

## MASQUERADED AS A MAN.

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### This Girl Also Played Cards, Drank and Fought.

A special to the New York World from Wheeling, W. Va., says: After masquerading four months as Dave Kyle, a delicately-featured, foppish young man, pretty, eighteen-year-old Mabel McElhaney is again attired in the habiliments of her sex.

Born in Bradford, Pa., and left motherless at thirteen, she was compelled to earn her own livelihood, and after several experiences donned boy's clothes to enable her to fight the world's battle. The first person she fooled was her uncle, whom she met on the train. He took her for her brother and inquired about the health of Mabel. She felt no fear afterward.

She worked in a Wheeling bar room as a house painter and carried heavy metal slabs in the Aetna Standard Steel Mill. It was while running as a cabin boy on the Ohio river steamer Ruth that her sex was first suspected because of her refusal to sleep with another boy.

The girl smoked cigarettes and was an adept in up-to-date slang. She flirted with the girls and made love to them. She played poker at Bob Clark's place here, and when the police raided it one night she escaped arrest by jumping from a rear window to the ground.

When a boy shot her in the foot on July 4 she blacked his eye and cut his neck in the fight which followed. She also fought the boy who took her place on the Ruth. She admits that he bested her, but says she was "entitled to the decision."

The girl is now at the home of Mrs. O. Boyce, wife of a prominent attorney, who interested herself in the case. She admits that she attended the Ellis Glen trial two days in Parkersburg, but insists that her only motive was to earn a livelihood. She cried when she was arrested, the only sign of weakness she has shown since she donned male attire.

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