

1 fall that the waters of the two rivers meet before they reach the bottom. The effect is
2 indescribably grand and pleasing. Again upon our horses, we pursued our winding way down a
3 steep path about 4 feet wide, a strange horse under us, & death at our side. A short distance
4 farther Mrs. Van's horse stumbled and fell upon the path. She fortunately sat facing the land
5 side of the trail, leaped from her saddle to the ground sustaining a slight scratch on one knee
6 and a heavy jar on the nervous system generally. Mrs. Van in a short time was ready to
7 remount her horse. We soon reached Guttannen, a small village where we stopped for dinner.
8 After a good rest, Martha and Julia started off on foot leaving us to overtake them at our
9 leisure. The truth is the girls were jaded and worn, thought riding on horseback was fun in a
10 horn [?]. We overhauled the girls in about an hour. They were willing to rest awhile, even on a
11 saddle. Soon after in crossing a bridge, Julia's horse became frightened, reared and threw her
12 violently to the floor of the bridge, cutting a small gash in the back of her head which bled
13 profusely. A farmers hut being close at hand, we bathed her head with cold water, stopped the
14 bleeding. After half an hour we were all once more in the saddle, having 6 or 7 miles farther
15 yet to go. Passing some of the wildest parts of the valley, the scene was sublime no doubt, but
16 we had received so many shocks to our nerves this trip, that we were not in a frame of mind to
17 appreciate it and were much pleased when we arrived at the pleasant little hotel at Imhof.
18 Here we remain over night. Sent messenger to Meyringen [Meiringen] for some arnica and
19 sticking plaster to repair damages to Julia's head. Returned before bed time and Mrs. Van soon
20 had the wound dressed and patched.

21 Sept 3rd. Left in a carriage for Brienz at the head of a lake of that name. This part of the trip
22 was very interesting, particularly the soft cushions of the carriage and the very smooth road
23 over which we traveled. Took steamer at Brienz & passing the celebrated Geisbach [Geissbach]
24 falls we were soon landed 2 or 3 miles from Interlaken, to which place we were conveyed by
25 rail in a few minutes. Found pleasant rooms at the Hotel des Alps where we propose to have a
26 few days rest. Found our trunks had arrived all right from Lucerne.

27 Sept. 4th. Wrote letters home. Girls out for a walk. Old folks in easy chairs.

28 Sept. 5th. Mrs. Van procured stout shoes for herself and the girls. Took a walk through the
29 town. Remembering that this is my "little Pet's" birthday, I found some pink tinted letter paper
30 and wrote her a birth day letter in rhyme.

31 Sept. 6th. Sunday. Mrs. Van sprained her ankle going down stairs to her breakfast this morning.
32 She thought it was a slight matter and went to church, but could scarcely walk back to the
33 hotel. The ankle became very painful, and I feared it would be a long time before she would be
34 able to walk.

35 Sept. 7th. Made an excursion to Latterbrunnen [Lautterbrunnen]. Hired carriage and guide. Left
36 at 10 a.m. Ride to Latterbrunnen very good. Nothing remarkable. At Latterbrunnen had a good
37 view of the Strauback fall. Bears a strong resemblance to the bridal veil of Yosemite Valley.
38 After dinner at Latterbrunnen hired 3 horses for the girls and I and three Chaise a Porteurs to