

men have lost their lives from this very cause in past wars. A system which is very simple to apply and yet impossible to decipher would be of incalculable value to any nation in time of crisis.

Doubtless by this time you are thinking that there are many cranks who believe that they have invented something as remarkable as that to which I have alluded, and that this is just another such. My history and background should be sufficient to dispel any such fear. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Master of Arts degree from Princeton University in Philology, Ph.D. in Oriental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania, now President and Professor of Old Testament in Faith Theological Seminary -- such a history as this is not found on the part of a crank, or a mere theorist. Furthermore, the actualities of my claim should be fairly easy to prove. I enclose herewith the first two sentences from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, written in accordance with the method which I have invented. I enclose also a list of the number of occurrences of each letter, both in the plain message and in the cipher, since the making of such a list would be the first step taken by any cryptographer in attempting to decipher it. If you will place this letter before the best experts you have under you, I am sure they will soon discover that there is no relationship between the two lists which is explicable to them off any known system or any which they can discover. If it would be possible at all to decipher a message whose meaning was not known to the decipherer, certainly it should be easy for an expert in this field to work out the system with the meaning already given, as in this instance. The impossibility of doing so can be easily ascertained. The expert will doubtless tell you that the sentence which I have given is simply a lot of "gibberish" with no relation to the sentence from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. This conclusion, however, can be readily disproved. It will be necessary first for me to reveal the method to someone in whom I have confidence. Then this person can be put in one room and I in another. Each of us can be given a message. Each of us can quickly put this message into code according to my system, the message can be taken by one of your representatives from each of us to the other, and the other can quickly decipher it. Thus we can readily demonstrate the fact that it is a system which is easy to use, which lacks complications or other difficulties, and yet which is impossible for a third party to work out.

To any nation at war, the possession of this method of communication would be worth more than several battleships. Yet I am willing to sell it to the Government of my own country for a mere fraction of the cost of one capital ship. I know that many times this amount would readily be given by almost any one of the warring nations to obtain such an instrument. However, I naturally prefer to offer my discovery first to my own country. I am a busy man and do not have time to make