

Bahai Nest. Mount Carmel
Haifa, Syria

July 24th 1914

Dear friends!

An enraptured, young Egyptian Bahai is Mohamad Said. He is a teacher in one of the government's schools in Alexandria and speaks and writes the English language quite fluently. He is one of that band of young men in Egypt taught by our late beloved Teacher Mirza Aliul Hagl. This being the vacation time, he has come to Haifa to meet the Master and fill his cup with the nectar of Happiness. For the last few days he has been in the Pilgrim's Home, meeting the Blessed One almost every day and listening to his words of Truth. Today he received permission to return to Alexandria via Damascus, Beirut, Port Said and Cairo. He has an earnest, pleasant face, kindly, black eyes, hospitable disposition, speaks intelligently on the Cause and eager to serve and spread It in any way possible. Having met him in Ramleh many, many times it gave me real joy to renew our Bahai love and strengthen our old friendships. This morning we were talking together about some of our American Bahais in the lovely rose garden when the Master entered.

it after having enjoyed a long walk. Entering the orchard of
 Esmail Aga he returned after a minute with figs and grapes
 which he divided ^{them in turn} between us, including Shauqi Effendi and
 Badi Bushrewi. Then in the cooling shade of the trellis he sat on
 a sofa, facing a wonderful garden of Chrysanthemums, carnations,
 roses, stocks etc. The gentle breeze stirred these innumerable
 natural, multicolored bouquets of flowers, making a fairy
 picture, most pleasing to the eyes. The Master made repeated
 remarks to the beautiful scene before us. The illustrated his-
 tory of Persia written by Sir John Malcolm was on a chair
 near him and he commenced to read a few chapters in the
 middle of the book. When he finished reading Mohamad Said
 delivered to him the devotion and the pledges of faithfulness on
 the part of Cairo and Alexandria believers. He said: "Convey
 to them my messages of love and spirituality. I beg of the
 Blessed Perfection to confirm and assist them under all
 circumstances - so that they may live in such a manner
 as to become conducive to their ^{own} honor and glory in the
 Kingdom of Allah. Man must be the mine of pity and
 sympathy. He must associate with all mankind with
 joy and fragrance. He must not turn back his face to any
 soul. He must raise the fallen and cheer up the hopeless.

He must treat with Kindness both the friend and the stranger. I will pray in their behalf at the Threshold of Baha-ollah and will supplicate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon them." Then our friend asked several other questions pertaining to the affairs of their assembly to all of which he gave definite and kindly answers. After a long pause he turned his benignant face to me and said: "Speak." I told him of the proposed round-the-globe aerial Contest to be held next year in San - Francisco with the prize of \$ 500.000 to the winner and the route to be navigated by such aerial fleet. He said: "The question of air - navigation has gripped and fascinated the minds of the Western world. It has become the most absorbing mental illusion of the time. Already hundreds of daring aeromauts have risked their lives for the progress of this science and the roll of 'martyrs' are increasing. No sooner one of these men is killed than his name is embossed in the book of air - martyrology by the aeronautic Clubs of the West. Now it seems, this illusion has taken a wider field of Activity and the highest ambition of the reckless air navigators is to girdle the globe with a fleet of aeroplanes. Of course a large number

of men will enter in this royal contest which is nevertheless fraught with ~~much~~ risks and dangers to lives. The science of air navigation, it seems to me, is not yet so perfected as to embark on such a great venture, putting in jeopardy the lives of the pilots. But the time is coming when people will travel safely in the airships from one country to another. Learning little by little through experience they will bring down to a minimum the dangers of travelling in the air. To rush along precipitately on this matter, will be like the man who having a young boy of two years old, ^{ride him and} expect him to cover 20 or 30 miles a day. The poor boy will either kick and dash him to ground or will die at the end of the journey. In both cases the results are equally unfortunate." Other subjects were discussed, such as England's lack of desire to participate in the San-Francisco Exposition etc. It was about noon when the Master entered the house and according to our watch we had two heavenly hours of spiritual association with the Ruler of the hearts.

In the afternoon he dictated several Tablets to Shangi Effendi and about sunset we had a glimpse of him as he returned from his walk.

A Tablet revealed of late to two Persian women may interest you:-

"O ye two glorious leaves of the Divine Herdous! It is now sometimes that his honor Mirza Abdul Gani has arrived in this land to visit the Holy Threshold of Baha-Allah and the Blessed Tomb of the Bab - thus ~~he~~ may perfume his nostrils with the fragrances of these two radiant spots. He begs and supplicates in your behalf and implore inexhaustible Confirmation - so that you may remain firm and steadfast in the Cause of God and receive a great portion of the Divine Bestowal. Praise be to God you are firm in the Covenant and steadfast in the Testament. Firmness and steadfastness are of the greatest conditions of Faith and Assurance. As long as the tree does not send its root to the bowels of the earth it will not become secure and established, neither will it grow and develop into the full stature. But if it is not firmly-rooted, it will be broken before the blowing of one strong wind. Therefore Abdul Baha with the utmost contrition, fear and apprehension of the tests of God implores towards the Kingdom of Allah and beseeches for the gifts of Firmness and Steadfastness and with the utmost

humility and meekness entreats constancy and determination

To a believer in America he writes:-

"O thou dear son! Thy letter was received. It was an evidence to thy firmness and steadfastness. For to day the highest of all the degrees are the degrees of Firmness and Steadfastness in Faith and Certainty. This Firmness and Steadfastness will be conducive to the descent of Divine Assistance and Confirmation. His Holiness Baha-ollah hath ordained for His believers eternal Sovereignty which is not overthrown and annihilated through the lapse of centuries and cycles. The foundation of any other Sovereignty is not securely laid. Therefore you must strive in that which is permanent and unchangeable. The Sovereignty of the world is like unto the mirage and the Sovereignty of the Kingdom is like unto the ocean of water. The latter is the Reality, the former is superficiality. One is comfort; the other is hardship. This is the Sublimity of the Kingdom, this is the sublimity of the earth. Consequently exert thou with heart and soul to spread the light of Guidance - so that the Good of that world and this be realized and both heavenly and earthly Honor be revealed