

Port Said, Egypt
Nov 15th 1913

Dear friends!

For half an hour, pen in hand, I have been thinking how to commence this letter and both my memory and resources failed to come to my assistance, although there are such an abundance of materials on all sides. There must needs be a trained mind and a sympathetic heart to see things and describe them with sensitive beauty and charm. Verhaasens is endowed with such a divine gift he is the true Artist. Such a genius leaves to posterity, in immortal images, the ideals and accomplishments of his age. A good memory knows what to preserve and what to forget, what to describe and what to look over. When the Lord of mankind is living amongst us, walking, drinking, eating, sleeping like any other man how supremely important it is to preserve for the countless generations yet unborn, at least some glimpses of his Personality, his movements, his work, and his words. Like unto the fish we are swimming unconsciously in the sea of the heavenly Graces, ^{and} often we are prone to forget those who are going to come after us. They have indeed a greater claim upon us than those who are living in this age; because every one today can avail himself of the inestimable privilege of seeing the Beloved, hearing his words and standing in his Presence. But what about the future centuries. How they would long to have had one glance, one word from the Center of the Covenant of God and now praise be to God that many of you have attained to this. We must, therefore, sacrifice all our identities and ^{arise to} serve him and promote the Glad Tidings of the Kingdom of Allah.

Today I will translate herein a wonderful Tablet addressed to our good and faithful brother Mr L. Stark of Budapest:-

"O thou honorable person! Thy letter was received. Praise be to God it indicated that in Budapest a radiant assembly is organized, blessed souls have been present and discussions which shall yield eternal results have been touched. ^{upon} It is assured that this assembly shall attract unto itself the splendors of the Sun of Reality, the heavenly Potency shall strengthen it and universal benefits shall be produced. The Charter of this Assembly is the Oneness of the world of humanity, the Constitution of this Assembly is love between the various members of mankind and its by-laws are the complete abandonment of racial feeling, religious prejudices, denominational spirit, patriotic bias and political maxims. For all these prejudices are pure imaginations. These prejudices have been the cause of the shedding of blood, the destroyers of the foundation of humanity; the means of hatred and animosity, the killing of men, the captivity of women, the orphaning of children, the destruction of the country and the immigration of countless number of people. These events in their most heinous forms were actualized in the Balkan States. Reflect that undoubtedly millions of people were made homeless, shelterless and exiles! How many men rolled in their own blood! How many women and children were maltreated! How many flourishing cities were demolished. How many villages were entirely razed to the ground!

Their first excuse was religious in tone and character. Then they declared war against the Mohammedans and announced it publicly that this is a holy war.

Praise be to God that it became soon evident and manifest that they had made religion the pretext to carry on this dreadful war. Later on another war was proclaimed amongst the members of the Balkan federation themselves, although the Balkan people have one religion, and one faith and we may state that in reality they belong to one race. Now they shed each others blood and crimsoned the field with the blood of the innocent people! The raging fire of war set a great conflagration to such an extent that all the Balkan nations arose in enmity against each other, totally disregarding the inviolable rights of man. Even now they are not calmed down.

Now consider clearly the awful results of political prejudices! Consequently we must shun entirely these prejudices and fetch high the tent of the oneness of the world of humanity and cement the hearts together. Perchance mankind may lighten its loads and start on the road of pacification. Were the Teachings of Baha-Allah universally spread in Europe all these oppressions, blood-shedding, cruelty, rapacity, hostility and aversion ^{which have} shall be removed. ^{Then} All the people will become the sheep of God and enter under the benevolent administration of the heavenly Shepherd. The rays of Reality will shine forth dispelling the impenetrable darkness.

of race antipathy and antagonism.

Therefore, strive ye with your hearts and souls so that ye may render service to the oneness of the world of humanity; thus eternal life may be obtained and the heads be crowned with the diadem of Everlasting Glory.

Another Tablet to believers in Vienna is as follows:
 "O thou daughter of the Kingdom! The good news of the organization of the Bahai Assembly in Vienna was received. Although this assembly at this time is limited to a number of souls but as it is a divine assembly its circle will be enlarged day unto day like unto the assembly of the Lord's Supper of His Holiness Christ, and its influence shall be felt in all parts of the world. Because the assembly of the Lord's Supper of His Holiness Christ was confirmed by the Breath of the Holy Spirit, consider what great results and benefits produced, Likewise whenever and wherever an assembly is organized for the promotion of the Teachings of His Holiness Baha - Allah, know thou of a certainty that the Confirmations of the Holy Spirit shall descend. For the principles of Baha - Allah are the very spirit of this age, the light of this century, eternal life and everlasting glory."

Words of Truth are these and vivifying. They confer spiritual insight and supernatural power! We all hope that these two big cities will become the strong forts of the Bahai Cause in Europe and another two links in the unbreakable chain of celestial brotherhood.

This morning till about eleven o'clock the Beloved dictated many Tablets. He was in good health and ^{as} I wrote down his words I felt the power and magnetism of his Holy Personality projected in the space of our sphere working and changing the old conditions and animating the dead bodies.

About noon the pilgrims entered into His Divine Presence. He said:— From the moment I have been out of my bed I have been thinking of you and wishing to see you. I am pleased you have come. " Then he asked me to read to them a letter just received from Prof. Cheyne of Oxford who is greatly interested in the Bahai movement and to which letter he just dictated a detailed answer. When the letter was read he said:— "Pray that God may brighten his lamp day by day, cause His Kingdom to be established in the hearts, and the rays of the Sun of Truth may shine forth with greater brilliancy. Consider where is the prison of Acre and the University of Oxford. Through what power this Cause has become so well-known in that stronghold of learning and erudition! Once Aga Reza was making confectionary in Andrianople and had a small store. He had made a sort of Persian lion-lion. A Turk passed by the store and his eyes were attracted by this kind of candy. 'What is this?' he asked. 'It is noghl.' 'With what materials hast thou made this?' 'With sugar and cinnamon.' The Turk wondered for awhile and said: 'Thou art telling a lie. There is no relationship between sugar and cinnamon.' 'Now we might just as well ask, 'What relation

exists between Acca and Oxford? This is no other save through the power of God! Professor Chayne demonstrated to us the utmost kindness and invited us to lunch at his sweet home. He is a great author and has written many volumes. Praise be to God that the Divine Fragrances are being diffused in all parts. Just at this time I wrote a letter to the Islands of Honolulu. These are situated in the Pacific Ocean. Few of the Persians have heard even their names yet the Cause of God has conquered those remote parts. Taking away the first part of the word Hono- (lulu) and using only the last part - lulu - it means scarecrow in Persian. But now it has become a strong bond of unity between the East and the West. The person to whom I wrote the letter has asked permission to go to Japan and spread the Cause. The Cause of God has in itself an innate force propelling it forward and onward. Another good news which we have just received is from Minneapolis. The Bahai assembly of that city has rendered a glorious service. They have forwarded the Glad tidings of the Kingdom of Akha to the President of the United States, Cabinet Secretaries, Governors, Clergymen, women's Clubs, school teachers. Reflect how God inspires the servants to carry out His work! Who could ever dream that after the hard incarceration of Acca, the spies, and the closing of the doors of all correspondence - to the extent that we could not send out one letter - the voice of the Cause would be heard from Honolulu. The surveillance of the guards ^{in the prison of Acca} was so strict that whenever they brought us a few loaves of bread, they were

cut in Tehran

in ~~the~~ prison for fear that there might be hidden some written messages. At that time there was a government physician. He was the prison doctor and came to the barracks to attend to the sickness of the prisoners. He was a Greek and his name was Peter. Every day that he came to the barracks he was followed by two soldiers, so that he might, in any way, communicate with the prisoners. One day while he was on his tour of inspection, when he reached me, he told me in Greek that he had a letter for Baba-ollah. 'I want deliver into your hand this letter but I do not know how, for these soldiers are watching me.' As they could not understand Greek, they did not comprehend what he said. In turn I made him understand that he may leave his hat in the prison and go out with the guards. When he is a block ^{away} he may run back to take it, while ordering the guards to wait till his return. He did as I told him and we got the letter safely. By this one instance you can easily conceive how it was impossible to communicate with the outside world, and now in one day we receive more than one hundred letters from all parts of Europe and America."

In the afternoon I went again to the house. He had an eye-glass in his hand and a paper of it told us of a long telescope ^{which} his grandfather had received as a present from the government of Russia, because he was the person chosen by the Shah to carry the three million and half war indemnity. This telescope on clear days could see twelve miles away. But now we have a divine telescope in our hand that can see the furthest ends of the earth and make visible the invisible objects.