

C. P. H. I.

Northern Hospital for the Insane

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Dr. Adin Sherman!

Dear Sir:

Would say that I dreamt about you last night <sup>and</sup> am sorry that in this dream you bitterly reproached me, at the same time accusing me of unfairness - in so many words you told me that you were the only good friend I have in this world <sup>and</sup> were I but more candid to you, my letters would surely be answered more regularly, said you, instead of molesting you with stories on the war or minor affairs, which almost appears as if though I were trying to evade more important matters or as if I had secrets about which you should not know, you ask me to empty my heart to you <sup>and</sup> thereby removes the uncertainty of which I am complaining -

Now doctor, it may be that I have omitted or rather overlooked a thing or two but not willfully <sup>and</sup> let me assure you, secrets, there are none - Do you recollect that upon a time I had a hobby of collecting newspaper clippings which I pasted into large books to use in my literary works? eminent writers are doing the same thing every day - but the other day I ordered those books destroyed - well should it interest you to know the why of that order, you are indeed welcome - would say that I think just as well of literature to day as ever, of the few good poems I wrote I am immensely proud but in the course of time I've found that no man can be successful in that profession who is unable to handle subjects of an religious nature rationally - but it would seem that not every mind is strong enough to grasp <sup>and</sup> to master <sup>that</sup> study intelligently -

at least I do believe that those religious questions caused my mental collapse several years ago at which time I wrote a lot of crazy stuff which I sent, presumably to everywhere <sup>and</sup> everybody - <sup>and</sup> now with a stronger mind I feel that it would be advisable to refrain from that kind of work for years to come - Now then Dr. to a man who talks so much about love <sup>and</sup> matrimony like I <sup>and</sup> of which I mean every word, the question arises - How am I to support a wife? to which I candidly say - I know not how - indeed I hardly know how to provide for myself - I do know <sup>and</sup> have given proof of that I am willing to do most any work <sup>and</sup> do it as well as anyone - yet I feel that even in a case where a wife may be capable <sup>and</sup> desirous to remain in a way self-supporting - it is nevertheless the man's duty to have the means of providing for both - It is true that where a good woman wields a wholesome influence over a man as is the case with me, that wife's advice

is ever law to push a man -  
you would not call it a secret when I say that  
in order to avoid irritation <sup>and</sup> more complications  
I have so far concealed a pet-scheme that I've  
nursed a lifetime - while my word could not be  
taken in full I thought it best to observe silence  
on that matter but now you may know it all -  
For more than twenty years I took a more than ordin-  
ary interest in aviation. Uncle Flamman <sup>and</sup> I  
gave that subject a thorough study <sup>and</sup> now that 4  
years of war have brought that industry to the  
forefront as never before I find that Mr Flamman's  
suggestions for improving the aeroplane are quite  
feasible - I am inclined to believe that my own  
ideas as to how to make the aeroplane a com-  
mercial possibility can be applied profitably.  
of course I may be mistaken - I may be a  
failure in this as in other things, yet I say  
that unless it would require too much time  
<sup>and</sup> money, I should like to follow it up, at least  
it would be gratifying to know just to what  
extent my scheme would be successful,  
if not - then surely your own suggestion  
as to my usefulness <sup>and</sup> disposal would be  
received with kindest consideration only -

Hoping that you may find  
these my spilled contents of my heart  
to be satisfactory I remain  
John Flamman - Schrank Yours truly