

mumu Archiv Museum Muttenz

Karl Jauslin was born in 1848 and he died in 1904. He was the son of a very poor family. When he was a little boy he already wanted to get an artist, a painter. But it was a long and a hard way he had to go. At the age of 20 he got the chance to work for some years in the shop of a painter and decorator at Basle. Then in 1870 he was employed by a publishing house in Stuttgart/Germany as an illustrator. He had to illustrate the news from the battles during the war between France and Germany. In Stuttgart he had the possibility to visit lessons at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, to learn the technic of oil painting and of woodcutting. When he came back to Switzerland his first order he got, was to draw a great parade, which had been organized to celebrate an anniversary of a famous battle.

Other orders to draw such parades followed. On the wall you can see such a parade. The people who took part in a parade and those who just came to look at it, could buy such printed drawing as a souvenir.

Here I have to explain the importance of such great feasts. The last century was the century of historism and patriotism. It was the century of founding nations. So the Swiss State was founded in 1848. In order to bring the people from the different parts of Switzerland nearer to one another people organized big patriotic feasts. There was always found an historical date to celebrate an anniversary with an historical parade.

During his life Karl Jauslin drew a lot of those parades and

he also drew the carnival-parades at Basle.

Those orders made him known in a wider part of Switzerland. Several publishers employed him to illustrate books or booklets or almanacs. So Jauslin became a rather famous illustrator.

His most important opus was to illustrate the history of Switzerland. It was a series of about hundred pictures, which were published in several editions.

The first editions showed the pictures on separate cartoons. Many schools in Switzerland bought those collections and used them as an educational aid or just as a decoration of the class-rooms.

So Karl Jauslin became a wellknown illustrator of Swiss history. At the end of the last century there was founded a new museum in Luzern. Its name was "Kriegs- und Friedens-Museum". For this Museum Jauslin made several drawings illustrations of famous battles in Swiss history. Some years later a comparable museum was founded in the States, in St. Louis, Missouri. I don't know why, but it was also Karl Jauslin who got the order to create some pictures for this museum. In 1903 and 1904 Jauslin produced 9 pictures, illustrations of different battles of the American history.