

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
CENSUS OFFICE.

ROBERT P. PORTER  
Superintendent,  
Appointed April 30, 1889; resigned July 31, 1893.

CARROLL D. WRIGHT  
Commissioner of Labor in charge,  
Appointed October 5, 1893

EXTRA CENSUS BULLETIN.

THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

IN INDIAN TERRITORY

The Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole Nations.

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**GENERAL CONDITION OF THE FIVE TRIBES: 1890**

The condition of The Five Tribes of Indian territory, as shown by the census of 1890, personal investigation, and the reports of special agents, is that of a self sustaining, fairly industrious, and law abiding people. They live in a land without assessment or taxes. The term "civilized" was originally applied to them in contradistinction to the life of the wild Indian tribes, but as a whole their condition is not the civilization of the Anglo-Saxon.

They have no written history. The majority of them still use the Indian language. More than one-fourth of all the care and treaties and laws for Indians since 1813 has been for The Five Civilized Tribes. They are called nations and occupy separate areas covered by patents. They have governors or principal chiefs, elective legislatures, variously named, elective courts, and officers and police. Some minor divisions are called counties and some districts. Much of their progress is due to a large negro population in the several nations. They are fairly well advanced and are steadily increasing in number, wealth, and intelligence.

The Creek Nation is an alert and active one, which is largely due to the negro element which fairly controls it. In the Choctaw Nation it is death for an Indian to intermarry with a negro. In any of The Five Tribes where the negroes have a fair chance there is a perceptible progress due to them.

The negroes are among the earnest workers in The Five Tribes. The Creek Nation affords the best example of negro progress. The principal chief, virtually a negro, comes of a famous family in Creek annals. His name is Lequest Choteau Perryman. He was born in the Creek Nation, Indian Territory, March 1, 1838: educated at Tallahassee Mission of the same nation, enlisted in the Union army in Kansas, November, 1862 and was mustered out as sergeant major of the first regiment Indian Home Guards, 1865. He served as district judge of the Coweta district, Muskogee Nation, six years; was elected to the council and served 13 years. He was elected principal chief and inaugurated December 3, 1887 for the term of four years.