



Amesbury Protestation Return of 1641/42

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."

Those who took the oath

SURNAME	GIVEN NAMES	OTHER	POSITION
Abde	John	Sen	
Abin	John	Jun	
Andrewe	John		
Andrewe	John		Churchwarden
Andrewe	Wm		
Angott	Thom		
Arundell	George		
Basteed	Jeffrey		
Batchelour	Rich		
Battington	John		
Bayle	John		
Beckington	Gilbert		
Bedell	Thom		
Biddle	Nicho		

Biddle	Nicho		Churchwarden
Biddle	Thom		
Biddle	Wm		
Biggs	Thom		
Bithom	Anthony		
Bithom	Robt		
Blake	George	Sen	
Boldwin	Steven		
Bonnam	John		
Bristowe	Rich		
Bristowe	Wm		
Browne	Wm		
Bunday	Edrd		
Bunday	Edrd	Jun	
Bunday	John		
Bunday	Martin		
Bunday	Nicho	Sen	
Bunday	Nicho	Jun	
Bunday	Rich	Jun	
Bunday	Rich	Sen	
Bunday	Robt		
Bunday	Roger		
Bunday	Thom		
Bunday	Wm	Jun	
Bunday	Wm	Sen	
Bunday	Wm		Minister
Burche	Thom		
Burd	Robt		
Burgman	John		
Buttler	Edmund		
Chiles	Steven	Sen	
Chiles	Steven	Jun	
Clarke	Wm		
Conduitt	Thom		
Cooper	John		
Cooper	Wm		
Crouch	Wm		
Dover	Xpfer	Sen	
Dover	Xpfer	Jun	
Dowley	George		
Dowley	George		
Dowley	Nicho		
Dowley	Wm		
Edmonds	George		
Edmonds	George		
Eyer	Edward		
Gale	Anthony		
Gale	Rich		
Gauntlett	Hugh		
Gauntlett	John		
Gauntlett	John		Overseer
Gennings	Clement	Sen	
Gennings	Clement	Jun	

Gennings	John	Jun	
Gennings	John	Sen	
Girle	John		
Grace	John	Sen	
Grace	John	Jun	
Gray	Wm		
Grey	Nicho		
Grey	Thom		
Harison	Nicho	Sen	
Harison	Rich	Sen	
Harison	Rich	Jun	
Harris	Nicho		
Harrison	John		
Harrison	Nichol	Jun	
Harrison	Robt		
Harwood	Thom		
Harwood	Wm		
Hascott	Rich		
Hascott	Wm		
Hayden	Cuthbert		
Head	Henrey		
Heade	John		
Heade	Nicho		
Hellier	Henrey		
Hiscocke	Hugh		
Hollaway	John		
Holloway	Anthony	Jun	
Hollowoy	Anthony	Sen	
Hort	Thom		
Humfrey	Robt		
Humphrey	Timothy		
Humprey	John		
Hunt	Wm		
Hurst	Rich		
Jeanes	Thom		
Jefferey	James		
Jones	Nicholas		
Lamborne	John		
Lamborne	Nicho	Sen	
Lamborne	Nicho	Jun	
Lansdale	John		
Lawrence	John		
Leach	Wm		
Legg	John		
Lestger	John		
Liddall	Robt		
Longe	John		
Longe	Rich		
Longe	Wm		
Marchant	John		
Marchant	Nicho		
Marchant	Thom		
Marchant	Wm		

Mathewe	Edrd		
Maya	Thom		
Mercer	Barnaby		
Mist	Edrd		
Mist	Henerey		
Mist	Wm		
Newman	Nicho		
Newman	Robt		
Norris	Robt		
Norris	Wm		
Nuby	Nicho		
Peirson	Hugh		
Perry	Richard		
Phippand	Andrewe		
Pile	Rich		
Pilpot	Giles		
Piper	George		
Pointer	Nicho		
Porter	Thom		
Rattewe	John		
Rattne	Wm		
Reeve	Steven		
Ricketts	John		
Rowe	Ambrose		
Rowe	Wm		
Rutt	Robt		
Sachell	John		
Scott	Richard		
Scott	Wm		
Scott	Wm		
Sellwin	Edward		Minister
Simper	Rich		
Smethwicke	John		
Smith	Anthoney		
Smith	John	Sen	
Smith	John	Jun	
Smith	Robt		
Smith	Wm		
Snowe	George		
Stevens	Joseph		
Sutton	Wm		
Thomas	Anthony		
Thomas	Henrey		
Thomas	Richard		
Tinnam	John		
Towsey	Anthony		
Towsey	John		
Trotman	Anthony	Gent	
Twine	Wm		
Vincent	Nicho		
Warner	Henrey		
Webb	Rich		
Weekes	Francis		

Weekes	Franncis		Overseer
Weekes	Nicho		
Weekes	Richard		
Weekes	Wm		
Wheeler	Thom		
Whitlocke	Richard		
Winter	Thom		
Woodford	Wm		
Woram	Ferdenando		
Worley	John		
Wyatt	Richard		
Xpfer	Jefferey		

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

About the Protestation Returns

The **Protestation Returns of 1642** are lists of males over the age of eighteen who took, or did not take, an oath 'to live and die for the true Protestant religion, the liberties and rights of subjects and the privilege of Parliaments'. These lists were usually compiled by parish, or township, within hundred, or wapentake. They are of importance to local historians for estimating populations, to genealogists trying to find an ancestor immediately before the English Civil War and for scholars interested in surname distributions