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A Short Tour in Switzerland.

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AMONG the innumerable places offering attractions to the summer tourist, there are few, perhaps, that can compare in magnificence and natural grandeur with the Alps. In looking over geographical maps, we find that the Alps are divided into Swiss and French. Nature, however, takes no notice of such distinctions. The region of the Alps is one, and as admirable on one side as the other; in fact, the connected whole is essential to the general impression of majesty and grandeur. In travelling through this wonderful land, some of the chief places of attraction are: The Lake of Geneva, or, as the French call it, Lac Léman; the Lakes of Thoune, Brienz and Lucerne; the Valleys of the Rhone and Zermatt; the glaciers of the Jungfrau and Mont-Blanc; and the cities, Geneva, Lausanne, Bern, Interlaken and Lucerne. A brief description of some of these places will form the subject of our narrative.

Starting on our trip we first arrive at Lake Geneva, which is formed by the

Rhone and extends from Villeneuve to Geneva, a distance of 46 miles. The north or Swiss bank of the lake that touches the Alps at one extremity and the Jura at the other, presents two regions very distinct from an agricultural and picturesque point of view. The lower part of the country from Geneva to Lausanne is not very mountainous, and is covered with vineyards and orchards. The higher part, from Lausanne to Villeneuve, on the other hand, is almost entirely given over to vineyards. The mountains in this part gradually approach the lake in whose clear and limped waters their summits are beautifully reflected.

The Savoy offers a remarkable contrast to the Swiss shore. Different cultivation, rare vines, densely-wooded forests, then the Alps that appear to rise out of the water. From Evian to Geneva the mountains and woods recede from the shore. Here we see meadows, orchards and gardens succeeding one another, and here and there villas, castles and palaces, all modern and of diverse architecture,