

before five o'clock the symptoms of some mighty catastrophe became still stronger; the whole surface of the mountain seemed to glide down, but so slowly as to afford time to the inhabitants to go away. An old man, who had often predicted some such disaster, was quietly smoking his pipe when told by a young man running by that the mountain was in the act of falling; he rose and looked out, but came into his house again, saying, he had time to fill another pipe. The young man continuing to fly was thrown down several times and escaped with difficulty; looking back, he saw the house carried off all at once." In another house a nurse, while crossing a room, leading a child by the hand, was suddenly thrown down. "The house, as she afterwards said, appeared to be torn from its foundation, (it was of wood,) and spun round and round like a teetotum; I was sometimes on my head, sometimes on my feet, in total darkness, and violently separated from the child." They were both afterwards dug out of the ruins alive; it appeared that the house, or themselves at least, had been carried down about fifteen hundred feet from where it stood before. In another place a child, two years old, was found unhurt, lying on its straw mattress upon the mud, without any vestige of the house from which it had been separated. Such a mass of earth and stones rushed at once into the lake of Lowertz, although five miles distant, one end of it was filled up; and a prodigious wave passing completely over the island of Schwanau, seventy feet above the usual level of the water, overwhelmed the opposite shore, and as it returned, swept away into the lake many houses with their inhabitants. The village of Seewen, situated at the farther end, was inundated, and some houses washed away, and the flood carried live fish into the village of Stimen. The chapel of Olten, built of wood, was found half a league from the place it had previously occupied, and many large blocks of stone completely changed their position."

The most considerable of the villages overwhelmed in the vale of Arth was Goldau. Some persons who, from a distance of four miles, were observing with a telescope the summit of the Rossberg, state, that all at once a flight of stones, like cannon-balls, traversed the air above their heads; a cloud of dust obscured the valley; a frightful noise was heard. They fled. As soon as the obscurity was so far dissipated as to make objects discernible,