

WEST VIRGINIA WEALTH.

REMARKABLE ENTERPRISES FOSTERED BY EX-SENATOR DAVIS.

His son-in-law, Steve Elkins, will succeed him, and the family will be the richest in America—A woman now controls the Garrett interests.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—One day last week I was in the city of Wheeling, W. Va.

At the railway station was an acquaintance, Capt. W. W. O'Brien, one of the prominent bankers of the town and now a rich man. Said he: "On your way east over the mountains you will see some of the railroads ex-Senator Davis and his son-in-law, Mr. Elkins, are building. Perhaps you will be interested in knowing something of Mr. Davis and his enterprises. Thirty years ago I was a porter wheeling a truck along this platform here. My pay was \$1.80 a day, and I thought I was getting rich, because back of me I had a stack of money. My salary was a day's work in the mill and I never there. I remember very distinctly the day the first train on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad crossed Wheeling creek into this station.

"The conductor of the train was Davis, now the millionaire ex-senator. Before that he had been a freight brakeman. Davis always had a way of saving up money. Before he left the road as conductor he had saved up a sum of money, and he didn't take it from the company, either. At a little town up in the mountains he started a country store with his savings. It was not much bigger than his store, but he was a shrewd fellow, and his start was made by throwing a counter across one end of a wrecked and abandoned cattle car, which he boarded up and locking a door on his key. After a time he had a bank in one end of his store, invested in lands and mines, and began to grow rich.

"If ex-Senator Davis lives ten or fifteen years," continued Capt. O'Brien, "he will be one of the richest men in America. He and his son-in-law are constantly buying timber and mineral lands in the interior of West Virginia at astonishingly low prices. They have bought thousands of acres of lands of two or three millions of dollars in bridge and tunnel, in a fair way to realize the hopes of its citizens by becoming a gateway between the east and the west.

"In these days of millionaires I was astonished to hear that the city of Wheeling, a manufacturing town, full of nail mills, steel mills, blast furnaces, glass works and potteries, contains not one millionaire. How many cities in this country of 80,000 industrial population, that can boast of the absence of millionaires for their midst? I say so, because no millionaire means diffusion of wealth and general prosperity.

A friend came into the car and handed me a small pasteboard box. "Take that home with you," he said facetiously, "but be careful how you use its contents." It was a box of Wheeling stoga. "Statisticians have calculated," added my friend, "that one divorce in ten in this country is caused by the smoking of Wheeling stoga by husbands. So our town has a good deal to answer for. This is called the Kentucky stoga, made here of the strongest Kentucky tobacco, gives the smoker a breath that will stain furniture. But the regular Wheeling stoga is not so bad. Try one. We make millions of these every year. Machinery is employed in the rolling of them, and the labor is pretty cheap, else we could not make them and pay the same internal revenue tax that is paid on high priced cigars, and sell at \$8 a thousand, wholesale."

Everybody in Wheeling smokes stoga. There must be some peculiar fascination in the long, thin, twists of tobacco, for they say that after a man has smoked them for a time the most delicately prepared cigar has no temptation for him. He is thoroughly wedded to the stoga. General Manager Odell, of the B. and O., buys four or five thousand of these stoga every month, smokes some of them himself, and gives the others away to the railroad men whom he meets out on the line. Whenever he meets an engineer, brakeman, fireman or section boss, he hands out a stoga. One of the division superintendents on the Pennsylvania does the same thing, and says the cheap cigar materially helps him in making the acquaintance and gaining the friendship of his men. So the stoga is not such a bad thing after all.

WALTER WELLMAN. CHESS AND CHECKERS. Chess problem No. 35.—By S. Loyd. Black—three pieces.

White—six pieces. White to play and win in three moves. Checker problem No. 35.—By W. G. Paul. Black—2, 8, 11, 14, 15, 16.

White—5, 7, 20, 23, 27, 31. Black to play and win. SOLUTIONS. Chess problem No. 34.

White. 1. R to B 3. 2. R to B 3. 3. P to R 4. 4. K to Q 5. 5. K to R 6. 6. K to R 7. 7. K to R 8. 8. K to R 9. 9. K to R 10. 10. K to R 11. 11. K to R 12. 12. K to R 13. 13. K to R 14. 14. K to R 15. 15. K to R 16. 16. K to R 17. 17. K to R 18. 18. K to R 19. 19. K to R 20. 20. K to R 21. 21. K to R 22. 22. K to R 23. 23. K to R 24. 24. K to R 25. 25. K to R 26. 26. K to R 27. 27. K to R 28. 28. K to R 29. 29. K to R 30. 30. K to R 31. 31. K to R 32. 32. K to R 33. 33. K to R 34. 34. K to R 35. 35. K to R 36. 36. K to R 37. 37. K to R 38. 38. K to R 39. 39. K to R 40. 40. K to R 41. 41. K to R 42. 42. K to R 43. 43. K to R 44. 44. K to R 45. 45. K to R 46. 46. K to R 47. 47. K to R 48. 48. K to R 49. 49. K to R 50. 50. K to R 51. 51. K to R 52. 52. K to R 53. 53. K to R 54. 54. K to R 55. 55. K to R 56. 56. K to R 57. 57. K to R 58. 58. K to R 59. 59. K to R 60. 60. K to R 61. 61. K to R 62. 62. K to R 63. 63. K to R 64. 64. K to R 65. 65. K to R 66. 66. K to R 67. 67. K to R 68. 68. 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