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**MC325: Folder 10: Clark, W. S. to Clark, George H. 1918 September 26**

*This transcription from the original letter contains language contemporaneous of the time and is being presented as part of a historical record.*

Paradise, Cal. Sept 26<sup>th</sup> [1918]

My dear brother-

I just got a letter from our half-brother Frank, that Dad died on Sept 4<sup>th</sup>.

I am enclosing the letter as it will give you full particulars.

We are all well and send best love to you all.

I wrote Frank and gave him your address and he will very likely write you. Will you send or take the letter to Aunt Joan You will know best how to do it.

Yours truly

W. S. Clark

1215 10<sup>th</sup>. Avenue,

Oakland, Calif.,

Sept. 22, 1918

W. S. Clark

Paradise, Cal.,

My Dear Brother:-

Your letter to Dad was resent me from Creston, and received yesterday. I regret very much to tell you that our dear father passed away on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>., and the remains were cremated here in Oakland on Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>. and the ashes will be scattered on the sea, as that was the wish I often heard him make years ago.

I am expecting to go North by steamer in a day or two and shall bury the ashes at that time. Poor man, he had many ups and downs. When Dame Fortune favored him, he was always free with his money, had a big heart, many friends, and was a useful and most loyal citizen.

I am sorry that my first introduction to you, whom I presume to be my half brother, should come about in this manner. Cousin Frank Cressey years ago, told me that Dad had other sons by a first wife. Dad himself never mentioned the fact to me, and it seems strange that he did not, more especially as you were living in Calif.

Mrs. Clark recalls the fact that he was visiting in Paradise several years ago, and shipped some fruit from there, and a box of peaches arrived in Cresten from Paradise, a day or two before he passed away.. He had been quite ill for a few weeks, before friends down there wrote me. I phoned his Dr. at once, and he assured me that he would notify me of any change for the worse.

I also wrote Dad and asked him to let me know if he wished me to come, but as I see it now, he was under the influence of opiates, more or less, and judging from the fact that he enquired for me three days after I had written him that I could come if he needed me, he probably thought he had written me to come.

At any rate, he did not write, but I received a phone message from Cresten that he was very sick and asking for me, and I took the first train 3 hours later, and arrived at Cresten at midnight of Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. He knew me but was still partially under the influence of opiates..

I changed doctor's, procuring a woman Naturopath whom I had known in the South, and the change her treatment made in him, was marvelous. We cut out all drugs or stimulants, and had he not been so far gone, he would have pulled through O. K. As it was, he recovered his mental clearness, slept much of the time and ate and relished the simple diet prescribed, telling me the

day before he passed away, that he had a normal appetite and relished the food more than he had for 25 years.

His kidneys however, were badly affected and his right leg was paralyzed. This leg pained him greatly, but we were able to relieve the suffering, with hot and cold applications. I began to be quite hopeful when his bowels began to act normally and his kidneys worked freely, as he talked happily with the many friends that came to see him, and seemed so very much improved.

But the hope was dispelled, when he had a second stroke on his left side, 20 hours before he died. He slept much of the time but clearly recognized the one friend that came in and asked after his two sons who are in France,- an hour only before he passed our quietly while asleep. He never spoke of death and talked only of getting well and out again. He was a game fighter and very nice to take care of.

I would like to know more of you and your immediate family, as well as your other brother, whom you speak of in your letter to Dad, in fact, the family history would interest me greatly, as I know next to nothing about it, and certainly will be most glad to correspond with you and meet you and yours the first, favorable opportunity.

I remain,

Very sincerely your brother,

Frank Clark