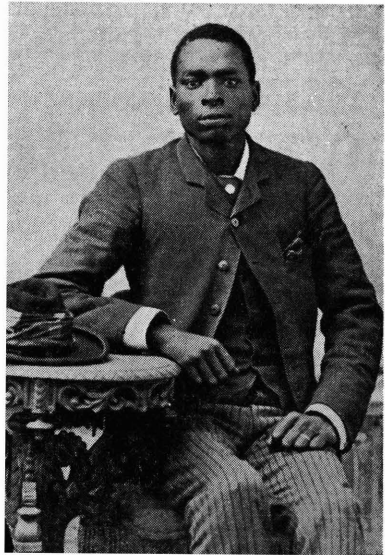


P. R. Ferreira who served Johann Rissik and his family faithfully for over fifty years



born — Bernard on 8 March, 1892 (killed in action in Flanders on 22nd June, 1915), Harry, on 10 April 1894, Pieter Ulrich on 11 March 1896, and Johann on 8 November 1899 (died on 9 January 1904).

COMMUNITY HALL

BY 1898 the community near “Linschoten” had grown considerably but was without a centre for primary and Sunday School classes and general social activities. As a result the neighbouring owners built a small hall in the centre of Arcadia Park in which the new Pretoria Art Gallery now stands. The cost was met jointly by Johann Rissik and other nearby residents including Advocates Ewald Esselen, J. W. Wessels and J. S. Curlewis, Mr. Edward Rooth a well-known attorney, Mr. Gerard Rissik father of Gerard Rissik Governor of the South African Reserve Bank, Mr. Servaas de Kock a leading land surveyor living at the corner of Arcadia and Johann Streets and Mr. H. C. Jorissen (later Governor of the Reserve Bank) next door in Arcadia Street. Miss Adams and Mr. Eva ran an excellent Sunday School in the hall before its demolition about 1908.

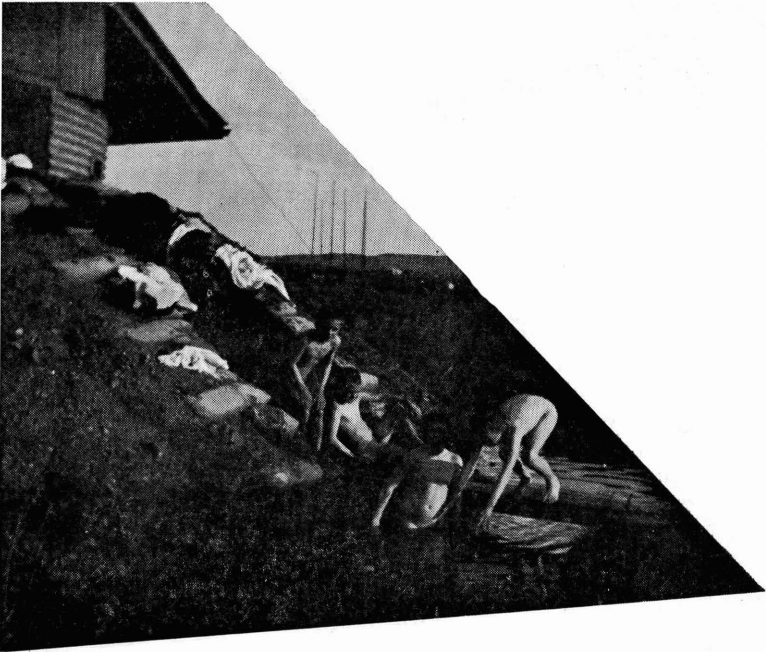
Johann Rissik was responsible for the enactment in 1891 of the General Survey Law under which the Republic was properly surveyed. He also contributed substantially to furthering accuracy, order and method in the Transvaal land registration system. On 13 September 1893 he was appointed a Commissaris (Director) of the Government-sponsored De

Nationale Bank der Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek Beperkt which had been incorporated by a special decree of the Volksraad on 9 August 1890 and which on 2 November 1925 amalgamated with two other Banks to form Barclays Bank D.C.O.

THE SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP

ON 29 December 1895 an armed force under L. S. Jameson invaded the Transvaal to join the Uitlanders in Johannesburg under the Reform Committee and overthrow the Kruger Government. The invasion was an abysmal failure. Jameson surrendered on 2 January 1896. The Reform Committee were arrested on 9 January and locked up in the Pretoria Gaol. They included H. B. Marshall the husband of Johann Rissik's only sister, founder of Marshall's township &c., as well as numerous friends. Johann and Mimmie Rissik with other Pretorians succoured their imprisoned relative and friends with food, drink and comforts.

Shortly after the end of the Boer War Johann Rissik had been dangerously ill in Pretoria. His physician Dr. H. P. Veale prescribed



Johann Rissik's sons and friends in 1904 bathing in moat of British block-house on what is now Hillcrest, Pretoria East

portwine for his convalescence. None could be obtained. Then without warning a case of Sandeman's best invalid port arrived at "Linschoten". It had been procured with the greatest difficulty and sent by one of the incarcerated Reform Committee who remembered Rissik's kindness — their Secretary J. Percy FitzPatrick a lifelong personal friend and political foe, writer of the topical and sensational attack on the Kruger Government "The Transvaal from Within" (1899) and later the famous author of "Jock of the Bushveld" (1907).

WAR

ON the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War in 1899 Johann Rissik went on commando with General Louis Botha to whom he was always a trusted friend and adviser. After the British occupation of Pretoria and President Kruger's subsequent departure from the Transvaal, General Schalk W. Burger as State President at the Government's Field Headquarters on the summit of the Tautesberg, appointed Johann Rissik a member of a Special Court for the districts of Zoutpansberg and Waterberg to try a man for high treason. Johann Rissik wrote respectfully declining to act by reason of his lack of legal training.

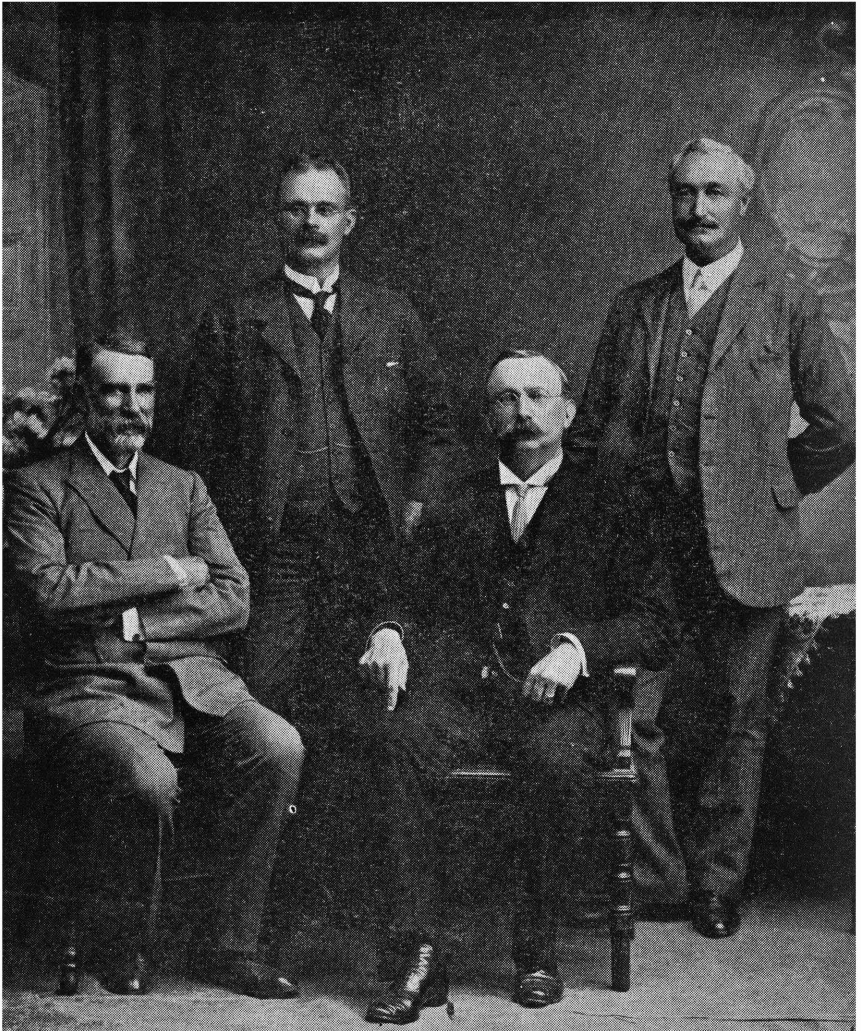
About the same time President Schalk Burger instructed Johann Rissik as a member of the Government Financial Commission at Pietersburg to borrow £500 for the Government from Mr. D. J. Brink against the security of £500 Government Notes dated 28 May, 1900. Mr. Brink was not prepared to lend the Government that sum of "klinkende munt" without further security which Johann Rissik and another then furnished by adding their own personal guarantees to the Government Notes.

A RAID ON AN ORCHARD

AFTER Johann Rissik had gone on commando and left his wife Mimmie alone responsible for looking after their young sons and large property, she found the invading British troops raiding her orange and naartje orchards and cutting the trees for fuel. Indignantly she went to British Military Headquarters which sought appeasement by placing a guard over her home. At the headquarters she also happened upon her brother-in-law H. B. Marshall's nephew Lieut. James McLaren of the Gordon Highlanders, who further placated her by entertaining her sons with a fascinating conducted tour over their enemy's redoubt on the summit of the hill on Andrew Johnston's "Lisdogan" Estate.

THE TRANSVAAL GOLD LAW

JOHANN RISSIK had a profound knowledge of the Transvaal Gold Law. Sir Richard Solomon chairman of the Gold Law Commission, appointed by the British authorities after the annexation of the Transvaal, personally asked him to give evidence. He agreed and the commission's report shows



The first Provincial Administrators, 1910. Left to right: Mr. Smythe, Natal, Johann Rissik, Transvaal, Sir Frederick de Waal, Cape, and Mr. Ramsbottom, Orange Free State