

Fittleton and Hackton 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 Union 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."

Wm. Jay, <i>curate</i>	Edmund Rumsey
George Poulter, <i>clie.</i>	John Sopp, sen.
Alexandr. Humes, <i>clie.</i>	John Sopp, ju.
John Carter, <i>churchward.</i>	Thorn. Sopp
Wm. Hickman, <i>churchward.</i>	Thorn. Bushell, sen.
Jacob Bromeham, <i>ovseer</i>	Thom. Dirper, sen.
Wm. Barton, <i>ovseer</i>	Thom. Diaper, ju.
Edward Bartlett, <i>gent.</i>	John Carter
Stephen Elken	Thom. Carter
Robt. Piper	Robt. Hulbert
Edward Wheeler	John Hulbert
Robt. Hart	John Vincrash
Thorn. Hart	Edrd. Gibbons
George Palmer	Phip. Ranger
John Bromham	John Browne
Richard Gearinge, <i>gent.</i>	Henery Batt
Thorn. Cromwell	Thom. Biffin, sen.
Richard Ivie, sen.	Thom. Biffin, ju.
Richard Ivye, ju.	Edward Beare
John Piper	Beniamni Jay, <i>gent.</i>
Wm. Hickman	Robt. Shergoll

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Robt. Banckes	Robt. Butler, ju.
Phillipp Hewlett	Wm. Hickman
Robt. Smith	Thom. Rolfe
Robt. Pettye	James Legge
Robt. Dowse, sen.	Nicho. Girle
Robt. Dowse, ju.	Anthony Cooper
Simon Mills	John Greene
John Ivey	Morris Crabb
John Overton	Edrd. Springe
Edrd. Reeves	James Norwood
Richard Hickman	Wm. Miles
Paule Rogers	John Dovers
Robt. Mason	Wm. Jollies
John Ranger	Henrey Jolles
Wm. Ranger	Valentine Hurne
John Batten	Robt. Butler
John Barton	Robt. Woort
Xpfer. Samson, sen.	Robt. Butler, ju.
Xpfer. Samson, ju.	Simon Longe
Robt. Rolfe, sen.	Henrey Tarrant
Robt. Rolfe, ju.	John Trucker
Robt. Butler, sen.	Henrey Busteed.

(source: W. N. & Q, Book 7, journal March 1913)