

THE
BLASPHEMER
Tryed and Cast:

Or a more full Narrative of the Tryal of

Lodowick Muggleton,

On *Wednesday* the 17th of this Instant *January*, at the
Sessions-House in the *Old-Bayly*.

With a Relation of the Charges delivered to the
Jewry, and the Sentence passed upon him for
his most Impious and Horrid Blasphemies.

WHICH WAS

To stand Three Days in the Pillory in three of the
most eminent places in the City, and to have
his Books burnt before his Face by the
Common Hangman.

And also to pay Five Hundred Pounds Fine, and to
find Sureties for his good Behaviour.

Licensed Roger L'Strange, Jan. 22. 1676.



L O N D O N:

Printed for J. B. in the Year 1676.

The Blasphemer Tryed and Cast, &c.

THE birth and Education of this Monster that the whole Christian world may expect an account of, is so obscure and low, so extremely inconsiderable, that even his own Gang of foolish followers, upon a strict inquiry of them, can only tell you that their first acquaintance with him did arise, when first his Co-partner in Villany, *Retze* and himself, gave themselves to be the two last witnesses; then it was that *Muggleton* leaped over the Shop-board, and would conceit himself, and make sick-brained Idle People believe he was a great Prophet; that the power of binding and loosing were more strongly confirmed to him then ever the Roman Bishop pretended they were to the Holy Chair, for some years last past hath the impudence of this deceiver imposed upon a Company of Rude inconstant, Debauched people, to the wonder and astonishment of good and considerate men, that Justice did not stifle such a horrid Fomentor of all that was superlatively wicked in its first birth; but such are those latter days that no Heretick hath appeared upon the stage of the World; but he hath found both adherers and admirers, some professing Religion, thinking it their glory to be alwaies seeking, though that their over curious inquiry hazards the welfare of their immortal Souls; too many are the present examples of this kind, and as easy it were to give many instances how that at last the Vengeance of Heaven hath overtaken such enemies to God and Religion, and because men have not so far espoused the cause of the Almighty, as severely to punish such wretches presidents are not wanting where God himself hath made manifest by his Judgments his dislike to, by punishment upon those Sons of *Belial* that durst derogate from the power of Heaven, much more against those that would establish an opposition to it; this indeed must not be the design of this sheet to manifest, that to undertake, were to swell this sheet into a Volume, which is not my design, but observing a defect in the former Relation, it was thought necessary to give a more perfect account of *Muggletons* Tryal, and to inform the world that God hath given us such wise and learned judges, that the greatest zeal imaginable was shewn by them, and indeed by the whole Court against the Blasphemies of the boldest wretch that ever the earth made known, who at last being overtaken by the justice of the Law, received a Tryal before many of the great Oracles of Justice, whom his Majesty for their great meritts hath dignified with a Judicatory Power; on *Wednesday* the 17th. of this Instant *January*; at Justice Hall in the *Old-Baly*, was this great blasphemer arraigned; and indicted by the name of *Ladovick Muggleton*, for that he had sold, uttered, and dispersed several books, contained most horrid Blasphemies received in the indictment; but too base for any man to name; and indeed too foul for any tongue to express; after his charge read; and the witnesses heard, he was asked what he had to say for himself, who begged the favour of the honourable Court, that he might have Counsel to speak for him, and he desired *Mr. Jennet* might be the person, which was graciously granted him, who like a good man discharged his duty as a Christian, and Counsellour, he hoped the Court did not expect he should defend or once name his Blasphemies, all that he would say was, that the prisoner did confess the fact, all that he did say in defence of himself, was that the Books so sold and uttered were written before the year 1673. In which year, his Majesties Act of Grace came forth, which he hoped would bring him under that cognizans, after this had received some Consideration by the Reverend Judges, his charge was given to the Jury in words to this Effect.

Gentlemen, you have heard the heinousness of the crime this wretch stands indicted for, it is for most horrible Blasphemy against the great God; such wickedness his own Council will not dare to repeat, and truly could it have been avoided, the indictment contains such horrible Blasphemies and villanies, it should not have been read, but Gentlemen, as to the matter, it is proved that he did utter, sell, and dispose several Volumes of these Blasphemous books, that great quantities were taken in his own custody, that he vented them

for several prizes, the whole Volumn for 14. s. the half for 7. s. another part for 3. s. 6. d. and some for 18. d. a piece, so that he had prepared and fired his poyson to all degrees; he whose stomach was strong enough, had a full cup of Poyson, and for him whose appetite was weaker the half doze should serve; and for those whose digestion was not so good nor purles so large, he had fired and prepared a smaller proportion for them; so that as much as in him lay, he indeavoured to infect all his Majesties Subjects that could be so ignorant as to buy his Impious works, now what defence doth he make, he confesses that the books were sold and dispersed after the year 1673. In the following years, 74. 75. 76. Yet says he, they were written before the year 1673. so I hope the Kings Act of Grace reaches so far as to pardon me; now Gentlemen, what witness, what proof brings he of this, why truly here is nothing appears but his own assertion, and he tells you the Title of his most wicked Books (speak that they were written before) who can be proof in such a case as to what he did? what Testimony can he give account of his writing his Manuscript, except his own wicked Spirit? he says it was written before, but can you believe him, do you think he will make a conscience of lying, that hath vented such unheard of Blasphemies against God, than it were hard for the Divil to out do him in his mallice; as to the Titles of his heathen books, who can tell but he might give them a false date on purpose to shelter himself under the Kings Act of grace, and foreseeing at last that Justice would overtake him, he thought to take that for his refuge, for to give books a new Title, it seems as it is easy, there is nothing more ordinary. Gentlemen we are fallen into such sad times, that what is the people? Government, what ever pisheth at Majesty is upheld and carried on by all moderate men; Gentlemen, I leave it to you, I pray God direct you.

It was further insisted upon, That such was the crime against the Prisoner, and so unusual his Crimes, that he did not merit to be pardoned in the Cause of God, of Religion, and of our Dread Sovereign, who had a dispensable Vindict had sought to Ruin, that it was admirable that such a silly Wretch durst be so Impudent to think to make himself great, by gathering a Rabble to Intitle themselves by his Name, it was left to them, and it was not to be doubted but God would give them Direction, upon which the Jury withdrew, and found this Great Imposter Guilty. After Sentence past upon other Malefactors, he received judgment, in a phrase more eloquent then I dare presume to Judg my self able to rehearse, but in words much to this effect; that such a Superlative Monster of Wickedness, should dare to Belch forth such horrible Blasphemys against the great God, Creator of Heaven and Earth; that such a despicable Fellow here should gather a party, and set himself up in defiance to his Maker, and so proceeding to his Sentence, it was as follows: 'Thou art now, thou Blaspheinous Wretch, to receive the moderate Sentence of this Court, I call it so because set in the Ballance with thy Crime, it is extremely mild, Bbut why is it so? is it in respect to thy Person, or compassion to thee, no surely, it is because the honesty and goodness of our Ancestors was such, that they thought the Earth could never bare such a Monster as thou art, and now thy Sentence is, thou art to stand three several days in the Pillary, in three of the most eminent places of this City, wherof the *Royal Exchange* is to be one, and thy Books that are already found; and which contain thy wickedness, to be divided in three equal parts, and one part of them to attend thee every time thou standest, and because thy Profelytes shall see thy Doctrine suffer with thee, thy Books shall be burnt by the hands of the Common Hangman, thou art also judged to pay five hundred Pounds, and to find Surety before thou art discharged from Prison, for thy good behaviour during Life, but they must not be of thy own party (*Muggletonian*) but men of sincere and honest conversation, and this is the moderate Sentence of this Court.

And hear it will not be amiss, that we admire at the Patience and long suffering of our good and gracious God in permitting such a *Ralsback* to go so long unpunished, so unwilling is that Divine being that any of his Creatures should be miserable, but wishes all to Repent; but if his Patience be abused, he hath whet his Glittering Sword, and bent his Averging Bow, so that all shall say, Righteous art thou Oh Lord, and just in all thy judgments.