

Tiberias, Sea of Galilee
 Syria

June 4th 1914

Dear friends!

Our new home is the second floor of the house of the old Mofti on the shore of the Sea of Galilee near the landing of the steamer which plies twice the Lake between Es-Samach and Tiberias. It has five rooms, one large central hall, a Kitchen, a lovely balcony on which the Master sits to watch the sea and the mountains, and a spacious back porch wherein we find vases of blooming flowers. The room next to the porch on the right hand is the sleeping room of the Beloved; opposite it is the drawing room; next to the drawing room is my humble room, having two windows looking into the court. The view from the porch is very magnificent. Right below you see every morning and evening hundreds of women and girls bringing on their heads empty jars to fill them with the water of the Lake and carry away to their homes for drinking purposes. One never gets tired to watching ⁷ this seemingly interminable chain of the native women in their many colored Oriental dresses with their big jars on their heads and the deatrees

way they manage to walk erect without even touching the
 jars. This morning after drinking his tea ^{the master} ~~he~~ went out
 to call on ^{his} friends and speak with a number of storekeepers
 who ~~have known~~ ^{knew} him ~~since the last time he has been~~ ^{when he was here}
~~here~~. Even the Jews love him and have the greatest ad-
 miration for him, but they do not ^{know his station, for} ~~recognize him~~, they
 are wrapped up in their own dogmas and stick tena-
 ciously to their own old, tattered thoughts. They do not
 know that we are living in a wonderful age, an age
 of the revelation of the mysteries of the Kingdom, an
 age of the downpour of the Bestowals of the Holy Spirit,
 an age of spiritual revivification, an age of celestial
 brotherhood. They are totally absorbed in their own
 thoughts. They believe in the iron rules of Gamara
 and Talmud more than the commands of the
 prophets. They see only a wonderful man walking
 in the narrow streets of their town. They gaze at
 him and wonder at the majesty of his presence, the
 suavity of his manners, the comeliness of his face,
 the gentleness of his speech, the beauty of his bearing and
 the generosity of his hand. "His highness Effendi?"
 said to me an old Rabbi the other day "Oh yes

I believe he is the greatest man on the face of the earth. His fame hath reached the East and the West. He loves all mankind, he is kind to all humanity, but I wonder whether those who call themselves ~~on~~ his followers are as broad and as tolerant as he is! As long as he lives in this world the people will draw great benefit from him, but what a calamity when he is taken away from us. Don't think that we don't love Abbas Effendi. Did not his father command his followers: 'Associate with all the people with joy and fragrance?' Ask any Jew in Tiberias: whether he loves Abbas Effendi? and the answer will be most emphatically affirmative."/>

When the Beloved returned from his calls he sat in the drawing room and one thing and another brought in the name of the Greek nation. "The Greek people" he said "are scattered all over the world. No matter where you go you find a number of them engaged in the most diverse lines of human activities. They are merchants, hotelkeepers, artists, financiers, restaurant managers and inventors and generally they make a success of everything they undertake. They have a great deal of pluck and determination, patience and will.

Whenever there is war or a national crisis they come forward most nobly to help their afflicted countrymen with money and person."

Then ^{the} Mofti called ⁱⁿ and after a short talk with him the Beloved he asked me to go out with him. He walked toward the hotel and as there were several Arabs he spoke about the possibility of the Jewish progress and advancement in Tiberias. "This town" he said "is very sacred in the estimation of the Jews, yet they seldom think of its improvement and cleanliness. The Jews who live in Europe and America are extremely rich and if they could devise some means to cause the growth and refinement of this town it would be a great boon to the world of humanity. Already various Jewish Societies, benevolent and otherwise have founded, thriving, progressive colonies in various parts of Palestine and, Syria but they have done nothing for Tiberias. In the future they must turn ^{more} their attention to this town and the shores of this wonderful Lake."

Leaving the hotel he entered the Mosque for a few minutes and then called at Sheikh Said

Tabari. Here also he met a number of people, especially
 a tall, dignified Sayad with a very long beard almost
 reaching to his waist and whom he called "my
 old friend from Acca". After this he returned to the
 house and by this time it ^{was} about eleven am. The
 boat from Samach arrived soon afterwards and
 brought Mirza Jalal on its deck. We were all glad
 to see him, for he had brought with him the mail
 of the last forty days accumulated in Port Said
 and just received at Haifa. The Master had specially
 asked Ahmad Yazdi to keep the letters for a month
 and not forward them for a month. There were
 actually hundreds of letters in large, heavy packages
 from all parts of the world and if the Master
 decides to answer even one fourth of them it
 will take days and days. In the afternoon Mirza
 Jalal brought out of his satchel these many
 packages of letters and while the Master was sitting
 on the balcony they were presented to him. He was
 dismayed when he looked at them and made a
 sign of astonishment. Then he started to open
 the packages one after another, and had just

time to feel the envelopes. A few cables demanding immediate attention called forth answers to be sent from Haifa. As the Master was handling the letters from America, Europe, Persia, India, Turkey, Egypt, Russia etc, the picture of the lowly Nazarene 1900 years ago, was brought to mind and the marmellous ^{perplexity} of this Cause in this day in comparison with the day of Christ! The Master is seeing with his own eyes the results of the spiritual awakening in all parts of the world. These letters are evident proofs of the tremendous progress of the Movement and modern let each one is bringing the sweet message of love and the promotion of the Cause. "When will we get time to answer these letters?" he asked as he looked smilingly into my eyes and put back the last envelope in the handbag.

Then he took Mirza Jalal with himself and walks out of the house, calling on Said Effendi Malki whose house is of town. On his return he took his supper and went into his room to sleep till the next morning. I hope ^{that} in the course of the next few days, at least short answers will be ^{revelated} for each soul.