

Weekly Chemawa American

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Distinguished Visitors.

On Thursday of last week Hon. Edwin Eells and Mrs. Eells arrived at Chemawa for a visit with Supt. and Mrs. Chalcraft and to see the school. Mr. Eells is the oldest white man born in the territory which is now the State of Washington who is now living within the state. His father was Dr. Cushing Eells, who was an Indian missionary in the early days. Mr. Edward Eells was appointed Indian agent in 1876 under what was known as the Grant Peace Policy and was placed in charge of the Skokomish reservation in Washington. He remained in charge until 1895, during which time was added to his responsibilities the management of all the Indian reservations in Western Washington. These were afterward divided again, but there was left in his control his original agency, the Skokomish, also the Puyallup, Nisqually, Squaxin, Chehalis, Quinaielt, James-town and Port Gamble Indian settlements.

Mr. Eells retired from active Indian service work in 1895, but has kept in touch with the affairs and policies of the service ever since and has ever remain-

ed a loyal and true friend of the Indian people. In chapel on Thursday evening he was introduced by Supt. Chalcraft and spoke to those assembled for a short time. He recounted many experiences of his life among the Indians during the early days. He said that no matter what the warlike attitude of the Indians may have been toward others that his father and himself were always certain of their friendship and felt no personal alarm. He told quite a thrilling story of friendly Indians coming many miles to protect his father's family from what they feared was to be an attack of Indians unfriendly to the noted missionary. But there was no necessity for the trip they had made. It was a most interesting and entertaining talk that the gentleman gave.

Mr. and Mrs. Eells were enroute to Pacific Grove, Calif., and they took the late train south on Thursday evening. They are to remain down there until June 1st, at which time they will return to their Tacoma, Wash., home.

Mr. Eells has always been an active man in educational affairs. He is prominently associated with Pacific University at Forest Grove, Oregon, and with Whitman College, Washington, the latter institution of learning having been founded by his father.