

Home of Baha Ollah
 Acca Syria
 March 30th 1915

Dear friends!

Mirza Fazlollah Khan, our dear Bahai pilgrim from Shiraz departed this afternoon via Damascus, Beirut. Haji Sayad Javad ^{also} will leave soon via Tyre and Sidon. The Beloved has revealed several Tablets for the important officials in Beirut to facilitate their voyage to Egypt. They will carry back the news of this land and cheer the hearts of the expectant friends by their written and oral words. The Master called the former into his room and after showering his kindness and love upon him said: "Thou hast stayed with us for more than two months. Consequently my heart is very much attached to thee. Separation of the friends is very difficult but praise be to God, through the spiritual Graces of the Blessed Beauty our hearts are united and in the Divine Court we are always present. There is no separation between those souls who are set aglow with the Fire of the Love of God and who are perfumed with the fragrances of ideal nearness. Now that you are going away you will carry the Glad-tidings of the Holy land. Convey my wonderful Abha greeting to all the friends and tell them that I have not forgotten them. I remember and pray for them in all my prayers and wish them divine success in all their spiritual and material undertakings. you observe that it is impossible ^{in these days} to write and mail any letters. All the ways are blocked. I hope that you will receive uninterrupted messages from the Kingdom of Abha and be reinforced with the hosts of the Supreme Concourse. Tell them that I have travelled for 3 or 4 years throughout the different parts of the West, stayed in many cities of Europe and America, summoned the people to the Kingdom of God and invited the inhabitants of those regions to the Manifestation of the Cause of God - Thus the Evidence was perfected, the Truth demonstrated and the Proof was established. Before all the meetings and conferences I spoke very clearly that the essence of the Teaching of Baha Ollah is Peace and salvation, unity and concord, spirituality and love, joy and fragrance. If there

principles of the Baha Ollah are not put into actual practice the world will become afflicted with the most portentous catastrophe and the balance of powers will be thrown into the utmost confusion..... In this manner the Glad-tidings of the Kingdom reached the ears of all those who were far and near and the mysteries of religion were revealed. Now these great wars of the last few months have interrupted the channels of communication and I have been kept silent and straining my ears toward the East and the West, the North and the South to hear the voices of the believers and the songs of the attracted ones. These are the days of the service of the friends of God. They must declare at the top of their voices and announce the beatitudes of the Kingdom of Baha Ollah to all the people of the world."

Today we received an interesting letter from our dear sister Mrs M. Holback. She had mailed it from Locarno, Switzerland and through the German Consul, Haifa. It was months that we had heard no news from her and did not know where she lived. The letter was handed to the Beloved at noon while he was sitting at his bench and he gave it to me for translation. A part of her letter dealt with the lamentable death of Professor Cheyne whose name is so well-known to the Bahais through his meeting with the Master in Oxford and their correspondence. She says; "I do not know whether any written news that Prof. Cheyne has passed from this world will have reached you e'er this letter but I feel spiritually you must know for he once said to me his spirit was in constant communication with you. I saw the notice of his death (or rather his entry into newness of life) in the English papers yesterday. There were long articles about him describing his life and work one of which rightly described him as a 'saint and a hero'. I have just written to Mrs Cheyne and told her I would try and inform you by sending a letter % the German Consul at Haifa. Prof. Cheyne breathed his last on the morning of Feb 16th at mid night, the previous night I felt impelled to write to him - it almost seems as if some spirit message must have come from him to me. I wonder if you received his book 'The Reconciliation of Races and Religions' which was published last November. He hoped as he says in the dedication that the ambassador

of Peace' would accept and enjoy his offering but as the post has long ceased between Egypt and Haifa the book may not have reached you."

The Beloved thought for a moment and a wave of sadness passed over him. Then he said:- "Prof. Cheyne was one of the brightest stars in the religious heaven of the West. From the hour that it arose in the horizon of humanity it shone undimmed to the end. His was a productive, rich, spiritual life, a glorious orb, shining with resplendent beauty and attraction. His writings guided many restless souls to the haven of Peace and satisfaction and the last days of his life were spent in the paradise of illumination, the Kingdom of Knowledge, the garden of attainment and the arcanum of God's good-pleasure. He was indeed a servant of God, he walked with God. He grew in the Grace of the Lord and He was his Shield and reward. His pure spirit like unto a singing nightingale soared heavenward and as a glorified being stood in the refulgent Presence of his Maker. The day that I met him in Oxford I loved him with a divine, eternal love and Kissed him ^{and looked upon him} as one of God's own chosen ones and angels. His work in the Bahai Cause will assume spiritual importance in the future. Although his old age had interfered with the normal activities of the members of his body yet the marvellous productivity and soundness of his mind had remained unimpaired. His wife is a brilliant jewel in the crown of womanhood, a white pearl of the necklace of devotion and a witness in the assemblage of self-sacrifice. Abandoning all desires and ambition she was devoting all her time with a rare faithfulness to her illustrious husband. I looked upon her as an archetype of womanly loyalty and admired her sweet tenderness and solicitous attachment. She is a queen by right of her noble character and her celestial virtue. I have often thought if all the women of the world were like her, every family would have been the symbol of heaven. A man of the type of Prof Cheyne deserved the companionship of such a ^{spiritual} cultured and refined woman! May God inspire her heart with the ethereal ideals of His Kingdom and encircle her for ever with the rarefied atmosphere of His world. I think of her and remember her and will pray for her that Baha Ollah may console her and comfort her in the sad hours of her bereavement and fill her heart with the new joy of His ever-unfolding Truth!"