

Mc CLURE'S MAGAZINE.

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My dear John:

God knows that I do not want to disturb your peace of mind by suggesting that you come back to New York just as fast as you possibly can, but I think that you ought to come back. Twenty years of friendship and partnership are at stake and it seems to me that a friendship such as exists between you and S. S. Mc Clure, even granting that the friendship of two such strong natures as yours and his have wrenched and torn you some time, is worth more than a new magazine, an old magazine or anything that is valued in terms of money. I little thought that the harassing and trying experiences that I had had in my family life would ever be of service to any one, but I now see that they are. I think that I am more capable of judging the situation than any other one in the office on account of my experiences. I think that the differences existing between you and Mr. Mc Clure are not fundamental or insurmountable; I think, on the other hand, that they can easily be overcome and perfect harmony and accord restored. I am sure that it is only a question of tried and strained nerves. You have been banged around with all kinds of worries and perplexities to almost the breaking point. S. S. Mc Clure has been in as bad if not a worse condition, and certainly was in a pitiful condition when I talked with him this morning. I know just as well as I know anything that all S. S. wants is sympathy and a recognition of his genius. I have seen a number of cases of nervous prostration and know the symptoms. I really think that if you were to come back you could straighten the thing out. S. S. feels that he is not the master in his own shop; he feels that his opinions and ideas are no longer considered worthy of serious thought. He feels that he is considered down and out. Of course, no one thinks this but he is convinced that it is so. He fairly yearns for sympathy and he hasn't gotten it. If I were you I would not consider any fundamental difference of opinion, I would not consider the welfare of Mc Clure's Magazine; all I should consider is the long friendship you have had, and come back and hold this as the chief

asset.

Yours always
Samuel