Everly 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 Almightie 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 Union 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."

Robert Maton, *curate*John Reynolds, *churchward*.
Richard Shadvvell, *churchward*.
Anthony Kinton, *ovseer*.
Edrd. Moore, *ovseer*.
George Reynolds, sen.
George Reynolds, ju.
Richard Reynolds
Thom. Nicholas
Henrey Potter

Henrey Potter Wm. Prater Richard Beare Nath. Helliar Eneas Goodale

Michaell Pittman Wm. Basinge George Smith Wm. Gilbert

Wm. Powell John L[e]well Richard Potter Robt. Chaundler John Beare

George Francklyn, sen.

George Francklyn, ju. Frauncis Fisher Xpfer. Sumerby

Edward Ansill John Dickoxe Henrey Poulter

Nicholas Kinton Thom. Lancaster Peter Bayley

Xpofer. Shorpe (sic)

Thom. Carter
Richard Head
Richard Jukens
Richard Scoates
George Sprangnell

Edrd. Still Henrey Talbutt John Hickscoxe

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Thorn. Johnson Edrd. Dickman Edrd. Cooper Richard Prater Wm. Chamberlayne

Edrd. Beare Thom. Gale

Edward Moncke Wm. Beare

Richard Merydaye Thom. Tarrant Richard Harris

Henrey Beare Richard Dickman Wm. Ward

Edrd. Moncke, ju.

Edrd. Beare, ju. Steven Bayeinge John Buncher

Thom. Beckington Nicholas Hickscoxe Bartholomewe Home Edward Moore, ju.

(source: W. N. & Q, Book 7, journal June 1913)