

HOTEL MARQUARDT
STUTTGART

April 26th 1913

Dear Harriet!

This was Saturday and all day I was in spirit with the New York friends, the luncheon at our dear sister Mrs Krug, the Executive Business meeting and the general reception. I hope all the noble efforts of the believers are crowned with success and the result of the Convention will be a general spread of the Cause and the closer relationships of the different assemblies. When the friends of the different cities come together, the spirit of mutual friendship and love is increased and the hearts are tied together with the golden thread of spiritual affection. I hope to receive the good reports of the Convention days for they are marked days in the Bahai ^{calendar} ~~history~~. How strange and mystical! that last year at this time the Master was in America and this year he is in Germany! This may in itself be a symbol of the future ideal friendship of these two countries!

One of the ~~morning~~ newspapers contained quite a long article on last night's meeting and it was translated to the Master. He felt much better this morning and right early the people commenced to come. To the first group of friends he said:—
What did the people say last night? Were they not dissatisfied? Did they not exclaim what this Persian has to do with us? Why has he come to Germany? What do we want to do with these pacific principles? Let peace be for the weaker nations but war is for the mighty! Germany is a warlike, demonstrative nation! This morning looking down from the window I saw a regiment of soldiers ~~are~~ passing by in fine shape. They were ready to fight for the fatherland. How barbarous and foolish it is to send men who know not each other at all to the battlefield and order them to shoot down each other and cut ~~each other's~~ ^{one another's} throats! ^{My friends} But let us talk about our own war. Our Grand Army consists of the invisible angels of the Supreme

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Concourse; our swords are the swords of light, our armaments are the invincible armaments of heaven. We are fighting against the forces of darkness. Oh! my soldiers! my beloved soldiers, forward! forward! Have no fear of defeat! Have no failing hearts! Our Supreme Commander is Baha - Ullah! From the height of his glory he is directing this dramatic engagement. He commands us. Rush onward, rush forward! Show the strength of your arms! Ye shall scatter the powers of ignorance! Your war confers life, ~~the~~ ^{their} ~~war~~ brings death. Your war is the cause of the illumination of humankind, ~~their war~~ is the means of the darkness of the hearts. Your war is victory upon victory, their war is defeat upon defeat. Your war is the source of construction, their war is the origin of destruction. There are no dangers before you. Push forward! Fire! Fire! Attack the enemy! Your efforts

shall be crowned with the diadem of eternal Peace and brotherhood! See ye not the crown of victory shining from the Kingdom of Ahha? His Holiness The Christ was fighting even upon the Cross and his triumphs have continued throughout all centuries and cycles!

4 To a Bahai farmer who had come from one of the towns of Switzerland to see the Master he said:— Two yrs ago I was in Tonow. I was staying in a hotel. I found the hotel people who consisted mostly of Tourists bent upon the pursuit of pleasure but walking in the streets and looking in the faces of the inhabitants, I observed intelligence, industry, capability and seriousness. They are very good people and are ready to receive the glad-tidings of the Kingdom. If the fragrances of this holy Cause waft by that country, blessed souls shall arise to serve the world of humanity.

5 To another group of the Bahais he

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said:— You must be very happy because you are of those souls whom God has chosen for the sake of his love and has guided you to his Kingdom. He has crowned your head with the diadem of everlasting glory. You must be most thankful to God for this great Favor. It is not known for the present what wonderful Bounty is this; It will become known in the future. The station of those souls who believed in Christ in his own day was not appreciated. They were ridiculed and scorned.

6 Some one asked the Master whether he is happy. ^{He said:} I am happy whenever I meet you. The greatest pleasure of my life is to meet people like you. Whenever I look upon each one of you, I believe you are one of my nearest relatives. Now I have again returned to see you.

7 Another group entered his Presence. They expressed happiness over the result

of last night meeting and how the people were attracted to the Cause and to him.

He said:- Although I could not walk one step last night and it was quite dangerous to go out I said 'I will go'. The utmost is that I will become a sacrifice to the friends of God.

My greatest longing is also to sacrifice myself in the path of the believers. There is nothing sweeter and more wonderful than this! But praise be to God, we went, we spoke, we

met the people, we returned and nothing has happened. God has protected us. So,

when I said last night, that to go to the meeting ~~was~~ equal to throw myself into the sea, ~~it~~ meant the sea of love. When

God interferes with our plans we are helpless.

First I came to Stuttgart to stay only two days. I stayed 8 days. Now, again I desired

to leave to day but sickness preventing me

to do so I am going to stay longer. There

must needs be a wisdom in this.

This comes from the sincerity of the friends of Stuttgart. Undoubtedly my longer stay will have important results. The first result will be the creation of love in the hearts of the believers. The second result will be the progress of the cause in Germany. The third result will be the penetration of the word of God.

8 To a caller he said: - I am glad to see you. The meeting of the friends is the food of the spirit. To a friend who had seen a vision he said: - This vision is an indication of thy advancement in the Love of God.

9 About 12^{noon} ~~o'clock~~ many of the believers came. The Master received them with love and said: - I will pray in your behalf and entreat divine Confirmation for each one of you so that you may so advance in spiritual life as to attract to the Cause every soul who comes in contact with you just as you have attracted me.

8
Your love has attracted me to this city. I hope
that day unto day your love may increase. I
am most pleased and happy with you. May
you become more enkindled with the
Fire of the Love of God so that through
the Light of the Kingdom you may
illumine all these regions. I love you
very much. Should you realize
how much I love you, you will soon
be with happiness in the atmosphere of God,
Counsel Schwarz ^{whether he would like to consult} asked the Master ~~to bring~~
a doctor. He said: - "God is my physician, He
will treat me."

In the afternoon he called me and asked
whether the copies of these ^{daily communications were} ~~letters~~ circulated
amongst all the Bahai Assemblies of America.
He said: - "Copies must be forwarded to all
the Assemblies. As I have no time to write
to them, they must not be forgotten." I
was surprised that the Master expressed
himself in this fashion, because I had
never spoken to him about these letters
except what the friends wrote him.

directly. I did not even read to him those parts of your letters and others containing the satisfaction of the believers. I told him I am sending these letters to Miss Harriet Magee. He said:- The reading of their contents must not be restricted ~~only~~ by a few friends in New York. Copies must be forwarded to all the assemblies as soon as they are received."

Now if you cannot do this work Mr Jos. Hammen of Washington will be glad to assist you. I mentioned his name to the Master in this connection and he approved of it. You may divide the country in two or three or four sections and each person may send the reports to a number of the assemblies so as not to repeat or duplicate the work.

10 Miss Pollock had a pleasant interview with the Master. He joked with her about his ^{second} trip to America. "If I want to go to America, I will take ~~only~~ you with me and leave Ahmad here. We do not need any interpreter. We will travel in

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an airship and go right to Washington and
alight at the door of Mrs Allen's house. How
do you like this?" She was of course very
happy but she wanted to have the interpreter
in the airship also, in order to make the
aerial navigation more pleasant. Then
the ~~Master~~ ^{he} asked whether last night the
people were happy or frowning; and he
~~so~~ frowns^{so} that made us all laugh
heartily.

" Doctor Faber, a celebrated physician of
Morgenthau who has declared publicly to
be a Bahai called on the Beloved and invited
him to go for a month to Morgenthau
and take the mineral baths every day.
The Master said:- you take the baths
in my place and I will get well. The
Doctor thought he could not represent
the Master to that extent, ^{but} The Master
in order to make him and the rest laugh
told the following story:- One of the
Kings of Persia once got sick. This

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King was very proud and despotic. All the people at the Court feared him and bowed before him. ^{One day he} ~~The King~~ sent for the Court physician to treat him. When the physician arrived and prescribed a large dose of quinine the King in his wrath cried out: "Who should take this medicine?" The physician fearing the anger of the King said: "I am the one to take the quinine." "All right," the King said and he ordered his chamberlain to bring the largest dose of quinine and made his physician to take it. By ^{mere} chance, the health of the King was improved by the next day and after awhile he got well. From that time on whenever he became sick he sent for his physician and made him take ^{advice} quinine. Then the Master applying the moral of the story, said to Doctor

that you take the mineral baths and
 I will get well, even if I am not there!
 2. Mr and Mrs Herrigel, Miss Knablock, Consul
 Schwarz, his wife and daughter and many
 others came in the afternoon and each
 one had interesting interviews with the Master
 going out of his presence inspired and
 refreshed. To Mr Herrigel he said:—
 The future of the Cause in Germany is very
 bright. Likewise Budapest and Vienna
 will become Bahai Centers. One ~~could~~^{could}
 never have believed that such holy
 and pure souls will be found in those
 cities. The Cause of God will be spread
 in all these countries. The progress of
 the Cause is like unto the coming of
 the spring and its early signs. Suddenly
 one sees here a tree is putting forth its leaves
^{there a} another hush being adorned with roses,
 the nightingalls are singing and
 the meadows are green!

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~~Likewise~~ Often letters ^{are} received from unknown places, giving the news that ~~have~~ some souls are found who are attracted to the Kingdom of Abba. These are the signs of the spiritual springtime. Thou shalt become assisted in the service of the Cause so that the morality of the people may be improved; the souls may become regenerated and the hearts cleansed from the impurity of vices and defects. This matter of the regeneration of the moral life of man is quite important. ^{when this is realized one} ~~One~~ finds himself in a wonderful spiritual atmosphere which is impossible to describe; he finds himself a ruler ^{over} all things, he is the Controller and the Master of his own destiny, he gains strength and illumination, he becomes like unto the ray of the Sun.

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About five o'clock Mirza Mahmud and myself were in our room when the Master sent Sayad Assadallah after us to have tea with him. He offered a cup with his own hand to me and said:- Mirza Ahmad! drink this cup of tea and "see" how delicious it is. This is the nectar of life! Drink it and thank God that in Stuttgart Abdul Baha is serving thee tea. We must ^{thank}

14 God for all his haunties. Let me tell you a story which has come just now to my mind. ^{Abdul Baha said.} When I was in Bagdad, one day I was walking through the poor quarter of the city. I saw an old ~~poor~~ Arab standing in front of store. He had neither hat nor shoes and wore only a long tattered coat over his naked body. He had no shirt ~~on~~ himself. Between his coat and his skin, he had a loaf of coarse black bread.

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His appearance attracted my attention and I stopped in a corner to watch him what he is going to do. As I stood there I saw him putting his hand in his breast, taking out a piece of bread, looking at it with the utmost satisfaction and smile, ^{then} raising his head toward the sky, saying 'O God I thank Thee for this Thy Favor' and then eating it. He continued to do the same thing for every piece of bread he did put in his mouth with the utmost simplicity and trust. This thanksgiving of him attracted me very much and ~~I went~~ I went to him and invited him to dinner. Having given him the address, I returned home and ordered the preparation of Pilon and chicken. When he came and the table was spread before him he looked at the various dishes with wonder in his eyes: - Come, sit down and eat

This dinner is prepared for thee, I said.
 "Really," he said, "this is the food of Paradise but it lacks one thing." "What is it?"
 "Sour milk." "All right. you shall get that too" and I sent some one to get it for him. When everything was ready, I told him: "Now start eating but with the same thankfulness you ate your bread yesterday." I do not need to say that, he would have done it anyway. But we enjoyed seeing him so thankful.

He continued telling us other stories illustrating the thanksgiving of man to his Maker for all the Blessings which the showers upon him.

15 Reading to him an item of news about the Capture of ^{Scutari} Montenegro, he said:-

"When Baha Ullah was imprisoned in the Barrack of Acre, he could see the disintegration of Ottoman Empire under the despotic and fanatical

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rule of the Sultans, for the said, the only thing that will stop the tide of misfortune is the proclamation of complete equality and the enjoyment of the freedom of rights by all the Ottoman subjects, Mahomedans, and Christians, Jews and Armenians etc.

16 Speaking about the progress of the Cause he said: - Many blessed and holy souls have appeared in this Cause who have been the essence of essences. That is why the Cause is so wonderfully spread all over the world. These holy souls were the means of upraising the ^{banner} standard of the Cause. The Islands of Java, Sumatra and ^{one} another one which are situated in the Indian ocean in the equator contain about 20 millions of inhabitants ^{and many of them} These people were converted from idolatry into Mahomedan religion by one single person.

of that Mohamadan missionary 19.

just think of his attraction, and of accom-
plishing such a mighty task! When he
finished his work he left the Islands for
an unknown destination and after
that no one heard anything about him!
Even his name is not known! Now it is
evident that ^{that} one single ^{and} person was a
greater ~~man~~ than a million of the
present day Ulemas. ~~For~~ ^{for} he worked for
God and not for fame or name or
wealth. ~~It is said~~ ^{There is} in the proverb that
often happens "one man is equal
to one thousand"; one man may be
the cause of the illumination of one
city ^{and} filling ^{that} city with his ^{services}
and ^{his} impersonal ^{humanity} ~~personality~~. For
example the city of _____ in Persia
was formerly very active and alive
in the Cause, but today it is as though
entirely extinct. This is ~~because~~
because at that time there was

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~~a~~ real, genuine, enthusiastic Bahai ~~there~~
and he kept all the friends in a state of
enrapture and activity. When he
passed away from this life, the fire
was extinguished and there was no one
in his place to keep the wheels rolling.

17 Speaking about the journey of
Baha-Allah from Bagdad to Constantinople
~~the~~ ^{he} ~~master~~ said:— "There were 60 Stages
from Bagdad to Samson and the trip was
made under the most difficult circum-
stances. It was a time of famine and
scarcity of food. We had beside, more
than 70 people in the party and nearly
30 horses and other animals. These
horses had to be fed and as it was
most difficult for others to get
straw, grass, barley for the animals
and food for the men, I appointed
myself at the head of commissariat
department. As soon as we ^{reached} ~~reached~~ ^{the} ~~city~~

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the end of ~~one~~ ^{one} stage, I would go all alone
in the villages, ^{and} amongst the wild tribes
of Kurds and Aikhs and with the greatest
amount of persuasion, I would make
them sell me the necessary provisions
for horses and men. I always first
thought about the ~~forage~~ ^{feed} for the
animals. Once they were provided
I would think of the men. With
gold in hand, often I was refused
provisions. They would tell me roughly
'We do not have straw nor barley!'
I would answer: 'Are we not your
guests passing through your country
and has not the prophet said 'Be ye kind to your guest ^{even though he be} ~~if he be~~ an
infidel.' They would then frown
and say: 'We will not sell you
anything.' I answer: 'all right, then
give ^{them} to me, ~~then~~ gratis.'
Often from afternoon till midnight

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I was going from one village to another, trying to find food and provision and on my return, I was so tired that I could not stand on my feet. Then I had to supervise the division of the ~~provision~~ ^{provision} for the animals so that no one may take more than his share. By this time I was so ~~tired~~ ^{tired} that I would go to sleep without ~~eat~~ ^{eat} eating anything. The Blessed Perfection travelled in "Kajave" but we had a horse for him and sometimes, he would ride ~~on it~~, from Bagdad to the first stage he was on horseback and while in Acrea, we had a wonderful white donkey which belonged to him. The name of the donkey was "Barg-lightning". When we arrived at "Kharput" whose present name is "Marmaratal-Aziz," I was at

a loss how to get food and provision, when I saw a gentleman coming toward me and behind him there were many laborers carrying loads on their shoulders. He said, "Ezzat Pasha" has offered these presents for Bahá'lláh and humbly prays him to accept them. The presents consisted of barley, straw, forage, rice, sugar, bread, tea, butter etc. a large quantity of each. For the first time after many many nights and days of worry I felt relieved. I asked one of the laborers to look over the delivery of these goods, thanked the gentleman and went straight to sleep. I slept all that afternoon all ^{that} night and all the next morning till noon. We stayed 8 days in "Karkant" and I did hardly anything else but sleeping, because we had everything ^{supplied} ready.

I can write much more but enough for today Love to all
 Always

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Stuttgart

Hell Harriet! The public meeting last night in Burger Museum was assuredly the largest Bala meeting ever held in Germany. There were present at least 1500 persons of the most representative elements of Stuttgart and the talk of the night enraptured their hearts with the fire of the Love of God. He talked on universal Peace and universal Love. Many eyes were weeping. When he wanted to leave, around his automobile hundreds of men and women were gathered, giving him a most enthusiastic farewell. It was a wonderful night and its influence in the future will be very great. Almost

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