

# THE CHEMAWA AMERICAN

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## AN AMERICAN SPHINX

WONDERFUL STATUE OF AN INDIAN



NOT long ago there appeared in the Oregonian an article from the pen of Robert H. Moulton that is of unusual interest and appears to us to be of great historical value. We are pleased to reprint it, as follows:

Has America created a sphinx?

A great concrete statue cemented into the solid rock on the banks of the Rock River, near Oregon, Ill., has been built by Lorado Taft with every care that modern engineering can take to make it as permanent as the pyramids and other famous landmarks of the ages. By his method of applying the concrete, and with a scientific care never known to art, Mr. Taft bids fair to accomplish his purpose.

The statue, built to commemorate the American Indian, represents Black Hawk, chief of the Sacs and Foxes, standing with folded arms overlooking his former dominion, the picturesque valley of the Rock River. It is of noble proportions, being 50 feet in height, and stands on the top of a bluff, 250 feet above the swirling waters of the river.

The claim of the statue to fame lies in three things: First, anyone who runs—even anyone who autos—may read its messages. Those who are rushing by in autos and steam cars and motor boats stop, or turn to look as long as they can and fall into a reverie over the former occupancy by the red men of the places they are now in. The statue's great size places it on a scale with the Goddess of Liberty, in New York Harbor, and the great statue of "The Pilgrim" on the New England coast.

The third and greatest claim to fame is that it is built to be permanent. And it is believed that it will outlast the sphinx, the pyramids, and even the stones of the Druids.

It is utilitarian concrete which has unlocked the door to a feature which it is hoped will make the statue of Black Hawk overtake the sphinx in age by enduring after time has effaced that grim figure.

So far concrete has not been applied to the art of real sculpture in