

A WOMAN-HUSBAND.—In 1733, a woman went courting a woman, dressed as a man, and was very favorably received. The lady to whom these not very delicate attentions were paid, was much older than the lover, but she was possessed of about one hundred pounds, and this was the attraction to her adventurous friend. But the intended treachery was discovered; and, as the original chronicler of the story says, "the old lady proved too knowing."

A more extraordinary case than this was that of two women who lived together by mutual consent as man and wife for six-and thirty years. They kept a public house at Poplar; and the "wife," when on her death bed for the first time told her relatives the fact concerning her marriage. The writer in *The Gentleman's Magazine* (1776), who records the circumstance states that "both had been crossed in love when young, and had chosen this method to avoid further importunities." It seems, however, that the truth was suspected; for the "husband" subsequently charged a man with extorting money from her under the threat of disclosing the secret, and for this offense he was sentenced to stand three times in the pillory, and to undergo four years' imprisonment.