

University of Victoria Special Collections

Montague, John

SC134

Title

John Montague fonds

Dates

1961-1962

Extent

9 cm of textual records

Biographical Sketch

This fonds relates to The Dolmen Miscellany of Irish Writing, originally to be entitled The Tower, which was proposed after a poetry reading in February 1961. The Irish Academy of Letters, in the person of Peadar O'Donnell, agreed to subsidize the publication and Liam Miller at the Dolmen Press published it. John Montague was the editor and Thomas Kinsella was the poetry editor.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of correspondence received by Montague in his capacity as editor plus a few carbons of his replies. Correspondents include Peadar O'Donnell, Liam Miller, Thomas Kinsella, and some of the other contributing writers: Aidan Higgins, Pearce Hutchinson, Val Iremonger, John Jordan, James Liddy, John McGahern, Brian Moore, Richard Murphy, James Plunkett, Richard Weber, Leslie Daiken, and Thomas McIntyre. There are also some miscellaneous letters and items; including letters from Samuel Beckett and Robin Skelton. Included with the correspondence are a few holograph notes, cuttings, manuscripts, pamphlets, and ephemera relating to The Dolmen Miscellany.

Finding Aids

File list from vendor available.

Title Source

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

MONTAGUE, JOHN
1996-077
Loc: SM 4.2.4

Montague, John, 1929 -
John Montague fonds. 1961-62
9 cm. (18 folders) of textual records

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Series 1	Correspondence with Peadar O'Donnell
Series 2	Correspondence with Dolmen Press (Liam Miller)
Series 3	Correspondence regarding the contribution by Aidan Higgins
Series 4	Correspondence regarding the contribution by Pearce Hutchinson
Series 5	Correspondence regarding the contribution by Val Iremonger
Series 6	Correspondence from John Jordan
Series 7	Correspondence from Tom Kinsella (photocopies)
Series 8	Correspondence regarding the contribution by James Liddy
Series 9	Correspondence regarding the contribution by John McGahern
Series 10	Correspondence regarding the contribution by Brian Moore
Series 11	Correspondence concerning the contribution by Richard Murphy
Series 12	Correspondence regarding the contribution by James Plunkett
Series 13	Correspondence regarding the contribution by Richard Weber
Series 14	Correspondence relating to the work of Leslie Dakin
Series 15	Correspondence relating to the work of Thomas McIntyre
Series 16	Miscellaneous correspondence and items

This File List is from Philobiblion (dealer - Percy Jarrett)

(slightly modified by T.W. Tuey)

A Catalogue of CORRESPONDENCE and MANUSCRIPTS relating to the production and publication in September 1962 of THE DOLMEN MISCELLANY of Irish Writing; printed and published by Liam Miller, The Dolmen Press, Dublin, with the co-operation of the IRISH ACADEMY of LETTERS.

Most of the letters comprising this collection were addressed to JOHN MONTAGUE who edited the publication. THOMAS KINSELLA was the poetry editor.

Originally to have been titled THE TOWER, the proposal to produce THE DOLMEN MISCELLANY arose following a Poetry Reading in Dublin on February 3rd. 1961 at which John Montague, Thomas Kinsella and Richard Murphy each read their own poems. The Irish Academy of Letters, in the person of Peadar O'Donnell, agreed to subsidize the publication.

In a few cases there are drafts or carbon copies of replies by John Montague to the letters to him; but almost every letter he received bears his brief holograph note or notes indicating his reply.

Series 1 Correspondence with Peadar O'Donnell

- 1.1 Holograph, undated, on notepaper headed "AMHARCLANN NA MAINSTREACH, confirming John Montague's 'appointment'. The notes of his reply are on the reverse.
- 1.2 Notes on a half-sheet of paper, made by Montague including the draft of a reply to O'Donnell.
- 1.3 Holograph, unsigned, undated, on notepaper headed "IRISH ACADEMY of LETTERS", apparently covering the 'honorarium' referred to in 1.1.
- 1.4 Typewritten draft of letter to O'Donnell, dated April 17th 1961; protesting against making payments to authors on a royalty basis
- 1.5 Holograph, one sheet, two sided, dated 10/05/1961, on notepaper headed "176, Upr. Drumcondra Road, Dublin".
- 1.6 Holograph, undated (annotated "Received May 31, 1961" no address: with envelope of Abbey Theatre, Dublin, postmarked 26-V-1961.
- 1.7 Holograph, draft in ink, of letter to O'Donnell, dated Sept. 21, 1961, with the address; 11, Rue Daguerre, Paris, XIV. This is on a postcard with Montague's poem 'Old Mythologies' printed on the reverse.
- 1.8 Draft of letter, in pencil, commencing "Peadar...".
- 1.9 Holograph, one sheet, two sides, dated 29/10/61 on notepaper headed "North British Hotel, Edinburgh, 2".
- 1.10 Typewritten, dated April 4th 1962, from 176, Upr. Drumcondra Road Dublin.

Series 2 Correspondence with Dolmen Press (Liam Miller)

Except where otherwise stated, the letters in this Section are from Liam Miller to John Montague in Paris and are typewritten on notepaper headed "THE DOLMEN PRESS, 23, UPPER MOUNT STREET, DUBLIN, IRELAND."

- 2.1 Announcement of the Poetry Reading of Friday 3rd February 1961.
- 2.2 A booklet of poems: "THREE IRISH POETS: John Montague, Thomas Kinsella, Richard Murphy, (a line drawing), February 3rd 1961. A poetry reading presented by the Dolmen Press, at the Royal Hibernian Hotel Dublin." The booklet contains the texts of Montague's 'The Old People', Kinsella's 'A Portrait of the Engineer', and Murphy's 'Sailing to an Island'. There is a bibliography on the back cover. It is one of 250 copies printed at the Dolmen Press.
- 2.3 A cutting from 'The Irish Times' dated Tuesday Jan. 24 1961, "An Irishman's Diary" by Quidnunc, referring to the coming poetry reading and giving much biographical detail about the poets.
- 2.4 A cutting from either 'The Daily Herald' or 'The People'.
- 2.5 Dated 16/05/1961, asking "... how goes Peadar's project".
- 2.6 Dated 10/08/1961 to Montague from A.M. Heath & Co. Ltd., granting permission to reprint a section of Myles na Gopaleen's novel 'The Hard Life'.
- 2.7 Dated 10/11/1961, Holograph, saying that Miller and his wife would be leaving London for Paris on 18th. That the 'Tower' "slowly is being erected". Mentioning O'Donnell's decision about distribution in North America.
- 2.8 Dated "December", a typewritten draft of a letter to Miller, signed "John" but, apparently not sent. Saying that James Plunkett had withdrawn his story 'The Trout'.
- 2.9 Dated 06/12/1961. Another typewritten letter signed 'John' mentioning the loss of the Plunkett story. Asking would it be possible to reduce the proposed selling price?
- 2.10 Dated 01/02/1962. Saying that typesetting had commenced.
- 2.11 Dated 15/02/1962. Discussing the possible change of title, rejecting a Dolmen Miscellany of Irish Writing.
- 2.12 Dated 09/03/1962. Sending proofs and saying that the preliminary setting had been done. Discussing distribution in the U.S.A.
- 2.13 Dated 12/03/1962. A Dolmen Press 'With Compliments' slip with a brief holograph in pencil.
- 2.14 Dated 21/03/1962. With heading detached. Re-discussing title, U.S. sales, copyrights, advertising rates.
- 2.15 Dated March 23. Draft of a letter to Miller in reply to 2.14.
- 2.16 A pencil draft of the 'promotion letter' referred to in 2.15.
- 2.17 A typewritten draft of the same 'promotion letter'.
- 2.18 Dated 26/03/1962. Discussing the title, copyright and the U.S.A. selling price.
- 2.19 Dated 28/03/1962. Holograph draft of letter proposing "A DOLMEN Miscellany of Irish Writing" as the title.
- 2.20 Dated 04/04/1962. Saying that Miller, O'Donnell and Kinsella had agreed with the title Montague had suggested and that Murphy had offered 'The Cleggan Disaster'.
- 2.21 Dated 05/04/1962. Enclosing a rough proof of the reset cover of the Miscellany.
- 2.22 A short holograph draft re: 'The Disaster' having been read on the B.B.C. Third programme, in reply to 2.21.
- 2.23 Dated 06/04/1962. Enclosing a further batch of proofs and saying the U.S.A. price had been reduced.
- 2.24 Dated 06/04/1962, (Figure 8, in pencil, written over 6) discussing U.K. price.

- 2.25 Dated 10/04/1962. Discussing U.S.A. price, Plunkett's contribution and the question of mentioning prize winning authors.
- 2.26 Dated 11/04/1962. Sending a print of the cover, saying that O.U.P. have agreed to distribute and that Kinsella thinks the substituted story by Plunkett should be used.
- 2.27 Dated 12/04/1962. Saying that Garrity has rejected the title and terms for the U.S.A. distribution.
- 2.28 Holograph, post card both sides, seemingly a draft, or copy, of a reply to Miller's letters of 11th and 12th (2.26 and 2.27).
- 2.29 Dated 13/04/1962. With heading detached, asking Montague to re-write the preface.
- 2.30 Dated 18/04/1962. Confirming O.U.P.'s agreement to distribute and enclosing Murphy's biographical notes.
- 2.31 Dated 30/04/1962. Mentioning the proposed Garrity/Irish Book Club deal in U.S.A. and that Sheldon Meyer had confirmed they would distribute in the U.S.A.
- 2.32 Dated 02/05/1962. Sending proofs and commenting on Montague's intended visit to Dublin.
- 2.33 Dated 16/05/1962. Disclaiming any desire to have editorial responsibility, discussing the advertising in Miscellany. (This letter sent c/o Mr. V. Iremonger in London).
- 2.34 Pencil notes by Montague, headed 'Editorial' on title page EXODUS, detached from a paperback book.
- 2.35 Pencil notes by Montague on half sheet of paper, headed 'Statement' notes in ink on reverse.
- 2.36 Pencil notes by Montague on the Concise Oxford definition of 'A banshee' and, on the same sheet, in pencil 'CONTENTS'.
- 2.37 Holograph notes, in ink, headed 'Contents'.
- 2.38 Holograph notes, in pencil, headed 'Preface'.
- 2.39 Holograph notes, in pencil, of a further 'promotion letter's. Two and a half holograph lined of a letter, in ink, commencing 'My sweet Dot' on the reverse.
- 2.40 Dated 01/06/1962. On 'The DOLMEN Miscellany of Irish writing' notepaper. A typewritten revision of 2.39, with further holograph Alterations. With 'Banshee' notes on the reverse.
- 2.41 A printed version of the 'promotion letter' with revisions.
- 2.42 Advertising rate card with typographical details of the DOLMEN Miscellany of Irish Writing. (Two copies).
- 2.43 Dated 22/06/1962. Telling of a visit to Belfast for a Mary O'Malley 'opening': sending a final revise of Miscellany, mentioning advertising and discussing the position of the Editorial Comment.
- 2.44 Dated 02/07/1962. Postcard with Dolmen Press colophon. Telling of visit to London and hoping for the return of proofs.
- 2.45 Dated 06/07/1962. Noting amendments, mentioning advertisements.
- 2.46 Dated 18/07/1962. Two leaves, two pages. Referring to the advertising, Prefatory note, date of London publication, Yeats, various books, saying that Montague is missed in Dublin and asking him to travel to London and to Dublin for a publication party on 27th.
- 2.47 Dated 19/07/1962. From John Bell, Oxford University Press to Montague thanking him for some proofs, mentioning the proposed party in Dublin for Kinsella's 'Downstream'. Holograph notes, in pencil, on the reverse.

- 2.48 Dated 23/07/1962. Saying that there is not really a need for Montague's being in London on 25th September.
- 2.49 Dated 30/07/1962. Enclosing the Epithalamion of Thomas McIntyre as a possible contribution to Dolmen 2. Hoping to see Montague on 25 September in London. Holographs on reverse.
- 2.50 Dated 27/08/1962. Telling of a provisional airline booking from London to Dublin on 26 September.
- 2.51 Dated 04/09/1962. Discussing various matters arising from the publication of Dolmen Miscellany
- 2.52 Holograph draft, in ink, of letter to Miller, on a postcard with a picture of a French Dolmen on the reverse. Dated Sept. 17, replying to 2.51 and asking where were they to meet in London.
- 2.53 Invitation to the reception on the occasion of the publishing of the first number of 'Poetry Ireland' on 15th September at the Bailey, Dublin.
- 2.54 Information sheet about 'Poetry Ireland'.
- 2.55 Dated 12/09/1962. Dolmen Press invoice for 24 copies of Dolmen Miscellany.
- 2.56 Dated 31/10/1962. Statement of account.
- 2.57 Dated 11/06/1963. Receipted statement of account.
- 2.58 Five galley proofs of 'Off the Barricade' a note of four Irish poets, by John Jordan which appeared on Pages 107 to 115 in the final page proofs of the Dolman Miscellany as 'a note galley proofs having been deleted. (see 2.33).
- 2.59 Holograph notes on the contributors to Dolmen Miscellany. The notes on Aidan Higgins is in typescript. Two sheets, two pages.
- 2.60 Two leaves, two pages, typewritten; 'Contributors' Biographical notes on the contributors to the Dolmen Miscellany with some minor details.
- 2.61 A galley proof 'Contributors' (2.60). With further revisions.
- 2.62 Page proofs, in loose cover, of 'the DOLMEN miscellany of Irish writing'. 118 sheets, printed one sided numbered 1 to 118, stapled in top left corner.
- 2.63 Newspaper cutting, (October 5 1962 from The (Manchester) Guardian. 'To hell with Ireland' 'a review of the Miscellany by Sean O'Faolain .
- 2.64 Newspaper cutting, September 15, 1962 from The Irish Times, 'The Road to Parnassus', by Terence de Vere White, a review.
- 2.65 Newspaper cutting, dated, in pencil, Oct. 6th. 'New Irish Writing' a review; with photos of Kinsella and Plunkett.
- 2.66 Newspaper cutting, from Hibernia, October 1962. 'The New Writers' a review by P.C.
- 2.67 Newspaper cutting, (from The Irish Times) a review, with photo of John Montague.
- 2.68 Newspaper cutting, 'Avoiding the Leprechauns' a review by Keith Harrison. (This is probably from The Listener).
- 2.69 Newspaper cutting, 'Dolmen Dublin' by Peter Lennon. (From The Guardian). An interview with Liam Miller with a reference to the Dolmen Miscellany, (no date, except 23), a photo of Miller.
- 2.70 A final paragraph of a letter (to Miller) cut from the original, signed 'John' and with an holograph postscript. There is a note in the left hand margin "Section of unsent letter", J.M.
- 2.71 Dated 06/12/1962. Enclosing a manuscript.
- 2.72 Newspaper cutting, from The Guardian, November 10, 1970. 'Siegemograph' an interview with John Montague by Raymond Gardner with six verses extracted from Montague's

poem 'A New Siege' and a photo of Montague. There is an holograph comment by Montague on the top margin. "Ten years late, an unconscious answer to Liam's unconscious insult".

2.73 Dated 06/05/1972. (Presumably 1971) One sheet, two pages of typescript, signed by John Montague. This is on Dolmen Miscellany notepaper; he comments on the difficulties he encountered in editing the publication and praises some of the contributors for their help. He questions some of the decisions he made.

2.74 Dated 07/09/1972, (1971). Typed on Dolmen Miscellany notepaper a single sheet initialed J.M. Headed 'Afterthought' he discusses the slight he felt that Miller had, apparently, made no mention of him in the Peter Lenon/Guardian interview. He comments that he believed he was a good editor in spite of other preoccupations at that time.

2.75 Eighteen sheets, the carbon copy of the typewritten manuscript of Montague's own contribution to The Miscellany. Headed, holograph, "The Sentimental Prophecy: a study of The Deserted Village". Signed; John Montague, with holograph alterations, corrections and additions.

Series 3 Correspondence regarding the contribution by Aidan Higgins

3.1 Dated 12/06/1961. Telling Montague that Calder handles his publishing affairs and that he is short of money.

3.2 Dated 03/07/1961. From John Calder agreeing that something by Higgins could be used.

3.3 Dated 08/09/1961. From John Calder agreeing to accept £20, for the use of a chapter of Higgins' new novel.

3.4 Dated 18/09/1961. Holograph, in ink, on postcard with Montague's poem 'Old Mythologies' on the reverse. Making arrangements with Calder to collect Higgins manuscript if it had not already been sent. This appears to be a draft that was not posted.

3.5 Dated 14/3/1962. From Higgins, acknowledging proofs and ordering eight copies of the Miscellany. Signed 'Aiden', with a pen and crayon sketch below the signature.

3.6 Dates 01/09/1962. A photo-postcard from Higgins in Spain, saying he had no word of the Miscellany and asking that his copies be sent to him in Spain.

Series 4 Correspondence regarding the contribution by Pearce Hutchinson

4.1 Dated June 25. From Hutchinson to Tom Kinsella, enclosing twelve poems "...to pick from".

4.2 Five leaves, five pages, typewritten, of three poems by Pearce Hutchinson with his signature, in pencil, below each title. Two pages; 'A True Story of the Class War'. Two pages; 'Speaking to Some'. One page; 'A Man'.

4.3 Dated October 12. Signed 'Pearce H.' asking to see the proofs of his four poems and pressing for payment.

4.4 The envelope in which 4.3 was enclosed. It is endorsed on the reverse "Money sent".

Series 5 Correspondence regarding the contribution by Val Iremonger

5.1 Dated 19/05/1961. On Irish Embassy, London, official notepaper, expressing delight at the proposal to publish the Miscellany. Promising a contribution of about 1,120 words on Denis Devlin.

- 5.2 Undated. The lower portion of a letter; saying that Devlin's literary executor agrees to "The Colours of Love" being used.
- 5.3 Dated 07/06/1961. Telling Montague he has no chance of sending anything on Devlin until early in July.
- 5.4 Dated 27/03/1962. Saying he had sent some Cadou translations to Miller and asking Montague to obtain permission for their publication.
- 5.5 Dated 29/03/1962. From Montague to Editions Seghers, seeking the permission Iremonger requested.
- 5.6 Dated 30/03/1962. From Editions Seghers granting the permission.
- 5.7 Dated 17/09/1962. Holograph, thanking Montague for the Miscellany.
- 5.8 Dated 19/09/1962. From Editions Seghers thanking Montague for THE DOLMEN and congratulating him.

Series 6 Correspondence from John Jordan

- 6.1 Dated 24/03/1961. Two sheets, four pages; enclosing the manuscript of a story and referring to mutual friends.
- 6.2 Dated 29/04/1961. Three sheets, three pages; suggesting possible titles for the publication and, again, referring to friends.
- 6.3 Dated 07/12/1961. Three sheets, three pages; saying he will review 'Lands' for the miscellany and Kinsella's volume too, but not Clarke. He mentions many other literary matters also.
- 6.4 Dated 20/02/1962. Two sheets, two pages; wishing to continue with the poetry review. Disliking 'The Tower' as the title.
- 6.5 Dated 11/05/1962. Saying he is reluctant to abandon his article but would agree to eliminate Murphy from it.
- 6.6 Dated 01/09/1962. Asking Montague to take part in a poetry reading, and saying he proposed to travel to Paris. Comments on the Miscellany and on Irish writers. (Two sheets, two pages; The top left hand corner of the second page has been cut out; this does not interfere with the context).

Series 7 Correspondence from Tom Kinsella (photocopies)

- 7.1 Dated 31/03/1961. Two pages; discussing the possibilities of producing the proposed publication, arguments against paying authors on a royalty basis and offering suggestions for the title.
- 7.2 Dated 06/09/1961. One page; enclosing two further poems of Liddy's and a draft of his own contribution. Saying that Hutchinson had been asking for payment.
- 7.3 Dated 07/12/1961. Two pages; leaving editorial decisions to Montague, asking if, as he had promised an article on A. Clarke to the Kilkenny Magazine, this would clash with one on Clarke for the Miscellany.
- 7.4 Dated 18/12/1961. Draft of a letter from Montague to Kinsella. This is on two sheets of paper; the first two paragraphs are typewritten and the last three are holograph, in ink, on the second sheet. Saying that he had already marked Kinsella for £20, but would also offer £1 per page for the article on Clarke. He makes suggestions on the contents.
- 7.5 Dated 31/01/1962. Two sheets; apparently incomplete, as there is no superscription or signature. Asking how quickly the Clarke article is required, saying he preferred Clarke's short poems to his long ones.

7.6 Dated 31/01/1962. Two sheets; again incomplete, but covering two other sheets of an earlier, "over enthusiastic attempt to reply to your last letter..." Saying he is willing to accept the fee offered in advance and that Murphy was not likely to accept £15 for the publication of 'The Cleggan Disaster'.

7.7 Dated 09/02/1962. Two sheets; enclosing the first completed draft 'of my miniature epic' and seeking Montague's comments. Approving the proposed change of title from 'Tower' to 'Prospect' and reporting that Miller had said that Murphy was not interested in £15 for 'Disaster'.

7.8 Dated 26/03/1962. Five sheets; thanking Montague for the cheque and for his comments on 'Downstream'. Discussing the title and saying he would be sending poems by Michael O'Higgins.

7.9 Dated 16/04/1962. Two sheets; enclosing a revised version of his 'Downstream', saying that Murphy had been accepted by Faber, expressing pleasure that 'Disaster' was to be in the Dolmen, commenting on other contributions.

7.10 Dated 10/05/1962. Two sheets; agreeing that Jordan's review of Murphy was not suitable, discussing various authors.

7.11 Undated. Two pages that do not relate to others. Saying that Murphy had finished 'The Cleggan Disaster' and commenting on it. One of these two pages is headed (2) and bears a discussion of the title and the general attitude to the written word.

7.12 Undated. Two leaves photocopy with more about Murphy.

Series 8 Correspondence regarding the contribution by James Liddy

8.1 Dated 07/06/1961. One sheet, one side; addressed to Tom (Kinsella) enclosing some poems for consideration. With this letter are three poems, each on a separate sheet: 'Believer', 'Beatitudes, 1960' and 'Death of Fathers'.

Series 9 Correspondence regarding the contribution by John McGahern

9.1 Undated. Three sheets, holograph; enclosing a manuscript and suggesting to Montague what should be used "This letter contains McGahern's detailed analysis of his novel".

9.2 Dated 17/02/1961. Holograph, one sheet, one page; providing brief biographical details.

9.3 Dated 31/02/1961. "Holograph, one sheet, two sides"; plus photocopy; saying that he now had the proof from Miller and that he had included three sentences beyond the place where Montague had proposed it should end.

9.4 Undated. Holograph, one sheet one page; saying his agent had complained about not being informed about the proposed publication, admitting this was his fault. Asking Montague to write to A.D. Peters.

9.5 Dated 11/09/1961. From Michael Sissons of A.D. Peters saying that McGahern had told him of the proposed contribution to Dolmen and seeking information.

9.6 Dated 12/04/1962. Holograph, one sheet, one side; saying he had returned the proofs to Miller and that he liked the cover.

9.7 Dated 03/08/1962. From Sissons thanking Montague for the cheque for £20, which he had divided £15 to McGahern and £5 to Plunkett.

9.8 Undated. Holograph, one sheet, one side; saying he is flying to Paris, seeking advice on hotel accomodation.

9.9 Undated. Holograph, one sheet, one side; giving his flight number saying it was kind of Montague to meet him and thanking him for the money via Sissons.

- 9.10 Galley proofs of the opening of Chapter One of 'The Barracks'.
- 9.11 Carbon typescript of the manuscript of Chapter Two of 'The Barracks' which, says Montague, differs in minor details from that published in the book. Thirty-eight sheets numbered 37 to 74 inclusive; with a few pencil notes by Montague on a separate slip of paper.

Series 10 Correspondence regarding the contribution by Brian Moore

- 10.1 Dated 06/05/1961. One sheet, one side; saying he is sending 'Preliminary Pages for a Work of Revenge' and 'Grieve for the Dear Departed' for Montague's consideration and referring him to A.P. Watt & Sons, his agents. Also includes the envelope.
- 10.2 Dated 25/07/1961. From A.P. Watt & Son, acknowledging receipt of 'Preliminary Pages for a Work of Revenge' and noting that Montague proposed to use 'Grieve for the Dear Departed'.
- 10.3 Dated 29/12/1961. From A.P. Watt saying that Moore had told them that Montague now wished to use 'Preliminary Pages for a Work of Revenge' instead of 'Grieve for the Dear Departed'.
- 10.4 Dated 28/12/1961. Apologizing that Moore had not 'phoned Montague when in Paris, expressing delight that 'Preliminary Pages' was to be used and suggesting possible N. American distributors for the Miscellany.
- 10.5 Dated 10/07/1962. From The Atlantic Monthly Press saying that Moore had suggested they publish the Miscellany and asking for manuscripts or galleys.
- 10.6 Dated 22/09. Thanking Montague for his letter and the cheque, looking forward to seeing Miscellany.

Series 11 Correspondence concerning the contribution by Richard Murphy

- 11.1 Dated 17/06/1961. Wishing luck to the Miscellany and suggesting some of his poems that might be used.
- 11.2 Dated 22/06. Draft, holograph on postcard with 'Old Mythologies on the reverse; thanking Murphy for 'The Hooker' saying they would meet at the Mermaid poetry reading, querying his reaction to the Skelton anthology.
- 11.3 Dated 05/12/1961. Draft, holograph on postcard with Montague's poem 'Cathedral Town' on the reverse; asking for "a sizable poem" for use in the Miscellany and saying he could make a special effort with the Inishboffin (Cleggan) Disaster.
- 11.4 Biographical note on Richard Murphy, with amendments.
- 11.5 Undated. Draft of letter to Murphy. Noted at the top of the page 'First draft of letter'. Holograph, in ink, on Dolmen Miscellany notepaper; two portions of paper stapled together. Sending £15. Accusing Murphy of lack of interest in the Miscellany except from a financial point of view, of being dilatory in sending any contribution whatsoever and of sending 'The Disaster' to the Cheltenham Festival who then wanted Dolmen to postpone publication and affected O.U.P.'s choice of date for English publication.
- 11.6 Dated 24/10/1962. Thanking Montague for the cheque. Explaining the circumstances about the Cheltenham Festival and the Guinness Awards from his, Murphy's, point of view, together with its envelope.
- 11.7 Dated 01/03/1972. One sheet, two sides; holograph draft of letter to Richard Murphy from Montague, enclosing the review by John Jordan which he had decided not to use, and

saying that Murphy's "...malice to me has become excessive..." whilst he, Montague, had done his best to protect Murphy from unjustified malice.

11.8 Dated 01/03/1972. One sheet, one side; a carbon copy of a typewritten letter to Richard Murphy based on the holograph draft 11.7, signed "John M."

Series 12 Correspondence regarding the contribution by James Plunkett

12.1 Dated 23/03/1961. Two leaves, thanking Montague for his invitation to contribute. Offering either an extract from his new novel or 'The Boy on the Capstan', 'Ferris Moore and the Earwig' or 'The Trout'.

12.2 Dated 03/05/1961. Holograph, in ink, three sheets, three sides; enclosing 'Ferris Moore and the Earwig' saying that 'The Boy on the Capstan' had been used in Mary O'Malley's Threshold. With this letter is the cover-page of 'Ferris Moore and the Earwig'.

12.3 Dated 21/11/1961. Saying that A.D. Peters had just placed 'The Trout' and asking him to go back to 'Ferris Moore and the Earwig'.

Series 13 Correspondence regarding the contribution by Richard Weber

13.1 Dated 13/11/1961. Enclosing a poem to replace 'On an Italian Hillside', noting there was no copy of his poem 'Geese' among the copy for The Tower. With this letter are the poems 'On an Italian Hillside' and 'The Flight of the Wild Geese'.

13.2 Dated 16/03/1962. Holograph, two sheets, four sides; seeking payment. On the fourth side is a holograph of his poem 'The Makers'.

13.3 Dated 01/05/1962. Holograph, two sheets, four sides; thanking Montague for his cheque. With this letter is a leaf, two pages, numbered 7 and 8, detached from an offset publication, with three poems by Richard Weber, 'Intimations of Mutuality', 'Statistics' and 'The Lion and O'Reilly'.

Series 14 Correspondence relating to the work of Leslie Dakin

14.1 Dated 20/03/1961. Saying he had met Miller in London who had suggested that he should send material to Montague for possible use in the Miscellany. (One sheet, one side).

14.2 Dated 25/04/1961. One sheet, one side; thanking Montague for his letter and asking should he send poems direct to Kinsella and prose to Montague.

14.3 Dated 02/05/1961. (May crossed out 'June' written above in pencil) One sheet, one side; sending his poems.

14.4 Dated 09/05/1961. One sheet, one side; saying that as he is staying with Samuel Beckett in Paris he will bring over some poems and either a story or an extract from 'The Circular Road'.

14.5 Dated 22/06/1961. One sheet, two sides; discussing literary friends and agreeing to meet at the Mermaid Festival.

14.6 Undated and incomplete. One sheet one side; acknowledges Montague's letter of 23 Oct. notes that 'Six Irish Poets' by "Sergeant" (i.e. Robin Skelton) had been published, agreeing that Montague's pessimism regarding Liam Miller and the Miscellany seemed justified.

14.7 A folder of poems, typescript, 61 pages 46 poems. On the front cover, "Leslie Dakin's last Manuscript".

Series 15 Correspondence relating to the work of Thomas McIntyre

- 15.1 Dated 'Tuesday'. Postcard, holograph; thanking Montague for his letter, asking for the return of typescript.
- 15.2 Undated. Holograph, one sheet, one side; enclosing a revised version of 'Epithalamion' saying that 'Transatlantic Review' are interested in publishing an extract.
- 15.3 Sixty-three sheets of typescript of 'Epithalamion'. Stapled in, top left corner.

Series 16 Miscellaneous correspondence and items

- 16.1 Dated 14/03/1961. From Mary O'Malley of "THRESHOLD". Expressing interest in the magazine and suggesting that a deal could be done with "Threshold", also, that the magazine could be titled 'Searchlight' or 'Search'.
- 16.2 Undated. Draft on postcard, holograph, from Montague to Weidenfield and Nicholson asking for review copies of John Broderick's novels for 'Prospect'.
- 16.3 Dated 13/01/1962. From Gus Martin, Holograph, one sheet, one side; asking if Montague would like to use a chapter from his new book on James Stephens.
- 16.4 Dated 28/02/1962. From M. Phelan. Holograph, one sheet, one side; inquiring if Montague would consider two stories for the next issue of Miscellany.
- 16.5 Dated 07/04/1962. From Desmond O'Grady. Holograph, one sheet, one side; complaining that Montague had not used any of his poems "... for the recent anthology you compiled".
- 16.6 Dated 11/04/1962. From Desmond P. Fortune, addressed to The Editor, The Tower, c/o The Irish Times. Holograph, one sheet, one side; asking where a copy could be bought and if articles and poems would be acceptable on their merit; together with its envelope.
- 16.7 Dated 22/09. From Joan Hayes, one sheet, one side; asking if any of the enclosed would be suitable for inclusion in the Dolmen.
- 16.8 Dated 14/10/1962. From Nan Kennedy. Holograph, one sheet. One side; asking if the enclosed short story 'A Sense of Responsibility' would have a chance in the next issue of the Dolmen.
- 16.9 Dated 15/09/1962. From John Broderick. Two sheets, two sides; thanking Montague for "...the very kind and generous review you gave my book". Discussing Montague's 'Poisoned Lands'.
- 16.10 Dated 27/09/1962. From Samuel Beckett, holograph, one sheet, one side; thanking Montague for the Dolmen Miscellany and for his letter. Offering advice about possible distribution in France.
- 16.11 Dated 11/11. From 'Fred'. Holograph, two sheets, four sides; saying that Liddy will not speak to him and asking when is another issue of Dolmen coming out as he has something in preparation.
- 16.12 Dated 29/11/1962. From Maurice Farley. One sheet, one side; enclosing a short verse play, 'A Letter to Stella' for consideration.
- 16.13 Dated 07/01/1963. Carbon copy of a reply to Maurice Farley. (see 16.12).
- 16.14 Dated 07/01/1963. Carbon copy of a reply to Mrs. Kennedy (see 16.8).
- 16.15 Dated 07/01/1963. Carbon copy of a letter to J.F. McCarthy.
- 16.16 Dated 07/01/1963. Carbon copy of a letter to M. Phelan.

16.17 Dated 07/01/1963. Carbon copy of a letter to Miss Hayes. NOTE: Both 16.16 and 16.17 are on the same sheet of paper, typed over each other.

16.18 Dated 08/01/1963. From Nan Kennedy. Holograph, one sheet, one side; appreciating Montague's remarks about her story.

16.19 Date 31/05/1965. From Marion G. Naunton, Features editor, Harper's Bazaar, on office notepaper. Holograph, one sheet, two sides; seeking information about people, places and things for a feature about Ireland.

16.20 Undated. From Robin Skelton. One sheet, one side; giving his London address and telephone number.

16.21 Photograph by Henri Cartier-Bresson. "Rare unpublished photograph of the Miscellany being planned". Left to Right: Tom Kinsella, John Montague, Liam Miller.

16.22 Twenty-six pieces of paper of various shapes and sizes on which pen and pencil notes have been made at various times during the production of the Dolmen Miscellany.