

Moonbeam Bahai Cabin ²⁰
Abou Senan. Acca. Syria
January 9th 1915

Dear friends!

"They shall feed the people out of that which We have bestowed upon them" The seal was ready this morning and was put into the hand of the Beloved as he descended the stairs and stepped out into the warm sunshine of God's creation. For half an hour he walked under the blue sky and watched the blue and white waves of the colorless sea. Then he entered the Pharmacy ^{store} in the square below our house and asked one of the friends to go into the bazaar and buy a dozen sheets of paper. This done, we cut the sheets into small square pieces. At the start, he sealed quite a number of them, then he transferred the work to us which was finished in a short time. Meanwhile all the poor of Acca were notified to gather at 10. A.M. in the Inn of Ormdan. The Master entrusted me with the papers and their distribution. Each person was going to have one paper. He sent also for the flour-dealer and showed him the mark of the seal - so that there may be no counterfeit. Then he went away to call on his friends. At the appointed hour with Mirza Sayad Hossein Afnan we went to the Inn and waited there till all of them had gathered. The higgate was closed and the small opening was left ajar. We stood outside and as one by one came out, a paper was given him or her. Inside the Inn we heard a howling and swearing, a furious pushing and pulling, each one trying to walk over the bodies of others and get out before the rest. It was useless to remonstrate, threaten and assure them that we have enough for all and some to spare, I was afraid they will hurt each other, - so I stopped ^{the} distribution and one of the friends forced himself inside to form them into ^a line and keep them in order. After that everything went on smoothly and the poor were pleased and we were happy that they were going to feed themselves at the generous banquet of the Lord. On our return we found the Master standing near the door of the house and talking with a poor man. He had missed coming to the Inn, so He asked me to give ^{him} ~~the~~ papers which I did.

In the afternoon just before departing for Aboon Senan the flour dealer was called in with the bundle of receipts. I numbered and took possession of them as precious mementos for the future, especially the ones written by the Master. Several friends were anxious to get them but they were satisfied to know that I will take good care of them. "I have sold a piece of land" the Master said "in order to procure this money and buy flour for the poor". And the flour-dealer left the room with several jingling English Pounds in his pocket. He told the Beloved he became very angry with the poor because they stormed his shop and yelled and screamed to be served before the rest. He could not stand their insufferable noise and confusion and went after them with the big stick and the language that suited their temper and calmed their insolence. "It was not really necessary to have recourse to such harsh measures. Thou couldst quiet them with the language of love and affection." the Beloved addressed him with a twinkle of smile in his eyes. "Gracious Lord!! To speak with these people in the language of love! They don't know what love is, what gratitude is, what kindness is!" the man answered. "I will teach them the laws of Love, I will train them in the school of Love, I will instruct them the precepts of Love. Be thou kind to them. Treat them with gentleness. Do not deal with them harshly. They are my brothers, my sisters, my sons, my daughters." the Master spoke earnestly, passionately and the man was awed, silenced and only whispered "As the Effendi commandest."

Then while gathering his things to be ready for departure, he walked toward me, gave me a big mandarine, smote with his right hand on my cheek and said: "This mandarine costs one hundred pounds and I am giving it to thee." At first I thought I will keep ~~it~~ and find a purchaser for it; then I convinced myself that I hold a more valid title ~~on~~ this valuable gift and took a distinguished ^{delight} in eating it.

With us in the carriage there were Mirza Ezzeddin, Aga Jamal and the ever ubiquitous Khosro. We stopped at Bahajee, prayed ^{and} silently at the holy Tomb and rode again for Aboon Senan.

On the way toward Abou Senan we were caught by two big showers, but they did not lasted long. The believers knew that the Master is going today, so they were at the foot of the mountain to welcome him and illumine their longing hearts with the light of his Countenance. In this small village they have no other recreation save the thought or the Presence of their Adored one. When he is not with them they think of him and read his words, when he is in their midst they listen to his talks and try to emulate him in their deeds. He is the source of their joy and the joy of the world. The members of the Holy Family were also happy to see their Father and Protector back amongst his own. They would rather have him all the time in Abou Senan, - so that they may take care of him and surround him with the comforts of his home but the Master cannot rest a long time in one place. The inhabitants of Haifa and Acca need him in these hours of their sufferings and wants. He must minister to the needy ones, both physically and spiritually. For this reason and many other reasons he never stays more than a few days in Abou Senan. He comes here to visit the Blessed Household and the friends and then returns to his divine ministrations amongst these people, where God in His Wisdom has placed him for the present.

In the evening we had a large meeting and all the friends entered the reception room of Sheik Saleh with eagerness painted on their faces. The Beloved spoke about many things, now about the elaborate preparations of Turkey to attack Egypt, again about the extreme improbability of ever achieving success or crossing the Suez Canal, then about universal Peace and the blessings which will be accrued to mankind through its establishment, then about Germany and his supreme effort in repulsing the enemies which are encircling her from all sides; now commending the Policy of Italy in having kept her neutrality with such sagacity and statesmanlikeness and then leaving ^{aside} these considerations he spoke about the glories of the Cause and its eternal victories. "The spiritual triumphs of the Kingdom of Ahha are everlasting, and the results of all other endeavors will come to naught." he said as he arose from his seat and retired from the meeting.