

## WAS A "MAN" FOR EIGHT YEARS.

Miss Maude Allen, Disguised as a Boy,  
Graduates and Is Made a Teacher.  
Found Her Chances Better.

Baltimore, Md.—After passing as a young man for eight years because it gave her better chances for advancement, Miss Maude Allen, alias "James man," was arrested April 29 for wearing "Allen," a bright young mulatto wearing male attire. As a girl in her teens she passed at the head of her class in a boys' school, and as a young woman in trousers she became a teacher in our public schools. Miss Maude, or "James," is now 24, and first donned man's attire when she was 16. She says:

### Her Statement.

"On entering the Baltimore Colored high school the thought occurred to me that I might make a success in life as a man. I know that a woman of my race has not much chance, so I shaved my head and bought an entire outfit of men's clothing. We were then living in another part of town, so, with my grandmother, who was the only one who knew my secret, we moved to the house in which we now live. I got through the school in three years, graduating at the head of my class. I was appointed a teacher at the Brooklyn school and several months ago transferred to school No. 106 in this city. I see no reason why I should not be allowed to dress as I please. I am surely not different from the majority of members of any race. I should not be hampered."

### How She Kept Her Secret.

Never once was the sex of the young "man" who daily sat at the desk in a public school suspected. She was an active worker in Ebenezer Baptist church and taught a Sunday school class. This was the only chance for her to mix with men, as she kept completely aloof from the people of the neighborhood in which she lived, going to her home immediately after school and remaining in the company of her grandmother. When seen at her home April 29 she was dressed in a navy suit of blue serge. Tall of stature, she would easily be mistaken for a youth of 20. She also possessed a rather heavy beard.

### How It Was Discovered.

A short time ago the young lady was taken ill and entered the Maryland General hospital, where it was discovered that she was not a man. The police went to the hospital and placed her under arrest. She paid \$50 fine and costs and was given 24 hours in which to change to feminine apparel.