October 10, 1938

Dear J S P:

I have been bothering over those paragraphs on the break up at McClures which you found, and which I know, are so inadequate. I have concluded that the only practical thing for me is to make nothing more than a statement - something like the enclosed.

I haven't the courage to say that this man was a physical, intellectual and moral wreck, that he had his bow and did not know it, or knowing it would not agree. I can't say how you who had tried to save him at every point of his break up, at least not while he is alive. I am ashamed now of what I wrote. It seems a little like making fun of him - this dismissing of a tremendous human tragedy with such slender evidence.

So I have cut my failure and am sending you the enclosed and if you can put in a few words which will show how serious the struggle was I shall be eternally grateful.

I am really feeling very badly about this. I haven't heard from Rosie

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but have written her that the paragraphs were out.

I am trying to round out the stuff by the end of the week. If I do I know you will congratulate me.

Faithfully yours

Mr. J. S. Phillips
Goshen, New York

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