



The New York Public Library Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Richard and Janet Montgomery letters

1775-1802

MssCol 4553

Compiled by Kit Messick, 2013

Summary

Creator: Montgomery, Richard, 1738-1775

Title: Richard and Janet Montgomery letters

Date: 1775-1802

Size: .1 linear feet (1 folder)

Source: Purchase (by Lenox Library), Bancroft, George - Estate; commercial dealers, 1893.

Abstract: Several letters from Richard Montgomery or his wife, Janet Livingston Montgomery. Letters are dated September 24, 1775, from Richard Montgomery to Janet Montgomery; June 19, 1802 from Janet Montgomery to brother Robert R. Livingston in Paris; September 19th from Richard Montgomery to Lord Ranelegh at Matlock, England; and undated from Janet Montgomery to Horatio Gates. The letters concern personal matters, including Janet Montgomery's refusal of Gates' marriage proposal. Two letters are 19th century transcripts.

Preferred citation: Richard and Janet Montgomery letters, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

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Creator History

Richard Montgomery or his wife, Janet Livingston Montgomery (1738-1775) was an Irish-born American soldier known for his failed assault on Canada in 1775. His wife, Janet Livingston Montgomery, was a sister of Chancellor Robert R. Livingston. General Horatio Gates proposed marriage to Janet Montgomery after the war, though she declined.

Custodial History

Some material was originally received as part of the Bancroft collection.

Scope and Content Note

Several letters from Richard Montgomery or his wife, Janet Livingston Montgomery. Letters are dated September 24, 1775, from Richard Montgomery to Janet Montgomery; June 19, 1802 from Janet Montgomery to brother Robert R. Livingston in Paris; September 19th from Richard Montgomery to Lord Ranelegh at Matlock, England; and undated from Janet Montgomery to Horatio Gates. The letters concern personal matters, including Janet Montgomery's refusal of Gates' marriage proposal. Two letters are 19th century transcripts.

Key Terms

Subjects

Generals -- United States -- Correspondence

Occupations

Soldiers -- United States -- 18th century

Names

Gates, Horatio, 1728-1806 -- recipient

Livingston, Robert R., 1746-1813 -- recipient

Montgomery, Janet Livingston, 1743-1827

Ranelagh, Charles Wilkinson Jones, d. 1798 -- Viscount