

James Wilkinson Legare Clement papers, 1887-1949 (bulk 1895-1904) SCHS 1016.00 Container 11/105

Creator: Clement, James Wilkinson Legare, 1878-1904

Description: Ca. 100 items.

Biographical/Historical Note: Naval officer. Born on Wadmalaw Island near Charleston, S.C., he was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1895. He received his commission in 1901 and served as a midshipman on the U.S.S. Brooklyn during the Spanish-American War. He was a lieutenant on the battleship Kearsarge when he fell ill with typhoid and was taken to a hospital in Trieste, Austria. He died on July 28, 1904.

Scope and Content: Papers consist of correspondence, military records, a scrapbook, and photographs.

Military records (1898-1904) chiefly consist of official correspondence (mostly orders to Clement) and reports. Included is a letter of commendation (1901 April 24) to Clement from the Navy Department; and a letter (1903 April 24) concerning the award of a bronze medal to Clement in recognition of his service on board the U.S.S. Brooklyn at the battle at Santiago de Cuba on July 3, 1898.

Much correspondence (1904) pertains to Clement's illness, death, and funeral in Trieste (Austria), the return of his body to Charleston (S.C.), and the disposition of his effects. Included are many letters of condolence to his father, mother, and sister from Clement's shipmates and family friends.

Scrapbook (1887-1949, bulk 1895-1904) contains clippings (with numerous obituaries) and other items pertaining to Clement's education, military career, his act of heroism which averted an accident on the flagship Kearsarge (1903), his last illness and burial, and the U.S. Navy. Photographs (n.d.) include two scenes of Martinique and a photograph of James W.L. Clement in dress uniform.

Preferred Citation: Clement, James Wilkinson Legare, 1878-1904. James Wilkinson Legare

Clement papers, 1895-1912. (1016.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Accession note: 73-IX-15.

Search terms:

Clement, James Wilkinson Legare, 1878-1904 -- Death and burial. Kearsarge (Battleship) United States. Navy -- Officers. Spanish-American War, 1898. Martinique -- Photographs. South Carolina -- History. Genre Letters (correspondence) Military records. Photographs. Scrapbooks.

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Charleston Navy officer who died in the Philippines. Letters and orders from the Navy department regarding JWLC's naval career and education from Washington and various ships and ports of call throughout the world. Also letters from JWLC's fellow officers regarding his illness and death from typhoid in the Philippines. Also clipping regarding JWLC's death, general naval matters, and photographs.