



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 The Mordecai P. Montgomery Collection consists principally of an unpublished manuscript, "Shining in Death," authored by Montgomery, about a Canadian black man and his struggle to become an actor in New York; the time period is from the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.

**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The Mordecai P. Montgomery Collection consists principally of an unpublished manuscript, "Shining in Death," authored by Montgomery, about a Canadian black man and his struggle to become an actor in New York; the time period is from the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.