



PETER MONTAGUE
"The Virginia Montague"
(1603-1659)

Montague Family Association Newsletter



RICHARD MONTAGUE
"The New England Montague"
(1614-1681)

*The First Montague Family in America—
The Montagues of Boveney, England*
www.montaguefamilyassociation.com

Volume 1, Issue 1

- May 2012 -

MFA BOARD MEMBERS

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Suzanne Hamilton
suzanneshamilton@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Jo Anne St. Clair
joastclaire@aol.com

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Robert V. Montague
houseofmontague@bellsouth.net

***** ✍ *****

Robert V. Montague, Editor
MFA Newsletter

INAUGURAL ISSUE

Welcome to the House of Montague in America—The Montague Family Association (MFA). We have been under construction since 1621. This is the year Peter Montague of Boveney, Burnham Parish, Buckinghamshire Co., England, sailed over to Jamestowne Colony aboard the *Charles*. About 13 years later, 1634, his brother Richard sailed to the New England coast and initially settled in what is now the state of Maine.

It is near axiomatic, that if your last name is Montague and you live in the south, southwest, or Midwest central plains regions of the U.S., you are descended from the Virginia Montague. It is equally axiomatic, if you live in the northeast and northern tier states, that you are descended from the New England Montague. There are other Montague immigrants from other countries of course, but the two Montague brothers from Boveney England, were the first in America and their descendants number in the range of 20,000 [the new Peter Montague Book having accounted for 6,141 direct descendants through 1930.]

The MFA is chartered and organized to be the "home of record" for all things relating to the Montagues of Boveney. Our mission is to continue compiling and archiving the Montagues of Boveney history and genealogy started in 1886 when George Wm. Montague and William L. Montague, jointly published their priceless, *History and Genealogy of the Montague Family of America*.

We are here for the long-haul and hope readers of this newsletter will join us on this highly personal journey of discovery. It's as much a discovery of who we are today as of rediscovering our American ancestors.

Please consider forwarding this inaugural newsletter to all your relatives and friends so they can join in on the new beginning. Use it to inspire renewed interest, not just for the Montague Family of America, but for genealogy in general. Genealogy-related websites are the second most visited genre on the internet. Computer technology and the massive information of online resources have made genealogy easier and more accessible than our grandparents could have dreamed would be possible.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the newsletter of the *Montague Family Association*. We're very excited to offer this publication to you and hope you will pass it on to others who share our dream of documenting this amazing family. This newsletter will be published three times a year initially; as interest and audience build, more editions per year may be added.

I would also like to encourage you to consider joining the MFA. We are looking forward to future social gatherings and reunions as our membership increases and you'll definitely want to be involved. There's something for everyone in this organization from genealogical research to grave site preservation to DNA linking. Please think about becoming a member of the Association.

Whether you are a Montague by birth, adoption, marriage or a third cousin twice removed, please consider joining with us as we endeavor to chronicle the rich history of our ancestry. Our mission is to be the official genealogy of record for the first Montagues of America. Won't you join us on our voyage and offer your stories and support? There's a great deal of history to discover; and it begins now!

SUZANNE (MONTAGUE) HAMILTON

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 1 May 2012, our bank balance is \$533.17.

We have no outstanding debts.

As a new organization, we are still trying to establish regular communications with members who don't necessarily know where to send their dues or when they are payable. Dues become payable January 1 of every year. The board has set dues for 2012 at 25.00/yr. If you are one of our charter members (see last page), and want to help us prosper, or you are interested in Montague family history and want to join us, here's the address you've been waiting for:

Montague Family Association

P. O. Box 243

Hill City, KS 67642

Or pay by credit card or EFT through the

Paypal link on our website at:

<http://www.montaguefamilyassociation.com/membership/>

ANCESTOR SPOTLIGHT

- Robert V. Montague, MFA Historian

It is appropriate that our inaugural issue shine the ancestor spotlight on Peter Montague, Generation 1 of the Montague family in America. Since this newsletter will obviously focus on his life in great detail in coming issues. Here's just a thumbnail sketch of Peter's basic biography.

Peter Montague (1603-1659) was born in Boveney, England and died in Middlesex County, Virginia. At age 18, he sailed to the New World aboard the ship *Charles* arriving at Jamestowne Colony in Oct 1621. There he spent about the next seven years indentured to Capt. Samuel Mathews on the South side of the James River "over ye Watter" from Jamestowne.

He married twice. His first wife's name is unknown, but with her he had four known children: Anne, Ellen (or Eleanor), Margaret, and Peter (aka Peter II). His second wife's name is Cecily [---?---], with whom he had two additional known children: William and Elizabeth. Peter's life in America is best studied within six distinct phases:

- Jamestowne Years (1621-1636)
- Elizabeth River Years (1636-1639)
- Ragged Island Years (1639-1644)
- Chuckatuk River Years (1644-1653)
- Rappahannock River Years (1653-1659)
- Post-Death Years (1659-1669)

A table summarizing the milestone events in Peter's life is on p. 5. Every event is sourced. Use it as one would a "crib sheet" with which to keep the events of his life in context. In future issues of the newsletter, more detailed facts will be provided along with some conjecture into how each phase of Peter's 35 years in America likely unfolded. Most of this information is based on original research by the MFA historian, and has never been published anywhere. ☞



PETER MONTAGUE

Letters from the House of



Peter Montague



NOTE. This column is dedicated to Peter and his branch of the Montagues of Boveney. Members can expect to learn little known, but intriguing factoids about Peter and his descendants. The Historian is honored to publish this, the first letter, of the series.

THE LOST PETER MONTAGUE MEMORIAL

By Robert V. Montague III

How many of you know the dirty little secret about the Peter Montague Memorial located in Lancaster County, Virginia? It is a beautiful block of granite and a fitting tribute to Peter Montague in every way except one—he is not, and never was, buried in Lancaster County.

As of today, no one knows exactly where he was laid to rest in 1659, but it was almost certainly Middlesex County, Virginia, just across the Rappahannock River from the monument. The rationale for this conclusion is a bit tedious for casual reading in this brief column, but the thesis is explained in detail in a column I wrote for the *Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Society Annual Magazine* (NNVHS), Dec 2010, p. 3727.

In my article, “Peter Montague Memorial † Gravesite?” I conclude that the compiler of *History and Genealogy of Peter Montague* (HGPM), George Wm. Montague, who first made the case for a Lancaster County burial site, was simply unaware that Lancaster County also included the area that became Middlesex County in 1669. Okay, but why place Peter’s burial site in a remotely located site, deep into the woods, just a mile and a half west of Lancaster City? For that answer, the story gets a little more interesting. That ancient gravesite turns out to be the former plantation of Captain Richard Ball (1677-1726). Mr. Montague relates the story that in 1849, Judge Robert Latane Montague, father of the future Virginia Governor, Andrew Jackson Montague, stumbled upon gravestones in the area.

One was a headstone alleged to be Peter Montague—“The tombstone was standing, though much defaced by the hand of time.” Another stone was inscribed Hannah Ball (married William Montague, great grandson of Peter). Mr. Montague goes on to describe what he allegedly learns from 3 sources: Judge Montague’s correspondence with William Henry Montague, one of the founders of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society of Boston; Mary Montague who had been compiling the Montague genealogy when she died in Aug 1880 and received the aforementioned correspondence; and Frederick Taylor, who as Executor of Mary Montague’s estate, came into possession of Mary’s manuscript, but not the correspondence. The key evidence—the correspondence between Judge Montague and William Henry Montague—is apparently lost and unavailable to corroborate Mr. Montague’s story about the facts he recounts about Peter’s headstone.

Nevertheless, the question becomes, did Peter or his children or his grandchildren ever live—or own land—on northside Rappahannock? The answer is unequivocally no. The earliest record of a Montague owning northside Rappahannock land is recorded on 8 Nov 1665, six years after Peter’s death. On this date, Peter II bought 200 acres from his father-in-law Minor Doodles. But this was a lease-back to Mr. Doodles. This land was seven miles west of Peter’s Memorial on the east side of Deep Creek and had nothing to do with the Ball plantation.

It is well documented that Peter, his sons, and his grandsons all lived, worked and died on the south side of the Rappahannock River in Middlesex County. Mr. Montague seemingly talked himself into believing what Judge Montague thought—this was the resting place of Peter Montague. It didn’t hurt (in Mr. Montague’s mind) that Hannah Ball’s stone identified her husband William Montague, thus confirming the Ball-Montague connection here.

What should the Montague family do about the lost Memorial? We can’t move it because Peter Montague’s precise burial location is not known. As I observe in the *NNVHS* article, “I suspect a reservoir of sentimentality exists amongst Peter’s descendants for the current location.” After all, the Governor of Virginia himself dedicated it in 1903, therefore, the gravesite is connected to the Montague family—history arguably deserving of a nearby marker. ✍



Letters from the House of Richard Montague



NOTE. This column is dedicated to Richard and his branch of the Montagues of Boveney. Over the coming years, this column will publicize everything we might discover or rediscover about Richard. It is fitting that our first submitter is Richard W. Montague, ninth great grandson of the House of Richard.

A 9TH GENERATION "RICHARD" UNCOVERS NEW INFORMATION ON HADLEY MONTAGUES

By Richard W. Montague

My name is Richard Wallace Montague, born Mar 1934 in Madison, WI, and a ninth generation, direct descendant of Richard I, the pioneer English settler in New England.

I live today, in retirement, near Munich, Germany and have become keenly interested in the history and genealogy of our family. Despite the fact that Munich is a long, long way from Hadley, MA, where our Montague saga begins, I have been successful in unearthing, thanks to the Internet and visits to New England, a great deal of historic information on the Massachusetts branch of our Montague family. Some of the records and items which I have found have been buried within various records and archives for many generations.

In forthcoming issues of the *MFA Newsletter*, I plan to share with you some family history which I have collected that has never been published to my knowledge. Future articles in this planned series will include the following seven topics:

- ✓ What the historic records reveals about the English origins of Richard I, the pioneer English settler to New England.
- ✓ What is known about Richard I's life from the time he left England until his death in Hadley, MA, in December 1681; and his role in the establishment of the Hadley Settlement further up the Connecticut River from the pioneer settlement at Wethersfield, CT.

- ✓ An account of Richard I's gravesite on the Grand Meadow of the original Hadley Settlement and photos of the memorial stone erected by George Wm. Montague and Charles C. Montague on Hadley's Grand Meadow in Aug 1881.

- ✓ An account of the "lost" miniature cameo portrait of Richard I last recorded in Charles K. Bolton's *The Founders: Portraits of Persons Born Abroad who Came to the Colonies in North American Before 1701*, The Boston Athenaeum, Boston, 1919. Bolton states that this cameo portrait was painted on a copper plate, one and eleven-sixteenths high by one and seven-sixteenths inches wide, owned (as of 1919) by a Henry W. Montague of Boston. The frontispiece of the work *Meeting of the Montague Family (1882)*, which reproduces the „miniature" may well be a copy of the earlier "original pen and ink sketch," which itself is a copy of the copperplate original, apparently made after 1789, when Major Richard Montague acquired the original copper portrait from the Montague homestead in Hadley. If the actual original cameo portrait could be located, it would be the oldest surviving Montague Family relic in North America. The search continues...

- ✓ An account of the Colonial-period church silver piece known as the Peter Mountague Communion Cup. This communion cup was presented in 1723 to the Church of Christ in Hadley by Peter Mountague (1690-1749), the grandson of Richard I. The impressive cup is today on permanent loan to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. John Dixwell (1680-1725), an early silversmith working in Boston fashioned this classic silver artefact.

- ✓ An account, with photographs, of the Lydia Montague Needlepoint Sampler, now in the collection of Historic Deerfield in Deerfield, MA. Lydia Montague, born 10 Dec 1774, was the daughter of Daniel Montague (b. 1725) and Lydia Smith (d. 1805), who married 10 Apr 1750 in Hadley, MA. Daniel was the son of a Deacon Samuel Montague (b. 1695) of Hadley, MA. The sampler is a most impressive piece of Colonial-period needlework and a genuine Montague Family relic.

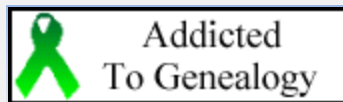
- ✓ An account of the re-discovery of the historic "Montague Cabinet," a collection of Montague Family memorabilia established as a result of the Meeting of the Montague Family at Hadley, MA in 1982. The first "Keeper of the Montague Cabinet" was C.C. Montague of Amherst, Massachusetts. The present location of the Cabinet is now known and future issues of the *MFA Newsletter* will provide new insight regarding contents. ✍

Table. Peter Montague Milestones (cont'd from p. 3)

Date	Age	Event of Record
Mar–Oct 1603	-	Birth date (analysis to be provided in future newsletter)
14 May 1607	4	Jamestown established
Nov 1621	18	Immigrated to Virginia Colony in ship <i>Charles</i>
Jan 1621/2	18	Headright of 1,000 acres in James City to William Ewen, Merchant for transport of Peter and 27 others
22 Mar 1621/2	18	Good Friday massacre
30 Mar 1623	19	Plague epidemic
4 Feb 1624/5	21	Living at Capt. Mathews' Plantation (Muster Roll)
19 Jul 1627	24	Listed as shipper of goods in ship <i>James</i> from London to VA
1629	26	Marries 1 st wife (identity unknown)
Abt 1630	27	First child, Anne was born
3 Mar 1631/2	28/29	Witnessed will of Andrew Howell
Abt 1632	29	Second child (second daughter), Ellen born
Abt 1634	31	Third child (third daughter), Margaret born
Abt 1636	33	Fourth child (first son), Peter II born
1636/7	33/34	First wife dies
22 Aug 1637	34	1 st land patent, 150 acs., Upper Co. of New Norfolk
Abt 1637	34	Marries 2 nd wife (Cicely)
25 Feb 1638/9	35	2 nd land patent, 50 acs. Upper Co. of New Norfolk
Abt 1639	36	Fifth child (second son), William born
21 Mar 1639	36	Assigns 1 st land patent to Thomas Marsh alias Rivers
Abt 1641	38	Sixth child (fourth daughter), Elizabeth born
18 Apr 1644	41	Second Indian massacre
18 Dec 1645	42	3 rd land patent, 150 acres. Upper Co. of New Norfolk
3 Nov 1647	44	Granted 100 acres, Nansmond Co.
4 Dec 1652	49	Acquired 200 acres in Middlesex Co. from George Ludlow
1652-1653	49/50	House of Burgesses (from Nansmond Co.)
1653?	50	Moved to the Northern Neck area (Lancaster Co.)
4 Feb 1656/7	53	Commissioner for Lancaster Co.
17 Nov 1657	54	Vestryman for Lancaster Parish church (to be built in Pianketank)
1658	55	Burgess for Lancaster Co.
16 Jan 1658/9	55	200 acres, Lancaster Co. (south side of Rappahannock river)
26 Jan 1658/9	55	Presented for appointment to office of sheriff James City
27 Mar 1658/9	55	Will recorded (Lancaster Co.)
25 May 1659	-	Will proved (Lancaster Co.)

Note. Footnotes citing sources for each of these events have been omitted by the MFA Editor for space considerations. Anyone wishing a fully cited version may contact the MFA Editor/Historian by email for a sourced and cited version of the table.

Note. Occasionally, readers will see dual calendar dates, such as Jan 1621/2 used in this table and in other sources. An overview of the dual calendar will be provided in the next issue. Suffice it to say, the first year 1621 is "old date" and the second year 1622 is "new date".



GENEALOGY ADVICE AND USEFUL RESOURCES

(This column is designed to assist our members in being productive in their research. Editor)


THE BIG FOUR:

- ❑ [Ancestry.com](#). Based on my 13 full-time, active years doing real genealogy, the first place I recommend to begin your genealogy search is Ancestry.com. You will need to join, and rates vary depending on the amount of material you desire to access. If you can't afford a membership, you will have a much more difficult time accomplishing your genealogy goals. There are workarounds across the internet of course, but therein lies the rub. Trading your precious free time and convenience to save money.
 - Census Records. There you will find census records from 1790 through 1940. Each census contains varying types of information, but basically one will find the names of family members, birth dates and places, occupation, immigration date, and sometimes residence.
 - Social Security Death Index
 - Military Records (all wars)
 - Birth and Death Records
 - ...and many more
- ❑ [FindAGrave.com](#). This is the second most visited site in my research. It was launched in 1998, When I discovered it around 2005 or so, there were about 30 million postings. Today, there are over 79 million. You will often find gravestone photo, face photos, interment data showing birth, date, burial information. Best of all, some have memoriam added by relatives which are often priceless for their personal content.
- ❑ [Death Records \(USA\).html](#) Compilation of death records by state.
- ❑ [Birth and Marriage \(USA\).html](#) Compilation of birth, marriage, divorce records by state.

Next issue we will identify some genealogy organizations and societies you should consider.

Q: What is the biggest mistake made by people new to genealogy?

A: Failure to document their sources. I said, **"FAILURE TO DOCUMENT THEIR SOURCES!"**

REMEMBER!
The first Commandment of Genealogy Research 

"Thou shalt document thy sources!"

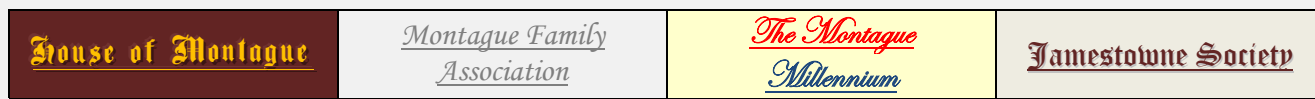


❧ A PARTING NOTE FOR THIS INAUGURAL ISSUE ❧

The best thing ever to happen to genealogy is the internet because it is a virtual bottomless pit of information. If you begin copying information with abandon, without citing sources, you are setting yourself up for garbage genealogy. Don't trash your family history with unsourced descendants!

What's Going on in the Montague Family

(Announcements, Activities, Events)



SNEAK PREVIEW!

The most important Montague Genealogy since 1894 will be released **December 2012**.

The History and Genealogy of Peter Montague of Jamestowne, Virginia (1603-2003) (*Quadracentennial Edition*)

Author Robert V. Montague, MFA Historian, has been researching and writing for 13 years. It contains new research, major corrections, and updates to the 1894 Edition.



VOL. I

VOL. II

COVER

- Over 3,000 pages
- Nearly 1,000 images
- 6,141 descendants (14 Generations) through 1930 (some through 2003)
- Over 300 of 500 copies reserved in advance
- Appendices:
 1. The 1894 Edition Revisited
 2. Peter Montague Gravesite/Memorial
 3. Peter Montague 101
 4. Montague Migration
 5. Montague Heraldry
 6. George Washington Connection
 7. Montague DNA Surname Project
 8. Photo Album

DETAILS

- Publisher will not be selected until about Oct 2012, so price is not determined, but will be \$200-300.
- All materials will be the finest in the business, archival inks and paper, and best binding possible.
- The remaining 200 books will be sold. To reserve an advance copy before it's too late:

[mailto: HouseofMontague@bellsouth.net](mailto:HouseofMontague@bellsouth.net) with address and phone number

(There is no obligation should you change your mind)

- ACTIVITIES OF NOTE -

9-12 May 12: **National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2012 Family History Conference**
Duke Energy Convention Center/ Cincinnati, OH. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)
Register online: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/attendee_registration

- The following link makes an effort to consolidate genealogical events:

<http://genevents.genwebsite.org/>

MFA Charter Members

Here, in alphabetical order, are the first 26 dues paying members of the MFA. Becoming a charter member is only possible by joining in the first year of the MFA. Big or small, we are all about advancing the history and genealogy of the first Montagues in America, Peter and Richard of Boveney, England. There is strength in numbers, so we invite our members to pass the word.

- NOTE -

We need to confirm your branch: Peter (PM) or [Richard \(RM\)](#). If we have it wrong, let us know.

Branch Member (State)

[RM](#) [Blackburn, Pat \(WA\)](#)
 PM De Coito, Janice (IN)
 PM Green, Dianne (VA)
 PM Hamilton, Suzanne (VA)
 PM Hughes, Marianne (PA)
 PM Kinkade, Evelyn Morrison (MO)
 PM Montague, Bill and Linda (UT)
 PM Montague, Bob (VA)
 PM Montague, Curtis (KS)
[RM](#) [Montague, Dick & Doris \(CA\)](#)
 PM Montague, Joel (MA)
 PM Montague, Ken (UT)
 PM Montague, Linda (FL)
 PM Montague, Mike (UT)
[RM](#) [Montague, Richard W. \(GE\)](#)
 PM Montague, Rita (CA)
 PM Montague, Robert Latane, III (VA)
 PM Montague, Robert V., III (FL)
 PM Montague, Frank, Jr. (MS)
 PM Morrison, Estella Knight (MO)
 PM Palmer, Ann (NC)
 PM Ringer, Kathy (UT)
 PM Robinson, Kevin (MO)
 PM St. Clair, Jo Anne (OH)
 PM Turner, Linda and John (VA)
 PM Wilson, Aubrey Lynn (TX)

