



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 Raneleigh 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.

**Access:** Advance notice required.

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

**Processing note:** Compiled by Kit Messick, 2013

## 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