

On the History of the Glarner Families, Particularly Those of the Sernf Valley
A Medley of Pictures from Past Days
(*Zur Geschichte glarnerischer Geschlechter, derjenigen des Sernftales insbesondere
Allerlei Bilder aus vergangenen Tagen*)

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[All lettered footnotes and information in brackets were added by the translator]

XXVI. THE MADUTZES

[pg. 146-147]

The *Landsgemeinde*^a journal of 1851 printed, as Article 18, a "Final Resolution Concerning the Cantonal Right Replacement of Master Tailor Maduz in Matt", which read as follows: "Master tailor Maduz, from Undingen in the Kingdom of Württemberg, but who already settled in Matt some time ago, wishes to be accepted, with his 3 single sons and 1 daughter, into the cantonal right in this canton. He had bought into the Matt communal citizen right, together with the church and school rights, with a large sum of money; certainly, one can say, with an offering that, for a professional man, as this person is, may be considered one of the most exorbitant and most extensive. Since then the petitioner, with his family, stands in the highest repute; since the sovereign cantonal citizens have acted a few years ago towards a 'patient one' of the Riedern commune according to the principles of generous leniency; and since further offerings could not possibly be imposed on the petitioner, and the named one had most fully complied with all requirements of the law, thus, the threefold Cantonal Council allowed itself, in this case too, to appeal, with all confidence, to the sovereign cantonal citizens' humanitarian convictions, and to please them: master tailor Maduz, with his 3 sons¹ and his daughter, was accepted into the cantonal right of Canton Glarus free of charge."

What recommended the master tailor, Johannes Madutz, to the members of the Cantonal Council, as to the sovereign cantonal citizens, for the granting of the Glarner cantonal right free of charge, was probably, not least of all, the intercession and friendship of some highly respected Glarners, of the famous naturalist professor, Dr. Oswald Heer, and of the Zürich professor who was also esteemed in Canton Glarus, Dr. Arn. Escher von der Linth.

"Johannes Madutz had only had the benefit of primary school education, but his inclination toward the mountains, his hunting trips, and particularly his association with Oswald Heer, have imparted to him a fine measure of knowledge about nature. He had accompanied the world-renowned naturalist in the Glarner, Bündner, Berner and Walliser Alps and had performed outstanding service to him as guide, had first climbed the Piz Linard [*Canton Graubünden*] with him², and had even surpassed Markus Colani in his guiding skill in the Bernina district [*Canton*

a *Landsgemeinde* - the Popular Assembly, which is the Glarus cantonal legislative body. It is made up of all the citizens of the communes who have full citizenship rights. [SW]

1 The last of his 3 sons, Fridolin, died in 1912 in Matt.

2 Oswald Heer, *Report*, pg. 25.

Graubünden], since Colani was no longer so right at home above the chamois territory. Also, in other groups of mountain ranges, Madutz himself pointed out to the resident guides the discovery of routes which were often superior. Madutz was also the guide of Escher von der Linth and had visited the Mont Blanc group [*Switzerland/France/Italy border*] with him; he guided the Zürich professor [*Melchior*] Ulrich in the Wallis region, and also in the Tödi region and in the Glärnisch region [*Canton Glarus*], showing the way and supporting the scholarly work of his employers, and everyone issued the best testimonials to him and felt safe under his escort. They spoke always of the skillful Madutz. From 1834-1858, the Swiss Alps probably had few people hiking through as frequently as he. He had, in 1854, conquered a peak of Mt. Rosa [*Canton Wallis/Italy border*], he had also taken the pioneering lead on the Tödi and Glärnisch (the ascent above Guppen [*alp above Schwanden*]). He was a pioneer in the Swiss Alps."³

3 *Glarner News*, 1917, June 23rd, see Dr. W. A. B. Coolidge: "Johann Madutz of Matt (1800-1861)".