

Bahai' Nest. Mount Carmel
Haifa Syria
September 11th 1914

Dear friends!

"I am humble. I am meek. The Blessed Perfection has trained and educated me with the power of humility and renunciation. I am walking in this path and no one can detract from attention. If the celestial sphere and the material universe are thrown together in utter confusion, I remain steadfast to my Faith. We must utter the truth under all circumstances. We must be the champions of Truth. The servitude at the Divine Threshold is Light. In whichever face it shines more, it is more radiant. All the superficialities and illusions shall pass away and only Truth shall remain. All these tempests will be calmed down and the sea will appear in its marvellous beauty. Praise be to God, we are under the protection of Baha-ollah. His Graces and Favors have surrounded us. Whosoever desires to believe, let him believe, whosoever wishes to deny, let him deny. We will pick quarrel with no one. Long, long ago have we chosen our cross. If anyone desires to accompany us

in our journey he is welcomed; if he likes to take another road he is also welcomed. This Cause has had many upheavals and will have greater upheavals in the future. From the very beginning we had prepared ourselves for such eventualities. If there was some one who expected that there will not be any difficulties in this Cause he was doomed to disappointment. Pray that we may so live as to win the good-pleasure of the Blessed Perfection. Then all the doors will be opened before our faces. This is the truth, and there is nothing beyond truth but error."

In this manner the Beloved spoke the other day, ^{while} he was walking in the Pilgrims Home. We did not see him today, because he had to entertain many callers. We missed his commanding, yet humble presence and his melodious voice at our afternoon service in the holy Tomb. Shaugi Effendi read the visiting Tablet. Never mind if we did not see him for one day. The very thought that we are so near to him is the greatest consolation in these calamitous days. As he is living on Mount Carmel, we are happy; as he is sad over the human butchery in Europe, we mourn with him; as he is feeling ^{well} we are thankful; as he is holding aloft

courageously the standard of Peace, we rejoice at it; as a life a victorious Commander, we obey him; as he is the centre of Divine Servitude, we honor him: There is happiness for his life, tears for his mourning, thankfulness for his health, joy for his courage, obedience to his Command, and honor for his Servitude.

Every night the students gather in their hall, deliver speeches, sing poems and chant prayers and communions. The Master encourages them in all their social and literary activities and many a night he comes out on the veranda of his room and listens to their songs and speeches. To a newly arrived pilgrim he said: "In these beautiful nights the Mountain reverberates with the voices of the students. How heavenly this is! They have ^{made} indeed marvellous progress! What a divine condition for man to be free from every thought, attracted with the Fragrances of the Merciful, confirmed by the Breezes of the rose garden of Alpha, rejoiced with the Glad tidings of the Kingdom and inspired with the holiest Ideals of Morality! The mention is like unto the gentle Zephyr. Just as the wafting of the Zephyr stirs the leaves of the trees, so the Mention of God moves the hearts of men!"

In a Tablet the Beloved says:—

"O ye merciful friends! The spiritual Grace and the radiant Bestowal are the results of firmness in the Divine Love and steadfastness in the Path of God. It is revealed in the Blessed Verse: 'Those who say: 'O Our Lord God!' and then remain steadfast, upon them shall descend the angel.' This is the angel of Confirmation! This is the angel of assistance! This is the angel of Mercy! This is the angel of Grace! This is the angel of inspiration! This is the angel of assurance and certainty! In other words these lofty stations and merciful virtues are the outcomes of firmness and steadfastness. The firm soul is growing and a steadfast person will become the recipient of the Bounties of the Most High! When the tree sends down its roots to the soil, it will become green and verdant, producing leaves and blossoms and yielding luscious fruits. When the basis of the building is laid deep upon granite its Court will be like an enduring palace and its columns unshakable. Therefore, as much as you able, show ye firmness and steadfastness — so that you may become the manifestations of the Favors of the Glorious Lord, behold the effulgence of the Almighty and perceive the invisible Outpourings.

In the morn and eve I entreat and supplicate at the Threshold of Oneness and beg for you supreme aid and heavenly help - so that in this darkened world you may appear with the luminous splendor, and adorn the world of existence with the virtues and ethics of the resord of humanity. Strive ye ^{by} day and ^{by} night, so that you may become the focus of a philanthropic service and beseech and entreat by night and by day - in order to render a great assistance to mankind. This is the most Eminent Bounty "

In another Tablet he writes:-

"O thou firm and growing One! 'Motion' is the necessary law of the realities of beings, and conducive to the realization of universal benefits in the sphere of phenomena. The force of 'motion' is played upon the most infinitesimal atoms and the greatest and most colossal bodies revolving in the immeasurable space of the world of creation are moving. Motion is the essential requirement of life and without it there will be death and non-being. The water gathering in a pool without an outlet will become stagnant. If the air of the room is not renewed, it will come vitiated. When the bodies do not move

they become the prey of disease of sicknesses. Therefore it is well if man becomes the collective centre of all the motions, - to seek after the essential motion, to long for creative motion, to aspire after the quantitative motion, to find the source of the physical motion and become the embodiment of spiritual motion. All these motions lead man to freedom. Consequently if you can be always on the wing of motion - travelling and moving around - it is better than to live in one place - speechless, extinct, cold and tormented....?

The above two Tablets will demonstrate to us that in these days we must be more than active, more than satisfied with our small groups. We must go out into the world and spread the Gospel of Peace amongst the people. We must make ourselves the fulcrum of spiritual forces and not be drunk with the mandragora of forgetfulness and negligence. These are the days of the assertion of Ideals over matter, the days of the diffusion of the fragrances of hope and peace. We must sound the tocsin of war that war is reprehensible and satanic and peace is praiseworthy and angelic.