

1 it, and they would hold their own in appearance compared with Chicago hotels. The National  
2 particularly is a remarkably good piece of architecture.

3 31<sup>st</sup>. Sent our trunks forward over the Brunig pass to Interlacken. Left at 10 a.m. by steamer.  
4 Passed over the entire length of the lake to Fluelen. We had seen so much lake scenery that we  
5 did not know but we were pretty well satisfied on that point, but the mountains were so much  
6 ahead of any thing we had yet seen, that we submitted to the increase of our pleasure and  
7 enjoyment. Passed the renowned Tells Chapel just before reaching Fluelen. Hired a carriage at  
8 Fluelen to take us to the Rhone Glacier. The road leads S.E. up the valley of the Reuss. We  
9 stopped to dine at the little town Amstag [Amsteg]. After dinner continued on our winding way  
10 over a very good road to the town of Andermatt where we arrived after dark, but not too late  
11 for supper.

12 Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. As it was dark when we crossed the Devils Bridge last night, we concluded to have a  
13 look at it by day light, and being only one mile back, we made the visit before breakfast. The  
14 valley of the Reuss which we ascended yesterday is not surpassed by any other in Switzerland  
15 for desolate grandeur and magnificent scenery. Culminating at the Devils bridge, here the  
16 frightful precipices are not only perpendicular, but a little more so as they overhang the narrow  
17 road at their base. Here the river Reuss plunges and leaps in a most fearful manner in its  
18 descent through the narrow gorge. The bridge is of granite in one arch 70 feet high. How they  
19 ever got a foothold to do the work would seem almost a mystery. As soon as the road crosses  
20 the bridge, it passes through a tunnel, but how they passed before the tunnel was bored is the  
21 question. Now here would be a tight place for two armies to meet and have a fight. Yet in  
22 1799 the French attacked the Austrians, and after a desperate fight drove them from the pass.  
23 Then Suworow at the head of 25000 Russians drove out the French at a great sacrifice of life.  
24 After breakfast we resumed our journey along a broad level valley between very high  
25 mountains. The river runs quietly by our side and gives no intimation of the terrific bobbery it  
26 will kick up in going a few rods farther. This plain was at one time the bed of a large lake, and  
27 when the waters cut their way through the mountain, forming the gorge at the Devils Bridge,  
28 the bed was left high and dry for pasturage and the town of Andermatt. Pursuing our course up  
29 the valley, we passed through two very old and dilapidated towns with ruins of Roman towers  
30 that looked as antique as the rocks on which they stood. The road now commenced to ascend  
31 the mountain in long windings and zig-zags, and soon we had a beautiful view of the Reuss  
32 Valley from the glacier (which form the fountain head of the river) back to Andermatt which we  
33 had left hours ago. About 12 o'clock arrived at the summit of the Furea Pass [Furka?], where  
34 we found a hotel and stopped for dinner. Walking a few rods from the hotel on the ridge of the  
35 pass, a splendid panorama of the high alps beyond the Rhone glacier came into view. Sat down  
36 to enjoy the inspiring grandeur of the scene. When the clang of the dinner bell disturbed our  
37 musings and reminded us that sight seeing exhausts and dining refreshes the creature, we did  
38 not wait for the second bell. After 2 hours rest we were on our way to descend the western  
39 slope of the pass down into the Rhone valley. In a short time we came in sight of the Rhone  
40 Glacier. The road turns at the edge of the glacier and descends the valley in windings & zig-zags.