

could join. They are a generous, liberal-minded people, thinking more of the general weal than of the individual welfare ; and, I believe, would do not less than we have been doing, and perhaps a good deal more for the conversion of their heathen. Neither, I believe, would education be neglected. The Cherokee experiment has sufficiently proved this. Among the Cherokees there is not at present a man or woman (except the very aged), or a child of Schoolable age, that cannot read and write. Out of their public Treasury they have expended at one time as much as \$100,000 in the erection of a college for the training of their youth.

These ideas, in regard to the future of our Indians, will, I daresay, be new altogether to a good many of the readers of THE CANADIAN INDIAN. They are new, the writer admits, and may be, as he has said, crude, visionary, and even impracticable. Still, he believes, they are not unworthy of some thought and consideration. And, above all things, it would seem desirable, as a first step, that the views of the most advanced and intelligent of our Indians should be obtained on the various points enunciated. Nothing probably could be better than this *Indian Conference* which has already been proposed, and was to have taken place in Toronto in May, but has now, as I understand, been put off until the month of September. I hope the Conference will be held, and that the Indians will come in good numbers and speak for themselves, and then we shall be better able to judge as to the best course to be adopted for our Indians' future.

FAIR PLAY.