

hundred warriors, scoured the country in the vicinity of Tablequah, and drove before him the frightened tillers of the soil, who fled for safety to Fort Gibson, until about six thousand refugees were gathered there. They had brought with them supplies and agricultural implements, and these all fell into the possession of Stood Watie and his followers. When the loyal party returned their allegiance to the government in 1863, they passed an act of council confiscating all property belonging to the southern refugees, who were then living in the greatest destitution on the banks of the Red river. There existed such a bitter feeling between the two parties that it was expected a new home would have to be found for the southerners, but the death of Chief Ross in 1866 moderated the party feeling and they were allowed to return and dwell among their people. Since that time they have lived together in comparative peace, being divided into two political parties—National and Downing—each having held the reins of government at different periods. The former is now in power, having gained the last election, which was held during the past summer.

The Cherokees as a people are better educated and have better educational facilities than perhaps any other of the Indian nations. There are about 180 district schools besides the higher schools and national academies, whose faculties are qualified to prepare the student for the highest collegiate course. Great advancement has been made in this respect during the last few years. English exclusively is now taught in the schools.

Previous to the year 1821 the Cherokees had no written language, and it was found very difficult to express their ideas through the medium of the English alphabet. About this time a half-breed Cherokee named George Guess but called by his people Sequoyah, though uneducated invented a Cherokee alphabet. From childhood Sequoyah seemed to possess extraordinary intelligence. At the age of fourteen he was an excellent silversmith, but he afterwards devoted his attention to drawing life sketches on the skins of animals, and finally became a skilled artist. The members of his tribe came from all quarters to view his work, and he soon became quite popular. When he had grown to manhood he observed, while on a trip to a neighboring village, that the white man used a series of signs or marks for conveying his thoughts upon paper, and he at once conceived the idea that he could make marks that would be intelligible to the red man. He accordingly took up a whetstone and began to scratch figures upon it with a pin, remarking that he could "teach the Cherokees to talk on paper like the white man."

This evoked considerable laughter from those accompanying him, who ridiculed such an idea, but this only renewed his determination to carry out his plans, and he went to work and after three years' time succeeded in inventing the complete Cherokee alphabet, consisting of eighty-six characters or letters. When he announced to Colonel Lowry the completion of his undertaking, that gentleman was very much surprised

at his complete success, for he had often advised Sequoyah to stop his "crazy sign-writing" and employ his time with something more profitable. In a short time the alphabet was adopted by those engaged in the education of the Indians, and type was made and books were printed and put in circulation.

In 1823, two years after the completion of the alphabet, the general council of the Cherokees passed a resolution awarding him a silver medal as a token of their appreciation of his genius. It has indeed been of great benefit in the education of the Cherokee people. Another step in advance was made in the year 1890, when Wm. Eubanks, a quarter-breed Cherokee, invented a system of shorthand, consisting of curves and dots, their position denoting the sound to be expressed.

The first half-breed Cherokee was born in Virginia in the year 1620, being the son of an Irish adventurer. The Cherokees at present are estimated to number 24,000, of which more than three-fourths are mixed with white blood, mostly descendants of the Irish and Scotch who inhabited the colonies in early days, though a few are of French, German and Norman descent. The law provides that a white man may become a citizen of the Cherokee nation by marriage to a Cherokee, provided that he obtains a license, at a cost of \$10, which goes to the treasury of the nation. By complying with these terms he has the same rights and privileges as the Cherokees themselves. But should he abandon or divorce his wife, or should he in the event of her death marry a non-citizen, his right and title to citizenship would be forfeited. The land is held in severalty by the citizens, and each one is entitled to all the land he will improve and cultivate or have cultivated, but if the land is vacated it is public property.

The Cherokee as a rule are hospitable, and the E'dders are kindly treated by them in their travels among the people. Although we have very many friends among the Cherokees, few have so far embraced the Gospel.

UTAH AT THE MIDWINTER FAIR.

There was a large attendance at the public meeting called by the Chamber of Commerce Friday night to discuss whether Utah should make an exhibit at the California Midwinter Fair which opens next month.

Governor West was invited to the chair. The meeting was first called to order by W. E. Hubbard, president of the Chamber of Commerce, who directed attention to the importance of Utah being represented at the Fair.

When Governor West took the chair he made a pleasant speech, and suggested that by a united effort Utah could gain new laurels at the Midwinter exposition and attract more attention from capitalists to the resources of this locality.

Richard Mackintosh, a member of the Utah World's Fair commission, said there was a considerable proportion of the exhibit that was at Chicago which could be made available. He would also permit his valuable mineral cabinets to go. He urged that Utah make an exhibit of agricultural pro-

ducts, and of wood, coal, iron, and manufactures.

Mr. Hubbard named Z. C. M. I., the Provo Woolen mills, Culmer Brothers, the Utah Sugar factory, and others who would exhibit. There was some discussion on the rates of transportation of exhibits to the Fair, Mr. Hubbard giving the information that practically free transportation would be given. The railways had expressed a willingness to do the best they could.

A motion was then carried, declaring it to be the sense of the meeting that Utah should make an exhibit, also that a committee of twenty-five, with President Hubbard as chairman, be appointed to consider and to carry into effect this idea, the committee to be appointed by the Chamber of Commerce, and upon organization to divide itself into sub-committees in order that the work in hand might be prosecuted with vigor. The committee was requested to arrange for the holding of a mass meeting, in the interest of the fair, at an early date, and to invite each county to send a delegation thereto.

A resolution was offered by J. H. Bennett, and passed as follows:

Whereas, silver mining, which has been an important industry in this Territory, has been severely affected by unfavorable legislation, making necessary a new adjustment of business in Utah.

Now, in the sense of this Chamber, Utah would have been a great and prosperous region though silver mines had from the first been eliminated from its resources, therefore, be it

Resolved, that with silver mining temporarily suspended we still have abundant resources to make, with wise management, a prosperous Territory, and that under the patronage of this Chamber a compilation of Utah's resources and the opportunities which it offers to capital and enterprise, as well as the unequalled advantages for invalids and the establishment of desirable homes, shall be prepared for distribution, in confidence believing that a frank and fair exhibit will make it clear to capital seeking investment and to people seeking new homes that no other locality affords as many inducements as our own Territory of Utah.

When the document was introduced it contained, before the word "unfavorable," in the first paragraph, the word "recent." This evoked considerable discussion, in which Gov. West, Richard Mackintosh, J. H. Bacon and others took a lively part. The arguments were vigorous both for and against the retention of the word. The Governor thought that to retain it would be a reflection on the political party now in power in the nation, whereas it was not alone responsible for the anti-silver legislation, which began, in his view, as far back as 1873. Messrs. Mackintosh and Bacon contended that it was recent legislation which reduced silver to the condition of a commodity, and it should be so stated. They did not believe that either party was to blame, as it was not a question of politics, representatives of both parties being responsible for the existing legislation. The word was finally stricken out and the resolution adopted as here given.

A motion to the effect that each person present constitute himself a committee of one to advance the interests of Utah and the Midwinter Fair, prevailed. This was followed by