

194 139 Set off $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ face $\frac{1}{16}$
 161 119
 133 127
 172 132 42 lbs C.C. $1\frac{1}{8}$ 2 pound nails
 173 136
 162 105 Shot 3/12/91 141433.
 H. J. A. Hervey 0-978
 577 bore double express rifle
 L.O.G. action, long top strap, back-
 action rebound locks, over forepart-
 7.4 26" steel bls loops for sling
 7.6" Bend $2\frac{7}{16} + 1\frac{11}{16}$
 Long Length $15\frac{1}{16}$ cast off $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{5}{16}$
 pistol hand & cheek-piece recoil plate
 Weights rpl 11 lb + 12 lb 6 lb 7
 Sight standard + 2 leaves 50-150-200-250
 head sight with moon 141434
 Parker



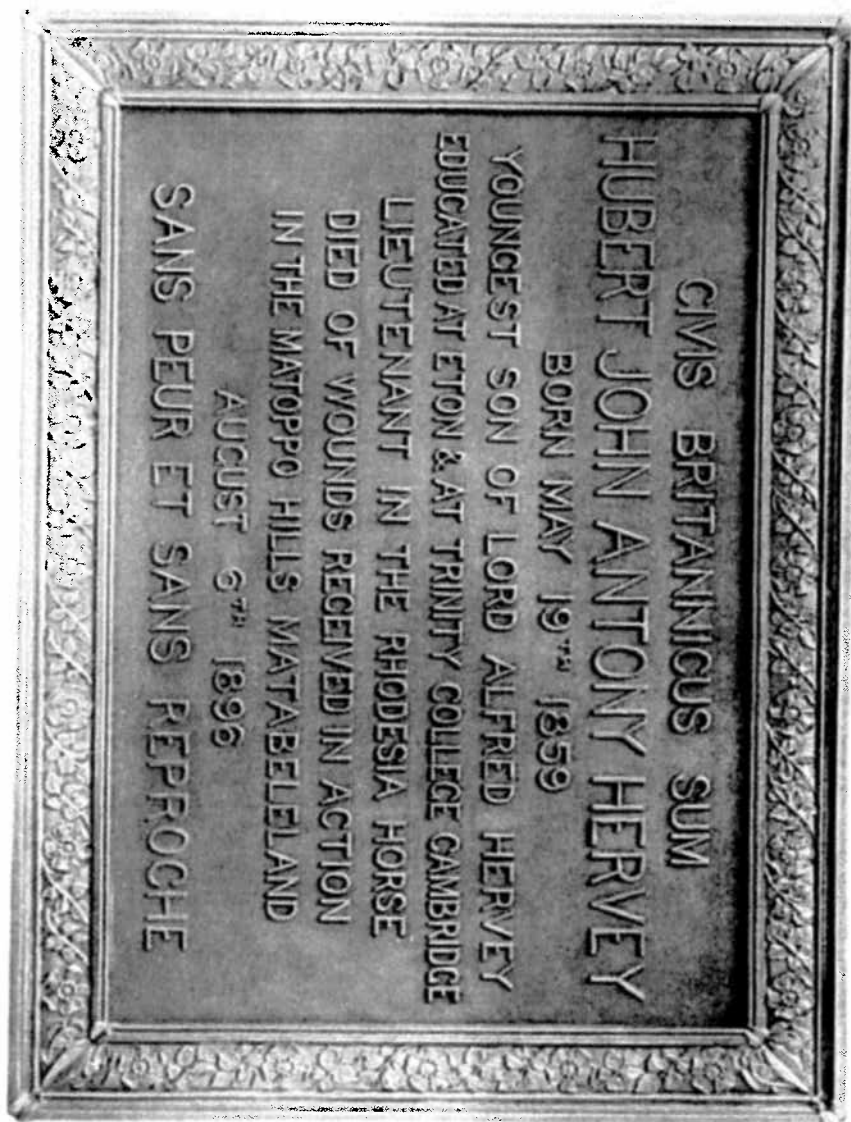


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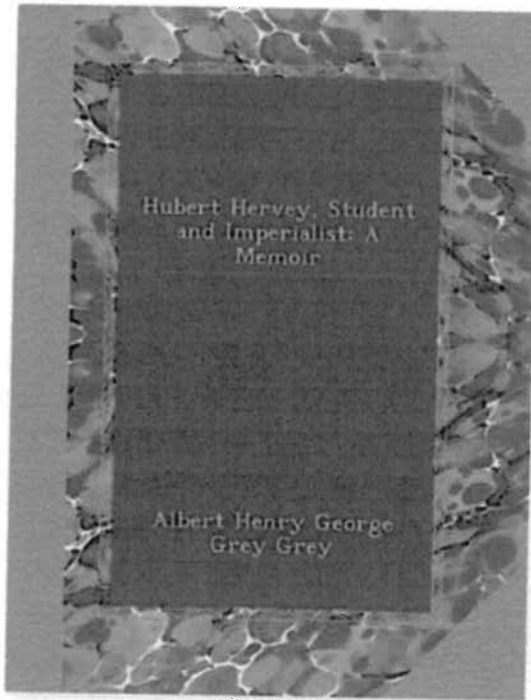
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I have not much news for you. . . . The Matoppos are a difficult country ; rocky kopjes, with caves in them, in which the Matabele can hide Our mess has, among others, Turner, whom you will recollect my going to see in London. Colonel Plumer is in command ; Colonel Baden-Powell (known in Ashanti) chief of the staff. It is really a delightful picnic. . . . We generally get up about 5.30, breakfast about 8 (early cocoa at 6) ; lunch 12 ; dinner 7 ; bed 8.30 or 9. It is very pretty country all about the hills, and day after day comes with certainty of a cloudless sky and a brilliant sun. . . .'

Early on August 4 the column marched to a spot called Sugar Bush Camp (where Fort Umlugulu now stands), continuing the march before day-break on the 5th in order to attack the rebel chiefs, Umlugulu and Sikombo, in the Matoppos Hills. At about 6.15 a.m. the force halted in a space between two big, bald-headed kopjes, opening into a valley, beyond which lay Umlugulu's and Sikombo's mountain. Colonel Plumer then sent all the dismounted men, including Hervey's detachment, forward with the guns, Captain Beresford being in command. About an hour later Beresford's force was suddenly sur-

rounded and attacked by a large body of the enemy, a mass of whom, on high ground above our men, were able to fire at short range into their ranks. To put a stop to this, Hervey was ordered to occupy a ridge; and, dashing forward at the head of his men, fell mortally wounded as he led them up the kopje.

He was laid on a stretcher in the shelter of two large rocks. He told the men to go on fighting and see to him afterwards. From the moment he was hit, he was calm and unconcerned, although from the first he knew there was no hope of his recovery.

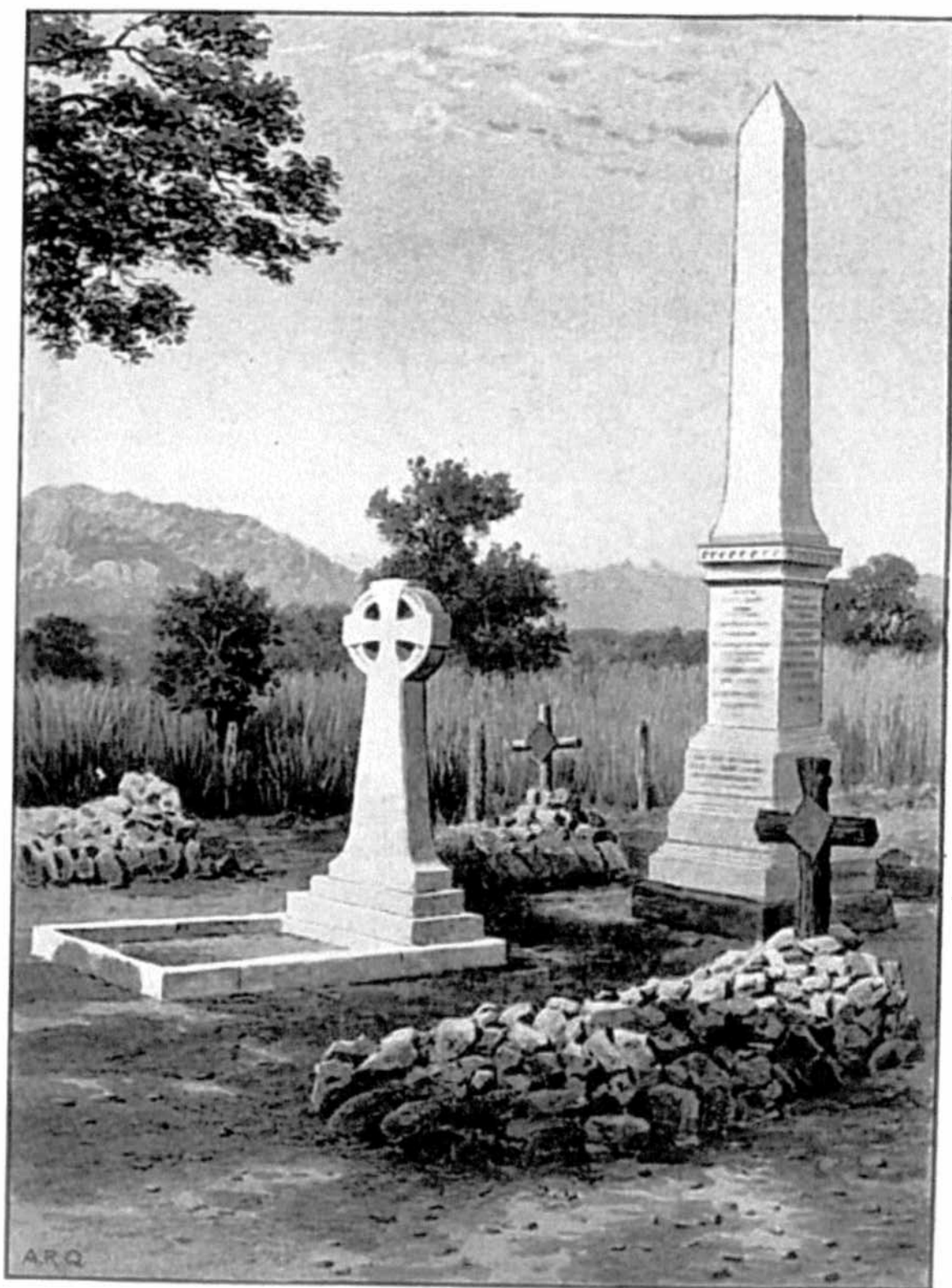
Meanwhile the engagement had become general. Jesser Coope, with his scouts, was unable to penetrate to Beresford, who signalled to him that he was heavily pressed, and that Hervey was severely wounded. In another hour reinforcements had come up, and Coope had time to go to Hervey for a few minutes. He found him perfectly conscious and collected, and able to give his own directions about the cable-message to be sent home to his family. His only trouble was that they should be distressed; his only thought to break the news to them as gently as possible. For himself not a pang, still less a fear. All who saw him were

struck by his complete serenity of demeanour; that inner serenity of the strong and pure soul which no outward event, not even the coming of death, could cloud or disturb.

Mr. Weston Jarvis was with him when Coope came up. Hervey did not seem then to be in much pain. He remarked on the strangeness of the nerves, saying that, although shot in the body, all he felt was an aching in the legs.

The fight meanwhile had spread, and was at its height all round. Some idea of its stubborn character may be gathered from the fact that five impi had been combined under the prime leaders of the rebellion, Umlugulu and Sikombo, for a final blow.

The engagement, which was one of the most important of the war, eventually resulted in the complete rout of the Matabele. But the difficult and exposed nature of the ground, and the numerical inequality, caused a heavy list of casualties on our side, in proportion to the forces engaged. At eleven o'clock Major Kershaw was shot dead while storming the range of hills to the left. Robertson's attack was made at twelve o'clock, Baden-Powell's half an hour later, and at one o'clock the Matabele were in full flight. The



HUBERT HERVEY'S GRAVE.