

A STARVING WOMAN.

Without Food and Dying in a Great City.

The Rochester *Democrat* says: "Between 12 and 1 o'clock Thursday morning officer Laragy was notified that there was a strange woman in a room in a certain block on West Main street, about whom there was some mystery which demanded the attention of the police. In company with Captain Sullivan and one of the reporters of this paper, officer Laragy proceeded to the room indicated. A small candle furnished the light to guide the visitors to the first door, and a few taps on the door of a room on the front side of the building caused its opening by a female, whom a sight presented itself which no one of the party had ever seen equaled in this city. There was not speck of carpet or furniture in the room. Nothing besides its mysterious occupant and an ordinary valise in which were some soiled clothing, some plated knives and forks and a few needles and some thread. In one corner was a broken paper box, which contained two half-eaten crackers and a silk overskirt apparently lately made up, hung on the door. The woman was in her night clothes, with a dilapidated black shawl around her shoulders. There was nothing for her to lie or sit on, and what was worse than all, she appeared sick nigh unto death. Her nose and chin were covered with huge dirty patches, and it was plain to be seen she was suffering from some terrible disease that was gradually destroying her face. The traces of youth and beauty were most noticeable, and in conversation she was the perfect lady. She refused to say one word about her name, residence or destination. She said she had hired the room for a week, as she did not wish to make her condition known to the authorities and she would not go to a hotel. She would not give her name because she did not want her relatives to hear of her sickly and impoverished condition. Notwithstanding her earnest protestations it was decided to remove to her to the station house, where the attention of the benevolent can be called to her forlorn state.

Citation:

"A Starving Woman",
The Syracuse Daily Courier newspaper,
Syracuse, New York,
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Notes: The police officer mentioned is William Jerome Laragy (1845-1921) of Rochester, New York. W. J. Laragy served as a patrolman with the Rochester Police Department from 1877 to 1891.

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