

The Cruel Midwife

- p. 151, l. 4: *Village of POPLAR*: north of the Isle of Dogs, and the location of the oldest surviving building in London Docklands: St Matthias Old Church, built in 1654 as the chapel for the East India Company.
- p. 151, l. 5: *STEPNEY*: currently part of the east end of London.
- p. 156, l. 24: *at the Ben-Johnson's Head*: bookstore that in 1656 sold the plays of the Whitefriar's Company (Bly, *Queer Virgins*, p. 29).
- p. 157, l. 22: *Beadles*: ushers of the law courts.
- p. 157, l. 25: *Petty Sessions of Bloomsbury*: meetings held by two or more Justices of the Peace for trying lesser offences and discovering if offences were indictable. More serious offences went to general or quarter sessions. Apparently the alleged murder of bastard children was not considered a major crime.

The Man-Midwife Unmasqu'd

- p. 159, l. 15: *the Bill return'd Ignoramus*: legal finding of insufficient evidence for the prosecution to continue with its case.
- p. 161, l. 4: *Lumps of Pudding*: title of the final song in Gay's *The Beggar's Opera* (1728), sung by Macheath.
- p. 161, l. 19: *Scheme of Eccise*: reference to the unpopular tax on home goods, including those of foreign origin. Though the text says the woman did not plot to receive this tax or duty, its mention suggests that she is a commodity of (foreign) sexual service.
- p. 162, l. 30: *wish'd to expire a While in her Arms*: sex as death is a common metaphor, with the word 'expiring' eliciting multiple shades of meaning.
- p. 163, l. 32: *He kneel'd down before her, and then did Inspect Her*: Conflating medical inspection with sexual activity is a common trope found in popular satires, including those on Mary Toft, found in Volume 2 of this collection.
- p. 165, l. 7: *kock-under*: perhaps allow herself to be under his cock.

At the Council-Chamber in Whitehall

- p. 171, l. 24–p. 172, l. 1: *the Prince of Orange*: William, son-in-law of James II, later William III.
- p. 172, ll. 19–20: *Securing to them their Liberty of Conscience*: possibly James's issuance of a new Declaration of Indulgence, which gave toleration to Dissenters.
- p. 172, ll. 20–1: *the Enjoyment of their Properties*: reference to James's defeat of Monmouth (illegitimate son of Charles II) in 1685, or a more general reference to his distinguished military career while his brother, Charles, was King.
- p. 172, ll. 23–4: *the Queen Dowager*: Catherine of Braganza, widow of Charles II. She was the daughter of John IV, the King of Portugal, and Louisa, daughter of the Duke of Medina Sidonia.
- p. 173, l. 11: *the Prince of Wales*: James Francis Edward Stuart, later called 'the Old Pretender'.
- p. 173, l. 12: *Catherina*: see note to p. 172, ll. 23–4, above.
- p. 174, l. 3: *Elizabeth Lady Marchioness of Powis*: second wife of lawyer Sir Thomas Powys (1649–1719), who actively promoted James II's politics.