

a chistolite schist. Needless to say, these were rare specimens and were eagerly sought, I had the pleasure of finding some of these which are now in our own museum here.

Descending the west slope of the Nufenen Pass we reached the valley of the Rhone River and followed it up to its source at the foot of the Rhone Glacier. Here we had a splendid opportunity to study glaciation in all its phases. We spent considerable time here examining moraines, crevasses, water courses, abrasion, etc., and saw that wonderful river starting as three small streams from the edge of the great ice mass.

We next started north-west over the Grimsel Pass which separates the Rhone valley from the valley of the Aare. This pass is 7,103 feet high and, in August when we crossed, was cut through fifteen feet of snow and ice, this pass formed a very hard, hot climb, as the ascent was very steep. It is possible to drive over it by following the road which zig-zags back and forth till it finally reaches the summit, but the view then of the snow capped mountain easily repays one for the climb even on foot. Snow capped peaks on all sides, some of them reaching the magnificent height of 14,000 feet.

Having crossed the Grimsel Pass we descended the valley of the Aare, one of the grandest pieces of scenery one could imagine. As we zig-zag down the steeper parts, and see the valley gradually opening out wider and greener, till soon we see the beautiful Swiss villages, and the green fields, and groves of trees. It is a development one can never forget.

At one point here the Aare has cut a gorge in the sandstones, where water erosion of every description can be studied. The gorge is one mile long and is of variable widths from three to twenty-five feet, so that one may judge how the water tosses and tumbles through the narrow parts. The gorge is accessible to pedestrians by means of tunnels, galleries, and steps made partly in the rocks themselves, and partly of light iron bridge-work. In many places the gorge is so tortuous, that one cannot see daylight even above. Further down the valley is a beautiful water-fall of 2,740 feet.

From this fall we turned south-west and walked up the Reichenback Valley over the Great Scheidegg to the Upper and Lower Grindelwald glaciers. From these we ascended the Little Scheidegg, from the summit of which one gets probably the finest panorama of snow capped mountains to be seen in the world. This famous group of the Bernese Oberland presents thirty-one named peaks in one grand sweep, including such favorites as the Wetterhorn, 12,150 feet; Shreckhorn, 13,385 feet; Finsteraarhorn, 14,025 feet; Aletchhorn, 13,720 feet; Jungfran, 13,670 feet, and many others of wondrous beauty.

To stand on this ground and see the cold, bleak, ice and snow covered peaks on all sides; a little lower down the straggling evergreen trees; lower still the high pasture lands with its herds of jersey cattle, and goats, then lower down in the valleys the beautiful summer hotels, parks, gardens with the grand flower beds in every possible design makes an impression of contrast not easily equalled anywhere else.

These wonderful examples of mountain building, formed a fitting place to end our excursion, and we returned to Alt Heidelberg with the feeling that Byron must have felt when he wrote those words "High mountains are a feeling, but the hum of human cities, torture."—M. B. BAKER.