

105

February 28th 1914

Dear friends!

Because his health is daily improving and he can dispatch without physical weariness the ever-increasing volume of his work, the Beloved was happy today and while he was dictating a number of Tablets he was praising God and glorifying the Blessed Perfection. At the end of a Tablet he became wistful and pensive. He was sitting on the divan and now and then he looked ^{out of} outside the window over the marmarial surface of the wide Bay between Haifa and Acca, beyond the prison city, toward the Holy-Threshold of Baha-Allah. Then he turned his heavenly face - the embodiment of kindness - toward me and said: - "Pray from thy heart that my health ^{may} continue ^{good,} to be well, so that I may attend to all the affairs. Wherever I look ^{the Cause} it challenges my attention and demands my care. The matters pertaining to the Cause need constant supervision. At times I felt so weak and

because of weakness feeble by this 'nervous agitation' that I was unable to speak even one word. I did not say anything to anyone, but I suffered often for hours. Finally one night I supplicated and entreated at the divine Threshold of Baha-Allah! Oh my Beloved! O Thou King of my heart! O Thou my Ultimate Hope! Oh I beg of Thee! I beseech at Thy Merciful Court! If in this ephemeral world Thou hast no other work for me, Oh! take me to Thyself - so that I may enjoy the beauties of Thy Celestial Presence, commune with the holy ones of Thy Abha Kingdom and be released from the fetters of these worldly troubles and pains and the chains of ordeals and tests! O Thou my Desired One! How I long to attain to Thy radiant meeting! O Thou my Hope! How I yearn to look into Thy luminous Countenance! How I crave to be submerged in the sea of Thy refulgent Lights! How I strain my ears to listen to the invisible, soft music of the angels of Thy supreme concourse! O my Lord! I am waiting! Thy Will be done and not mine! O my Love! I am waiting! Thy last bidding! But if on the other hand Thou hast yet work for me to do

and if according to Thy unsearchable Destiny I must ges-
sing other songs in Thy Cause and raise other melodies
in Thy rose-garden, then confer upon me health and
physical ability, — so that I may arise again to serve
Thy Wondrous Religion, strive in the promotion of
unity and Concord amongst Thy children, hoist the
banner of Universal conciliation and fill the world
with the spirit of good-fellowship and amity. Thus the
lives of Thy believers ^{must} reflect the imperishable virtues
of the Life of the Kingdom. O my God! If it is in
accord with Thy divine wisdom, bestow upon me
good health ^{and} encircle me with Thine own Confir-
mation and assistance; — in order that I may sacrifice
my life in Thy Path, concentrate all my energies in
Thy service, unfurl the banner of international
Peace over every region, unclose the signs of Thy
Mercy and Bestowal to the people of the world
and summon mankind to the banquet of Thy
inexhaustible Bounties. Oh! my Baha! O my Baha!
although I am weak, yet Thou art Powerful!

Although I am feeble, ^{yet} Thou art the Mighty! I want
 health for the service of Thy Cause! I desire health
 for unity and concord amongst Thy friends! I ask
 health for self-sacrifice in the Path of Thy
 beloved ones! Otherwise! O my Baha! I am thirsty for
 the clear water of Thy meeting! I am hungry for the
 food of Thy Countenance! I am lost in the wilderness
 of Separation, I long for Thy Union. I am tired ^{with}
 this dark world, I yearn for Thy Sanctified, light-
 giving Presence. O my Baha! Confirm Thy believers
 in the Cause of Union and Agreement and assist
 them to lay amongst themselves the foundation of
 eternal solidarity and celestial oneness. Suffer
 them to become like unto the flowers of Thy Paradise—
 perfuming the hearts and minds of all the people
 with their gentle fragrances. O my Baha! Thou
 knowest that no real joy is left for me in this
 world save the ^{realization} news of their unity and their
 spiritual conquests; the news of their strivings
 in Thy Path and giving the glad Tidings of Thy

Kingdom! O my Baha! reinforce them to make
firm the basis of Unity and inspire their hearts with
the spiritual ideals of Thy Divinity! Thou knowest
that their highest ambition is to plant the new
trees in the garden of the oneness of the world of
humanity. They have no other aspiration save Thy
service and no other desire save Thy
good-pleasure. O my Baha! ^{Verily} Thou doest
whatsoever Thou wilt, and Thou commandest
whatsoever Thou desirest! "

As I was walking in the garden and talking with the
believers Basher called me and I hurried up the stairs.
In the reception room Mr and Mrs Holback were waiting
for the coming of the Beloved. After a few minutes
he came in and greeted them with Bahai love. They
had received yesterday many letters from Germany, India
and England and presented their contents to the Master.
Miss Dorothy Holback, their daughter is a splendid,
beautiful Bahai and her letters are replete with
spiritual thoughts and reflections. After reading

a portion of her recent letter the Beloved said: - "Convey to her my longing greeting and respect. Praise be to God that the range of her vision is extensive. I feel assured that she will advance day by day and will become a teacher of the Cause of Humanity. I love her very much. She is my daughter." Another letter from Rabindranath Tagore, an Indian poet was read. He expresses himself in sympathy with the Bahai movement. This poet through the publication of his poetical works is now well-known in England and other countries and is attracting to his very spiritual thoughts an increasing host of admirers. The Beloved asked Mrs Holback to write to Mrs Getsinger to pay a visit to this illustrious poet of the East and converse with him on the Bahai Revelation. In the course of time we will hear more about this man and his work. A letter from Mr Herrigel elicited the following message: - "Continue to live for the present in Stuttgart and engage thy time in the service of the Cause of God and the promulgation of the

Religion of God, so that the darkness of ignorance¹⁰⁹ and prejudices may be dispelled from the horizon of that country."

Then the Beloved left the house all alone and payed a visit ~~to~~ ^{been} Haji Ali who has not ^{been} feeling well for the last few days. On his return he walked in the rose-garden, admiring the flowers, picking a rose here, a carnation there, and commenting on their delicate structures and hues. Some of his remarks were as follow:- "Many letters have come in the mail. No doubt all of them contain the good news of the victories won by the army of the Blessed Perfection. Now I am feeling well. Baha-o-llah hath answered my prayer. I can read and write." "How ignoble must be the ambition of a ^{believer} if after the ^{departure of the} Blessed Perfection he cherishes the groveling ambition of wealth, or fame, name or notriety, comfort and pleasure!" "I have the well-fare of every one at heart. I advise him to do that which will insure his happiness and prosperity."

If he does not follow my advice I will not say anything but he will suffer the consequence of his own disobedience". "A wise man must adapt himself as quickly as possible to every environment. If he is disgruntled and complains he will make his ~~own~~ life miserable and never enjoys the ~~meaning~~ of contentment. For example, if an Englishman lives in Haifa, he must consider it as his own native land and the people as his own countrymen; then he will be happy. But if he is ~~carping~~ ^{about} all the time on England and her glory, he will not have an eye for the beauties of Haifa." "If man performs his work with joy and fragrance he will succeed in any undertaking."

The mail from America brought us an article on the departure of our beloved Albert Taylor published in the Evening Star of Washington D. C. January 31st. The article carried the photograph of the Beloved teacher. The Master

asked me to translate it for him immediately^{!!!}
which ~~was~~ ^{I did} done. He was most pleased with
its contents and it will be sent to all the
believers in the Orient. The son of Mirza Abul
Fazl's sister is at present here, and in the
evening the Master asked me to read ^{the article} it aloud
aloud before the assembled meeting of the
believers. He said :- "Consider in Golpayegan
the people are not cognizant of these facts, but
in the far off America people sing the praises
of him who was a servant of the Blessed
Perfection. This is made possible through
the Confirmation of the Blessed Perfection.
The Sovereignty of the Kings shall ~~come~~
to an end, but the spiritual dominions
of the servants of Baha-Allah is eternal
and without end." Then he spoke for a
few minutes more about the life and
work of Mirza Abul Fazl and the meeting
was brought to an end by the singing of
a poem and the chanting of prayers.

112
I will bring this letter to end ^{with} by the translation of a Tablet
revealed today for Miss Dorothy Holback:-
He is God!

O thou my beloved daughter! Thy letter was ^{received}.
From its contents it became evident that the efful-
gence of the Sun of Reality is cast upon thy
heart and the holy Court of thy consciousness
is illumined. The Breeze of Providence is
wafted from the rose garden of Truth, breathing
in thee a new spirit. I hope that thy spiri-
tual susceptibilities may increase day by day and
the turning of thy face toward the Kingdom of
Abha may become focalized; - so that thou
mayst attract unto thyself the rays of Guidance from
the ultimate center - the Sun of Reality. For
although there are many lamps yet their
illumination is not perpetual but the
illumination of the sun is perpetual and in-
dependent. It is not followed by any extinction.
I hope likewise that a day may come when I
shall meet thee. Thy dear father and mother are ^{with}
me and are in the utmost joy, good-fellowship
and love. Mayst thou ever be guarded and
sheltered in the Fort of divine Protection!
Upon thee be Baha El Abha.
(Sig) Abdul Baha Abdu