

HOTEL MARQUARDT
STUTTGART

April 25th 1913

Dear Harriet! 1

in

We are again back to Stuttgart and are feeling the warmth and the affection of the friends of God. Their heavenly sincerity, their divine love for the Cause, their burning devotion to the Master, their unflinching faith in the revelation of Baha-Allah, their ^{spiritual} perceptions of the realities of this Movement, their supreme desire to serve, their affection and amity amongst themselves will melt the stony heart of any person who comes in touch with them, looks into their happy, shining faces and speaks with them on the spiritual verities of life. The believers in Stuttgart are really Bahais. They live and act in accord with the Teachings and principles of the Blessed Perfection and they try to help others and spread the message to the extent of their knowledge and ability. They know that this is the seed-sowing time and like unto good farmers, they have availed themselves of this unparalleled opportunity. Every one knows his duty. Every soldier to his post. With their disciplined ranks they are attacking the fortifications of the myrmiddons of darkness and ignorance and step by step they are gaining the ground. Desperately they shall fight till their struggle is crowned with success and they

have planted their flag of "ya Baha El Abha" on that ²
you hill of Light, putting to rout and defeat
the army of darkness.

2 Today the Master did not feel well. The trace of
the cold ^{taken} in Budapest is ^{with} him ~~yet~~. He could
not sleep last night, coughing most of the time.
He feel so wretched whenever he feels sick, ^{because}
we cannot see him suffer and often he would
not tell us his real pain till it is all over. It is
a strange coincidence that when we arrived last
night in the hotel about 2.15 am and our rooms
were assigned, I did not feel sleepy at all and
having changed my clothes, I sat behind the
desk and wrote till the sun dawned from
the Eastern horizon. I find always the late
hours after midnight and the early wee hours of
the morning better suited for my scribbling.
It is most interesting to watch the gloomy darkness
of the night transformed slowly into the bright
light of the day. It is so much like the changes
going on through the inner man. A sudden
light breaking through darkness, changing every-
thing and clothing the essences of humanity
with the white garment of sanctity and
iridescent intelligence. Often have I witnessed
this invisible transformation of heart affected
so naturally and simply by the mighty power
of the Master!

B

This morning New York Herald of European edition contained an item of news which cheered the heart of the Master. It was as regards a speech given by Mr. W. J. Bryan, the Secretary of State at a farewell dinner to Mr James Bryce. His idea of a reduction of the American Navy and a policy of gradual disarmament is a hopeful sign of the spread of the desire for universal Peace. I am pleased he said, "to hear the voice of Mr Bryan raised from time to time in favor of peace. While travelling in America I often mentioned the fact that as the American nation is a noble nation and as the American government fair and just I hope the Banner of international ^{Peace} will be unfurled here. Now I am very happy to see these hopeful signs coming from that wonderful country."

4 Speaking about the great expenses of this Western trip he said: - "The believers of Persia made the greatest self-sacrifice and this trip was made possible. They made large and small contributions and as this was for the sake of the promotion of the Word of God we in turn did not observe the dictates of economy. In every matter first of all I consider the glory of the

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Cause of God. All these expenses which are being made are for the promulgation of the Bahar principles in the world. We do not charge anything for them. Freely we have received freely we give. For two years and half we have been travelling and we hope to finish this tour with joy and fragrance and the great glorification of the Cause of God. My affairs are very strange and ~~very~~ few can understand my motives. For example for the last 2 years and half I have not sent one dollar to my own family to ~~buy~~ clothes with, neither have I bought for them one yard of cloth but I bought ~~just~~ this ~~past~~ winter more than one hundred overcoats for the poor of Acre. One who may hear these things may not believe in them but nevertheless they are true.

§ ~~The~~ Mr Herrigel and Doctor Fisher came and translated an article which had appeared yesterday in a local paper. It was a very good one and I enclose a copy of the paper in a separate package with others.

✓ Mrs Consul Schwarz with her ~~two~~ daughters and ~~her~~ sons came to pay a visit to the Master. ^{He said} you are the members of my own family. God bears testimony

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that there is no distinction. I love you very ^{much} as you are my own daughter and your children are my grandchildren. While we were away we often remembered you and were grateful for your services to the Cause. The little young man ^{was} a pet of the Master and ^{was} loved very much by him. He was surrounded today with his affection and tenderness.

7 To another group who entered in his Presence with fragrant roses in their hands:— I have come back again to Stuttgart. This shows that Stuttgart has a great deal of capability and ^{the people} are worthy of entrance in the Kingdom of Allah. God willing the Cause of God will advance greatly in Stuttgart and its promotion will be extraordinary, many ^{people} shall accept the revelation and all will be made happy.

8 Consul Schwarz ~~invited~~ invited the Master to eat in his home after the meeting but he excused himself because he did not feel well. He felt as though he could ^{not} go tonight to the meeting, he wanted us to go, Mirza Mahmud to chant a prayer, myself ^{to} speak and Mr Herrigel to read the translation.

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of the Master's address in the Jewish Synagogue in San Francisco. We were all very disappointed especially this meeting has been announced in the papers and many strangers would naturally come and not hearing the Master would go away unsatisfied.

9 Miss Alma Knoblock and a few of the friends were introduced into the presence of the Master. They were greeted most heartily. The love of Baha-Allah, the Master said, is the essence of happiness. Any heart which will become the depository of this love is always happy. There have been many people sad and despondent but as soon as the sun of the love of Baha-Allah shone in their hearts they became happy. Therefore you must be very happy because you are living in the day of the Blessed Perfection. All the prophets longed for this day. They yearned for one moment of this time. Appreciate the value of this age. The more you appreciate the glories of these days, the greater will be your blessings.

10 A friend asked how can we ever keep

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this before our minds all the time? Often we desire to do it but in the hurry and rush of time we will forget it. A Real Bahai who acts and lives in accord with the teachings of Baha Allah will never forget. ~~The Beloved said.~~

"Some one expressed the disappointment that the people will experience ^{tonight} in not finding the Master in the meeting. He said:- "My spirit will be there. you must speak with great confidence and set the hearts on fire. You must turn your face to the Kingdom of Abha. Rely upon the Confirmation of God. Sincerity is the keynote of eloquence. Look at me. I have not entered any school. I have not studied the sciences of the world but my trust is in Baha Allah. Whenever I want to enter any meeting I say "O Baha Allah, confirm me."

"To another one he said:- When I was in Paris I caught a cold, in Budapest I caught another, in Vienna it accompanied me and while there, I walked up twice 120 steps to the fourth floor to speak to the Theosophical Society, and last night

on the train I felt the chills. Now it is impossible for me to go to the meeting tonight. You express my apology and deep sorrow in not being able to come.

For lunch he ate a bowl of clear broth and was in bed all afternoon. Just the same, many people came and he spoke to them and encouraged them to go on teaching the Cause and spreading the message.

13 While he was ~~in~~ lying in bed he told me ^{two} stories. Both showing ^{his} ~~the~~ ^{pluck, resourcefulness} courage and supreme confidence and divine knowledge ~~of the future~~ in his youth. The first story runs as follows:
* During the first year of our arrival, Bagdad one day Mirza Javad asked me to go out with him to an outlying district. At this time, Arabian robbers frequented the roads and no one dared to go out of the town. In the morning we ^{two} started to walk to that district. Having spent part of the day ~~there~~ toward the evening we started to return. However, before leaving Bagdad, Mirza Javad took ~~with himself~~ ^{armed} for precaution's sake, an old rifle he had for many years. As we were walking back toward the city we spied in the far off horizon several horsemen coming towards us

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Seeing ~~us~~ ^{we were} all alone they galloped toward our
 left and right and back so that we may
 not ~~fly~~ away and in front of us three men
 appeared with rifles in their hands. Mirza
 Javad ~~looked around~~ and was much agitated.
 He got hold of his rifle but to his further ^{confusion}
 he realized that he had ~~with himself~~ neither
 powder nor cartridges so his rifle was more
 useless than a piece of stick. Then I told him
 take your rifle in your hand, keeping it
 in a position as though ~~you~~ ^{he was} going to aim
 at them. Don't heed them at all. Don't look
 at them. Walk straight. Laugh and speak
 with me. The three men ahead of us cried
 out "down with your rifle!" Mirza Javad did
 not give any attention to them. They were ^{amazed}
 at our audacity! "Down with your arm!"
 they cried all at once. No result. They were
 cowed and paced back a few steps. In this
 way we walked and laughed and talked
 till we reached the gate of the city, and all
 the time our "friends" going backward. When
 the horsemen saw the futility of their pursuit,
 they spied another pedestrian on the road
 and galloped toward him. This man ^{seeing}

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us coming with rifle in hand hastened towards us and cried for protection from the robbers.

Meanwhile the gate was opened and our "friends" realizing the hopelessness of their case hid back to darkness. We did not have anything on ourselves but the other man had some money and was grateful to us because we saved him. Addressing Mirza Javad he said: - "I am glad you did not kill them. The way you took your rifle in your hands I thought every moment you will shoot at them." Here the Master had a hearty laugh and added, "And all this time our rifle was empty."

This story illustrates the courage of the Master in the arena of deed and his resourcefulness at the time of danger, even in his youth.

4 The other story illustrates his wonderful versatility during conversation: - "I was only fifteen. One day in the Mosque of Bagdad I was surrounded by a number of Mohamadan Clergy. They were asking many questions about jurisprudence, law, logic etc. Although I had never read their books, yet I was giving them answers

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which satisfied and at the same time caused them great astonishment. While I was speaking to them on theological doctrines, suddenly I saw the governor entered the circle of the listeners. Immediately I felt that the governor being a philosophic man abhorred such dry theological discussions so without any preliminary remark I quoted a verse from the Koran in which it is said:— "Therefore Moses cried out, O Lord! let me behold Thy Face" and the Lord answered:— 'Look and thou shalt see me'. (Now according to the orthodox school of theology the 'face of God' cannot be seen because they argue; God is spirit and formless and how can a formless spirit be endowed with face?) Then I said:— We all believe that the prophets of God never speak vainly and their words are the words of truth. Therefore if it was impossible to see the face of God Moses would not have asked it, neither would he have received such a favorable reply from

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the part of God. The Mohamadan clergymen were all the time ~~were~~ wondering why I changed the topic of my conversation but seeing the Governor in their midst all glow with attention they understood. Then I desired to mollify them so that they may not think I am a heretic, ⁱⁿ teaching them the incarnation of God in the flesh, therefore, I continued my talk: - 'Verily when Moses drunk the wine of the Love of God and heard the voice of the Lord and was submerged in the sea of abstraction - he forgot the world and all therein and saw himself in the "Abode of Paradise" and as the "Abode of Paradise" is the station of divine transfiguration, and visitation, therefore he cried out: O Lord! Let me behold Thy Face!'

The Governor was so interested that he invited me that night to his house to speak to his friends. The clergymen were angry and thought this was an oratorical trickery and cleverness, but it was the confirmation and inspiration of God.

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15 About 8 o'clock Mr Herrigel came and as the
 Berger Museum where the meeting will be
 held is near we walked to it. As I entered
 the large hall and saw the expectant, happy
 crowd I felt in my heart the pangs of pain.
 There were more than 1500 people present
 and people were coming in, filling the galleries.
 Consul Schwarz, Mirza Mahmond and myself
 had a hasty consultation and thought ^{our}
 duty to notify the Master about the unusual
 aspect of this meeting. It was evidently
 the largest gathering ever brought together
 to hear the Bahai Cause in Germany. With
 Consul Schwarz I rushed out of the hall,
 called an automobile and were in the room
 of the Master ⁱⁿ after three minutes.
 He had just taken some simple Persian
 medicine and was sitting on the chair.
 I told him of the greatness of the meeting
 and Consul pleaded ~~him~~ to come just for
 a few minutes. The ^{He} Master thought

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for a minute or two and for the sake of the
Council decided to go, although he did not feel
well at all. We were of course overjoyed. When
we entered the hall, the audience was listening
to a very good address by Mr Herrigel on the life
and ideals of the Master and when they ~~percept~~
heard that he had come, their enthusiasm
knew no bound. They arose from their seats
and gave ~~him~~ a wonderful reception to the ~~Beloved~~.
It was a waving, moving sea of humanity, all
eager to hear the words of the Master. Many
of them had come from the surrounding
towns. The Master ascended the platform
and sat on a chair and without any intro-
duction started to speak. His address on this
unique occasion ~~was~~ ^{was} a matchless beauty which
will be set on the crown of Stuttgart.
His voice, his love, his sympathy won all
the hearts. When he finished his short
speech many eyes were weeping. We had
a good translator, the Prof. of English language
in the university of this city. He translated
with ready diction and much feeling. When
the Master came down from the platform

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many strangers gathered around him, trying to shake and kiss his hands. A lady was so affected by the words of the ~~Beloved~~ that she ran to him weeping. She got hold of his arm, and walked by his side till he reached ~~to~~ the automobile. All along the steps and the hall two columns of men and women were formed and we passed ~~from~~ their midst, all looking at the Master with reverence and respect. I was walking behind him carrying in my arm the love-offering of many people - roses and carnations, lilacs and lily of the valleys. When we reached the ~~automobile~~^{car} hundreds of people, of those who could not enter the hall had gathered. All the hats were raised and the handkerchiefs were waving when they saw the Master coming down from the stairs. The ~~automobile~~^{car} carried away the King of Kings amidst the rejoicing and happiness of all these devout people!

One Master said in the Car!

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It was a remarkable meeting and its effect in the Bahai world will be far-reaching. The Master said in the automobile. Counsel Schumatz was of course the happiest man in the world because at last the Cause was publicly proclaimed before the people of Stuttgart. ^{He said!} "You have won the hearts of our people with love and the renown of this spiritual victory shall ^{renewed} be triumphant all ages." He said to the Master. The Beloved was also pleased, because his presence gave so much joy to so many people! It was indeed a great ideal triumph!

I enclose the copies of the Tablets to Mr and Mrs Stock and to Mr Moore. Likewise ^{one} of the roses I carried from the meeting last night to the hotel. It will bring to the friends the fragrance of the Love of the Stuttgart Bahais more than word can express. Miss Pollock ^{is here} yet ^{last night} and I was glad to see her. She brought three people to the meeting last night and she ^{was} all enraptured with the Love of the Love of God! Mr Herrigel sends you real Bahai love. Greeting to all
Always

The case will be sent with the newspaper package

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STUTT GART

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Copy.

To Mr and Mrs Stark.

Upon them be Baha-o-llah El Abha.

He is God!

Budapest.

O ye two revered souls!

Since the day of my departure from Budapest I have been always remembering you and have begged from His holiness Baha Wallah protection and providence for you, so that divine spirituality and the Bestowels of the Kingdom of Abha may surround you and the most holy Power may so reveal itself in your hearts that from all your limbs the cry of "Ya Baha El Abha" may be raised and be heard by all the people. With one hand may you upraise the heavenly Banner and with the other hand, may you hold the overflowing cup with the wine of the Love of God, offering it to all and exhilarating everyone with its spiritual nectar. Open ye the eloquent tongues and utter ye fluent speeches. Sing ye such a melody that while I am in the East

I may hear its clear echo and all the Bahais may become
rejoiced and happy.

Convey to all the friends the wonderful Abha greeting
Upon ye be Baha El Abha!
(Sig) Abdul Baha Abbas!

Revealed in Vienna April 24th 1913

Translated by Mirza Ahmad Sohrab April 26th 1913
Stuttgart Germany.

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Copy

To his honor Mr E. W. Moore.

Upon him be Baha-o-llah El Abha!

He is God!

Budapest.

O thou servant of Baha-Allah and the beloved of Abdul Baha!

Thy letter was received and its contents imparted the utmost happiness. Praise be to God that my journey to Budapest was productive of certain definite results, for the people were attracted to the Kingdom of Abha and enkindled with the Fire of the Love of God. During the Dispensation of Christ notwithstanding the power of the Holy Spirit only eleven souls were attracted but during the nine days stay in Budapest blessed souls entered the Kingdom of Abha. Now consider how marvellous is the potency of the Kingdom of Abha that as soon as the call was raised, the souls were attracted and set aglow with the Fire of the Love of God. If at the present time such results are becoming manifest, reflect what will transpire in the future! Eleven souls became believers and assured during the days of Christ. Now behold the results! Millions of voices are joined with the chimes calling out 'O Christ! O Christ!'

20 2
After a short while thou shalt hear that the
Cry of "ye Baha El Abha" is being raised from
all the Continents of the world.

Convey to all the friends the wonderful Abha
greeting and give them the Glad-tidings of
the Divine Favors!

Give my special greeting to thy respected
wife and show the utmost of love on
my behalf to thy beloved sons.

Upon thee be Baha El Abha!

(Sig) Abdul Baha Abbas,

Revealed in Varna April 24th 1913.

Translated in Stuttgart Germany April 26th
1913