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Bahai Nest, Mount Carmel
Haifa, Syria. Oct 13th 1914

Dear friends!

As the Beloved gave me a number of Tablets to translate today, although many other interesting events came to pass I will share with you some general extracts which will throw additional lights on Bahai principles. The Editor of the Lamp, ^{in Bombay} who has already published two articles in its columns he ^{has} written the following beautiful and significant Tablet:—

O thou noble editor, cherisher of knowledge and the well-wisher of the world of humanity! Persia at one time was the delectable paradise and enjoyed a most pure Faith. The inhabitants of Persia were leaders in the world of sciences and arts and the wise men of Persia were the instructors and educators of mankind. Her glory was perpetual and the fame of her grandeur and state-ship world-encircling. Her ethics were the sterling virtues of the world of humanity and her morals, the excellences of the Merciful One! But most regretful it is that that illumination receded back little by little into the darkness of night, the people of Persia became divided amongst themselves and arose in the conquest of other lands. Thus the country of Persia, became in turn, the tramping-ground of foreign nations, such as the Arabs and the Turks. In the course of the fluctuating history, the peoples of the East and the West attacked them with impetuosity; causing the trembling of their ancient institutions and the crumbling of their fundamental, solid structures. Therefore, that imperishable paradise was changed into a useful and sad charnel-house; that brilliant horizon was covered with black clouds. There remained no trace of the former virtues and from the Zenith of glory they fell to the nadir of degradation.

But now after the lapse of many centuries, His Highness the Almighty has again looked upon them with the glance of mercifulness and the Cup-bearer of Celestial Bestowal became manifest in the

end of Persia. The Sun of Reality shone forth, casting the effulgence of His
 rays upon that country. He proclaimed the Heavenly Teachings and instituted
 the Religion of the Clement Lord. It is hoped that the Splendor of this Sun
 might make the expanse of Persia like unto the luminous immensity of
 heaven. In other word, I hope such souls will be educated who may
 sparkle in the horizon of that country like unto the beaming stars.

Although up to the present time many blessed souls have been found
 who by accepting the New Renovating Faith have revived the ancient
 Glory of Persia, accepted every form of persecutions and afflictions and
 in this Path, while dancing, they hastened toward the arena of martyrdom
 and now by day and by night they are working self-sacrificingly.
 But alas! Alas! still the majority of the inhabitants of Persia are
 in sound sleep and have not heard, neither are they informed with
 the Most Eminent Bestowal. The owner of the house has come at
 the door but the dwellers in the house have shut the door and do not
 desire to let him in. They had treated the friend as though he was a stranger
 and the known as though he was unknown. They seem to say: "We
 are satisfied with this degradation. We are comfortable amidst all
 these distractions, dissipations, grovelling dirt and uncleanliness. We do
 not want the owner of the house. We are not seeking his Faith, we
 loathe him and are holding aloof of his Favor and Grace. This is not
 a kind father but a foreigner. Although he may be the Beloved One
 of all the nations of the world, His renown world-conquering, the
 fame of His Grandeur reaching the ears of the rich and the poor alike,
 other nations from different parts of the world entering under the shade
 of His Sacred Tree by cohort and cohort, accepting His Teachings
 and receiving a share from His Table of Sustenance, still
 like unto the owls we are joyless and happy in our dilapidated

needs. We do not wish to hear the song of the bird of the dawn neither are we seeking the shade of the Phoenix of the height of glory. We are longing for ideal developments, nor are we asking for the perfectures of the world of humanity. We declare we are rich and are not in need of the table of Divine Gifts. We possess the inexhaustible Treasure. We are not hunting trouble for our hearts and minds."

"Alas! a thousand times Alas! that America become awakened but Persia is still in the grasp of the sleep of negligence! However it is hoped that the splendor of the Sun of Reality will ere long dispense these clouds of inadvertence, the horizon of Persia may irradiate spiritual lights to all the regions, the friends become awakened, and the Persians full of understanding

To Mr and Mrs Frank Moxey of New York who have written many inspiring Bahai poems he writes:—

"O ye two eloquent, impassioned and artistic poets! Thank ye God that ye are spending your time in the glorification of His Holiness Baha-Allah and are compassing such poems — like unto a string of pearls with such fluency and grace.

"Today ^{from} all the Societies of the world a song and a melody is being raised. Here, martial music fills the ears; then, from a meeting the strains of joy and happiness reaches to the apex of heaven. At this banquet, the tunes and airs of reception and nuptial give joy to merry-mothers. At that gathering the rapture of patriotic songs swell the breasts. But praise be to God that from your assembly the harmony of the Kingdom and the diapason of the praise and commendation of His Holiness Baha-Allah reach the ears of the denizens of the East and of the West. This harmony is the everlasting harmony and this Concord will charm the ears of the dwellers

of the Kingdom. Throughout the succeeding centuries and cycles they will impart happiness to the righteous and the elect. . . .

To the believer in London he says: -

"The emancipation of women is a principle of the principles of the religion of God; for this reason I summoned the Blessed Leaf, Rauhah, to Paris and sent her to London and also sent the maid-servants of God, Zinat and Aadsia to America; - thus these actual examples may serve as precedents for the Eastern women. Although in Persia, on account of the intense fanaticism of the inhabitants the women have not yet gained complete emancipation - and if a woman obtains such unrestricted freedom, they will immediately tear her to pieces - still, in spite of this, the believers of God are day by day adding to their liberty. I hope that ere long they may procure perfect enfranchisement. Convey the wonderful Abha greeting to thy two noble daughters. I hope a day may come when they might go to Persia, render a most great service to the Cause of God and become the instruments of the emancipation of women. For the freedom of women is an essential part of the Divine Religion. . . ."

To the Portland Bahai Assembly he says: -

"O ye denizens of the Kingdom! your letter was received. It became the means of joy and gladness for it was an indication to your firmness and steadfastness. Praise be to God you belong to an assembly which is conducted with the utmost joy and fragrance; The candle of that Assembly is the Bestowals of His Holiness Baha-Allah; the Spirit of that assembly is the Confirmation of the Supreme Kingdom; the Sustenance of that Assembly is the Celestial Benediction. It is my hope that the life of that assembly may be the Breath of the Holy-Spirit; - so that in accord with the Heavenly Teachings you may become the army of Universal

Peace and through the Power of the Principles of His Holiness Baha-Allah we may break through the armies of war, strife and bloodshed and hoist the Flag of Union, Good-fellowship and Love in the world of humanity. The citizens of the United-States as regards this glorious aim, i.e., Universal Peace - are distinguished from the European nations and therefore it behooves them to glory above all other nations especially His Excellency Mr W. J. Bryan, the Secretary of State of the United States, who, truly I say, has arisen with the utmost energy in the promotion of the Universal Peace. As regards the realization of this matter he is striving in accordance with the Teachings of His Holiness Baha-Allah and in this respect, he is self-sacrificing. I hope he may become the candle of the Parliament of Universal Peace and like unto the morning star he may shine forth from the horizon of the oneness of the world of humanity.

This afternoon the Beloved ordered Aga Mohammad Hassan to prepare his donkey and after a few minutes he rode down the Mountain. From there his landau was made ready and he called on some officials. When he returned we were all in the garden to welcome him. He made Mr Latimer to sit on one side and Mr Kenney on the other side. Then he patted the latter on the back, saying "How are you?" and pulling the throat of the former and stroking his cheek he asked "How are you?" The answer was of course "Very happy," and the Beloved repeated the two words in English and smiled happily on both. Calling Mirza Hadi he asked him to bring pears and when they were brought he gave one to each. Rising from his seat and the donkey being ready he rode on it and we walked behind behind him with the joy of the Kingdom in our hearts.