

A Guide to the Executive letter books of Governor Andrew J. Montague, 1902-1906

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1902-1906

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Virginia. Governor (1902-1906 : Montague)

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12 v. (5940 p.)

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

For preservation purposes, please use microfilm (Misc. reel 6197-6200)

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Alternative Form Available

Also available on microfilm (6197-6200)

Biographical Information

Andrew Jackson Montague was born 3 October 1862 in Campbell County, Virginia. The son of Robert Latane Montague, lieutenant governor under John Letcher, and Cordelia Eubank, Andrew graduated from Richmond College in 1882 and from the University of Virginia law school in 1885. He married Elizabeth Lyne Hoskins in 1889 and they had three children. Montague established a private law practice in Danville, serving as the local attorney for the Richmond and Danville Railroad. He was appointed to the state Democratic executive committee in 1892, and selected by President Grover Cleveland as U.S. Attorney General for the Western District of Virginia in 1893. Montague later served as Attorney General of Virginia from 1898 to 1902. His political views were increasingly aligned with the Progressive movement, casuing him to break with the Martin Organization, the Democratic party machine led by Thomas Staples Martin.

Montague defeated Republican candidate J. Hampton Hoge for governor of Virginia, serving from 1902 to 1906. While in office, progressive-minded Montague promoted good roads and public schools. An opponent of fellow Democrat and incumbent senator Thomas Martin, Montague lost his bid as senatorial candidate in 1905. Following his governorship, Montague served as dean of the Richmond College law for three years before returning to practicing law in Richmond, from 1909 to 1913. Elected to the U.S. Congress in 1913, Montague served until his death on 24 January 1937 in Urbana, Virginia. He is buried in Christ Church Cemetery in Middlesex County, Virginia.

Scope and Content

The executive letter books contain the outgoing correspondence of Governor Andrew Jackson Montague between January 1902 and February 1906, arranged chronologically. Letters were written by Governor Montague, private secretary D. A. Ritchie, executive clerk J. Bigger, and Lt. Governor Joseph E. Willard during his brief tenure as acting governor. There are also copies of messages to the Senate and House of Delegates, including explanations for bills that the governor returned without approval. Many letters concerned appointments or requests for executive pardons. Governor Montague also issued proclamations designating Arbor Days, Labor Days, and days of Thanksgiving.

Each volume includes an alphabetical index of correspondents by surname labeled with relevant page numbers. The volumes are marked as Official, unlike the letter books under accession 45102 which are marked as Personal even though many items in the personal letter books are related to government matter.

Subjects include Virginia colleges and schools such as VMI, William and Mary, the University of Virginia, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Hampden Sydney, and the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind; delegates from Virginia to such events as the South Carolina and West Indian Exposition, the Southern Interstate Good Roads Convention, the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, the Jamestown Exposition Company and Jamestown Ter-Centennial Exposition, and the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition; the Grand Army of the Republic and the Grand Camp of Confederate Veterans. Correspondence also referred to the state militia and the Militia Act of 1903, the compilation of muster rolls of Virginia Confederate soldiers, the death and burial of General Fitzhugh Lee, Confederate Soldiers Homes, the Richmond Howitzers, Confederate relics such as a set of battle flags returned by the Federal Government and housed in the Confederate Museum, the Stuart Monument Association, and state pensions. Other topics include the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, disputes about the Virginia-Tennessee boundary, the ownership of Libby Prison, quarantines, the appropriation of funds for the Jefferson Memorial, the street-car strike of 1903, the recovery of Stafford County records held by the New York State Library, the Virginia Constitution of 1902, and concerns about lynching and its prevention.

Notable correspondents include the governors of numerous other states, Senator John W. Daniel, Col. William Lamb, Benjamin L. Blackford, Secretary of State John Hay, Clara Barton, Acting Secretary of State F. B. Loomis, former Virginia governor William E. Cameron, Robert Shaw Oliver, Secretary of War and future president William H. Taft, Richard L. Maury, Roland P. Falkner from the Library of Congress, Kate Pleasants Minor, General Adna Chaffee, Charles G. Bennett, Henry B. F. Macfarland, Morton Marye, Scott Ship of the Virginia Military Institute, Col. Sidney Sheltman, Secretary of the Navy Paul Morton, Richmond mayor Carleton McCarthy, Malvern H. Omohundro, and Isabel Maury, custodian of the Confederate Museum.

Index Terms

Persons:

Lamb, William, 1835-1909.
Daniel, John W. (John Warwick), 1842-1910
Falkner, Roland P.
Minor, Kate Pleasants.
Macfarland, Henry B. F. (Henry Brown Floyd), 1861-
Bennett, Charles G. (Charles Goodwin), 1863-1914
Chaffee, Adna Romanza, 1842-1914.
Marye, Morton.
Maury, Richard L. (Richard Lancelot), 1840-1907.
Blackford, B. L. (Benjamin Lewis)
Morton, Paul, 1857-1911
Cameron, William E. (William Evelyn), 1842-1927
Hay, John, 1838-1905.
Barton, Clara, 1821-1912
Loomis, Frederic Brewster, 1873-
Oliver, Robert Shaw, 1847-1935
Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930

Corporate Names:

United States. Militia Act 1903
Grand Army of the Republic.
Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind (Staunton, Va.)
Hampden-Sydney College
College of William and Mary
University of Virginia
Virginia Military Institute
South Carolina Inter-State and West Indian Exposition (1901-1902: Charleston, S. C.)
Jamestown Exposition Company.
Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities
Hollywood Cemetery (Richmond, Va.)
Virginia. Constitution (1902)
Robert E. Lee Camp Confederate Soldiers' Home (Richmond, Va.)
Grand Camp Confederate Veterans. Department of Virginia
U.S.S. Virginia (Battleship No. 13)
Virginia State Library
Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Virginia. Auditor of Public Accounts
Georgia. Governor (1902-1907 : Terrell)
Georgia. Governor (1898-1902 : Chandler)
Maryland. Governor (1904-1908 : Warfield)
Maryland. Governor (1900-1904 : Smith)
New York (State). Governor (1901-1904 : Odell)
Pennsylvania. Governor (1903-1907 : Pennypacker)
North Carolina. Governor (1901-1905 : Aycock)
Florida. Governor (1901-1905 : Jennings)
California. Governor (1903-1907 : Purdee)
Mississippi. Governor (1904-1908 : Vardaman)
Ohio. Governor (1904-1906 : Herrick)

Kentucky. Governor (1900-1907 : Beckham)
Louisiana. Governor (1904-1908 : Blanchard)
South Carolina. Governor (1903-1907 : Heyward)
West Virginia. Governor (1901-1905 : White)
Florida. Governor (1905-1909 : Broward)
North Carolina. Governor (1905-1909 : Glenn)
Iowa. Governor (1902-1908 : Cummins)
Tennessee. Governor (1905-1907 : Cox)
Ohio. Governor (1906-1906 : Pattison)
New York (State). (1905-1906 : Higgins)
Connecticut. Governor (1905-1907 : Roberts)
Massachusetts. Governor (1903-1905 : Bates)
Rhode Island. Governor (1905-1907 : Uter)
Virginia. Lieutenant Governor (1902-1906 : Willard)
United States. War Dept.
United States. President (1901-1909 : Roosevelt)
United States. Secretary of State

Subjects:

Louisiana Purchase Exposition (1904 : Saint Louis, Mo.)
Jamestown Ter-centennial Exposition (1907)
Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition (1905: Portland, Or.)
Notaries -- Legal status, laws, etc.
Lynching.
Arbor Day.
Labor Day.
Norfolk Naval Shipyard (U.S.)

Genre and Form Terms:

Letter books.
Letters (correspondence).
State government records -- Virginia.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into the following series: I. Executive letter books of Governor Andrew J. Montague, 1902-1906.

The items are arranged chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I. Executive Letter Books, 1902-1906

Volume 1-12

Extent

Extent: 12 v. (5940 p.).

Arrangement

Chronological

Volume 1, 1902 Jan. 06 - 1902 Sep. 17.

Extent 499 p.

Volume 2, 1902 Sep. 19 - 1903 Mar. 19.

Extent 495 p.

Volume 3, 1903 Mar. 23 - 1903 July 09.

Extent 496 p.

Volume 4, 1903 July 10 - 1903 Nov. 10.

Extent 499 p.

Volume 5, 1903 Nov. 23 - 1904 Mar. 09.

Extent 493 p.

Volume 6, 1904 Mar. 10 - 1904 July 22.

Extent 497 p.

Volume 7, 1904 July 22 - 1904 Dec. 07.

Extent 499 p.

Volume 8, 1904 Dec. 08 - 1905 Mar. 08.

Extent 488 p.

Volume 9, 1905 Mar. 08 - 1905 May 08.

Extent 496 p.

Volume 10, 1905 May 05 - 1905 July 08.

Extent 491 p.

Volume 11, 1905 July 10 - 1905 Sep. 30.

Extent 498 p.

Volume 12, 1905 Oct. 02 - 1906 Feb. 01.

Extent 489 p.