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

James D. Hague

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Union Club
San Francisco

December 1887

Mr. Chauncey Depew

Mr. Hopkins Clark

Harvard, Conn.

Dear Sir,

I have received from Mr. Hague a note addressed to me by you, seeking some information concerning Mr. Clarence King.

Mr. King was born at Newport, R.I., 6th of January, 1842. He was sent for college at the Endowed Grammar School at Hartford, 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, returning home...
from the Missouri to the Pacific. On arrival there he joined the Corps of the California State Geological Survey and rendered distinguished services both in field geological work and in exploration of the High Sierra. His "Mountaineering" is a picture drawn from the experiences of those days. In 1866 he went to Washington to propose and promote the organization of the U.S. Geological Exploration 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 publication 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 Geologic 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 he resigned in 1880 in order to give more time to his personal affairs and business interests.

He still maintained his persistent interest in his favourite branch 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.

Recently Walter Colman...

...was the one too late for your purpose, but hope it will be sufficient for your needs, if in time.

Very truly yours,

James B. Haige.