



The Proceedings at the Sessions  
in the Old bayly, on *Wednesday* the 17th  
of this Instant *January* 1677.

**N**ot to trouble the Reader with a tedious Relation of things trivial or impertinent, the most considerable or remarkable Transactions of this Sessions were as follows.

First, the tryal of that grand and notorious Impostor *Lodowick Muggleton*, of whom to give the world a brief Account, we must acquaint you, that he was originally a Journeyman-Taylor, and (some say) afterwards kept a Botchers stall; but having a strange enthusiastick head, began about the year 1651, to enter into Confederacy with one *Reeves* (another Brother of the Sheers) who resolve to cut out a new Scheme or Fashion of Religion; and to that purpose declare

the *Concord* Prophecy. And in the  
following years since, his  
his Spirit was left with him, and the  
power of *Witching*, *Blessing*, and *Cursing*  
devolved into his hands, which he ar-  
rogantly practised upon the least opposition;  
pronouncing persons damned by  
their particular Names, blasphemously as-  
serting, That God, Angels, or Men could not  
afterwards save them. And as all Heret-  
icks cover to be Authors and Ring-leaders  
to a Sect, so by divers printed Books and  
Corner conferences, he easily seduced divers  
weak and instable people (especially of the  
Female-Sex) to become his Profelytes, who  
from him call themselves *Muggletonians*: So  
impossible it is for the wildest and most sense-  
less, as well as most impious Notions, when  
broached with impudence among the Rabble,  
not to meet with some heads so irregular as  
embrace them for serious Truths, or divine  
Revelations.

This *Muggleton's* house being searched about *August* last, a great quantity of his books were seized, some of which, it was now proved, he owned the writing of, and that he had caus'd them to be printed; for which he was now indicted, many wicked Passages out of them being recited in the Indictment, but so horrid and blasphemous, that we think fit to spare the Christian modesty of each pious ear, by not repeating the same here, where there is no necessity for it. The Prisoner pleaded not guilty, but frustrated the general expectation, by saying nothing further either to excuse or justify himself, but had a Counsel appear'd for him, who ingenuously declar'd himself asham'd to speak a word in favour of such a Cause; onely desired the Court to take notice, that the Books were dated before the last Act of Grace; but it being usual to Antedate or Post-date Titles of books, as best suits with the Publisher's interest; and that he had since that Act owned and published the same, that Plea was overrul'd; and the said *Muggleton* being found guilty by the Jury, was afterwards sentenced by the Court to stand three days in the Pillory

lory at three the most eminent places of the City, with Papers shewing his Crime; and his Books so seized, divided into three parts, to be burnt over his head upon the Pillory: And besides, to be fined Five hundred pound, and to continue in Goal till the same be paid, and afterwards for his life, unless he procured good Bail, such as the Court should accept of, and not of his own Gang, Faction, or Sect, for his being of the good Behaviour.

The next was a woman of about Forty years of age, and one that had six Children by a Husband since dead, but was, it seems, still of too Youthful a temper; for being lately deliver'd, by her self, of a Bastard-child on a *Wednesday*-morning, she most barbarously murdered it by crushing the head, and wounding it both in the scull and eyes (as is supposed) with a pair of Sizzars, and then fairly puts it into a Platter and sets it upon a shelf, where it continued till *Saturday*-morning, when a woman lodging above her in the same house, coming down to visit her, and examining her more strictly, by reason of