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Tiberias, Sea of Galilee
Syria

June 9th 1914

Dear friends!

Mr E. M. Newman the famous traveller and ~~illustrated~~ lecturer with three other Americans called on the Beloved. Mr Newman is travelling through Palestine and Syria, collecting up to date materials and taking photographs of the ancient and modern sites ~~and~~ cities as well as prominent personalities for the course of his Lectures on the Holy Land to be delivered in the United States during the coming winter. He ^{had} been ~~already~~ in Acca ^{and} but not finding the Master there he was keenly disappointed, and ~~he~~ could get no knowledge of the Master's whereabouts. This morning he ^{saw} ~~seen~~ the Beloved walking into the hotel. Being much impressed by his majestic carriage and personality he ^{asked} ~~asked~~ some one who ^{that} ~~this~~ person might be? "Oh" he was answered "Do you not know him? He is Abbas Effendi." Well, you may imagine the delight and surprise of Mr Newman to find the Master in such an unexpected manner in Tiberias. ^{So} ~~That is why~~ they came to ~~see him~~ this afternoon to take his picture and to listen to his exposition of the Bahai Movement.

of the Beloved

Nearly half a dozen photographs were taken, some having the old castle, the Lake and the Mountains as the background, two, in a natural attitude, reading an Arabic newspaper and one with Mr Archie Bell, the Correspondent of Cleveland Plain Dealer. I have no doubt our friends in Washington and other cities will make it a point to go and see these colored pictures and hear what Mr Newman has to say about Abdul Baha. I was secretly longing that some good photographs might be taken of the Master while ^{he was} staying in Tiberias and I am more than glad that my prayers are answered.

When Mr Newman expressed the object of his tour in Palestine and his desire to take the photographs of the Master he said:—"Why do you want to take my photographs? You must take the pictures of the famous men in the World. I ^{should not} think you would like to photograph a person who has been in prison forty years?" "Yes." Mr Newman said "Any person who has been able to withstand so many years of imprisonment with its attendant hardships and privations for the sake of his convictions and ideals is worthy of every honor."

Tea and apricots were served and meanwhile the photographs were taken. Then as Mr Archie Bell is going to write an article on his visit to Abdul Baha for the

Cleveland Dealer and other papers he asked several questions
 on the history, Teachings and the relation of this Cause
 to Christianity which were taken up by the Master one by
 one and fully answered. "The principle aim of this Movement"
 he said "is to investigate Reality and promote the underlying
 unity of the world's religions. His Holiness Baha-ollah suffered
 imprisonment, exile, persecution for more than 50 yrs so that
 this Divine Idea ^{might} ~~may~~ become fulfilled. Now praise be to God
 that His Principles have illumined the East, the souls and
 the intellects are delivered from morbid dogmas, the Flags
 of Guidance are unfurled and the people of the Orient and
 the Occident are increasingly united through the bond of
 spiritual brotherhood. There are many instances in history ~~that~~
 often through the instrumentality of one soul - no matter
 how poor and simple - a whole nation has been saved,
 godly ideas ^{have been} ~~were~~ promoted, celestial thoughts born and
 stupendous progress made possible. Amongst such benefactors
 of ^{the} human race was His Holiness Jesus Christ. Although
 outwardly he was poor he possessed the treasures of the
 Kingdom; although he was humble yet he was the Sovereign
 of the realm of hearts. Through the light of his commands
 Europe emerged out of the darkness of idolatry and ignorance.

Christ was an ensample to all humanity."

I had just received from Haifa four packages of Washington Post and Literary Digests. Having not seen an American paper for a long time they were delighted when the Master offered all the papers to them, and I had not even looked ^{at} rough them, Well, I ~~had~~ to part with them reluctantly. The interview coming to an end they left the Beloved Thankfully and happily.

In the morning the Beloved went out and when he returned he retired to his room to read the petitions. At eleven o'clock three pilgrims arrived, two from Yazd and one from Gazwin. About 12 pilgrims have arrived in Haifa yesterday and they are waiting their turn to come two by two. The Master received them with much love and tenderness. They had travelled for ^{thousands} of miles for this moment and consequently they ~~were weeping~~, ^{their} tears of joy ^{were} falling from their cheeks. "How are the believers in all the cities that you ^{have} passed through? Are they enkindled and attracted? Are they serving the Cause with enthusiasm and earnestness? Those souls who arose against ~~this~~ cause and fabricated instruments of persecutions and oppressions and surrounded

the friends with sufferings and hardships, thought ~~they~~^{would} be honored amongst men; instead they are in manifest loss and ⁱⁿ great regret. They are humiliated and the public looks down upon them with contempt. - What do the people of Persia say about this Cause? They have seen so many things with their own eyes, have heard so many wondrous Teachings with their own ears and yet are they not ^{made} mindful? Are they not awakened out of their sound sleep?"

When our American visitors left the house a Christian Minister called on the Beloved. He was anxious to hear the Master speak to him about Socialism and its theories which he did at great length, illustrating it with intellectual and historical examples ^{to prove} that ^{proving} equality of all classes is an impossibility. But what is desirable is to foster the spirit of a broader justice and sympathy amongst the rich - thus all classes may enjoy the benefits of society - there must be no starvation, no misery staring in the eyes, no over-worked factory boys and girls, no sallow, hardened, emaciated faces. This earth belongs to all, ~~the~~ distribution of its products must be universal. Riches must not

be concentrated ^{the hands of a few} ~~into a few hands~~. There must not be swollen
 wealth. It must be ~~curbed~~ and limited through wise legis-
 lations and laws. The legislators must see to it that the poor
 are protected from the greed of the rich man. They must
 "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not
 high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living
 God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do
 good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute,
 willing to communicate." In this strain the Beloved
 went on speaking in the Cause of those who have a
 little or no share in the wealth of this world. Then
 the Minister asked about the mission of Christ. Without
 pause he continued: "His Holiness Christ came for the
 promulgation of the law of Love. All the prophets
 were sent, all the books were revealed so that the
 Law of Love ^{might} ~~may~~ be promoted. But a few self-seeking
 people subverted the original aims of the Religion of
 God, changed its pure current and made it an instrument
 of hatred and rancour and quarrel and sedition.
 Why should we hate the members of other religions?
 Why should we not love each other? Why should
 we be tattlers and busybodies and gossip-mongers? Why