
LUDICROUS CRIME—At a Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held at Taunton, Somersetshire, on the 18th of February, 1746, Mary Hamilton, otherwise George, otherwise Charles Hamilton, was tried for pretending herself a man, and marrying 14 wives, the last of which, Mary Price, deposed in court, that she was married to the prisoner, and that they had lived together as man and wife for a quarter of a year, during which time she thought the prisoner a man, owing to the prisoner's vile and deceitful practices. After a debate upon the nature of the crime, and what to call it, it was agreed by the magistrates that she was an uncommon notorious cheat, and she was accordingly sentenced to be publicly whipped in Taunton, Glastonbury, Wells, and Shepton-Mallet, the places of her gallantry, to be further imprisoned for six months, and to find security for her good behaviour, as long as the justices at the next quarter sessions should determine.
