

Bahai Nest. Mount Carmel
Haifa. Syria
July 19. 1914

Dear friends!

At last the day of their departure came and five of them left ~~Haifa~~ for Port Said. From there Mirza Mahmud will leave for India; Mrs Emogene Hoagg, Aga Sayad Yahya and Aga Aissadallah for London and Mirza Halibhollah Khodabakshi and Mirza Azzizollah Khan for Stuttgart. From our standpoint we were sad to see these friends depart from us but again we were glad to see they are ^{chosen} by the Lord and sent away to promote the Glad-tidings of the Kingdom of Goodwill and Peace. This morning the Beloved called into his Presence our two young College men and gave them a Tablet written with his own hand the translation of which is as follow:-

"His honor Mirza Halibhollah and Mirza Azzizollah Khan have permission to take a trip to Europe for the sake of the diffusion of the Fragrances of God and the meeting of the believers of God; - so that they may sacrifice their lives in the Divine Path. (Sig) Abdul Baha Agha." "

In the course of his conversation he told them:-

"You are the angels of the Kingdom of Abha, guide the people. You are the rays of the Sun of Reality, bestow upon them light. You are the trees of the orchard of God, produce luscious fruits. You are the water of Eternal Life, allay the thirst of mankind. You are the guides of the royal Path of the Kingdom, lead the wandering ones back to the fold. On this trip through the assistance and providence of God you must perform miracles. Your speeches must be delivered with the utmost spirituality Speak in public meeting. God will support you. Deliver talks on Universal Love, the greatness of the Cause of Baha - ollah, the penetration of the Word of God and the General Principles of the Revelation of Baha - ollah. I hope you will thrill the minds with the tumult and acclamation of the Kingdom, set aglow the hearts with the Fire of Reality and spread far and wide the good news of the Kingdom of Eternal Life"

During the day the Master called each person more than once into his presence, giving them detailed instructions in regard to their work in their respective fields; thus they may occupy their time with the utmost severance and attraction in the spread

of the Cause of God, the encouragement of the believers to unfurl the standard of Universal Peace and the raising of the Cry of Ya Bahu El Abha from the depth of their hearts.

For a long time the West has been sending missionaries to the East. In many cases these missionaries have not quite succeeded in their missions because they lacked the Apostolic fire and faith. I believe it was Salisbury who said when we want to exploit and conquer a country we send first our missionaries with the gospel, then the merchants with their wares and last the soldiers with their rifles. The Oriental nations having observed with their own eyes how this has been true in the past, they look with distrust and suspicion upon all missionaries activities. Mark you, they are not disrespectful toward them, they honor them, they mention the good they have done, the schools and colleges they have founded, the dispensaries and hospitals they have opened, but they do not put their whole-hearted trust in them. This feeling often remains unmanifested to Europeans but clear to Oriental people, This gives us the idea that in all missionary propaganda all personal, denominational,

religious and national interests must be made subservient to the Christ interest. Nowadays this all-important point is forgotten. There are many Christian or church missionaries but very few Christ missionaries.

On the other hand the Bahai missionaries going to the West are not animated with any of these mercenary ideas. Their capital is the Knowledge of God, their salaries are the Glad-tidings of the Kingdom of Brotherhood, their medicine chests ^{contain} the principles and ideals of Divine Civilization, their weapons are the penetrating rays of the Sun of Divine Love, their "home office" is in the world of Light, their reward is from the Lord of Hosts and their sustenances are the Breaths of the Holy Spirit.

About four o'clock our Persian brothers and Mrs Hoagg started for the steamer and many believers followed them to the pier to bid them farewell. They were all sad to be separated from the Master but happy in the thought that they will be busy laborers in the Vineyard of the Lord.

The decorated, illuminated petition to the Master, signed by all the Delegates present at the Mashrek al-Azkar Convention in Chicago and which was forwarded to the

Holy land was sent to India by Mirza Mahmud - so that he may show it to friends and strangers. It was a large ^{book} of many pages. Its decoration was executed beautifully and artistically.

And now we must bid farewell to our dear brother Mirza Mahmud and wish him a happy and successful journey. Fare thee well! my travelling companion and my beloved friend! Thou hast ever been a good and faithful servant of Abdul Baha. Thou hast learned well and done well and now thou art entering in the joy of thy Lord which is no other than the joy of service. For more than two years we were fellow-servants at the Court of Abdul Baha. In America and Europe, in Egypt and Syria we witnessed together the glory of the Beloved and the Divine Unfolding of the Word of God. I have no doubt the friends everywhere will pray in thy behalf - so that the Confirmations of the Kingdom of Holiness may encircle thee and thou mayest become assisted with the angels of the Supreme Concourse. Ere long we shall hear the news of thy spiritual victories from India. Farewell my good brother! I will always remember thee. How fortunate thou art to be so favored!

Just at this writing I received the New Reformer from India dated June 1914. It contains the translation of the Beloved's Tablet to the Editor and an article entitled the Logic of the Babi by Mr Shirazi. As this excellent Magazine publishes monthly articles on the Babi Revelation, the Beloved will be pleased if some of the Bahais in America and Europe subscribe to it. Its annual subscription is 4 Rupees which is I believe about 1 dollar and forty cents. Those desiring to subscribe may do so by writing directly to the Editor New Reformer D. Gopaul Chetty 15, Venketroyan Lane, Park Town, Madras. India.

The Master loves to see the Bahais becoming very active in India - so that that country may become a magnetic centre of the Law of God, warming the blood which is being circulated through the arteries and ^{nerves} of the human body. For the ^{present the} conditions are very favorable and there is every indication that ere long, so far as this cause is concerned, there will be a veritable efflorescence of the Bahai Ideals all over that country and many people will come and listen to the Word of God.