

Millford 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."

George Marshall
Nathaniell Marshall
VWillm. Marshall
Robert Edmunds
Thorn. Knight
James Barnes
Thom. Harraway
James Batten
John Nicholas
James Symes
Willm. Winsor
Franncis Hartrye
John Hartrye
John Apletree
John Cooke
Nicholas Hardinge

John Adams
Roger Pope
John Evans
John Bachelor
John Hyett
Thom. Hyett
John Lee
Thom. Ap John
Edward Barnes
Edward Porter
Willm. Landsday
Willm. Raye
John Russell
James Michell
Thom. Batten
John Stragge

Roger Nicolls
Gyles Bouth
Richard London
George Tynn
John Tutt
Robert Bound
Thom. Hatchman
Alexander Arnold
Nicholas Coward
Stephen Brownejohn
James Watkineson
John Cornelius
Henrey Thomas
Wm. Strugnell
Bennett Swayne

(source: W. N. & Q, Book 7, journal June 1911)