

Martha-Pension

FAMILY-HOTEL

97, rue Lauriston

PARIS

PARIS, le *May 30* 1913

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TÉLÉPHONE
PASSY 51-03

Dear Harriet!

To go with the Beloved to the Orient has been my dream for the last two months. I have thought about it by day and dreamed about it by night; for I have fully realized that one hour in his holy Presence ^{was} ~~is~~ greater in value than many years - nay many ages. I had not told him about my secret longing, my holiest desire but this morning he made me the happiest man in this world by telling me that I will accompany him to Egypt. If I had only two wings, I would have soared toward the atmosphere of joy and beatitude! just think of it! I have been already with

him nearly fourteen months, daily watching his heavenly ministrations and now God in his Bounty is going to lengthen this period. "My greatest wish is never to be separated from the Beloved" I told him. And now I feel in my heart the stirring of new emotions as I think of the East and the wonderful privilege of being with the Master and meeting the friends of God! I am very happy and I want every friend of mine share in my happiness. If I had a thousand dollars I would have distributed ^{them} amongst the poor for this spiritual gift! My highest desire is to be at all times obedient to the Command of the Master and a willing instrument in his hand. My face is toward the East; my heart and all the Bahai love that it contains is in America, In serving Abdu'l-Baha I am serving the believers in the United States. I am at all times present to serve them and ready to sacrifice my life for them.

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191

TÉLÉPHONE
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This morning some one came to the Master and asked for money. He ~~said~~ ^{told him}: - Never be a spendthrift. Do not be extravagant in thy expenses. An extravagant person comes always to a sad end and feels the pinch of want and misery. Ever expend less than your income. Do not borrow ^{money} for unnecessary things. Although my expenses are much and in different directions, I never expend without thought. If I give money to this or to that or to the children, the results of it will be known in the future. When I was at the age of youth - in Bagdad - I wore a Tarbush for five years till its reddish color became white and very old looking. My Persian "Galin" I ^{wore} ~~had on myself~~ for 5 years.

~~But~~ ^{And} I never thought that there ^{there are} new clothes in this world. I never dreamed to borrow money and buy clothes with. I was very happy with what I had. ~~just~~ At this time if I did not have the means to pay for this room I would have slept in a cell just as happily and if I could not get the cell I would have gone into the Gads country and slept there peacefully never dreaming that there is such a thing as a room.

3 Speaking about gluttony and over-eating the Beloved said:— One must eat in moderation. Man is not created for food. He must not indulge in eating too much. Over-eating is the cause of many diseases. Rise from the Table always before you are satisfied. One must have been retrograded to the lowest point as to be perfectly satisfied with eating, drinking and sleeping.

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The enjoyment of man comes through the unfoldment of his intellect, intelligence, the virtues of the world of humanity and the divine characteristics. Man has two aspects; a spiritual and an animal aspect. His animal side is sustained through food and drink like unto other beasts but his spiritual life is fed by the ideal perfection, faith, assurance, the knowledge of God and the Love of God. More attention must be given to the latter than the former.

4 Then I was sent to the Custom House ~~down town~~ after a box of Persian tea which has been sent from Alexandria for the Master.
Having attended to this work

I returned about noon when I found that Dreyfus was late in the Salon. There were a number of settlers present. After this the Master took a walk and we had our lunch. Then Mirza Mahmand and myself went to Hotel Continental where we were invited to hear the Indian Concert. There were more than 200 people, amongst them many Bahais. Hindu music is so different from Western ideas of music that one cannot compare them at all, however we enjoyed a pleasant afternoon and returned about half past five.

~~I forget to tell you that last~~
5 night we received a telegram from Consul Schurz from ~~Stettin~~ that he and his wife will be here tomorrow morning. When they arrived they ^{went} to Baltimore Hotel and got their rooms there ^{at} ~~the~~. While I was absent they came here and spoke with the Master in English.

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TÉLÉPHONE
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He told them to ^{return} ~~come~~ at six o'clock.

Of course I was very happy to see them. They are such excellent Bahais. They presented to the Master the love and devotion of the German friend ~~Walter~~ ^{Walter}. I am most pleased to meet you again in Paris. My heart bears testimony to the fact that the Stuttgart Bahais are most sincere. The days of Stuttgart and your hospitality shall never be forgotten. In reality the believers are united and agreed. The Cause shall progress greatly. Your children are always remembered by me. You have an excellent daughter. She is attracted and enthralled. She will become a great teacher in this Cause.

Some souls are withered ^{and} they
do not become interested ~~and~~ ^{are}
~~not~~ set aflame; others receive the
fire of the Love of God in
death. During the few days of our
stay in Stuttgart your daughter
made marvellous spiritual
progress. ~~Then~~ Other matters
were discussed and they left
the Presence most inspired.

Mr Lee came in ~~also~~ and
the Master praised in the
warmest and most eloquent
manner Miss Hadjor who
has really served the Cause
most faithfully.

To night the meeting in Mon and Madame
Dreyfus was very heavenly. The Master in his
address introduced in the most synopa-
thetic manner Consul and Madame Schwarz
and laid great stress in the unifying power
of Baha Allah. Before the Master ^{the} Consul
spoke very nicely in French about the Cause
in Stuttgart. The Master took his
dinner in Mon Dreyfus. Every body
in the meeting was happy
Love had ~~shined~~

Martha - Tensun
family - Hotel
97, rue Lauriston
Paris

Address of Abdul Beka
on Friday evening May 30th 1913.

At the house of Mr. et Madame Dreyfus. Paris.

Translated from Persian notes by M. Ahmad Sahrat.

This is a blessed night because Consul Schwarz and his respectful wife have come from Germany with the greatest of longing so that they may associate with you. Consider how great is the power of Baha o'llah! It is unparalleled and unique in the history of the world. These noble souls have come from Stuttgart, some of those who are present are from America, France and England are well represented in this meeting and we come from far of Persia. Yet the invisible power of the Blessed Perfection has established amongst us a harmony and concord which are eternal. It is impossible to bring about this ideal condition through

human agency. The Divine Potence and Dominion are alone enabled to unite these hearts. The powers of humankind establish between the people a kind of communication which is limited in its influence, but the pure love which is cordial, heartfelt and free from all the traces of self and desire, measureless and changeless, is created by the power of God. To-day when I looked in the faces of Consul Schwarz and his revered wife, it was as though I met my own dear son and beloved daughter. My joy and happiness was inexpressible. This relation is made possible through the spiritual and Divine Power; other relations such as the family tie which unites the various members of a family, or patriotic sentiment which brings together the individuals of a nation or racial idea which cements together the social units of a tribe or community, all such relations are limited in their spheres of activity. The love which welds together the members of various

nations, divergent races and different religions, and causes them to associate with each other with love and amity, that love is divine and celestial in origin; because such a love is spiritual and heavenly, which casts all the various communities and tribes in one universal mould of fraternity making organs of one great temple, suffering them to become the members of one family and the inhabitants of one country and uniting them with such an irresistible force that will become indissoluble throughout all eternity. As our union and communication are made possible through this divine power, therefore no power on earth is able to break them. Consequently

let us all thank his holiness Baha'ollah who has brought all of us together, creating amongst us such affinity and co-operation, under the all-protecting shadow of his Word, making us all the limbs of one body & protecting and guarding us from all evil.

He has quickened spirit. He has assisted all with heavenly confirmation and has pitched such a tent

under which all nations and people will gather.

He commands us to unfurl the banner of the oneness of the world of Humanity and become the means of the closer relationship between the East and the West, and practicing the doctrine of human solidarity and brotherhood, thus the lights of the Kingdom may illumine the hearts of the inhabitants of the Orient and the Occident.

This is a blessed night because the spirit of reality is waving, the rays of the Sun of truth enlighten the souls and the minds, the fragrant breezes of Providence are wafting, the cloud of Mercy pours down the rain of the breath of the Holy Spirit stirs the heart. The confessions of the Kingdom of Alpha are conducive to the appearance of these spiritual lights, thus distributing amongst us the eternal bestowals and sending to us these revered souls from Germany as heavenly presents.