



PARIS, LE May 12th 1913

BALTIMORE HOTEL

88 BIS, AVENUE KLÉBER

ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE :

BALTIMOTEL-PARIS

9

Dear Harriet!

These heavenly days are swiftly
passing and once gone they shall ^{ever} be recalled.
The future generations ^{will} receive ^{comfort} ~~their~~
inspirations from the words and deeds
of the ^{Abdul Baha} Beloved, for ^{he} is the ⁱInspirer of the
hearts and the spirit of the world. Through
him we are enabled to accomplish any
task. With his encouragement we can
achieve divine victories and crown
our life with spiritual success.
His good-pleasure ~~to us~~ is of a ~~greater~~
^{greater} value than all the gold of the earth.
He is more faithful and loving than
all the inhabitants of the globe.
His love is measureless; his Compassion
is all-encircling; his benevolence
is incomparable.

Everyday I am more ^{than ever} thankful to our Lord
for their permitting ^{me} this unworthy servant
to be with him and to receive the
gracious ^{joy} inspiration of his Presence. I do
realize more than ever my utter unworthiness
and inability to adequately praise God and
the Beloved for their Favours. Words
are such poor vehicles to express the
mighty emotions of the heart. I am very
sorry because I cannot serve the believers
of God in America as I would have
liked to do. What I do is ^{so little} less than ^{nothing} to do
compared to what my heart wishes to do.
After all, we are such weak, miserable
instruments! Are we not?

2 To drink tea in the morning with
the Master is to drink the nectar of life.
How sweet his voice sounds when he
calls us every morning ^{no} soon as the
tea is set before him by the ever
faithful Sayad Assadullah: "Mirza
Ahmad, Mirza Mahmud, Come and
have tea!" Then we enter ^{his} room.
He pours ~~the~~ tea with his own hand,
and offers ^{us} the cup ^{and} to us. ~~Then he~~
speaks to us according to his pleasure.
We are always happy in his Presence.



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He said a propos of ^{a suggestion!} ~~something~~ mentioned to him :- This ~~thing~~ cannot be done. In everything I must use a thousand wisdom and considerations. Even when I breathe, I must first think, whether I should breathe on the right or on the left.

3 Later on a few of the friends came in. One of them knew Mrs Stannard who^{now} is living in Egypt and serving the Cause of God. The Master praised ^{He said!} her activities in the Movement. She has dedicated her life to the service of the world of humanity. She has no other thought except this. She works ^{very} faithfully. When I lived in Alexandria I could see her almost daily doing her work ^{most} ~~very~~ sincerely.

4 ~~Then~~ he spoke about the believers in Germany; he showed their

pictures to the friends who were present and
 said ^{that} their faces ~~are~~ ^{were} illuminated, their faith
 is strong and their future assured!

5 There was a friend in the meeting from
 Scotland and the Beloved addressing her
 said:— "We have many friends in Scotland
 many devoted friends; amongst them is
 Mrs Whyte. I was most pleased with
 my visit to that country. Scotland weather
 is very invigorating. The City of Edinburgh
 is beautiful and its inhabitants ~~are~~
 progressive and deeply religious. They
~~are~~ ^{There is} ~~very~~ ^{and} firm ~~of~~ strong character. They
 are thirsty for spiritual water. They
 are not dogmatic but they feel a
 heartfelt sincerity about their religion.
 This is good. They have a deep sense
 for spiritual ideals. While there, they
 asked me many questions, and several
 large meetings were organized
 and we delivered addresses. The people
 of Edinburgh are intelligent and
 critical. They investigate. They do not
 accept anything on blind faith.
 All their questions were dignified
 and based upon a desire to learn.



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8. An ~~special~~ meeting was held in Mrs Whyte's house for the Oriental students. They were from China, Japan, Persia, India, Turkey, Syria, Arabia, ~~Farther~~ etc. It was a wonderful ^{demonstration of the} union of the East and of the West. They were strong, purposeful young men. Another meeting was organized by the Esperantists and one by the Theosophists. Both these meetings were marvellous. Mr Page, the Secretary of the Esperanto Association and Mr Graham Pake, the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society were most intelligent and sympathetic. They were very kind and hospitable. In short I met many people in Edinburgh whom I shall never forget. There are certain souls whose thirst is never allayed, while others are satisfied with one

drop. The larger the vase the greater its
capacity to hold water, but when the vase
is small, there will be very little water
in it. When his holiness Christ appeared,
the Jews said: 'We have enough water in
our vases. We do not need the fountain
of Christ. We have been blessed with
many prophets during the Jewish
history. These prophets have been the
divine Cup-bearers. We have quaffed
the pure water from their hands. Are we
going to run ^{after} this new spring? But those
souls who were really blessed and glorious
they drank deeply from the fountain
of Christ and yet were they thirsty,
yet were they seeking. His Holiness
Baha-Ullah says in one of his Tablets:
if you drink all the seas of the
earth there must be no sign of wetness
on your lips; they must be parched
with more thirst. You must be
always thirsty for the water of reality
and significances. The more the circle
of your information is widened, the
greater must become your search.
Only through this ^{open attitude} man will become



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perfect, but a soul whose cup is filled with a few drops will never become perfect.

7 ~~Then à propos, the Beloved~~ ^{of some questions} spoke on ~~parables~~ and how Christ always ^{gone} spoke with his disciples in parables and ~~that~~ ^{he} ~~he~~ ^{so} beautifully ~~gone~~ in his ~~glorious~~ ^{own} simple language the parable of the Feast and the invitations sent to all the great people and how each one gave an ^{excuse} for not being able to be present and how the Lord sent ~~on~~ ^{through} the highways and byways to gather ^{and bring} the poor people! ~~These~~ ^{He} ~~also~~ ^{gave} the parable of the farmer and the sowing of the seeds on the rock, on the brackish ground and on the pure ground. "All these illustrations show that capacity is necessary" ~~he~~ ^{said}. "We must plough the ground of our hearts so that the divine

If seeds may grow therein. In order to show
 that without capacity even the breaths of
 the holy Spirit will not assist ^{related} he ~~said~~
 the following story:— There is a story attributed
 to Christ in the oriental literature that is
 not found in any of four gospels. It is
 reported that one day a number of
 people saw Christ flying away with
 great haste. They asked him, why art
^{you} ~~thou~~ hurrying away? ~~with such rapidity?~~
 He did not give them any answer but
 continued to run. Finally they caught him
 in his flight and told him: why this
 haste? Are you flying away from the
~~ferocity~~ of a lion or a panther or a
 leopard or a wolf or a bear? There are
 no such wild beasts in this vicinity
 and we do not see any logical reason
 for this precipitous flight! Then
 Christ said 'I am flying away from
 a fool.' They were astonished at
 this declaration. 'Art ^{you} ~~thou~~ not the
 Christ? ^{Bless them} Breathe, ~~with~~ the Power
 of the Holy Spirit over this ^{fool} man and
 he will be ^{your} ~~freed~~ ^{wise} from his foolishness.
 Christ said:— With the same breath



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of the Holy Spirit that I blew over the ignorant and he became ^{learned} ~~wise~~; the deaf, ^{found} ~~became~~ hearing, the blind seeing, the mute speaking, the sick became well and the dead received a new life — I blew the same breath of the Holy Spirit more than one thousand times over this fool and there was no result; consequently I am flying away from him!

9 Some one asked the meaning of the ^{miracle of the} five loaves, ^{the} ~~and~~ twelve ^{remaining} baskets and the feeding of the multitude. He answered: His holiness Christ says: I am the bread which has come down from heaven. Again he says: whosoever ~~will~~ eat of this bread, he shall find a new life. The heavenly Food is the divine virtues ~~and~~ ^{praiseworthy} ~~the~~ qualities of the world of humanity.

In other word, he says, I am that infinite
Bestower; whosoever takes a good show
of me he shall never die. It is evident
that his holiness Christ was a pure channel
for the diffusion of the Boon of God
amongst humanity. He was the one who
spread these Bestowments. He made the
fisherman the great Peter. We can
understand these symbolic teachings
better when we remember another
saying of Christ - the Father is in
me and I am in you - . Now it is clear
that ^{the} physical body of Christ was not
in the apostles; - nay rather they received
from him the heavenly Bestowments. The
Sun shining upon the mirror, its disk
heat and rays are reflected therein. so that
the reflection of the Sun in the
mirror can truthfully claim, I am
the sun. In other words, the Sun of Reality
with all its characteristics ^{was} reflected
upon the transparent mirror of Christ.
^{standing before} ~~Before~~ Christ ^{was} ~~one~~ observes standing
~~erect~~ the mirrors of his disciples.
Now by a process of radiation, the reflection
of the Sun of Reality upon the mirror
of Christ ^{was} ~~is~~ in turn reflected
upon the mirrors of the apostles.



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With this manifest explanation you can the better understand the meaning of the verse: The father is in me and I am in you. In short the heavenly Food signifies divine perfections. The five loaves are the five stages of inner unfoldment. The first ^{stage} is intellectual development; the second stage is spiritual illumination, the third stage is the prophets' experiences, the fourth stage is the baptism ⁱⁿ the Holy Spirit and the fifth stage is the Divine Bestowels. With these five loaves the multitude were fed and "satisfied"; but the 12 apostles were the twelve baskets which were "filled" with the heavenly Food - that is, their hearts became the recipients

of all the five stages of spiritual food, while the multitude were fed only on one or two kinds. In the estimation of Christ, this material bread had no importance, but to spread the heavenly Table before the eyes of all the inhabitants of the earth was the most important. This material bread sustains us only from day to day but the heavenly food bestows upon us eternal life. Therefore you must ever strive to eat of the divine bread in order to gain the life everlasting. Do not run after a drop of water but search after the illimitable sea. Let the spark go and draw light from the sun whose rays and heat are perpetual.

Another Bahai asked about the meaning of the miracle of wine performed at the marriage feast and the Master again ^{gave} a long exposition ^{on} of the subject. In the afternoon Rashed Pasha called on the Master and later on several French Bahais, ~~called~~. The Beloved spoke with them in details on the awakening of the



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French people out of the slumber of ignorance ~~and~~ spiritual torpor. He gave them a powerful electrifying talk that had I time I would have translated it but space does it allow. At five o'clock Mirza Fazlollah, the brother of Doctor Youness Khan of Itheran came to see the Master with his newly-wedded French wife. The Master greeted them cordially and with happiness radiating from his face:— You are welcome! you are welcome! I am most pleased with your marriage. For this is a marriage between the East and the West. The more inter-marriage between the Europeans, Americans and Persians the better for the world! I like to see intermarriage between the inhabitants of these ^{three} parts of the world increasing. In ~~Persia~~ ^{your} country whenever there is a long-standing

feud between two tribes, in order to remove it, they inter marry. In reality, it has a wonderful effect. In Persia there are many of these nomadic tribes who pass all their ^{lives} ~~years~~ under the tent, in the open. Often between two tribes there has existed enmity and hatred for many years. They have fought against each other; pillaged each other's property and many people were killed on both sides. Now if an outside, disinterested influence comes in and try to reconcile these two contending parties he will use the same old eternal rule. The son of the chief of one tribe will marry the daughter of the chief of the other tribe. Immediately ~~the~~ enmity is changed into ^{rule} ~~amicity~~ and the hatred into love. This has been tried again and again and has not been found wanting! It has a great efficiency. Now that the Persians and the ^{Americans} ~~Americans~~, the Europeans and the Persians and the Persians and the Europeans have begun to give daughters and sons ^{to} each other, I hope that the



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bond of affection and unity between the
 East and the west will be reinforced and
 spiritual communication may bring
 them into closer relationships! May
 this union flood the unexplored regions
 of the hearts with the rays of the love
 of God! May such happy events
 hasten the day of the oneness of the
 world of humanity! Every movement
 which increases love and affection
 amongst the children of men is a
 divine movement and any cause
 creating alienation or even ill-
 feeling is diabolical in origin. In
 reality the world of humanity is one
 family but these ignorant fellows
 have come and divided it into
 French and German, Austrian
 and Italian, Persian and Arabs
 etc. How sweet will it be to

see the French marrying with the English,
the English with the German and vice
versa. This will be the means of a greater
and more lasting unity, agreement
and concord. God has created all the
phenomena as pairs - male and
female. Therefore marriage is a
divine and natural institution.
There is no celibacy in the ^{Beloved} Cause.

I am most pleased with your
union and I hope that in the
utmost of kindness, you shall
live together the rest of your
days. May you be ever happy
and the means of comfort and
joy be ever prepared for you!
May God ~~descend~~ ^{pour} upon you His
blessing, ^{and} shower you with His
benediction! You will be always under
the shelter of the Almighty and you
will be encircled with His protection
and preservation.

12 After this in his company we called on His
Excellency the Persian Ambassador. He talked on
many subjects with him. This was also a rare ^{occasion}.
On our return we took quite a walk through the
various avenues, the Beloved ever teaching me
and giving me heavenly lessons for the guidance
of my future in the Cause. Love truly
Abma