

WEARS MAN'S ATTIRE IN ORDER TO EARN LIVING



MISS MARY JOHNSON

New York, Special: Free to go where she pleased in this country, Mary Johnson, who went to Ellis Island from the steamship New York on Sunday morning, dressed as a man, left the immigrant station and departed for New Orleans. Garbed in the same attire, and to all outward appearances the

"Frank Woodhull" that she named herself, the woman took passage on one of the steamboats carrying immigrants to the outgoing trains in Jersey City, and therefore did not set foot in New York.

This disappointed a large crowd gathered at the Battery. The officials at the island, from Commissioner Watchorn down, had been impressed by the woman's apparent sincerity when she told again her story that in women's dress she could not earn an honest living.

The fear of detection of her true sex by children was ever present in Miss Johnson.

"I have roughed it in the west with men as my only companions, and in other places among both men and women," she said, "and only once has my sex been questioned, and that time it was by a child. It seems that they must have an intuition that older persons do not have. Fifteen years ago, in California, a boy said to me, 'Why, you look like a woman with men's clothes on.' At the moment I had no hat on, but my hair was cut, combed and brushed as well as any man's. In a few minutes I had placed the hat—a soft one—on my head. The little boy, again looking at me in wonderment, said, 'Now you are a man, aren't you?' Since that time I have avoided children."

The woman stated that she sold trinkets and took orders for magazines among the Creoles in New Orleans before, and would go at once to that city if released.