

Note

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along the foot of Monte Bre to Gandria. This curious old village, cut into the rocks, with no road but only stone steps from house to house, looks as untamed and savage as any smuggler's nest of olden times. It is like a rugged, barren protest against the enchanting gardens of Lugano.

A Modern City: Zurich has a significance and superiority of its own, although its 330,000 inhabitants do not make it count among the large cities of the continent. On leaving the fine railway terminus, you are impressed by the great new Post Office close by, and along the famous "Bahnhof-Strasse" by the great banking and trading palaces. But it is not on such things that Zurich has set its ambition. It is rather the beauty of its architecture and its public places, that may be said to be in keeping with its magnificent setting of lake and mountains. From the quay-bridge you get a fine panorama of the Alps, which appear in all their grandeur. From the Lindenhof, a former Roman fortification, you glance upon the roofs of the oldest parts of Zurich, and you may climb towards the Allmend, where a fine new Zoo has been installed. From there, in the evening, you may look down upon the glittering lights of the very modern city of science and industry, of art and commerce.

Zurich: A stork, returning from the sunny South Africa, decided on the Zurich Zoo as his domicile for the approaching summer. He very soon picked out a young female stork from the inmates of this institution, and without loss of time he began to build his nest on the top of a tall poplar nearby. It kept him very busy for a time, but at last the job was done and he was able to propose to his lady choice. Great was his surprise when he discovered that she was unable to fly, as she, like the rest of her mates, had her wings clipped. The visitor seemed to take his misfortune quite philosophically; he disappeared, but after a few days he returned again in company with another partner. Where he picked up his mate is a mystery, as the storks are pretty rare in Switzerland. He may have gone a long way north.

Wrestling in Switzerland still seems to be a most popular sport. At the cantonal contest at Busserach, Solothurn, 140 wrestlers took part. In Klingnau, Aargau, there were 166 contestants, while in Hinwil, Zurich, 224 competed.

On Sunday, the 14th June, the Toggenburg experienced one of the worst hailstorms in memory. The stones, which were nearly the size of hen eggs, levelled everything in field and garden to the ground. Windows were smashed and roofs damaged. Near the railway station at Lutisburg, the fall of hail covered the tracks to such an extent as to cause the derailment of a passenger train; the traffic had to be suspended.

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