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## THE FUTURE OF OUR INDIANS.

(PAPER NO. 2).

**I**N my last paper I broached the idea that, looking to the future of our young growing country, it might be pleasanter, and perhaps better for us in every way, to have living in our midst a community of self-respecting, contented, well-to-do Indians, rather than the scattered remnants of a people who, against their will, had been forced to give up their old customs, laws and traditions, and to array themselves in the ill-fitting garb of our advanced civilization. I do not mean by this that I am against the training and educating of our young Indians; far from it. I believe by far the greater number of our semi-civilized Indians are warmly in favor of schools and education. The Cherokees, in Indian Territory, who for many years past have been permitted to manage their own affairs, hold their own public purse, and make their own laws, are, as a people, very far advanced in education; and have large schools and colleges, built out of their own funds, established in their midst. If our civilized Indians in Canada had more of the management of their own affairs, I believe education and civilization would advance among them, and not retrograde. What I feel so strongly is that the civilized Indians of this country ought to have more voice in their own affairs, that the time has passed for treating them as children, doling out to them their presents and their annuities, and taking their children away