

After the smoking is over it is almost supper time and they begin to make little fires about the woods and cook a little to eat, which does not take Indians very long. Then they build a great fire in the center of the dance ground where they are going to dance all the night, and they get their snares and drum on which they beat for music to dance by, then one Indian starts on around the fire dancing and whooping, followed by many more Indians and squaws. This they keep up perhaps twenty minutes and then rest a little while and start up again, and keep this going until morning, after which they all disperse to their homes.—JAMES ENOUF in "*Talks and Thoughts.*"

NORTH CAROLINA CHEROKEES.

"IN the most mountainous part of western North Carolina, isolated among the wildest and roughest hills of the Alleghanies, are 1,200 pure-bred Cherokees on a reservation of 73,000 acres."

"How do these people live?"

"In the simplest log cabins, many of them without windows or floors, the people are often very cold in winter, but they don't seem to mind it. They are purely agricultural, and corn bread and salt pork chiefly compose their diet. Such game as they get—rabbits, squirrels, birds, and other small fry—is shot with blowguns made of hollow fishpole canes with the joints bored out. In the use of this weapon they are so expert that they can bring down a small bird from the top of a tall tree with one of the light reed arrows feathered with thistledown which they employ for projectiles. The canes they need for making the blowguns are obtained from brakes in South Carolina, mostly 100 to 200 miles away. To illustrate the value set by a Cherokee upon his time, it occurs to me to mention that on one occasion, when I wanted a blowgun—possibly worth 75 cents—I asked one of the Indians to sell me one. He said he had none to spare, but would go over to South Carolina—perhaps three weeks' journey there and back—and get a reed for the purpose. The fish, whose ghosts torture them so much, they catch in great numbers by traps in the streams; the finny prey is led into a sort of a pond and dipped out with baskets or speared. The men handle the spears and the women the baskets. When this method fails a section of a stream is dammed in two places and the space between poisoned with walnut bark. The medicine brings all the fish to the surface, belly upward, and they are quickly gathered in. Very few of these Cherokees speak English; there is no railway within five miles of the reservation and the Indians have no market for what they produce. They keep many bees and raise much fruit.