

JOHN MITCHELL

FINE PAINTINGS



François Louis Fritz de Niederhäusern (1828 - 1888)

**The Wetterhorn above Grindelwald looking from Kleine Scheidegg, Bernese Oberland,
Switzerland**

oil on paper laid on panel, 31.5 x 44.5 cm.

dated 1852 and inscribed on verso:

Fritz de Niederhäusern, août 1852

Niederhäusern was a Swiss pupil of Alexandre Calame. He came from Mulhouse originally and was possibly still in Calame's studio or taking part in his annual summer painting school in Meiringen when he made this oil study in August 1852. One of the first things one notices in this view looking towards the Wetterhorn and the Grosse Scheidegg pass, is the thick band of ice tumbling down towards Grindelwald off the west flank of the mountain. The Upper Grindelwald Glacier has now receded far back up the valley and in its wake, there is now a considerable chasm between the moraines. Notwithstanding the effects of a warming climate, this is still one of the finest views in the Alps, and largely unchanged since Niederhäusern's time.