

Moonbeam Bahai Cabin
 Above Genan. Acca, Syria
 February 21th 1915

Dear friends!

It was no less than a divine scene, more gorgeous than a spiritual panorama and all the participants enjoyed it to the full. When the sun ^{raised} its sleepy head from its downy pillows of white lights and rubbed its glowing eyes with its ray-shooting hands, it was greeted by a fair, cloudless blue sky. In a similar manner when the ideal sun dawned from the horizon of eternity, the pure heaven of the hearts of the friends welcomed him with the joyous songs of praise and glorification. For the first half hour of the early morn, while the roseate sun was painting aerial pictures across the azure dome, the sun of truth was also drawing imperishable images of the Spirit on the quiet surface of the souls and the minds. Then he left the room and walked like an angel amongst these mortals. The friends already elated and uplifted by his spiritual discourse followed him into the open, odoriferous country, abloom with flowers. How majestic, how celestial, how resplendent he looked as he walked with a dignified slow pace over the verdant meadows, accompanied by the band of his disciples whose every attitude toward him is heartfelt love and devotion. Sheik Yousoff was next to him and while the remarks of the Beloved were addressed to him personally, we all listened to him with attention and relished the beauty of his words and the sanity of his philosophy. "The material man is dead, he must become alive with the breaths of the Holy Spirit; a person who has not inhaled the fragrance of spirituality is like a child who has not yet attained the age of maturity and whose intellectual powers are not unfolded. The physical life of mankind is like unto the carbon, the non-metallic substance present in all organic compounds and entering largely into mineral coals but when it (the physical life) is purified and crystallized with the power of God it will be transmuted into shining diamond. The life of each individual must be cleansed from all its carboniferous substance and reach the state of brilliancy and firmness of diamond." For nearly twenty

minutes the Master walked and talked with Sheik Yousoff on a smooth plain overlooking the valley, while the friends were standing reverently in the distance. It was at this time that I took four snapshots which I hope ^{will} turn out to be good. Then we beheld the most beautiful scene when the Beloved sat under a fig tree with his friend near him. It was on a sloping uneven piece of rock and the believers spread themselves around him. It was indeed a picture so ^{ideal and yet so} real worthy for the skill and efficiency of the greatest painter of this or any other age. This was then the prophetic college where the divine teacher taught his students as the ancient seers did in bygone centuries. Peace and quiet calmness held its magic sway over the minds, the sun shone in the firmament above our heads, the waves of unutterable joy swelled in our breasts, the breeze laden with the odors of the flowers wafted by, the birds sang and rocked on the branches of the trees and the view of the marmorial surface of Mediterranean completed the picture. Silence reigned over the thoughts and ideals of the company as you can easily imagine no one would like to break such a sweet, delicious spell. After a time Sheik Yousoff said: - "According to our tradition all this country has been divided in former ages into thousands fertile, productive, rich Vineyards but nowadays we cannot find a single trace of its ancient fertility. All the pieces of lands still bear the 'titles' of Vineyard and nothing more." The Beloved then said: - "This world of ours is very, very old, subject to periodic revolutions and cyclic fluctuations. Motion and change are its two fixed rules. These two laws are inseparable from each other. All the contingent beings, from the amoeba to the elephants are the creatures of motion and change. Everywhere around us we witness a wonderful scene of life, hurry and bustling activity. In the world of creation there is no pause, no repose and no halt. Growth and decay work their energy on one-celled or many-celled creatures. If a creature is not growing, it is retrograding and before long the life that holds together these composite elements will be snapped and they ^{will} return to their original constituents to compose other forms of life. Not one atom is annihilated nor the storehouse of energy

is ever exhausted in the production of such multitudes of beings. For example when a geologist looks upon this hard rock, without much ^{thought} on his part he will come to the conclusion, that it has taken many ages for the conversion of organic matter into this stony substance that petrification ^{is an} extremely slow process and that many vegetable and animal matters have gone into the composition of ~~this~~ stone. Just as there has been a process of composition, there is also of necessity a process of decomposition. For every organic and inorganic matter there are two ways of growth - longitudinal and horizontal. When mineral substances are decomposed and then these decomposed atoms go into the makeup of other mineral organisms - this is called longitudinal growth; but when these decomposed mineral matters go into the composition of vegetable life - it is called horizontal growth. The same law is applicable to the vegetable and animal Kingdoms. From this it becomes evident that throughout countless ages, every primordial atom must journey and traverse through the ^{infinite} degrees and stations of the Kingdoms of life on this grand Cosmos. In every stage of growth and development this atom assumes unto itself a definite form and shape conformable to its environment and adaptable to its existence and possible variation until at last it attains to its highest point of progress, displaying all its latent force of variability and development. The foregoing premises establish the conclusion that the Grace of God is universal and that all the created objects are destined to manifest their ultimate and ulterior perfection. The links in the chain of God's creation are infinite in number and this world of ours in comparison to the countless worlds of the Creator is a mustard seed in a limitless Sahara of sands and still this vain man is arrogant and proud and does not become humble and meek!! However the grandeur and majesty of God is shown through ^{His} spiritual works and realities and not so much by the signs of life on this planet. This creation itself is nothing in comparison to that "radiant Reality" which He has deposited in the core of this existence and the ^{full} revelation of which shall entirely transform the whole scheme of life.