

executive is the principal Chief, or Governor, with his staff, all elected by the people for a term of four years. No hereditary right admits to either bodies of the Legislature. These officers are paid from the tribal revenue, which is made up from the interest on funds held by the United States Government in trust for the Indians, and from mining leases. This income does away with taxes altogether. The strictness of their laws, notably those relating to intoxication, might be copied in many lands. The laws are enforced by their own police, and the infringement of them is mostly on the part of the whites resident there. Convicts may be seen making roads under a slight guard, or even wholly unguarded, doing janitors' work in the capitol. Their school system is excellent, and the curriculum of study embraces even classics, as well as the fine arts. All schools are free, except two seminaries of the highest branches, where a moderate fee is exacted; but when a pupil is unable to pay, he is taught, and even clothed, out of the national treasury. A student who proves more than usually apt, if anxious for further education, is sent to some Eastern college at the expense of the nation, while others go at their own cost. The nation has no public debt, but a public revenue from which come all the public expenses—fifty per cent. being for expenses of Government itself, thirty-five per cent. for schools, and fifteen per cent. for charitable institutions. Education, religion, a good system of law and government, self help, and self responsibility, have made the Cherokees and their sister nations what they are. We see in their history and achievement the key to the Indian problem.