

WEIRD HALLUCINATIONS.

WHY MR. WATTON DOES NOT CARE TO SEE HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW.

Mr. Jacob W. Watton of 414 West Fifty-seventh-street received a telegram yesterday morning from Dr. Talcott of the Middletown Insane Asylum, saying that Eleazor T. Clark had escaped the night before, and although a thorough search had been made he was still at large. The announcement was sufficient to arouse anxiety akin to terror in the family of the recipient. The escaped lunatic is a brother of Mrs. Watton. Before his commitment to the asylum last November he had lived with his sister and her husband. He has for many years been the victim of weird hallucinations. Sometimes he fancies shaggy dogs are running between his feet, and at others he hears triangles jangling in his ears. His form of insanity is described by the doctors as sub-acute mania. He was harmless, never doing anything worse than frightening timid people with tales of masked Hebrews who were on his track, and whom he from time to time discovered crouching ready to spring upon him under the elevated railway stairs, in dark doorways, on ferryboats, and behind trees.

When not talking about Hebrew assassins and jumping away from shaggy dogs, he appeared perfectly sane. He is of good address, affable in manner, and possessed of considerable sound sense. For years after his friends first noticed that his mind was diseased Clark kept his place as a bookkeeper for a Broadway firm. He would probably never have been committed to an asylum had he not, while under the belief that the band of masked assassins had been re-enforced beyond hope of resistance, applied to Superintendent Murray for protection. The Superintendent sent him to the Jefferson Market Police Court with an officer, who bore a note requesting Justice Gorman to investigate the case. The Justice was inclined to believe the insane man's story, but told him to go home and return in two days. He did so, and upon the opinion of medical men present, Justice Gorman placed him in charge of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction. He would have been sent to the Ward's Island Insane Asylum but for the intercession of Mr. and Mrs. Watton, who secured his release upon it being shown that he had means sufficient to pay the expense of treatment in a private asylum.

He was then taken to the Middletown Asylum by Mr. Watton, where he was confined until his escape on Saturday night. Clark told Mr. Watton on the way that his commitment for lunacy was only another phase of the conspiracy against him. "I regard you as the chief conspirator," said he, "and if I ever get out, beware!" That is the reason Mr. Watton is a little frightened over his brother-in-law's escape.