



## Christian Simson



**Name:** Christian Simson

Within a month of Christian Purdie, Mareon and Agnes managing to prove their innocence, there was a single accusation of witchcraft, in January 1662... Christian's trial was in some way important, or interesting enough, to attract ten commissioners to sit on the judging panel - all local, landed gentlemen.

Were they afraid of her? Did she appear to have some kind of power and strength, that they didn't understand? All we know about Christian's 'crime', is that she was said to have made a pact with the devil/demons.

The fact she confessed before reaching trial, suggests Christian suffered from mistreatment where she was held. However, it appears that she refused, or was unable, to name anyone else - even under pressure. Thank you Christian, we remember you...

*Ah am Christian Simson, o' the year 1662.*

*I carried a few tokens for luck,*

*Men questioned, demanded, threatened.*

*They wrote my "confession" ere my tears were dry.*

*If I said the words,*

*it was fear's own tongue,  
not mine.*

*I bargained only wi' God,  
every night,  
for the living.*

*If ye mind me,  
know that sorrow needs a name.  
Too oft it is a woman's.*

