

amongst them previously to that time, but they were partially or entirely supported by missionary institutions. But since 1842 we have had our own system of public schools, under the control and management of the Cherokee nation. We pay the Principal \$700 a year and board in the institution; he is generally white. High school assistant teachers are paid \$600 and board for the school year of ten months, and we pay our common school teachers, one class \$50 a month, the next class \$40, the next \$30, or \$500, \$400 and \$300, for ten months of a school year. As to the cost of the schools, the primary are, as a rule, put up by the neighbourhood. The boarding schools are generally solid brick buildings, and cost about \$2,500. We have a regularly-organized government, and we elect our Chiefs and Judges, who used to be hereditary. Our population is about nineteen thousand, and we are increasing. We live by agriculture and stock-raising. We have \$3,000,000 in trust with the Government."

Judge Stedham said the cost of boarding a child, among the Cherokees, was \$7.00 a month, or \$70.00 for ten months. He added that the children were made to work two hours a day and half the day on Saturday.

All the representatives of the five civilized nations declared their belief that the chief thing to attend to in dealing with the less civilized or wholly barbarous tribes, was to separate the children from the parents. As I have said, the Indian Department, at Washington, have not much hope in regard to the adult Indians, but sanguine anticipations are cherished respecting the children. The five nations are themselves a proof that a certain degree of civilization is within the reach of the red man while illustrating his deficiencies.

At the suggestion of the Commissioner, I visited the White Earth Agency, Minnesota. I found the school well attended, and the answering of the children creditable. But the quickest and brightest were mixed-bloods.

The Principal of the school is a mixed-blood; his Assistant is an Indian. The dormitory was plainly but comfortably furnished, and the children, whom I saw at dinner, were evidently well fed. The Episcopalian clergyman is a full-blood Ottawa, and is an able preacher. On the Reserve, there is also a Roman Catholic Church, and two Roman Catholic clergymen, and everything goes harmoniously forward. Mr. Ruffee, the Agent, who is an able man, and who knows the Indian character well, made a memorandum regarding Agencies, the gist of which may be given, as bearing not remotely, on the subject of my inquiry.

Mr. Ruffee deemed it necessary, first of all, that an Indian Reservation should have manual labour schools, or, in other words, boarding industrial schools; mills, both saw and grist; blacksmith and carpenter's shops; that all the young men of a tribe or tribes, who desired it, should be taught some trade; that missionaries of all denominations