12,471
Castor	13,879	Monte Leone	11,684
Zinal Rothhorn	13,856	Tour Salières	
Dent d'Herens	13,715	Dent du Midi	10,450

In the Bernese Oberland

14,026	Blümlisalp	12,044
13,721	Wetterhorn	11,873
	Altels	11,930
13,465	Gspaltenhorn	11,293
13,386	Wildhorn	10,709
13,042	Wildstrubel	10,673
12,980	Grand Muveran	10,043
12,297	Oldenhorn	10,250
12,176	Diablerets	10,650
	13,721 13,670 13,465 13,386 13,042 12,980 12,297	13,721 Wetterhorn 13,670 Altels 13,465 Gspaltenhorn 13,486 Wildhorn 13,042 Wildstrubel 12,980 Grand Muveran 12,297 Oldenhorn

In Central Switzerland

Damastock	 11,920	Pizzo Rotondo	10,489
Galenstock	 11,802	Urirotstock	9,620
		Pilatus	
		Stanserhorn	6,236
Spannörter	 10,506	Rigi	5,900

In Eastern Switzerland (Except the Grisons)

Tödi	11,887	Piz Segnes	10.178
Oberalpstock	10,926	Glärnisch	9,580
Claridenstock		Calanda	
Ringelspitz	10,667	Santis	8,216
Grosse Windgälle	10,473	Churfirsten	7,576

In the Grisons

Bernina	13.304	Piz d'Err	11 093
Piz Roseg	12,934	Piz Morteratsch	12.317
Piz Palü	12,835	Piz Tambo	10,749
Piz Cambrena	11,835	Campo Tencia	10,089
Piz Tschierva	11,693	Piz Languard	10,716
Piz Corvatsch	11,339	Silvrettahorn	10,657
Piz Kesch		Piz Vadred	10,584
Piz Linard		Piz Medel	
Rheinwaldhorn		Tinzenhorn	10,430
Piz Julier	11,106	Piz Pisoc	10,427

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