

The Chemawa American,

Published Weekly.

VOL. VI.

JULY 17, 1903.

NO. 42

Opportunity.

Master of human destinies am I.
Fame, love and fortune on my footsteps wait,
Cities and fields I walk; I penetrate
Deserts and seas remote, and, passing by
Hovel and mart, and palace, soon or late
I knock unbidden once at every gate!
If sleeping, wake—if feasting, rise before
I turn away. It is the hour of fate,
And they who follow me reach every state
Mortal's desire, and conquer every foe
Save death; but those who doubt or hesitate,
Condemned to failure, penury and woe,
Seek me in vain and uselessly implore;—
I answer not and I return no more.

—John G. Ingalls.

Commencement Exercises

(Continued from last week.)

CHARACTER.

BY MARTIN WILLAN.

That a good character is the crown and glory of life, to me is as true as the world is round. It is the grandest possession of man, constituting a rank in itself and an estate in the general good will of all. Some one has said that it exercises a greater power than wealth, and secures all the honor without the jealousies of fame. Character is human nature in its best form, for men of character are not only the conscience of society, but in every well governed state they are its best motive power. A state in choosing a man to represent it in the national halls of Congress, chooses one who is well qualified for the position, one who understands why he is not there, and one who is of sterling worth, for the strength, the industry and the civilization of nations all depend upon their individual character and the very

foundations of civil security rests upon them.

Samuel Smiles says, "Laws and institutions are but its out-growth and in the just balance of nature, individuals, nations and races will obtain just so much as they deserve and no more."

More than a century and a half has passed since the birth of George Washington and in the words of Daniel Webster, the world has changed in science, in arts, in improvement of navigation and in all that relates to the civilization of nations.

All look upon the character of Washington as almost irreproachable. He left behind him as one of the greatest treasures of his country, the example of a stainless life of a great, pure and noble character. Every one of us, fellow students, should set his mark high and aim to possess a good character. We may read the lives of great men and find in them some one thing that we may make our own. Youth is the seed time of our character. If we are careful to begin right our foundation will be firm, then let every brick we use in building be a perfect one. Our character will be elevated in proportion to the care we bestow upon it, for "Handsome is that handsome does."

Character creates confidence in men of humble life, as well in high stations. We should feel although we fill a position not high in the accepted term of society, that we may lead a good, noble life and be known by those around us as good, honest citizens.

I am sure that somewhere in the United States to-day is an Indian who possesses such a character that some day he will be known far and wide. He may be to us what Booker T. Washington is to his people and solve for the nation the question, "What to do with the returned student. It is for us to show the world that an Indian's