

on the Grande Muraille in 1904, but though pleasant and comfortable for the feet, the additional load of the boots on one's back renders the gain a minus one (+ and - = -). The rock, protogene granite, is so good that it is not easy to slip in properly nailed boots.

As for crampons, if the mountain is in a fit state to climb at all, these are quite unnecessary. On September 13 last the Glacier Carré was hard owing to absence of sun, and showed few traces of steps, but the 10 or 15 minutes crampons might have saved here would have been dearly bought by the extra labour of carrying their clumsy bulk for many hours.

I trust nothing here written will convey the impression that I consider the Meije an easy mountain, to be lightly attacked by inexperienced parties. Though its hardest bits of rock work would not be considered very difficult in the English Lakes, and though its ice work, generally speaking, is easier than what the North Face of Nevis can show in April, the scale on the Meije is very large, *and there are no easy ways down*. There is no great mountain in the Alps whose doors are so easily locked. Young Main and Plossu deserve the greatest credit for their enterprise in opening a new possibility.

#### THE EARLY SWISS PIONEERS OF THE ALPS.

BY DR. H. DÜBL.

(Continued from p. 99.)

HANS CASPAR ROHRDORF.

**H**ANS CASPAR ROHRDORF, or Rordorf, as he sometimes spells his name, was born at Zürich on August 17, 1773. We know little of his early life, but in 1800 we find him practising as veterinary surgeon at Seebach near Zürich, and in 1805 he qualified as operator and accoucheur. His recent biographer,<sup>1</sup> tells us that in 1811 he made himself guilty of a professional misdemeanour, was imprisoned for some time and banished for six years. After an adventurous life that brought him into the cantons of Thurgau, Glarus and Schwyz, and even to Milan and Florence, he landed at

<sup>1</sup> Dr. A. Lechner: *Hans Caspar Rordorf (Rohrdorf) aus Zürich und Gottlieb Studer in Bern*. Solothurn, 1915.

Berne in 1822, where, notwithstanding his past, he was received by Professor Meisner (1765–1825), Professor Trechsel (1776–1849), and Pastor J. S. Wytttenbach (1748–1880), and got an engagement as assistant of the first-named in the Museum of Natural History. By his anatomical and technical abilities he gave satisfaction to his patrons. He must receive credit for the rearrangement of the remarkable geological and ornithological collections that had come to the museum by the care of the pastors Sprüngli and Wytttenbach. Rohrdorf was a good hand at stuffing animals—the new form of the celebrated St. Bernard dog Barry is his work. He was also a hunter and a good shot, but his reputation was always against him. On the death of the former attendant of the museum in 1826, Rohrdorf was elected to his post with the title of ‘preparator,’ his annual wages being 200 livres (about 290 francs) besides a modest remuneration for extra work. He tried to augment his income by publishing zoological and sporting books, but failed to get the necessary subscribers.<sup>2</sup> His trade in stuffed beasts and birds was not very lucrative. The reliefs of the Bernese Oberland by Weiss and Müller in the museum inspired him with the idea of issuing a new edition of the smaller relief corrected by observation on the spot. In the printed account of his journey<sup>3</sup> Rohrdorf pretends that he was fired by the legend that once a beaten track used for commercial and other purposes led from Grindelwald to the Valais by the Fiescher glaciers, and by the desire to re-open, for the profit of the Oberlanders, this route. Moreover, as the intended passage rounded the foot of the Jungfrau, Rohrdorf decided to climb that peak *en route*. I agree with Dr. Lechner that some of these motives were perhaps fixed *post eventum*, but nevertheless Rohrdorf’s enterprise was meritorious, especially as his personal means were small and the Government did not help him much.

Before starting on August 15, 1828, he modelled the smaller relief and took a copy with him to control it on the field. No

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<sup>2</sup> In 1835 and 1836 only he succeeded in publishing a book of that kind: *Der Schweizerjäger*, 2 vols. in 1 tome, Glarus and Liestal (see Lechner, pp. 33–5).

<sup>3</sup> Caspar Rohrdorf: *Reise über die Grindelwald-Fiescher-Gletscher auf den Jungfrau-Gletscher und Ersteigung des Gletschers des Jungfrau-Berges*. Bern, 1828.

F. J. Hugi: *Naturhistorische Alpenreise*, Solothurn, 1830; *Ueber das Wesen der Gletscher und Winterreise in das Eismeer*, Stuttgart & Tübingen, 1842.

doubt he possessed also Meyer's map of 1813, a cut from which is annexed to Rohrdorf's pamphlet. Captain Farrar gave, in 'A.J.' xxx. 280-281, a précis of Rohrdorf's attempt and failure to ascend the Jungfrau and of the successful ascent a few days later by Grindelwald guides led by Peter Baumann. They found no trace of the Meyers' three poles.

Peter Baumann at once reported to Rohrdorf, and a preliminary notice, signed by Rohrdorf, was published in a Bernese magazine: *Der Schweizerfreund* (No. 39, September 23, 1828, pp. 191-2). The editor added a note, taken from the *Gazette de Lausanne*, that contained many topographical errors.

Not free from such, but in other respects interesting, is an account of Rohrdorf's attempt given by Zschokke in *Der aufrichtige und wohlerfahrene Schweizer Bote* (Aarau 1828, No. 28, p. 300). It reads: 'On August 20 two Englishmen<sup>4</sup> tried to climb the summit of the Jungfrau from Lauterbrunnen. Accompanied by nine men they reached a certain height, but attained only the Roththal glacier. The summit remained inaccessible. On August 21 an inhabitant of Berne tried the same, accompanied by chamois-hunters. He mounted from Grindelwald behind the Eiger and Mönch, remained on the attempt for eight days, steady against all obstacles. He gained the ridge connecting the Jungfrau and the Mönch, and planted there a flag that is visible from the Wengernalp, but the summit of the Jungfrau remained inaccessible.' In a second article the *Schweizerfreund* (No. 41, October 7, 1828, pp. 203-4), after referring to the accounts published in the newspapers, continues: 'As these reports differ from each other on several points, and as some of them are infested by considerable errors, some friends of the truth found it convenient to publish the following facts, that agree with the deposition of the daring men who undertook the expedition.' Then follows a description of the events of September 8 to 11, with personal notices about the seven Grindelwalders. At the end of the unsigned article some of Rohrdorf's thermometrical observations are contested. In his reply, inserted in No. 42 of the *Schweizerfreund*, p. 208, dated October 14, Rohrdorf referred his critics to the experiences of the Meyers and other glacier travellers, but in other respects he accepted their remark.

I cannot refrain from putting in here the very curious contemporary gossip about Rohrdorf and his enterprise that a

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<sup>4</sup> No doubt this is an allusion to the expedition of Messrs. Brown and Slade, which we shall deal with later.

Bernese bill-broker, S. Rudolf Walthard, noted in his diary <sup>5</sup> for September 14 and 16, 1828.

‘Le nommé Rohrdorf de Zürich, homme d’une réputation très équivoque, et qui a même été banni de sa ville natale, pour délits correctionnels, a su se faufiler ici, où il est employé au Musée pour l’empaillage des animaux qu’on y expose, et auquel on a confié la garde des fauves qu’on entretient dans les fossés, a conçu l’idée de monter sur la Jungfrau. Grand parleur, vantard et chasseur aventureux, il a su faire goûter son projet à quelques personnes et nommément au directeur de la police, de Graffenried, et au professeur Schnell, qui l’ont beaucoup encouragé. En conséquence il a fait ses préparatifs et s’est rendu au commencement de ce mois dans l’Oberland, où il a engagé cinq ou six chasseurs de chamois de le suivre et de le guider à travers les glaciers. Ils partirent effectivement, mais après avoir erré près de 7 jours sur ces régions glacées, le mauvais temps les força à rétrograder et à remettre la partie jusqu’aux prochains beaux jours. Ceux-ci se manifestèrent effectivement immédiatement après leur retour, mais Rohrdorf s’étant rendu dans l’intervalle à Berne, les chasseurs de chamois partirent seuls, et atteignirent, mercredi dernier, 10<sup>me</sup> de 7<sup>bre</sup>, la cime de cette montagne colossale, que jamais encore un pied d’homme n’avait foulée. Suivant les certificats, qu’ils ont apportés, de plusieurs personnes dignes de foi, ils ont été vus depuis Interlaken, vers les 4 à 5 heures de l’après-midi, plantant un drapeau aux couleurs bernoises, de 18 pieds de hauteur sur le point culminant du sommet. D’après le rapport circonstancié qu’ils ont fait de leur ascension, il se trouva que la cime n’offre proprement qu’une superficie de 15 pieds et se termine absolument en dos d’âne. Le premier des chasseurs qui y monta s’y mit à califourchon et ayant ainsi une jambe pendue vers la vallée de Grindelwald et l’autre vers le Valais, il aplatit avec une hache la croupe saillante et forma un plateau d’environ 5 à 6 pieds de diamètre, sur lequel se placèrent ensuite ses compagnons, et au centre duquel ils enfoncèrent, à la profondeur de 3 pieds, le drapeau, qui a été vu par une multitude de personnes. Ils assurent que l’accès de cette sommité n’est point du tout aussi périlleux qu’on se l’imaginait jusqu’à présent, et ils prétendent que moyennant quelques marches coupées dans la glace aux endroits les plus roides il ne faudra pas même de grands efforts de la part de ceux qui seraient curieux de faire cette ascension.

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<sup>5</sup> It was reprinted in Dr. Lechner’s pamphlet, pp. 38–40, from a manuscript preserved in the public library of Berne.

D'après leur rapport ils ont passé la première nuit dans une caverne de rocher, où jaillit une source, et la seconde sous une voûte de roc assez saillante pour les mettre à l'abri des avalanches et de la neige qui pourrait tomber. Le sommet même doit être tout de glace et ne décèler nulle part le moindre vestige de roc ou de terre.

'Les frères Meyer d'Aarau, qui en 1812, avaient tenté l'ascension de cette montagne, depuis le Valais, ont assuré avoir planté un drapeau. Mais comme ce drapeau n'a jamais été vu par personne, malgré que plusieurs curieux se soient donné toutes les peines pour le découvrir avec de longues vues, on a commencé à douter de leur ascension et finalement on s'est convaincu qu'ils en avaient imposé au public. Le fait est que les chasseurs de chamois, qui y sont montés maintenant, n'ont trouvé aucune trace ni aucun vestige qui auraient pu faire supposer que quelqu'un d'autre qu'eux eût atteint ce point culminant de la Suisse. L'honneur doit donc leur en être déferé à juste titre, mais Rohrdorf en revendique une part. Lui revient-elle ?

'(Sept. 16.) Les sept chasseurs de chamois qui sont montés sur la Jungfrau, sont tous de Grindelwald. Ce sont : Christian Roth, âgé de 50 ans. Celui-ci n'est pas monté sur le pic. Pierre Baumann, âgé de 28 ans. C'est lui qui y monta le tout premier et qui nivella la crête avec une hache.

Christian Baumann, âgé de 33 ans.

Pierre Roth, âgé de 35 ans.

Ulrich Wittwer, âgé de 32 ans.

Pierre Moser, âgé de 60 ans.

Hiltbrand Burgener, âgé de 33 ans.

'J'ai vu les certificats, qu'ils ont rapportés et qui certifient qu'on les a vu planter le drapeau et que celui-ci a encore été vu le lendemain. Ces certificats sont signés par une personne d'Interlaken, par un Anglais et par le marquis de Louvois, pair de France ; celui-ci détaille même l'heure et les circonstances de l'ascension du pic, qu'il a observée avec une lunette d'approche. Suivant les rapports de ces chasseurs, ils n'ont vu traces d'êtres vivants dans cette haute région que les pas de chamois et un héron crevé, qui se trouvait à côté d'une caverne. Le ciel leur a paru d'une couleur plus foncée que ne l'est celle qu'on découvre depuis les vallées.'

In that report great stress is laid on the fact that the flag planted on the top of the Jungfrau on September 10 was seen more than once and by several eye-witnesses. Indeed, even from the observatory at Berne it was recognized by Professor

Trechsel, on October 19, between 4 and 5 P.M., first with the excellent although small Frauenhofer telescope, then, more distinctly, with the 'three feet and half Dollond.' Professor Trechsel published his observation in No. 43 of the *Schweizerfreund* (p. 212), for October 21, 1828, and Rohrdorf did not fail to insert it at the end of his pamphlet.

The Englishman alluded to by Walthard was, probably, the American, John Fenimore Cooper, who, on his return from the Gotthard to the Bernese Oberland, observed the flag from Interlaken.<sup>6</sup>

As there was no longer any doubt about the reality of the ascent, the first from the Bernese side at all events, the Government instructed the bailiff of Interlaken, Joh. Rud. v. Steiger, 'to pay to every of the seven Grindelwalders who, on September 10, ascended the summit of the Jungfrau, a double ducat (about 21 francs) as a sign of our contentment.' The assignation was paid out on September 29, 1828, in the parsonage at Grindelwald.<sup>7</sup>

Poor Rohrdorf never recovered his advance to Christian Roth for the preparations for the ascent, for as late as January 1829 there were 'unsettled financial differences and bitter offence between the Grindelwalders and Rohrdorf.' On November 4, 1828, he advised the public that a description of his 'travel over the Grindelwald-Fiescher glaciers to the Jungfrau glacier and of the ascent of the Jungfrau, carried out in August and September 1828, with a little map and sketches of the Jungfrau from S.E. and of the Lagerberg,' was for sale for 8 batzen (about 1 franc 15 centimes) by the author or by the bookseller C. A. Jenny at Berne. And in December 1828 Rohrdorf deposited in the town hall the original of a relief of that region, modelled by him and corrected on the spot. At the same time he advised the public in his pamphlet (p. 45) that copies of the relief, 15 inches broad and 20 inches long, could be ordered from the author. We shall now examine both publications and the critiques they caused.

In his pamphlet Rohrdorf, after an introduction and a full description of his attempt and of the ascent by the Grindelwalders, gives a summary of the region explored by the Meyers and himself; he adds something to their nomenclature, viz.: the Lagerberg (Trugberg), on which he distinguishes two summits, the *Kamm* on the N.E., the *Zweispitz* on the S.W.,

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<sup>6</sup> See *Excursions in Switzerland*, vol. ii. p. 155.

<sup>7</sup> Studer: *Ueber Eis und Schnee*, 2nd edition, vol. iii. p. 429.

the *Sattelknopf*<sup>a</sup> on the Jungfrauoch, the Silberhörner, the Klein Mönch (Stellifuh or Schwarze Mönch) and the Rothe Brett. He pretends that the Kamm is visible from Berne just E. of the Sattelknopf. His observations on the glacial phenomena are few and of no great value. He noted his own pulsations, but not those of his men, and assures us that neither on this nor on the many expeditions on high mountains he or his companions ever suffered from nausea or other symptoms of the rarefaction of air, save on heights of over 10,000 feet. Rohrdorf's remarks about nourishment and digestion on high mountains are the first on record, as far as I know, and therefore of some importance. Concerning the lithological constitution of the Jungfrau he prefers the theory of the Meyers and Dr. Ebel to that of Escher von der Linth, and gives some good details about the contact between gneiss and limestone near the summit of the Jungfrau. He supposes that Professor Hugi will correct his opinions. He notes the names of a few alpine plants he found, and of the rare quadrupeds, insects and birds he observed. More useful and interesting is the chapter on equipment and how to handle the alpenstock and the rope. Crampons are not mentioned. The boots should be heavily nailed, with four iron pegs screwed in the soles and with horse-shoes on the heels. New, in the roll of things to be provided with, are green spectacles, ointment to anoint the face and hands with, and a pole 15 to 20 feet long, the handling of which is described as follows: The leader of the party fixes in the rock or ice an iron peg; on that he hooks an iron ring attached to the thicker end of the pole. Holding the pole upright with one hand he may hew steps with the other. With this simple instrument, Rohrdorf informs us, he once ascended to the summit of the Glärnisch reputed inaccessible, and he thinks it would be convenient for climbing the Finsteraarhorn. Another invention of his seems the mode of roping. The leader and the last man bind the rope (*das Stelleil*) round their waists, the others are connected with it by short straps fastened on an iron ring sewed to a leather belt. More similar to the modern form of 'abseilen' is Rohrdorf's method to pull the rope through iron rings fastened on iron pegs rammed in at the beginning and the end of a nasty bit of climbing. A sort of 'abschraubbarer Eispickel' is thus described by Rohrdorf: 'On the head of a wooden stick six feet

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<sup>a</sup> P. 3560 of the S. map. See *Climbers' Guide to the Bernese Oberland*, vol. i. pt. i. p. 116. In recent publications this view-point is sometimes called Mathildenspitze. Rohrdorf's denomination deserves to be retained.

long and provided on the lower end with a strong steel point is screwed in (or permanently fixed) a hook of good soft steel seven inches long, sharp on one side, curved and blunt on the other; the instrument serves for cutting steps as well as to hold on rocks or ice.' As for food Rohrdorf recommends above all a condensed flour soup prepared at home and conveyed in a tin box. For drink he prefers a mixture of hot tea with wine and sugar to the pure wine or brandy, but he is well aware that the transport of fuel is a serious impediment to all cooking luxuries.

At the end of his pamphlet Rohrdorf sums up the results of his travel as follows: (1) The presumed 'Wallis-Pass' is of no commercial importance for the Oberland. (2) All the high summits can be scaled. (3) The way is now open for the students to make scientific experiments on those heights and for the simple tourists and even ladies to climb the Jungfrau for the sake of the view. Rohrdorf offers his services to both. Finally, he proceeds to correct some faults in the smaller relief of the Bernese museum, viz.: the heights of the two Eigers as given are too low; the Lagerberg is not, as the relief and the maps state, connected with the Mönch and lies considerably more to the East.

Rohrdorf's pamphlet was announced in a friendly manner in *Schweizerische Literaturblätter*, Zürich, 1829, pp. 71 sq.,<sup>9</sup> but otherwise it met with bitter criticism. Hugi<sup>10</sup> condemns all Rohrdorf says about the old passage over the Walchergrat and that glacier region as the utterances of an ignoramus. As for his geognostical opinions, the professor rebukes the 'preparator' with the Latin proverb: *Ne sutor ultra crepidam!*

I agree with Professor Lüders<sup>11</sup> that Hugi's judgment is unjust, inasmuch as he omits the real merit of Rohrdorf's expedition. In my opinion it established firmly the following points:

(1) The frontier ridge between the Mönch and the Walcherhorn (9705 m.) can be crossed without excessive exertion or danger; (2) this passage affords the shortest access to the Jungfrau from the Grindelwalder side; (3) the Mönch is not the point of bifurcation of a side spur running S.E. to the Grüneck from the main ridge continuing eastward to the Grindelwalder Fiescherhörner, but is separated from a considerable mountain mass just opposite the Jungfrau by a

<sup>9</sup> Lechner, *loc. cit.*, p. 9, note 2.

<sup>10</sup> *Naturhistorische Alpenreise*, pp. 110-111.

<sup>11</sup> *Jahrbuch S.A.C.*, vol. xlv. p. 288, note 4.

snowy plain that must be crossed when coming from Grindelwald, to gain the foot of the Jungfrau. These facts were settled by Rohrdorf in his text and on his map, and Hugi was wrong in deciding against all evidence that the legendary pass over the 'Walchergrat' must be sought for more to the E. 'between the two Walcherhörner' [the now called Fiescherjoch], and returning in his map to the erroneous statement of the Meyers.

More useful and interesting is the discussion of Rohrdorf's pamphlet by Gottlieb Studer in a letter dated Lengnau, December 5, 1828, and addressed to Colonel Karl Viktor May (1777-1853).<sup>12</sup> As it is the first time we hear something of a youth destined to become one of the pioneers of alpine climbing, art and historiography, it seems opportune to insert a short sketch of Studer's doings before that date.

GOTTLIEB STUDER, born August 5, 1804, a citizen of Berne, was the son of GOTTLIEB SIGMUND STUDER (1761-1808), best known as author of the 'Chaîne d'Alpes vue des environs de Berne' (1788) and other panoramas, and himself a good mountaineer who, with his brother Samuel and Pastor Wytenbach, first set foot on the Gamchilücke and the Dündenhorn, explored the Gastern- and Kienthal and visited Chamonix and its glaciers. Although the means of the family, after the premature death of its head, were but small, Gottlieb was well educated at Berne and Neuchâtel. He became, like his father, a public notary and served, between 1821 and 1829, as office-clerk in several district towns and in the capital. He began climbing as early as 1823, and continued this sport for sixty years. In 1825 he ascended the Rochers de Culant, a minor summit of the Diablerets and the Pointe de Dronaz, near the Grand St. Bernard, and crossed the Col d'Erraz, between Val d'Entremont and Val de Bagnes. In 1826 he crossed the Jochpass from Engstlenalp to Engelberg, in 1827 the Juchlipass, from Melchthal to Engelberg, the Segnespass, visiting the Martinsloch *en route*, and the Griespass. When he wrote his letter to Colonel May he had already gained his spurs as a map-maker and draughtsman, for he informs us that he gained a silver medal from a Bernese corporation as reward for a map of the prealpine commune of Trub, including the Napf (1411 m.), and had an offer from Dr. Ebel at Zürich to lithograph the panorama of the Calanda and to draw mountain views for the new edition of Ebel's guide book of Switzerland.

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<sup>12</sup> The letter is reprinted in Dr. Lechner's pamphlet, pp. 11-13, from the manuscript preserved in the archives of the canton of Berne.

For his own use he had sketched the views from the above said peaks and passes,<sup>13</sup> and he had just begun to draft the view of the Stockhorn-range, for which purpose he borrowed a map from Colonel May. Thus Studer was well fitted to judge Rohrdorf's work. His criticism hits, besides minor points, on the following defects: (1) To call the summit of the Jungfrau a 'Gletscher' is absurd. (2) 'Lagerberg' is not a convenient name for a rocky mass covered on its flanks with snow and ice; new denominations should be adapted to the nature of the object (!). (3) How can Rohrdorf propose to guide even ladies by an easier way to the top of the Jungfrau, while he was not able to reach it himself by the ordinary route? (4) It is not possible to see the summit of the Lagerberg from Berne, and indeed nothing is visible behind the arête connecting the Jungfrau with the Mönch.<sup>14</sup> (5) The presumption that the depth of the Jungfrau glacier may be equal to that of the Lauterbrunnen valley is wholly unjustified. (6) Rohrdorf offers no proof for his statement that all our ice-covered mountains are accessible. Why does he not try to climb the Matterhorn, the Monte Rosa, etc.? (7) How can Rohrdorf know that on the smaller relief in our museum the two Eigers are too low, as he did not measure their heights? (8) As a copy, the map in Rohrdorf's pamphlet is not badly done, but one would prefer a map on a larger scale, comprising only the region travelled by Rohrdorf, especially the upper part of the Grindelwald-Fiescher glacier and the pass leading over it. (9) The two outlines ('Profilzeichnungen') are very poor in every respect. No. 4 is more probably the Gletscherhorn than the Ebnefuh.<sup>15</sup> Studer sums up his critique by

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<sup>13</sup> They are still preserved in the library of the section of Berne S.A.C.

<sup>14</sup> Studer was quite right. My son Hans, engineer of the Federal survey, writes to me about the matter: 'Seen from Berne, the top of the Trugberg, 3933 m., and nearly its whole summit ridge is masked by the broad Mönch, 4005 m. A line Berne-Jungfrau-joch-Trugberg hits the latter at its S.W. foot, i.e. near P. 3050, and, if prolonged, crosses the centre of the Concordiaplatz, touching the arête of the Wannehorn only between the Klein Wannehorn and the Märjelen lake. Thus no summit whatsoever is visible from Berne behind the Jungfrau-joch.'

<sup>15</sup> Here also Studer seems right. No doubt he took that detail from the appendix his father added to the *Raritätenkasten von Lauterbrunnen* (about this curious MS. see *Climbers' Guide to the Bernese Oberland*, vol. i. pt. i. p. xiv.), but the name is a fruit of Studer's first visit to Lauterbrunnen in 1827.

crediting Rohrdorf with the merit to have opened the way for people more capable of exact observations. I think we can subscribe to his judgment.

In his 'Alpenstock' (London, 1829), p. 49 ss., Charles Joseph Latrobe gives a very readable extract of the mountaineering part of Rohrdorf's pamphlet, and from Latrobe's text Rohrdorf's enterprise was made known to the public by others.

Rohrdorf not only offered to sell to the Government his relief, but he proposed to continue the work and to extend it over the whole Oberland. The Government, on December 28, referred the matter to the curators of the Academy,<sup>16</sup> and they, on December 31, directed the professors Trechsel and Bernhard Studer<sup>17</sup> to report on the relief. The report was sent in on January 21, 1829.

The reporters did not recommend the proposed continuation of the work.

On February 12, 1829, the curators forwarded this report, approved by themselves, to the Government. On February 20, the treasurer of state was ordered to pay to Rohrdorf a remuneration of 45 francs, but otherwise his offers were refused. The only relief by Rohrdorf I know of is at Zürich.<sup>18</sup>

Towards the end of 1830 Rohrdorf left Berne and returned to Zürich, where he acted again as surgeon. But a second time he came in conflict with the penal code, and ended miserably, a ruined old man, in an almshouse at Zürich, on April 23, 1843.<sup>19</sup> He left a son, Konrad Caspar, born November 26, 1800, who gained some reputation as an engraver,<sup>20</sup> reached the rank of lieutenant-colonel at Liestal, and was killed in the assault on Mexico city in September 1847.

REPORT OF THE OFFICIAL ENQUIRY INTO THE ACCIDENT ON  
THE MONT CERVIN, IN JULY 1865.

SÉANCE du juge instructeur du district de Viège, tenue à Zermatt, à l'hôtel du Mont Cervin, sous la présidence de Mr. le juge d'instruction Joseph Antoine Clemenz, à Viège, rapporteur substitué César Clemenz, greffier Donat Andenmatten à Viège, et huissier ad hoc Jean Julien, le 21 juillet 1865.

<sup>16</sup> See Lechner, pp. 28-9.

<sup>17</sup> Bernhard Studer (1794-1887), the famous geologist and friend of Professor Forbes, was the son of Samuel Studer (1757-1834; see above) and cousin of Gottlieb Studer.

<sup>18</sup> *Bibliographia der Schweizerischen Landeskunde*, fascikel ii. p. 412.

<sup>19</sup> Lechner, pp. 30-37.

<sup>20</sup> *Schweizerisches Künstlerlexikon*, pp. 668-9.