

Ramleh, Egypt
Nov 6th 1913

Dear friends!

I hope I am not mistaken this time. The Beloved told me to be ready to go to Port Said with him to-morrow and from all indications this plan will not be changed. The rest of the party consisting of Mirza Jalal, Mirza Monzer, Mirza Mahmud and Khassro will stay here in Ramleh pending Master's further instructions once in Port Said. I have the feeling that we will not return here again this season, although I may be mistaken. The steamer belonging to Russian Company leaves the Port to-morrow at 5pm arriving in Port Said next morning. I am very glad to be with the Beloved on this short sea trip. It will be a fine change after 3 months stay in one place. Ramleh of course will be always associated with Bahai history in the future. Its streets, its hotels, its houses are all blessed by the feet of the Lord. Many events have happened here, many incidents transpired in the Cause during the past three months. Personally I could not have a better time had I lived in Paradise. The Lord of mankind was with us under all circumstances and conditions, his angels came from the four corners of the earth to pay him homage, vivid pictures of him shall ever be treasured in memory and heart. The past three months were equal to three years or 3 hundred or 3 thousands years. So wonderful was each day, so spiritual each hour, so calm and peaceful each moment. Who can say we were not happy in being so greatly privileged to have lived a life near-

the Presence of Abdul Baha? What I have been able to write is not even a thousandth part of what has been transpiring here! My reward has been the sweet and beautiful experiences of the spirit which cannot be recounted with pen or uttered by the word of mouth. I have seen and heard many things and I hope I am better fitted now to serve the Beloved better and with more faithfulness.

Our old Haji Mirza has also received to go to Cairo. He was to-day many hours with the Master. Mirza Abdul Fazl will likewise leave for Cairo in a few days and probably I will not see him for a long time yet. Ramleh will become indeed ^{an} empty ^{place}. How wonderful ^{are} the venerable figures of Haji Mirza and Mirza Abdul Fazl as I saw them walking today side by side in the streets. These men are indeed the elect of God. They have given up ^{everything} for the sake of the Beloved of the world. They have annihilated their selves so that they may live in accord with the good-pleasure of the Lord. In this world they live alone for his sake. They love his Countenance, they are made joyous through his words and are satisfied with his love. Nothing else does interest them. I love and respect both of them very much. I owe them a great debt of gratitude. For were it not for the kindness of Mirza Abdul Fazl and our brother Ali Kuli Khan who were at that time in Washington I would not have probably come to America and the history of my life would have taken entirely a different channel. Praise be to God that I am living in this day and love all the people of the world.

This morning the Beloved was busy partly with his correspondence, partly with his packing for tomorrow's trip. He spent most of the morning hours in his room. From San - Francisco a Mr Fred W. Workman who has been taught by our beloved brother Mr Willard P. Hatch. has written a petition asking for confirmation ^{and} faith. The Master said: - "Faith and Confirmation are the two great divine qualities conferred upon man by Baha - Ollah. I will pray to him that he may receive these two essential qualities." Then a long and eloquent Tablet was revealed for a believer in New York City. Looking out of the window, he said: - "Indeed the East is the world of lights, the world of illumination, the world of enlightenment. Here in the West one beholds such a wonderful blue sky as we have today. It is a pity that the Eastern people do not appreciate the spiritual import of these facts and thus they have deprived themselves of the light of Reality." Then a propos of something he said two little stories: - "Once I was feeling very sick and at the invitation of the Governor and the Judge of Acca we rode on horseback toward Siberia. It was a dark night and it was long after 12 o'clock when we reached a plain of olive trees. My friends came down from their horses to perform ablution and pray, and as I was not feeling ^{and tired} well I stretched my body on the soft, dry sand under ~~the~~ ^{an} olive tree. The rest of the party being also very fatigued slept waiting for the sunrise. When I got up in the morning I felt well

entirely and everglady marvelled at the mysterious cure. The dry sand was however the main cause that contributed to my health." "When I was young I never slept on the mattress. I slept on the floor. I would take a book and read it till late at night. When I was drowsy with sleep I would put the book under my head and cover my body with my Aba. Now I slept soundly. I can never forget the true enjoyment of those nights. For ^{the purpose of the} mattresses some people prefer straw better than anything else. They think it is healthier, others use cotton, silk or down." In the afternoon he payed a long visit on Mirza Abdul Gazi and after that walked all alone toward Baco station.

The editor of a Persian journal the other day received a long Tablet from the Beloved. It deals about some of the internal affairs in Persia. In the course of that Tablet the translation of the following Tablet may ~~not~~ be of interest to our Western friends:—

"For seventy years these exiled ones have undergone these untold persecutions and sufferings for the progress of the world of humanity, the refinement and education of the characteristics of Persians, the promotion of the oneness of mankind, communication between all the members of human race, reconciliation between the religious and the illumination and guidance of all the inhabitants of the earth. In other word, all these souls did not run toward the arena of martyrdom, all these beloved souls were not sacrifices, all this blood was not spilled and all these

hardships and calamities were not accepted, in order that we may be praised and eulogized in the newspapers or blamed and condemned. These matters have no importance whatsoever in our estimations. There is no doubt that before long the newspapers of the world will be divided into two parties. One party praising the Cause to the utmost degree and the next party condemning it most thoroughly. We have given our lives in the Path of the Beloved and not in the Path of the Newspapers.

Consider, that the books of the world are filled with the condemnation and commendation of the Holy, divine souls who have appeared in former times! However these sanctified-spirits are present in the sacred Chamber of the True One and are free from all these things. The stone of scorn does not touch their pure spirits, the dart and the arrow of ridicule do not reach their lofty summit neither applause and approval find their way to their world of sanctity. They are sanctified and holy above these conditions!

The interpretation of a Mohamadan tradition is given as follows:-

"O thou who art advancing toward the Kingdom of Akbar! This tradition does not mean literally. It has other meanings than the mere letters." It means that all that has appeared in former centuries: such as the excellences of the world of humanity, sciences and arts, inventions and

discoveries, undertakings and the disclosure of the secrets of phenomena and the realities of existence are equal to two letters; But those wonders which will appear during the Dispensation of Daem as regards the uncovering of the mysteries of the universe, the unveiling of the realities of things, the appearance of sciences and knowledges, the increase of the information of mankind, the revelation of the recondite Mystery and guarded secrets is equivalent to 25 letters.

Then observe, what important and condition-changing events have transpired in the world since the appearance of Daem. All the knowledges discovered in the past cannot equal with one of the inventions of the present day. Consider the material world which is only a reflection of the spiritual! For example, all the inventions of great moment and material discoveries out of the hidden treasures of the earth have been made during the present ~~and~~ age and the ~~now~~ latter part of the 19th century. Such as telegraphy, Photography, Phonography, Telephone, electricity, wireless communication, etc."

This is 2 o'clock after midnight that I am writing you this letter. With Mirza Muneer and Khosro I went to the city for sight-seeing as this is for the present my last night and when we returned I had to finish this letter because I will be very busy tomorrow before our anticipated departure for Port Said.