



### **James Ambrose, Rat Catcher**

James Ambrose was charged with using a ferret, for the purpose of catching rabbits, on ground in the occupation of Mr. Cook of Roundway. The fact was clearly established. Ambrose, in his defence said, that he was a rat catcher, and that Mr. Hughes could prove he never had a rat upon his premises without sending for him, and that he had paid him as much as 11s. at a time; upon which Mr. Starky observed that the question was, whether he was not a rabbit catcher as well as a rat catcher. If Mr. Hughes could prove the negative, then he might be a good witness; otherwise, it matter'd not whether he had paid him £11 instead of 11s for catching rats. The man was ultimately fined £1 costs 10s. 6d.

Mr. Starky at the same time recommended him to confine his attention to rat catching in future.

**Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 29 April 1841**