

IN EUROPE.

Visiting the Palaces of Ancient Kings.

THE WORK OF THE OLD MASTERS

On the Blue Lucern—Scenery of Switzerland—Story of Wm. Tell.

The following extracts are taken from a private letter written by a step-sister of the editor, who is now traveling in Europe:

MINCHEN, Bavaria, Sept. 11, 1890.

We left Frankfurt, Tuesday on the 10:40 train, and as we relied on some one else for the right time we had to wait three hours in a place called Hanan, and when the train did come it seemed as if everything was crooked, for we changed cars four times before we got to where we wanted to go. They say a bad beginning makes a good ending, so I guess we will come out all right.

We arrived in Stuttgart all right at 8:30, and had a good hotel and beds and had a good night's sleep. (Have not struck any bedbugs yet.) We started out to see the sights and we saw some fine ones. First we went into an old palace erected in 1732 and owned by the King of Wurtemberg. It is very fine. Some of the rooms are like fairy homes; some are in marble, black, white, yellow and gray, with pictures woven instead of painted, and as large as the side of the room. Some are very old, and if they did not tell you how they were made you would be sure they were painted. We saw a picture of one of the Napoleons which is as life-like as can be. I had cheek enough to go up to it as near as possible and I must say it is very hard to tell it from oil painting, it is in such life-like colors. Truly it is a grand piece of the weaver's art. There is a pair of oil paintings of the old king and his wife. The queen looks so natural that you feel like speaking to her. She is represented in purple velvet dress with low neck and short sleeves and a very long train. Every room is furnished differently, but it seems to me that the ceilings have as much to do with the furnishing as anything else. I only wish I could give you an exact description of them. The most of them are made so that they are nearly round, and are decorated with cherubs, flowers, birds, butterflies, bugs, bees and all kinds of animals. Some are in wood of different kinds and so put together you think sure they must be painted. In one room is a common sized center table, which is made of small pieces of stones no larger than a grape seed. It took one man 20 years to make it, and when it was done he was blind. There is probably a dozen different pictures on it. In the same room is a vase of green stone about 8 feet high which is worth 30,000 marks or \$70,500 of our money. The noble house is grand from one end to the other. In every hall and in every room and corner you can see life sized marble statuary representing the nude. In one of the dining rooms is a pair of statues representing two Turks. I can't begin to tell you how magnificent they are. We were allowed to look at all that was in the rooms and I was fairly bewildered and stood just in a dream and entirely forgot where I was until someone wanted to know if I was asleep. In one of the rooms is a pair of half naked little life sized boys, asleep, that are grand works of art. One of them has a white veil over its face. It is a master piece of work. The veil is so natural I could not help putting my hand on it. The marble is as white as snow. I would like to visit Italy just to see the marble sculpturing.

After leaving Stuttgart we went to Minchen and stayed there a few days. The first place we visited was one of the picture galleries, and there we saw some very beautiful pictures. Some of them have been the work of years, and to stand and look at them you almost forget you are in the land of the living. One representing four angels carrying the corpse of an aged man to heaven, is perfectly grand. The whole makeup of the five is wonderfully natural. One of Solomon, where he wants to kill the living child, is superb, but the grandest of all is the one representing the ascension of Christ. We all stood and looked until we were tired and then went out satisfied. There were hundreds more that I can't think of now.

The next day we went to one of the king's gardens. It covers about 40 acres and is free to all. The best part of it is all full of great marble statues, and some are so old they are falling to pieces. Artificial waterfalls made of marble, artificial lakes just alive with

fish and a great band of tame swans. We all walked until we were tired out, but after a good sleep we were ready to start out again the next morning. We went to two more picture galleries. The first one was very old and most of the pictures too. They were given by one of the former kings, as a present to the city, and must have cost enormously. They say all of the Bavarian kings were half crazy, but I think if they were so unfortunate as to be so, that they were very good to their people. When one looks at the vast amount of houses, churches, hospitals, monuments, free public parks and the splendid roads they made, you can't help but think it is no wonder that the Bavarians are so in love with the memory of their kings. They give so much employment to the working classes.

From Minchen we went to a place called Linden and stayed over night, and there saw a wall built by the Romans about 500 years before the time of Christ. Linden is a little old dilapidated place and doesn't amount to much. It is situated on a beautiful lake about 40 miles long which is said to get very rough in winter.

From Linden we went to Remshorn, did not stop but went to a city in Switzerland—Zurich—where we stayed a few days. It is a very pretty city situated on the lake called Zurich. We did not go around very much. I have read about hand embroidered dresses and I have seen some, too, but I saw some here that were marvels of carving, also some ivory and wood carving that was very fine.

From Zurich we came to this place—Lucern. It is very pretty. We are right near the mountain called the Reget. It is about seven thousand feet high and the snow mountains are only a short distance away. It is fine weather and as warm as anybody would wish. Yesterday we went on the boat to the head of the lake and had the story of Wm. Tell brought very plain to our minds by seeing the rock upon which he sprang when he was on the way to be executed because he said if he killed his child instead of hitting the apple he would kill the tyrant, Gesler. There is a very nice little chapel built to his memory near the rock where he jumped and got away from his enemies.

We will leave here to-morrow, the 21st of Sept, for the city of Geneva, and will write to you again from there.

The Timber Culture Law.

A Washington press correspondent, under date of September 16th, has this to say of the bill to repeal the timber culture law: "The members of the house who were interested in the passing of the repeal of the timber culture law have lost faith in the passage of the bill at the present session of congress. When the house passed the bill some months ago, it was a plain repeal of the timber culture law and allowed those who held their claims to commute and prove up at the end of four years. It refers to nothing else but this repeal, and is supported generally by members from the western states, and especially by those in Dakota, Montana and Washington, a part of the country that would be most affected by repeal. The bill was amended in the senate to such an extent that it was not even recognized when it came back to the house. It contained a provision settling all disputed land cases up to within two years. It contained a provision making the receiver's receipt for land a perfect title, and any settler making proof need not wait for his patent to make his title absolutely good. It contained arid land laws and laws relating to the use of timber in mining states and also a long provision relative to lands in Alaska. The committee on public lands cannot possibly hope to report upon it at this session and it will go over and take its chances during the short term."

A Big Find at Sparta.

From John Clark, of the Baker City and Cornucopia stage line, the Revelle learns that the newly discovered ledge just below Sparta, and of which Dr. Jay Guy Lewis is proprietor, is opening up rich. The ledge proper of gold bearing quartz is about eight feet wide, brittle rock and shows large quantities of free gold. In consequence of this discovery the Spartans are up in their usual energy and now we may expect to hear of other bonanza finds in that district. The little Andora was discovered by some Chinamen, but by a little persuasion on the part of the genial doctor they relinquished and got out. Work will be pushed in developing the mine, and we predict a prosperous future for the camp. There never has been work done in the mines at Sparta but what they paid largely.—Baker Revelle.

ALICEL.

News Notes From Our Regular Correspondent.

LONGING FOR THE HUNT ROAD.

Exorbitant Charges for the Transportation of Wheat to La Grande.

ALICEL, Oct. 10, 1890.

Alicel has a railroad to sell. The dust is all gone for this year. One more new building going up in town.

I guess Elgin will get a railroad by next spring.

The Buzzards are on the move towards Lost Prairie.

Jesse Hindman, of Elgin, was in our city last Saturday.

Snow made its first appearance on old Mt. Emily a few days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Webb of Elgin visited friends in Alicel last Sunday.

The McDowell's broke their steam thrasher down and have to lay idle a few days.

School commenced in Fairview district this week. Mr. Tucker of Wallawa is teacher.

Isaac Bingaman of Monroe county, Iowa, is visiting friends on the Sandridge this week.

The track laying gang are moving very slowly. They laid three quarters of a mile last week.

Chas. Coppel and his brother George are assisting the Elevator Co's carpenters in building a platform at Alicel.

Mrs. Samuel Cochran, of Alicel, and Mrs. Clara Jones, of Island City, started Sunday to visit friends in Iowa.

Mr. Clampt and family of Enterprise Wallawa county have settled at Alicel, and will go into the hotel business.

Died, at the residence of Wm. Jasper, on the Sandridge, Sept. 30th, Catherine Jasper, sister of Wm. Jasper and Mrs. George Gray.

There is talk of an injunction being placed on the Elgin branch of the U. P. railroad to help them from throwing farmer's fields together, till they put in the necessary cattle-guards.

Chas. Coppel has bought the old John Rick place near Summerville, Consideration \$3000. We consider Charley got a bargain as land is selling on the Ridge from \$30 to \$40 per acre.

Married, at the residence of Samuel Cochran, Sept. 28th, Mr. Frank Johnson of the Sandridge and Miss Cora Ghent of Lostine, Oregon. We wish the happy couple unbounded success and happiness.

The Alicel post office is now in full blast. We are receiving mail from Summerville twice a week. When regular trains get to running on the U. P. road we will turn the tables on Summerville for she will have to come to Alicel for her mail.

The farmers of this end of the valley will have to haul their grain to La Grande by team, until the Hunt road is built for they can not use the U. P. road on account of high rates they are going to charge us—three cents per hundred or seven cents per sack from Alicel to La Grande and one and one half cents to Island City.

MINERVA ANN.

Oct. 13, 1890.

Several farms have changed hands lately.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Ruckman were in town Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas Coppel passed through the city Sunday.

Mrs. Cobb our popular postmistress was visiting friends in Elgin lately.

The tracklayers are almost down to the lumber place on the Sandridge.

Workmen on the U. P. branch laid almost two miles of track last week.

The average wheat yield on the Sandridge is from 20 to 30 bushel per acre.

C. C. Stanley returned recently from an extended visit to friends in Morrow county.

David Jenkins of Morrow county, is visiting with Cris. Stanley of Alicel this week.

Wm. Hull and Thomas Gilham's residences are nearing completion and they are beauties.

John A. Jones is building a residence for Mrs. Outhouse on her land near the foot of old Mt. Eagle.

Ed. Elmer took a spin to the Looking Glass country, last week, with his brother-in-law from Kansas in search of bruis. Ed. says all the game leave the mountains when he is after them.

J. L. Roe purchased several head of stock hogs this week from Henry Rinchart. Price 4 cts. per lb.

P. E. Wade has bought the Jacob Sturgill sheep ranch, at the head of the canyon, in Wallawa county.

Frank Smith, McDonald Bros. and McKenzie Bros. & Co. have laid up their steam thrashers for this year.

John Tuttle purchased the James Nolle place adjoining his, on the Sandridge. Consideration \$33 1/2 per acre.

Chas. E. Oliver recently returned from Salem and Portland where he had been taking in the State and Mechanics fairs.

The carpenters finished the grain platform this week, with the exception of the drive-way. They left that for Mr. Coppel to finish.

Jesse Imbler has bought of P. E. Wade 100 acres of land on the west side of the railroad. Consideration four thousand dollars.

Mr. Stewart of the Sandridge, had a lively runaway at La Grande the other day. While waiting to unload grain at the elevator, a train arrived and his horses took fright and gave him a merry chase for awhile. Luckily no damage was done.

Mr. Goodnough of the M. & M. Co. assures the farmers of this end of the valley that the freight charges from Alicel will be the same as from La Grande. If that be so, Alicel has a bright future, for three-fourths of all the grain raised in Grande Ronde valley is tributary to the live and growing town of Alicel.

MINERVA ANN.

THE HUNT ROAD.

An Alliance Probably to be Made With the Chicago Burlington and Quincy

A great many rumors have been in circulation during the past week regarding the Hunt road and the movements of Mr. Hunt. We are inclined to believe the following from the Spokane Spokesman describes the situation about as it exists: "The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Hunt system of railroads have joined in another great transcontinental line. Within two years the "Q" system will extend from Chicago to Portland, with a branch line from the Palouse into Spokane Falls.

The "Q's" determination to build to the coast was made when the Northern Pacific and Wisconsin Central were consolidated as one line from the Pacific to Chicago. It was about the same time as the close traffic arrangement was made between the Chicago & Northwestern and Union Pacific. The "Q" and the Chicago Rock Island & Pacific were badly frosted by these two combinations. Its rails were already pointed far toward the Pacific Northwest. It was not an impossible task to extend to the coast, and the line then met its rivals on equal grounds.

The first long stretch was from Cheyenne westward. The northern route was chosen and the contracts for the building of the line from Cheyenne to Butte a distance of over 300 miles have been let.

In Washington and Oregon is the Hunt system of roads. Some time ago Hunt attempted to float \$10,000,000 of bonds for the extension of his system. The Northern Pacific stoutly opposed the scheme. All the influence of the Northern and Union Pacific were exerted to prevent the bonds being placed. Hunt was on the point of succumbing to these great corporate influences, and it was even announced from Portland a few days ago that he had ultimately failed.

Now comes the announcement that the bonds have been placed in London by the aid of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. It means that the Hunt system has been taken under the protecting wing of the "Q" and that powerful corporation, backed by unlimited millions, has taken hold of the system before the Great Northern could turn a hand toward securing the system, to be operated in connection with its Pacific coast extensions.

We think that it also means that Mr. Hunt will be enabled to give his entire attention to the extension of his branch roads and that the work on these will be prosecuted vigorously.

Notice.

As I shall necessarily be absent from the county for some weeks, I leave all my business in the hands of O. F. Bell, at the recorder's office in the court house. Mr. Bell is authorized to attend to all matters of loans, and also to collect and receipt for money due me.

Union, Sept. 17, 1890.
9-18-90. E. J. COUPER.

Cottswold Bucks For Sale.

The undersigned has a number of thoroughbred Cottswold bucks for sale. Call and see them at my farm in Cove.
10-2-14 L. R. HOLMES.

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