

## A RATHMINES ROMANCE.

THE Dublin *Freeman's Journal* of Jan. 9, says:—

Yesterday, and indeed for some days previously, certain coteries in the most fashionable portion of the Rathmines township were very much agitated by a sudden and unexpected revelation that has created considerable confusion in the district. On Friday and Saturday the matter was whispered about; but yesterday the fact which has created this became very generally known. In brief what has occurred is this:—There resided, and still reside in a fashionable part of Rathmines, a family consisting of a mother, who is a widow, two or three sons, and three ladies, sisters—at all event they were supposed to be so. The family were held in the highest respect and esteem, and until this incident occurred their household was undisturbed by any out-of-the-way occurrence. Two of the young ladies were prepossessing in appearance and gifted with many accomplishments. The third—the eldest, we believe—was not devoid of good looks either, and possessed a certain amount of musical culture which was displayed effectively at numerous re-unions, parties, and evening assemblies about the neighborhood. She also developed a remarkable talent for drawing. She was frequently met with at social assemblies and at places of entertainment, and was admired everywhere for her good looks and accomplishments. She was an admirable tennis player; and was altogether an agreeable figure in the set in which she moved. About a couple of months ago it was announced that she was about to proceed to London to complete her studies in the South Kensington School of Art, and naturally the news caused some interest among her acquaintances. She came back at Christmas, and many ladies who were acquainted with the family called at their house to see her. What was the astonishment of the visitors when the mother calmly announced that her “daughter” was a boy, and then the quondam Miss——entered the room dressed in masculine attire, having completely abandoned the character which she or he (as we must now call him) had been so long assuming of a girl. The incident gave rise to great perturbation among the acquaintances of the family, and as a result no little unpleasantness has occurred. Those who knew the young gentleman as Miss——are extremely astonished at the turn affairs have taken. They find it hard to believe that such a deception could have gone on for years without any suspicion of the real circumstances being entertained. The young man has been regarded as a girl, from his infancy. He went to school as a girl, dressed as a girl, entered society as a girl, and behaved as a girl, so that the sudden announcement of his true position in society has naturally caused some commotion among the acquaintances of the young man, while the incident forms a subject of comment to those who do not know the family and have become aware of the occurrence.