

stories === year N1 week 3.

82

Before His wedding day, 'Abdu'l-Bahá made the necessary arrangements for the few guests. His mother and sister made a delicate bridal dress of white batiste. A white head-dress adorned Munirih Khanum's hair, worn, as usual, in two braids. At nine in the evening she went with the Greatest Holy Leaf into the presence of Bahá'u'lláh, Who gave her His blessing. She then went to the bridal room and awaited the coming of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. The service was very simple. At about ten o'clock 'Abdu'l-Bahá came, accompanied by the guests, and Munirih Khanum chanted a Tablet revealed by Bahá'u'lláh. Later, the wife of Abbud recalled the sweetness of that chanting still ringing in her ears.

There were no choir, decorations or cake – just cups of tea. Above all, a glory and a love there were more than sufficient to bless the happy event.

83

Elizabeth Gibson Cheyne, poetess, and her husband, Dr r. K. Cheyne, esteemed critic, lived in Oxford, England, when 'Abdu'l-Bahá visited them. Dr Cheyne's health and strength were waning. The beautiful loving care of the devoted wife for her gifted, invalid husband touched the heart of Abdu'l-Bahá. With tears in His kind eyes He spoke of them to His companions on their way back to London, "She is an angelic woman, an example to all in her unselfish love. Yes, she is a perfect woman. An angel."

84

One day in early May 1912, 'Abdu'l-Bahá travelled by train from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Washington, D.C. - a twelve-hour ride. 'His companions begged Him to take a special compartment or a berth on the train; but He refused saying, "I spend money only to help people and to serve the Cause of God; and I have never liked distinctions since my childhood."

from: Vignettes from the Life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá by Annamarie Honnold, pp.90-93