

## Burcombe South Protestation Return of 1641/42

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The Protestation Returns relate to the years 1641/42, around the start of the Civil War. It was an Oath of loyalty to the King.

The incumbent of each parish was to read the protestation to his parishioners and all men over the age of 18 had to sign the oath but the women were not usually asked to sign.

The Protestation itself runs in the following terms :—

"I (A. B.) doe, in the presence of Almighty God, promise, vow, and protest to maintaine and defend, so farre as lawfullie I may, with my Hfe, power, and estate, the trne Reformed Protestant Religion expressed in the Doctrine of the Church of England, against all Poperie and Popish Innovations within this Realme contrarie to the same Doctrine and according to the dutie of my Allegiance [to] his Ma'ties Royall person, honor, and estate. As also the Power and Privileges of Parliament, the lawfull rights and Liberties of the subject, and every person that maketh this Protestation in whatsoever hee shall doe in the lawfull pursuence of ye same. And to my power, and as farre as lawfullie I may, I will oppose, and by all good waies and meanes indeavor to bring to condigne punishment all such as shall either by Force, Practise, Counsells, Plotts, Conspiracies, or otherwise do anie thing in this present Protestation contained. And further, that I shall in all Just and honorable waies endeavor to preserve ye Vnion and Peace between the three Kingdomes of England, Scotland, and heland. And neither for hope, feare, nor other respect, reliquish this promise, vow, and Protestation."

John Burley, *Curate*  
Wm. Sellwood, *Churchwarden*  
Richard Ap John, sen., *Churchwarden*  
John Chalke, *Ouseer*  
John London, *Ouseer*  
Robt. Dawkins  
Richard Jones  
John Hebbert  
Henrey Drewlan  
Georore Dawkins  
Rowland Dawkins  
Steven Downe  
Richard Powell  
Peter Poope  
Symon Poope  
Richard Ap John jun.  
Edmund Ap John  
Bartholomew Curtis  
George Curtis  
Thom. Hebb't  
Ellis Hebb't

Walter Woolwaie  
Robt. Stookes  
Rich. Chalke  
Rich. Alderidge  
John Brashier  
Edmund Elliott  
Ellis Downe  
Walter Viney  
Wm. Hebb't, sen.  
Wm. Hebb't. jun.  
Robt. Hebbert  
Jerome Downe  
Richard Hebb't  
Henrey Waterlyn  
Wm. Gravill  
Thom. Randoll  
Ambrosse Dunnings  
John Owin  
John Sellwood  
Ellis Elliott  
Xpofer Vincent

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George Vincent  
John Up John

Thorn. Stookes  
John Mills

(source: W. N. & Q, Book 7, journal June 1911)