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CHOCTAW NATION MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

McCurtain, Green (1848-1910)
Papers 1890-1916
14.50 feet

Indian chief. Correspondence (1890-1916) to and from McCurtain regarding Choctaw Nation railroads, administrative matters, politics, Choctaw Indian claims against the United States, and the issue of separate statehood for Indian Territory, including letters from the chiefs of the other major Indian tribes in the territory; maps (1876-1908) of railroad rights-of-way and towns in the Choctaw Nation; publications (1896-1913) by political parties and citizens groups in the Choctaw Nation regarding political and judicial events and issues; publications (1892-1916) of the U.S. government regarding mineral rights of the Choctaw Nation and Indian Territory; and McCurtain's personal expense accounts (1902-1910).

Green McCurtain served as Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation 1896-1900 and 1902-1910, having been elected to the office some five times. History records McCurtain as being one of the most prominent citizens of the Choctaw Nation--in addition to serving in the capacity of chief he was National Treasurer, a delegate to Washington, D.C., ex-officio chairman of the Atoka Agreement Commission, and a member of the commission negotiating a supplementary agreement with the Dawes Commission. A highly distinguished man, his was the task of presiding over the dissolution of the Choctaw commonwealth in preparation for the advent of statehood. Born approximately 1848, McCurtain died in 1910 while still in office.

This collection is comprised of general correspondence from 1866-1953; correspondence by topic regarding railroads in the nation, 1902-1911; the separate statehood movement, 1902-1907; the administration of counties and districts, 1896-1907; and a variety of other topics; typescripts, 1877-1910, of news articles regarding various issues of the nation and McCurtain, as well as of the annual messages of the Chief to the Choctaw Council; publications, including government documents of the Choctaw Nation, 1869-1908, Oklahoma, 1907-1908, and of the United States, 1892-1949, and of political parties in the Nation; McCurtain family and Choctaw Nation miscellaneous items, 1901-1910; and outside materials and maps, 1900-1908.

Guide to Inventory

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Series and Description:

Series I: Correspondence