

Death Under Mysterious Circumstances Reveals Strange Affair.

Canandaigua, N. Y., March 22.—A person who was known here for five years as William C. Howard, died suddenly Wednesday night and an autopsy showed that the supposed man was a woman.

Howard, who was about 50 years old, came here five years ago with a woman who was known as Mrs. Howard. Two children were born to the supposed wife. The dead woman worked for farmers in the neighborhood and those most intimately acquainted with the family never had the slightest suspicion that she was not a man. The cause of the woman's death is a mystery. On Wednesday night she took two tablets for throat affection and was dead in 10 minutes. The medicine was sent from Wellsville, this state, where relatives reside.

The authorities are completely mystified as to all matters touching upon the woman's life. They do not even know her right name. Two men claiming to be half brothers, attended the funeral, but refused to divulge any information. An inquest is to be held and some light may then be thrown upon the strange case.

It developed to-night that the oldest of the Howard children was an adopted one.

Another development to-night was the person known here as William C. Howard was Alice M. Howard and that she went through a marriage ceremony in 1892 with Edith Dyer.