A Remarkable Case.

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The presence in the city of the Burnham Novelty company recalls one of the most remarkable histories, known to many Minneapolis people by reason of one of the other actors in the strange domestic drama having for a period been a resident of that city. A good many people will recall Major W. L. Powell, who for a short time, along about 1873, was editor of the Tribune. Prior to this time Powell had led the life of a Bohemian, and in his travels went to Broadhead, Wis., where he met a charming young lady possessed of tal(nt as a musican. Maj. Powell was then lectbring, and made a favorable impression, both upon the young lady and her parents, and the friendship for the girl ripened into marriage. The young lady was then about 19 years of age, had always been reared delicately by a family of the highest respectability. The father was physician and druggist. Soon after her marriage to Maj. Powell a change began to take place; her complexion became swarthy and a beard began to grow, which demanded and received the assidnous attention of a razor. Other physical changes went on, and after the couple had been reasonably married for a period of nearly three years, despite the Major's dissolute habits, it became impossible to deny the fact that the girl was more man than woman. A visit was made te Chicago, and an eminent physician was consulted, who confirmed the suspicion, a surgical operation was performed, and Major Powell and wife separated, there being no matrimonial provision to bind two males together. The disclosure was extremely mortifying to the parents of the ex-wife, and they afterward removed to another place. The metamorphosed individual availed himself of his prerogative and put away crinoline and donned male habiliments; and commenced work in a drug store in Chicago under the name of E. W. Burnham, a change in the given name only being made to suit the change in sex. During the period young Burnham had lived as a woman, the acquaintance had been formed of another young woman, also of musical predilections. The two "girl" were chums, even roommates together, without suspicion of another condition being present. The regard then formed ripened into love, and after a period had elapsed the two were married, and have since lived happily together, making their home at Waterloo, Ia. The husband and wife are none other than E. W. Burnham, the head of the Burnham Novelty Company, and Mrs. Gertie Everette Burnham, one of the members of the party. There is nothing in Mr. Burnham's appearance to indicate the strange history, and he is now thoroughly masculine in appearance, capable of raising a heavy beard, though to meet the requirements of his business he is cleanly shaven. The facts are all well authenticated. Mr. Burnham is the nephew of a prominent citizen of Minneapolis in whose family he lived as a charming young girl for a considerable time, and is the subject of one of those freaks of nature which are rare, but undoubtedly occur. He is above the average in talent and ability, and has turned his taste for music into the organization which made its appearance at Pence opera house last evening.

Burnham takes no part in the performance of the company that bears his name other than to preside at the piano. Mrs. Burnham appears in the first part and in the drama with which their rather queer performance is concluded.