

Wyly 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."

Anthony Ballard, *churchwarden*

John Selwod, *churchwarden*

Richard Hickes, *ov'seer*

Wm. Bell, *ov'seer*

John Ford

John Mondaye

Wm. Locke

John Barnes

John Sutton

Guy Potticarry

Wm. Potticarry

Thom Steflens

Robert Hickes

Josias Dubly

Roger Ballard

John Locke

Wm. Coomes

Edmund Covey

Edward Smith

Thom Sellwood

Wm. Hill

Thom Smith

Wm. Culpeper

Hugh Henwood

John Pearcy

John Smith

Henrey Bellye

Thom Kent

John Selwood

Richard Hickes

John Lee

Rich. Kent

George Taylor

Robt. Locke

Wm. Belly

Gyles Hytherthorne

Wm. Furnell

John Hoskins

Bartho Muscell

Robt. Baker

Thom Wadlin

Wm. Osgood

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Thom Hobbs	Henry Popeioye
Phillipp Bush	Joseph Hellyar
James Longanowe	Edward Kent
Thom Skamell	Wm. Dewe
John Smith	Dauyd Ingram
John Taylor	Tristram Blunt
Wm. Stayner	Ed'rd. Burden
Thom Selwood	Wm. Clerke
John Furnell	Xpofer Colson
Steven Kirbye	Wm. Titford
John Hill	John Kent
Thom Goffe	Thom Clarke
Steven Heart	Henry Hilles
George Ballard	

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