

Ham 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."

Joseph Goulston, <i>rector</i>	Wm. Symes	Thom. Cooper
John Younge, <i>churchw.</i>	John Houlden	Steephen Longe
Thom. Monday	Wm. Beckley	Thom. Batt
John Hodges, <i>ouseer.</i>	Anthony Kempt	John Savage
John Hunt, <i>sen, ouseer.</i>	Thom. Pearce	John Bennett
Wm. Hoore	Wm. Elton	John Beckley
John Hunt, <i>ju.</i>	John Kember	Robt. Kempt
John Polhampton	Francis Polhampton	Thom. Poulhampton
Thom. Smith	Robt. Bennett	Steuen Bennett
Vincent Hunt	Thom. Rumball	Edrd. Mondaye
Robt. Harrould	Thom. Savadge	Robt. Romball
John Hedges	George Elton	Edrd. Sheppard
Lawrence Hunt	Thom. Pearce	Anthony Burgis
John Barrett	Richard Adams	Thom. Batt, <i>ju.</i>
Wm. Cooper	John Harrould	Edrd. Rolfe.
Wm. Goslinge	Samuell Smyth	

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