

WATER LURED HER FROM THE BOAT.

Swelling Waves Fascinated Celia, Then Tried to Drown Her.

HER IMPULSE TO LEAP.

Felt the Water Was Drawing Her Down but Was Powerless to Resist It.

FIXED IDEA, SPECIALISTS SAY.

Dr. Cyrus Edson Cites Similar Cases of Uncontrollable Impulse and Says It Sometimes Provides Its Own Cure.

"The water! The dreadful water! It seemed to draw and draw me. I knew I oughtn't to yield, but I couldn't help it, and into the river I went!"

A SPECIALIST'S OPINION OF MISS GALLAGHER'S CASE.

The girl's case is a splendid example of what is known as a "fixed idea." Probably the majority of people have some form of mental idiosyncrasy.

There have been several interesting examples of it. Some patients have been unable to cross a street or a square without feeling that something terrible was going to happen to them.

with passengers, was a little southwest of Governor's Island, on its way to Brooklyn that afternoon, a neatly dressed young woman, who had been standing quietly by the rail and looking down into the water, suddenly and without a word of warning, plunged into the water.

HER ACT NOT UNUSUAL, SAYS DR. EDWARD C. SPITZKA.

Acts caused by impulses such as seem to have controlled this young woman at times occur. The leaping into the water, under an uncontrollable impulse, does not surprise me, for it is what might happen under any circumstances such as cause dizziness.

I do not like to speak of a definite case without seeing the patient and examining into the circumstances, but in a general way I may say that such acts are likely to be performed by persons of an excitable or nervous temperament, when acting under sudden impulses.

Hudson Street Hospital, and yesterday morning arraigned before Magistrate Mott, in Centre Street Police Court, on a charge of attempted suicide.

The prisoner said, simply, and with such apparent truth, that even Magistrate Mott, severe and suspicious though he is, believed she had not tried to kill herself; that she had been fascinated by the water as she leaned over the rail, and that, unable to resist, she had leaped into it.

"I don't think I can tell exactly how it happened," she said, at her home yesterday, with puzzled slowness. "The water, rippling so strangely, with the sunset lights playing over it, somehow made me dizzy and faint. And then I began to feel that it was drawing me. I was frightened, but I couldn't resist. I couldn't call out and I couldn't turn away. It just kept on pulling and pulling and pulling, and everything began to slip away from me. Oh, it was awful. And I felt as if, when the water once got hold of me, it would drag me right down to the very bottom. All the time I was conscious and knew just what I was doing, for I remember feeling so strongly that I ought not to go over the rail. But the next thing I knew I was in the water. I didn't feel the fascination then. That was all gone. I just felt that I was cold and wet, and that I must keep floating till a boat could get to me."

"I wonder if I shall ever feel that way again!" She stopped abruptly, and a momentary look of terror came into her eyes.

Although she now calls herself by her maiden name, Miss Gallagher is a married woman. She and her husband have separated. In addition to this she recently had a quarrel with her father, which deeply depressed her spirits. To her trouble may be attributed her lack of will power to resist the temptation to spring overboard.

The form of fascinated impulse under which the young woman acted is recognized by the medical profession as one that has been established, though unusual type of mania.

"A similar case," said Dr. Edson yesterday, "was that of an officer in the German army, who hung himself from a window, and, while feeling the utmost horror and shame on account of his act, knew that it was an uncontrollable impulse that had seized him. Another was that of a woman who, having witnessed the drowning of a servant, she afterwards seized with an impulse to throw herself into the water. If she accidentally approached a boat she would at once rush toward it, at the same time calling on her companions to save her. The knowledge that she ought not to do it was not enough to keep her from the act. In some cases the actual plunge or leap, if not in itself fatal, will work beneficially toward a cure, as the shock tends to destroy the impulse. Careful watching and care may also do a great deal, and entire recovery may result."

Bellefont's Reign of Darkness. Bellefont, Pa., April 7.—A fire of supposed incendiary origin destroyed the large plant of the Electric Illuminating Company in this city, with all of its contents, last night. As a result the entire city will be in darkness for several nights. The loss is estimated at \$65,000, with \$25,000 insurance.

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LANCASTER.—At the home of her son, Frank H. Lancaster, 380 St. Nicholas ave., Mrs. James W. Lancaster, aged 58 years, 12 days. Interment at Syracuse, N. Y., April 10.

MILLER.—Ex-Lieutenant James Miller, Company B, Fifth New York (Infantry) Regiment, and Company B, Seventh Regiment, N. Y. S. N. G., April 6, of paralysis, aged sixty-six, at the residence of his son, Chauncey S. S. Miller, 684 President street, Brooklyn. Funeral services Thursday, 8 p. m. Interment in Greenwood.

DEAN COMPANY SUITS.

One Begun and One Threatened Against the Investment Brokers, but No Action by the Grand Jury.

The troubles of the E. S. Dean Company continue, but so far the District-Attorney and his assistants have taken no steps toward investigating the failure.

"I have done nothing in regard to the matter," said Mr. Otcott yesterday. "I was confined to my bed at the time of the failure, and am not familiar with the circumstances. Since I returned to my office I have had no time to look into the case. If any complaint is made against the company it will be investigated, but beyond that I can say nothing definite."

So far as is known, only one suit has been begun against the concern, and up to date but one other is threatened. The suit in progress is the one upon which the officers were seized by the Sheriff. In this Theodore B. Thompson is the complainant. Yesterday Robert J. Knox, representing the Bankers and Merchants' Interchange, stated that he had prepared papers for a suit against the company to recover money lost through it. He said that he had been trying to serve notice upon the officers of the Dean Company, but had been unable to find them.

J. H. Evans, president of the Interchange, said that in his dealings with the Dean Company he had always thought the business was conducted in a legitimate manner. He had found that the concern had filed with the Secretary of State of New Jersey a statement that it had, on beginning business, a capital of \$10,000, and on November 23 certified that the full capital stock of \$1,000,000 had been paid in.

It has been stated by the lawyers for some of the patrons of the company that the officers of the concern had left the city. President Bernard was seen yesterday and denied this story.

"None of us has left the city," he said, "and we do not intend to do so. We were doing a legitimate business, and many of our customers have received large profits



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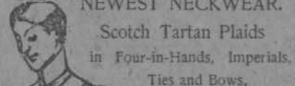
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Fifth Avenue Theatre, 8th St. & 28th St. Evens, 8:15. Mat. Sat. 2. Mrs. Fiske, Charles Cochran and Unrivaled Company, in TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLE.

HOYT & M'KEE, 248 W. 8th St. HOYT'S PROPHETORS. SAT. MAT. 2:15. ALL HOYT'S MUSICAL COMEDY. F.W. COMEDY. OTIS HARLAN AND ORIGINAL CAST. NEW SONGS, NEW DANCES, NEW SPECIALTIES.

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