



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Mordecai P. Montgomery collection

1957--[ca. 1988]

Sc MG 513

Summary

Creator: Montgomery, Mordecai Philip, 1880-1956

Title: Mordecai P. Montgomery collection

Date: 1957--[ca. 1988]

Size: .2 linear feet (1/2 archival box)

Source: Gift, Edward P. Gottlieb, Nov. 1993

Abstract: Mordecai Philip Montgomery was a long-time member of the Socialist Party of New York. Montgomery was born in 1880 in Fayette, Alabama, and worked as a Pullman porter, then for the Works Progress Administration, and in his later years, was a messenger in the Wall Street area of Manhattan. He died in 1956 in New York City. The Mordecai P. Montgomery Collection consists principally of an unpublished manuscript, "Shining in Death," authored by Montgomery, about a Canadian black man and his struggle to become an actor in New York; the time period is from the second half of the nineteenth century until the Depression. The collection also includes a folder of letters and a reminiscence by Edward P. Gottlieb, the donor, regarding Montgomery. The letters are from Gottlieb to a publisher/editor, and to author Toni Morrison, seeking to get the manuscript read and published following Montgomery's death.

Access: Some collections held by the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. To request access to materials in the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, please visit: http://archives.nypl.org/scm/request_access

Preferred citation: [Item], Mordecai P. Montgomery collection, Sc MG 513, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Mordecai Philip Montgomery was a long-time member of the Socialist Party of New York. Montgomery was born in 1880 in Fayette, Alabama, and worked as a Pullman porter, then for the Works Progress

Administration, and in his later years, was a messenger in the Wall Street area of Manhattan. He died in 1956 in New York City.

Scope and Content Note

The Mordecai P. Montgomery Collection consists principally of an unpublished manuscript, "Shining in Death," authored by Montgomery, about a Canadian black man and his struggle to become an actor in New York; the time period is from the second half of the nineteenth century until the Depression. The collection also includes a folder of letters and a reminiscence by Edward P. Gottlieb, the donor, regarding Montgomery. The letters are from Gottlieb to a publisher/editor, and to author Toni Morrison, seeking to get the manuscript read and published following Montgomery's death.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American authors
African American political activists
Black author

Names

Gottlieb, Edward P.
Montgomery, Mordecai Philip, 1880-1956
Montgomery, Mordecai Philip, 1880-1956. Shining in death. Shining in death.