

WOMEN IN MEN'S CLOTHES.

Careers of Feminine Advocates of Masculine Attire.

The case of Murray Hall, the woman who so long deceived New York in regard to her sex, is by no means without parallel. About a year ago "Miss Glenn," who had fled from debts and an engagement to Ella Duke of Litchfield, Ill., confessed when arrested to being a woman, and yet she had lived for some time in a small town, doing a man's work and awakening no suspicion whatever. There are many cases of women who served as soldiers, and one of these, thoroughly authenticated, was reported only a short time ago from the Philippines. One Maggie Curley served before the mast; Minnie Biggs, a trapeze performer, worked as an expert telegraph linesman, and "Otto Schaffer," a Kansas hermit and soldier, turned out to be a woman, though given, nevertheless, a military funeral. History furnishes numberless examples from ancient times to the more modern instances noted by Kraff-Ebing.

Perhaps the most famous case of this kind is that of the "Countess" Sarolta Vay, ten years ago. The child of an Austrian colonel with a large family of daughters only, she was reared as a boy and was a well-known "man about town," in Pesth, drinking and smoking, and even appearing in military uniform. When her family finally tired of the farce she refused to give it up, and was not discovered until she married the daughter of a schoolmaster and squandered all her wife's money. Tradition, of course, furnishes examples of women who, for reasons of state, held as men high civil and ecclesiastical offices, as in the fable of "Pope Joan." But a real case is of the opposite sort—that of the Chevalier D'Eon, who, when Louis XV. wanted a woman to act as secret agent on a Russian mission, assumed the role and broke a dozen hearts in Moscow. The sex of one Englishman, a figure at court, was discovered only by death, while Queen Christina of Sweden, after resigning her crown at 28, spent half her time in European cities dressed in man's attire.

The Venetian Tonina Marinello fought through the campaigns of Garibaldi, passing as the brother of her husband and being decorated for bravery. Mary East kept a saloon with a woman called her wife. Louis Herman, a well-known courier and a good linguist, has for forty-two years been affecting men's clothes. Then there is Dr. Mary Walker and Dr. James Barry, the English army surgeon, who fought a duel at the Cape with one who dared call her a woman. Nora Smith of Ohio hid her sex for twelve years, and "Frank Blunt" managed a lumber camp, was married and divorced before detected. Mrs. Lindsay went as a soldier through our Civil War; Louise Watson, a child of rich parents, braved London as a boy, and Mary Talbot was a cabin boy, broke one woman's heart and was killed in a brawl with London police. Bessie Finegold married a New York girl, Catherine Coombs was an English miner and Mrs. Loganani also was in Hazleton.

Mrs. Julia Forest took her injured husband's place also in the Pennsylvania mines and for twenty years Mrs. Westover was the town barber of Marlboro, Conn. "Tony Leesa" was loved by every girl in a Yonkers factory until she herself fell in love and married a man. Army muster rolls are, however, after all, the place to look for these cases. Private Jorgenson served for twenty years in the Victoria Rifles, and in Fox's "Regimental Losses" we note examples as follows: Charles D. Fuller, Forty-sixth Pennsylvania, detected and discharged; Sergeant Frank Mayne, 126th Pennsylvania, deserted, and subsequently killed in battle in another regiment; Franklin Thompson, Second Michigan, detected; L. M. Blaylock, Twenty-sixth North Carolina, detected. Most of these women served, before being discharged, with unusual bravery, and their cases almost parallel that of Christian Cavanagh, the English woman, who enlisted with her impressed husband in Holland, was wounded at Ramillies and then remained with the regiment as a cook.