

THE CHEMAWA AMERICAN

H. E. WADSWORTH, Superintendent

VOLUME 16

JUNE, 1914

NUMBER 9

PRINTCRAFT

REGINALD DOWNIE, *Clallam Tribe; Washington*

A man who lives right, and is right, has more power in his silence than another has by his words. Character is like bells which ring out sweet music, and which, when touched accidentally even, resound with sweet music.

—PHILLIPS BROOKS.



THE splendid discontent of God with Chaos made the world. And from the discontent of man the world's best progress springs." It is a notable fact that no advancement is ever made but as a result of dissatisfaction with existing conditions; for "progress is not an accident, but a necessity." Progress in printing was so great a need that the wonder is that it did not come sooner.

In remote times inscriptions were made by means of stamps. Later, books were transcribed and illuminated by hand. Then wood cuts were used for printing books. The idea that there was a better and more rapid way of printing was beginning to prevail among men, but it remained for Gutenberg of Germany to originate the wonderful scheme of moveable letters that could be put together to form words and, after the page was printed, dissembled to be reassembled to print another page.

That the first book ever printed with moveable type was the Bible is a fact of which printers have ever since been proud. This first publication appeared in 1455. Soon afterward the practice of printing spread rapidly all over Europe and later to America.

The first presses used were crude devices operated on the plan of a letter-press, which works up and down to make the impression. They were small and worked slowly. Improvements in method and machinery followed one after another until the hand press was superceded by automatic machines.

In 1814 Frederick Konig of Germany constructed the first steam printing machine, for the London Times in England. Instead of laying the