

## The Chemawa American.

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## BLACKSMITHING.

BY H. B. MANN.

For centuries the blacksmith has been a prominent person, and it is natural he should be, when we consider the amount of work he had to do from the axel and tire down to the smallest rivet in the wagon; from the crowbar and spade down to the butcher and pocket knives; and from the broadax to the carving tools were at one time made by the smith. So it is no wonder that the smith was respected.

But times have changed in the last two decades. Most of the articles formerly made by the smith are now manufactured by machinery, and the respect for the smith has diminished in the same proportion, not because there is not enough left of the trade to command respect, for there is yet more left than anyone can learn in a life time.

A great many boys in a school of this kind want to work in the shops, thinking they will have less work to do than if they were on the farm. This is a great mistake. A boy should not enter a shop just for the sake of having a snap. If he enters a shop he should do so with the intention of learning all there is to know, and put his whole soul into it. Success will come only to those who work and not to shirkers. There is plenty of work in any shop for a boy who will seek it.

I agree with Mr. Childers in regard to boys working on the farm. I think every

boy should learn something about farming. Most all boys have land of their own and as soon as they finish their schooling will go home and follow farming. At the same time every boy should learn some blacksmithing. He can then put up a small shop of his own on his farm and do all of his horseshoeing and repairing and save a good many dollars.

It is not every boy that starts in the shop as an apprentice that will make a good smith. Some boys are more of a genius than others, and when it is seen that a boy is adapted to blacksmithing and wants to earn the trade and follow it as a life vocation, he should work not less than three years at the trade. He will then be able to start out as a journeyman or start a shop of his own.

Now let me say to every boy learning a trade, do not think it is a disgrace or anything against your character to learn a trade, even though your face and hands may become dirty in learning or in actual work. Always be punctual and have as much interest in your work as your instructor.

## Too Wet to Play.

The Chemawa baseball team went to Portland last Saturday to play a return game with the Bishop Scotts Academy team but owing to the downpour of rain the players were forced to seek shelter after two innings. However those two innings gave the weather the appearance of a snow storm to the B. S. A. boys, as the score then stood 8 to 4 in favor of the visiting team.

The same teams crossed bats on the Chemawa diamond on April 4th, and resulting in a victory of 35 to 2 in favor of Chemawa.

Our boys express themselves very much pleased at the kind manner in which they were received and entertained by the B. S. A. team, and, despite the inclemency of the weather, report an enjoyable trip.

Supt. T. W. Potter returned from his California trip last Thursday.