

No 2 Andermatt

July 21st

Here we are far up in the Alps
in a most comfortable little
hotel - very English and full
of Scotchmen, I see Fitzgibbon
name in the Stranger book
date August /58 as well
as numbers of others from
Ireland. In the little
hotel or inn where we were
~~last night~~ the night before
last and had coffee in the
evening and ditto with honey
&c in the morning we paid
1 Fr. 85 ct. !!! Nothing could
have been cleaner or nicer.
Next morning we proceeded
~~to the~~

to Goldaw and up the Ridge
where we saw the sun set
and next (this) morning were
up at 3 a.m. to see him
rise - and very cold it was
and not worth the trouble
in my opinion, however it
is the thing and we accordingly
did it; then after breakfasting
we descended to Meggis, where
a guide - a young fellow of
about 18 addressed us, and
after some powwow we
agreed with him to accompany
us from Andermatt to
Interlaken a 6 days journey.

over the Furka and Grimsel
and then via Meyringen &
~~Stans~~ ^{to Interlaken} Schideck for
all of which he was to
receive 30 Frankes.

We then proceeded per steamer
to Fluelen a most lovely
trip of about 2 hours, at
Fluelen we took a carriage
in company with two
Germans as far as Aarau
where we dined and they
proposed to go with us
which we accepted at once
as it lessens the expence
of guide &c very considerably.

There are three large Hotels
on the Rigi and at the one
where we stopped at least
60 people sat down to the
table & ate supper, there
were not many English people
there, but mostly Swiss
or German. Considering
that all the provisions except
water have to be carried up,
the hotel is not ~~dear~~
and you certainly are well
treated. The Swiss eating
is too heavy for me; somehow
I have never anything like
an appetite and sleep very
little which I can't account for.

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I made out that one of them (the 2 Germans)
is a bookseller in Leipzig
and his brother is concert
master somewhere, they are
well informed people and very
different from people of the
same class in England.

I have been drinking a
good deal of wine and beer
since I left home because
Ayer does it than that I
really care for it. Strange
to say I have had no ap-
=petite here at all - no
more than at Dresden which
seems very strange to me
as I have been in good
moderate exercise, say 20 miles
a day.

As yet I have seen little
or nothing of the Swiss costumes
and almost all the new
houses ~~are~~ are built in the
ordinary German or English
style and a real Swiss
cottage is rather a rarity
than otherwise. I never saw
anything like the quantity
of hotels, there is, one on the
top of the Foul horn, there
is one at the Furka pass,
another at the Grimsel pass,
in short everywhere, and all
passable if not good; though
the latter is generally the case.
My stick has been of ²great
n

service and if not quite
so useful as an alpenstock
is certainly much pleasanter
to carry. Ayer's opinion
of my walking powers has
risen considerably and the
guides and people at the
Grainel were greatly astonished
at our going out for an evening
stroll, or rather climb, after
a long day of 10 hours march;
he is a very little fellow
and can stand anything
except a hot sun.

There are not many English
here this summer but
still one cannot say that

Switzerland is empty by
any means.

On the whole I must say
that I am ~~not~~ rather
disappointed with all except
the Alps themselves and
the feeding. The two
passes we have been over
though considered difficult
though of course longer,
were nothing in comparison
(~~to~~ regarding difficulty) to
some of the places in
Mourne or Donegal, the
fact is that roads or good
paths have been made
everywhere