

Guard who laid down their lives in defense of Louis 16th at Fontainebleau. The figure of the lion is 18 feet long. It is excellently well done. See photograph. Then drove 8 or 9 miles up a valley and along the base of Mount Pilatus to the south branch of the lake and returned by a different road to the city. Delightful. I am obliged to use these expressions of gladness because I don't know exactly what else to say, and as our gladness is continuous, these "delightfuls" & "beautifuls" will be found in the journal plentiful. Girls walked out to look at carved wood – gimcrackery.

Aug. 27th. Strolled about the city this morning. Afternoon left by steamboat for Visnau where we got on board the cars for the summit of the Righi [Rigi], a high mountain 12 miles N.E. of Lucerne. The rail way is an inclined plane rising 25 feet in a 100. The locomotive is furnished with a cog wheel, the teeth of which passing into a continuous rack placed between the rails. The train is forced up the hill. It is rather an exciting ride, and but few persons can relax their muscles entirely. ~~T~~they are generally kept strained ready for a jump in case of necessity, which you instinctively look for every moment. There is a very good hotel on the summit, and having telegraphed for rooms, found them ready for us, and it was well that I did so, for the next man behind me was informed that there was not a vacant room in the house, but to wait awhile [and] he would see what could be done. I counted 250 persons at table. Every one of them came up to see the sun set and rise and were disappointed at both ends on account of clouds which persistently kept in the horizon, while there was clear sky and plenty of room for them overhead. We had however a splendid view of the mountains, their tops covered with snow, the valleys & lakes at our feet. A small steamer on one of the lakes, almost directly under us, looked like a small batteau, and did not appear to move, although it was running at full speed. The morning was cool; shawls and overcoats were in demand. Every body got up at the sound of the alpine horn, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour before sunrise, but they might as well got up at midnight so far as seeing the sun was concerned. Every body felt satisfied when they were comforted by the appearance of Old Settlers that 3 mornings out of 4 were just like this.

Left soon after breakfast, 28th, and were lowered down the hill, same way we came up. Takes 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours for the trip of 7 miles. The train goes but little faster than a man can walk. Boarded our steamer and were soon back at Lucerne. £ 70 of S. Erselli [?]. Went at 6 o'clock to hear the organ concert at the cathedral said to be one of the best organs in existence. It would imitate the human voice so perfectly that it was difficult to believe that you heard an organ only. Again it would imitate a thunder storm, and by thunder it did it well. The organist was well acquainted with the instrument, and for an hour kept it a going to our intense delight and gratification. The girls had slipped off from us so that Mrs. Van and I enjoyed the concert by ourselves.

29th. Walked about town, examined old paintings in the bridges. Didn't amount to much except that they were old. Girls take a long ride on the lake in a row boat.

30th. Sunday. Church service in our hotel, very handy and interesting. The service conducted in English. Took a walk for a last look at this interesting city. The hotels are the finest buildings in