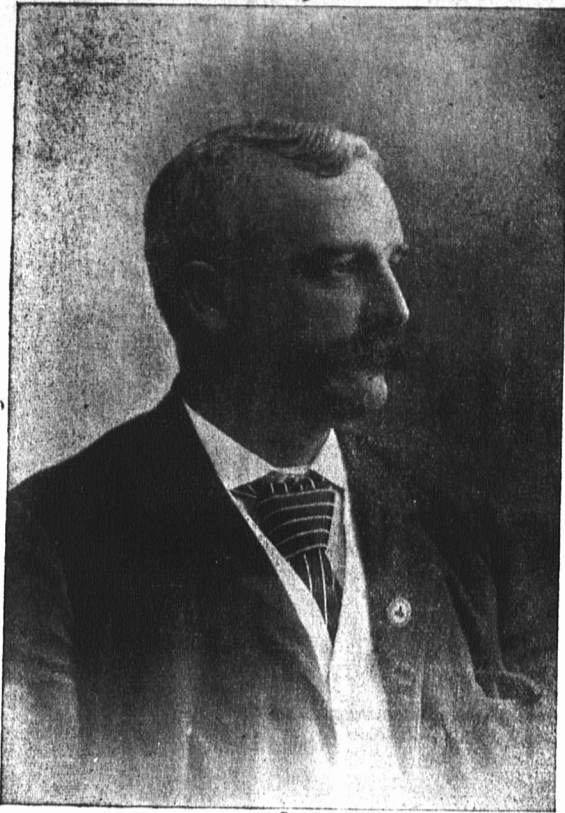
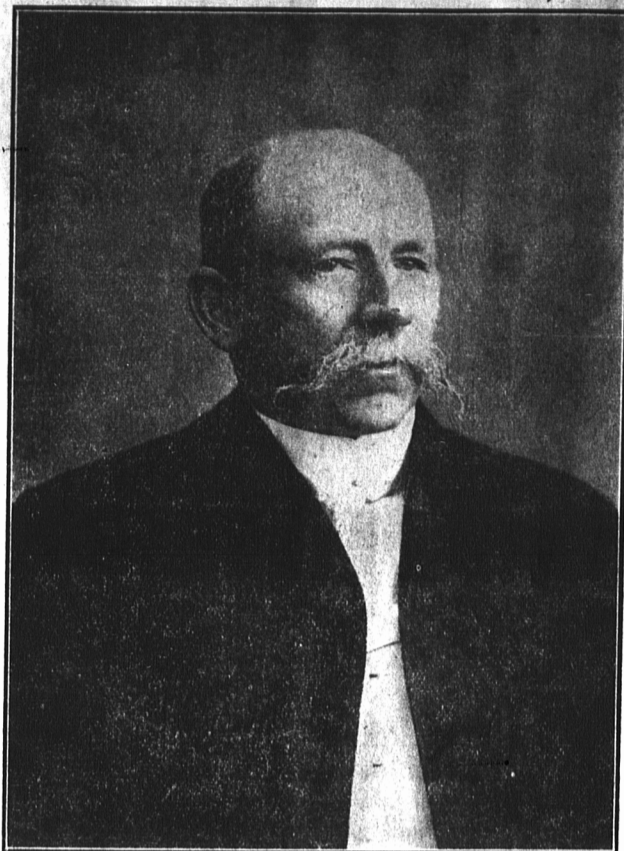


# SOME OFFICERS OF THE ISLAND MILITIA.



DR. JAMES WARBURTON,  
Lieut. Colonel of the 82nd Regiment.



CAPT. D. L. HOOPER.  
With honorary rank of Major and Paymaster of the 82nd Regiment.



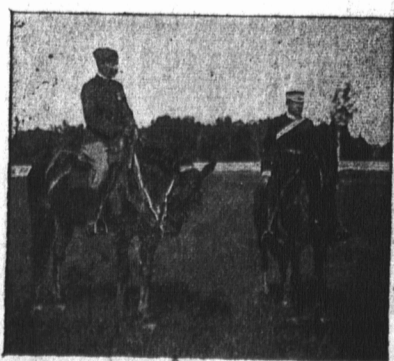
LIEUT. COLONEL JOHNSON,  
of the Army Medical Corps who served with Field Hospital Corps in the recent South African War.



LIEUT. COLONEL JENKINS,  
of the 4th Regiment Canadian Artillery.



CAPT. LESLIE AND LIEUT. LESLIE  
Late of No. 6 Co. C. A.



COL. MOORE D. O.C. AND CAPT. J. A. MACDONALD, OF THE LIGHT HORSE

## RUSSIAN TROOPS MASSED ON THE AFGHAN FRONTIER

The end of the Russo-Japanese War will not mean peace for Russia. It may be only a few months before the Czar is engaged in another struggle as gigantic and desperate as the one he has waged in the Far East—a struggle that military critics say will be fully as hopeless as the clash with the Mikado.

While the world has been lost in the absorbing interest of the fighting in Manchuria and the Sea of Japan, and while Russia has been taking whippings day by day, the Czar has been engaged stealthily in preparing for his next appeal to the gods of war. Not all Russia's strength has been wasted on the plains of Mukden or around Port Arthur. She has poured her soldiers by hundreds of thousands into Death's great Hopper in Manchuria. She has sent so many to fight the Mikado's men, that her own cities have been given over to anarchy and revolt. Yet she has managed to send 200,000 of her best soldiers to live on the northern frontier of Afghanistan.

So unobtrusively has Russia worked out her plans of past centuries to seize Afghanistan and India that the world has not known how nearly she has come to that point where she can strike to humble England's pride and realize her own ambitions. Across the barren plains and steppes of Russian Turkestan and Bokhara, the people of the Czar have built great railroads—railroads that could have no commercial support. They were built for one reason—to carry the Czar's army to the very boundary line of India.

Mile by mile the roadways have crept silently across the desert places until they have pierced the northern frontier of Afghanistan. Now they threaten to go through the thick buffer between Russia and India. So close is Russia's military

railroad to the north of India that Prime Minister Balfour has warned the Czar to go no further. Thus far, and no farther, was the gist of his speech that is still stirring Europe and the whole world. The Prime Minister announced that if Russia advanced her railroads into Afghanistan, England would take it as a cause of war.

But Russia is already so close to India that her troops could take Herat, Afghanistan, in a week. This is admitted by the army officers in India who are acquainted with the situation. From Merv, in Russian Turkestan, a little branch road runs to Kushk, on the boundary of Afghanistan, only a short distance from Herat. The Ameer of Afghanistan has plenty of old forts scattered along the frontier, but they would be helpless against modern siege guns.

Directly across Afghanistan from Kushk the Russian terminal is Chaman, the terminal of the British railroads. The British have not been sleeping while the Russians have been working out their dream of conquest. The almost impassable mountains along the frontier are crowned with British works to guard the passes through which yellow hordes once poured their way into India. The mountains are India's best protection. The Pamirs rear themselves heavenward into a plateau that is the highest in the world.

The Russians have established military posts all along the Afghanistan border and it is now possible to drive comfortably in a carriage over their magnificent roads connecting the various stations from which the move upon India could be made. These military roads stretch from several points in Turkestan to the Afghanistan frontier. Down them Russian armies could be moved hurriedly to take the land of the Ameer. From Merv to Tashkend military communications have been established, and new army posts have been created throughout Bokhara. The barren village of Merv has been transformed into a city with huge granaries and stores and well-fitted workshops, not to mention the enormous barracks built to shelter the soldiers of the Czar from the cold winters of that country.

The Russian preparations have been pushed forward with tremendous energy since the Younghusband expedition to Tibet placed the British in control there and made abortive the Russian intrigues with the Tibetan Government. From the Caspian to Merv every detail of a great advance has been worked out. The Russians have worked as if they had no great war on their hands to sap their strength. In Turkestan the soldiers hardly know that their comrades are fighting and dying in Manchuria.

The British say that the Russian activities can have but one meaning—that is, to take Afghanistan first and India afterward. A humiliating defeat by the Japanese has not been regarded by the British as a damper on the Russian ardor in pushing on toward India. All along the British strategists have argued that the worse the defeat in the East the more determined would be the Czar to strike blow at India. This is said to be Russia's only hope of counteracting the effect of the Japanese victories.

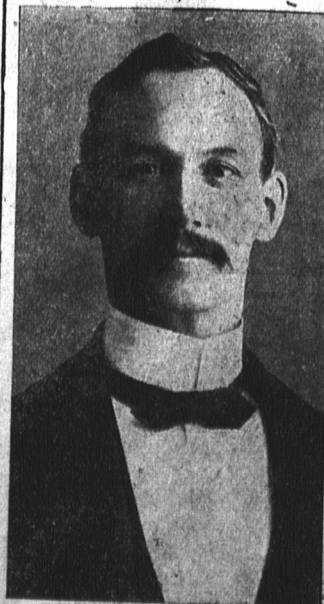
At present the British have the advantage in Afghanistan. A mission to Kabul has just succeeded in getting the signature of the new Ameer to the treaty that was held sacred so long by the Ameer's father. The British have had their fill in Afghanistan. They have occupied Kabul more than once, and have suffered massacres and bloody revolts against their rule. Once an entire British expedition was massacred by the Ameer's soldiers. Now the British Government is pleased to have Afghanistan remain nominally an independent state to act as a buffer between India and Russia. There is a constant war of diplomacy to control the Ameer. It may be only a short time before diplomacy will stand aside for agencies more grim and certain.



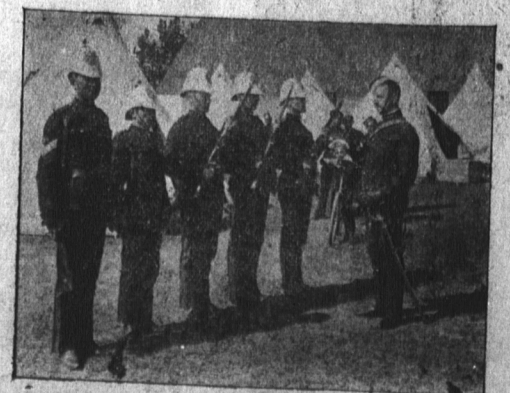
MAJOR A. G. PEAKE,  
of No. 2 Co. C. A.



CAPT. W. A. JOHNSTONE,  
of Montague Co. 4th Regiment.



CAPT. W. H. WATTS  
Brigade Major of the Militia in Camp.



MAJOR CARVELL REVIEWING A GUARD.



MAJOR A. A. BARTLETT  
of No. 1 Company C. A.