Wishford Magna 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 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."

Roger Bower, rector Roger Powell, curate John Eue, *churchwarden* Thom Deare, jun., churchwarden James Woodward, ouseer John Voake, *ouseer* Leonard Catcot Richard Browne Leonard Coop' Jeffery Helpes Nicholas Gardiner Walter Kingman Thom Smith John Trubbridge Thom Dewe **Richard Deare** George Pettie Thom Hawkins Thom Hill John Spinge John Yeat, sen.

Giles Macie John Crome Thom Pettie John Yeate, jun. Edmond Cowdry Thom Hayter Thom Blake Roger Kingman Willm. Eue John Blake John Blanchard, sen. John Hunt Richard Locke John Shergoll, sen. Edmond Meetvard Ambrose Yeates John Mills Henrey Longe Richard Clifford John Longe Thom Penall

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Wm. London Gabriell Tinham John Ball Wm. Catcott George Kingman John Gardiner John Mattingley John Shergall, jun. George Eue Robert Catcott John Langley Thom Deare, sen. Nicholas Trubbridge Richard Blunt John Planchard, jun. Leonard Hardinge John Macye Nicholas Lawes Wm. Younge Mathew Phrippe Christofer Downe John Hytherthorne George Younge Wm. Wagland Luke Adams Wm. Kingman

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