

Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

New England

23 July – 23 August 1912

Oneness of the world of humanity

Travels of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 27

New England

‘Abdu’l-Bahá was very tired and weak, and Agnes Parsons invited Him to come and rest at her summer home in Dublin, New Hampshire, a place in the mountains popular with the rich and famous intellectual and cultural figures. He stopped in Boston, Massachusetts, 23-24 July 1912, and gave three talks. He stayed in Dublin 24 July to 16 August and met informally with many people. He said “*We have come for work and service and not for leisure.*”



Dublin, New Hampshire, 1912

Dublin, New Hampshire

After meeting a prominent Theosophist interested in spiritual teachings, He said:

“What captives of superstitions people are! What troubles they endure for the sake of name and fame! What fruit will these superstitions bear? All are transitory and perishable and not trace of them will remain. It will be as though they had never existed. They are sowing seeds in barren land. Man ought to sow pure seeds in fertile land.”

(Earl Redman, *‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 155)

Dublin, New Hampshire

At Mrs. Parson's house on 30 July, 'Abdu'l-Bahá explained that:

“Confirmation is not dependent on talent, knowledge or wisdom. Many unimportant persons have made significant discoveries.... The disciples of Christ were apparently abased, yet they achieved something which Napoleon never did: they changed the whole aspect of the world. So it is evident that everything comes about through the assistance of God.”



Dublin,
New
Hampshire
1912



Dublin, New Hampshire

Someone asked if there was any good in flies or mosquitoes. 'Abdu'l-Bahá answered saying:

(Earl Redman, *'Abdu'l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 157)

Dublin, New Hampshire

“What is the use of your creation? What benefit have you given to the world? The same benefit that you have given to the world, the mosquito has. You say the mosquito harms and sucks in the human blood; but you kill animals and eat them. Therefore you are more harmful than the mosquito... the reality of the matter is this: The world of life, the world of existence is connected, each with the other. All the created beings are the members of this stupendous body. Each one is a member and that member should not remain imperfect.”

(Earl Redman, 'Abdu'l-Bahá in Their Midst, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 157)

Dublin, New Hampshire

Though most of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's time was spent with the rich, famous and white people, He gave special attention to their black servants, treating them no differently than their employers. On 4 August 'Abdu'l-Bahá addressed a group of 28 black people and spoke of the importance of unity and amity between black and white people. He told them of the upcoming marriage of Louisa Mathew, a white woman, and Louis Gregory, a black man.

(Earl Redman, *'Abdu'l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 161)



Louis
and
Louisa
Gregory
1912



Green Acre

‘Abdu’l-Bahá went to Eliot, Maine, on 16-23 August, to stay at Green Acre, a place which Sarah Farmer had dedicated to ideals of peace and religious unity in 1894, inviting many speakers. Over 500 people welcomed ‘Abdu’l-Bahá on the road to the hotel. He told her that *“This is hallowed ground made so by your vision and sacrifice.”* He also announced *“This is where the first Bahá’í University will be built.”* It has since become an important Baha’i Summer School.



Green Acre 1912

Green Acre

‘Abdu’l-Bahá gave a talk at Green Acre, Eliot, Maine, 17 August 1912, on the **Oneness of the World of Humanity**.



Green Acre 1912

Oneness of the world of humanity

Bahá'u'lláh has proclaimed the promise of the oneness of humanity. Therefore, we must exercise the utmost love toward each other. We must be loving to all the people of the world. We must not consider any people the people of Satan, but know and recognize all as the servants of the one God. At most it is this: Some do not know; they must be guided and trained. They must be taught to love their fellow creatures and be encouraged in the acquisition of virtues.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 92)

Oneness of the world of humanity

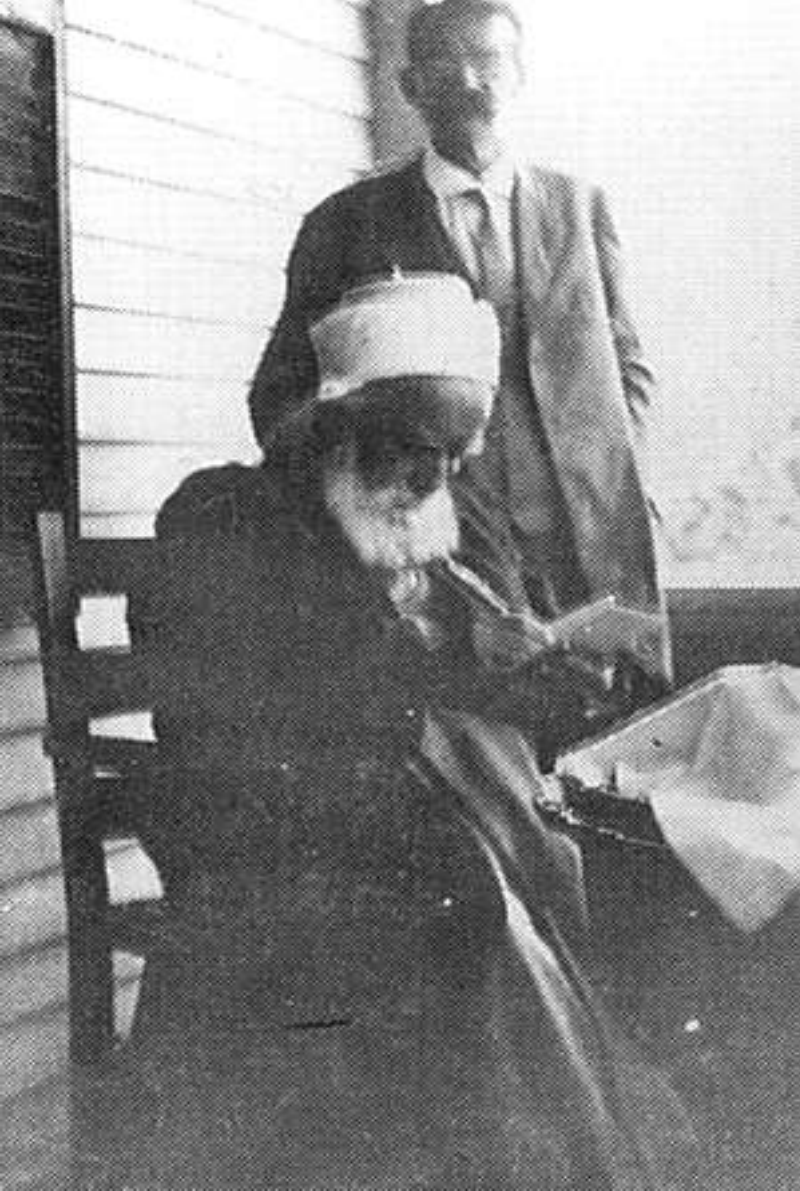
Some are ignorant; they must be informed. Some are as children, undeveloped; they must be helped to reach maturity. Some are ailing, their moral condition is unhealthy; they must be treated until their morals are purified. But the sick man is not to be hated because he is sick, the child must not be shunned because he is a child, the ignorant one is not to be despised because he lacks knowledge.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 92)

Oneness of the world of humanity

They must all be treated, educated, trained and assisted in love. Everything must be done in order that humanity may live under the shadow of God in the utmost security, enjoying happiness in its highest degree.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 92)



Green
Acre
1912



Well-earned rest

'Abdu'l-Bahá stayed again for rest in Malden, Massachusetts, 23-29 August 1912, before traveling west.

Dublin, New Hampshire
1912

