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Letter from James D. Hague to Charles H. Clark, December 1887

James D. Hague

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Recommended Citation

Hague, James D., "Letter from James D. Hague to Charles H. Clark, December 1887" (1887). *Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) Correspondence and Related Documents*. 8.
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Union Club
San Francisco

December 1887

W. C. Hopkins Clark

Hartford, Conn.

Dear sir,

I have received from
W. Hague a note addressed to
me by you, seeking some infor-
mation concerning W. Clarence King.

W. King was born
at Newport, R. I., 6th of January,
1842. He was fitted for college at the
Endowed Grammar School at Hart-
ford, Conn.; studied in the Scientific
Department of Yale and was graduated
from that university in 1863. In that
same year he started for California
across the continent, riding on horseback

from the Missouri to the Pacific.
On arrival there he joined the
Corps of the California State Geo-
logical Survey and rendered dis-
tinguished services both in field
geological work and in exploration
of the High Sierra. His "Mount
Cinereus" is a picture drawn
from the experiences of those days.
In 1866 he went to Washington
to propose and promote the organ-
ization of the U. S. Geological Explo-
ration of the Fortieth Parallel, of
which he was appointed Geologist-in-
charge in 1867. He devoted about
ten years to the direction of this
important exploration and to the pub-
lication of its reports in seven volumes
with maps, atlases, etc.

He subsequently took a very active part in the creation and organization of the United States Geological Survey as an independent Bureau for the direction of all the Government Explorations and Surveys and was appointed its first Director. This office he accepted in order to perfect the details of organization but resigned in 1880 in order to give more time to his personal affairs and business interests.

He still maintains and publishes special investigations in his favorite branches of Science and is also an occasional

Contributor to Current Literature.

Since resigning his office in
the Government service he
has spent much time in Europe.
He has a valuable library
and a notable collection of
bric-a-brac and pictures, etc
especially Water Colours.

This may be all too late
for your purpose, but I hope
it will be sufficient for your
need, if in time.

Very truly yours

James D. Hague