

SEX REVEALED AT DEATH.

Murray Hall, a Noted Tammany Politician, a Woman.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—It was discovered today that one of Barney Martin's good Tammany men, an old time voter and member of the Iroquois Club, was a woman. Dr. William C. Gallagher, of 392 West Twelfth Street, walked into the coroner's office in the afternoon and reported the death of Murray H. Hall, professional bondsman, politician, and all-around sport. Hall lived at 145 Sixth Avenue, and kept an employment bureau there. Hall was a member of the Tammany association of the Fifth Assembly district, had lived for thirty years in Sixth Avenue, near Jefferson Market Police Court, and was well known to every politician on the West Side. Coroner Edward W. Hart was well acquainted with Hall.

"Report the case to one of the clerks in the office," said the coroner.

"But it is a wonderful case," continued the physician, "a remarkable case. Although I know she died from cancer of the breast I am puzzled so that I don't know what to do about issuing a death certificate for her."

"Her!" exclaimed the coroner. "I thought you said it was Murray Hall who had died."

"Yes," replied the doctor, "but Murray Hall was a woman."

Coroner Hart did not believe it, saying that Hall had always voted at the district primaries, got full with the boys, and for a quarter of a century had voted in the district.

"Well, he's a woman," said the doctor, "although I did not discover it until after he died. As I treated him as a man and he died a woman I did not know what sex to write in the death certificate."

Dr. Gallagher was led back to Clerk Reynolds' office and there explained that Hall had been treated, medically speaking, as a man, but was discovered after death to be a normal woman. After the history of the case had been discussed Dr. Gallagher was told that it certainly was a coroner's case for the additional reason that he had been treating Murray Hall for cancer of the left breast, believing Hall to be a man. Clerk Reynolds, too, questioned the doctor, and wrote out a report, which was placed on file. To fill it out he was asked:

"Was she married?"

Dr. Gallagher said he could not state whether she was single, married, or a widow.

Later in the day Clerk Reynolds was informed that Murray Hall was known as a widower and that his wife died over two years ago. The death of the wife is on record at the health board. She is described as Mrs. C. L. Hall, fifty-eight years old, wife of Murray Hall. Just where Murray Hall married her could not be learned tonight, but the couple were married many years ago. Mrs. Murray Hall's maiden name was Hobbs. After her death Murray Hall shipped the body to her old home in Maine.

A tenant in the house where Murray Hall lived, a fireman's widow, said she had been acquainted with Murray Hall ever since he moved in there seven years ago.

"When he came he brought with him his wife and daughter Minnie," said the fireman's widow. "I don't believe it possible that Murray Hall could have been a woman in man's clothing. He came home tipsy from political meetings, and now and then he and his wife argued, and, like other women, she accused him of paying attention to girls whose acquaintance he made. There were a great many of these girls who came to the intelligence bureau looking for places as servants, and Murray Hall, who was a sport, frequently invited them out to the corner saloon, where for hours he would sit in the back room and drink with them. This caused many quarrels between Murray and his wife. She was a fine-looking woman, and one of the most pleasant women to talk to that I ever met."

From another source it was learned that Murray Hall, then passing as a man, opened an employment bureau at Sixth Avenue and Twenty-third Street twenty-five or thirty years ago. Soon after coming there she brought a woman to her home and introduced the woman as her wife. For three years this woman resided in the house as Mrs. Murray Hall, and then the couple quarreled. The woman told her neighbors that she was going to leave her husband because he was in the habit of staying out late at night carousing and losing money. She went away, and this Mrs. Murray Hall was not seen in the neighborhood again.

At the Iroquois Club Thomas McGlynn, one of the members, said tonight that Murray Hall had been a member of the club for many years. When the club's headquarters were in Sixth Avenue Murray Hall was in the habit of dropping in there nightly and sitting around with the other club members until all hours of the night.

"He was a pleasant sort of a chap," said Mr. McGlynn, "and was friendly with all. He was a member of our district organization, and registered to vote at the Democratic primaries. He was enrolled in the primary list last year."

Not one of all the persons official and otherwise who knew Hall familiarly ever dreamed that she was not a man.