

# RUSSIA WANTS TO SNATCH INDIA.

England never forgets that the North Star looks down through the Khyber Pass, and that year after year the Russian outposts creep closer to the confines of India. The movement of 20,000 Russian troops to the Afghan frontier and the publication of secret Russian state papers purporting to have been stolen from the archives of the Muscovite ministry of war have created a sensation in England, and engaged public attention there to a degree second only to the interest in the new news from South Africa. These papers were sold in London by a man who was connected with the office formerly of the Russian general staff, and who had fallen out with his employers and had fallen out with the office formerly of the Russian general staff, and who had fallen out with his employers and had fallen out with the office formerly of the Russian general staff.

notice, they visited all the Russian outposts, the principal strategic points in Afghanistan and along the Indian frontier, and even passed over the Chinese territory in the course of their investigations. In all this they report they say: "We think it well to state, for the information of your excellency, that we are unanimous in the conclusions arrived at, and have not the least doubt that the invasion of India and the bringing of the millions who inhabit that country under the beneficent rule of his imperial majesty the czar are not only possible, but could be accomplished in a comparatively short space of time, the exact period requisite depending mainly on the moment chosen and the conditions of the season when the work is undertaken."

The plan recommended is secretly to collect large bodies of troops on the Afghan frontier and strong force of Cossacks at Chirap in the Pamir. All being ready and the northern chiefs and the disgruntled native princes of India being "prepared for their deliverance," a rush is to be made into Afghanistan while the Cossacks dash from the north into Chirap, where the tribes will rise and join them. A rising in the Punjab also is expected. If England advances into Afghanistan to meet the Russians she is to be overwhelmed by superior force. If she elects to fight on her strongly fortified border, which they call the Peshawar-Quetta line—the Russians are to make a feint on Quetta, capture Kabul, and with the aid of the native tribes try the Khyber Pass, while other troops are poured in from the north. The commissioners—or spies—seem to have no doubt as to the upturning of the natives in favor of Russia. They say in their report:

"The rule of England in India is a rule of brute force. So far from having succeeded in winning the affection of the natives, the outcome of British rule has been only to repress all expression of their natural desires; and, apart from the resentment aroused by

the seizure of the country and the interference with the time-honored customs and observances both of the Hindus and the Mussulmans, there remains on the part of the latter, who form the bulk of the inhabitants of the north, an invincible hatred for the unbelievers who have usurped the functions of their honored and well-beloved co-religionist rulers."

In this respect there is a marked contrast between the Mussulmans of India and those of Russian Central Asia. The Mahometan subjects of the czar in Turkestan and Bokhara have gained largely by the incidence of Russian control. Apart from the blessings involved in the just administration of our military chiefs, the restoration of order in the regions of Turkestan, Tashkent, Bokhara and Samarkand has ended the ravages at one time so constant by the Tekkes and the Salars, who made the country a hell and enslaved the peaceable inhabitants. In India the rule of the native princes was upon the whole just, and the substitution of English jurisdiction brought in its train the imposition of an amount of taxation previously unknown. For these reasons the people of India await their time until they see an opportunity of overthrowing their hated conquerors. It is the custom of English political writers to deny this and to maintain that the natives are satisfied under the British yoke. But this claim cannot be substantiated. When the English took the country called Hazara, which for centuries had been the home of the Sikhs, they inherited the hatred of the whole race, and it needs only an opportunity for the word "Jahad" (Holy War) to go forth for the whole of the country to blaze in such an insurrection as has not been seen during the passing century.

It behooves us, therefore, to abide an opportunity when England has her attention directed elsewhere, and to take action in three directions. "Firstly, we send trustworthy emissaries—disguised across the Hindu Kush to encourage the people and sow dissensions in the native army. Secondly, dispatch a division of regular cavalry, lightly incumbered, in some region distant from the actual point of intended attack in order to induce the English to send a force of

their best men to oppose our advance."

Thirdly, as soon as the success of this feint is assured, and the British are mobilizing troops on the frontier which we have no intention to open against, we must fling our troops into the English sphere with the utmost celerity so as to enable us to deal the enemy a crushing blow at the first encounter. If the first portion of this program has been capably carried out the success of the third movement will be assured, and the natives, prepared by our secret warnings and advice, will rise to a man to free themselves of the hated foreigner."

It is impossible at this moment to lay down definite instructions for the natives of the Punjab. The most fitting places and the best means to obtain the desired end must be left to the ingenuity of the persons entrusted with this delicate mission; but it is of the utmost importance that the task should be entrusted to officers of known ability, whose duty it will be to explain to the people that whereas the one idea of their present masters is the prosecution of trade, and that in the development of their commerce the faithful subjects of the emperor are to be regarded as the inheritors of the soil equally with the merchant and the trader; that he is the sincere friend and ally of the commander of the faithful, and that the Russians do not care to protect the inheritors of the soil equally with the merchant and the trader; that he is the sincere friend and ally of the commander of the faithful, and that the Russians do not care to protect the inheritors of the soil equally with the merchant and the trader.

The proper carrying out of this mission will require some time; but months thus occupied need not be wasted. While the natives of India are being prepared for their deliverance other emissaries will find ample work to do elsewhere. It is of the utmost importance that all those native rulers who are known to be prepared for the approach of its debacle. After sounding the Amir of Afghanistan as closely as we deemed it wise to do we have come to the conclusion that he is not to be relied on for direct aid in the suggested contingency. We therefore think that it will be wisest to deal with him

through the Mullahs at Kabul, who should be entrusted with the task of enlisting the Amir's sympathy with the Mohammedan rising when it occurs. We found elsewhere that the Amir's scruples were non-existent. The Mullah of Chitral and the dethroned Mahut of Hunza, who retains his influence throughout Kunjul, practically have pledged themselves to support any government on our part which may have for its object the overthrow of the existing English dominion in their territories, and the Sardars of Badakshan and Wakhan, notwithstanding their responsibility to the Amir, would, we are assured, gladly aid us in attaining the desired end."

The commissioners compare not only the military preparedness of the Russians and the English, but also the racial characteristics of the two peoples in a manner not at all flattering to the British. They say: "Omitting all reference to that turpitude which is invariably displayed by the English when prompt action is requisite, we are, alike by the means at our disposal, resources and system of communication, infinitely better prepared to take action in the neighborhood of Afghanistan than is our rival. Owing to the stupidity of the English character, the British authorities never dream of making preparations for eventualities until they arrive, and in a crisis generally do the wrong thing. Her rulers are more concerned in playing the national game of party government than in systematizing a means of defending the frontiers of the empire, and as a result the advantage must always rest on the side of the attack. The immense precautions which have been taken by ourselves during the last ten years have, on the other hand, resulted in the creation of a system of strategic railways and bases of supply such as will enable us to bear the strain which might be put upon them."

The force which England could place at a given time in her advanced posts on the Afghan frontier is limited to her Indian army, which at present consists of 120,000 native troops, leavened by 75,000 British soldiers. This force has to supply garrisons for the whole of India. Of this total of 225,000 men not more than one-third could with safety

be posted on the northwest frontier in time of war, inasmuch as so soon as that frontier was threatened the natives throughout the peninsula would begin to give trouble, and require strong bodies of soldiers to be placed in their neighborhood. On our side, now that the new railway is completed, it would be possible to transport the whole of the Caucasian reserves to Afghanistan, in addition to the force under the command of the governor of Transcaspia. Thus we could throw upon the Indian frontier a force of anything up to a quarter of a million men, all of whom would be available for actual fighting; whereas, owing to the character of the Mahometans in Northern India, large numbers of British troops would be destined to keep order, and the forces available to repulse our attack would be accordingly diminished. Nor does the contrast between ourselves and our neighbors end here. The requirements of a British army corps are, when regarded from the Russian standpoint, stupendous. In the Afghan war of 1875 the number of transport animals required for the service of the troops amounted to nearly double the number of the men employed, and the difficulties created by this necessity tend to destroy the mobility of the troops. By using Cossack and Caucasian regiments we could reduce the item of transports to extremely modest dimensions, and thereby gain a speed in movement unknown to our enemy."

These remarks have angered the British all the more that there is so much of truth in them, and that little bit about "never preparing for eventualities until they arrive," and "being more concerned in playing the national game of party government than in systematizing a means of defending the frontiers of the empire," is calculated to make an American also wince a little.

It is recommended that Russia wait for the "psychological moment" for the rush on India, that moment being a time when England has a war on her hands in some other part of the globe. It is estimated that with a large war on hand somewhere else England will have only 60,000 men available for frontier defense, and the British troops under the command of the Amir, totally unfit to face our (the Russian)

troops in the field. Herat, they frankly intimate, can be taken at any time without a battle. "By a judicious use of the golden key." If the British advance into Afghanistan to repel the Russians the commissioners declare that there could be little difficulty in defeating them, and draw this, to a Russian, pleasing picture of what would follow: "The moment of the defeat of the British army in the Valley of Herat would be made the signal for the rising of the natives of the Punjab. There can be no two opinions as to the effect of a British defeat at our hands on the minds of the Sikhs, Afridis and Punjabs; and it would only need a word from our agents to the Mullahs throughout the country to insure the declaration of a Jihad against the English wherever found. Within a week the whole of the Punjab would be in a state of siege, the army would be surrounded in its strongholds and the English shot wherever found."

The report closes as follows: "The rulers of India would thus find themselves confronted contemporaneously by a native rising throughout their frontiers, a main attack from Afghanistan, and a series of flank movements on its most outlying districts by hardy, well-trained and admirably led troops, who have for years been adapted for this particular venture. We do not consider it within our province to deal with the question of routes through the Punjab, or the tactics to be employed in dispersing the remnants of the English forces. Such matters fall rather within the duties of the officers attached to the general staff than to the planners of the Asiatic department; but we assume that once a Russian army finds itself within the frontier line of India, the overrunning and final domination of that empire is merely a matter of time."

"It really seems as if the great struggle between England and Russia, a struggle so long predicted and so long delayed, might not be so far off as many are inclined to think. One interesting point about this report is that while the commissioners were making their recommendations for the capture of India the czar's peace congress was in session in The Hague. The bear that walks like a man."

## Special Opening and Sale of New Spring Goods!

We have this season gathered for our patrons the most Elaborate and Comprehensive Stocks it has ever been our pleasure to display. Counters, Cases, Tables, Shelves are laden with the BEST MERCHANDISE PROCURABLE, bought BEFORE the ADVANCE in PRICES, thereby Enabling us to GUARANTEE you a SAVING on Every item. Money spent with us gets more genuine value, goes further, lasts longer, gets more style, more quality and does more actual service than it is possible to do Elsewhere. This week will be particularly interesting—Every Department Contributing—SILKS, DRESS GOODS, MILLINERY, NOTIONS, SHOES, CAPES, SUITS, JACKETS, WAISTS, WASH FABRICS, LINENS, HOSIERY, UNDERWEAR, BOYS' CLOTHING, GENTS' FURNISHINGS, etc., on account of the Great Values Offered.

### Silks and Dress Goods.

#### NEW PLAIDS.

Anticipating the popular demand for Plaid Dress Goods, Auerbach's have made a specialty of them, and are now prepared to show them in all the new shades and new Weaves. The modest prices at which we have marked these high-class Plaid Novelties will insure their early sale at

30c, 35c, 50c, 60c, 65c, 90c, \$1.00, \$1.15, \$1.25, \$1.50

#### NEW BLACKS.

We are showing a handsome assortment of the Celebrated Priestly & Co.'s English black goods, including stripes, Jacquards, Mattelases, Crepons, Fancy Solids, etc., the quality and wear are guaranteed.

85c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and up to \$3.00 a yard

#### NOVELTY SUITINGS.

EXTRA VALUES AWAIT YOU HERE TOMORROW.

New Storm Serges, new Venetians, new Camel's Hair Zibelines and fancy Mohair Plaids, New Novelty Suitings, all worth up to 80c. Your choice, a yard.....50c

New Tailor Suitings, 45 inches wide, new black Crepons new fancy Weave Suitings, new black Brillantines, all worth up to \$1.25 a yard.....75c

#### SILKS.

These beautiful Silks merit a look tomorrow. We tell a few—only a few—from the hundreds of irresistible Week Specials.

New Waist Silks, all the newest and most fetching Waist Silks in stripes and checks, some fancy weaves. You will not find their equal anywhere else. Your choice, a yard.....75c

NEW TAFFETAS, a complete assortment in the newest and best shades of these popular Silks; over 75 distinct colors to select from.....75c and \$1.00

#### MISSSES' AND CHILDREN'S DRESSES.

Truly Great Values in Spite of the General Rise in Dress Material—Well Made, Pretty, Up-to-Date Styles.

Misses' House Suits, made of extra quality duck, skirt trimmed with 3 rows of soutache braid, blouse trimmed in embroidery, white pique and soutache braid; a very nobby suit; sizes 6 to 14, at.....\$2.50

Misses' Natural Linen Blouse Suits, trimmed in colored wash braid, sizes 6 to 14; regular value \$1.75.....\$1.25

Child's Colored Percale Dress, trimmed in rick rack braid, well sewed and fast colored; sizes 1 to 5 years, at.....35c

### Shoe Bargains

Special Prices for One Week.

#### Don't Fail to Visit Our SHOE DEPARTMENT.

Ladies' "JULIA MARLOWE" Oxfords come in both black and tan, all sizes and widths. SPECIAL SALE PRICE.....\$2.29

Ladies' fine quality Kid Shoes, tan and black, New, "up-to-date goods," lace only; worth fully \$2.75. SALE PRICE, one week.....\$2.29

Ladies' Low Shoes, cloth top and all Kid, Tan and black; \$1.75 value. WEEK.....\$1.39

Ladies' "JULIA MARLOWE" Shoes, black and tan colored, all kid and black top. MOST COMFORTABLE EVER MADE. SPECIAL SALE PRICE.....\$3.29

IT PAYS TO BUY SHOES OF US.

## J. Auerbach & Bro.

#### SPECIAL SALE OF

### Ladies' Tailor-made Suits.



For one week, a handsome line of our \$30.00 to \$35.00 will be offered this week, made in fine Chevots, Venetians, Covert, fancy Suitings in the plain, trimmed or applique effects. \$25.00 for Suit.....\$25.00

A superb assortment of new Spring Eton and tight fitting Suits, made in all the newest fabrics, in black and colors, plain and mixed cloths, handsomely tailored garments, of correct style and worth. \$18.50 for.....\$18.50

Man-tailored Suits, all silk lined, made in a great variety of the best materials, in all the new, stylish spring shades, in grays, browns, blues and blacks, etc. \$35.00.....\$35.00

Ladies' Tailor-made Suits, Jacket and Skirt, in brown or gray shades, a regular \$35.00 Suit; this week.....\$5.00

Large assortment of regular \$12.50, \$15.00 Suits, in gray, brown, blue or black. Special price for one week only.....\$7.50

### New Spring Capes

Large assortment of Silk Capes, beaded, braided, in plain or broadened silks, from \$2.50 up to \$15.00.

Balance of our stock of LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S WINTER JACKETS AND CAPES at Less Than Half Price.

### NEW SPRING JACKETS

FOR LADIES OR GIRLS, in black, tan, castor shades, in all the newest styles, from \$5.00 to \$25.00.

CHILD'S JACKETS from \$1.25 up to \$7.50



#### Shirt Waists.

More styles, more novelties, more elegance than ever this season. Ladies' assorted colored Shirt Waists, in checks, stripes, plaids, for 45c.....45c

An elegant line of Shirt Waists in assorted, light or dark stripes, 60c.....60c

A very fine assortment of patterns, styles, etc., for 75c.....75c

#### Underskirts

New styles in black or colored Gaiters, Mercerized Satin, Moreen, percales, calicoes, silk, etc.; all the newest effects, from 45c to \$35.00.....\$35.00

#### Wrappers.

New Spring Wrappers in the newest patterns, latest effects, from 45c to 75c, 85c, \$1.00, \$1.25, up.....\$1.25

### A SUPREME SHOWING.

#### The Newest Washable Dress Goods Fabrics.

Never such a wealth of extreme Novelties as these that are coming and going at Auerbach's. We scarcely get time to realize the beauty of a particular kind until the last length of it has been sold. This rapid selling can have but one meaning—our Novelties are right. An early selection is advisable, as they cannot be duplicated this season. For this week we mention two Great Specials, 1,200 yards plain colored imported Dimitris—30 inches wide, in pink, light blue, lavender, canary yellow, cardinal, navy blue or black. Value 25c. As long as they last, per yard.....17½c

Twenty-five pieces Windsor Nicolae, a beautiful wash fabric, value 22½c; as long as they last, per yard.....22½c

#### Among the New Curtains.

This week you will find many bargains. These, among others, which we have no space to mention: 100 pairs Mirror effect Lace Curtains, with Renaissance effect border, size 1½ by 51, value \$2.50, this week in white or ecru, per pair.....\$1.49

100 pairs Mary Antoinette design Lace Curtains, one of the choicest patterns made this season, size 3½ by 51, Value \$2.75. This week, \$1.80 per pair.....\$1.80

#### This is What We Offer

#### In Linen Department.

A Linen chance never placed within your reach before, and will doubtless never again. An extra good soft finished Table Linen, silver bleached, 3 yards wide, new, desirable pattern, a Damask made to retail at 75c, and ought not to be sold for less. Just for a day we will sell 7 bolts.....55c

#### New Kid Gloves.

Our Own Importation, Just Received—The Styles, The Colors, The Qualities. ARE FRETTER AND SUPERIOR THIS SEASON THAN EVER BEFORE.

THE CROWN leads as the very best wearing, prettiest fitting Kid Glove ever brought to this city. This quality cannot be improved upon for wear or fit. The shades and colorings this season are superb, including Cadet, Pastelle, Heliotrope, Purple, Sand, Rose and Slate, as well as all the staple colors and black in a stock can't be duplicated for less \$1.50 than \$2.00; our price.....\$1.50

#### Hosiery Values.

The Special Low Prices We Offer This Week Is Your Opportunity to Lay In a Supply.

Children's Fast Black Seamless Cotton Hose, a good 17½c grade, in sizes 5 to 9½, for this week.....12½c

Children's Extra Quality Bicycle Hose, unsurpassed for school wear, guaranteed fast black and seamless, sizes 4 to 10, standard 5c grade, for this week, at.....19c

## Fashionable Spring Millinery

At Popular Prices. We are ready for you to make your EASTER SELECTIONS. Never were the Styles so Beautiful, nor the Effects so Grand.

### BOYS' CLOTHING AND GENT'S FURNISHING DEPT SPECIALS.

OUR OBJECT IS SOON TOLD. 'TIS TO GET OUR MAGNIFICENT SPRING STOCK BEFORE THE MOST PEOPLE IN THE QUICKEST TIME BY THE SHORTEST ROUTE (SPECIAL PRICES), AS NO SURE WAY OF MAKING AN INDELIBLE IMPRESSION.

#### BOYS' SUITS.

Cheviot or Cassimere, well made, 2 to 15 years, every seam properly sewed; in fact a wear-giving suit, first-class value at \$2.75. During this sale only, your choice of many different styles and patterns, at.....\$1.95

#### Boys' Double Breasted Sack Suits.

Comprising many very fine weaves and nobby patterns, 12 to 16 years, ordinarily sells at \$2.50 to \$4; for this sale only, your choice.....\$2.45

#### BOYS' SUITS.

An elegant assortment of boys, 7 to 16 years, two-piece, strictly all wool Cheviot and Cassimere Suits, in a large variety of neat checks and plaids. Every suit is well made, lined and trimmed, and will give satisfactory wear.

Not one suit in this lot worth less than \$4.50; during this sale only, your choice.....\$3.37

#### Boys' All Wool Clay Worsted, Cheviot and Cassimere Suits.

In fancy plaids and checks; also black; very neat and genteel; latest patterns. Regular price, \$6.50, at.....\$4.50

#### BOYS' KNEE PANTS.

All wool, comprising many very fine weaves and nobby patterns, some with double seat and knee, mostly large sizes. Regular price, \$1.00, at.....65c

#### BOYS' JERSEY SUITS.

All wool, neatly trimmed and very attractive, ages 4 to 9 years. Regular price, \$3.00, at.....\$1.75

#### Men's All-Over Percale Shirts.

Laundered, open front and back, split neck band and all the latest improvements required in a shirt today, with separate cuffs. They are cheap at that; \$1.25 value, as they are cheap at that; during this sale only, your choice of many different colors and patterns, at.....85c