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Prefatory Note

Leo Schelbert

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Prefatory Note

The first part of this *Review* commemorates the founding of New Glarus one hundred and fifty years ago. The farewell address of Caspar Jenny (1812-1860), a leading Glarnese citizen, speaks to us today as it did to the parting emigrants. The diary entry of Niklaus Dürst (1797-1874), one of the two scouts who, after an extended journey through the Midwest, selected the land for the Glarnese emigrants, conveys some of the quiet excitement he felt during New Glarus' very first days. Jessica T. Skropanic, a New Glarnese at heart, offers a sober summary of the town's evolution and the challenge for its future, taken from the concluding pages of her MA-thesis.

The memoir of Dr. Gustav Durrer provides a captivating glimpse of the transformation of a visiting Swiss dentist into a notable Swiss American officer and successful professional during the trying years of World War Two. It is astonishing how a kind fate guided him at moments when he was put at danger-laden crossroads, less through his own choosing than by the force of circumstance.

Two reviews that deal with works about two very different Swiss Americans and an announcement of a family gathering of the Stauffachers conclude the issue, as always expertly shaped by Natalie Hector.

To all a pleasant summer!

Leo Schelbert, Editor