



PARIS. LE May 17th 1913

BALTIMORE HOTEL

88 BIS, AVENUE KLÉBER

ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE

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Dear Harriet!

The celestial Musician plays divinely on the invisible lyre of the Kingdom of Alpha. His strains charm away the worry and care and create a calm atmosphere of art and beauty. His anthems soothe the despondent heart and his songs inspire the luckwarm spirit. His voice is sweeter than any mortal melody and more charming than the music, ~~that is~~ made by the Aeolian strings. When this Celestial Musician enters amongst the concourse of ~~the~~ people and plays a few notes; straight the dull cold river breaks into sparkling fountains, ~~the~~ ^{and} the pale and scentless flowers become fragrant. The sound of his voice brings back to us heaven ~~and~~ life and love and memory and longing. Daily from his voice and lyre - so high a strain is raised and on the utter verge of Being, poised, vibrating, pours out life. Indeed while the high strains

of his voice fill the young and receptive heart, the listener is rapt in faith and a high courage, driving out all fear and discontent. The cohorts of sweet-singing nightingales, making consonant airs and perfumed music out of the truant breeze and filling the atmosphere with slumbering fragrance of rippling joy are only the harbingers of our spiritual Nightingale who has honeyed the world with soft sound of divine love and environment of harmony. Such mysterious and mystical power there lies in ^{his} music! Have we not heard how the songs of Orpheus and the sound of his lyre attracted wild beasts, which came crawling up to listen to him and laid themselves down at his feet, vanquished? Is this not true of the Beloved in a spiritual ^{sense} way? It is said, that the all-powerful beauty of the song of Orpheus even softened the hearts of the pitiless divinities of Hades. How often have we seen with our ^{own} eyes the Master softening the stony hearts with the influence of his divine Music? Let us also recall to mind the oldest legend that, how, to the sound of Amphion's lyre,



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the stones ^{were} ~~became~~ animated and came to place themselves one upon another to build the city of Thebes. And is not the Master building the divine City of Abba through the sound of his lyre and are not the stones — the people ^{are so} animated and so attracted as to place themselves ^{co-operating and assisting each other} willingly one upon another — thus to construct the golden palace of Peace and brotherhood?

2 This morning the Beloved was speaking with a few Persians. He singled out one of them and addressed him as follows:—
Be patient. Overlook the shortcomings of others. Don't mind the criticism of any one. Let thy heart be like unto a sea. Let not the peace of thy conscience be disturbed by any event. Take me as thy example in all thy conduct and dealing.

Look at me! If a person has committed
 a thousand sins, I receive him as though
 he ^{was} ~~is~~ the most innocent ^{child} ~~man~~. I shut
 my eyes to his failures. I speak with
 him with so much love and affection
 that often, he thinks, I do not know his
 defects and adds to his heedlessness. For
 example, if a man has acted against me
 treasonably, ^{and} ~~if~~ he calls on me, I receive
 him with such friendship as though
 he ^{was} ~~is~~ my ^{most} faithful, trusted friend. Often
 I witness ^{a person} destroying the foundation of my
 house with axe and spade. I ~~am~~
 standing there, watching him smilingly
 and instead of rebuking him, I do not say
~~anything~~ ^{word}. But ^{then} he gets angry and
 wrathfully declares: Why do you not ^{come}
 and co-operate with me in this work
 of destruction? Man! Thou art destroying
 my home and I ^{do} ~~am~~ not saying ^{word} ~~anything~~!
 Therefore you must strive as much
^{you are able} ~~thou~~ ^{canst} not to sadden any heart. I
 desire that ~~thou~~ ^{you} mayest walk in
 my footsteps! Be at peace with all
 all! Overlook the sins of others.
 Deal with every one in such a



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manner as to make ^{him} ~~them~~ joyful!
~~Later on~~ Speaking with another
Persian he said:— "There are two evils
that cause the undoing of man: Self
and ~~passion~~ ^{lust}. Pray that thou mayest
become freed from these two monsters."

3 Speaking of a man who had called
himself a Bahai but misappropriating
a considerable sum ^{not} belonging to himself
he said:— "If he had killed me, I
would have gladly forgiven him
and was more pleased with him
than this act of his. Because ^{by}
killing me he would not have
sailed the pure fame of the Cause
but to ^{having} misappropriated ~~some~~ ^{some} one
else's money he has — disgraced the
Cause and brought it into shame."
5 Coming out of his room he was
greeted by a number of truth-seekers

already gathered in the salon. Some one asked whether it is allowable to kill animals. ^{He said:} It is better not to eat meat if one can possibly abstain from it. However, it is impossible at the present stage of human evolution to ask people not to practice meat-eating. On the other hand, from a biological standpoint, one eats ^{living creatures} ~~animals~~ all the time. The very air that we breathe is full of the animals. ^{cells} The water that we drink is full of ^{minute creatures} ~~the~~ animals. All the fruits and cheese that we eat are ^{home-made with} ~~full of~~ the animals. The difference is that these can be seen with a microscopic eye; the ^{sheep and oxen} ~~cattle etc~~ can be seen with a human eye.

5 Question. "Are we called to associate with those who have evil habits?"

Answer: "There are various grades of evil habits. There are certain souls whose moral lives are petrified and ^{are} immersed in a sea of ^{sensuality} ~~immorality~~. You may meet these people in public but no need of close association; because if one's character is not strong enough to be proof against temptation one may be slowly led



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to those risky paths. ^{Sensibility} Immorality is like leprosy. It is contagious. There are other people who are ill-tempered, who are accustomed to tell lies or fibs. We must not shun these people. Gently we must teach them — and pray every night that we ^{may} not become inoculated with these poisonous social microbes — and show them by example, by word and by deed the benefits of veracity and truthfulness. There are yet other souls who are heedless, who have been led to the edge of dangerous precipices through their own carelessness; one word of warning will bring them the realization of their critical conditions and immediately they retreat. One must associate with these people and try his best to awaken them and instruct them in the better

6 rules of life. ⁸ Some more questions were
asked along these lines and the Beloved
went over the points in a different language
and finally, ^{tired of repeating the same idea} he turned his laughing, beautiful
face to the friends and cried out: "Pooh!
We have spoken enough about ^{the} bad people.
Let us now speak about ^{the} good people.
^{Let us really talk about} people who have a lovely disposition; people
whose nature is the essence of light.
Let us talk about them. They are moral,
they are trustful, ~~they are~~ faithful, ~~they~~
~~are~~ righteous, ~~they are~~ truthful, ~~they~~
~~are~~ firm and steadfast; they are
spiritual, divine and celestial. A
friend said: "You are the only one who has
all these attributes and practices them."
^{The Master looked at him reluctantly, and said, "Do not let a piece of}
There are many Bahais in all parts
of the world who practice fully these
attributes. ~~the Master said,~~ At this time,
there are some Bahais in Persia who are
the essences of existence. They are shining
like unto the stars. God has created man
so that he may show forth divine
attributes and adorn his temple with
material, intellectual and spiritual
Graces.



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8 Then the ~~Master~~^{he} called me to go out with him. We walked toward l'Etoile. On the way he expressed the wish of leaving Paris as soon as Mirza Jalal returns which will be about ten days. In Budapest, in Vienna in Stuttgart, the Cause was really spreading and people became more and more interested, so ^{that} although he often did not feel well, yet his heart was happy. ^{but in} Paris we are dealing with different materials, so he complains of the heedlessness of the people. On this ^{account} he feels sad. Reaching the Place de l'Etoile, we took a car going through the Avenue Haussman and got off apparently without reason at the Printemps. We started walking back. Hardly we had walked two blocks, when our attention was attracted by the

friendly signs of a woman sitting in a carriage and passing by us rapidly, she made her carriage stop near the side walk and got off: we were also waiting to see who ^{was} ~~to~~ this friend, whom do you think she was? I wonder whether you can guess. She was Mrs Moore, the wife of Doctor Moore of Green. Ave. Mass. What a wonderful coincidence? Of course she was happy to see the Master so unexpectedly, so strangely. The Beloved shook hand with her and inquired about her husband. ^{He told her} I loved him very much. I will never forget him. Please when you write to him, send him my warmest greeting. After a minutes or two ~~talk~~ ^{she} Mrs Moore got our address to call on the Beloved tomorrow.

Continuing our walk we reached at a cab station, hired one and returned to the hotel.

In the afternoon the Master received a cable from Mirza Jalal that with Rezwanieh Khanam, they ~~have~~ arrived safely in Haiffa. The Beloved ^{had} cabled him to return ^{immediately} ~~soon~~ because he



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desires to leave Paris

A About 5 o'clock I had another lovely walk with the Master. Passing through the avenue of Victor Hugo he bought ^a ~~some~~ excellent tea, which he had found ^{it} the other day in taking one of his lovely walks. Then he bought ^{also} half a dozen of canes to take them with himself as gifts for the Syrian ^{or} Egyptian ^{Pasha} friends. We had walked very much by this time, and so he sat on ^{a bench} ~~one of the~~ seats near Miss Sanders's house. It was cloudy and just starting to rain ^{drop} by drop. The ^{old} Master looked up toward the skies as though enjoying these pearly drops of rain. Then he murmured half to himself - half to me: - How great it is ^{when} ~~if~~ man ponders over the ~~divine~~ Gifts of God! For example, this drop

of rain is a heavenly gift, bringing to us the message of life. This soul-refreshing breeze is one of the haunts of God. What gift is the sight! What gift is the tongue! What gift is the ear! We seldom think over the significances of these material gifts, or if we think, we do not think enough. Then he started walking. Miss Sandersson's maid was standing in front of the house. He asked about the health of ^{her mistress} Mrs Sandersson. "Are you the girl who brought my coat the other day to the hotel?" he inquired from her. "yes." She answered. The Beloved ^{he} then ^{gave her} put in her hand several francs and passed by. Then he stopped at our former apartment & house 30 Rue St Didier and spoke for a few minutes with the Concierge and returned home.

2 The Master has had for the last few days a very charming, cute theory. He wants to beat one of us or Doctor Mohamed Khan in order ^{that} the weather may be cleared. He asked me whether I am



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willing to receive a good beating from his hand. I answered, perhaps the weather will not be cleared ^{even if I am} ~~after~~ my being beaten. He said, he will guarantee that it will be cleared. Well! I was in ^{the beating} for good. ~~Then~~ He came toward me with his right hand ready to strike, but he brought down gently ^{he cooed like a dove} and patted my cheeks. No! No! I will not beat you. You are my son! Here is one, two, three. And he stroked my face ^{my eyes} and hair. Now you have had a good beating. You will see whether the atmosphere ^{will not be} ~~is not~~ sunny tomorrow.

Later on ~~he~~ told me to call up ~~over the phone~~ Mrs Lillianthal and Mrs Beede and tell them to come up tonight, to see him and pass the evening with him. Although

They were invited to a Concert, they preferred
 to come to ^{our} the Spiritual Concert. They
 had a wonderful evening of pleasant
 conversations with the Beloved and
~~they~~ considered themselves ^{very happy} to be so
 invited by him. They left his
 Presence with radiant hearts and
 illumined faces.

Love Ball

Ahmad