

Bahai Nest

Mount Carmel Haifa, Syria

March 5th 1914

Dear friends!

"Be thou a distributor of roses" the Master said as he handed a handkerchief full of roses to Mirza Hussein Haji and in turn he ^{Mirza Hussein} divided them amongst all the Pilgrims who were gathered in the large reception room to hear his words of wisdom. The Beloved's desire is that every one of us may become the distributor of the ideal roses of the Kingdom of Abha, the fragrances of which perfume the consciousness of all mankind. "Be thou a distributor of roses" he may just as well tell to all of us, for this is the highest position in the world of humanity. While the roses were ^{being distributed} given around the Master continued his talk: "There are many kind of roses but this kind (I am sending 5 of them to Mr. Hansen) is the most fragrant. The extract of rose is taken from these. The Blessed Perfection always ^{loves}

this specie of roses. Large bowls containing the same,
 decorated the table of his room all the time. The fragrance
 of this rose ^{has} a great refining effect upon the human
 constitution. Baha-allah loved ^{perfumes} ~~perfumery~~ very much
 and he always used the attar of the rose. The physical
 susceptibilities of the Blessed Perfection were very
 great. His sense of smell was very keen indeed, ^{and also his eyesight} and up
 to the end of his life he read the finest types without
 the aid of glasses. The Holy, Divine Manifestations
 are even superior and distinguished in their physical
 powers from the rest of mankind. For example, even
 when the Blessed Perfection was not feeling well his
 pulse did beat regularly like the pulse of a young
 man of 20 yrs old. Although for the last 3 years of
 His life he hardly ate anything. The servants brought
 the tray before him, he looked at the various dishes,
 ate a few mouthfuls and it was immediately
 removed; yet the pulse was more than normal.
 At that time there was a Greek Doctor who ^{regu-}larly
 called on the Family whenever any of us ^{was}

It ² was not feeling well. One day he was allowed to stand in the Presence of Baha-ollah. He looked into His Face and His Eyes and asked permission to feel His Pulse. After due examination the Doctor expressed his astonishment ^(and said) that he had never seen a constitution so highly sensitive as His"

Then he told them the story of the prison of the Blessed Perfection in Tcheran, the sufferings of the Bahais, their heroic stand and their unexampled fortitude in the face of the most dire persecutions.

Everytime he repeats a certain story of the Cause ^{which} I have heard him before, he adds further sidelights, making it at once instructive and more comprehensive.

These additions I hope to add to the original stories recited in these letters, whenever I find time for their revision in the future. After

the address the older son of Ebné Abhar - qyrself - recited a wonderful ^{Tablet} from the pen of the Center of the Covenant, when the meeting was over I wrote it down and I like to share its contents with you:-

"O ye believers of God! Avoid the smell of ignorant prejudices, the blind enmity and hatred and the racial, patriotic and religious superstitions which are in toto inconsistent with the Divine Religion, opposed to the good-pleasure of God and conducive to the deprivation of man from the Bestowals of the Merciful. Abstract yourselves from these imaginations and cleanse and polish the mirrors of your hearts from the dross of these ignorant prejudices - thus you may become real kind and loving to the world of humanity, serving mankind with faithfulness and entertaining not the least trace of ill-feeling against the individual members of any nation, any religion, any community, any race and any country. Exercise toward all the utmost friendliness and amity. Perchance through the Providence and Bounty of God the horizon of mankind may become purified and sanctified from these black clouds of ~~dark~~ unlightened lies and dark hostility and aversion. Strive that day by day you may become the cause of love and amity

amongst all the nations of the world God has created you for admonition, exhortation, the readjustment of morality, the illumination and the spiritualization of the world of humanity. This is your duty. Upon ye be greeting and praise! (Sig) Abdul Baha Abbas. "

In the morning the Beloved walking through the garden called for Elv'e Abber and for more than one ^{hour} he spoke with him about the cause in Teheran. Large meetings are being held in the last-mentioned city, Rasht, Baku and other points and people are increasingly attracted to the Cause of God. In a public meeting in Rasht, a nobleman who had met the Beloved in Paris says:- "I am not a Bahai, neither am I interested in the movement but I had the pleasure to meet Abdul Baha in Europe and I can declare fear-^{that} lessly he is two yards above the head of all humanity. "

Our pilgrims from other parts report ^{many} ^{more}

progress of the movement and are filled with the ⁵ joyful service of humanity. Some one ~~who~~ asked the Master how ^{he could} best serve his fellowmen. His ^{answer} is universal and can be applied to all the believers. He said: "Be thou occupied in guiding the souls. If you want to educate a person you must strive for many years, ^{exhort} him, advise him and train him with much difficulty. This is one kind of teaching the souls through the inculcation of moral lessons by slow degrees. The other way is through the guidance of God and the descent of the Holy Spirit. When a person is taught through the love of God there will come over him a radical change and his moral life will be ^{transformed} ~~transformed~~ instantaneously and his conduct and manners will become spiritual. Therefore, the greatest service to be rendered to the human world is to guide it to the right path, to be ^{the} means of the salvation of the souls - so that the dark ones may become illumined, the defective perfect, the earthly ones, heavenly; extinct ones enlightened, the satanic ones angelic - thus they may all attain to eternal life."