

women. How does the illustration combine details of everyday life with stereotypical portraits of unruly women? With which kinds of activities are women associated?

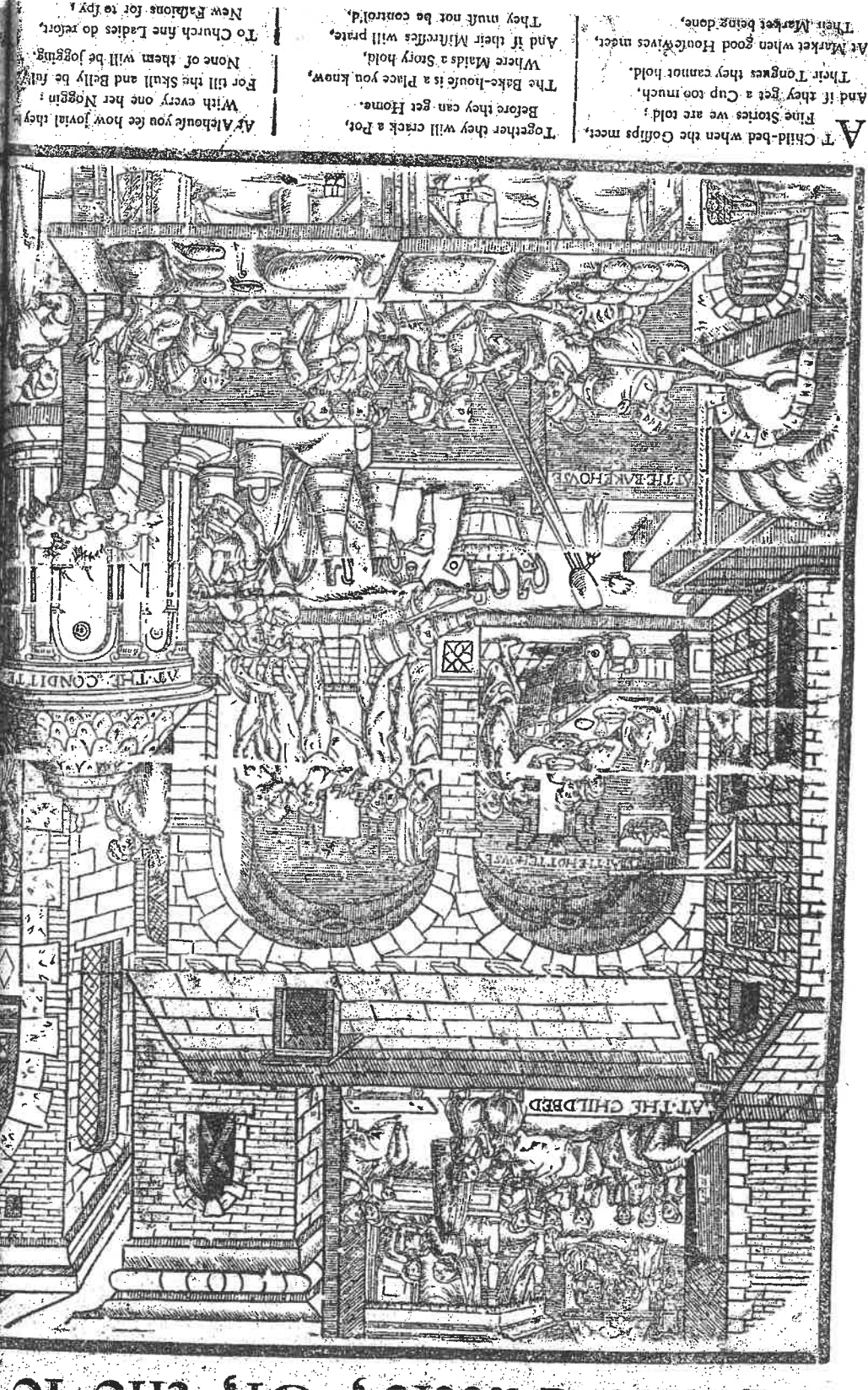


But scolding Sluts care not to work,
Like wrangling Queens they fight,
Then Gossips all a Warning take,
They cease your Tongue to rattle;
Go knit, and sew, and Brew, and Bake,
And leave off TITTLE-TATTLE.

At the Conduit striving for their Turn,
The Quarrel it grows great,
That up in Arms they are at last,
And one another beat.
Waiting at the River's side
Good Housewives take Delight;

Some go to Church sometimes
To show their Bravery,
At house makes rough Skins smooth
And doth it beautify,
Gossips use it every Week,
Skins to purify.

16 "Tittle-Tattle; Or, the Several Branches of Gossiping," a woodcut print so that derives from an Elizabethan original from around 1603. That this was kept its currency for so long suggests the conventionality of its depiction of



At A house you see how jovial they
With every one her Noggins;
For till the Skull and Belly be full
None of them will be jogging.
To Church fine Ladies do resort,
New Fashions for to spy.

Together they will crack a Pot,
Before they can get Home.
The Bake-house is a Place you know,
Where Maids a Story hold,
And if their Miracles will prate,
They must not be controll'd.

A Child-bed when the Gossips meet,
Fine stories we are told;
And if they get a Cup too much,
Their Tongues they cannot hold.
At Market when good Housewives meet,
Their Market being done,