

schools. The Citizen's Committee was appointed and loud protest were heard in the Indian Nation. The government was accused of breaking a faith in and its endeavor to wipe out tribal way of life. Practically, all Indians were bitterly opposed to the idea of taking up allotments and the surrendering of their institutions, especially their schools. The schools were their own particular handiwork and they were determined to fight to the bitter end in their endeavor to maintain control over it. However, in spite of the protest when the Indians of the country, the Commission went ahead with its plan along with other things that was intended that all lands be allotted except mineral towns and mineral land, town sites, and land set aside for the academies and the day schools. Each person was to receive at least a quarter section of land territorial government for the Indian Territory was to be established. Each Nation was to control its own funds and its own property, all claims against the United States Government were to be settled. All Indian funds were to be divided on a per capita basis. Tribal governments were allowed to continue until allotments were made and the funds were ceded. Attempts were at once made to have the Five Civilized Tribes to agree on the principle of the people. Agreements were made with the Chickasaws and the Choctaws at Atoka in April of 1897. With the Seminoles the following September. The voters of the Creek Nation refused to accept the proposed agreement and the Cherokees at first refused to negotiate at all. Having only the power of negotiation, the Dawes Commission was for a time at least unable to carry out its purposes. After this weakness was rectified in 1896, when congress enlarged the powers of the Commission. At the end, that it could enforce the issue. Though the tribes were stubborn and eager to maintain