

"As to general politics, the new Pope gives himself credit to leave it alone but where by the nature of his duties he is obliged to interfere, as is the case with the French laws concerning the teaching congregations, he will make, honestly and sentimentally, grave mistakes.

"He may thereby prepare the separation of the Church and State in France, which, however, will — it is to be feared — lead to conditions that will be bad for both Church and State.

"As to the relations between religion and science, relations which according to my view take precedence even over those of the Church and the State, the intellectual horizon of Pius X will presumably be that of a good curé of the country or of a small town who reads the Bible in the Vulgate and preferably in the extracts furnished by his breviary. He has just given us a painful sample of it in his condemnation of the erudite writings of Abbé Loisy.

"Nothing more dangerous in a Pope than piety when it is not sufficiently supported by a broad and independent science; and if you wish to have my unreserved opinion, nothing more dangerous than a piety that is subjected to the influence of a state secretary, more or less Spanish and reactionary.

"You may think me pessimistic, and indeed I am such so far as men are concerned, but not as to God. A higher law governs history and finally leads the errors and mistakes of man, even those of popes, to a good end.

"Under its present form the Church stands condemned. She is not in need merely of a reform, as I thought myself some time ago. She needs a profound transformation, and I ought to add, a radical one. I seem to hear daily in my meditative walks in the midst of Rome's solemn and tragic ruins the voice which according to Plutarch in the decay of paganism cried out over the sea of the Greek archipelago: 'The great Pan is dead.'

"My heart which remains profoundly Catholic answers this voice with a sigh, but my reason and also my faith, my purified faith, show me in the future, at Rome and at Paris and elsewhere, the vision of a higher Christianity, similar to the one which Mazzini hoped for and which he summed up in the two words 'God and the people.'" \* \* \*

The son of Father Hyacinthe, Paul Hyacinthe Loyson, is an able and well-known French author, who, after publishing several volumes of poetry, has developed of late into a dramatist with a strong conviction that theaters should be reformed and do what the churches fail in, viz., to attract those who stand most in need of reform. His *Evangile du Sang* has been enacted in different continental cities and his *Droit des Vierges* has just had a run of a month in Paris at the New Theatre Victor Hugo. The director of the *Theatre Français*, which takes the lead over all others, has asked him to write a moral drama for that stage.

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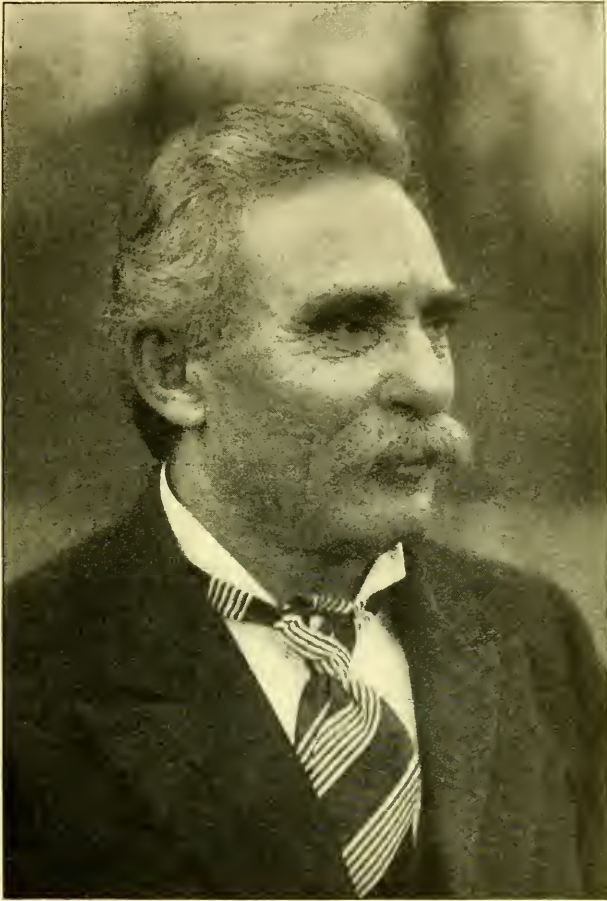
#### A LETTER FROM THE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE OF BEHAISM.

*To the Editor of The Open Court:*

This letter, from Mr. Ibrahim Kheiralla, the main representative of Behasim in the United States, refers to portions of our article, "A New Religion," which will appear in the next number.]

With pleasure and full satisfaction I have read the proofs of the article on Behasim. Indeed it is one of the best that I have read on this subject.

It shows your impartiality in regard to the present schism between the two Branches, Abbas Effendi and Mohammad Ali Effendi. You have stated what you believe to be facts, without passing judgment on either side.



*J. G. Kheiralla*

It may interest you, as well as the readers of your valuable magazine, to know that I am expecting the arrival of the grandson of Beha Ullah.

whose name is Shua Ullah Effendi, as my guest during the Exposition at St. Louis.

He is the son of the Mightiest Branch, Mohammad Ali Effendi, whom I represent in this country. The purpose of his father in sending him here is that the young man may study the civilization of the Western countries and realize, in person, the greatness of the American nation and its wonderful development; also, with the intention of organizing in the United States of America a movement, under the headship of his illustrious father and his grandmother, Her Grace the widow of Beha Ullah. The purpose of this organization is to connect the East with the West. This momentous subject and its secrets will be explained and given to you and to a few others after his arrival.



SHUA ULLAH EFFENDI.

I beg to suggest to you, if possible for The Open Court Publishing Company to handle the sale of my work *Beha Ullah* and put it before the public. I know that this is out of your line, yet I know that you are interested in all kinds of religions and philosophies. This book is not published with the intention of money-making. It cost a big sum of money to publish it. The original price of this voluminous work, consisting of 550 pages, was five dollars, but as a greater number was published than the present demand justifies, I am willing to dispose of it for two dollars a book.

Just received the enclosed photo of Shua Ullah Effendi. He is 26 years old only.

J. G. KHEIRALLA.