

Martha-Pension

FAMILY-HOTEL

97, rue Lauriston

PARIS

PARIS, le *May 28th 1913*

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TÉLÉPHONE
PASSY 51-03

Dear Harriet!

The other day I was reading
a book in which I found a few lines
of poetry on divine Love and I would
like to quote it here if you permit it:—

"Ah, sweet, strange fruit! the which if
any taste,

They may no longer keep their lives of old
Or their own selves unchanged, but some
divine change

And subtle alchemy comes which can
transmute

To some new magical form. Not as before,
Our life comes to us, Nay, never as before."

To the Bahais these simple, true lines
Convey new significances and more

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subtle meaning. The Teachings of Baha-
Ullah have freed us from past dogmas
and imitations and have unfolded before
our eyes a new heavenly Vista which
heavenly Vista is Universal Love and
Universal Charity; love to all the inhabi-
tants of the earth; charity for all the
creatures of God. If the alchemy of the
words of Baha-Ullah and the matchless
addresses of Abdul Baha has not transmuted
the gross metals of my prudish selfishness
and crude uncharitableness into the
pure gold of radiant selflessness and
sweet charity - then of course I am not
a Bahai - even if I announce it with
the flare of trumpet and the fanfar
of music. We must show this spiri-
tual transformation in our deeds, words,
conduct and behaviour. We must demon-
strate to the rest of the world, the ideal
standard of universal tolerance and
heavenly friendship; otherwise we will
not be privileged to become the
servants and the main servants

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of this Cause. A new people shall arise, cause creating their lives to the welfare of humanity. Therefore if we desire to manifest Bahai qualities and show to everyone that by eating this sweet, strange fruit, we have no longer kept our older selves, we must practice the following precepts ^{which I have} gathered ~~at random~~ ^{from the Garden of Beatitudes} hither and thither:

"Blessed is he who is charitable, for he shall inherit Eternal Life! Blessed is he who overlooks the faults of others, for he shall enjoy divine beatitude! Blessed is he who associates with all with joy and fragrance, for he has obeyed the command of Baha-Allah! Blessed is he who loves mankind, for he has heeded the advice of Abdul Baha! Blessed is he who is kind to his enemies, for he has walked in the footsteps of Christ! Blessed is he

who proclaims the doctrine of spiritual
 brotherhood, for he shall be the child of
 light. Blessed is he whose heart is tender
 and compassionate, for he will throw
 stone at no one. Blessed is he ^{who} will speak
 evil against no one for he has attained
 to the good-pleasure of ^{the} Lord! Blessed
 is he who will not uncover the sins
 of others, for he will become favored
 at the Threshold of the Almighty!
 Blessed is he who has a forgiving nature
 for he will win the spiritual Graces
 of God! Blessed is he who diffuses only
 the sweet fragrances of the flowers of
 friendship and mutual association, for
 he will obtain a goodly portion of the
 Bounties of the Merciful! Blessed is he
 who teaches union and concord, for he
 will shine like unto a star in heaven!
 Blessed is he who practices loving Kindness
 and co-operation, for he will be
 encircled with celestial benedictions.
 Blessed is he who who comforts the down-
 trodden for he will be the friend of God.

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Today our Beloved spent quietly in the hotel receiving visitors from morning till night. In the morning after drinking tea he attended for an hour or two to his oriental correspondence which is always unweildy and in large volume. For a few minutes we went into his Presence and received his blessing. As he lives one floor above us we were not informed as to the time of the tea. ~~Later~~ Mon. Dr. ^{Dr. F.} came in and brought our mail. He is always welcome because he brings our letters so promptly and regularly. ~~Then~~ A Russian Lady who has interested herself in a band of Indian Musicians arrived and brought five tickets inviting the Master and his ~~servants~~ ^{secretaries} to attend the Concert on Friday afternoon. He accepted the tickets with thanks and said

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he will send us and if he has no engagement he may go himself. ~~The~~ Madame Dreyfus came and the Master greeted her most cordially. She has not been feeling well for the last few days but she is much better. ~~Then~~ A Turkish gentleman entered the Presence and he spoke with him till noon, when he went out to take a walk. After his return ~~he~~ ate his simple lunch in his own room. At four o'clock Halim Bey, a prominent Turkish gentleman came to see ~~the Beloved~~ ^{him} by invitation. He spoke with him about his recent trip and gave him eight photos of Stuttgart Bahais. ~~Then~~ The wife of Moncer Pasha with several other women found their way to the Holy Presence. He spoke with them in detail about the spiritual reality which is in man and ~~which~~ is the discoverer of the realities of phenomena. They were much interested and while the Master ~~was~~ ^{he} speaking to them, the Turkish Ambassador to Spain entered the room. His father

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knew the Master. He stayed only
a few minutes as he had other ^{engagements}
Meanwhile Doctor Mohamad Khan
and another newly arrived Persian
were waiting for the Beloved. When
he finished his work he went out
with them and returned about 9
o'clock. As we did not have
any callers he retired to his room.

Love to all

Arthur