Catherine alias John (and his/her wife)

The following passage is found in a local chronicle kept in the city archives of Constance. While the chronicle has been edited twice, the passage below was silently omitted (in the edition of Mone) or abbreviated (Ruppert). At Constance there was an episcopal court which heard marriage cases from the whole diocese, including Rottweil.

Original: Konstanz, Stadtarchiv, A I 1, fol. 127ra.
Edition and translation: Christof Rolker.
Editions (of the rest of the chronicle): Quellensammlung der badischen Landesgeschichte, ed. F.J. Mone, 4 vols., Karlsruhe 1848–1867, at vol. 1, 309–349; P. Ruppert, Das alte Konstanz in Schrift und Stift. Die Chroniken der Stadt Konstanz, Konstanz 1891.

Anno Domini 1388 in die sancti Martini do kam ain wunderliche sach gen Costentz uff den kor und koment dar mit erber lüt von dem rat ze Rotwil. Item es ward ze Rotwil ain tochter geboren von ainem burger, hiess der Hell, und ward in dem toff gehaissen Katharina; und do sy wuchs, do lait sy mannes klaider an und sprach, sy wär ain man, und nampt sich selber Hans; und der selb Hans nam dar nach ain wip, das was ain schön tochter, und warent baid uff ain alter uff 20 jar; und Hansen wůchsent sin brüst als och sinem wip. Dar nach schiktent die burger von Rotwil die selben zway elichen menschen gen Costentz uff gaistlich gericht, das man erfür, ob es ein e mocht gesin. So ward Hans beschowet; der hätt ainen zagel und ain fud. Also wurdent sy wider haim gewist zesamen.

In the year of the Lord 1388, at St Martin's day [11 November], a strange case was brought before the ecclesiastical court at Constance by honorable men [sent by] the city council of Rottweil. At Rottweil, a daughter was born to one of the burghers/citizens, named Hell, and she was named Catherine in baptism. When she grew up, she put on men's clothes, declared herself to be a man, and called herself John. Next, this John took a wife, a beautiful young woman; both were around the age of twenty. And John grew breasts just as his wife. Then the citizens of Rottweil sent these the married couple to the ecclesiastical court at Constance, to enquire whether this was a proper marriage. So John was looked at; he had a penis and a vulva. Thus, the couple was sent home again together.