



## *Boscombe*

### *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
Adams	Richard		
Batt	John		
Beckly	Nathaniel		
Buckden	Phillip		
Butler	John		
Card	Wm		
Daie	John		Church Warden
Dickman	John		
Dickman	Wm		
Geile	Thom		
Haileston	Wm		
Hailestone	Anthony		
Hailestone	Thom		
Hayward	John		
Hussey	John	jun	
Hussey	John	sen.	

Hussey	Robt		
Kent	Rich		
Kent	Steven		
Kent	Wm	Gent	
Mille	Wm		
Perren	Steven		
Rose	Nicho	jun	
Rose	Nicho	sen.	
Sidford	Alexander		
Sidford	Edrd		
Snell	Edrd		
Snell	Henery	jun	
Snell	Henrey	sen.	
Snell	Rich		
Weekes	Henery		
White	James		Clic
Williams	John		
Woods	John		

(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