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ON THE COVER: Portrait of slain Boston prostitute, Maria A. Bickford, appended to an 1846 pamphlet report of the trial of her paramour and alleged murderer, Albert J. Tirrell. The text of the trial transcript, bleeding through the leaf, defaces her image--as did the proceedings themselves. See the article by Daniel A. Cohen, "The Murder of Maria Bickford: Fashion, Passion, and the Birth of a Consumer Culture," p. 5.

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