

**THE HILL OF GOODBYE;
THE STORY OF A SOLITARY
WHITE WOMAN'S LIFE IN
CENTRAL AFRICA**

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The Hill of goodbye; the story of a solitary white woman's life in Central Africa by Jessie Monteath Currie

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JESSIE MONTEATH CURRIE

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THE STORY OF A SOLITARY
WHITE WOMAN'S LIFE IN
CENTRAL AFRICA**

THE HILL OF GOOD-BYE

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

WITH POLE AND PADDLE DOWN THE
SHIRE AND ZAMBESI.

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

THE
HILL OF GOOD-BYE

THE STORY OF A SOLITARY WHITE
WOMAN'S LIFE IN CENTRAL AFRICA

BY
JESSIE MONTEATH CURRIE

Author of "*With Pole and Paddle down the
Shire and Zambesi.*"

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*With Loving Pride
I dedicate this book
To the Memory of my only Son
ADAM CURRIE,
1st Scots Guards,
Who fought for Freedom till he fell in
Action in his fourth year at the Front.*

CONTENTS

CHAP.	PAGE
I. UP THE ZAMBESI RIVER - - -	1
II. ACROSS THE GREAT TUCHILLA PLAIN - -	14
III. MY MOUNTAIN HOME - - -	30
IV. THE DOCTOR'S PROPHECY - - -	40
V. THE WASHING DAY - - -	47
VI. AJAULA'S FIRST HANDKERCHIEF - -	56
VII. THE BROKEN DRUM - - -	67
VIII. WE EXPLORE THE MOUNTAIN - - -	77
IX. THE VICTIM - - -	88
X. THE LITTLE HORN THAT DANCED - -	96
XI. THE "KALAMUKA" RATS - - -	107
XII. MKANDA'S THREAT - - -	115
XIII. THE MIDNIGHT FLIGHT - - -	124
XIV. A MIGHTY BREWING - - -	138
XV. THE PUNISHMENT - - -	144
XVI. A WOMAN'S SYMPATHY - - -	149
XVII. SUNDAY, AND A SNAKE - - -	155
XVIII. A WANDERING MINSTREL - - -	163
XIX. MY GIRLS EXCEL - - -	176
XX. AJAULA'S NEW NAME - - -	191
XXI. THE LIKOMBA, AND OTHER FRIENDS -	196
XXII. THE DOCTOR'S DINNER, AND A PICNIC	205
XXIII. THE MAGIC HORN - - -	213
XXIV. NAMONDE'S TRIAL - - -	219
XXV. THE BUSH FIRES - - -	226
XXVI. THE FOREBODING - - -	232
XXVII. THE CHIEF'S REVENGE - - -	238

THE HILL OF GOOD-BYE

CHAPTER I

UP THE ZAMBESI RIVER

WHEN I sit alone, lost to things external, I see sights that few can. Marvellous rocky peaks, mysterious depths, and familiar dark figures, whose eyes flash with passion or mirth, pass before me. I hear sounds—soft childish voices, weird beating of drums and woeful yells, and the clear call of a bugle. It is the "lipenga." The flag is lowered. The dark figures cease their work. The sun slips behind the long line of purple hills. The small creatures awake in the grass—click, click, all night. It is quite dark. Can I make it light to you? Can I make you see the sights that haunt me, and hear the sounds that thrill me even now? I would that I could.

To begin with, there was the long, long journey which must be rapidly gone over, dwelling only