

The Shining Scroll

Part One

© December 2012

Periodical of

The L.M. Montgomery Literary Society



more issues are located at the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society web site:
<http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>

Welcome to Part One of the 2012 edition of *The Shining Scroll*. This year is the centennial of the publication of *Chronicles of Avonlea* and the year of the biennial international Montgomery conference on Prince Edward Island. The theme for the conference and this issue is Cultural Memory. We hope it will be memorable!

Part 1 Overview: *Chronicles of Avonlea*, the Dedication of Epperly Plaza, Friends of the L. M. Montgomery Institute and fund-raising auction, Lighthouse Touring on the North Shore, 2012 Montgomery Conference Summary, In Search of L. M. Montgomery in the Early 1970s, The Value of Paratext in Montgomery Books, Discovering Fragments of Island History in Montgomery's Stories.

Part 2 Overview: Montgomery's China, Rug-Hooking in the Montgomery Books, Montgomery's Honeymoon Trousseau, The Macdonalds' 1911 Honeymoon Tour in Scotland, Montgomery Day and Diamond Jubilee Celebration in Leaskdale, Patty's Place in Nova Scotia, Montgomery Historian Dr. Francis Bolger, new Montgomery-related book, DVD, and TV series, and more -- good to the last page!

Vaughan: "It's Daddy. And he's smiling. So, that's a good sign." #LMMI2012 @slloyd4
pic.twitter.com/AcexiBzq
← Reply ↻ Retweeted ★ Favored





Chronicles of Avonlea Published One Hundred Years Ago, June 1912

Mary Beth Cavert © 2012

[Note: *Chronicles of Avonlea* is a title that is quite accessible for collectors of old L.M. Montgomery books. L.C. Page printed many editions between 1912 and 1950. British editions were printed by Harrap from 1925 to 1982.]



In March of 1912, L.M. Montgomery was putting the finishing touches on a collection of her previously-written short stories, *Chronicles of Avonlea*, because she did not have the time to write a new novel. A year earlier, in March 1911, her grandmother, Lucy Woolner Macneill, had died and Montgomery had had to close down the house where she had lived for thirty-six years. She was married a few months later and, after a honeymoon in England and Scotland, moved into a new home in Ontario in October 1911. In January of 1912, she was pregnant with her first child, and finally updating her journals about the happenings of the last eleven months.

When *Chronicles of Avonlea* was ready to send to publisher L.C. Page, Montgomery wrote the dedication to Christy Matilda “Tillie” MacKenzie Houston, a dear friend from Prince Edward Island who had died unexpectedly twelve months earlier. Montgomery had little time to grieve the loss of her grandmother and Tillie during 1911 and the winter months of 1912 allowed her some time to reflect on the friends and life she left behind on PEI. Aside from her mother, Clara Woolner Macneill, Tillie (Clara’s first cousin) is the only member of the Woolner side of the family to receive a book dedication.

Montgomery visited Tillie in North Rustico many times and she was very fond of Tillie’s family, her MacKenzie cousins, Rob, Ham, and Toff, and Aunt Margaret, who lived in Cavendish. Tillie was considered a very beautiful woman who married late (age 37 in 1897) and reformed her wayward husband, Will Houston. Some of the MacKenzies had courtship woes similar to the characters in the stories that Montgomery selected for *Chronicles*. Tillie’s brother, Toff, was not as successful as “Ludovic” in the first story in the book – he courted a neighbor named Mary Laird for twenty years, until she married someone else. The literal center-piece of *Chronicles* is a story called “The Winning of Lucinda.” Lucinda bears a resemblance to Tillie as the “acknowledged beauty” of the family. Lucinda was thirty-five years old, unmarried, and rare among “women who keep their loveliness unmarred by the passage of years.”

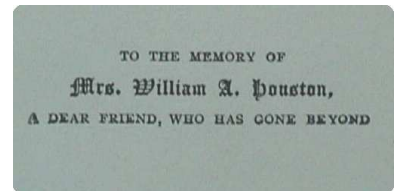
Tillie was part of a tight circle of Montgomery's admired local women friends who, while they did not share LMM’s educational breadth, were exceptionally gifted in other domains. Tillie was the local healer and tended to neighbors who became ill. She was loved by everyone who knew her, much like Montgomery’s first intimate confidante in Prince Albert, Laura Pritchard. Tillie was hardworking, strong, charming and happy; her home was comfortable and welcoming and Montgomery shared her love of flowers and

orchards. She was a “queen of cooks.” But above all, Tillie was loving, compassionate, and selfless. Montgomery considered her “one of the pleasantest things in my life.”

Tillie was also very close to her Aunt Lucy Macneill, Montgomery’s grandmother, and was as important to Lucy as her own daughters. Tillie moved in with Maud and Lucy when they were ill with influenza and cared for Lucy until she died in March 1911. Then she helped Maud pack up the house. Tillie moved on to care for her mother, Margaret Woolner MacKenzie, who had influenza, too, and then to other relatives whose children were stricken with measles. Tillie soon died of the measles and complications on April 17, at age 52.

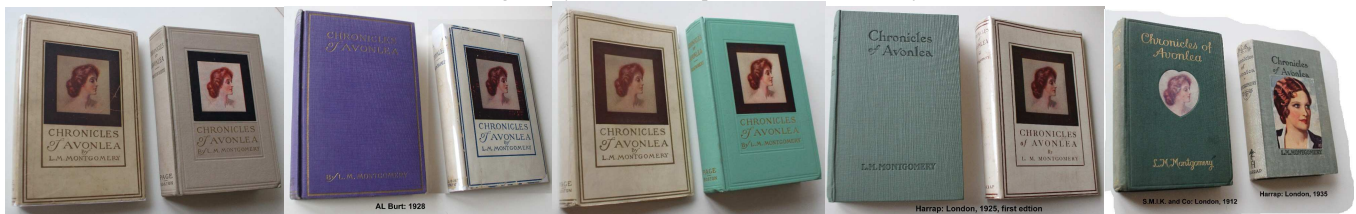
Maud was deeply grief-stricken at Tillie's death. The pain of losing her grandmother and leaving Cavendish had been eased by the expectation that she would always find a welcome home with Tillie in Rustico when she came back to visit, and she had always planned that Tillie would be with her when she got married. A few days before her wedding, she went back to Cavendish and visited the graves of her mother, grandmother, and Tillie. It was a tremendously emotional gesture. On the day of her wedding, she was still in mourning as she recalled that she had chosen Tillie to help her dress for the ceremony.

The only disturbing thing about Tillie was her husband, whom Montgomery found to be discomfiting. In 1906, Montgomery determined that Will Houston’s flirting and spirited joking and presumptuous personal comments were serious advances toward her so she avoided being alone with him most of the time. When she decided to dedicate *Chronicles* to Tillie, “A Dear Friend, Who Has Gone Beyond,” she chose to use Tillie's complete married name, Mrs. William A. Houston, to send a message and pointed reminder to Will. In later years, she would dedicate books to Island couples who were both good friends to her, but Will did not earn that honor.



L.M. Montgomery scripted a large intentional record of her life in personal journals, letters, interviews, and scrapbooks. Without Montgomery’s journals, the name “Mrs. William Houston” in the first pages of *Chronicles of Avonlea* would be a mystery. Tillie had no children and there are no letters and only one photograph by Montgomery that has survived -- in fact, not much of a record at all. But Lucy Maud Montgomery kept Tillie MacKenzie’s memory alive by dedicating a book to her and recording a small but enduring impression of her good life – “She was one of the few Cavendish people who really mattered to me, one of the few people in the world whom I deeply and intimately love.”

This article is from Mary Beth Cavert’s chapter on Tillie Houston in an unpublished manuscript –
L.M. Montgomery’s Kindred Spirits: The Friends of Anne



All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>
Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

2012 Literary Society Meetings

In March, we were the guests of Betty Heath at her beautiful lakeside home filled with folk art, homemade rugs, maritime artifacts, and good food! We discussed the participation of our members in the up-coming L.M. Montgomery conference and began organizing the launch of the Friends of the L. M. Montgomery Institute. Carolyn brought pictures of Arnold Smith's re-creations of LMM's wedding trousseau that he made for the 100th anniversary of her wedding last July.

Our discussion of *Akin to Anne* was lively. Since most of us had read the book of stories when it first came out some years ago, we found we had to refresh our memories and read them again before the meeting. These are all orphan stories with happy endings. Most are very touching, some quite heart-wrenching. All but two of the stories were published before *Anne of Green Gables* was published in 1908 and similarities abounded! Betty Heath showed us a hooked mat with three black cats that she had made (and later donated to the FLMMI Auction); one of the stories in *Akin to Anne* mentioned such a hooked rug (there is also one mentioned in *Pat of Silver Bush*). Betty and several members had made similar mats last summer from Betty's original design.



Dana Gerberi hosted the May meeting in the beautiful 1920 historical Plummer Building in Rochester, Minnesota, a tall Moorish-inspired tower with a carillon (part of the Mayo medical clinic). Dana also gave the program -- a "dress rehearsal" for her paper to be given at the LMM International Conference in June. The paper is entitled "L. M. Montgomery and the Hooking of Stories" (inspired by the wonderful rug-hooking in PEI and other Maritime provinces in Maud's era).

We were joined by member Anne Woolner, whose father, Lewis, is a retired Mayo Clinic pathologist. He is L.M. Montgomery's cousin and is from Rustico, PEI.

In September, we were treated to a "salad buffet" (chicken salad with grapes and pecans, spinach and strawberry salad, broccoli "sunshine" salad), Penny's homemade butterhorn rolls, shortbread, lemon-filled three-layer cake, and sangria punch (all homemade, of course) along with a tour of Christy Woster and her mother Penny Shreck's new home, which is filled with LMM-related collections, Penny's homemade quilts and collages, and delightful antiques. We even managed to have a bit of LMM discussion.

In October we met at Beth Cavert's house; she shared her collection of *Chronicles of Avonlea* editions and a short version of her chapter on the dedication to Tillie Houston, who is Anne Woolner's relative. Christy shared her trip to the L.M. Montgomery Society of Ontario conference in Leaskdale.

Calling All Kindreds!



L. M. Montgomery once said "I had a certain knack for choosing friends which I ... now see to have been a very vital endowment."

With this quotation in mind, we would like for you to be among the first to know about a new group that has been formed in the L. M. Montgomery Institute of the University of Prince Edward Island called:

"The Friends of the L. M. Montgomery Institute."

This group's main goal is to raise funds to provide on-going support for the Institute's use, above and beyond the support that the University can provide at present.

For over twenty years, the LMMI has shown that there is a world-wide community interested in the life and works of L. M. Montgomery through its biennial International Conferences, attended by scholars and others who study Montgomery, bringing many levels of interest and insight to the knowledge base of all things Montgomery. Scholars from many parts of the world make use of the Institute's special collections of Montgomery's publications and memorabilia.

The Friends of the L. M. Montgomery Institute [FLMMI] will help make it possible for the Institute to continue to grow and thrive. Our goals are to increase the amount of funds the Institute has to work with in order to maintain, catalogue, and increase its collection of Montgomery materials; help provide scholarship assistance to young Montgomery scholars; and provide volunteers to help with the Montgomery collection, the biennial conference, and LMMI website.

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>
Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

Board members for this committee include Elizabeth Epperly (Founder of the LMMI) [not pictured], Donna Campbell, Mary Beth Cavert, Melanie Whitfield, Kate Sutherland, Sandy Wagner, Emily Woster, Linda Boutilier, Carolyn Strom Collins, Loretta Craig Taylor, Christy Woster, and Joanne Wood [not pictured].



Our fund-raising efforts consist mainly of memberships in the Friends of the LMMI starting at \$35 per year. We have a lifetime membership for those who are willing to give \$1000. Any who joins the Friends before June 2014 will be considered a “Charter Member.” One-hundred percent of the money raised through memberships and other activities goes to the LMM Institute. Go to this secure donation site, designate your gift to LMMI: <https://secure.upei.ca/donate/> [it should be active by Jan 2013]

To use this site to donate to the Friends, simply point your Web browser to <https://secure.upei.ca/donate/> and follow these steps:

1) Donations to the Friends are one time gifts, so you can leave Gift Type selection as-is:

Make Your Gift

*Gift Amount \$

*Gift Type

2) Under *Designate Your Gift*, please select the option “A designated area of my choice”, NOT the UPEI Annual Fund or the AVC Annual Fund

Designate your Gift

I would like to make a gift to:

- UPEI Annual Fund
- AVC Annual Fund
- A designated area of my choice

Click on the down arrow for more options.

3) Where you are invited to “Please specify” the designated area of your, gift, simply type “Friends of the LMMI”

Please specify:

You can then proceed to fill out the rest of the form as you would making any online payment or donation.

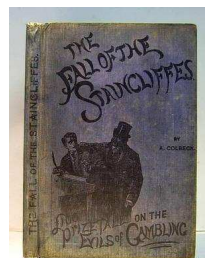
Keep in touch through FriendsofLMMI@gmail.com and LMMI@upei.ca
Web site: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/id37.html>



Silent Auction Raises Funds for the Institute

A new addition to the L. M. Montgomery International Conference 2012 was a Silent Auction to benefit the LMM Institute at the University of Prince Edward Island. It was sponsored by the newly-created group "Friends of the L. M. Montgomery Institute" whose members contributed items to auction to conference attendees (as well as anyone from the public sector interested in the items).

About seventy items were available for bids including twenty early and first editions of LMM books (one of which was a rare *Anne of Green Gables* with Mary Miles Minter photos), *The Spirit of Canada* commemorative programme, limited-edition photographs of Prince Edward Island sites, Gog and Magog figurines, The Good Fairy statue, a hooked mat specially designed from the description of the "three cats" mat mentioned in *Pat of Silver Bush*, silver Apostle Spoons from *Jane of Lantern Hill* and the *Emily* Books, knitted quilts based on those "Rachel Lynde" made in the *Anne* books, a home-made Gilbert/"carrot" bag, etc. One very special item was donated by John and Jennie Macneill: *The Fall of the Staincliffes, A Prize Tale on Gambling* (1891), a blue soft-cover book published by Sunday School Union. Montgomery gave this book to her friend from Cavendish, Amanda Macneill – signed Mrs. George Robertson on the flyleaf. It is inscribed by Montgomery on a paper insert, *With all good wishes, Maud*. Thank you to LMMI Friend, Donna Campbell, for these details as well as her winning book bid and donation to LMMI.



[Beth Cavert thanks Jennie Macneill for her donation]

The items were displayed each day of the Conference, giving everyone a chance to study them and place a bid. Final bids for auction items came to over \$2700. That amount, added to the thirty-six Friends of the L.M. Montgomery Institute memberships (including six at the Lifetime level) totaling \$8295, brought the-amount raised for the L. M. Montgomery Institute to over \$11,000.

[We will be collecting items for another Silent Auction to be held at the 2014 Conference; anyone interested in donating can contact friendsoflmmi@gmail.com for more information.]

The PEI CBC-TV crew gave the auction a great deal of local coverage which helped draw attention to the Institute and the conference. Thank you to the Compass newscast team!

Simon Lloyd: The newly-formed Friends of the LM Montgomery Institute, and their inaugural fundraiser, a Silent Auction running during the Conference, are featured on CBC-TV Charlottetown's *Compass* newscast. The Friends can be seen in the coveted "You're Watching Compass" intro spot, with the full story at about 17 min 50 sec.

<http://www.cbc.ca/player/News/Canada/PEI/Compass/ID/2248348159/?page=8>

From CBC News: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/story/2012/06/21/pei-lucy-maud-montgomery-auction.html>



The Friends committee wants to thank the donors of items and those who bid so generously, as well as Simon Lloyd, Pauline Macpherson, and Robert Hainsworth from the LMM Conference committee who were tremendous help with the auction logistics.

North Shore Sunset Lighthouse Tour

One of our Silent Auction items was a tour of three lighthouses along the North Shore of Prince Edward Island directly related to L. M. Montgomery's life and books. The tour was won by three LMM Conference attendees -- Joanne Craig, her mother Maryann Seeley, and Elizabeth Barker, a first-time attendee from Australia. Carolyn Strom Collins and Mary Beth Cavert were the tour guides.

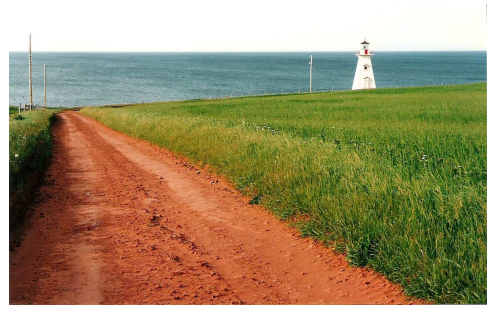


All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M.

Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor,

Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>

Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429



We began our tour with a drive along the shore from Rustico to Cavendish with stops along the way at Cape Turner and Orby Head (where a scene from the Sullivan "Anne of Green Gables" program was filmed). From those sites we could see in the distant west the Cape Tryon light, that mystical "star" that Montgomery referred to in her journals.

Along the drive from Cavendish west to New London, we saw glimpses of the magnificent New London Harbour, which Montgomery named "Four Winds Harbour" in *Anne's House of Dreams* and later *Anne* books. We stopped briefly at Montgomery's birthplace in New London even though it had closed for the day and drove a few more miles to French River where we turned east on the Cape Road to make our way to our first lighthouse, the New London Lighthouse, down at the shore of New London Harbour. Montgomery loved this lighthouse and watched its light many times from various viewpoints along the harbour's shores. Montgomery set Anne and Gilbert's "House of Dreams" on this sandshore. Next we headed back up the Cape Road to see the Cape Tryon Lighthouse. Although this is a "new" lighthouse (built in 1961 to replace the original when electricity became available to run the light), it is in the original location of "Captain Jim's lighthouse" in *Anne's House of Dreams*. The windswept "spit of land" that Montgomery described in AHD fits this location exactly.

Our final stop was the *original* Cape Tryon Lighthouse, built in 1905 and the model for "Captain Jim's lighthouse" in *Anne's House of Dreams*. Our hosts there, Alberta and Ron Somers, cordially invited us to tour the interior of the spacious lighthouse and even led us up to the light itself. Such a view of the Gulf of St. Lawrence! And we gained much respect for the lighthouse-keepers as we learned how they had to keep the oil in the light burning all night, every night during the shipping season, and getting up several times a night to be sure the light was burning. The steep ladder-like steps added to our esteem for the elderly "Captain Jim" (modeled on Alberta's great-grandfather, Captain James Bell, who was the first lighthouse keeper at Cape Tryon).



We ended our thoroughly delightful tour with a laugh-filled dinner at Ship to Shore Restaurant in Darnley and by the time we said our happy good-byes, it was ten o'clock! In the darkness we could see the flash of the lights at New London and Cape Tryon, beacons tying us to generations of sailors, fishermen, and our author who introduced us to these magnificent places and people of the North Shore of Prince Edward Island.



(For more information on these lighthouses and lighthouse keepers, see Carolyn's articles "A Visit to Captain Jim's Lighthouse" http://lmmontgomeryliterarysociety.weebly.com/uploads/2/2/6/5/226525/2010_shining_scroll_part_3.pdf and "The New London Lighthouse" http://www.annestore.ca/chronicle_files/KS%20August%202011.pdf in recent editions of *The Shining Scroll* and *Kindred Spirits Chronicles*. Thank you to George Campbell for permission to use the *Kindred Spirits* link. See his site at <http://www.annestore.ca/history.php>)

Epperly Plaza Dedicated in June



An impressive plaza marking the entrance to the Robertson Library on the University of Prince Edward Island campus was dedicated in June, honouring Dr. Elizabeth Epperly, founder of the L. M. Montgomery Institute and fourth president of the University of Prince Edward Island. The spacious brick-paved plaza is surrounded by lush beds of

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>
Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

flowers that were selected because of their importance to L. M. Montgomery as recorded in her books, stories, and journals. Roses, cosmos, black-eyed Susans, delphiniums, lilies, and many other floral varieties, along with evergreen shrubs and trees, form a back-drop for a bronze plaque of Betsy, unveiled at the ceremony.

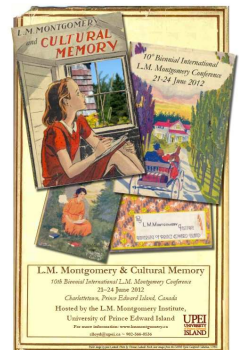
The “Epperly Salute” fanfare, an original composition by music professor, Bert Tersteeg, opened the event, with Special Collections librarian Simon Lloyd serving as Master of Ceremonies. President Alaa Abd-El-Aziz addressed the crowd attending the ceremony and Betsy spoke of her time as president, professor, and student at the University, pointing out that she came there as an undergraduate because of her interest in and love for L. M. Montgomery's work. She founded the L. M. Montgomery Institute in 1993 and it is still a valued part of the University today, sponsoring a biennial international conference on Montgomery and maintaining an extensive collection of Montgomery materials that scholars from around the world come to explore.



L. M. Montgomery and Cultural Memory

10th Biennial International L.M. Montgomery Conference
21-24 June 2012, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada
Hosted by the L.M. Montgomery Institute,
University of Prince Edward Island

[Please note that there are reports in *The Shining Scroll*
for all of the previous nine Montgomery conferences]



This conference was dedicated to the memory of a faithful conference participant and beloved Montgomery scholar, Professor Emeritus Yuko Izawa (1945-2011) of Miyagi Gakuin Women's University, who passed away in April 2011, in Sendai, Japan, shortly after the area was devastated by a massive tsunami.



<http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/id34.html>

“L. M. Montgomery and Cultural Memory” was brought to us through the efforts of: Simon Lloyd, Jean Mitchell, Ben Lefebvre, Åsa Warnqvist and many others. **Thank you!**

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/> Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

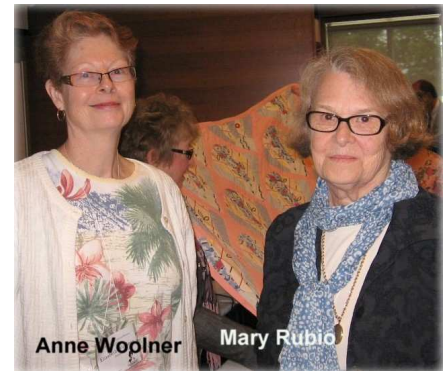
Nine members of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society attended the conference this year and five presented papers. Carolyn Strom Collins presented on June 21 in a session on Rewriting Memory. Emily Woster spoke at the Plenary Panel on June 24 on “The Reading Autobiography of L.M. Montgomery: Literature, Life Writing, Culture.” She has examined the 180 books from Montgomery’s personal collection in the University of Guelph Archives. In her copy of *Pride and Prejudice*, Montgomery underlined “Happiness in marriage is entirely a matter of chance.” Montgomery references her reading throughout her fiction and inserts hundreds of quotes from various sources. Emily notes that books are portable textual monuments and that reading is both a private and communal activity. Her presentation of Montgomery’s reading autobiography (and the margin notes in the books from the author’s own library) was exceptionally well-received!



Christy Woster and Mary Beth Cavert were invited to participate on a special panel: *Memory, Communities, and Readers*. They shared it with the delightful and entertaining sisters, Davida Mackay (“The Complex Communities of L.M. Montgomery”) and Jeanne Kaye Speight (“It All Began in New Glasgow”). This informal panel of personal anecdotes and connections to the author was appreciated by everyone. [See more on Christy, Beth and Carolyn’s papers below.]



Dana Gerberi was on a special panel called *Memory and Material Cultures* and concluded the conference on an aesthetically pleasing note with her paper “Lucy Maud Montgomery and the Hooking of Stories.” Dana explained the handicrafts in Montgomery’s fiction and showed slides of gorgeous authentic hooked rugs, created by maritime expert Betty Heath, which delighted the audience (especially her original “Three Cats” – see page 4). Both Mary Rubio and Montgomery cousin, Anne Woolner, snapped photos of the rug images, particularly the “Riz Rose” (raised rose) from the *Pat of Silver Bush* books.



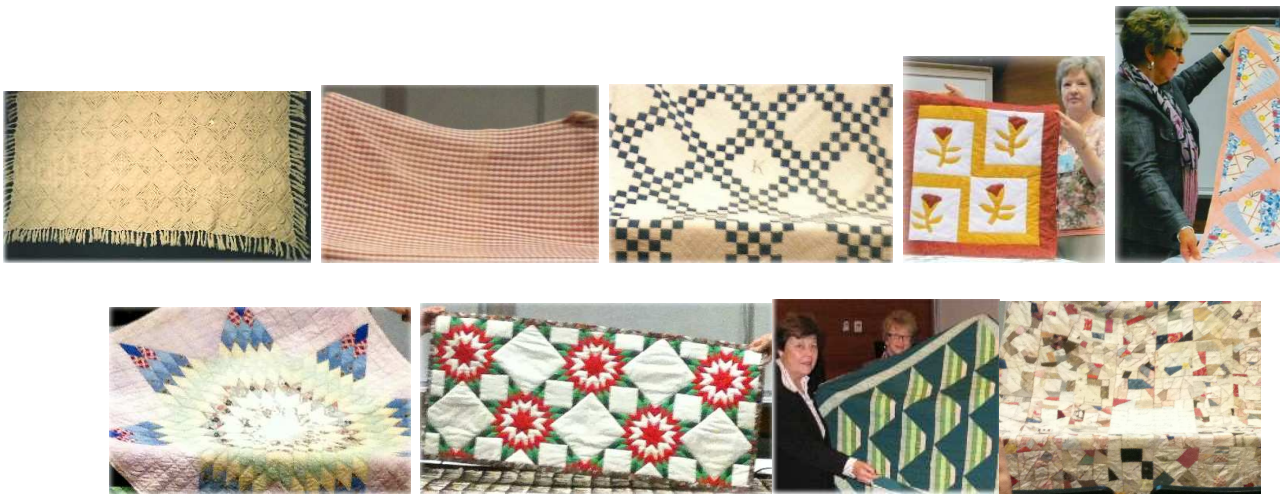
Dana referenced a short story by Kate Douglas Wiggin, called *The Fore-Room Rug* <http://www.readbookonline.net/readOnline/2185/> to show that other contemporary authors' works may have influenced Montgomery’s inclusion of literary references to hooked rugs. *The Fore-room Rug* revolves around the making of a hooked rug for the parlor using old articles of clothing from important past events. Handling the pieces of fabric recalls the special memories of the family members and occasions when they were worn and ultimately creates a record of the protagonist's life materialized in the



form of a rug. Dana reminded us that handmade items retain the essence of their makers and are a legacy of hardworking rural women.

Dana was paired with Sandy Wagner's "Stitching the Stories," which dazzled us with a display of beautiful quilts from L.M. Montgomery stories. Sandy gave this presentation on the author's exemplary skill at needlecraft, and her "Quilter's Dozen," in July 1911 at the Bideford Parsonage Museum on PEI; but it is the first time she has shared her immense Montgomery knowledge at a conference. We hope it is not the last! She was assisted by another Island Montgomery expert, Linda Boutilier. Here is a sampling of the quilts which are found in several short stories as well as the books (titles are abbreviated):

Apple-Leaf (this one was made by LMM) in *AGG*; **Postage Stamp Quilt** ("Five Thousand" Piece Quilt) in *AWP*; **Irish Chain Quilt** in *SG, JLH, AWP*; **Red and Yellow Tulip Quilt** in *AI, Fan Quilt* in *AWP, PSB, AIng*; **Rising Star Quilt** in short stories; **Blazing Star Quilt** in *JLH*; **Wild Goose Quilt** in *JLH, AWP*; **Autograph Quilt** in *GR*.



[photos by Beth Cavert and Melanie Fishbane. Linda Boutilier holds her great-grandmother's Fan Quilt]

More content and images at http://www.annestore.ca/chronicle_files/KS%20August%202011.pdf

Threads From a Quilt: Conference Selections

Nearly fifty speakers (representing seven countries) enhanced our understanding of Montgomery's writings and interests over the course of five days, so it is not possible to summarize every one of them! We will share some of the nuggets we collected, in-between auction management duties, to whet your appetite! The complete program can be found on the web site of the LMM Institute: <http://www.lmmontgomery.ca/conference2012>

The conference began with the topic of Selective Memory and Trinna Frever's explanation of Active Nostalgia: The survival of culture goes beyond the persons who create it, as shown by Montgomery's re-telling of a family story (the Penman/Sherman sisters) in *The Story Girl*. Personal memories and family stories become public cultural

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M.

Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor,

Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>

Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

lore – privacy, through time, erodes with each generation. Montgomery does not freeze the past or capture it, she is active, not static – she re-creates and has an active relationship with the past.

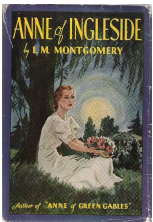
Melanie Fishbane professed her first love for Gilbert Blythe with popular visuals and called on a talented role-playing trio to perform parts of *Anne of Green Gables*, Ch. 15: "I could never resist Gilbert Blythe ... The iron has entered my soul."

In Courney Crepeau's selection about the Mammoth Cave, we were reminded that tourists bring personal experiences to a site. National sites not only present their heritage to visitors, they also reflect the visitors' heritage back to them at the locality.

Holly Pike took us back to "Queen Victoria of Blessed Memory" and the versions of her in *Emily of New Moon*: the elderly Queen Empress, the young mother, and the representative of values and beliefs.

Yoshiko Akamatsu explained the necessity of remembering in Japan because of the dark shadows of war, the atomic bomb, defeat, and the recent tsunami in "Remembering and Forgetting in *The Blythes Are Quoted*." Japanese readers were very excited about the publication of *The Blythes* – they especially love the first three *Anne* novels and see the character as their own. *The Blythes* translation was difficult to do, especially the poetry.

Mary Rubio previewed the new edition of Montgomery's PEI Journals by showing cultural changes in the author's lifetime in popular arts, literature, theater, and photography. Montgomery moved from a deeply religious to a more secular viewpoint.



Elizabeth Epperly gave new insight into Montgomery's last novel, *Anne of Ingleside*. Montgomery's real life and home is her fiction. *Ingleside* is full of silver images (moon = nostalgia), *Green Gables* is full of gold. Everything fully imagined has been lived. In *Ingleside*, Montgomery is reviewing important things in her life, the text is therapeutic and it is about remembering beauty and the welcome of home in her imagined life.

Vappu Kannas took us to the Guelph Archives to show how a published version of Montgomery's journals differs from the personal copies: editorial decisions determine what stays and what goes. There are five versions of LMM's journals: the originals (gone), the hand-written re-copied ledgers, her typescript, the editors' typescript, and the published editions. The editors' marginalia was particularly fascinating to the audience. Montgomery's son, Stuart Macdonald, wrote notes in the margin of Rubio and Waterston's typescript in 1982. Montgomery confessed to reading a friend's diary and said she never read anything since then that was not for her eyes. Stuart wrote a response: "Mother you are a liar, but perhaps not when you wrote it!" [Her comment was from 1892; Stuart was referring to the fact that she read and kept some of his letters from a girlfriend in the 1930s]. In an 1898 entry about Herman Leard, LMM wrote: "He obeyed me at once, kissing me goodnight with that dangerous tenderness of his ..." Stuart noted, "Got to give Herman good marks for trying."

In "A Matter of Life & Death: L.M. Montgomery's End of Life Chronicle," Vanessa Brown examined Montgomery's last bedside note and her late journal handwriting to establish a timeline of her state of mind in 1942. Montgomery prepared her materials before her death with notes and instructions. She wanted her estranged daughter-in-law [Luella] to have some journals.

Jennifer Litster, of Edinburgh, Scotland, returned to the conference, after a too-long absence, to share her expertise in Montgomery's literary connections: "The Highlander in the Work of L.M. Montgomery." She explores how Scottish roots have influenced L.M. Montgomery's life, her life-writing and her fiction, cultural transfer, and cultural loss. Litster's work examined the ghosts from the past that live in the present: "When flitting between countries, what flits with you? What stabs of remembrance permeate the ether between the Old World and the New? For each Scottish memory, each Scottish inflection, for every ghost I asked, where does this come from? Often this question boils down to asking, is Montgomery Scottish or Walter-Scottish?" Highland roots are most explicit in *Emily of New Moon* and *Rilla of Ingleside* is rank with Highlanders like Angus MacKenzie. Anne's son, Walter Blythe, has a vision of a Piper, foreshadowing his fate in World War I. The Piper is suggestive of the Highland *Bodach Glas*, the "grey spectre/ghost," who appears before disaster and instructs those who will die on their fate.



Lesley Clement, ("Emily's Unframing of Self: Participating in Cultural Memory through Empathy") gave us a tour of the paintings mentioned in the *Emily of New Moon* series – the people in them were taken out of the frames and given life by Emily.

Ben Lefebvre collects neglected texts, particularly reviews of Montgomery's work. Early reviews did not pigeonhole Montgomery as a children's author. *Anne of Ingleside* was not seen as a children's book but one for grown-ups who loved *Anne* as young readers. One reviewer saw *Anne* as "humorous fiction for the elderly," on par with Stephen Leacock. An audience discussion emerged from the question: should L.M. Montgomery sequels, *Windy Poplars/Willows* and *Anne of Ingleside* be read in sequence or publishing order?

Laura Robinson and Philip Burge suggested that Anne's "adoption" by Marilla and Matthew, with its quickness and adaptation, is an ideal successful model. They explained what it would look like if Anne had to go through the adoption process today.

Sarah Gothie shared the Island's ecosystem of Montgomery sites. The audience was "impressed" to hear that 93% of visitors surveyed said that, upon leaving Green Gables, they understood that Anne was not a true story.

Kate Sutherland's paper, "Law and Literary Reputation," showed us how Montgomery's twelve-year legal battle gave readers a new look at her life and work. Montgomery's suit was against a publisher to protect her reputation for her work that he printed without permission. Montgomery stood up for women writers and recorded a vivid description of the courtroom drama in her journals.

We tweeted our own and many others' comments in real time from the Twitter account @LMMontgomeryLS. You can find them in the "Favorites" list on that account, by scrolling down to June 2012 and the #LMMI2012 (hashtag).

You can also read summaries from the week written by Vanessa Brown, Melanie Fishbane, Christine Chettle, and Vappu Kannas:

Day 1 <http://lmmresearch.org/blog/2012/06/21/l-m-montgomery-and-cultural-memory-day-1/>
Day 2 <http://lmmresearch.org/blog/2012/06/22/l-m-montgomery-and-cultural-memory-day-2/>
Day 3 <http://lmmresearch.org/blog/2012/06/23/l-m-montgomery-and-cultural-memory-day-3/>
Day 4 <http://lmmresearch.org/blog/2012/06/24/l-m-montgomery-and-cultural-memory-day-4/>

Social Events

Kate Macdonald Butler hosted a fantastic reception for the participants on the first night of the conference at The Inn at Great George in Charlottetown. The room, food, and conversations were first-rate – **thank you**, Heirs of L.M. Montgomery!

On June 22, we had a short stop at the historic and beautiful nature preserve, Macphail Woods, home of Sir Andrew Macphail. This is the site of Montgomery's visit with Lord Earl Grey in 1910. Then, we enjoyed a musical performance at one of PEI's Festival of Small Halls.

[read about LMM, Macphail, and Grey:

http://lmmontgomeryliterarysociety.weebly.com/uploads/2/2/6/5/226525/shining_scroll_part_1_2008.pdf]

On Saturday night, there was a grand banquet with music by Meaghan Blanchard and Maria Campbell. Simon Lloyd and Elizabeth DeBlois played the roles of contemporary Anne Shirley and Gilbert Blythe, texting and facebooking ("@vansterdamnxxx: *Gilbert wants to be Anne's Facebook friend. It's super meta that I'm tweeting this*").

The Honorable Marion Reid (former Lt.-Governor of PEI) updated us on the progress of the L.M. Montgomery Seashore Land Trust to preserve land around the Cape Tryon Lighthouse. <http://www.landtrust.ca/category/website-index/lm-montgomery-seashore>



On the last day, there was a bus tour of the Montgomery landmarks along the North Shore and a poetry reading by the Cavendish Macneill Homestead (where LMM grew up) in the Cavendish United Church.

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>
Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

Road Trip: In Search of L. M. Montgomery in the Early 1970s

Christy Woster © 2012

I began my Montgomery book-collecting out of necessity. I first read *Anne of Green Gables* in 1965 and was only able to get it and *Anne of Avonlea* in my school and local libraries. I wanted to read the rest of Montgomery's books, so the search was on for copies of her work, in any condition.

Every year my family went on our "Family Vacation". My parents would save all year long for our annual road trip. Planning would start right after Christmas for the coming summer trip. My Montgomery collection began on those trips as we searched for copies to read with no thought as to the publisher, or the condition, or what edition it might be.

We always camped, first in a tent and later in a trailer. Once I had read *Anne of Green Gables*, I longed to visit Prince Edward Island. We usually traveled out west (my three brothers loved hiking in the mountains and meeting "real" cowboys) but in 1970, when I was 15, we decided that we would head east. We visited Prince Edward Island that year and enjoyed it so much that we went back in 1971 and 1972.



I recently came across some of my scrapbooks and found that I had my Grandma Cora's trip diary from two of our Prince Edward Island vacations, as she came with us every summer on these family outings. My mother also kept a diary of sorts, a Camper's Log, mostly prices and gas mileage, but with a few notes as to what we did every day.

There were no digital cameras back then. My Dad was in charge of the one camera we had, a Kodak Instamatic, and he would have the vacation pictures developed into slides. Then, as a special treat once or twice a year we would all gather to "look at slides" which, as we grew older, became an agonizing evening of entertainment. So, climb in the back of the pickup with 4 to 5 kids and a dog or two and head back to the early 1970s as I began my search for copies of Montgomery's books.

It is July 6th, 1970. We left Minnesota on the 3rd of July and had made it to Montreal. Grandma Cora writes "Had a time finding Camp Alouetta, we went merry-go-round on the freeway and finally had Bill [my Dad] going the wrong way on a one-way street. Every Frenchman was waving and talking with their hands! July 11th, Grandma writes: "We arrived in Prince Edward Island, we ferried from New Brunswick on a boat named the Lucy Maud Montgomery. We parked in Holiday Haven campground and then drove to Charlottetown-found some *Anne* books."



All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M.

Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor,
Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>

Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

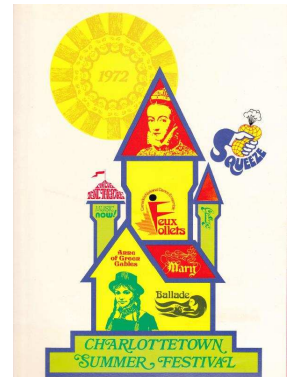
In Charlottetown we had stopped at a store called The Gift Shop, and I got a copy of *Kilmeny of the Orchard* and *The Story Girl*, Ryerson editions. You can't imagine the thrill! My Mom talked to the owner and he agreed to write to us if any more titles should arrive. I kept this letter from The Gift Shop, dated Nov. of 1970. All of the titles I was looking for were either out-of-stock or in the process of being reprinted. He stated: "We are still trying to obtain a copy of *The Watchman*." Oh, don't I wish he had found a nice old copy of that title!

July 12th, Grandma says "we went to Green Gables and stopped at the cemetery in Cavendish where L. M. Montgomery was buried in 1942. Cavendish is very small." July 13th, we went to Charlottetown for The Festival and saw the musical 'Anne of Green Gables,' it was very good so enjoyed it. I liked Marilla and Matthew best and Mrs. Lynde and Diana, but Anne was a bit overdone!" On July 14th, after only three days, we left the Island, and with only two copies of Montgomery's books.



There was much discussion after Christmas that year about the upcoming summer vacation. I had not found any more copies of Montgomery's books, and was missing so many titles. Since the boys enjoyed the deep-sea fishing so much they were agreeable to return to the Island. So on July 3rd, 1971, we left Minnesota and arrived on the Island on July 9th.

For this year not only do I have my Grandmother's trip diary, but also the Camper's Log that my Mother kept. I find the prices especially interesting. We ferried to the Island for the price of \$10.70, bought lunch on the ferry for \$1.50 and, once we got to Charlottetown, bought tickets to all three main-stage plays for the entire family for \$42.00. That evening we saw the first play, *Mary Queen of Scots* -- Grandma wrote that the costumes were very elaborate, but the dialogue was hard to hear.



The highlight of the day for me was finding some paperback editions of *Pat of Silver Bush*, *Mistress Pat* and *A Tangled Web* for a total of \$2.16. They were from the Canadian Favorites series, and even though they really don't have much value today, I love those copies.

July 10th we drove to Rustico and stopped at the Court Brothers. My brothers got a lobster trap for free from one of the brothers. My Dad tied it to the top of the pickup and it traveled safely back to Minnesota, where he turned it into a coffee table which we still have today. That evening we went to see the second play, "Jane Eyre," my Mom states in the camper's log that it was "terrific" and Grandma writes that she enjoyed it more than *Mary Queen of Scots*.



I also found in my scrapbook a postcard that one of my younger brothers, Peter, had mailed to my older brother, Greg, who had not come with on this trip. Peter writes: “There is not much to say but I will. [Not much to say!! We are on the Island for heaven’s sake!] We went to one play last night and one more tonight. Karl [my youngest brother] was sick. [It possibly was due to the 10 Cadbury candy bars he bought while on the ferry, and then ate all in one sitting. I was sure he was going to ruin the few days we had on the Island, or worse yet embarrass us by being sick while at the play, I still haven’t totally forgiven him.] I bought a boat, lobster trap, fire crackers. Mom bought you fire crackers too.”

July 11th we traveled around the Island and ate our lunch at Fantasy Land, admission was \$2.00. On July 12th, finally we get to do some Montgomery things. We dropped my Dad and brothers off at the Court Brothers to go fishing, which cost \$7.00 for the day, and we gals headed to the Birthplace and then to “Anne’s House of Dreams” which my Mom writes in the log “is a farce!” We then drove on to Park Corner to see “The Story Girl House.”



Someone at the laundromat had told my Mother about this Montgomery site. My Mom writes in the log: “Very Good, many original items, the blue chest and contents, books and scrapbooks, she didn’t know that she had a mint!” Sadly, I don’t have any pictures of Silver Bush because for some reason my Dad thought pictures of my brothers holding dead fish was more important than Montgomery’s birthplace or the Blue Chest!



That evening, after a walk on the beach at the National Park, we went to New Glasgow for a lobster dinner. The entire dinner cost our family \$21.50. After dinner it was back to Charlottetown to see “Anne of Green Gables.” We left the Island the following morning. When we arrived back home my Mother tallied up the cost of the trip. We had driven 5541 miles spending \$226 dollars for gas at an average of 42½ cents per gallon. The truck averaged 10.4 miles per gallon. With the cost of camping, food and misc., the trip cost \$700.00, averaging out to about \$36.00 per day.

I had added only three more Montgomery titles to my collection and still needed so many more. The search had to continue, and when the destination of the family road trip was discussed I pushed hard for the Island. It wasn’t a hard sell, as my whole family loved the Maritimes and so, in 1972, we returned to the Island on July 1st. Prices had increased a bit, the ferry cost \$10.40, tickets to all three plays were \$44.00 and the lobster supper we went to that evening (this time at St. Ann’s) was \$29.16.

On July 5th we saw “Anne of Green Gables” for the third straight year, and this time my parents bought the record with the songs on it for \$6.00. I almost wore that record out the next decade or two and was so excited many years later when I was able to buy a cassette tape of it and play it in the car for my children. The musical went on tour in 1972 and I pasted a review from the newspaper in my scrapbook. It stated, “The holiday season has brought to New York just the sort of musical that fits into the picture, a musical of the old school that has such an innocent aspect as to make a hardened playgoer of today blush. The show is based on the novel of the same title by L. M. Montgomery that was so popular early in this century and probably still sells a modest number of copies annually.”

The next few days we spent \$5.50 on books, more Montgomery titles to add to my collection, and saw the play “Ballade,” which was wonderful. On July 6th I had my 17th birthday on the Island. My brother’s gave me a 17-firecracker salute, not because they wanted to honor me on my birthday, they just wanted an excuse to shoot off their firecrackers, but it was a birthday to remember. We left the Island on July 7th.



I continued to slowly build my collection. There was no internet when I began collecting; you had to travel to bookstores or write a letter and buy a book unseen. I decided that I wanted to have a nice set of Montgomery’s books for each of my daughters, so I continued to search and upgrade my collection. But I didn’t return to Prince Edward Island until 1997, 25 years after my first trip. On my return trip, it was with Mom and my two daughters, Emily and Anne. The Island had changed in many ways; and I found that Montgomery’s books were available everywhere.

When we got our first computer, I could search from home, and when eBay became available I could shop from home. The internet makes it possible to find things that we couldn’t even imagine in the 1970s. In my never-ending search for all things Montgomery I recently made a discovery that I think is exciting.

You are all aware that George Gibbs did the cover illustration of *Anne of Green Gables* and several of Montgomery’s other early books. This is a new-found photo of George Gibbs with his wife Maud, and his son Harrison with his wife and 4-month-old daughter on the occasion of her christening.



Maud Harrison Gibbs

Harrison, Maurine, and Ramona Gibbs

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/> Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

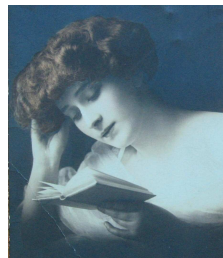
Sadly, Harrison was killed in the Battle of the Bulge and never saw his daughter again. I had been searching for a descendant of George Gibbs -- I want to do a follow up article about him -- and with the help of the internet I was able to find and contact his granddaughter, Ramona Gibbs. As luck would have it, she lives in Illinois, just 45 minutes from my daughter, Emily, so I was able to meet her this past February. The home that George lived in from the time of his marriage until his death, remained in the family, and his daughter lived there until her death a few years ago. Ramona and her cousin, the only two Gibbs descendants just sold the house this past October and Ramona brought boxes of her grandfather's papers back to Illinois. She had to rent a storage unit as there are so many.



I don't know if there will be anything relating to Gibbs' work on the Montgomery books or his working relationship with L. C. Page, but won't it be exciting if there is! At any rate, with Ramona's help, I will be able to write a much more complete article about the man whose cover illustration is known to so many worldwide. The internet helped me make contact with Ramona, but happily, a road trip was required to meet her.



As to my book collection, I have some very nice copies now and even a First Edition of *Anne of Green Gables*, but some of my most treasured books are ones that I found while riding in the back of our family's pickup as we criss-crossed the US and Canada on our "Family Vacation."



L.M. Montgomery and Cultural Memory: The Value of Paratext in Montgomery Books

Mary Beth Cavert © 2012

So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.
Sonnet 18, William Shakespeare

L.M. Montgomery's first-edition books extend cultural memory in very tangible and valuable ways. The text of the stories themselves are, as Dr. Trinna Frever noted at the 2012 Montgomery conference, an "act of remembering through story telling." The first pages of a book, before the story begins, also contain personal and historical messages to Montgomery's readers. The "paratext" (the author's words found in the dedication pages of Montgomery's books) and personal messages from the original owners of the books, are bridges between generations. These two invitations to discovery intrigue me and enhance my interest in historical inquiries.

L.M. Montgomery's books are her "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" sonnet to her beloved friends. Embedded in her books are memorials to those whom she has bestowed an immortality by including their names on the dedication pages. Montgomery draws our attention to these significant people and then tells their stories, either partially or in a narrative of her own choosing in her journals, letters, and scrapbooks. The stories behind the dedications not only reveal Montgomery's most valued friends, but also illuminate context for her writing.

In 1994, Dr. Elizabeth Epperly, Chair of the L.M. Montgomery Institute, charged us to share thoughts on the writing and times of this celebrated Canadian author, to bring forward new readings, and question our assumptions about how we read Montgomery. Like many readers of Montgomery's work at that time, I was impressed by the contrast between the overall tone of unhappiness and disappointment in her journals and the hopefulness and kindredness in the lives of her book characters.

I decided to explore this idea, to see if her writings were a record of the kinds of relationships she desired, or if her writings were, indeed, a record of friendships that did exist in her life. And more than that, who were her friends and what were their stories? This has been my pathway into Montgomery's life since 1994.

Dedications

TO THE MEMORY OF
My Father and Mother

TO
MY FORMER TEACHER,
Hattie Gordon Smith,
IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF HER
SYMPATHY AND ENCOURAGEMENT

TO MY COUSIN
Beatrice A. McIntyre
THIS BOOK
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

TO
MY COUSIN
Frederick E. Campbell
IN REMEMBRANCE OF OLD DAYS, OLD DREAMS,
AND OLD LAUGHTER

TO
THE MEMORY OF
Aunt Harp Lawson
WHO TOLD ME MANY OF THE TALES
REPEATED BY THE
STORY GIRL

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>
Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

During her lifetime, in her twenty-one published books, Montgomery chose to acknowledge and honor eight women, seven men, three couples, one family, her favorite cat and all of her fans (although no members of her immediate family besides her parents) on the first pages of her fiction. There is a very fine group of men in this list: three pen pals, three soldiers, three spouses, and one boyfriend. And, aside from the older generation, there is a small circle of intimate female friends: cousin Bertie McIntyre (from the Montgomery family), cousins Frede and Stella Campbell (from the Montgomery and Macneill families), cousin Myrtle Macneill Webb, Tillie MacKenzie Houston (from the Woolner family), and friends who were not related at all, Laura Pritchard and Nora Lefurgey.

A study of a small part of Canadian history can be extracted from the lives of Montgomery's friends and relations (as well as her own, of course). The story of her father reads like a political and economic history of Canada, unfolding nearly as fast as his sprint across the prairie landscape from job to job, riding a wave of national growing pains. There were self-sufficient women school teachers, like Harriet Gordon, Bertie McIntyre, Frederica Campbell and Nora Lefurgey, moving from school to school, across provinces and across the continent.



Hattie



Bertie



Frede

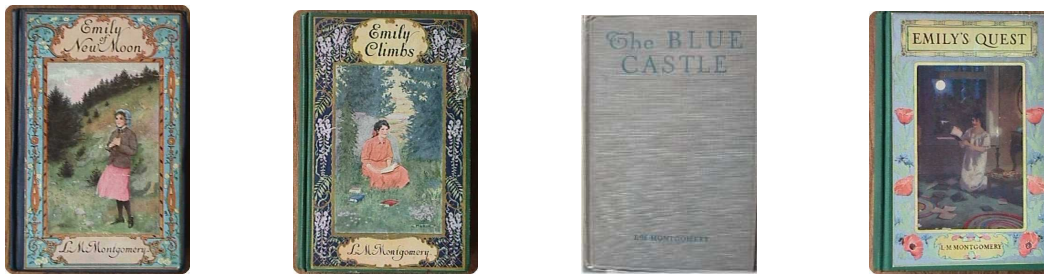


Nora

The roots of Maud's literary culture are represented by George Boyd MacMillan in the homeland of Scotland. The western pioneers and their children, Laura and Willy Pritchard, Alexina McGregor and Fred Wright, settled down to begin new towns like Prince Albert. The time of the Great War is personalized by the soldiers Goldie Lapp, Morley Shier and Bob Brooks. The thoughts of writers, teachers and clergy are recorded through the letters of Ephraim Weber and the life and poetry of Arthur John Lockhart. The agrarian life of Montgomery's extended family, who were born on the farm (including Lucky the cat) and lived on Prince Edward Island for generations, is told in the stories of Clara Macneill, Mary Macneill Lawson, Tillie MacKenzie, the Campbell family, Alec and May MacNeill, and the Ernest and Myrtle Webb family. And of course, that history extends through today in the gathering of Montgomery's fans.

Dedications were initiated by events that took place while she was writing: death, a memorable visit, a wedding, or a reunion. She was conscious of connections in her dedication, just as there is symmetry in her photography and writing. The *Anne* series is somewhat paired: the first two books are dedicated to her biological and literary parents (mother, father, teacher), the next two books (*Anne of the Island* and *Anne of Windy Poplars*) are dedicated to fans -- first to girls only and then to all fans everywhere. The

fifth and sixth books (*Anne's House of Dreams* and *Anne of Ingleside*) are dedicated to Laura and Will Pritchard, and the last two books (*Rainbow Valley* and *Rilla of Ingleside*) are dedicated to war casualties (hometown soldiers and Frede Campbell).

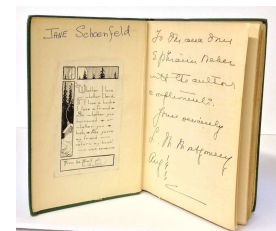


Montgomery tried to maintain a pattern of dedication choices with the *Emily of New Moon* (autobiographical) trilogy. It would have worked so nicely to place her three male pen friends (writers) within the three *Emily* books – George Macmillan in *Emily of New Moon*, Arthur John Lockhart (Pastor Felix) in *Emily Climbs*, and Ephraim Weber in *Emily's Quest*.

However, she interrupted the sequence and wrote *The Blue Castle* before *Emily's Quest* was finished. So, Weber was assigned to *The Blue Castle* instead of an *Emily* book, because he surely would have noticed his omission after her dedications to the other two pen pals. This resulted in her awkward explanation of the dedication of *The Blue Castle* to Weber when he wrote to the author that he did not quite understand it.

Aunt Annie Campbell died when Montgomery started *Emily's Quest* in 1924, so she was prompted to acknowledge cousin Stella Campbell – that is why Stella joined the two pen pals as a dedication in the *Emily* series instead of the third correspondent, Weber.

In August of 1931, Montgomery sent copies of the recently-published *A Tangled Web* to her friends in Saskatchewan, a copy to Ephraim Weber and one to Alexina and Fred Wright, to whom she dedicated the book. Montgomery stated her basis for selecting a dedication in her journal at that time: “I cannot bring myself to put on the title page of my books the name of any person who has not meant something to me in the way of inspiration and friendship.” When it came to cultivating friendship, Maud Montgomery was cautious. Her relationships within this group of dedication names were formed early in her life, almost all by 1903 (age 29), before her first book was published and she became famous. She was buoyed and sustained by these friends for all her life.



Collecting

The research into Montgomery's dedications has had many rich rewards for me, particularly the friendships it has fostered in the Montgomery community. Some of these friendships include mutual interest in collecting the beautiful first printings of Montgomery's books and items related to her life.

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M.

Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>

Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

Vintage editions that are “clean” on the inside, that is, those that lack any writing or book plates, usually sell for more than books with inscriptions. However, for many of us, the value of Montgomery books passed from one hand to another, has immeasurable worth – there is a link of appreciation, affection, and love between and with past readers. A contemporary immortality is found in the inscriptions of the old books which were often given as gifts or awards.

Montgomery’s own inscriptions are highly prized, like this one in *The Watchman and Other Poems*, a gift to her closest friend, Frederica Campbell:

To Frede with the author’s love, Xmas 1916

She inscribed a book to another close friend and relative, Bertie McIntyre, in 1923:

*Dearest, I hope you will find in these poems
the pleasure I have found in my own copy.
They seem echoes of the old days when we tasted life together.
Lovingly Yours Maud*

Owners of L.M. Montgomery books shared the same sentiments as the author and were no less affectionate with their gifts of books that they loved. This inscription is in a first edition of *Rilla of Ingleside* to Rovenia Miller in Illinois, USA. [Rovenia’s grandmother was from Nova Scotia.]:

*May this volume give to you, my loved one,
the same degree of pleasure as it does your mother in giving to you good books for
companions. Mamma 1922*

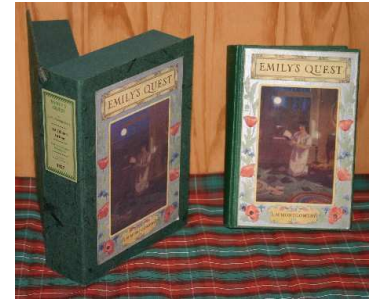


The messages inside my Montgomery books share happy times from the past: Jack loved Claudia when he gave her *Rainbow Valley*; Betty’s mom and dad gave her *Anne of Avonlea* for Christmas in 1909; in England in 1925, Stella got *The Golden Road* for her birthday from Grandma (who inscribed with a shaky hand); the Malvern Hotel in Bar Harbor, Maine, had a (very rare) green July 1908 *Anne of Green Gables* for its guests; *Anne’s House of Dreams* was awarded to Irene for good grades; a group of people in Cavendish, PEI, had a great time one summer in 1943 staying at George and Hazel McCoubrey’s house across the road from the Cavendish church -- and they all signed a copy of *The Blue Castle* at the Green Gables gift store (perhaps sold to them by Anita Webb) after playing golf.

Jean Nichols, in Australia, bought a 1929 Harrap *Anne of Green Gables* with a dust jacket and pasted a newspaper article with Montgomery’s address into it. Did she write a fan letter?

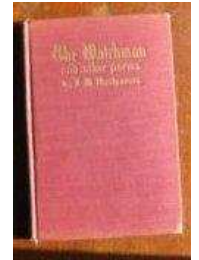
I have wondered for a long time about the name “Lideth Johnson” inside a first edition of *Emily’s Quest* (1927) which was protected inside a publisher’s box (many book

sellers make “slipcovers” but this isn’t one of those). Did she know someone at Stokes publishing? Was her family wealthy and connected? No, they weren’t. She bought, or was given this unique edition, when she was 21. Her family were Swedish immigrants in Kansas, USA. She was single and worked as stenographer for a manufacturing company all her life and never moved away from home.



Margaret Ritchie Douglas lived in Nova Scotia and was married in February 1909 -- two weeks after her wedding she got a copy of the December 1908 impression of *Anne of Green Gables*. She gave it to her daughter and then it was passed on to her granddaughter, but it ended up in an auction and then in my home.

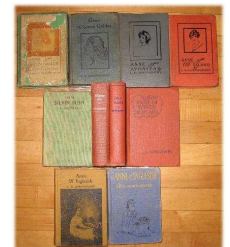
Jennie bought *The Watchman and Other Poems* in New Hampshire and gave it to Elin Nordstrom, who became a secretary to Harold S. Bottenheim, editor of *The American City* in New York. Elin died at age 29 of a heart ailment and Bottenheim printed up pamphlets of five her poems for her family. Jennie was her cousin, Jennie Dorthea Lindquist, who was editor of *The Horn Book* (1951-1958) and author of *The Golden Name Day*, a Newbery Medal Honor Book in 1956 (illustrated by Garth Williams).



Without inscriptions we wouldn’t know that an RCAF pilot, named O.B. Groskorth, visited Green Gables in 1942, two months after Montgomery’s death, and bought *Anne of Green Gables* (Ryerson edition) from Maud’s great friend, Anita Webb (who was with LMM at the end of her life). He wrote his name and unit in the book with instructions that it was not to be removed from his parents' house while he was in the service (Inscriptions show that Montgomery’s books were favorites of adult readers).

[After this paper was presented at the 2012 Montgomery conference, UPEI benefactor, Donna Campbell, showed me a pamphlet she acquired which was written by another RCAF pilot in Nova Scotia, Clarence Hope, who was probably a friend of Groskorth and who may have taken him to Green Gables to meet Hope’s friend, Anita Webb.]

Hundreds of readers checked out first-edition Montgomery books from the library -- I also value the library-bound editions. An owner of *Emily of New Moon* lent it to fifty of her friends and they all signed their names in it after they read it.



When I open an old Montgomery book there is much to enjoy, but assessing the value of any one old book is a very subjective task. Hand-written names in our favorite books become our friends too because of our common affection for Montgomery’s creations. The stories that we glean from inscribed books help us walk into another time and place.

My favorite observation on the value of Montgomery books comes from Barbara Wachowicz, an award-winning writer of books and television programs in Poland. Barbara’s grandmother was given *Anne of Green Gables* in 1913 by her new husband,

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>
Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

right before they were sent to Siberia for being part of the Polish underground independence movement. She took two things to the prison camp, the *Anne* book and a photo of her dead parents.

Barbara eloquently described the place of Montgomery in cultural memory, which is represented by her dedications and the inscriptions left inside the early editions:

"The works of LM Montgomery reveal a secret victory over passing time - a secret which makes all boundaries disappear, which overcomes distances between generations and nationalities."



Anne Krystek



L. M. Montgomery: Accidental Historian: Discovering Fragments of Island History in Montgomery's Stories By Carolyn Strom Collins © 2012

It is well-known that L. M. Montgomery imbedded true stories of Prince Edward Island in many of her fictional stories. In so doing, she created, coincidentally and perhaps accidentally, a sort of historical record – a “cultural memory” – of the Island and its people. Two stories, especially, illustrate this point, although there are many more in the 500+ list of stories. “A Pioneer Wooing” and “A Will, A Way, and a Woman” are the two I shall discuss here.



“A Pioneer Wooing” was published in 1903 in *Farm and Fireside* and in 1911 in *Canadian Courier*; Montgomery adapted the story for *The Story Girl* as “How Betty Sherman Got a Husband.” She recounted the true story in *The Alpine Path* and in her journals.

“A Pioneer Wooing” tells the story of two men who wanted to marry the same woman, “Nancy Sherman” in the story. “Donald Fraser” found out that “Neil Campbell” was on his way to ask Nancy to marry him so plied Neil with enough whiskey to put him under for a few hours. Donald then took Neil’s horse and sleigh, dashed across the ice of

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M.

Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor,
Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>

Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

Richmond Bay to get to Nancy first and they eloped. Once Neil finally got to the Sherman home, all was lost. But Nancy's sister "Betty" offered herself in marriage to Neil and he agreed.

This dramatic story was the true story of Montgomery's great-grandparents. "Nancy and Betty Sherman" were actually Nancy and Betsy Penman, her great-grandmothers; "Neil Campbell" and "Donald Fraser" were her great-grandfathers David Murray and Donald Montgomery. They led very interesting and dramatic lives in addition to the period of the courtships, elopements and marriages told in the story. Studying the genealogy and histories of just these three families yields some fascinating insights into the early lives of the early pioneers of PEI.

The Penmans were among the very first English settlers on the Island, fleeing from upstate New York to Canada to escape the American Revolution. George Penman, Nancy and Betsy's father, was a Loyalist and, according to Montgomery, lost his property as a result of the early battles in the Kingston, New York, area. He found his way to PEI (a long story but one that continues to be uncovered as research into the Penman family moves along) and finally settled on a peninsula on the western shore of Malpeque Bay (then called "Richmond Bay"). In those years, that little peninsula was known as "Penman's Point" and is identified as such on maps through the mid-1800s.

Donald Montgomery came to the Island from Scotland in 1771 with his parents Hugh John and Mary Montgomery; he was eleven years old. The family settled on the eastern shore of Malpeque Bay at Fox Point, not too far from what is now Cabot Park.

David Murray came from the US a few years later than Donald Montgomery – like the Penmans, he was from a Loyalist family from New England. The Murrays settled in North Bedeque on the shores of the Dunk River.



To confirm some of the details of the Penman sisters' romantic story, I did some research in the PEI Archives and found a couple of interesting details there. The marriage licenses David Murray bought in 1788 (for him and Nancy) and 1789 (for him and Betsy) were recorded. [Often genealogy researchers stop with the first record and miss the second one so some sources state that David and Nancy were wed.] There is no marriage license recorded for Nancy and Donald; many marriages were recorded by the church in which the wedding took place. Any church records that contained Nancy and Donald's marriage have been lost.

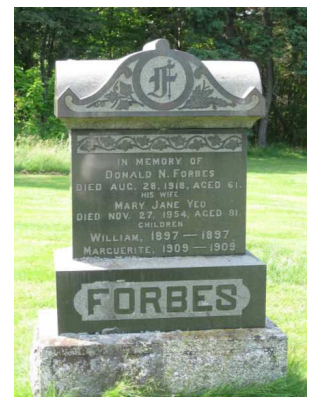
George Penman's will from 1805 is in the PEI courthouse; it was witnessed by David Murray and H. J. Montgomery (either Donald's father or brother).

Learning about these early years of the English settlement of PEI as a result of reading this little story can lead down other "cultural memory" roads"-- the expulsion of the French from Atlantic Canada after the Battle of Louisbourg (1754) that happened just a few years before the early "English" settlers began to claim territory on PEI; events in Scotland that caused so many Scottish families to come to PEI in the early years; what the ocean voyages entailed; how the early settlers survived in the early years of settlement; what the geography and topography of the Island was like in the eighteenth century; etc.

Once we know a bit about the family history, more questions arise, such as how did these early pioneers meet each other since they lived a fair distance apart? That can lead to a study of early "roads," transportation methods, social and political life on the Island, etc. We find that the so-called roads were mostly tracks through the thick woods, first made by animals, then native peoples. Most long trips took place in the winter when tracks were frozen and easier to negotiate; the frozen lakes, rivers and harbors cut travel time and distance considerably. Horseback or horse and wagon or sleigh were the most prevalent modes of transportation beside walking. We learn that social gatherings took place surprisingly often, mostly around church-related events along with frequent political meetings. [The Montgomerys and the Murrays, by the way, were very active in Island political life, yet another "cultural memory" road to explore.] It has always astounded me that those early Islanders covered so much territory in such challenging conditions.

"A Will, A Way, and a Woman" was first published in 1908 in *American Agriculturist* and *New England Homestead* and was adapted for chapter 2 of *The Golden Road*.

After a story about Mary Jane Yeo and Daniel Forbes came to light a year or two ago, Sandy Wagner recognized it from her vast knowledge of Montgomery's stories as one entitled "A Will, A Way, and a Woman." The story takes place in the Tyne Valley area and Sandy surmised that Montgomery must have heard the story while she was boarding in Bideford in 1898-9 and immediately saw its potential as a dramatic story. (Anne MacLean, great-great-granddaughter of the Forbeses, presented a program about her great-great-grandparents [based on her family's stories] at the Bideford Museum in the summer of 2011 and Sandy wrote an article about it in the October 2011 *Kindred Spirits* magazine.)



Mary Jane Yeo ("Ursula Townley" in Montgomery's story) and Donald Forbes ("Kenneth Macnair") had fallen in love but Janie's father, James Yeo III (from the well-known shipping family of Port Hill) did not approve and did everything he could to put a stop to it. Secret messages were sent back and forth, including one in a ball of gray wool as in Montgomery's story. Finally the time came when Donald and Janie ran for the boat. Mr. Yeo set out guards at all ports across Northumberland Strait in New Brunswick

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M.

Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor, Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>

Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429

but the couple slipped past them and were married in Newcastle, NB. They eventually returned to Tyne Valley where Donald went into business with his brother and after many years, they reconciled with Janie's father. Their house is still standing proudly in Tyne Valley but their story might have been forgotten had it not been for Montgomery's re-telling.

Montgomery based many other stories on real people and real situations – perhaps one of the most memorable is the incident of the liniment cake most of us are familiar with from *Anne of Green Gables*. She used a similar theme of disastrously-flavored cake in other stories: “A New-Fashioned Flavoring (1898),” “Uncle Chatterton's Gingerbread (1902),” “The Cake That Prissy Made” (1903), “Dora's Gingerbread” (1905), “The Story of a Pumpkin Pie” (1905), and other titles, all published before *Anne of Green Gables* (1908). [I tend to believe that the more she repeated the theme of a story, the more we might assume it was based on fact.]



Whether Montgomery's stories are based on true stories or not, most give us insights into much of the culture of the period. She set many of her stories in school or college and we gain insight into the materials and methods of education in PEI during the late 19th century – the long and impressive list of subjects students studied during the eight grades that were then considered basic education; the rigorous examinations normal-school students (then aged about 16-18) undertook to pass the education course to become teachers; how teachers (many of them not much older than their students) managed eight grades in a one-room school. Some of the story titles that hold these education “cultural memories” are “The Prize in Elocution” (1897), “The Extra French Examination” (1897), “The Brothers' Queer Ruse” (1898), and “The Fraser Scholarship” (1905). The chapters in *Anne of Green Gables* when Anne is in school and later at Queens and those in *Anne of Avonlea* and *Anne of Windy Poplars* that describe her teaching experience illustrate these cultural memories in education rather thoroughly.

Cultural memories of lives built around the sea are also evident in Montgomery's stories, among them “The Curtain Island Mystery” (1902), “The Magical Bond of the Sea” (1903), “Mackereling Out in the Gulf” (1905), “An Adventure on Island Rock” (1906), “House Party on Smoky Island” (1936). Stories associated with the many lighthouses dotted around the Island (now slowly disappearing) include “Natty of Blue Point” (1904), “The Life-Book of Uncle Jesse” (1909) [this story was adapted for *Anne's House of Dreams* (1917), and *Rilla of Ingleside*.] The importance of lighthouses to sailors and the way keepers maintained the lights at the time figure into many Montgomery stories.

More cultural memories associated with church life, customs, and traditions of the era can be found in many of Montgomery's stories such as “A Pastoral Call” (1898), “The Strike at Putney” (1903), “Freda's Adopted Grave” (1904), “The Daughter of Ben-Ithiel” (1905) and in her novels.

Stories of holidays give us some insights into how those celebrations were observed – the foods that were cooked especially for them, decorations, entertainments, and so forth. Montgomery wrote many Christmas stories, of course, but she also wrote stories about other major holidays, even the Queen’s Birthday.

Many of Montgomery’s stories are those of mistaken identity, usually leading to miraculous changes in circumstances; unrequited love in which one lover patiently waits – sometimes for years – for another to finally propose; poor, downtrodden, hopeless folks who happen to run across a benefactor who lifts them up into a decent life or into a circle of friendship, and so on. Even in these somewhat predictable and perhaps unlikely stories we see the importance that the culture of that time and place placed on patience, honor to the point of self-sacrifice, and duty, as well as the way cultural mores of the time influenced romantic relationships, the premium society placed on modesty, classical feminine beauty, hard work, etc.

It is easy to dismiss Montgomery as a writer of “pot-boilers” and light fiction (even she occasionally relegated herself to these categories) but many of her stories hold cultural memories of earlier times that shaped our political, religious and social customs throughout those years and, to some extent, to the present (although at times we may think many of these social and cultural standards have largely been eroded).

Reading Montgomery’s work with an eye toward how day-to-day life was lived – “like pearls slipping from a string” – yields a fine stash of cultural memories, made even more salient and poignant with the passage of years.

[Author’s note: L. M. Montgomery kept most of her published stories in scrapbooks that are now housed in Charlottetown, PEI, in the Confederation Centre archives. Photocopies of the stories (and also over 500 poems) are available in the University of PEI Library Special Collections. The stories and poems were catalogued by Rea Wilmshurst in the 1980s and her work is part of Russell/Russell/Wilmshurst’s *L. M. Montgomery: A Preliminary Bibliography*; an updated story bibliography is in process. Thanks to Simon Lloyd, Special Collections librarian, for his cooperation and assistance in this project. Thanks also to Sandy Wagner, Janice Trowsdale and Linda Boutilier for their insights into the Tyne Valley families that were featured in “A Will, A Way, and a Woman.”]



Photo credits:

Linda Boutilier, George Campbell, Mary Beth Cavert, Carolyn Strom Collins, Joanne Craig, Melanie Fishbane, Dana Gerberi, Ramona Gibbs, Jocelyn Lloyd, Sandy Wagner, Barbara Wachowicz, Christy Woster, Families of Harriet Smith and Nora Campbell, L.M. Montgomery Archives and Special Collections, University of Guelph.

Cover page: rug is owned by Alberta Somers.

All material in the *Shining Scroll* is the property of the authors and editors. Text and photos from contributors may not be reproduced without consent. *The Shining Scroll* is the periodical of the L.M.

Montgomery Literary Society, Minnesota USA. Carolyn Strom Collins: founder/editor,
Mary Beth Cavert: editor and web site, located at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>
Twitter LMMontgomeryLS, Carolyn: clsc429