

the direction, either of his own imaginary greatness or imaginary persecution, to see how idle it is to place much reliance even upon the best evidence given by unskilled persons. But this evidence, as I shall shew, is in this case exceedingly unsatisfactory. There is not a word from the young man himself, though possibly this is not of any moment. Appleby, referred to in Dr. Bruce Smith's affidavit, is the main actor. He made the original affidavit upon which the writ was granted. After setting out the facts relating to the re-taking by the asylum official, he contents himself with the statement "the plaintiff is a perfectly sane man and never has been adjudged insane, never was insane, and is now a perfectly sane man." He then sets forth that the plaintiff—meaning, no doubt, Norman Sinclair Dack—is entitled to a large amount of money and property from his mother, which is being withheld by his father, also to a large amount of money as employee of the father and his partners.

The allegation as to money amounts to this: The mother had a small estate, which was distributed except about \$100 which the father retained with the consent of all concerned, to cover his expenses of administration. The son received his share, spent it and much more. The father attempted to secure employment for the son in his own factory. The son proved to be useless there, yet the father paid him wages out of his own pocket, his partners refusing to pay wages without receiving services.

One of the son's delusions is that he, and not his father, owns the business, or a controlling share in the business, and he desires to discharge all the partners. When the absurdity of this position was pointed out, he said he expected to receive the controlling interest in the business from his father nevertheless, but "the old man is simply an ungrateful old knocker, who wants everything and gives nothing," and he has also stated that his father by reason of his wealth is bound that the Government should keep him in an asylum.

The other affidavit is by one Creighton, a solicitor employed in the office of the applicant's solicitors. He expresses his opinion, as the result of one interview with Dack, that Dack is a sane man.

Allan Macdonald, a druggist, knows and has conversed with Dack, and Dack appears to him "in every way perfectly sane, a young man of good intellect and approachable (sic) character."