



The Montagu Monuments

Monument

01

John, 2nd Duke of Montagu

Look up at the monument of Duke John. He is displayed on a medallion in the centre, surrounded by the things that were important in his life.

1

Try and match the following parts of the monument to the things in John's life they represent. One has been completed for you:

Life

- His courage in fighting
- The poor children of the Foundling Hospital
- The money and support he gave to the Foundling Hospital
- His sad death
- His career in the army
- His loving wife Mary

Monument

- Small cherub-like children
- The torch of life being put out by a crying child
- The figure of charity holding up John's medallion
- Military medals held by his wife
- Woman looking up longingly at John
- Cannon balls, military equipment, flags and trumpet

Helpful vocabulary

- Aristocracy:** a group of people born into very privileged families. They usually have a lot of wealth (money, land and houses) and often help to rule the country they live in by becoming members of government or assisting the royal family
- Military:** relating to the army, war, or the life of a soldier
- Foundling Hospital:** a school and hospital that provided poor children with an education and a place to live
- Menagerie:** a collection of wild or unusual animals, usually kept for show - like a private zoo



2

Duke John has a magnificent monument because he was a member of the aristocracy and therefore very important in society. Ordinary people would have had simple gravestones like the ones outside. If you became famous and had a monument built to remember you by, what items would be displayed on it to tell the story of your life?

Think about your interests and the things and people that are most important to you. What job might you have? What would you like to be known for? Try to think of 5 items that would best represent you:

-
-
-
-
-



3

There are many other parts of John's personality that are not represented in the monuments:

- ✂ He had wonderful sense of humour and often played practical jokes on his friends!
- ✂ His gardening hobby gave him the nickname 'John the Planter' because he wanted to plant a line of trees all the way to London!
- ✂ He had a deep love of animals and often saved old and lame animals when others no longer wanted them - he even rescued a lion with no teeth from the menagerie at the Tower of London!

Read carefully through these instructions John left for the care of his pet lion. Some of the words are missing. Use the words from the box below to complete the instructions for John's manservant.

General Instructions

Lion must never be ----- at all, but to go where he will except into the -----, where he must not go for fear he should be drowned. He must be free of the Old Pantry & be fed there. To have Boyled Meat, no Horse Flesh, nor no ----- given him. To lye every night in his ----- by the Old Pantry. To have his ----- fill'd every morning with ----- . And to have fresh straw in his House twice a week.

- | | | |
|--------|-----------|-------------|
| trough | locked up | fresh water |
| Bones | House | garden |





The Montagu Monuments

Monument 02 Mary, 2nd Duchess of Montagu

Look carefully at the monument of Lady Mary Churchill. Every part has a story to tell. Match the clues in the speech bubbles with the numbered labels to unlock the hidden meaning of each symbol. One has been filled in for you as an example.

1
Coronet

2
Flowers

3
Clotho

6
Lachesis

4
Atropos

5
Skull

7
Putto

I am one of the three goddesses of fate. The thread of life is wound around my staff because I am in charge of birth.

I am

My job is to help the three fates by holding the spindle of the thread of life. The spindle you can see me holding was placed into my hands by a modern sculptor on Friday 13th March 2015, as my original spindle was stolen around 100 years ago!

I am

I am another of the fates. I spin the thread of life and decide how long it should be. My face is shocked because the thread of Mary's life has been cut short.

I am

I am the oldest of the fates. I am in charge of death, cutting the thread of life with my shears.

I am

I look like a small crown and am often worn on the head. Here, I am being used to hold up Mary's family crest. She was part of the Churchill family, just like World War 2 prime minister Winston Churchill.

I am

I represent death. Although you can only see me from the front, my sculptor worked hard to create me as perfectly as a real-life skull.

I am

We are being arranged around an urn by some putti. Our beautiful arrangement is very much like the blooms shown in some of Mary's favourite paintings at Boughton House by the artist Jean Baptiste Monnoyer.

I am

Helpful vocabulary

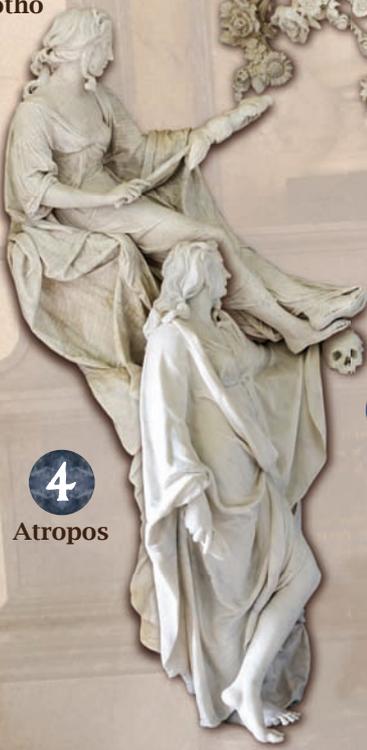
Fates: three goddesses in charge of birth, life and death in Greek and Roman Mythology

Putto: a child who looks like a cherub

Putti: more than one putto

Family crest: a unique symbol designed to represent a family surname

Spindle: the rod thread is wound around as it is spun





The Montagu Monuments

Monument 03 Mary, 3rd Duchess of Montagu

This monument is for Lady Mary Montagu, daughter of John and Mary.

1 On the right are the women and orphans that Mary helped during her life. They are all in mourning for Mary's death but an angel is trying to comfort them by pointing upwards. What do you think she is trying to say?



2 Look carefully at the three frames behind the figures. Copy the design of each one into the blank frames below, then use the descriptions in the box to add labels on the dotted lines underneath.



Painting:

Mary loved to collect art from around the world, even paying for many famous paintings with her own money. This was very unusual for a woman in the 1700s!

Sewing:

One of Mary's favourite pastimes was sewing and she loved fashion. She planned all of the contents of her walnut wardrobe, from her riding cloaks and down to tiny details such as her handkerchiefs, buttons and even shoe buckles.

Death:

The torch of life has been turned upside down, putting out the flame.

3 The business of death was very expensive for someone as important as Mary. Her funeral alone cost her husband £270 (around £32,400 today!) and this monument cost even more. Use these bills from sculptor Peter Mathias Van Gelder to work out the total cost of the monument:

September 1777 to March 1780
His Grace the Duke of Montagu
Expenses attending the putting up
the Monument at Warkton
and Chancel
£61.30
P. M. Van Gelder

London May 5th 1779
His Grace the Duke of
Montagu
£1500 agreed upon for a
monument
P. M. Van Gelder

March 1780 to October 1781
His Grace the Duke of Montagu
For expenses of packing cases for
the monument
£91.18
P. M. Van Gelder

Cost of Mary's monument

£

£

£

.....
Total £

You can work out how much this would be today by multiplying your total by 120!



The Montagu Monuments

Monument 04 Elizabeth Montagu, Duchess of Buccleuch

This monument is for Lady Elizabeth Montagu, daughter of Lady Mary Montagu.

1 Use the words in the box to label this monument of Lady Elizabeth Montagu.

- Crown of poppies
- Bible
- Hypnos (the angel of sleep)
- Torch of life
- Elizabeth
- Scribe (writer)
- Pot of scrolls



2 Can you guess why Hypnos is wearing a crown of poppies on his head?

Answer:

3 The dates on this monument are written in Roman numerals. The ancient Roman number system used letters to represent numbers. Use the code in the box to work out the year of Elizabeth's death, by adding all of the letters together like a sum. The date has been done for you as an example.

4 Read through the other words carefully. Why do you think the torch of life is longer in this monument?

Roman numerals codebreaker

I = 1 V = 5 X = 10 L = 50
C = 100 D = 500 M = 1000

Date:

The monument says Elizabeth died on the XXI of November:

X = 10
X = 10
I = 1
.....
Total = 21

Answer: Elizabeth died on 21st November.

Year: MDCCCXXVII

Use this space for your working out

Answer: Elizabeth died on 21st November in the year

Answer:



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