

Margaret Prescott Montague, Author, Letters, 1936-1945, undated A&M 2218

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Margaret Prescott Montague, Author, Letters, 1936-1945, undated A&M 2218

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

A&M 2218

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

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Unit ID

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Unit Date

1936-1945, undated

Language

English

Creator

Montague, Margaret Prescott, 1878-1955

Extent

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Repository

West Virginia and Regional History Center

Administrative Information

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Biographical / Historical

Margaret Prescott Montague (1878-1955) was an American short story writer and novelist in the early twentieth century; she penned some of her work under the pseudonym Jane Steger. Montague was born in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, on November 29, 1878. In 1919 she won the O'Henry Award for her story "England to America," which had been published in the *Atlantic Monthly* in September 1918. In addition to publishing stories in the *Atlantic Monthly* and *Harper's*, Montague also published novels with Houghton Mifflin Company and the Baker & Taylor Company. Some of her other works include "Why It Was W-On-The-Eyes" (1913), "The Will to Go" (1913), *The Sowing of Alderson Cree* (1907), *Closed Doors: Studies of Deaf and Blind Children* (1915), *Of Water and the Spirit* (1916), *England to America* (1920), and *Up Eel River* (1928). She also published *Leaves from a Secret Journal* as Jane Steger in 1926. Several of her books were made into movies. Margaret Prescott Montague died in September 1955.

Scope and Contents

Margaret Prescott Montague (1878-1955) of White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, and Richmond, Virginia, was an American short story writer, novelist, and O. Henry Award winner in the early twentieth century; she penned some of her work under the pseudonym Jane Steger. Approximately thirty letters written by Montague to her friend Maggie McGee document Montague's personal life and literary career. Three letters at the beginning of the collection indicate how the friendship began, when McGee discovered that Montague was the writer behind the pseudonym Jane Steger. The other letters contain information about Montague's family life, philosophical and religious beliefs, interest in music, trips to White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, literary efforts, and political and social activity, including her work with blind and deaf children. Collection also contains several short poems, a dialogue, and an essay penned by Margaret Montague.

Related A&M Collections

582, 1110, 1348, 2218

Keywords

White Sulphur Springs (W. Va.)

Authors, American -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- West Virginia
Literature - WV.
Women -- West Virginia -- Social life and customs
Women authors, American -- 20th century
Women authors, American -- West Virginia -- 20th century
Women novelists, American -- 20th century
Montague, Margaret Prescott, 1878-1955

Description of Subordinate Components

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Editor, "Atlantic Monthly" to Maggie McGee; Places: Boston, MA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Jane Steger wishes to remain anonymous, letter to be forwarded

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170417

Unit Date 1936 May 7

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Ruth Raymond to Maggie McGee; Places: Minneapolis, MN to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Surprised that Jane Steger is actually Margaret Prescott Montague

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170418

Unit Date undated

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Ruth Raymond to Maggie McGee; Places: Minneapolis, MN to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Articles in "Atlantic Monthly" by Jane Steger look like Montague and Montague's other work

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170419

Unit Date undated

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: World is full of hatred, more brotherhood needed

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170420

Unit Date 1936 May 27

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Likes McGee's verses, suggests a place to send religious-type poems, believes that there is a spiritual stirring in the world, talks of visits to West Virginia, her birthplace

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170421

Unit Date 1936 June 18

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Talks of driving her father and uncle in the country, thanks for the poem she has received, praise for the Quakers, her travels, home and family

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170422

Unit Date 1936 July 21

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Returning loaned books with thanks and praise, says that her books like "Up Eel River" have an underlying mystical meaning, themes in "Big Music"

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170423

Unit Date 1936 September 9

Forms: Postcard; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Tells where to obtain a particular book

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170424

Unit Date 1936 September 11

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Plans for White Sulphur Springs next week, former teacher (Alice Bailey), spiritual forces in the world, novel is complete and sent off, discussion of various books on mysticism and religion, Quaker philosophy, learning to play bamboo pipes, garden is poor for lack of rain

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170425

Unit Date 1937 June 1

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Has corresponded with Mary Antin (author of "The Promised Land"), discusses various articles on mysticism, publishers still have recently completed book

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170426

Unit Date 1937 August 25

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Wants McGee to come for a visit before she has to return to Richmond on the 25th, better able to put her up in White Sulphur than in Richmond

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170427

Unit Date 1937 September 6

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Glad McGee is coming to visit

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170428

Unit Date 1937 September 19

Forms: Autographed signed postcard; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Relatives not coming, wants McGee to make definite plans for visit

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170429

Unit Date 1937 September 20

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Thanks McGee for the visit, two poems enclosed (one by Montague and the other by Kipling)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170430

Unit Date 1937 September 27

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Compliments McGee on her new poem, says that a friend has visited who is interested in music and mysticism

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170431

Unit Date 1937 October 3

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Talks of time spent with McGee, family affairs, Laura Richards's books for young people

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170432

Unit Date 1937 November 9

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Recent reading she has done

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170433

Unit Date 1937 December 19

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Includes poetry for new year

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170434

Unit Date 1938 January 12

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Thanks McGee for sending photos of herself and her home, family affairs discussed

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170435

Unit Date 1938 February 16

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Ready to go back to White Sulphur

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170436

Unit Date 1938 May 5

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Cannot go back to White Sulphur until July, has had car accident

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170437

Unit Date 1938 June 12

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Making pigs for benefit of Chinese children (newsclippings included), health and family problems

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170438

Unit Date 1940 April 17

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: White Sulphur Springs, WV to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Family affairs, visitors

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170439

Unit Date 1941 July 28

Forms: Newspaper clipping; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague; Places: Richmond, VA; Subjects: Clipping about career of Montague in "Richmond Times-Dispatch"

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170440

Unit Date 1943 May 2

Forms: Typed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Author Emmet Fox, authoress Evelyn Vanderhill, family and health, death of father and uncle

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170441

Unit Date 1945 December 6

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: On small note paper with prayer on reverse side

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170442

Unit Date undated

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Short note on small paper

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170443

Unit Date undated

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Short letter on small note paper with verse by Spenser on reverse

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170444

Unit Date undated

Forms: Autographed letter signed; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Plans for summer in White Sulphur

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170445

Unit Date undated

Forms: Typed letter; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague to Maggie McGee; Places: Richmond, VA to Hudson, OH; Subjects: Talks of mother's death, planning for a cataract operation, looking to visit in near future, doing essays for local newspapers

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170446

Unit Date 1940 February 14

Forms: Typed poem; Persons: Margaret Prescott Montague; Places: No place listed; Subjects: "Open the Gates" by Margaret Prescott Montague

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/170447

Unit Date undated