

Stockton 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 names of all the Counstables Ministers Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore of the Pishes and Villages underwritten wch also att Salisbury and Wilton tooke before us, the said Protestacon, themselves and were then alsoe directed and requested by us to Offer and to give it to their neighbours wthin their sevall pishes accordinge to the direction of Mr. Speakers Letter and to returne the names of all such as should take or refuse the same unto us at Salisbury aforsaid at a daie at least twentie daies past. But we have received noe returne or accompt from them or any of them towchinge the said Service."

Jo. Penruddok.

Jo. Bowles.

Thorn. Fonte [?], *minister*

John Hooper, *churchwarden*

George Gardiner, *churchwarden*

Xpfer. Potticarry, *gent., ovseer*

Samuell Wattom, *ovseer*

Endorsed,

"For the Right Worll Sir James Thinne and Sir Henrey Ludlowe knights of the Parliament for Wilshire or for either of them"

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