

THE INDIAN JOURNAL

Eufaula, Ind. Ter.
Feb. 1, 1901
26th year, No. 5
Editor's name not given

EDITORIAL ON J. M. PERRYMAN ET AL

South McAlester, I. T., Jan. 29

It has been so long since there has been an Indian uprising in this country that people are almost forgetting that such a thing was in the bounds of reason. The Jones-Locke war in the Choctaw Nation some twelve years ago was the last unpleasantness to disturb the usual peaceable serenity in this nation, and a few years before that the Creek full-bloods undertook to do just what the Gaines County Choctaws are now doing, rebelled against the regularly elected chief, who was J. M. Perryman, of Eufaula, and elected Esparhechar chief, and brought on what is known as the Exparhechar war, which, however, was brief and comparatively bloodless, though the United States authorities had to be invoked to quell both rebellions. Old Spi never got over his

defeat on that memorable occasion until after he was vindicated by being elected chief three years ago, when he made a good official, and toward the last he advised the people to accept the inevitable and take their allotments, and he set the example himself by visiting the land office at Muskogee and filing on several quarter sections of the best land in the Deep Fork Valley. This old man had always entertained a bitter hatred of the whites, and his action in this respect was quite a surprise.

The present uprising seems to have a new leader, one of the Harjo crowd being its inspirator. Both the leader and the men are ignorant of the power that they have defied, and of course will come very promptly to grief. The simultaneous outbreak of the Gaines County Choctaws would go to prove that there exists an understanding, if not a collusion, between the dissatisfied members of both tribes, and it is highly probable that the Cherokee Ke-too-wahs are in the deal. There are enough of the dissatisfied Indians in each of the tribes to make a good deal of trouble.

So far as known, none of the Choctaws have committed any acts of violence. David Bell whom

they have put up for their chief, is a very quiet, unobtrusive Indian, quite well known and generally liked here, and the news that he is at the head of the movement to overthrow the Dukes government was received with incredulity. The Creeks, however, have given evidence of what they intend to do, and the action of the marshal and other authorities show that they consider the situation to be a very serious one.

When Capt. Jack Ellis was sent by the Indian agent last summer to talk to the Snake Creek band, he reported that there were restless characters from all the tribes present, and that they were hatching up some sort of devilment. They listened to him respectfully, but did not take him into their confidence.