

Bahai Nest. Mount Carmel
Haifa Syria
July 31th 1914

Dear friends!

The most fascinating study is to read sympathetically the many hundreds of letters that come to Abdul Baha from all parts of the world, especially ^{from} Europe and America. These letters in many cases contain the most natural, spontaneous outpourings of the hearts, throbbing cries for more spiritual light and wisdom and the need of the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Touching the human plane, the range of personal wishes and individual aspirations is as infinite as the mind of man is able to conceive! Aside from the more legitimate desires of man for happiness, comfort, success, usefulness in life etc, with which these letters speak eloquently, now and then one comes across ^{the} most interesting desires. Here is a letter from an expectant mother. She asks for a name for her ^{new} born child; another person desires to move from her present apartment and she likes to know whether Abdul Baha approves of it; a young man has quarrelled ~~with~~ his sweetheart, and he wonders whether the Master's spiritual power is strong enough

to bring about the much-longed for "Conciliation"; unexpected events have strangled a man and wife, ^{and} false pride has separated them, he is repining in loneliness. Will not the Beloved bring back into their lives the sweet harmony of the first few months of their ideal courtship and the first few years of their blissful, happy marriage? a man has invented a trans-atlantic airship, will not Abdul Baha inspire the heart of a capitalist to assist him financially in the construction of this aircraft and thus demonstrate to the world that the science of aviation has been made practical; another person desires to build a house, will not the Master introduce him to a rich somebody? a woman has been ridiculed and abused by her enemies; should she not carry the case to the court? a man is tormented by the animal magnetism of his foes, will Abdul Baha be a woman cables whether she should be operated upon? will not the Master advise her ^{what to do}? Kind enough to stop them from this foolish work? I may go on reciting hundreds of similar wishes, but this is enough to show you how the world comes to Abdul Baha with all her curious desires. Amongst other interesting things are the children's letters so full of affectionate simplicity, sweetness, directness and beautiful trust. I have in my hand a lovely letter ^{written to Abdul Baha} from a ten years old girl, Miss

"Kathleen Hillis" from Los Angeles. The Master was very pleased with it, laughed over it and dictated a Tablet for her ^{this afternoon}. I will quote it here as a type representing many others, neither will I make any correction:-

"Dear Brother, I do not know you very well. Mother has the book of your life and has been reading it to me and I think it is very beautiful. I am only ten years of age and know very little of the Heavenly Wisdom. I treat others and myself when a little thing so small that we cannot see it tries to rule us. I want to ask you if my way of treating is your way? At first I saw a golden ray come from the sun and a silver ray come from my heart. But Mother said, "The other side of the sun is more spiritual than (than) the side we see." So now I see the outline of God's head and the rest is fluffy white robes (Robes) and golden ray comes from his outstretched fingers.

I have five grown bantam chickens and seven babies. I love them very much.

My brother Doniel (probably Daniel), and I have a parrot. The parrot sleeps out on door of the chicken's pen at noon.

I have two cousins that live with me, one is studying

the voice, the other plays very well on the piano and I wish you would help them to understand there ^(their) powers. I wish you would help me with my music to. (too). I want you to tell me what kind of a ^(an) instrument is the most spiritual. I think the golden harp. I hope that I can keep in touch with you through through the ether until we meet face to face. With God's breath. your sister Kathleen Hillis."

Abdul Baha writes her the following Tablet:
 "O thou dear little girl! Thy letter was received. Thou wilt become informed with the heavenly Teachings and wilt become confirmed to live in accord with those heavenly Principles. The "golden ray" was the ray of the Sun of Reality. I hope it may be cast upon thy heart.

Be thou kind to the "bantam chickens and their babies" and take good care of them; - so that thou mayst learn how to train the living creatures. Teach and educate the "parrot;" - in order that she may become the cause of thy happiness and like unto her thou mayst be instructed with the heavenly Words. Although the parrot may be unconscious of the meaning of her phrases, yet God willing, thy heart will be inspired with such utterances, the significances of which will be revealed to thee first and

then the words will flow from thy tongue. Perfect thyself in the art of music; - so that thou mayest be able to play on the harp most divinely.

Upon thee be Baha - El Abha!

(Signed) Abdul Baha Abhas.

On the envelope of Miss "Kathleen's" letter, the following ^{poetic line} was written, probably by her mother: "From a beautiful white rosebud of California to the full blown White Rose of Persia."

This morning the Beloved walked twice through the garden and then went into the reception room dictating Tablets to Shaugi Effendi till noon. A letter from Esslingen gave ^{the} news that they have commemorated the children's day in which the Master was present last year. Along with ^{other} decorations and through the floral festoons they had hung the Persian flag. With this the Master very pleased and asked Shaugi Effendi to send that letter to the Editor of a Persian newspaper in Cairo - thus he might realize how the flag and the name of Persia are honored in Germany.

In the afternoon I was called into his holy Presence and from 2 to 5 innumerable Tablets were dictated for Europe and America.