

Literary page

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LITERARY PAGE

Edited by Dr. PAUL LANG.

All letters containing criticisms, suggestions, questions, etc., with regard to this page should be addressed to the "Literary Editor."

ZURICH in THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

Last week we heard something about the treatment of criminals in ancient Berne. It seems fitting that we should see what life was like in the other big town of Switzerland of that time—in Zürich! Professor W. Oechslis describes this period as under in his recently published "History of Switzerland 1499-1914" (Cambridge University Press, 20s.) which I would commend to every Swiss reader of this paper who is eager to acquaint himself with his country's history:—

"The principal characteristics of the urban Cantons lay in the contrast between the ruling town and the subject districts, the wall of the town and the moat constituting impassable barriers by which the members of the State were separated into two unequal castes. But in some of the urban Cantons the burghers of the town had as a whole retained their political rights, so that the town, considered by itself, was a representative democracy; whereas in others the burghers had undergone subdivision into patricians and plebeians, the latter being excluded from the government by the former. Consequently the urban Cantons must be classified in two groups, that of the guild aristocracies and that of the patrician aristocracies.

"Zurich, in rank the first, and in size and power the second of the Swiss Cantons, was a guild aristocracy. As in the Middle Ages, its constitution reposed upon the society of the *Konstafel* and the twelve guilds into which the burghers were divided. The guilds elected their guild-masters, and these constituted half of the Small Council, that is to say, half the executive government. All the other elections were indirect, but the nomination of the guild-masters by the burghers sufficed to prevent the formation of a patriciate and to preserve legal equality within the walls of the town. The industrial and commercial middle class ruled on the Limmat.

"For this reason the Zürich constitution exhibited a genuine burgher solidity, but also a genuinely philistine narrowness." The administration was upright, and Zürich knew nothing of the scale of offices and similar abuses. The public lands were managed with the most scrupulous care; in case of need the authorities did not hesitate to provide for the support of oppressed religious comrades at home or abroad, to furnish assistance for the victims of misfortune, and to create charitable institutions. Although the Carolinum, Zürich's leading educational institution, could not rank with the German universities, this body, in conjunction with the town schools, provided the Canton and the "common bailiwicks" with a well-informed clergy, and at the same time furnished the burghers with a high average education and a receptivity

CHANSON DEVANT LA GUERITE.

Par C. F. RAMUZ.

Fille de l'air, rêverie,
Compagnonne du soldat,
Le jour est long sous la pluie;
Tu reviens, le jour s'en va.
Compagnonne, compagnonne,
Entends tousser les chevaux;
La soupe n'était pas bonne,
Le bouilli n'était pas chaud.
Ceux que j'aime, est-ce qu'ils m'aiment ?
Est-ce qu'ils pensent à moi ?
Ça ranimerait quand même,
Ça serait bon par ce froid.
Une surtout, dans sa chambre,
Allant prendre mon portrait,
Et, ayant été le prendre,
Longtemps le regarderait....
Je sors le sien de ma poche,
Te voilà, ma grande amour!...
Mais gare si on approche,
J'en serai pour mes vingt jours.

IL FAISAIT UN CIEL BAS.

Par C. F. RAMUZ.

Il faisait un ciel bas d'automne, un de ces ciels fermés d'octobre, comme souvent dans le pays, quand lourdement descend du haut de la montagne, un épais plafond de brouillard; et on sait qu'au-dessus il y a le soleil, mais dessous il fait triste et sombre; et le poids de vivre est plus grand. Elle est entrée et elle a dit à son mari:

for literary life and activity which could not easily be paralleled elsewhere.

"One peculiarity of Zurich was that it went further than the other Swiss towns in the paternal care or police supervision it exhibited on behalf of its subjects. Eating, drinking, smoking, driving and sleighing, the number of guests at parties, wedding and christening presents, the material and cut of clothing, adornment, the dressing of the hair—everything was regulated, forbidden, or restricted. The wages paid to the handicraftsmen and to machine workers, the length and breadth of the tissues, the prices of flour, bread, meat, milk and butter were all decreed by the civic authority. Regular attendance at church was secured by legislative enactments; the dress to be worn by both sexes on these occasions was precisely specified. Sabbatarianism was pushed to such an extreme that on the Sabbath no one could escape from the town area without special permission. Owing to the puritanical strictness with which, under clerical influences, all unrestrained cheerfulness was repressed even in the rural districts, it was found possible to secure that in the very taverns the peasants should sing psalms.

"If this endless interference in all matters awakened in the subjects of Zurich the feeling that "there was more freedom elsewhere," this was to a still greater extent the case with those orders and prohibitions which were the outcome, not of over-zealous paternal benevolence, but of the endeavour to secure a comfortable existence for the ruling townsmen at the expense of the community as a whole. The condition of the rural districts of Zurich was by no means an unhappy one; as Goethe said, the shores of the Lake of Zurich gave "a charming and ideal conception of the finest and highest civilisation." During the eighteenth century there were no direct taxes; the tithes and ground-rents which had from ancient times been levied on landed property were from the legal point of view private taxes, even though they had for the most part become the property of the State and constituted the major part of its income. But the countryman had much greater ground for dissatisfaction in his hateful inferiority to the townsman in all possible respects. Every office, in the country as well as in the town, which afforded any income, and all the higher positions from the rank of captain upwards in the home military service and also in the "capitulated" regiments, were monopolised by the burghers. The rural handicraftsman was forbidden, under pain of fine and confiscation, to work for the town or to sell his produce there, while the burgher handicraftsman could dispose of his produce indifferently in town and in country. Throughout the Canton cotton and silk were spun and woven, but according to law this industry could be pursued only for the account of a townsman. The countryman was forbidden to practice the independent business of any kind of manufacture or commerce; he might not participate in either even as a partner. From the liberal professions he was excluded in practice though not by law. The ecclesiastical benefices, appointment to which was for the most part in the hands of the government, were allotted to burghers exclusively; similarly with appointments in the higher schools.

— Je crois bien que c'est le moment.

Il venait de rentrer, lui aussi; il se tenait dans la cuisine, il s'est tourné vers elle, qui était debout sur le pas de porte, et on ne voyait pas ses traits, seulement le contour de son corps épais; il a dit:

— Faut-il aller chercher Phémie ?

Elle a dit:

— Oui, va la chercher.

Il a été chercher Phémie; et le soir Phémie est venue.

Le brouillard à présent était descendu. Il pendait entre les maisons comme un drap épais aux plis lourds, et un peu de lumière y demeurait encore, qui lui donnait un semblant de couleur; mais bientôt ce reste de jour aussi s'en alla, et il n'y eut plus que la nuit. Sans étoiles, ni lune; une nuit sans lueur d'aucune sorte, nulle part: une nuit comme un bloc, une nuit comme un mur.

Alors on a fermé la porte. Alors elle s'est mise au lit. Et Phémie est venue s'asseoir à côté d'elle. Alors les heures ont passé. Et puis il a sonné une heure. Alors tu es venue au monde; alors tes yeux se sont ouverts, seules étoiles dans cette ombre; yeux noirs à cause de la nuit, mais petits yeux brillants quand même, d'une clarté qui est en eux, yeux avec un tout petit point de feu, yeux changeants, lampes dans la vie.

Et Phémie t'a frottée, et tu es venue au monde en pleurant, mais nous tous comme toi, parce que les pleurs sont d'abord et le rire ne vient qu'ensuite. Et ta mère était là, étendue dans le lit, avec une figure blanche; au bout d'un moment elle a demandé:

— Est-ce un garçon ?

Et Phémie a dit:

— Non, c'est une fille.

Peut-être qu'elle a eu chagrin, mais, du moins,

THE LIFE OF THE CANTONS.

IL, PUR SUVERAN.

Quei ei miu grepp, quei ei miu crapp,
Cheu tschentel jeu miu pei;
Artau hai jeu vus de miu bap,
Sai a negin marschei.

Quei ei miu prau, quei miu clavau,
Quei miu regress e dretg;
Sai a negin per quei d'engrau,
Sun cheu jeuumez il retg.

Quei mes affons, miu agien seun,
De miu car Diu schenghétg;
Nutreschel els cun agien peun,
Els dormen sut miu tetg.

O libra, libra paupradat,
Artada da mes vegls,
Defender vi cum taftradat,
Sco popa de mes egl.

Gie, libers sundel jeu naschius,
Ruassevels vi durmir,
E libers sundel si carschius,
E libers vi murir.

ANTON HUONDER.

Um den Nichtbündern einen Einblick in die vierte Nationalsprache zu geben, sei hier eine wörtliche deutsche Übersetzung dieses von unsern rätoromanischen Mitgedenossen so hochgehaltenen Liedes hingesetzt:—

Der freie Bauer.

Das ist mein Fels, das ist mein Stein,
Da setz ich meinen Fuss;
Erbt habe ich euch von meinem Vater
Habe Niemandem dafür zu danken.

Das ist mein Feld, das ist mein Stall,
Das ist mein Anspruch und Recht;
Bin dafür Niemandem verpflichtet,
Bin hier selbst der König.

Das sind meine Kinder, mein eigen Blut,
Meines lieben Herrgottes Geschenk;
Ich nähre sie mit eigenm Brot,
Sie schlafen unter meinem Dach.

O freie, freie Armut,
Erbt von meinen Ahnen,
Mit Tapferkeit will ich dich verteidigen,
Wie meinen Augapfel.

Ja, ich bin frei geboren,
Ruhig will ich schlafen,
Und frei bin ich aufgewachsen,
Und frei will ich sterben.

Sprichwörter.

Schwizerrat chunnt no der Tat.

D' Welt ist en ebige Heuet: di eine mached
Schöchli, di andere verzettled si wider.So goht's uf dere Welt: der eint hät de Seckel
und der ander 's Gelt.

Wenn di Alte Narre si, so si di Junge nid g'schid.

's Gross ist allweg en Eil ful.

En alte Fuehrme het immer Freud, wenn's klepft.

elle l'a caché. Et il y avait un grand trouble en elle, de cette vie née de la sienne, — comme l'arbre porte le fruit, comme la branche se divise et se sépare et devient deux, comme l'étrincelle est dans le caillou.

Il y avait la chambre basse au pauvre falot allumé. Il y avait les murs de bois, le bémier d'étain au mur, la croix et la branche de buis; il y avait les poutres brunes, les quatre petites fenêtres, que se touchent toutes, et étroites à n'y rien pouvoir passer que la tête (l'été, on met dessus des pots de géranium), — il y avait la chambre basse, et il y avait toi dedans.

Toi, nouvelle venue, et nulle autre que toi. Qui as alors crié, ayant pleuré d'abord. Qui as poussé ce cri, qui est signe de force, et le Christ jaune et bleu, t'a regardée depuis son cadre; et à côté de lui, est la Vierge qui tient l'enfant; et elle a compris, étant mère, et l'Enfant aussi t'a souri.

Pourtant, dès ce moment, ton dur destin était écrit; il a été dit à tes mains: "Vous durcirez et ne serez point blanches." Dès le commencement, il y a eu sur toi cette loi de travail, qui est celle des pauvres. La chèvre demande à être gardée, et la vache veut être traitée, et il faut soigner le mulet. Tout de suite est venue la vie, et elle t'a prise dès le premier jour.

The sketch printed above is taken from the book "Nouvelles et Morceaux," which was published in 1910 by Payot & Cie., Lausanne. It gives a good idea of the author's original style. The little poem is the example of the great Valdois writer's art given in the wonderful modern anthology "Anthologia Helvetica" which Robert Faesi compiled last year for the Insel Verlag and which contains Swiss poems in all our national languages and dialects, covering a period of a thousand years.

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**Extract from the Balance Sheet as
 per 31st December, 1921:**

	Frs.
Capital authorized & subscribed	10,000,000
Capital paid-up	7,500,000
Total Assets	155,266,074
Premium Income	82,038,177

MONSIEUR ARTHUR BAUME.

Nos lecteurs apprendront, comme nous, avec un vif regret, que notre distingué compatriote M. Arthur Baume, Officier de la Légion d'Honneur, s'est vu obligé, pour raisons de santé, de donner sa démission de président du Comité de l'Hôpital Français, et ses collègues ont dû s'incliner devant sa décision irrévocable car c'était la seconde fois que M. Baume offrait sa démission.

Le Comité désirant témoigner à M. Baume sa reconnaissance des services exceptionnels qu'il a rendus à l'Hôpital depuis 1894 et particulièrement au cours des huit années de sa présidence, l'a élu, à l'unanimité, Président Honoraire du Comité.

Nous sommes heureux d'apprendre que M. Baume se remet petit à petit de la longue et cruelle maladie qui l'a terrassé en Décembre dernier et nous le félicitons de sa nomination de Président Honoraire du Comité de l'Hôpital Français; institution qui est chère à tous les Suisses qui y trouvent toujours, sans bourse délier, les meilleurs soins et le meilleur accueil.

THE EDITOR'S LETTER BAG.

P. M.—Many thanks for subscription. The "S.O." should always reach you by Saturday first post. We have made several complaints to the G.P.O. about the delay in delivery, and they have promised to speed up the service in future.

Miss A. H.—With reference to your letter the Editor will be delighted to see you at any time in his office. As regards the possible effect of the levy on capital, the outlines of the scheme were given in our last issue, but we shall be pleased to give you a personal introduction to an expert on financial matters who will explain anything you find obscure. We are glad to hear you are becoming a subscriber and are sending you a form to fill up. This form, by the way, you have already received in the propaganda copies previously sent you. The "S.O." will keep readers informed as to developments of the proposed levy.

Miss L. D.—We are delighted you read the paper with pleasure and interest. Your subscription carries you up to No. 115 inclusive.

H. B.—We much regret to hear that the arrears in your subscription were caused by illness, and we trust you are well on the way to complete recovery. The copies you request on Dr. Spahlinger's treatment have been forwarded to you.

H. M.—Your congratulations are warmly appreciated on the change in the paper which you call "removing its infant skirt and dressing it in long trousers" (1), and on the addition of a literary page. This progress has been welcomed by many readers.

Miss H. and others.—The film "Running Waters," referred to in last week's "Notes and Gleanings," has not yet been released, and we are told that this film will probably be "showed" to the public at the end of April.

SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

SWISS BANK 1st XI v. SOUTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY 1st XI at Preston Road.

A fairly evenly contested game for the first twenty minutes. Aided by a very strong wind, the visitors made several early raids on the home goal, but were

met by a Mund defence. At half-time the Bank led by 2 to 0. The Bank pressed continuously all through the second half and scored eight goals before easing up. All the Bank forwards were on the target: Tobin (4), Goubach (3), Bohannan, Tobler and Benz all scoring. The home defence proved much too strong for the opposing attack.

Final result: Swiss Bank 10, South British Insurance Company 0.

Team: Zürcher: Herzog, Ash; Schwendener, Ruffer, Bornand; Tobler, Bohannan, Goubach, Tobin, Benz. SWISS BANK 2nd XI v. LLOYD'S BANK 4th XI at Preston Road.

The Swiss Bank 2nd XI had in their first home League match this season to meet Lloyd's Bank 4th XI. The visitors, losing the toss, had to play against a fairly strong wind, and made their game in consequence a defensive one. Steiner, who led the Red's attack, swung the ball about well, and the wings, Rueff and Hildebrand, were clever raiders. After settling down, Smith opened the score for the home team, being the result of a fast run along the touch-line by Rueff, who centred in fine style across the goalmouth. In the second half our defence was tested on several occasions, but proved very sturdy. Zurlinden and Peter booting the ball up the field with smart kicks, spoiling every chance of equalising the score. The Swiss, attacking again in turn, succeeded to improve their lead, which point had to be credited to Hickson. It was in the last minute that the Red's leader broke through—on his own, beating the backs and goalie, and tapping the ball into the net.

Result: Swiss Bank 3, Lloyd's Bank 0.

Team: Grob; Zurlinden, Peter; Bonjour, Schranz, Kebbell; Rueff, Hickson, Steiner, Smith, Hildebrand. SWISS BANK 3rd XI v. OBERON ATHLETIC F.C.

The Bank's team was handicapped by being a man short, and therefore had to work very hard to stop the opponents' attacks. The game was very keen, but the Oberon were superior in every way, and at half-time led by 2 to 0. In the second half the Swiss had to play a defensive game, and were actually beaten by 4 to 0.

Team: Lardet; Scherz, Wangler; Gerber, Gautschi, Stutz; Gunther, Weber, Guy, Schaub.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES.

BONDS.	Oct. 17	Oct. 23	
Swiss Confederation 3% 1903	76.00%	72.65%	
Swiss Confed. 9th Mob. Loan 5%	100.60%	100.35%	
Federal Railways A-K 3 1/2%	79.75%	79.75%	
Canton Basle-Stadt 5 1/2% 1921	101.85%	101.05%	
Canton Fribourg 3% 1892	68.50%	68.00%	
Zurich (Stadt) 4% 1909	100.10%	100.25%	
SHARES.	Nom.	Oct. 17	Oct. 23
Swiss Bank Corporation	500	597	600
Crédit Suisse	500	617	621
Union de Banques Suisses	500	525	523
Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz	1000	1325	1330
Société pour l'Industrie Chimique	1000	1110	1060
C. F. Bally S.A.	1000	940	912
Fabrique de Machines Oerlikon	500	600	594
Entreprises Sulzer	1000	637	617
S.A. Brown Boveri (new)	500	312	307
Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Cond. Mk. Co.	400	184	176
Choc. Suisses Peter-Cailler-Kohler	100	103	101
Comp. de Navig'n sur le Lac Léman	500	445	390

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aura lieu le MARDI 7 NOVEMBRE, au Restaurant GATTI, et sera précédée d'un souper familial à 6.30 h. (sh. 5/6 par couvert).

Cet avis tient lieu de convocation. Tous ceux désirant y participer sont invités à s'annoncer en temps utile au Trésorier, M. G. Dimier, 46, Cannon Street, E.C. 4. (Téléphone: Central 1321).

Ordre du Jour.

Procès-verbal. Admissions. Procès-verbal. Admissions. Démonstrations. Banquet Annuel. Divers.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

(The figure in parentheses denotes the number of the issue on which the subscription expires.)

F. Tichelly (123), E. de Pourtalès (97), A. G. Pluss (97) Miss M. L. Dupuis (115), P. Mathys (90), M. Aeschlimann (117), H. Brunner (117), Ch. Lançon (124), E. Schumacher (123), Mrs. L. Detloff (84), J. Geilinger (96), Ch. Bovet (98), A. Bolliger (97).

EGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C. 2.

Dimanche, 29 Oct., 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Vieme. 6.30.—Culte d'adoration en deux langues.

Dimanche, 5 Nov.—Jour de la Réformation; Services de Ste. Cène matin et soir.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, Oct. 28th.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Cinderella Dance at Gatti's Restaurant.

Friday, Nov. 3rd, at 8.30 p.m.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Lecture by R. Cromwell Edwards, Esq., on "Marriage: Its Social and National Importance."

Saturday, Nov. 4th, at 6.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at the Midland Hotel.

Monday, Nov. 6th, at 5 p.m.—PUBLIC LECTURE by Prof. Eug. Borel on "The Position of Switzerland in International Law" at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton St., Aldwych, W.C. 2.

Tuesday, Nov. 7, at 6.30 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting and Supper (see adv.).

Friday, Nov. 10th, at 8 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Lantern Lecture by Mr. G. Dimier, at King George's Hall (Y.M.C.A.).

Friday, Nov. 10th, at 8.30 p.m.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Lecture by Albert C. Dabbs, Esq., on "Off the Beaten Track in London."

Wednesday, Nov. 22nd, at 7.15 p.m.—Association of British Members of the SWISS ALPINE CLUB: Annual Dinner at Gatti's Restaurant.

Thursday, Nov. 23rd, at 7.30 p.m.—SWISS BANK CLUB: Dance at the Suffolk Galleries, Suffolk Street, S.W. 1.

Thursday, Nov. 23rd.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Concert and Dance at 74, Charlotte Street, W. 1.

Friday, Dec. 1st.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball at Prince's Restaurant.

Miss Olga Carmine will give a Pianoforte Recital on November 7th at Brussels.