

...provide the funds or accept them all. Although John Benedict was a very able man he was not very diplomatic in dealing with Indians. He had little regard for their pride. He gave them little opportunity to save face. Apparently, he was laboring under the idea that the main reason he was appointed was because the tribal governments had failed in their endeavor to set up an educational system that met the needs of the Indians. Consequently, he bitterly condemned the Indian schools as being poorly organized, poorly taught and poorly administered. He charged that the teachers were chosen by favoritism that funds were being mis-spent, that the ugly hands of politics controlled the system from top to bottom. The Academies, Benedict construed were built for the children of mixed-bloods and the wealthy Indians. He charged that they received a disproportionate share of the school funds. While the neighborhood schools designed primarily for the full-bloods had to struggle along on what was left. As already indicated, Benjamin S. Calpot, the Federal Supervisor, for the Cherokee schools here in Tahlequah founded vigorously administration programs that tended to rely a great part of criticism that Benedict had leveled at the tribal institution. However, it was a mis-statement of historical fact that concludes that these criticisms applied. For instance, it was a well known fact that the tribe lavished money on its academies, the buildings, for supplies, for the employment of the best teachers while requiring the neighborhood schools to construct their own buildings, provide their own equipment, and be content with the less able teachers, and this even we have to admit. This fact bolstered Benedict's contention. The Cherokee Board in Council was too much concerned with the welfare of the mixed-bloods, the wealthy Indians and not enough