

Major. MONTGOMERY, Ralph. NV

88/Bde.

Royal Field Artillery



AA/32200

A.A.



Please correspondence
or new file No. please to
return to Miss. Russell
Room 3. I.S.C.C.

Copping

Reg. 2nd
fs.

7.6.47.

X AA1 44/ 32200 X
7/F/23/E

Foreign Office,

S.W.1.

June 6, 1919.

Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of my Mother, (Mrs. Montgomery, Blessingbourne, Firmiletown, Co. Tyrone, Ireland,) with regard to the grave of my brother, Major R.N.V.Montgomery, D.S.O., R.F.A., who died at Doullens, clearing Station on April 1st, last. The registered number of the grave is:

Doullens Military Cemetery,
(Extended No.2) Row F.Plot 1.,No. 12.

Mrs. Montgomery would like a small cross engraved on the memorial stone which will eventually be put up by the War Graves Commission and the following inscription:

Major Ralph Montgomery, D.S.O.,
Royal Field Artillery,
Died April 1st 1919, aged 34.
(The Regimental Badge and Motto)
and the verse:
"Until the day break and
The shadows flee away".

The Secretary,
Imperial War Graves Commission,
Winchester House,
St. James's Square.

She

P.T.O.
CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

She understands the latter will be put on at her expense. Mrs. Montgomery also understands that a register is kept in each cemetery of the age, birthplace, etc., and for this purpose she asks me to send the following particulars:-

born at Blessingbourne, Firmiletown, Ireland on
April 26, 1884.

Yours very truly,

Hubert Montgomery

Prov.

R.F.A.

9/88 Bde

Montgomery



SSP 5144 12.7

L.F. att 18/8/48

Major R.N.R. 1-4-19.

D.G.R. & E.
CORRECTED.

Doullens bom bem 8/8/48

10/19 88.

AA/47/32200
RGE/BL.

AA/47/32200

7/F/23/E.



13th June, 1919.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 6th instant, I am directed to enclose for your information a copy of a leaflet which has been drawn up by the Imperial War Graves Commission shewing the decision at which it has arrived with regard to the erection of memorials in the war cemeteries abroad and explaining the reasons which lead to that decision.

I may add that the cost of making and erecting the headstones on the war graves will be borne by public funds.

Instructions will be given to engrave the following words on the headstone of the grave of Major R. Montgomery, D.S.O. as soon as it is possible to proceed with the erection of the permanent memorial.

Aged 34.

"Until the day break and the shadows flee away".

I may add that a careful note has been made of the particulars which you wish to be entered in the register of graves and effect will be given to your request.

It is estimated that the cost of additional inscriptions will be 3¹/₂d per letter, but will be subject to future fluctuations of cost.

Relatives will be asked to forward the money for their inscription before the headstone is erected and they are requested not to do so until they receive a further communication on the subject.

Hubert Montgomery, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

PEAA/47/32200

ack
16/6

Foreign Office,

RCE/BL

S.W.1.

June 14, 1919.

16/F/40/E

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 13th (AA/47/32200) , which I am forwarding to Mrs. Montgomery.
(7/F/23/E)

Mrs. Montgomery has asked me to say that she hopes very much it may be possible to put the Christian name "R A L P H ", instead of the initials, on the headstone of Major Montgomery's grave. I presume there will be no objection to this?

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant,

Hubert Montgomery

The Secretary,

War Graves Commission,

St. James's Square,

S. W. 1.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

Have for this file
in how please?

3d/6

A.A

Previous correspondence
or new file No. please &
return to Miss Copping
Room.5. I.W.G.C.

8C
16.6

blank

~~File Sent to~~
702 10.6.19
please.

File att.
1.7.19
53

RCE/NR.

AA/47/32200



File

AA/47/32200.

3rd July 1919.

16/P/40/E.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 14th ult., I am directed to inform you that a careful note has been made of your request that Major R. Montgomery's full Christian name shall be inscribed upon the headstone over his grave, and instructions will be given for this to be done.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

S
Major.

Habert Montgomery, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

R.F.A.
D/88 BDE

MONTGOMERY

MAJOR. R.N.V.

1-4-19

S.S.P 5144/27

C.F. ATT 18/C.C.S.

82299.

D.G.R. & E.
CORRECTED.

DOULLENS. COM. CEM. EXT. No. 2.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

3220010

R.F.A.

D/88. TBE.

MONTGOMERY.

MAJOR. R. N. V.

1. 4. 19.

E. DOULLENS.

SSP. 5144/34

2-24

DOULLENS. COM. CEM EXT. NO. 2.

57 d. A. 14. d. 3. 6.

PLOT. 1. ROW "F". GP. 12.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

AA1 + 7/32200

82299

D.G.N. & E.

CORRECTED.

EW. 30. 8. 19.

noted in Ledger 1. 9. 19

Register Particulars
sent to Capt Murphy

22.8.19

Red

AA/47/32200

The number below should
be quoted on any further
communication on this subject

AA/47/32200.

The Director of Graves Registration and Enquiries,

WAR OFFICE,

Winchester House,

St. James's Square,

LONDON, S.W.1.

621.

Sir,

24.9.19

I am directed to inform you that a report has been received
which states that the late **Major R.H.V. Montgomery,**
88/Bde. Royal Field Arty. is buried in Doullens
Communal Cemetery Extension.

Card I

The grave has been registered in this office, and is marked
by a durable wooden cross with an inscription bearing full
particulars.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) Stopford,

H.De.F. Montgomery, Esq.,
Blessingbourne,
Fivemiletown,
Ireland.

Captain,
Major ~~-----~~ D.A.A.C.
Staff Captain, for Brigadier General,
Director, Graves Registration and Enquiries.

23/2/2

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

3
Foreign Office
S. W. I.

4. vi. 1920 (Card I.)



12.7.20 MDP

Sir,

With reference to the attached

Cutting, my mother Mrs. Montgomery,
Blessingbarnie, Firrville town Co. Tyrone, Ireland

has asked me Enquire whether
the temporary wooden cross on the
grave of ~~her~~ her son, Major R.N.V. Montgomery
D.S.O. R.A.

Could be sent to her when it
is replaced by a permanent memorial.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

The grave is in Doullens Military Cemetery,
Extended No 2. : Row 1. Plot 1. No 12.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Hubert Montgomery.

The Secretary.

Imperial War Graves Commission.

7A
Miss Mooratt

Can you trace
these officers.
Please

Room

File
12/10/2

Majr R. N. V. Montgomery D.S.O.

R. & A.

~~2/Lt. R. C. Lowe M.C.~~

~~6/R. Warwick.~~

HC.

AA/47/32200

RC7

82.



A.A/47/32200.

16th February, 1921.

Madam,

Major R.H.V. Montgomery's ^{DSO}
Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension, No. 2.

Mrs. Montgomery,
Blessingbourne,
Firmilstown,
Co. Tyrone,
Ireland

Madam,

2

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

NO.

RC3

BF 2 WEEKS

82.

A.A/47/32200.

2/2/21
W. L. L.

16th February, 1921.

Madam,

Major R. H. V. Montgomery's ^{DS. 0}
Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension, No. 2,

rs. Montgomery,
Blessingbourne,
Birmilistown,
Co. Tyrone,
Ireland.

Madam,

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

MC.



IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION.

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

"THE SECRETARY,"

and the following number quoted:—

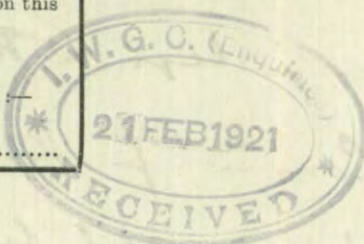
A.A/47/32200.

82,

~~33-38~~, BAKER STREET,

LONDON, W.1.

16th February, 1921.



Madam,

Note has been made in this office that you ^{D.S.O.} desire the wooden cross standing on Major R.N.V. Montgomery's grave in Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension, No. 2, returned to you when the permanent memorial is erected.

Many of the crosses have been standing in the open for a considerable time, and the Commission are obliged to replace those which have reached such a state of disrepair that identity may be lost, as it may be some time before the permanent memorial is erected.

The Commission feel that you will prefer to have the cross at present standing on the grave sent to you as soon as can be arranged, rather than the new cross which may have to be erected.

At the same time I am to point out that the cross now on the grave may not be the cross which was erected at the time of the burial.

I should be very much obliged if you would return this letter to me stating whether you desire the present cross sent to you, or whether you would rather wish to wait until the headstone is erected, when the wooden cross at that time on the grave would be sent to you.

Mrs. Montgomery,
Blessingbourne,
Firmiletown,
Co. Tyrone,
Ireland.

I am,

Madam,

Your obedient Servant,

Stegford

P.T.O.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/61 (AA32200) Assistant Secretary.

19. 2. 21

AA 147/32200

Blessington

Fivemiletown

Ireland

Noted 1/22/10

Mrs Montgomery begs to thank the
Imp^t Wa Graves Com^y for their letter of
the 16th Feb. She would like the
original cross that was erected at the time of
the burial if that is still in existence. She
⁰²⁸ does not wish ~~for~~ any temporary cross, which
may have been ~~+~~ or may subsequently be erected,
to replace it, pending the placing in position
of the headstone, to be sent to her.

For
✓

Despatch of cross letter.

AA/32200

AA/32200

14th March 1922.

Madam,

Madam,

Mrs. Montgomery,
Blessingbourne,
Firmiletown,
Co. Tyrone,
Ireland.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

MEMORIALS OF HEROIC DEAD.

WOODEN CROSSES FOR RELATIVES.

It is announced by the Imperial War Graves Commission that when the temporary wooden crosses that mark the graves of officers and men abroad are replaced by permanent memorials, it will not be possible to preserve beyond a certain time those that are not required by the relatives.

Next-of-kin who wish these wooden crosses to be sent to them are requested to apply to the Secretary, Imperial War Graves Commission, Winchester House, St. James's-square, S.W. 1, before September 1, 1920, stating the address to which the cross is to be sent, and giving the usual particulars regarding the soldier on whose grave it is erected. It will be a convenience if the name of the cemetery is also given.

Next-of-kin should keep the Secretary informed of any change of address.

Mark to be made by Post

20/4/11 ✓
FOREIGN OFFICE,

March 18, 1922.



Dear Sir,

*not attached
when received
in enquiries
W.F. 29/3*

In compliance with the accompanying request I enclose a postal order for eleven shillings and one penny (11/1d). *St. J.*

I should be much obliged if you would inform me whether the permanent stone on the late Major Montgomery's grave has now been set up, as his mother is anxious to know how the matter stands.

Yours truly,

Hubert Montgomery

Major-General Fabian Ware, C.B., C.M.G.,
Imperial War Graves Commission,

82, Baker St.,

London, W.1.

CH Montgomery Esq CB CVO

AA/47/32200

Major Stop/ord

Will you please reply - latest progress
report says only minor ~~structural~~ details
remain to be done. Structural work has
been completed.

Douglas Com Com Ex No 2.

RJA

S/4.

21/C.22/4/E.

AA/32200.

23rd March, 1922.

Sir,

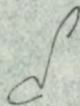
With reference to your letter of the 18th instant, most of the permanent stones have been put up in Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension, but advice has not yet come to hand to show that the stone is actually put up over the grave of Major R.N.V. Montgomery, D.S.O., although I think it is likely as the latest report states that only minor details remain to be done, the constructional work having been completed.

I will, however, make a special enquiry and let you know directly I hear.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



for Principal Assistant Secretary.

Hubert Montgomery, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Whitehall, S.W.

Major R.S.V. Montgomery, D.S.O.,
R.F.A.

1. "P". 12.

Doullens Communal Cem. Ext.

AA/32200

AA/32200.

Can you tell me whether the
headstone has actually been
put up over the grave of
the above named Officer?

I.W.C.C.
London.

Secretary,
ENQUIRIES BRANCH.

23.3.22.

13/4/22
4/4/22
6
Wanted

No., Rank and Name Major R.N.V. Montgomery, D.S.O.,

Regiment

R.F.A.

P. R. G.

1. "F". 12.

CEMETERY

Doullens Communal Cem. Ext.

(s) (377924) Wt. 12890/W278 Gp.163 10,000 8-21 W & S Ltd.

24.C-1.W

QUERY.

REPLY.

REFERENCE:— AA/32200.

DIRECTOR OF WORKS,

Can you tell me whether the headstone has actually been put up over the grave of the above named Officer?

I.W.G.C.
London.

23.3.22.

Stopfel

Secretary,
ENQUIRIES BRANCH.

REFERENCE:—

24/C22/355/W. AJD/CEJ.

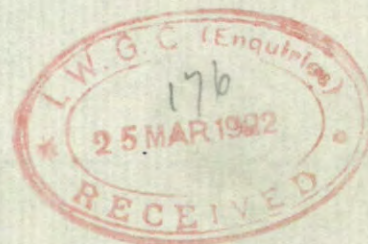
ENQUIRIES BRANCH,

The headstone for this grave is in France, and I have to-day written to the Deputy Director of Works, in order to find out whether same has yet been erected.

a.f.ori

f DIRECTOR OF WORKS.

I.W.G.C.
LONDON.
24th March. 1922.



13.4.22
16
W. H. H.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

FINAL CARD

D. Bty 88th BDE-
R.F.A.

MONTGOMERY
D.S.O.

S.S.P 5744-27

MR. R.N.V.

14.19 E. DOULLENS

2.12C

2.24

DOULLENS COMMUNAL Cemetery S. No 2

Plot 1. Row F. GRAVE 12

82299

27.3.22
M.D.

AA/47/32200

PE
AA/47/32200

BLESSINGBOURNE,

P.T.O.

FIVEMILETOWN.

Ireland

March 29th/22.

Sir.

I am Grateful to you for sending me
the Cross from my son's gate, to which
the above number applies, which arrived
here a day or two ago - It was Carefully
packed & came in good condition -
Again thanking you, I remain

Y^{rs} faithfully
Mary Woolfenden

B. J.

1.5.22

The Secretary

& Noted

Imperial War Gates Commission



FINAL CARD

D. Bt 88th BDE
ROYAL FIELD
ARTILLERY

MONTGOMERY
D.S.O.

MJR. R.N.V.

1.4.19

E. DOULLENS 2.12C
2.24

S.I.P 5744-27

DOULLENS Communal Cemetery Ex. No. 2

82299

PLOT 1. Row F. GRAVE 12

1.4.22
MDT

AA/47/32200

Any further communication on this
subject should be addressed to—

"THE SECRETARY,"
and the following number quoted:—

AA/32200

PE
AA/47/32200

BLESSINGBOURNE,

FIVEMILETOWN.

P.T.O.

Ireland

March 29th/22.

Sir.

I am grateful to you for sending me
the Cross from my son's gate, to which
the above number applies, which arrived
here a day or two ago - It was carefully
packed & came in good condition -
Again thanking you, I remain

Yrs faithfully
Mary Montgomery

B. Y.

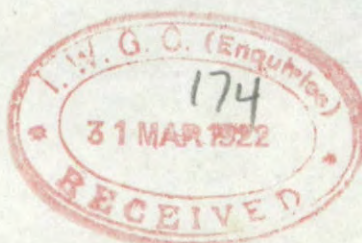
1.5.22

The Secretary

&

noted

Imperial War Gates Commission



FINAL CARD

D. B. 88th BDE
ROYAL FIELD
ARTILLERY

Mon.
D.S.O.

MJR. R.N.V.

1.4.19 E. DOULLENS 2.12C
2.24

S.S.P 5744-27

DOULLENS Communal Cemetery Ex. No. 2

82299

PLOT 1. ROW F. GRAVE 12

AA/47/32200

1.4.22
MD

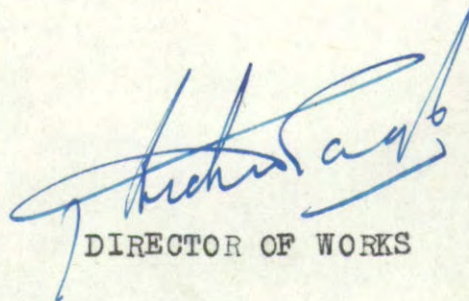
JE 47/32200 final
PTV

AJD/IK
Ref:-19/D22/398/W.

ENQUIRIES BRANCH

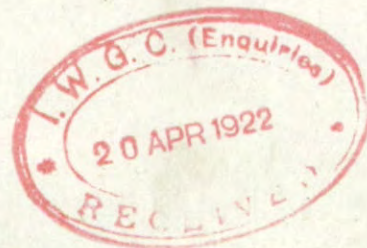
Major R.N.V. Montgomerie D.S.O. R.F.A.
Doullens Communal Cemetery Extn.

With reference to your AA/32200. of the
23rd ultimo, I have to inform you that the headstone
has been erected over the grave of the above named
officer.


DIRECTOR OF WORKS

I.W.G.C.
LONDON
19th April 1922.

Asbury



CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

Gravel Card

DBry 88 Bde R3A

Montgomery DSO

Major RNV.

1-4-19. E

DOB: 5744-27
Doullens 2 12^c
2 24

Doullens Comm. Cem. Ec. No 2.

82299

P. 1. R. "F" Gr 12

R 20/4/22

RA 47/32200.

ASG/6.

AA/ 32200

A.A/32200.

24th April, 1922.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 23rd ultimo, I am directed to inform you that information has now been received to the effect that the headstone has been erected over the grave of the late Major R.H.V. Montgomery, D.S.O. in Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) B.S.C.G.

for Principal Assistant Secretary.

Hubert Montgomery Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Whitehall, S.W.

25.

ENQUIRIES.

Maj.R.N.V.Montgomery, DSO.
88th Bde. RFA.

PE
AA/41/32200

P.T.O

Final

7/K.22/17/R.

7th September, 1922.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your cheque for 12/- and to say that 4 copies of the register of Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension 1 and 2, will be forwarded to you on publication.

I am also to say that the entry in the register respecting the late Major Montgomery, D.S.O., will be amended to read "Died of Influenza", in deference to your wishes, but I am to explain that "Died of Disease is the ordinary military term for death occurring otherwise than in action or from wounds or accident.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J.H.B.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF RECORDS.

Hugh de F.Montgomery Esq.,
Blessingbourne,
Fivemiletown,
Co.Tyrone.

FINAL CARD

D. Bty 85th Bde

ROYAL FIELD

ARTILLERY

MAJOR R.N.V.

1.4.19 E.

DOULLENS

1.12c

2.24

89.229
1/11/21
82299
DOULLENS Communal Cemetery EXTN

No. 2

Plot 1. Row F. GRAVE 12

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

23
MONTGOMERY
D.S.O.

S.S.P 5744-27

11/11/47/32200

AG 32200

KENINGTON 3004.

3, CRANLEY PLACE,
ONSLOW GARDENS, S.W.

26th July, 1933.

My dear General,

I hope you will forgive my writing to you about this point, but the trouble which you and all your people always take in these matters is my justification.

A cousin of mine, Mrs. Welch, who goes to France every year to visit her husband's grave and who also takes the opportunity while in France to look at my brother's grave in the Doullens Cemetery, has just come back from her yearly visit. She tells me that my brother's grave was very tidy and well kept but that the

Major-General
Sir Fabian Ware, K.C.V.O.,

"black /

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

"black spots", which apparently are common in all the cemeteries, are very bad this year and that they make the text on the cross hard to read. I am sorry to say I do not know the number of the grave, but the name on the cross is: Major Ralph (or R.N.V.) Montgomery, D.S.O., R.F.A. *(I am not sure whether it has the Christian name or initials)*

My family and I should be very grateful if you would be kind enough to ask the people in charge of Doullens to do anything that may be possible to remedy the damage.

*Yours sincerely,
Hubert Montgomery.*

AA/32200.

28th July, 1933.

My dear Sir Hubert,

Of course I will have this matter looked into and will let you know the result. Probably, for some quite good reason the headstones have not been washed down recently.

Perhaps you will understand that it is very useful for me to hear of individual cases like this on which I can personally concentrate. It has a good effect on the general work, if you know what I mean.

Thank you very much for writing to me personally, and please do not reply until you hear from me again.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) FABIAN WARE

Sir Hubert Montgomery, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.,
3, Cranley Place,
Onslow Gardens,
London, S.W.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

P.A. to P.C. III
Mr. Edward
for information *hjm*

HFR/WIC.
Reference 31/G33/300/W.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF WORKS
FRANCE.

My dear Higginson,

The General has received a letter from Sir Hubert Montgomery, with regard to his brother's grave Major Ralph Montgomery, D.S.O. in one of the Doullens Cemeteries. I am sorry my particulars should be so vague, but as the two Cemeteries stand just opposite one another, I expect your gardener knows the location right away.

I may as well give you what Sir Hubert says - and you will be able to deal with it -

".....the grave was very tidy and well kept, but the 'black spots', which apparently are common in all the cemeteries, are very bad this year and they make the text on the cross hard to read."

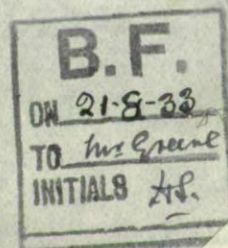
I suppose this is the same horrible little "ring-worm" lichen, and possibly the headstones at Doullens have not been cleaned, yet?

I should be obliged if you could get on to this, as the General has asked for an assurance that the marks are removed in order to reply to Sir Hubert. There is no actual panic about the matter, but perhaps you will let me know some time during the next few weeks, when you have had time to do the necessary.

Yours sincerely,

I.W.G.C.
LONDON.

31st July, 1933.



EJK/LCD.

AA/32200.

Reference:- 11/H33/310/V.

DIRECTOR OF WORKS.

In a telephone conversation this morning the Vice-Chairman asked me to let you know that he wishes to write again personally to Sir Hubert Montgomery as soon as you have given him the information for which you have asked C.A.O. in your letter No.31/G33/300/W. of the 31st July, 1933.

As I am going on leave shortly, perhaps you will be so kind as to communicate, either direct or through Mr.Greene, with the Vice-Chairman on this point in due course.

E.J.K

P.A. to V.C.

11th August, 1933.

B.F.	
ON	1/9/33
TO	me
INITIALS	AWA 22/8

N

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)

Reference:- 25/H33/303/W.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

|| Last Tuesday I visited Doullens Communal Cemetery No.2 and examined the headstone of Major Ralph Montgomery, D.S.O. The stone is a good one and the lettering and carving have been well done. To test the legibility we found we could read the engraving easily from four rows away. I examined the stone minutely to make sure that I was not overlooking any defects, and these are so small that a camera would not register them. At the top right-hand corner there is a tiny chip about $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter; just above the Cross and to the right of it a shell has come out about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in length and $\frac{1}{8}$ " in width and quite shallow, and at the side of the personal inscription there are two tiny spalls. Apart from this, it is an excellent stone and has been cleaned. *The Black spots which have presumably been taken from the stone are no longer there - presumably removed by washing*

I looked at another stone at Rouen about which there has also been a complaint; Corporal Powell's, and here again I can only say it is an exceptionally fine Hopton Wood Stone - I could find no defect whatever. In the presence of complaints of this kind, one cannot help wondering how they come about. It is just possible that both stones were looked at when the sun was shining on them from the front, and one is tempted to ask if the spectacles worn at the moment were the most appropriate.

A. J. Robinson

DIRECTOR OF WORKS.

28th August 1933.

Address: -
British Legation

AA/32200.

DRAFT. The Hague

Holland

Tyell:
(Blue folder)
MS

15 SEP 1933

My dear Sir Hubert,

You will remember that, in July, you wrote to me about the headstone on your brother's grave. I have been away for a short holiday, which explains the delay in letting you have a report; but ^{our} my Director of Works has ^{himself} recently visited the Cemetery, ^{& examined the headstone at my request} and this is what he says.

" Last Tuesday I visited Doullens Communal Cemetery No. 2 and examined the headstone of Major Ralph Montgomery, D.S.O. The stone is a good one and the lettering and carving have been well done. To test the legibility we found we could read the engraving easily from four rows away. I examined the stone minutely to make sure that I was not overlooking any defects, and these are so small that a camera would not register them. At the top right-hand corner there is a tiny chip about $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter; just above the Cross and to the right of it a shell has come out about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in length and $\frac{1}{8}$ " in width and quite shallow, and at the side of the personal inscription there are two tiny spalls."

With regard to the black spots, these are caused by a vegetable growth, and they are easily removed by washing. We have arrangements by which all our headstones are regularly washed in rotation, and that on your brother's grave has recently received attention, so that, at the time of the visit of ^{our} my Director of Works, no black spots were to be seen.

^{So I think you may like it is that everything is done as far as your family wish it to be.}
In case it would be useful to you to have a note of it, the number of your brother's grave is 12 in Plot 1, Row F; and the official name of the Cemetery is Doullens Communal Cemetery No. 2.

Sir John and Lady Milbanke will return to London to-morrow from Monte Carlo, and will leave on Friday for Scotland.

May: 23rd/933.

Sir Hubart Montgomery, the newly appointed Minister at The Hague, and Lady Montgomery left London yesterday for the Netherlands.

Sir Herbert Stanley has arrived in

AA/32200.

14th September, 1933.

My dear Sir Hubert,

You will remember that, in July, you wrote to me about the headstone on your brother's grave. I have been away for a short holiday, which explains the delay in letting you have a report; but our Director of Works has himself recently visited the Cemetery, and examined the headstone at my request. This is what he says.

" Last Tuesday I visited Doullens Communal Cemetery No. 2 and examined the headstone of Major Ralph Montgomery, D.S.O. The stone is a good one and the lettering and carving have been well done. To test the legibility we found we could read the engraving easily from four rows away. I examined the stone minutely to make sure that I was not overlooking any defects, and these are so small that a camera would not register them. At the top right-hand corner there is a tiny chip about $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter; just above the Cross and to the right of it a shell has come out about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in length and $\frac{1}{8}$ " in width and quite shallow, and at the side of the personal inscription there are two tiny spalls. "

With regard to the black spots, these are caused by a vegetable growth, and they are easily removed by washing. We have arrangements by which all our headstones are regularly washed in rotation, and that on your brother's grave has recently received attention, so that, at the time of the visit of our Director of Works, no black spots were to be seen. So I think you may take it that everything is now as you and your family would wish it to be.

- 2 -

In case it would be useful to you to have a note of it, the number of your brother's grave is 12 in Plot 1, Row F; and the official name of the Cemetery is Doullens Communal Cemetery No. 2.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) FABIAN WARE

Sir Hubert Montgomery, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.,
British Legation,
The Hague,
HOLLAND.

V.C. has been. ✓

AA/32200

DfW (Capt. Robinson)

He V.C. wishes you to see his.

ms

18 SEP 1933

V.C. Thank you H.R.
19.9.33

16th September, 1933.

My dear General,

Very many thanks for your letter of the 14th telling me of the report made by your Director of Works with regard to my brother's grave.

It is very good of you and the Director of Works to have taken so much trouble about it, but I feel sure that this is the experience of all those who have graves of members of their family under the care of your Commission.

Yours sincerely,
Hubert the antiquary

Major-General Sir Fabian Ware,
K.C.V.O., K.B.E., etc., etc.,

Imperial War Graves Commission,

LONDON.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/61 (AA32200)