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ART. IX.—Catalogue and Description of 27 Bábi Manuscripts. By E. G. BROWNE, M.A., M.R.A.S.¹

To my second paper on the Bábís in the J.R.A.S. for 1889 I added an Appendix (App. IV, pp. 1000-1008), wherein I briefly described some of the chief Bábí works of which I had obtained MSS. in Persia, arranging these according to their authorship and the date of their composition, where these could be determined. Of the MSS. themselves (some of which were of composite character) I gave no description. This I now regard as an error of judgement, since, for many reasons (and chiefly that in the future, when they shall pass into other hands, there may be no difficulty in identifying them), it is desirable that their contents should be clearly and succinctly stated. This defect in my previous work I now propose to remedy; but I should not perhaps have done so were it not that since the year 1889 I have acquired a considerable number of new MSS. from authentic sources, a description of which may facilitate the identification of Bábí MSS. in other collections. To each of these MSS. I shall now give a distinctive press-mark, which shall be inscribed on the title-page, and which shall serve for its future identification. The whole class I denote by the letters BB (the first B indicating that they are Bábí MSS., the second that they form part of my collection).

¹ Throughout this article I employ, in referring to my previous writings on the Bábís, and to those of Baron Rosen, the abbreviations already explained at the beginning of my last article (*J.R.A.S.* for April, 1892, pp. 259-260), which is itself denoted by the abbreviation *B. iii*, just as this article will in future be referred to as *B. iv*.

I further subdivide them according to the source whence they were obtained as follows:---

- (I.) MSS. obtained in Persia between the dates February 28th, 1888 (when I first succeeded in establishing communications with the Bábís at Isfahán), and August 22, 1888, when I acquired my last Persian MS. (the Persian Beyán) in Rafsinján near Kirmán. MSS. of this class I denote by the letters BBP (the P standing for Persia).
- (II.) MSS. obtained from Cyprus as a result of the correspondence which, through the kindness of Captain Young, the Commissioner of Famagusta, I have been enabled to carry on since July, 1889, with Subh-i-Ezel (see T.N. ii, pp. xviii.-xx.) All these MSS., with the exception of three or four which were brought to Subh-i-Ezel from Persia in the summer of 1890, were transcribed by himself. I feel that it is only due to him to state that he undertook this laborious task solely from a desire to render the writings of his beloved Master accessible to the western world and out of sheer kindness to myself. I was unable to make him any return, save sundry little services utterly incommensurable with the value of his gifts, and quite undeserving of mention. All these MSS. (including one or two which he placed in my hands while I was in Cyprus in March-April, 1890) are denoted by the letters BBF (the F standing for Famagusta).
- (III.) MSS. obtained at Acre in April, 1888, or from Acre since that date. These were in all cases given or sent to me by Behá'u'lláh's eldest son, 'Abbás Efendí, his second son, Badí'u'lláh, or his third son, Ziyá'u'lláh.¹ When sent, they were accompanied by letters in which the title or nature of

 $^1\,$ I believe that Behá has or had more than three sons, but these are all that I have seen or corresponded with.

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the book was stated. These MSS. are denoted by the letters BBA (the A standing for Acre).

(IV.) MSS. obtained from Sheykh A—, a learned Ezelí resident in Constantinople, who is in constant communication with Subh-i-Ezel, and is implicitly trusted by him, and of whose learning and integrity alike I have had good proof. These MSS. are denoted by the letters BBC (the C standing for Constantinople).

The MSS. in each class are further specified by a number appended to the class-letters, which number denotes simply the order in which they came into my hands. Thus the first MS. obtained from Famagusta is denoted as *BBF.* 1, the second as *BBF.* 2, and so on. With this preliminary explanation of the plan of classification adopted (which, it will be observed, is empirical rather than rational, but which nevertheless appeared to me for several reasons the most satisfactory), I proceed to the detailed enumeration of the MSS., some of which, having been elsewhere sufficiently noticed, can be dismissed very shortly, while others will need a fuller description.

CLASS I. MSS. OBTAINED IN PERSIA.

BBP. 1.

ايقان

Ff. 82 (ff. 1^a, 81^b, 82^a, and 82^b blank), $22 \cdot 25 \times 11 \cdot 25$ centimetres, 22 lines to the page. Bought at Isfahán on March 1st, 1888, for 26 kráns (rather less than sixteen shillings). Unfortunately it has twice suffered serious damage, *firstly* by the bursting open of a portable ink-bottle with which it was packed, whereby the margins of the leaves were much stained; and, *secondly*, by the adhesion of a good many opposite leaves (either from undue pressure or unusual stickiness of the ink) in the process of

binding. In many parts it is consequently now almost illegible, though when I described it in 1888 it was in good condition.

For a general account of the work see Baron Rosen's description in *Coll. Sc. iii*, pp. 32-51; *B. ii*, pp. 944-9; and *Coll. Sc. vi*, pp. 143-4.

The work was composed, as I have already shown (p. 305 supra), two years after Behá's return to Baghdad from the mountains of Kurdistán, *i.e.* in A.H. 1274 (A.D. 1858-9), while he still owned allegiance to Subh-i-Ezel. The passage which proves this has been already alluded to (*ef.* also *B. ii*, p. 946), but it is so important that, as it is not included in the extracts given by Baron Rosen, I here give it in full. It occurs on ff. 78^b-79^b of the present MS., and ff. 123^a-125^a of the Acre MS. which will be described presently. I follow the latter, which offers a better as well as a more legible text.

باری امید داریم که اهل بیان تربیت شوند و در هوای روم طیران نمایند و در فضای روم ساکن شوند حق را از غیر حق تمیز دهند و تلبیس باطل را بدیدهٔ بصیرت بشناسند (⁴123) اگرچه در این ایّام رائحهٔ حسدی وزیده که قسم بمربّی وجود از غیب و شهود که از اوّل بنای وجود عالم با اینکه آن را اوّلی نه تا حال چنین غلّ و حسد و بغضائی ظاهر نشده و نخواهد شد چنانچه و بر مخالفت این عبد اتفاق نموده اند واز هر جهت رمحی آشکار و از هر سمت تیری طیّار با اینکه باحدی در امری افترا نمودم و بنفسی برتری مجستم مع هر نفسی مصاحبی بود مدر نهایت مهربان و رفیقی بغایت بردبار و رایگان با فقرا مثل فقرا بودم و با علما و عظما در کمال تسلیم و رضا مع ذلک فوالله آلذی لا اله الآ هو با آنهمه ابتلا و بأساء و ضرّاء که از اعد آو اولی الکتاب وارد شد

نزد آنچه از احبًا وارد شد معدوم صرف است و مفقود بحت باری چه اظهار نمایم که امکانرا اگر انصاف باشد طاقت این بیان نه و اين (f. 124^ª) عبد در اوّل ورود اين ارض چون في المجمله بر امورات محدثه بعد اطّلاع يافتم از قبل مهاجرت اختيار نمودم و سر در بیابانهای فراق نهادم و دو سال وحدہ در صحراهای هجر بسر بردم و از عیونم عیون جاری بود و از قلبم بحور دم ظاهر چه ليالی که قوت دست نداد و چه اتيام که جسد راحت نيافت و با این بلایای نازله و رزایای متواتره فوالذی نفسی بیده کمال سرور موجود بود و نهایت فرح مشهود زیرا که از ضرر و نفع و صحّت و سقم نفسی اطَّلاع نبود بخود مشغول بودم و از ما سوی غافل و غافل از اینکه کمند قضای الهی اوسع از خیال است و تیر تقدیر او مقدّس از تدبیر سررا از کمندش مجات نه و اراده اش را جز رضا چارهٔ نه قسم بخدا که این مهاجرتمرا خیال مراجعت نبود و مسافرتمرا امید مواصلت نه و مقصود جز این نبود که محلّ اختلاف احباب نشوم و مصدر انقلاب (f. 124^b) اصحاب نگردم و سبب ضرّ احدی نشوم و علّت حزن قلبی نگردم غیر از آنچه ذكر شد خيالي نبود و امري منظور نه اگرچه هر نفسي محملي بست و بهوای خود خیالی نمود باری تا آنکه از مصدر امر حکم رجوع صادر شد و لا بدّ تسليم نمودم و راجع شدم ديگر قلم عاجز است از ذکر آنچه بعد از رجوع ملاحظه شد حال دو سنه میگذرد که اعدا در اهلاک این عبد فانی بنهایت سعی و اهتمام دارند چنانچه جميع مطّلع شده اند مع ذلک نفسی از احباب نصرت ننموده و بهیچوجه اعانتی منظور نداشته بلکه از¹ عوض نصر

1 BBP. 1. om. j bene.

حزنها که متوالی و متواتر قولاً و فعلاً مثل غیث هاطل وارد میشود و این عبد در کمال رضا جان بر کف حاضرم که شاید از عنایت الهی و فضل سبحانی این حرف مذکور مشهور در سبیل نقطه وکلمهٔ علیا فدا شود و جان در بازد و آگر این خیال نبود (*f. 125) فوالدی نطق الروح بامرد آنی در این بلد توقّف نمینمودم و کفی بالله شهیدًا اختم القول بلا حول و لا قوّة الا بالله و انّا لله و انّا الیه راجعون *

BBP. 2.

- A Commentary on the Tradition كُنْتُ كَنْزًا مَحْفَفِيًا composed by Behá's eldest son, 'Abbás Efendí, for 'Alí Shevket Páshá.
- Ff. 24 (ff. 1^a, 23^b, 24^a, and 24^b blank), 18.75 × 12 centimetres, 18 lines to the page. Written in a small neat naskh hand. Bought in Isfahán along with the MS. described above.

Begins :

بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم الحمد لله الذي قد حرّك الذرّات بحركة جذب صمدانيّته وقد موّج ابحر الكينونات بما هبّت و فاحت عليها من ارياح عزّ فردانيّته وقد طرّز الواح الوجود بالنقطة الّتي اندرجت واندمجت فيها الحروفات و الكلمات

The Persian preface begins on f. 2ª, l. 7, as follows :

و بعد بر ناظر این کلمات و واقف این اشارات معلوم و مشهود بوده نظر بخواهش و طلب سالک مسالک هدایت و بندهٔ حلقه بگوش شاه ولایت و طالب اسرار غیبیّهٔ الّهیه و واقف اشارات خفیّهٔ ربانیّه محبّ خاندان و اهل بیت حضرت مصطفی دوست درویشان و منظور نظر ایشان متوسّل بعروة الّله الوثقی و السبب الاقوی علی شوکت پاشا ولد مرحوم آقا حسین پاشا وققه الّله لما یشآء این درویش اراده نموده که شرح مختصری و تفسیر موجز و مفیدی بحدیث قدسی مشهور که کنت کنزا مخفیًّا فاحیبت ان اعرف فخلقت النحلق لاعرف مرقوم دارد . . .

Ends:

ای حبیب این بال و پر در هم شکستهٔ گِل آلود «را که از قِدَم عالم حکایت میکند بریز تا بپرهای عزّ توحید دراین فضای وسیع و سمآء (23^a) منیع پرواز نمائی بجان بکوش تا بمائدهٔ بدیعه که از سماء هویّه در نزولست متنعّم گردی و بفواکه قدسیّه از شجرهٔ لا شرقیّه و لاغربیّه مرزوق شوی این طیور آشیانهٔ حیرت را شوری دیگر در سراست و این آوارگان سبیل محبوبرا جذبی دیگر در دل باید چهار تکبیر بر ما کان و ما یکون زد و عزم کوی جانان کرد چشمرا از غیر دوست بر بست و بجمال مشهود کشود و سامعهرا از کل اذکار پاک و مطّهر ساخت تا از مزامیر آل داود الحان بدیع ملیک محمود استماع نمود *

So far as I have read this treatise I find no mention of the author's name, but Bábí tradition ascribes it to 'Abbás Efendí. Scattered through the commentary, which in the main reflects the ideas of the Súfís, are hints of Bábí doctrine, including discussions on the meaning of the "Point" ($i \equiv d = 0$) and the "Unity" ($i \equiv d = 0$), which latter is regarded as the "manifestation" of "the One" ($i \equiv d = 0$).

BBP. 3.

كتاب اقدس

Ff. 67 (ff. 1^a, 67^a, and 67^b blank), 16×10.25 centimetres, 14 lines to the page. Written in a small neat naskh hand. Heading, as well as initial or final words in some parts, written in blue ink. Given to me by one of the Bábís of Shíráz on April 2nd, 1888.

See B. i, p. 495; B. ii, pp. 972-981 and 1007-8; Coll. Sc. vi, p. 144. To this work I formerly gave the name Lawh-i-Akdas which I had heard applied to it by the Bábís in Persia. I was informed at Acre that its proper title is Kitáb-i-Akdas, and that the name Lawh-i-Akdas properly denotes an Epistle addressed to the Christians. This detail is independently confirmed by M. Toumansky. (See Coll. Sc. vi, p. 243, n. 1.)

BBP. 4.

Ff. 104 (ff. 1^a-17^a and 90^b-104^b blank), 13×8 centimetres, 11 lines to the page, Invocation (لى وما يكون) in red. Written in a good bold naskh hand by Hájí Mírzá H—, the Bábí missionary whom I met at Shíráz (B. i, pp. 492, 495; B. ii, p. 972, and p. 312 supra), who received in return the sum of one túmán (six shillings).

The same work as that last described.

BBP. 5.

Ff. 189 (ff. $1^{a}-2^{a}$ and 189^{b} blank), 21×13 centimetres, 19 lines to the page. Written in legible Persian ta'lik of an unpretentious character by a scribe who, from the mistakes in orthography of which he is not seldom guilty, was evidently a man of no great

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education. Given to me by the Bábís of Shíráz in April, 1888. Concerning this important work see pp. 318-9 supra; B. i, p. 496; B. ii, pp. 1002-3; Coll. Sc. vi, p. 244; and T.N. ii, pp. 192-7 and passim.

Recent researches have thrown no small light on the origin and authorship of this history. As the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press have consented to publish an abridged translation of it which I have prepared, I prefer to reserve a full discussion of these points for the Introduction to that work, and will here confine myself to a brief statement of the more important facts.

I have previously had occasion to observe (p. 319 supra) that the Tárikh-i-Jadid was in great measure based on a contemporary history of the Bábí movement written by Hájí Mírzá Jání of Káshán, who suffered martyrdom at Teherán in 1852. Till quite recently all my attempts to discover some trace of the earlier work proved ineffectual. Last Easter, however, I at length found opportunity to examine the five Bábí MSS. belonging to the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris which were brought back from Persia by Count Gobineau. Of these five MSS. two were in Persian and three in Arabic. Of the former, one (Suppl. Pers. 1,070) contained part, and the other (Suppl. Pers. 1,071) the whole of a partly doctrinal, partly historical work which at once rivetted my attention, and which, as I hope to prove conclusively in the Introduction to my translation of the Tárikh-i-Jadid, appears to be nothing less than the hitherto lost work of Hájí Mírzá Jání. I was not able to subject this MS. to an exhaustive exami-nation, the period of my stay in Paris not sufficing for this, but I found in it, reproduced almost word for word, the bulk of the more important narratives quoted from Hájí Mírzá Jání's work in the Táríkh-i-Jadid, these being told either as the writer's own experiences, or as accounts heard at first-hand from those concerned. If this Parisian MS. be indeed (as I for my part feel assured is the case) the history of Hájí Mírzá Jání, its value can scarcely be over-estimated.

J.R.A.S. 1892.

Not less important are the results of inquiries instituted amongst the Bábís of Ishkábád by Lieutenant Toumansky (of whose previous researches some account will be found at pp. 318-322 supra). Of these results, for the communication of which I am indebted to the unfailing kindness of Baron Rosen, Lieutenant Toumansky has most courteously permitted me to make use for this article. As I cannot possibly express them more clearly or more concisely than Baron Rosen has done, I prefer to quote his words. He writes :--- " M. Toumansky me donne en outre quelques informations sur le Tarikh-i-Djadid. c. à-dire sur l'histoire de la composition de ce livre. Il tient ces informations de Mirza Abou'l-Fazl, ابو الفضل گلپایگانی, domicilié à Samarcand, qui vient souvent à Ashkabad. Cet Abou'l-Fazl est cité dans le Tarikh-i-Djadid, comme m'écrit M. Toumansky, sur une des pages 306-322¹ de *votre* manuscrit en ces mots:

جناب مستطاب شامخ الالقاب ميرزا ابو الفضل مرقوم داشته هتگامی که اصفهان مطلع آفتاب طلعت آمخصرت بود مقرّر شد که مجلسی بر پا دارند و در حضور معتمد الدوله منوچهر خان آلخ. Abou'l-Fazl était jadis un des oulémas Shiites. Son frère est Moudjtehid et fut un des membres de la conférence aux 'Kazimeïn' (Traveller's Narrative ii. C'est Abou'l-Fazl auquel appartient le com-85-87). mencement du Tarikh-i-Djadid jusqu'aux mots :---, qui se این اینجانب نیز بر ذمّهٔ خود فرض دانست trouvent sur le page 3 du manuscrit de M. Toumansky.² C'est cet Abou'l-Fazl qui a appris à M. Toumansky ce qui suit an sujet de la composition du Tarikh-i-Djadid. En 1297 Abou'l-Fazl fit a Téhéran connaissance avec Manouktchi. Ce dernier dans ce temps avait l'intention de publier deux ouvrages historiques. L'un d'eux, une

¹ The passage in question actually occurs on pp. 321-2 (ff. 162^b-163^a) of my MS. ² In my MS. these words occur on f. 3^b, l. 10.

histoire des rois iraniens avant l'islamisme fut composé sur l'ordre de Manouktchi par Ismaïl Khân Zend. La composition de l'autre, c. à-dire l'histoire du Bâb, fut confiée par Manouktchi à un babide nommé Mirza Hosein Hamadani (qui mourut à Resht en 1299). Manouktchi lui-méme ne pouvait écrire, car il n'était pas habitué à écrire les lettres arabes, mais il désirait voir insérés dans le livre ses souvenirs et ses opinions. Mirza Hosein Hamadani s'adressa à Abou'l-Fazl, qui lui conseilla de prendre pour base la chronologie du Nâsikh-ut-tewârîkh, et renfermer les souvenirs et récits de Manouktchi dans ce cadre chronologique. Abou'l-Fazl lui-même écrivit une espèce de préface, عنوان. Mirza Hosein Hamadani soumettait son brouillon à Hadji Seyid Djevåd (جواد) Kerbélâi, qui donnait à l'ouvrage la rédaction définitive. Ce hâdji était un des savants shiites les plus connus. Il était de la famille du Seyid Mehdi surnommé بحر علوم (" the Ocean of Sciences "], avait fait ses premières études à Kerbéla sous la direction du Sheykh Ahmed Akhsâi [شيخ احمد احسائي]. Plus tard il avait profité des leçons de Kâzim Reshti, et enfin devint Bâby. Il avait connu le Bâb encore avant le اظهار. C'est lui qui avait converti au babisme Abou'l-Fazl. Djevâd mourut à Kirmân en 1299, ayant environ 100 ans.-M. Toumansky m'a autorisé à vous écrire ce qui précède. Tout cela repose naturellement sur l'autorité de Abou'l-Fazl. Vous trouverez peut-être encore des renseignments pour confirmer ou réfuter ces remarques sur la composition du Tarikh-i-Djadid."

The only observation which I need at present make on the foregoing version of the compilation of the Tárikh-i-Jadid is that it seems difficult to ascribe its final recension to Seyyid Jawád of Kerbelá, inasmuch as he was one of Subh-i-Ezel's most loyal supporters (See T.N. ii, p. 342, n. 2), while the Tárikh-i-Jadid, in so far as it alludes at all to the later history of the Bábí movement, manifests Behá'í sympathies, and systematically ignores Subh-i-Ezel. Moreover, as will be set forth at the end of this article, when I come to describe the MSS. bearing the press-marks BBC. 1 and BBC. 2, Seyyid Jewád actually composed two large volumes (the *Hasht Bihisht*, vols. i and ii) on the Theory and Practice of the Bábí religion, which are strongly Ezelí in their proclivities. (See also T.N. ii, pp. 351–371, and pp. 296–7 supra.) It is not unlikely, however, that the two or three passages in the *Tárikh-i-Jadid* which refer to Behá may be interpolations of the copyist, and that, on the other hand, passages bearing reference to Subh-i-Ezel may have been excised. In any case the information obtained by M. Toumansky is invaluable, as affording a definite basis for further investigation.

BBP. 6.

كتاب اقدس. الواح سلاطين. اشعار و الواح متفرّقه.

Ff. 40 (ff. 1^a and 40^b blank), 17.5×10.5 centimetres. The number of lines to the page varies from 15 to 24, and the writing, a minute and rather illegible *shikasté*, becomes smaller as well as closer after the first few pages. The contents of this MS., as well as the circumstances under which I obtained it at Kirmán, on July 29th, 1888, are fully described at pp. 284-291 supra.

BBP. 7.

زيارت نامه. لوح نصير. دلائل سبعه. اشعار و الواح متفرّقه.

Ff. 220 (ff. 1^a-19^a, 45^b, 46^a, 52^a-53^a, 90-92^a, 161^a-164^a, 193^a-196^a, 213^b-220^b blank); 20.25 × 6.5 centimetres, 10 lines to the page throughout the prose portions. The poems, which are all at the end, are written in double oblique lines, between which, in some cases, two extra *beyts* are inscribed. Written for me by a Bábí telegraph-clerk at Kirmán in July-August, 1888.

Contents:

Ff. 1ª-19ª blank.

Ff. 19^b-45^b. The Ziyárat-námé (زيارت نامد) or "Book of Visitation" (Gobineau's "Journal du Pèlerinage") composed by the Báb at the beginning of his mission. This work I discussed at pp. 896-902 of my second article in the J.R.A.S. for 1889, and I there attempted to prove that it was identical with a Bábí work described by Mirza Kazem-Beg at pp. 498-502 of vol. viii (series vi) of the Journal Asiatique. In one of my earlier letters to Subh-i-Ezel I enquired as to the authenticity of this work, and he replied, in a letter dated Oct. 1st, 1889, as follows:

"The Book of Visitation of which you spoke is by His Holiness the Point [*i.e.* the Báb], and was [written] after the Manifestation,¹ as is witnessed by [some of] the expressions occurring in it. He wrote many Visitations: they are not limited by any [definite] limitation. But there is also a Book of Visitations by myself. That is [written] in a different style, but there is in this land [*i.e.* Cyprus] but a little of it." Concerning this work see B. *ii*, pp. 896-902 and 1000.

Ff. 45^b-46^a blank.

Ff. 46^b-51^b. A short Epistle, of uncertain authorship, beginning with an Arabic exordium and continuing in Persian.

¹ I had in my letter expressed the same opinion which I advanced in *B. ii* (loc. eit.), viz. that the Bab wrote it before the Manifestation.

Begins:

هو الباقى الفرد الرفيع سبحان الذى يسجد له كلّ من فى السموات و الارض و كلّ اليه يرجعون سبّح الله كلّ من فى الوجود من الغيب و الشهود و كلّ اليه يقبلون بيدة الامر و المحلق يخلق ما يشاء بامرة لا اله الّا هو العزيز القيّوم

The Persian part begins on f. 47^b, l. 1, as follows : ان يا اخی شنيدة ام كه قبل از اين حضرات بعوضات الشرك در غياب اين عبد حرفها ميگويند و اسنادها ميدهند كه نسبت دون حق باشد قل يا بعوضات الشرك قد جائكم الفنا عن شطر الّله المهيمن القيّوم ان اختر الفرار على القرار تالّله الحقّ قد ظهر جمال الموعود و استوى في عرش قدس منير . . .

Ends:

از خداوند طلب نمائید که در ظلّ فنا راجع نشوید شاید در ظلّ شجرهٔ بقا مستظلّ شوید که این است ثمرهٔ وجود انسانی که در ظلال سدرهٔ رتّانی مستقرّ شود نه اینکه تابع بریّهٔ هوا شود که شان ایشان بجز فنا و ضلالت نبوده و نیست الّلهمّ فافرق بیننا و بینهم الي ایّام بقائک * تمّ *

This Epistle appears from internal evidence to have been written by one of those who claimed to manifest God, but whether by the Báb or Behá I cannot confidently decide, though it seems more probable that the latter was its author. In this case the "brother" addressed is probably Subh-i-Ezel.

Ff. 52^a-53^a blank. Ff. 53^b-89^b. The Lawh-i-Nasir (لوح نصير). See B. ii, pp. 949-953, and 1004. The Bábis of Kirmán

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informed me that this document was composed by Behá at Adrianople, and that in it he first formulated his claim. It appears that my copy of this important epistle is not, as I formerly supposed, unique in Europe, for I have learned from Baron Rosen that another copy exists at St. Petersburg.

Ff. 90^a-92^a blank.

Ff. 92^b-160^b. The "Seven proofs" (دلائل سبعه). See B. ii, pp. 912-918 and pp. 1001-2.

About this work also I questioned Subh-i-Ezel in the letter alluded to in connection with the Ziyárat-námé. His reply (contained in the letter of October 1st from which I have already quoted) ran as follows:

دلائل سبعه از حضرت نقطه است هرگاه مداخلهٔ در آن نباشد و در اینجا نسخهٔ آن نیست و چنانچه مرقوم فرموده اند در جبل میم صادر شده است و بیشترکتابها در چند سال حبس در ماکو و چهریق نازل شده است ما بقی در شیراز و اصفهان غیر از آنچه در سبیل حجّ و غیره صادر شده است *

"The Seven Proofs is by His Holiness the Point [*i.e.* the Báb], if it has not suffered interpolation.¹ There is no copy of it here. It was composed, as you say, in the Mountain of Mím [Mákú]. Most of the [Báb's] books were revealed during the few years of his imprisonment in Mákú and Chihrík. The rest were composed in Shíráz and Isfahán, save such as [he wrote] during the pilgrimagejourney, etc." I took with me to Cyprus a copy of the "Seven Proofs," and submitted it to Subh-i-Ezel, who kept it by him for several days, transcribed it for himself, and returned my copy to me with a few corrections, declaring it to be the genuine work of the Báb. He

¹ Sc. at the hands of the followers of Behá. Subh-i-Ezel often complained that the Behá'ís had tampered with the Báb's writings to give colour to their own doctrines and views, and was always careful to guard himself by this or some similar expression from giving an unqualified guarantee to any book which he had not himself seen.

added that it was written by the Báb for his amanuensis, Áká Seyyid Huseyn of Yezd.

Ff. 161^a-164^a blank.

- Ff. 164^b-192^b. The masnavi poem attributed to Kurratu'l-'Ayn, briefly described in B. ii, p. 1002.
- Ff. 193^a-196^a blank.
- Ff. 196b-213a. Other Bábí poems, as follows :
- Ff. 196b-197^a. The *ghazal* attributed to Kurratu'l-'Ayn which I have published with a translation at pp. 314-316 of vol. ii of my *Traveller's Narrative*.
- Ff. 197^b-198^a. The poem of which Baron Rosen quotes the first beyt at the bottom of p. 251 of Coll. Sc. vi. The text here given (consisting of only 11 beyts), together with an English translation, will be found in the Appendix to B. iii (pp. 323-5 supra).
- Ff. 198^a-199^b. Another poem of 18 couplets in the same rhyme and metre as the last, beginning:

and ending:

Ff. 200^a-213^a. A poem, or group of poems, of the nature of a *tarkib-band* and *tarji'-band* combined, the refrain being constant in some parts of the poem and varying in others. The words are very wild, and the phraseology and allusions very obscure. I subjoin a few typical verses taken from different parts of the piece.

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از نقطهٔ ابداء با از نقطهٔ ابداع با طفم منا ولاج شد بحرصفا ہیّاہ شد رشم ضیا بلاج شد موج لقا ارتاج شد ا; نفحة صافور با ا; ^{نف}حة صافور با شمسات حق شق آمده 💿 یعنی که چه یعنی که چه طلعات عز صعق آمده یعنی که چه یعنی که چه طیے محکق آمدہ یعنی کہ چہ یعنی کہ چہ زلے محلق آمدہ یعنی کہ چہ یعنی کہ چہ از جانب درای با از جانب درای با ها فآنشقوا عطراتها مسكاتها ارياحها اطيابها انفاخها فيما يهب انفاسها محموبة محذوب با محبوبة مجذوب با خود آمد اين خود آمد اين اين طفل ها اين طفل ها د, قطب ها در قطب ها ها اهل ها ها اهل ها ها اهل ها ها اهل ها این جذبهٔ بستان (؟) با این غانچهٔ بستان با این خیل هندستان با سر حلقهٔ مستان با

Ff. 213^a-220^b blank.

BBP. 8.

بيان فارسى

Ff. 114 (ff. 1^a, 114^a, and 114^b blank), 21.5×11 centimetres, in oblong form, like a pocket-book. Written in bluish ink, in an unformed and ungraceful *nim-shikasté* hand. The lines of writing, which run parallel to the back and shorter side of the book, are unevenly distributed, and vary from 21 to 30 per page. Headings of chapters are written in red. Given to me, after much urgent entreaty, in Rafsinján, near Kirmán, on August 22nd, 1888.

The Persian Beyán is a work of such capital importance that I have had occasion to allude to it and quote from it repeatedly both in *B. i* and *B. ii*, and in vol. ii of the *Traveller's Narrative*. The contents have been fully stated by Baron Rosen (*Coll. Sc. iii*, pp. 1-32). See also *B. ii*, pp. 918-933 and 1001-1002, and p. 259, n. 1, *supra*. The present MS. ends with the following abominably ungrammatical colophon :—

قد تمّت الكلام من لسان العبد ملك العلام على يد هذا الغلام للجناب الملاذ النحواص و العوام عمدة النحوانين العظام زبدة المشاهير الكرام ذى الشوكة و الاحتشام ذى العظمة و الاحترام *

On the blank leaf at the end of the MS. (f. 114^a) are sundry notes with dates, recording, as it would appear, the times when its owner's children were born. The first entry is dated Muharram 22nd A.H. 1282 (June 17th, A.D. 1865), so that we may fairly assume that the MS. was transcribed before that date. There are five entries in all, the last a most extraordinary one. They are as follows:

(1) تولد كربلائي اصغر ولد كربلائي محمّد جعفر موتاب (؟) شب
شنبه ۲۲ شهر محرّم الحرام چهار ساعت از سر شب
گذشته سنبه

CLASS II. MSS. OBTAINED FROM SUBH-I-EZEL.

BBF. 1.

من آثار البيان (مناجات).

Ff. 238 (ff. 1^a-2^a and 237^a-238^b blank), 17.75 × 10.75 centimetres, 10 lines to the page. Written in a peculiar ta'lik much used by Subh-i-Ezel for the transcription of the sacred books.

This MS. accompanied the first letter (despatched on July 29th and received on Aug. 15th, 1889) which I received from Subh-i-Ezel. In the letter he wrote as follows:

کلماتیکه از آثار بیان خواسته بودند نظر بآنکه این منزوی را بعضي از مردمان غارت نموده بودند بیشتر از الواح و کتب را از میان ربوده بودند آنچه میشر شده بود کتابی مشتمل بر بیست جزو ایفاد محضر عالی نموده من بعد هم بعضی از کتب که مهیّا شود سواد آن را خدمت ذی جود عالی خواهم فرستاد هرگاه این زمان زمانی بود که این منزوی در عراق عرب ساکن بود ارسال کتابهای بسیار میشر بود لیکن چه سود اکثری بدست جهّال رفت و غارت نمودند درین بلد قلیلی باقی مانده بود آنهم بصعوبت

"As regards the words comprised in the writings of the Beyán for which you asked, inasmuch as certain persons did plunder this recluse, and steal away most of the Epistles and Books, all that is [at this moment] available, [namely] a book of twenty folios, I [herewith] forward to you. Hereafter I will send you copies of such books as are accessible. Were it now the time when this recluse dwelt in 'Irák-i-'Arab [*i.e.* Baghdad], many books could have been sent; but what avails it [now]? Most of them have passed into the hands of ignorant men, and these have pillaged them. [Only] a few remain in this land, and even these were conveyed [hither] with difficulty, because of the fewness of [my] friends. For this reason most of those books, whereof the worth was great, are no longer in my hands, save only a small fraction."

In answering this letter I enquired further as to the name and nature of this book, and in Subh-i-Ezel's second letter, despatched from Famagusta on Oct. 1st, 1889, received reply as follows:

کتابیکه ارسال نزد محضرعالی شده از آثار بیان و منسوب بحضرت نقطه و بیشتر آن مناجات با بر آورندهٔ حاجات است کرا قدرت بر این نوع کلام آنچه از قبل نازل شده هر یک باسمی مذکور لیکن در اواخر ایّام تمامرا بیک نام و همهرا بیان نامیده اند و فراوان را در نوزده جلد امر فرموده اند چنانچه شرح آن در بیان فارسی مندرج است لیکن در بیان شئون مختلفه مشهود است شأن اوّل چون کتب سابقه است و ثانی بر سبیل مناجات و دعوات و ثالث شأن خطب که در آن فصاحت و بلاغت ملحوظ داشته اند و رابع شئون علمیّه و تفاسیر و اجوبات سائلین و خامس بلسان فارسی که نفس شئونات مذکوره است * "The book which was sent to you is [part] of the writings of the Beyán and belongs to His Holiness the Point [i.e. the Báb]. It consists for the most part of prayers to the Fulfiller of needs. Who [else] is able to produce such words? What was revealed at first was called each book by a different name, but during the later period [of the Báb's life] all received one title and was called 'Beyán.' And much [of this] he [i.e. the Bab] directed to be arranged in nineteen volumes, as is fully explained in the Persian Béyan.¹ But² in the Beyán different grades [or styles] are apparent. The first grade resembles previous [revealed] books³; the second is of the nature of supplications and prayers; the third is [in] the style of exhortations, wherein he [i.e. the Báb] had regard to clearness and eloquence; the *fourth* [consists of] scientific treatises. commentaries, and answers to enquirers; and the fifth, which is [substantially] identical with the preceding styles. is in the Persian language." I have already pointed out in another place (T.N. ii, p. 346) how fully Subh-i-Ezel's account of the Báb's writings and the meaning of the term 'Beyán' accords with Gobineau's (Rel. et Phil., p. 311).

This present work, then, contains a collection of Prayers belonging to the "second grade" of the Beyán, using this term in its wider signification as connoting all the Báb's later writings. Owing to the number of these prayers, and the limited space at my disposal, I can only give the opening words of each.

(No. 1, on f. 2^b) هو العطوف الىرحيم الىرۇف الىكىريم طراز جوهر مجرد كافور ساذج عال ازل الذي طرز من استطراز طرآئز تطریز طرازات اطراز طراز الذی لاے و اشرق ثم اضآ و ابرق ثم انار و لمع و لئلًا من طراز الذي بهج ولجلج ثم تقدس و تكرم آلخ

See Persian Beyán, Váhid vi, ch. i, and T.N. vol. ii, pp. 344-346.
Translated at pp. 343-4 of T.N. ii.
i.e. the Kur'án.

(No. 2, on f. 4^b) بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم اللهم لك الحمد لا اله الاهو سامع الدعآ ودائم العطآ و واسع الآل ومالك الاسمآ المخ (No. 3, on f. 5^b) بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم سبحانك اللهم و بحمدك اشهدك حينئذ بتوحيدي إياك و اقراري بازليتك وايقاني بوحدانيتك بجوهر کافور ذاتیتی و مجرد ظهور کینونیتی آلخ (No. 4, on f. 21) بسماتله الرحمن الرحيم سبحانك اللهم كيف اذكرنك بذكري اياك او لاسبحنك بتسبيحي ایاک آلج (No. 5, on f. 26^a) بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم شهد الله انه لا اله الاهو والملآئكة واولو العلم قآئما بالقسط لا اله الا هو العزيز اليحكيم الخ (No. 6, on f. 27^b) (دعا[,] لحروف بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم انك انت فاطر السموات والارض وما بينهما ومقدرهما ومصورها و مبدعهما و منشئهما لم تزل كنت الها واحدا احدا فردا صمدا حيا قيوما آلخ (No. 7, on f. 57ª) سبحانك اللهم لاشهدنك و كلشئ على انك انت الله لا اله الا انت وحدك لا شريك لك لک الملک ولک المحمد تحیی و تمیت ثم تميت وتحيبي وانک انت حي لا تموت آلخ (No. 8, on f. 60^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لم تزل كنت منفردا في ملك القدس التخ

CONTENTS OF BBF. 1.

(No. 18, on f. 86^b) بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم انك انت فاطر السموات و الارض وما بينهما عالم الغيب و الشهادة آلمز (No.19, on f. 88^b) بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم اللهم انى استُلك باسمک یا الله یا رحمن یا رحیم یا رب آلخ (No.20, on f. 91^b) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم انك انت فاطر السموات والارض عالم الغيب والشهادة لن يغرب من علمك من شع لا في السموات و لا فى الارض ولاما بينهما آلخ (No.21, on f. 93^b) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم لاشهدنك بجوهر كينونيتي وساذج ذاتيتي ومجرد نفسانيتي و كافور انيتى بانك انت الله لا اله الا انت وحدك المخ (No.22, on f. 95^b) بسمالله الامنع التدس سبحانك اللهم انك انت فاطر السموات والارض عالم الغيب و الشهادة لن يغرب من علمك من شي الخ (No.23, on f. 97^ª) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي ورببي ومحبوببي ومقصودي النخ (No.24, on f. 99^a) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهى انك انت فاطر السموات والارض آلمخ (No.25,onf.101[°]) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنک وکلشي على انک انت الله لا اله الا انت وحدك المخ

(No.26, on f. 102^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنك وكلشي آلتخ (No.27, on f. 104^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس انما البهآء من الله الذي لا الله الا هو على فلوادك و فلواد من في فلوادك و على روحك و روم من في روحك ألخ (No.28, on f. 110^a) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنك وكل شئ في هذه الىليلة ليلة المجمعة التي تنظر فيها الي داعيك في البيان الَّخ (*No.29,onf.114) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس وإذا كنت ليلة المجمعة او يومها بين يدى نقطة البيان او احد من مظاهر الحيي طيب نفسك عن كل ما يكرهه فوادك آلج -(No.30, on f. 121^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم صل على ذات حروف السبع ثم حروف الاولى بالملك و الملكوت آلمخ (No.31, on f.124^ª) بسمالله الارضى الارضى سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنک وکل شی علی انک انت الله آلمخ (No.32, on f. 129^a) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنک و کل شی علی انک انت لا اله الا انت وحدک لا شریک لک آلج (No.33,onf.132^a) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم انبي استُلك بابديتك التي انها هي مرتفعة فوق كل شي ان توجدن شجرة الاثبات وما ينسب اليها آلخ (No.34, on f. 136[°]) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم انبي استُلك باخريتك التي أنها هي مرتفعة فوق كل شي J.R.A.S. 1892. 30

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(No.41, on f.162^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنک و کل شئی علی انک انت لا اله الا انت الواحد الاحد الصمد الفرد المحي الحز (No.42, on f. 166°) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي هذه ليلة قد عظمتها و شرفتها و جللتها و جملتها وقدستها بما قد نسبتها الى نفسك و اطلعت فيها آية التي تدل على انه ليلة بديعة من شهر بديع آلج (No.43, on f.171^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس يا من يقبل من يقبله نقطة البيان آلمخ (No.44,on f.174^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم انى اسدًلك ببهآ[•] ضيآء علاء رضآء ربوبيتك المخ (No.45, on f. 178^b) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس اللهم اني استُلك بك لا شئي عندك عدلك و لا كفوك النخ (No.46, on f. 180^ª) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنك وكلشي فى هذه الليلة آلج (No.47, on f. 185^a) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم انبى استُلك بازليتك التي انها هي مرتفعة فوق كلشي ان تبدل كينونية كل ذات الف ينسب الى شجرة النار بالنور الح (No.48, on f. 189ª) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم انبي استُلك بالوهيتك المتبي انها هي ممتنعة فوق كل شئ ان تحفظن و تغنين كل ذات الف ينسب الي شجره الاثبات المخ

(No.49,on f.194^a) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس فاذا اردت زيارة النقطة او احد من حروف المحى فلتلطفن نفسك حق التلطيف بحيث لو يحط علمك بان فى جسدك شعرا زايدا لا ينبغى لك حيندذ و لتلبس اطهر لباسك الح لباسك الح الج (No.50,on f.201^a) بسمك يا الله يا رب يا رحمن يا منيع الح باسمك يا الله يا رب يا رحمن يا منيع والخ مروف السبع ثم حروف الحق من عندك و انزل اللهم حيندذ ليلة الجمعة على شجرة وحدانيتك الوم اصلها و ساذج فرعها و جوهر اغصانها و مجرد اوراقها الح

In the middle of this prayer, at the bottom of f. 202^b, occurs a form of "Visitation" for believers presenting themselves before "the First who believed" or "the Letter Sín," by which terms Mullá Huseyn of Bushraweyh appears to be designated. It is entitled الله, and begins:

وان كنت مثل تىلك الليلة عند شجرة البهآ فلتدخلن بين يدى شجرة السين و قل ان من ظهور الله اظهرة و من بطون الله ابطنه و من جلال الله اجله الح الله اجله الح الله المنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهى لاشهدنك و كل شئ على انك انت الله الح In the course of this piece also occurs, on f. 209^a, a form of "Visitation," which begins :

وان كنت مثل ذلك اليوم عند شجرة السين إو احد من حروف المحي فلتلبس اعلى بهآ مما قد اتاك الله ولتدخلن باذن الله على محال امرہ ثم لتقولن بین یدی اللہ ان استدرکت او بين يدى حروف الحي ان استدركت انما البهآ الابهى والجلال الاجل آلخ (No.53, on f.213^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس لتصلين اللهم رب على شجرة وحدانيتك ولتنزلن اللهم عليها ما ينبغي لعلو جودك ومليك عز صمدانيتك آلخ (No.54, on f.214^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم انك انت لم تزل كنت الها واحدا احدا صمدا الحز (No.55, on f.219^a) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم لاشهد نك وكل شئي على انك انت الله الح (No.56, on f.223^a) بسم الله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاستملنك من اسمائك باعظمها المخ (No.57, on f.225^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانك اللهم يا الهي السئلك من الوهيتك باعظمها المخ (No.58, on f.229^b) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم أنى استُلك من ابديتك بتأبدها وكل ابديتك متأبدة عندك ثم في ام الكتاب اللهم اني استُلك بابديتك كلها المخ

(No.59,on f.233ª) بسمالله الامنع الاقدس اللهم انى استُلك من الوهيتك باعظمها الخ (Colophon,on f.236^b) يوم الثانى من شهر الاول من السنة ٣٠

BBF. 2.

شئون خمسه

Ff. 200 (ff. 1^a-2^a, 46^b, 199^a-200^b blank), 20.5×12.75 centimetres, 14 lines to the page. Written in Subh-i-Ezel's clear and legible *naskh* hand.

This MS. accompanied Subh-i-Ezel's second letter to me (despatched from Famagusta on October 1st, received on October 11th, 1889). It contains specimens of each of the "five grades" or "styles" into which the Báb divided his writings, and is consequently partly in Persian. The nature of these "five grades" has been already explained at p. 453 *supra*. Concerning this MS. Subh-i-Ezel wrote in the aforementioned letter as follows:

و آنچه در این نوبت ابلاغ محضر عالی شده از شئونات خمسه است که هر چند ورق بشأنی است و این کتاب از حضرت نقطه است مداخلهٔ بعضی در آن نیست مگر آنچه از قلم کتاب خارج شده باشد اگرچه حقیر نسخهٔ سابن و این نسخهٔ را خود نوشته ام لیکن شاید قصوری در وضع ترتیب آن شده زیراکه نسخهٔ اصل موجود نیست ولی از خارجین مداخله ندارد چنانچه در بعضی موارد بعضی مداخله نموده و تغییرات حاصل است امّا آنچه از این عبد مفتقراست انشآ الله تغییری در آن نبوده.

"What is sent to you this time is of the 'Five Grades,' whereof each few [successive] pages are in a different style. This book is by His Holiness the Point [*i.e.* the

The contents of the MS., stated as briefly as possible, are as follows:

¹ MS. الانب, which is doubtless a mere slip.

(No. 5, on f. 22^b) بسم الله الاله الاله اللهم أنى اسمُلك باسمك يا آلِهُ يَا اللَّهُ يَا اللَّهُ يَا اللَّهُ يَا اللَّهُ يَا الَوُهُ يَا الَوُهُ يَا الَيْهُ يَا اَلَوُهُ يَا الْلَهُ يَا الْهَانُ الَحَ

(What follows the exordium is mostly in Persian.)

(The last four and a half lines on f. 46^a and the whole of f. 46^b are blank, but there appears to be no interruption in the continuity of the text.)

(Part of this piece will be found on pp. 318-319 of T.N. ii. What is here the third clause is there placed over the line immediately under the title. Thus it is written; but a fresh examination of it convinces me that it is intended as an insertion, as here placed.)

(No. 16, on f. 75^b) بسمالله الاجمل الاجمل بالله الله الجمل الجمل بسمالله الجمل ذى الجمالين بسمالله الجمل ذى الجملام بسمالله المجمل المجمل آلخ (No. 17, on f. 81^a) بسمالله الاجمل الاجمل سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنک وکل شی علی انک انت الله لا اله الا انت وحدك لا شريك لك لك الملك والملكوت ولك العز والجبروت ولك القدرة واللاهوت ولك القوة والياقوت المخ (No. 18, on f. 85^b) بسمالله الاجمل الاجمل الحمد لله الذي قد استعلى بعلوه فوق كل الممكنات و استرفع بارتفاعه فوق كل الموجودات واستمنع بامتناعه فوق كل الكائنات و استقهر باقتهارد فوق من في ملكوت الارض و السموات آلخ (No. 19, on f. 90°) بسمالله الاجمل الاجمل العمد لله الذي لا اله الاهو الاجمل الاجمل و انما البهآ من الله على الواحد الاول و من يشابه ذلك الواحد حيث لا يرى فيه الاالواحد الاول آلج (No.20, on f. 96^b) بسمالله الاجمل الاجمل تسبيح و تقديس ذات محبوب لم يزلج را سزاوار بوده و هست که لم يزل باستجلال استقلال ذات مقدس خود بوده و لا يزال باستمناع استرفاع كنه مقدس خود خواهد بو*د* نشناخته اورا هیچ ش_گ حق شناختن الم (No.21, on f. 102^b) بسمالله الاقوم الاقوم بسمالله القوم القوم بالله الله القوم القوم الله لااله الاهو الاقوم الاقوم الله

¹ MS. يزل, but this appears to be a mistake.
(No.26, on f. 126[°]) بسم الله الأحد الاحد بالله الله الاحد الاحد الله لا اله الاهو الأحد الأحد الله لا اله الاهو الأجد الاحد الله لا اله الاهو المؤتحد الموتحد آلخ (No.27, on f. 131^a) بسمالله الأحد الأحد سبحانك اللهم يا الهي لاشهدنک و کل شئ علی انک انت الله لا اله الاانت وحدک لا شریک لک لم تزل کنت الها واحدا احدا صمدا فردا حيا قيوما سلطانا مهيمنا قدوسا دائما البخ (No.28, on f. 136°) بسمالله الأحد الأحد شهد الله انه لا اله الاهو المنفرد في عز الازال و المتوجد في سلطان القدس والبجلل والمتأحد في مليك العز والبجمل الخ (No.29, on f. 141^a) بسمالله الأحد ألحد وأنما البهآ من الله على من يظهره الله جل وعلا قدره و ارتفع و استنبع فكرد من اول الاول الي اخر منتهى ظهور صبح الازل ثم على ادلائه في بهآ المجلل وضيآ المجمل آلخ (No.30, on f. 146^a) بسمالله الأحد تسبيح و تقديس بساط قدس حي قييوميرا سزاوار بوده و هست كه لم يزل المخ (No.31, on f. 151^a) بسمالله الاجلل الاجلل بالله الله الجلل الجلل الله لا اله الاهو الاجلل الاجلل الله لا اله الاهو الجلل الجلل الله لا اله الاهو المجتلل المجتلل الخ (No.32, on f. 156°) بسم الله الاجلل الاجلل سبحانات يا الهي لاشهدنك وكل شئ على انك انت الله لا اله الا انت وحدك آلخ

(No.33, on f. 161^b) بسم الله الاجلل العمد لله الذي قد تجلى على كل الممكنات بظهورات عز لاهوتيته و تعرّف كل الموجودات كينونيته بايات عز جبروتيته الخ (No.34, on f. 166[°]) بسمالله الاجلل الجلل العمد لله الذي لا اله الا هو الاجلل الاجلل و انما البهآ من الله على من يظهرة الله لم يزل ثم على ادلائه بالقدس الجلل وبعد فاشهد الخ (No.35, on f. 170^b) بسم الله الاجلل الاجلل تسبيح و تقديس ذات محبوب لم يزلىرا سزاوار بوده و هست الخ (No.36, on f. 175[°]) بسمالله الانور الانور بسمالله النور ذي النواريين بسمالله النور في النورآ بسمالله النور في الانوار بسمالله النور ذي النِوار الح (No.37, on f. 181[°]) بسمالله الانور الانور سبحانك اللهم لاشهدنك وكلشئ بانك انت نور السموات و الأرض و ما بينهما و نوار من في ملكوت الامر و المحلق و ما دونهما آلجز (No.38, on f. 184^b) بسمالله الانور العمد لله الذي قد استرفع بسلطان قدس نواريته و استرفع به عملي كل الممكنات آلخ (No.39, on f. 189°) بسمالله الانور النور الحمد لمله الذي لا اله الا هو الانور الانور و أنما البهآء على كل عرش ظهور حيث لااول لاوليته ولا آخر لاخريته الخ (No.40, on f. 194^{*}) بسمالله الانور الانور تسبيح و تقديس ذات محبوب لم يزلىرا سزاوار بوده و هست الخ

Excluding the last of these pieces, which appears to form a kind of appendix or peroration to the rest, it will be observed that the remaining forty fall into groups of five, each group beginning with the same formula. Thus the first five begin with the formula بسم الله الاله الاله , the second with بسمالله الاوحد الاوحد , etc. We may fairly assume that within each group the first piece represents what the Báb calls the "first grade" or "style" of his writings, the second piece the second grade, and so on. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the last piece in each group of five is in Persian, and therefore corresponds to the Báb's "fifth grade" (see p. 453 supra). Of the majority of these pieces it must be frankly confessed that they are not only untranslateable, but almost unreadable, consisting merely of endless permutations (often etymologically and grammatically impossible) of the different "Names" of God.

BBF. 3.

Ff. 200 (ff. 1^a-2^a, 199^b-200^b blank), 20.5 × 13 centimetres, 14 lines to the page. Written in Subh-i-Ezel's clear and legible *naskh* hand.

This MS. accompanied Subh-i-Ezel's third letter to me (despatched from Famagusta on Dec. 3rd, 1889, received on Dec. 18th, 1889). It contains selections from the Báb's writings of almost every variety; prayers; forms of visitation; letters to Subh-i-Ezel and other believers; extracts from the Commentary on the Súra-i-Yúsuf, etc. Concerning this MS. Subh-i-Ezel wrote very briefly. Alluding to the visit which, as I informed him, I had paid to Sheykh Tabarsí, he said :

"If you have visited Țabarsí it is as though you had been at all [the holy] places. The form of visitation specially [appointed] for that place is contained in the book which will reach [you] this time : read it." In reply to further enquiries, Subh-i-Ezel said that this form of visitation was composed by the Báb himself. To this MS., as to the last, is prefixed the title ..., evidently in that wide sense to which I have already adverted (p. 453 supra). As it contains a great number of pieces, I must, for the sake of brevity, confine myself to the briefest enumeration of all save the most interesting.

The first five pieces (extending from f. 2^b to f. 27^b) begin with the formula بسم الله الاقدم الاقدم, and appear to represent each of the "five grades" above described, the fifth of the group being, as usual, in Persian, and beginning in the same way as the Persian pieces already described. The first of these, containing endless permutations of the root is much the longest, extending to f. 23^b.

' Next follows another similarly arranged group of five pieces (ff. 23b-55^a), each beginning with the formula بسمالله . Of these again the first contains permutations of the root قرب, and the last is in Persian.

Next follows a third group of five pieces (ff. 55a-76a) beginning with the formula بسم الله الاحيى الاحيى , and arranged like the preceding.

The 16th piece (ff. 76^a-78^b) is preceded by the formula , and begins :

الحمد لله الذي شهد لذاته بذاته بانه لا اله الا هو الحق في ازل الازال و انه هو كآئن بمثل ما كان فيما يحدث من الازمان و لا له تغير في شان و لا انتقال الح

The 17th piece (ff. 78^b-82^a) begins with the formula , and proceeds :

وان هذا لَكتِاب من عند الله المهيمن القيوم الى من قد جعل الله ذكر اسمه اسم نبيل قبل على ذكرا من عنده للعالمين ان يا نبيل قبل على لم يكن لى من اول ولا اخر و اننى انا كنت ازلا قديما.

Since Nabil is, as I have shewn (B. ii, p. 997), equivalent to Muhammad, it is clear that we have here an epistle addressed to a Bábí named Muhammad 'Alí, presumably either to Mullá Muhammad 'Alí of Bárfurúsh (*Jenáb-i-Kuddús*) or Mullá Muhammad 'Alí of Zanján, and probably to the latter. For on f. 97^b we find the following words:

And from the *Tárikh-i-Jadid* we learn that Mullá Muhammad 'Alí of Zanján enjoyed the title of *Jenáb-i-Hujjat* ("the Proof" or "Authority").

The 18th piece (ff. 82^a-93^b) is another epistle addressed by the Báb to one of his chief apostles, beginning thus:

بسمالله المقتدر المقتدر هذا كتاب من عند نقطة البيان عبدالله و حجته للعالمين جميعا الى من قد جعل الله ذكر اسمه ذكر اسم حجته و جعله من عند حجته حجة للعالمين جميعا قل اننى انا اول ما قد خلقنى الله ربى و جعلنى من عنده بهيانا بهيا الح The following passage of this epistle (on f. 84^b), wherein the Báb asserts his identity with all previous and future prophets, is noteworthy:

و ان من ظهور بديع الاول الى حيند قد اظهرنى الله فى كل ظهور باسم ما قد ظهر و كل اياى يتبعون كنت فى يوم نوح نوح وفى يوم ابراهيم ابراهيم وفى يوم موسى موسى وفى يوم عيسى عيسى وفى يوم محمد محمد وفى يوم على قبل نبيل على قبل نبيل و لاكونن فى يوم من يظهره الله من يظهره الله و فى يوم من يظهره من بعد من يظهره الله من يظهره من بعد من يظهره الله و فى يوم من يظهر من بعد بعد من يظهره الله من يظهر من بعد بعد من يفهر من بعد بعد من يظهره الله من يظهر من بعد بعد من و فى يوم من يظهر الله من يظهر من بعد بعد من يظهره الله يفهر من يظهر من بعد بعد بعد من يظهره الله من يظهر الله بعد بعد من يظهره الله و فى يوم من يظهر من بعد بعد من و فى يوم من يظهر الله و فى يوم من يظهر من بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد من يظهره الله الم تعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد يظهره الله من يظهر من بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد بعد الذى لا آخر له مثل اول الذى لا اول له كنت فى كل ظهور حجة الله على العالمين هذا معنى قول حق انتم تذكرون *

J.R.A.S. 1892.

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The next piece in the collection which is of special interest is the 23rd (ff. $98^{b}-107^{a}$). This is the form of prayer ordained by the Báb for the visitation of Sheykh Tabarsí and the commemoration of the martyrs who fell there, and is headed accordingly there, and is headed accordingly is the second structure of the second structu

بسمالله الامنع الاقدس سبحانک اللهم یا الهی لم یکن لی قلب اقدر ان اذکرک و لا فؤاد ان اسبحک و لا روح ان اقدسک و لا نفس ان اوحدک و قد ذاب کلی بما قد قصیت و ان لک الامرو النحلق فیما قصیت و تقضی المخ

A little further on the martyrs are thus described :

تلک افددة ما سبحت دونک و تلک ارواح ما حمدت سواک و تلک انفس ما وحدت غیرک و تلک اجساد ما عبدت دونک

"These were hearts which glorified none but Thee, spirits which praised none but Thee, souls which declared Thy Unity alone, bodies which did service to Thee only."

A few lines lower curses are invoked on the persecutors as follows:

ان تعذب الذين قتلوا حججک و استکبروا على اوليائک و عبدوا غيرک بکل عذابک ما انت مقتدر عليه فى الانشآ و ان تأخذنهم و ما ملکت ايمانهم بما قد احاط به علمک من مقادير اخذک و مواقع شدتک ان لا عزلمن خذلته و لا شئ لمن اعدمته ولا حيات لمن عذبته و لا شئى لمن قد عبد غيرک و غرّ بما اتيته *

Two pages further on (f. 100^b) similar curses are repeated:

فالعن اللهم من قطع من شجرة محبتك ورقة اوغصنا او فرعا بـكـل لعن قد أحَطّت به علما اذ انك انت جبار الـذي لا يـفـوت عن قبضتك من شـم الح The instructions to the Bábí pilgrim who intends to visit the shrine begin on f. 102^a as follows:

و اذ اردت ان تدخل تلک الارض المقدسة فاطهر نفسک و طیب ما عندک علی احسن ما کنت مقتدر علیه و اعلم ان هنالک اعلی افتی العرش و منتهی ذروة الفردوس و ان الله لم یزل ناظرک و مظاهر نفسه مجلیک الیج

The purifications to be performed and the prayers to be offered up, before setting out for the shrine, and on arriving there, are then specified in full. One of these prayers, which is to be recited on entering the inner shrine, appears to be addressed to Mullá Huseyn of Bushraweyh, who is described as "the Friend of God, whom he hath chosen unto Himself, and elected for this revelation." It is in many ways remarkable, but I must confine myself to quoting a few lines from it:

ان اعلى البهآ⁴ و ابهى الشنآ⁴ من مليك الانشآ⁴ و مقدر الاشيآ² عليك يا جوهر القران و طرز البيان و يا من قد خصك الله بما لا خص احد من عبادة حيث قد تجلى لك بك بنفسك قبل كل شئ و عرفك نفسه و اشهدك على وحدانيته قبل كل شئ ثم قد خلق بك كل شئ و رزق بك كل شئ و امات بك كل شئ و احيى بك كل شئ و ابعث بك كل شئ اشهد انك وان قتلت و لكنك حيّ عند الله فقد انقطعت الى الله بكل ما عندك الى ذروة علو ما سبقك احد و لا يلحقك من ومن قد صعد معك اولئك هم فى افق الاعلى من العرش و ذروة الابهى من سمآ⁶ الكرسى هنالك يسبحون الله بحمد ربهم ثم بذكرة ليوحدون و ما اكبر من هذا عزا فى البيان فاشهد انك

The 24th piece (ff. $107^{a}-126^{a}$) is of considerable length, but a superficial examination of it reveals no points of special interest.

The 25th piece (ff. 126^a-126^b) appears to be addressed to Subh-i-Ezel, and is described as از جملة وصايا. It begins:

الله اكرم بسمالله الكرم ذى الكارمين بسمالله الكرم ذى الكرم [•] قد ^{به}جتنى ان يا اسمى فى المرأت الازلية حيث قد حكى عن الله ربه و دل على الله موجدة.

The remainder of the epistle, which is very short, is partly in Persian.

The 26th piece is short, and not specially noteworthy. The 27th is long (ff. $127^{a}-130^{a}$), is written partly in Persian, and contains answers to sundry questions addressed in writing to the Báb.

Nos. 28-45 (ff. 130^a-141^a) are all short epistles addressed to believers who had written to the Báb. The names of these correspondents are mentioned in several cases, but their identification cannot be satisfactorily effected in a brief notice like this, and I therefore reserve them for future consideration.

The 46th piece is the document which I published and translated at pp. 996-7 of B. *ii*, wherein Subh-i-Ezel is designated the Báb's successor.

The 52nd piece is the same as the first in *BBF*. 1, already described at p. 453 supra.

The 53rd piece (ff. $150^{a}-153^{a}$) is the 57th chapter of the Commentary on the Súra-i-Yúsuf (see pp. 261-8 supra), containing the explanation or expansion of v. 56 of the Súra.

ولا تكتبن من كتاب الاو تكتبن فيه اسم اليوم و اسم ما قضى من عدد الشهر ثم اسم الشهر ثم اسم السنة مثل ان حينكذ يوم الاستقلال من يوم العلم من شهر العلم من سنة الجاب كذلك انتم في الرضوان تسلكون *

The date thus given is "the day of *Istiklál* [Friday], the day of '*Ilm* [the 12th day] of the month '*Ilm* [the 12th month] of the year $J\dot{a}b$ " [$\pm + + \pm = 6$], so that the document must have been written during the last year of the Báb's life (October, 1849). For this reason, if for no other, it is interesting.

The 59th piece is a letter of instructions to Subh-i-Ezel, who therefore prefixes to it, as to some of the letters previously described, the words الزجملة وصايا باين عبد Some of the behests given to this servant." It begins as follows:

بسمالله الازل الازل

هذا كتاب من عند الله المهيمن القيوم الى الله العزيز المحبوب شهد الله انه لا اله الاهو له النحلق و الامر من قبل و من بعد يحيى ويميت ثم يميت ويحيى و انه هو حي لا يموت في قبضته ملكوت كل شئى يخلق ما يشآء بامرة انه كان على كل شئى قديرًا إن يا اسم الازل فاشهد على انه لا اله الا انا العزيز المحبوب ثم اشهد على انه لا اله الا انت المهيمن الفيوم

The following passage (on f. 175^{a}) is important, as implying not only that the Báb regarded Subh-i-Ezel as his sole vicegerent, but that he did not contemplate such a contingency as the appearance of "Him whom God shall manifest" in Subh-i-Ezel's life-time:

و اذكر بالحسنى الذينهم امنوا بى ثم بكلماتى لـلـلا يختلفون فى امر الله و هم عن الصراط ليبعدون فان يظهر الله فى ايامك بمثلك هذا ما يورثن الامر من عند الله الواحد الوحيد فان لم يظهر فايقن بان الله ما اراد ان يعرف نفسه فلتفوض الامر الى الله ربكم و رب العالمين جميعا

"Exhort to virtue those who believe in me and in my words, that they disagree not touching the Religion of God, [for then] shall they stray away from the Path. And if God cause one like unto thee to appear in thy days, then he it is to whom shall be bequeathed the authority on the part of God the Single, the One.¹ But if [such an one] appears not, know for a surety that God hath not willed to make Himself known, and render up the authority to God, your Lord, and the Lord of the words, all."

Almost immediately after this comes another passage, which is of considerable importance, as shewing that the Báb intentionally left the [Persian] Béyan incomplete, only publishing 11 of the 19 Váhids,² and, as stated by the Ezelí author of the Hasht Bihisht (see T.N. ii,

¹ Here, as elsewhere (B. ii, p. 997), Wahid probably stands as equivalent to Yahya (i.e. Subh-i-Ezel).

² This affords another instance of Count Gobineau's extraordinary accuracy in all that he states concerning the Bábí literature and doctrines. See *Religions et Philosophies*, p. 332.

p. 353), conferring on Subh-i-Ezel the right of completing it if the time should be propitious. This passage is as follows:

و ان ابواب البيان قد قدر على عدد كل شئى و لكنا ما اظهرناه الا احدى و عشر واحدا لكل هيكل واحد من هياكل التسعة من قبل العشر احدى عشر واحدًا ذكر من عند الله العلى العظيم ذلك ذكر جود و الاكل لله وكل اليه ليرجعون و ان اظهر الله عزا فى ايامك فاظهر مناهج الثمانية باذن الله بما كنت عليه من الاكرمين.

From a passage on f. 175^{b} it would appear that with this epistle were sent to Subh-i-Ezel seven Vahids of one of the sacred books. Of these he is instructed to keep one himself, and to distribute the other six to the "Lands of Fá, 'Ayn, Khá, Alif, Mím, and Káf" (*i.e.* Fárs, 'Irák, Khurásán, Azarbaiján, Mázandarán, and (?) Kirmán). The particular believer in each of these provinces to whom the vahid intended for that province is to be sent, is designated, but in a somewhat enigmatical manner, as follows:

و ان واحد ارض الفآ^ع يوصل الى اسم العلى و فى ارض العين الى اسم النبيل الذى قد نصر الله بما ملكه يوم القيمة وكان له عند الله شانا عظيما و ان فى ارض الحآ² يوصل الى اسم صداق صديق و ان فى ارض الالف الى اسم عز رحيم و ان فى ارض الميم من كان هنالك من الموقنين و ان فى ارض الكاف يوصل الى اسم ربك الجواد الجاود الجويد لا يحل لاحد ان يملك الا واحدًا و كل به يفرحون و ما كان من اشعار الله المهيمن القيوم مع الالواح فاحفظها و لا تهب الا عباد الله المخلصين

In a letter written by Subh-i-Ezel on March 13th, 1892, in answer to questions addressed to him by myself as to the identity of the persons to whom allusion is here made, the following explanations (some of which refer to other documents described in this article) were given. By Ismu'l-Anis (اسم الانيس, "the Name of the Intimate") Hájí Suleymán Khán, who accompanied the Báb on his pilgrimage-journey, and suffered martyrdom at Teherán in 1852, is meant. Ismu'l-Jawád (اسم الجواد, "the Name of the Generous") denotes Aká Seyyid Jawád of Kerbelá, who died some eight years ago at Kirmán. (See T.N. ii, p. 342, n. 2, and pp. 443-4 supra.) The Letter Sin (حرف السين) sometimes means "Jenáb-i-Báb" (i.e. Mullá Huseyn of Bushraweyh, who inherited this title when his master declared himself to be the "Point"), and sometimes Hazrat-i-Kuddús (Mullá Muhammad 'Alí of Bárfurúsh). Ism-i-Muşavvir (أسم مصور), "the Name of the Limner ") means the Báb himself. Ism-i-Hujjat (أسم حجّت), "the Name of the Proof") means Mullá Muhammad 'Alí of Zanján. (Cf. p. 472 supra). Ism-i-Sádik (أسم صادق), "the Name of the Faithful") means Mullá Muhammad Sádik, called Mukaddas-i-Khurásán, "the Saint of Khurásán." Ismi-Rahim (اسم رحيم), "the Name of the Merciful") was a Tabrízí, reports of whose death had been circulated. Ism-i-Nabil (اسم نبيل, "the Name of the Noble ") denotes a certain Hájí Sheykh Muhammad of Kazvín, who died at Láhíján in Gílán during the Baghdad period. (The name Nabíl always stands for Muhammad, with which it is numerically equivalent. Cf. B. ii, p. 997). By Ismu'l-'Ali (اسم العلى, "the Name of the High ") in the Land of Fárs, Hájí Seyyid 'Alí, the Báb's maternal uncle and guardian, and one of the "Seven Martyrs," is no doubt meant.

The 60th piece (ff. $176^{b}-177^{a}$) contains more "instructions" ((odd)) addressed to "the Name of the Merciful" ((odd)), who is very probably the same *Rahim* mentioned in the last piece. Subh-i-Ezel's authority is again asserted and confirmed in the following words: و ان الامرينتهى الى اسم الوحيد لان ظهورة بنفسه حجة و من بعده ان اظهر الله بمثله ذا حجة فينتهى اليه و الا الامربيد الشهدآ^ء في البيان الذينهم عن حدود ما نزل في البيان لا يتجاوزون *

The 61st piece, containing the Báb's testamentary dispositions as to his burial, is translated in part in n. 1 on p. 46 of the second volume of my *Traveller's* Narrative. From the introduction of the words \mathcal{I}_{i} , \mathcal{I}_{i} , \mathcal{I}_{i} , in the first line it would appear to be addressed to Hájí Suleymán Khán b. Yahyá Khán of Tabriz, to whom this title of Anis was given by the Báb. (See preceding page.) This piece, which is as short as it is interesting, I give in full.

(از جملة وصايا لاجل الدفن)

الله اكبر الله اكبر الله خير مونس و انيس تكبير بثمرة ازليه رسانيدة و آنچه در هر حال سزاوار است بعون المله و قوته فرمودة باشند بقعة شاه عبد العظيم ارض نيكواست بواسطة قرب وحيد در حفظ و الله خير المحافظين *

The 62nd piece (ff. 177^a-182^b) is a prayer for daily repetition written by the Báb, who here styles himself, according to Subh-i-Ezel's explanation given on the preceding page, مظهر اسم المصور.

The 63rd piece (ff. $182^{b}-188^{a}$) begins with a long doxology, which is followed by what would seem to be a form of visitation to be used by such as present themselves before (or before the grave of) "the First to believe," otherwise called "the Tree" (elsewhere "the Letter") "Sin," *i.e.* Mullá Huseyn of Bushraweyh. This is implied in the opening words of the "visitation" (on f. 185^{a}), which run thus:

هذه صلوة و زيارة لاول من اجاب ربه و لمظاهر نفسه و المستشهدين

بين يديه ثم التفت الى شجرة السين وقل انما البهآء الابهى و الثنآ^ء الاسنى من الله رب الاخرة و الاولى عليك يا ايها ا^{لش}جرة الطوبى المخ

From allusions to "afflictions" and "calamities" suffered by "the Tree" (or "Letter") "Sin" and his "branches" (*i.e.* followers, it seems probable that this is another form of visitation for Skeykh Tabarsí comparable to No. 23 supra.

The 64th piece consists for the most part of praise and prayer, but also contains a form of salutation to the Sun, similar to that whereof I gave a translation (from the *Persian Beyán*) at pp. 929–930 of *B. ii.* This form, interesting as illustrating the revival of Zoroastrian ideas by the Báb,¹ begins as follows:

ثم التفت الى الشمس وقل انما البهآء الابهى و العلّاء الاعلى من ربك الله رب كل شئى عليك يا ايتها الشمس الطالعة و الاية الازلية و الطعلة الاحدية و الوجهة الالهية و القمص الوحدانية لاشهدنك وكل شئى على انه لا اله الاهو ربى و ربك لم ينزل كان الها واحدا احدا فردا صمدا الم

The 65th and last piece (again described by Subh-i-Ezel as از جملة احكام ورصايا) contains the Báb's instructions to those of his followers who shall visit the place of his martyrdom ("the place where this Tree shall be struck down"), together with the form of prayer to be used by them. I subjoin the text of the former only:

و ان على محل الذي ضُرِبَتْ تلك الشجرة فرض على الذين هم امنوا بالله و اياته كلهم اجمعون ان يصلوا هـنـالك ركعتـيـن صلوة

¹ Gobineau says well (*Relig. et Philos.*, p. 316) in speaking of the Bábí conception of the Divine Nature :—" En un mot, soufys, guèbres sémitisés, c'est à dire tous les guèbres depuis les Sassanides,—et avant eux l'Orient tout entier, ont confessé et chéri et cherché ce dieu-là depuis que la science a commencé dans ces contrées."

على ما قد فصلناء فى الكتاب ثم يقولون و يكشفون رؤسهم و يقومون على التراب من دون النعلين و يخرجون عن ابدانهم لباسهم حتى لم يكن عندهم الا مثل ما هم به يكفيون و ان قبل ذلك عليهم اذن من الله ان يغتسلوا لله رب العالمين فاذا نزلوا تلك الارض و صلوا تلك الصلوة فى ذلك المقعد لم يحل عليهم ان يخرجوا من حول تلك الارض تسعة عشر يوما يعتكفون هنالك و يسبحون الله و يقدسونه ثم يستغفرون الله و يتوبون تلك من حدود الله قد فرضت على الناس كلهم اجمعون و لقد كتب الله على الذينهم بعد التسعة و العشر هم يريدون ان يخرجون ان يقولون سبحانك اللهم انك انت فاطر السموات و الارض و ما بينهما الن

This piece ends on f. 199^a as follows:

و ان عند الله ام الكتاب به ينسخ الله ما يحكم ثم يثبت ما يريد انه فعال لما يريد *

BBF. 4.

Writings of Jenáb-i-Kuddús. آثار قدوسيّه Writings of Subh-i-Ezel. نغمات الروم لثالي و مجالي

Ff. a, β, and 208, (a¹, a², β¹, 1^a, 21^a-22^a, 102^a-106^a, 204^a-205^a, and 208^b blank), 20.5 × 12.75 centimetres, 14 lines to page in first and last parts, which are written in naskh, 17 in second and third parts (which are written in nim-shikasté, or what Subhi-i-Ezel calls shikasté-i-hayawán). The letter which accompanied this MS. bears the date J(emádi-uth-)thání 13th [A.H. 1307=February 4th, A.D. 1890], and is bound up with the MS., of which it now forms (additional) ff. a and β. In it

Subh-i-Ezel thus writes of the accompanying volume:

سه کتاب سابق که فرستاده شده بود از بیانست مداخلهٔ نفوسی د. آن نیست لیکن در این نوبت نظر از آنکه از آثار بیان چیزی بدست نیامد چند جزوی از کلمات خود و دو جزو از آثار حضرت قدوس ابلاغ محضر عالى گرديد تا آنكه هميشهٔ ايام اين منزوىرا ياد آورى فرمايند *

"The three books previously sent are [a part] of the Beyán, nor have they been tampered with by any persons.¹ This time, however, since no [more] portions of the Beyán were at hand, a few folios of my own words and two folios of the writings of Hazrat-i-Kuddús² are sent to you, that you may ever bear in mind this recluse."

The contents of the MS. are divisible into five parts:

- I. (ff. $a-\beta$, additional). Subh-i-Ezel's letter, quoted above.
- 1^b-20^b). Writings of Hazrat-i-Kuddús (six II. (ff. separate pieces).
- III. (ff. 22^b-101^b). Naghamátu'r-Rúh ("Songs of the Spirit") by Subh-i-Ezel, consisting of text (written in naskh) and commentary (in nim-shikasté), both in Arabic, and both composed by Subh-i-Ezel. From the heading prefixed to the text (المجلد الثاني) it would appear that there is a (من نغمات الروfirst part of this work which I do not possess.
- IV. (ff. 106b-203b). La'álí ú Majálí (التُالي و مجالي), an imitation and expansion of the well-known Sententiae of 'Alí ibn Abí Tálib,3 by Subh-i-Ezel.

¹ Cf. p. 447, n. 1 *supra*. ² *i.e.* Mullá Muhammád 'Ali of Bárfurúsh, who suffered martyrdom at his native place in the summer of 1849 after the fall of Sheykh Tabarsí.

Bee Gobineau, Rel. et Phil., pp. 230-2. ³ First published in Europe in the original Arabic, with a Persian translation, and Latin glossary and notes, by Professor Stickel (Jena, 1834).

V. (ff. 205^b-208^b). A short piece in Arabic without title, apparently by Subh-i-Ezel, certainly not by the Báb, whose death is thus alluded to (f. 206^b):

يا اهل الكتاب ادكروا ربكم فقد جائكم ربكم و الملك حوله فقد حاججتم بالله من دون شي و ادبرتم عن الحق و قتلتم نقطة الاولى من دون حق و تعديتم في الامر و كنتم من الماليين و اطعتم نفس الطاغوت بينكم و قاتلتم الذين امنوا الى ان سفكت دمآئهم على الارض و كنا شاهدين *

Of each of the last four parts I shall now give a brief description.

Writings of Hazrat-i-Kuddús (آثار قدوسيه).

(No. I, on f. 1^b) بسمه العلى الكبير المتكبر الحمد لله الذى قد اقام العرش على الهوآ^و و اكفهر على المآ^و سر البقآ و قد رشح على النار سر الامضا^و بانه لا اله الا هو و هو الذى لا اله الا هو و هو الشجرة القديم الحمد لله الذى قد احكم على السر الظهور بالظهور في افتق الطور بالسر المجلل المستور بانه لا اله الا هو العلى لدى قديم الح

(No. 2, on f. 6^a) بسم الرب المتكبر العزيز القهار وانك يا الهى لتعلم انى لا ادعو عبادك الا للخضوع لدى باب رحمتك و الانابة لهم فى كل وجه لدى ظهور طلعتك وانك يا الهى لتعلم حكمك و تبين سرك و تظهر امرك فلا شك و لا ريب يا الهى ان الحجة لم تكن لاحد عليك و انما منك الحجة على الناس فلو انك قد اصطفيت اعلا من

عبادک و نزلت علیه حجة من عندک و آن کان من ذر القطمير نفيرًا المخ (No. 3, on f. 10^b) بسم الرب الجبار المختار القهار الايا ايها الورقآ[•] المغنى في عمآ البهآ بديعا إن استمع الكل نعت الاتجذاب بالسر الهوية في سطر انما لاهل البقآء بالسر المرشم باني انا الحق لااله إلا هو في سر الايات رفيعا فقل ان استمعوا ندائ بالسر السطر من الشجرة العمرآم في ابحر الاحدية لاهل الوفآم بالنار النور جميعا آليخ (No. 4, on f. 13°) بسمه الذي لا اله الا هو العلى العظيم الحمد لله مطرز ديباجة الهويات بالاية البديعة وسكون العمائيات بطراز النقطة المنيعة ومخترع البهآئيات بترشح الانوار من طراز الالف الجوهرية ومبدع الاوراق الاشارات بظهور ورقآ السينآئية بانه لا اله الاهو العلى القديم المخ (No. 5, on f. 17ª) بسم الرب المتعال المتكبر العزيز الفعال اللهم يا الهي وربي ومولاي و سيدي لک الحمد علي ما يجرى قضآئك بالبدآء و لك الحمد على ما يمضى قضائك بالورقة العمرآ ولك العمد حمد الهوية فى ذروة الابداع ولك الحمد حمدا يفضل على كلما في الالواج الاختراع و لك الحمد حمدًا ابداعيًّا ولك المحمد حمدا اختراعيا و لك الحمد حمدا ازليا و لك الحمدا حمدًا هائيًّا و لك الحمد في ذر العمآ الم

(No. 6, on f. 19^ª) بسم الرب العزيز المتكبر القديم الحمد لله الذي قد خلق الكينونية الاحدية من رشح التجلي في الظهور وقد تلامع الكينونيات بالنور المتشعشعة في الطور و قد اظهر الهوية الهآئية في كل وجه من نقطة المغفور ثم الذين اشركوا بربهم يظهرون ألحز

These specimens of the style of *Hazrat-i-Kuddús*, few though they be, sufficiently show that his Arabic is even more open to the grammarian's criticism than is usually the case with Bábí writings in that language.

Naghamátu'r-Rúh (نغمات الروح).

This, as I have already said, presents a continuous text, composed by Subh-i-Ezel, and interspersed with his own commentary, extending from f. 22^a to f. 101^b . I shall give the first few lines only of the exordium, the whole of the introductory preface, and a short specimen of the commentary and text commentated, the latter being here distinguished (for want of a separate fount of type) by overlining.

لا اله الا الله

المجلد الثانى من نغمات الروح بسمه الباقى الملك الديموم المستعان الحمد لله ممسك السمآ بقدرته و مسكن الارض بمشيته و مرفع المجبال بعزته و مشهق الاكام بقوته و مجرى المحور بحكمته و خالق النفوس بديموميته و مطرز ديباج الذوات بهويته و مزين الواح العمآ

¹ The handwriting of the MS. suddenly changes at the top of this page (*i.e.* for this piece and the last 7 lines of the preceding one) from *naskh* to *ním-shikasté*.

برىوبيتـه المادح نفسه بالـبـقـآ و الجلال و المقدس ذاته عما يـقـال و الدائم الكآئن بلا انتقال و الصمد الباقى بلا زوال و الكآئن الديموم لم يزل و لا يزال المخ

اما بعد فيقول العبد الراجي المجاني الى الله القيوم والذر الاحقر الفاني تلقآ الملك الديموم بانه لما جرى الامر المحتوم والقضا المبروم فسرت بعضا مما رشح من لديّ فى مواقع الذكر و التقرير و شرحت ما انشدته في بعض المواقع و المواضع و قد كررت الشرح ثانيا ولما وتع بعض الامور شاهدت في نفسي ريحا من الذل و الحزن اذا امسكت القلم عن الجريان وحينئذ لما فكر فكر ذلك اقرب الاحبآ التي و افقه العلمآ لدي و احب الأود آ عندي و اثبت الاصدقآ في ذلك الامر إذا كررت ما شرحت و بيّنت ما بقي من تبيانه في نصف الاخير ورجوت عن وداده العفو و عن مودته الصفح لئلا يقشعر احد بعد ثبوته في الامر ولئلا تـزل اقدام بعد استقامتها و ثبوتها و لا تهلك نفسا بعد ما استقرت على ملك السرآئر و البساط والعزَّة المحقة ولا يزعزع من احد بعد ما استقام و ثبت في ذلك الدين و لا تخمد نائرة شوقه و لا يكون الناس في حجاب * فاقول وابتدى في الشرح فبالله التكلان والاستعانة والتوفيق قوله فما كاشف الصرآ المخ اي لا يكشف الضر الحقيقي الذي هو من سبب الدين و ابعاد العبد عن ربه و الاحتحاب عنه الآهو لما انه هو ينزل ذلك البلاً، وجميع البلايا و يدفعها و يأمن النفس عن جهات النفسانية ويقربها اليه وهو الكاشف لكل الضرآ وانما الامور بيديه و ما لامرد من مرد و هو يذهب الغم و ينفس الكرب و يكشف الضر بظهور نفس المشية وحقيقة الباقية فاذا اسقيت نفسك من ذلك الطمطام القمقام والبئر الهيولي الجهنام اذا اشهد ما جلى الله

As will be apparent from the above extract, the commentary is very profuse, if not very clear.

Ends (on f. 101^b):

فانى كلما اجريت فى تلك الكلمات من النصآئم و المواعظ ما قصدت بها نصحك بل اردت نصحى للناس فلا تحزن فى شأن و قل الله ربى و انه لقوى حفيظ و قل هو الحق و انه لمعى يهدين و الحمد لله رب العالمين *

The cyphers at the end of the Naghamátu'r-Rúh are repeated at the end of the La'áli ú Majáli (f. 203^a), and at the end of another MS. containing some of Subh-i-Ezel's Persian writings which will be described presently. They indicate, as Subh-i-Ezel informed me by word of mouth, that the writings to which they are appended are by him. Their significance, however, he was not willing to divulge to me. Probably they refer in some way to the *abjad* notation.

.(للاللي و مجالى). La'áli ú Majáli.

Of this piece also I shall give first of all the opening words of the exordium, then the short introductory preface, then a few specimens of the aphorisms or "Sententiæ," which, arranged in groups according to the position of the initial (or sometimes the final) letter in the alphabet, make up the remainder of the work.

لا اله لڈالی و مجالی بسمالله الکافی المنان الحمد لله الاول حیث لا اول قبله و الاخر حیث لا اخر بعدہ 32 32 34 و الظاهر حيث لا ظاهر فوقه و الباطن حيث لا باطن دونه و لا شئ معه كان اولا و لا يذكر بالاوآئل و كان اخرا و لا يعرف بالاواخر و كان ظاهرا و لا ينعت بالظواهر و كان باطنا و لا يوصف بالبواطن آلمخ و بعد قد طلح ما ظهر و شرق و سطح من سآئل مهتدى بالله و الشهير بمهدى فقد سئل فى كتابه نظيرا لما ظهر و تنظيرا لما طلح و اشتهر من امام الصدق العدل الغالب على ابن ابيطالب صلوات الله على مجليه و سلامه عليه و على الأمة من بعده ما دامت و يشرلى من سبل الامر ليكون ذكرا للذاكرين و شرفا للمهتدين البالغين و بالله التوفيق و الاستعانة و انه لا حول و لا قوة الا بالله * بسم ربى العدل المستعان استعينوا بالله تجدوا رضآ الله استعينوا بالله تجدوا لقآم الله التعينوا بالله تجدوا هناك الاجر استعينوا بالله تجدوا القرائل الخيرات

and so on for 23 similar sentences, the section ending with the words الاستعانة الاستعانة.

The second section (f. 107^b) contains thirty-one short aphorisms beginning with the word اخلصوا, as, for example:

The third section (ff. $107^{b}-109^{a}$) consists, for the most part, of aphorisms beginning with the definite article, further arranged according to the letter in which they end, *e.g.*:

The whole work, excluding the preface, consists of 179 such sections, arranged in groups alphabetically according to the initial letter of the aphorisms. The number of sections belonging to each letter varies. Sections i-xix begin with \; xx-xxvii with ; xxviii-xxxiii with ; xxxiv-xxxvii with ث: xxxviii-xli with ج; xlii-xlvi with τ ; xlvii-lii with $\dot{\tau}$; liii-lv with $\dot{\tau}$; lvi-lvii with $\dot{\tau}$; lix-lxv with ;; lxvi-lxx with ;; lxxi-lxxv with ;; w; –lxxxii with ش; lxxxiii–lxxxvi with ص; lxxxvii– -xcvii with ن ; xcvii with ن ; xcvii ; d ; xcvi ; d cv with ي; cvi-cviii with ; cix-cxiii with ; cxiv-cxvi ; ف cxiv-cxvi with زي; cxvii-cxxix with ث; cxxx-cxlii and again clxviii-clxxi with ل; cxliii-cl with م; cli-clvii with ن; clviii-clxii with ; clxiii-clxvii with &; clxxii-clxxix with Jo. The work thus consists entirely of short, disconnected aphorisms, and the specimens which I have given, though few, will, I think, sufficiently indicate its general character.

The last piece contained in the MS. is separated by three blank pages (ff. $204^{a}-205^{a}$) from the preceeding one, is written in *naskh*, occupies only six pages, and begins abruptly as follows:

قد ضلت المحكمآ يومئذ و ما عرفوا مقدار شئى و رجع النحلق الى حدة و الممكن الى محدود فنآئه افانتم حينئذ بايات الله لا تتذكرون و تاهت العرفآ يومئذ و ما نعتوه و ما عرفوا شيئا من معارف ربك و ما وحدوا الله حق توحيده و هم اذا محتجبون المخ

Ends (on f. 208^a):

قد افترى على الله كذبا فكلما دعاه الى الله ربه موسى قد امتنع عن عبادة الله واستكبر وكان من العالين و ما قدر الله للذين كفروا الآ النار هى حسبهم يردونها و انهم كانوا فيها من المحضرين *

BBF. 5.

آثار ازلتیه بزبان فارسی

Ff. 274 (1^a and 274^b blank), 17.75×10.75 centimetres, 11 lines to the page.

A collection of Subh-i-Ezel's Persian writings, transcribed by himself in a clear, graceful, and somewhat peculiar ta'lik hand, and containing a number of sections or chapters of various lengths, to each of which is prefixed a doxology, but no title. The full examination and description of such a collection being necessarily a work of time, I confine myself here to giving the beginning and ending. Near the end of the MS. is a rather long and very important piece wherein Subh-i-Ezel defines and defends his position, and enters a protest against the schism of the Behá'ís. This piece I hope to publish with a translation in a subsequent number of the Journal.

Begins;

لا اله الا الله آثار الازلية هو المستعان

سپاس معرى از ذكر ما كان و حمد مقدس از نعت ما يكون مر خداوند قهار سبوم متعالى را سزاست كه لم يزل بحار جود و رحمت او در التطام است و يموم عز و قدرت او در اضطرام در هر لحظه در شئونيست و در هر نفحه در غنون ابداع فرموده خلق هستى را و وجود داد خلق لا وجود و نيستى را ما عرفه من شئى و ما وصفه ما خلق نشناخته اورا هيچ چيز و وصف ننموده اورا ماخلق زيراكه عرفان ذات مقدس او با اقتران ممكن شود و چون اقتران در خلق وجود لا يمكن از اين سبب عرفان او بغير از او نتوان نمود و وصف

Ends:

هرگاه واصل بآن منبع قدس شده ذات حقیقتِ اورا یافته و عارف گشته معنی کنز حقیقت و عرفان احدیت اورا درک نموده و الا در زمرهٔ هالکین مستهلک گردیده محجوب شده سُبّحان الّله و تعالی عمّا یُشرِکوُن وَ الحَمدُ لِلّه رَبِّ العَالمَین د ۲۰۰۰ ۲۰۰۰ ۲۰۰۰

۱۳۰۲

عشق آمد و باز نوحه بر خویش نمود * خاکی تن ما ز هجر پر ریش نـمـود * در سبزهٔ جان بچشم حسرت نگریم * آه از غم دل که نیش بر خویش نمود *

BBF. 6

تفسير سورة البقرة

The Báb's Commentary on the Súratu'l-Bakara [Kur'án, II].

This and the three following MSS. (all containing works of the Báb) were not transcribed by Subh-i-Ezel, but were transmitted to me through him from Persia. The circumstances under which they were conveyed from Teherán to Cyprus and thence to me were somewhat peculiar. On July 9th, 1890, I received from Teherán a letter from an unknown correspondent belonging to the Ezelí sect of the Bábís which bore as its date "Tuesday, Shawwál 14th, A.H. 1307" (June 3rd, 1890). After a preliminary doxology, the writer proceeded to explain that, being at Famagusta

in Cyprus in the month of Zi'l-Ka'da, A.H. 1306 (July, 1889), he had been present when my first letter, asking for books and information, was handed to Subh-i-Ezel, and had perused its contents; and that he had also been present when the "Governor" (i.e. the Commissioner of the district, Captain Young), called to see Subh-i-Ezel and to converse with him through his interpreter. On leaving Cyprus to return to Persia he had been commanded by Subh-i-Ezel to collect together such of the Báb's writings as he could (especially those concerning which I had more particularly enquired). On arriving at Teherán he had accordingly set to work on this task, and had succeeded in obtaining copies of (1) The Commentary on the Súra-i-Yúsuf, or Ahsanu'l-Kişaş; (2) The Names of All Things (اسمآ كلشي); (3) The Commentary on the Súratu'l-Bakara; (4) The Commentary on the Súratu'l-'Asr; (5) The Doxology of our Lady Fátima (تسبيم حضرت فاطمه). These books were to have been forwarded through a certain Ezelí, whose position would have enabled him to secure their safe conveyance,¹ but his sudden death had rendered this My correspondent therefore desired me to impossible. suggest some means of transmission, adding that desire to see Western lands and to learn their languages and arts, as well as anxiety to escape from the continual persecutions of the Mullás (who had lately, without cause or pretext, slain six of his co-religionists at Isfahán and burned their bodies),² rendered him very willing to bring the MSS. to England himself, if I approved of this plan, and if he could obtain money for the journey.

To this letter I replied in the manner directed. After thanking my correspondent for all the trouble he had taken, I explained to him the great expense and difficulty of the scheme he proposed, and suggested that the books

¹ My correspondent did not mention the name of this person, but I have no doubt in my own mind as to who is meant.

² The persecution of Si-dih is alluded to. See my *Traveller's Narrative*, vol. ii., pp. 406-410.

should, when opportunity offered, be conveyed to Cyprus and placed in the hands of Subh-i-Ezel, who could afterwards, if he pleased, transmit the originals or copies of the originals to me through Captain Young. In any case it appeared to me right and proper that they should first be placed in his hands.

On September 19th, 1890, I received another letter in the same hand, bearing the Constantinople post-mark, but written, apparently, from Famagusta, whither my mysterious correspondent had again journeyed. In this letter he stated that he had, according to my advice, abandoned the idea of coming to England, and had safely brought the following six volumes with him to Cyprus and handed them over to Subh-i-Ezel: (1) The Names of All Things, 2 vols.; (2) The Commentary on the Súratu'l-Bakara, 1 vol.; (3) The Commentary on the Súratu'l-Kawthar, 1 vol.; (4) The Commentary on the Súratu'l-Asr, 1 vol.; (5) The Commentary on the Súrat-Yúsuf or Ahsanu'l-Kisas, 1 vol.

Having thus explained how this and the following volumes were conveyed to Cyprus, whence most of them have since been sent to me, I return to the present MS., the Commentary on the Súratu'l-Bakara. That it was one of the Báb's earlier works appears from a passage in the Tárikh-i-Jadid, of which the substance will be found at pp. 902-903 of my second paper on the Bábís in the J.R.A.S. for 1889. This passage contains the account given by Mullá Huseyn of Bushraweyh of his conversion to Mírzá 'Abdu'l-Wahháb of Khurásán, who narrated it to Hájí Mírzá Jání of Káshán, from whose book it is copied by the author of the Tárikh-i-Jadid. It is too long to quote or translate in extenso, and I must therefore confine myself to citing that portion of it which bears directly on the Commentary in question.

پس از ساعتی در طاقچه چند جلد کتاب بنظرم رسید بر داشتم دیدم تفسیری است بر سورهٔ مبارکهٔ بقره. چون قدری خواندم دیدم تفسیری است بی نظیر تعجّب نمودم و پرسیدم این تفسیررا که نوشته فرمودند جوانی تازه کار نوشته و اظهار علم و بزرگی زیاد مینماید. گفتم کیست و کجاست فرمودند می بینی و باز هم من ملتفت معنی میبینی نشدم. ^{صف}حهٔ دیگررا ملاحظه نمودم نوشته بود تفسیر باطن باطن بنظرم تفسیر باطن آمد و عرض کردم اینجا باید تفسیر باطن باشد و باطن باطن نوشته اند فرمودند من چگویم ماحب تفسیر زیاده بر اینها اظهار جلالت وعظمت و دانش مینماید بدقّت ملاحظه کنید من مجدّدا اعاده در مرور نمودم دیدم تفسیر باطن باطن است و صحیح نوشته اند گفتم صحیح است و لیکن من خسته م شما بخوانید من مستمع میشوم. ایشان قدری خواندند علی رسم سایر ناس عرض کردم کفایت میکند دیگر زحمت مکشید

"'After a while'" [says Mullá Huseyn of Bushraweyh] "'I observed several volumes lying in a recess. I picked up one of them, and found it to be a Commentary on the Súratu'l-Bakara. After reading a little I perceived it to be a commentary of singular merit, and demanded in astonishment who the author might be. "A mere youthful beginner," answered he, "who nevertheless lays claim to a high degree of knowledge and greatness." I again asked who and where the writer was. "Thou seest him," he replied; but I did not at the time apprehend his meaning, and continued to read on till I came to a passage where it was written, "the explanation of the inmost of the inmost." This appeared to me to be an error, and I remarked, "Here it should be 'the inmost,' and they have written 'the inmost of the inmost." "What can I say?" he answered, "the author of the Commentary lays claim to even more than this of greatness, glory, and knowledge. Consider the passage attentively." I did so, and said, "It is quite correct. But I am wearied. Do you read and I will listen." He

read for a time, and then, as men are wont, I said, "It is enough. Do not trouble yourself further."""

It is this work, then, hitherto unknown in the West, that the present MS. represents. The MS. reached me, together with another (the *Commentary on the Súratu'l-*'Asr) to be described immediately, on December 8th, 1890. With them came a letter from Subh-i-Ezel, dated November 25th, wherein he wrote as follows:

مهاجر معهود هم در همان ایام وارد شده لو مرقوم را رسانده از خیال خود منصرف گشته به حل خویش باز گشت نمود کتب که اشاره شده بود شش جلد مهیا شده لیکن بعدم فرصت بتمامه سواد نشده اکنون بتوسط سرکار حاکم حرسه الله تعالی دو جلد آن که یکی شرح آیات سورهٔ بقره و دیگری شرح و العصر است ابلاغ نزد محضر عالی گشته بقیهٔ آن یعنی سه جلد دیگر که شرح کوثر و دو کتاب اسما کل شی باشد بتدریج انشآ الله فرستاده میشود شرح سورهٔ یوسف هم حاضراست تا اقتضای ارسال آن چه وقت شود.

"The pilgrim of whom you wot also arrived about the same time" [as Captain Young, whose absence on leave from Cyprus had prevented Subh-i-Ezel from writing for a considerable period]. "The letter which you wrote being conveyed to him, he abandoned his idea [of proceeding to England in person], and returned to his own place. The books which have been signified, six volumes, are ready, but owing to lack of opportunity they have not yet been completely copied. Now, by means of His Excellency the Governor [*i.e.* Captain Young] (may God Almighty guard him !), two volumes of them, one of which is the Commentary on the verses of the Súra-i-Bakara, and the other the Commentary on 'Wa'l 'Asr,' are forwarded to you. The remainder, namely three other volumes, the Commentary on the Kawthar and two volumes of the Names of All Things, will, if it please God, be forwarded by

degrees. The Commentary on the Súra-i-Yúsuf is also ready, whenever the time to send it may come."

The description of this MS. is as follows: Ff. 110 (ff. 1^a- 2^a , and 110^a - 110^b blank), 19×11.5 centimetres, 19 lines to the page. Written in a legible *naskh* hand, without title or colophon. F. 2^a bears a seal-mark which reads area leques a seal-mark which reads area leques a seal-mark which reads

The text begins with the Súratu'l-Fátiha and a short commentary on it, which I give in extenso—

بسمالله الرحمن الرحيم الحمد لله ربّ العالمين. الرّحمن الرّحيم. مالك يوم الدين. اياك نعبد و اياك نستعين. اهدنا الصراط المستقيم. صراط الذين انعمت عليهم غير المغضوب عليهم ولا الصالين. هذه السورة المباركة عند الله سبعة آيات محكمات الآية الأولى كتاب محمد صر وقد جعل الله فيها احكام وجوده مما لا بداية لها و لا نهاية و هي جنة الفردوس قد حبل الله ظلها لمن امن بنبوّته و دخل عليها بها والثانية كتاب على عدوقد جعل الله فيها احكام ولايته المطلقة ممّا هو عليه و هي جنة الواحدية قد جعل الله ظلها لمن اقر بولايته و الثالثلة كتاب فاطمة عه و قد جعل الله فيها كل ما لها و عليها و هي جنة النعيم جعل الله ظلها لمن امن بها و احبّها بعد ما عرفها بما هي اهلها كما تجلت للعارف لها بها فم (?) حلت تىلك الجنة له والرابعة كتاب الحسن عه وفيها مكتوب احكامه واحكام شيعته ممّ. قد دخل لعة الاحدية بيت ظل محبته و هي جنبة العدن وقطب الجنان ولا خطيرة لها وقد جعل الله ظلُّها لمن اقر بوصايته (f. 3ª) لاباد عد م و النجامسة كتاب الحسين عد و اخذ روحي فداد منها احكام نفسه حتى قرأ فيها اسم قاتله عليه اللعنة و هي جنة المقام قد جعل الله ظلها لمن اقر بولاية الحسين عه و جا بزيارته

و بكى لمصابة و السادسة كتاب جعفر بن محمّد و فيها مكتوب مما شا الله فيه و هى جنة المحلد و السابعة كتاب موسى بن جعفر و فيها مكتوب مما شا الله فيه و هى جنة الماوى قد جعل الله ظلها لمن اقر بولايته ع¹ بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم الم ذلك الكتاب لا ريب فيه هدى للمتقين هذه الاية لاهل الحقيقة معرفة الله سبحانه يعرفون حروفها حرفا واحدا و معانيها معنى واحدا مع تغاير حروفها و كثرة معانيها الفردوس نفسه لانهم لا ينظرون بغير الله كان الله و لم يكن معه شئ و هم قوم يعرفون الله بالله و يرون بارئهم و الفردوس راى العين و و الان كما كان و هم اهل جنة الاولى بقاؤهم بقا الله و ليس لهم وصف ثمانية و الحجيم سبعة و السبعة ظل السبعة و الاولى لا ضد لها و لا ظل بل فى الحقيقة خلوة من الجنان و الجنان و الجنان و الجنان و الحالة من الم

The Commentary ends on f. 109^{b} with v. 131 of the *Súratu'l-Bakara* as follows:

، خلت لها ما كسبت ولكم ما كسبتم	قال الله تعالى تلک امة قد
و لـقـد اشرت فيها اليها و الـى هنا قد	و لا تسمّلون عما كانوا يعملون و
ن الرح م ن *	اخذت القلم عن الجريان باذر

The rest of the Commentary, therefore, would seem never to have been written. I have not been able to find the expression تفسير باطن alluded to in the account of Mullá Huseyn's conversion given by the *Tárikh-i-Jadid*, which may perhaps be mistaken as to the identity of the work, since Subh-i-Ezel told me that it was the perusal of the *Commentary on the Súra-i-Yúsuf* which convinced Mullá Huseyn of the Báb's divine mission.

¹ Here, without break or hiatus, begins the Commentary on the *Suratu'l-Bakara*. The commentary on the first verse extends to f. 8^a, so I must needs content myself with giving the first few lines only.