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SAVAGES WANTED BY BOTH SIDES

England May Transfer Black Men From India to Fight Allies of the Boers.

BASUTOS VERSUS GHOURKAS

Expected That the Men From India Will Give the Blacks From Africa a Good Run for Their Money.

In the coming struggle between Great Britain and the Transvaal a very curious state of affairs has come about in the disposition of the fighting men of both sides.

Following close on the heels of this announcement came the information that the Ghorikas, from India, had signified their intention of fighting for the "white Empress" and desired to enlist against the Boers.

What caused the "bonnie little fighting men," as the Scotch soldiers in India are wont to call the Ghorikas, to desire a brush in South Africa no one can say.

The Ghorikas as a race are little, broad shouldered men. They form a part of the regular English army in India. They are well drilled and well uniformed in the usual light suit suitable for that "sunny clime."

They attack to their big two-edged knife, a weapon which they use with fearful results on an enemy at close quarters. The chief delight of their life is to get into a regular rough and tumble fight, where guns are useless and only quickness and the long knife count.

The Irishmen in the army cannot get along with them in peace, but the Scotchmen as a rule have taken a fancy to them. A little five-foot Ghorika and a big six-foot Scotchman walking together on parade grounds is at once a comical and a common sight.

These little men indeed, will be useful to England in the coming struggle for the Transvaal has 600 miles of border exposed at every point with a hundred thousand natives waiting the first opportunity to sweep down not only on the British soldiers, but on the Boers themselves.

During the past six weeks the Boers have been moving about among the Zulus, the Swazis, the Bechuanaes, the Tingas and the Galkas, trying to incite them to action and so far have succeeded in influencing only the Basutos who are a tall, strong race of black men.

Ordering on the Free State upon its eastern border is the Caledon river, and that is known as the conquered territory. It originally belonged to the Basutos. It has been suggested that the Boers have offered to give it back in return for any service the nation may render them in the struggle.

The Basutos are not drilled fighting men like the Ghorikas. They follow the methods of the primitive children of the forest and fight from cover. That makes them dangerous for a well drilled army, as all Americans know who have read how the Indians defeated Braddock in the valley of the Wyoming before the Revolutionary war in America.

The Boers expect great things from their crafty allies. The Englishmen expect great things from theirs. What the results will be the future will tell, but the men from India, it is expected, will give the blacks from Africa a good run for their money.

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