

Grimsteed 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."

Walter Coleman, <i>gent.</i>	Richard Yeomans	Thom. Welsteed
Xpfer. Coleman, <i>gent.</i>	Ed'rd. Foxe	Stephen Harris
Morris Vincent	Ed'rd. Waterman	Wm. Harris
John Henbuire	John Undy	Thom. Futchter
Alexandr. Bath	Rich. Terrye, sen.	Wm. Symons
Simon Lambe, sen.	Rich. Terrye, ju.	Mich. Blake
Thorn. Lambe	Robt. Terrie	Baldwin Tubb
Symon Lambe, ju.	John Mersh	John Woodford
Rich. Hulet	Wm. Webb	Rich. Woodford
Thom. Grantam	Wm. Reeves	Walter Morris
Alexander Foxe	Thom. Collins	John Bennett
Thom. Rowe	Ed'rd. Canterton	Henry Fucher
Leonard Bright	Nicho. Reeves	Wm. Woodford, sen.
Wm. Bright	John Bacon	Wm. Woodford, ju.
Thom. Barrett	John Smith	Thom. Woodford
Walter Blacker	John Bachelour	John Collins
Michaell Dowse	Rich. Alersh	Wm. Haraway
Wm. Hulett	Thom. Frith	Wm. Rogers
Ed'rd. Rowe	John Carter	John Rogers
Robt. Hulett	Edrd. Smith	Wm. Cooper
Trustram Yeomans	Nicho. Welsteed	Henrey Pildrim

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Robt. Pildrim
Thom. Hatcher
Thom. Staples
Wm. Staples
John Hulett
Ed'rd. Futchter

George Tubb
George Andrewe
John Dennis
Richard Dennis
Simon Snowe
Alexandr. Goddine

Phip. South
Thom. Miller
Wm. Miller
Michael Collins

(source: W. N. & Q, Book 7, journal September 1912)