

Bahai Nest.

Mount Carmel, Haifa, Syria

February 21st 1914

Dear friends!

Lucid and clear the Instructions and Teachings of the Beloved inspire the heart with confidence, guide the wanderer out of the wilderness into the abode of safety and cause the disappearance of the darkness of doubts and hesitations.

Consequently I may be permitted to quote in the following pages a few passages from his Tablets revealed a few days ago. To me, at present, the most important passages are those dealing with his health, therefore I will begin with them:-

"The infinite hardships of this fruitful journey (America and Europe) had caused for sometimes past a great agitation in the ^{weakness} nerves. Therefore correspondence was deemed impossible. Now feeling somewhat rested I am writing this epistle and it is my hope that in the future correspon-

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dence will become continuous and the epistles be forwarded uninterruptedly."

To another believer he writes:-

"For sometimes past the ^{weakness} agitation of the nerves prevented correspondence, therefore no epistles were forwarded. Now through the Favor and Providence of ^{His Highness} Baha-Allah joy and fragrance is obtained, hence immediately I have occupied my time in writing to thee this epistle."

In another Tablet he says:-

"Up to the present time as a result of ^{the} long journey ^{which} my constitution was in the utmost state of weakness and feebleness, consequently I could not carry the weight of correspondence. As at the present writing the condition of my nerves is bettered and much improved, therefore I am writing thee this letter."

To another believer he writes:-

"It is now a long time that I have failed ^{to} corresponding with thee. This was because of the

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absence of the soundness of the physical health which prevented me from reading and writing. But the health and soundness of the spirit was most ideal and perfect. With my spirit I supplicated toward the Kingdom of God, begging Confirmation and assistance for thee."

"For sometimes past the feebleness of health and the prostration of ^{the} nerves impeded the path of correspondence, hence I did not write any epistle to thee, but ^{having} now obtained a modicum of rest I am writing thee this epistle so that thou mayst know that with the exhalation and inhalation of every breath thou art remembered."

About the debt of the Orient-Occident Unity in Washington he writes to Mrs Parsons:
"I became exceedingly pleased with thee because thou didst assist in clearing the debt of the Orient-Occident Unity. Similarly I became infinitely pleased with his honor Mr Hear-

and Mr and Mrs Gregory, because they co-operated with you to lift up this debt of the Society. Announce to each one of them my utmost respect."

On the vanishing of the worldly glories in comparison with the service of the Kingdom he reveals the following :-

"All that thou observest shall ere long vanish and disappear like unto the mirage, except service to the Kingdom of God and calling the people to the appearance of the Lord of Hosts. This alone is permanent and everlasting. Consider that Queen Victoria notwithstanding her brilliant and imperial reign passed away from this life, but the lamp of Qorrat-al-Ain who was only the daughter of a Mullah is waxing brighter and brighter day by day and like unto a brilliant star and ~~like~~ ~~unto a brilliant star~~ she is shining from the horizon of everlasting glory for ever and evermore." Through Mr Kinnay the following message is sent to Rev. Doctor G. W. Guthrie of New York:-

"Convey infinite love and kindness on my behalf to the Rev. Doctor G. N. Guthrie and say to him: - Praise be to God that He hath chosen thee from amongst the ministers so that thou mayest hearken to the Call of the Kingdom of God, listen to the heavenly Melody, behold the Light of Reality, act according to the advice of His Holiness the Christ, promulgate the Principles of Baha-ollah, become the cause of the illumination of the world of humanity and be ordained as the high priest of the Church of the Kingdom. All the ministers will be submerged under one of those periodic waves of the earth, leaving behind no name and no trace, but thou shalt unfurl the Standard of Spirituality in the universe of Heaven, extolling and magnifying the Lord of mankind with the music of the Kingdom. Thank thou God that thou hast attained to this most great Bestowal."

The echo of the days spent in London:—

"The days that I spent in London, although the physical health was precarious yet the heavenly Spirit was confirming at all time. How often during the days and ^{evenings} nights we conversed together with perfect joy and fragrance, discoursing on the high themes of divine, eternal Outpourings and imparting the glad-tidings of the Appearance of the Kingdom. Unquestionably all these particulars are indelibly marked upon the tablet of your memory.

Therefore, O ^{then} my daughter of the Kingdom! Strive ^{then} with heart and soul so that day by day the light of guidance may shine forth with greater brightness in that country and that ^{then} may'st become ignited like unto a candle, shedding radiance upon all the people."

Lovingly he writes to an old Bahai:—

"O ^{then} old believer! Thou art one of the old believers and hast served the Cause of God most faithfully. I shall not forget thee, I always ^{remember}

thee and am ever anticipating to receive good news from thee. It is sometimes since no letter has been received from thee. Unquestionably write letters conveying the news of thy health, well being and spirituality; for this becomes conducive to the happiness of the hearts of the members of the Family. All the household of Baha-Allah are longing for thy meeting and day and night are they engaged in thy remembrance. "

The translation of a Tablet to Abbas Butt Cashmiree of Rangoon, India will bring these quotations to a close :-

"O thou heavenly personage!

Thy letter was an evidence to an evidence of the fact, that praise be to God ~~that~~ thou hast arisen to serve the Kingdom, art worshipping His Highness the Desired One, art freed from the world of imagination and independently holding aloof from the mirage of doubts.

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Thou art a wooer of Reality and enthralled with
the Beauty of His Highness the One! Blessed art
thou for this most great favor and the most
eminent Bestowal, the likeness of which has
never been witnessed by the eye of existence.

With a number of friends you have commenced
the translation and the publication of the Heaven-
ly Epistles and are striving to diffuse the Fra-
grances, — so that the Flag of the Manifest
Signs may wave over the mountains and
the hills of that continent. I beg of God to confer
a most great assistance and suffer thee to
become a most conspicuous ensign of the
army of the Kingdom . . . —

This morning quite unexpectedly the Beloved
summoned the Pilgrims into His Presence and
gave a divine talk on the marvellous steadfast-
ness of some early martyrs in the Cause which
filled all the eyes with tears. After this
meeting till the hour of twelve he was ^{engaged}

with his correspondence.

Three of the Pilgrims gave a large Feast at the Tomb of the Bab in the afternoon. All the new pilgrims being anxious to take a photograph of the occasion, the Master granted his permission. A radical departure in this third group-photograph of the Beloved in the Holy Land is the presence of two Oriental ladies, a Zoroastrian and Mrs Hoagg, and the grandchildren of the Master as well as a number of other children related to him. Mr Halback took also two photos while the Master was coming down the hill followed by the Oriental Pilgrims.

When the hour of visiting the Tomb came around the Beloved asked all the believers to go quietly in front and he himself stood near the Threshold behind every body else and in a wonderfully sweet tone, chanted the Visiting Tablet. He was the embodiment of humility and meekness. His standing today near the Threshold was a most pregnant lesson to the Bahai world, trying to teach them by this visible demonstration that all the believers are brothers and sisters and that in this Cause there is and will never be a mother superior or a father superior. In the Court of Baha-Allah all are equal. May all our actions and motives be based on this foundation!