

## THE DAY BOOK

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### THE ANGEL OF NIGHT COURT.

—Those who knew New York's night court in the past few years knew also Mary Bell, a little middle-aged woman who devoted her time and her slender means to helping fallen women back on the path of virtue.

Night after night she attended the night court's sessions, always with a cheery word, sometimes with an offer of a job, frequently with the contents of her purse for the victims of New York underworld—the women caught in raids, fined and sent back to the streets.

Day after day she met the boat from Blackwell's Island, to aid and advise the girls released from the reformatory to face again the problem of life for women marked with the scarlet letter.

Little was known of Mary Bell except that she kept a rooming-house in West 24th street and devoted all her earnings to the succor of unfortunates.

Then came a night when a prisoner in night court told Mary Bell of relatives in Jersey City; when the "angel of night court" prevailed on the judge to discharge the woman, and then emptied her purse so that society's victim might go home to her kin.

With not even carfare left, Mary Bell trod the miles to her rooming-

house in a drizzling rain. Next day she had a cold, but she met the Blackwell's Island boat; that night her cold was worse, but she attended night court just the same. For a week she fought both sickness and the forces that oppress; then she died.

With her death it was discovered that Mary Bell was really Mary Goode, once keeper of the most notorious resort in New York, who testified against the police in the Rosenthal case, and later made charges of vice graft that sent seven men to prison.

After these disclosures the police turned on Mary Goode the full power of their persecution. She tried to live a decent life, but wherever she went she was hounded. Landlords, informed by the police of her past, turned her into the street. Employers, told by the police of her history, discharged her from her jobs.

One day she disappeared.

She did not reappear.

"East river!" was the probable thought in the minds of her persecutors.

But the death of Mary Bell, "angel of night court," bared the story of one Magdalen who DID go her way and sin no more, and who DID out-with the "system" that makes the reform of fallen women next to impossible.

Has Mary Goode, the modern Magdalen, atoned for her past sins?

### SHORT ONES

True eloquence scorns eloquence.  
—Pascal.

A good way to punish cold storage egg hogs would be to limit them to a diet of cold storage eggs.

A musical comedy chorus hit the Billy Sunday trail in Boston. We haven't heard whether the show was able to continue.

We know one fellow who has solved the problem of the high cost of living—but not the problem of keeping out of jail.