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EDITORIAL ON CHOCTAWS AND CHICKASAWS

A Washington correspondent writing to several papers in the south-west asked J. F. McMurray of South McAlester, attorney for the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, who is at present in Washington, if his presence in the city with Gov. McCurtain meant that the tribes sought new legislation. Mr. McMurray is quoted as saying:

"The Choctaws and Chickasaws have all the legislation they want. All they want now is for the United States government to move as rapidly as possible in winding up the affairs of the two tribes and let them enter the new state of affairs which must inevitably come. They are not asking for another supplementary treaty as has been reported, nor do they want one. They have enough treaties, and they can wind up all their affairs under the treaties they now have. The Choctaws and Chickasaws will soon be ready for a change of govern-

ment, and will segregate their lands, and make a full financial settlement with the United States government, and every member of the tribes will get a start in life that any man might well envy."

The correspondent adds:

Governor McCurtain does not hesitate to say that he is opposed to any provisions in any statehood bill providing that the Indian Territory or any part thereof shall be tacked onto Oklahoma when that territory becomes a state. Governor McCurtain thinks that to take in the Indian Territory after Oklahoma becomes a state, and has made her own constitution and located all her public buildings and eleemosynary institutions, would be manifestly unfair.

It will be remembered that Thomas W. Hunter, townsite commissioner of the Choctaw Nation, was a candidate for governor of the nation against Green McCurtain was declared elected, and Hunter contested. After several days during which the Hunter and McCurtain factions were at daggers points at Tuskahoma, capital of the Choctaw nation, McCurtain was seated. Hunter contested again, taking his case before the secretary of the interior at Washington. One of the heads of the interior department was asked a few days ago, what be-

came of the contest. "Mr. Hunter was told that if he wished to retain his place on the townsite commission it would be well for him to drop his contest for the governorship. We have heard no more about the contest," was the answer.