

1 Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>. Left at 10 a.m. for Neuhausen where we arrived at 1:15 p.m. and obtained pleasant  
2 rooms at the Sweizerhof Hotel. This house is a mile from the town on the right bank of the  
3 Rhine elevated about 1000 feet above the river facing the magnificent falls of the Rhine. From  
4 our window we have a view of the river for half a mile above the falls. The beautiful rail road  
5 bridge crosses the river immediately above the cataract, the piers standing in the rapids. The  
6 cars in passing south over the bridge enter a tunnel on the south side, passing under the old  
7 castle mounted on the rocky point 500 feet above the road. This castle though very old is kept  
8 in repair and is inhabited. We propose to pay it a visit before we leave this place. The falls are  
9 divided into three tremendous cataracts by two small rocky islands. On the summit of one of  
10 these is a small pavilion and a flight of steps cut in the rock for crazy sightseers to climb up to  
11 the top so that they may have a perpendicular view of the foaming waters around them. The  
12 landscape as it appears from the window of our room cannot be excelled, the beautiful gardens  
13 and park in the foreground, then the Rhine with its rapids and dashing cataracts, the rocky cliffs  
14 of the opposite bank, the old castle. The river turns almost at right angles on its issue from the  
15 fall and keeps in view for more than a mile. Beyond are hills & valleys, the horizon bounded by  
16 the fantastic snowy peaks of the alps forms a picture of unsurpassed loveliness. So much for  
17 my first impressions. We shall see. We took a walk down the zigzag paths of the garden to the  
18 margin of the river. A little to the south is a dense wood. The girls wanted to take a ramble  
19 through them, but Mrs. Van suggested the probability of wolves, which set the girls into such a  
20 fit of laughing that they gave up the trip from exhaustion.

21 Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. Were ferried across the river in a row boat and landed at the foot of the rocky  
22 precipice on which the old castle is located. We found paths cut in the face of the cliff leading  
23 up and around the same. Taking the path around the base of the cliff, we found a room where  
24 rubber garments were furnished those who wished to follow the gallery to the cataract. Mrs.  
25 Van and I declined, but Martha & Julia wanted to go where any one else had ever dared. The  
26 cloaks were placed upon them, and they passed along the gallery under a constant shower of  
27 spray to the wet pavilion. They were not long in satisfying their curiosity and in a few seconds  
28 returned wetter, if not wiser, than before. We now ascended to a cave cut in the rock directly  
29 above the foaming waters but out of reach of the spray. Here we had a near view of this  
30 mighty, foaming, roaring, tumbling, and any-thing-else-you-can-think of cataract. Clambered to  
31 the summit of the hill and found a museum & picture gallery arranged in the old castle and a  
32 greedy peddler anxious for our Francs. Bought some trifling articles and left disgusted with old-  
33 castles-modernized. Returned to the ferry and recrossed the river. After dinner walked to  
34 Neuhausen to find a doctor as Mrs. Van had been troubled for several days with a blotchy  
35 cutaneous difficulty which kept her in a state of uneasiness constantly. Got a prescription and  
36 started home to try its virtues. Crossed over the rail road bridge and back merely to extend our  
37 walk and have a nearer view of the rapids. The water was very clear and as it rushed over the  
38 rocks impetuously under the bridge, the idea would creep into the mind, "Suppose these piers  
39 should give way." After continuing our stroll over the grounds surrounding the hotel, we  
40 returned to our quarters for the night.