

Fontmell Magna

Protestation Returns 1641-2

Transcribed by Chris Bellers

Transcribed from "Dorset Records, The Dorset Protestation Returns preserved in The House of Lords, 1641-2, Edited by Edward Alexander Fry" (1912), pages 137 and 138, by Chris Bellers, with thanks to Carol Jamieson.

Background

Charles I succeeded James I in 1625 and followed his father's belief in his divine appointment. That, and his marriage to the French King's daughter, Henrietta Maria, a practising Catholic, led to confrontation with the House of Commons, which issued the 1628 Petition of Right.

In 1629, Charles I dissolved parliament and relied instead for advice on the archbishop of Canterbury, William Laud, and Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford. The latter was sent to pacify Ireland. To raise money, Charles levied ship money. In 1637, Charles's efforts to impose Laud's new high-church prayer book on Scotland led to riots there. Charles declared a bishops' war on Scotland but his army was beaten back to Newcastle. Strafford was recalled to England in 1639 and proposed using an Irish army to help defeat the Scots. Rumours spread that this Catholic army might be used against Parliament. There was religious unrest, partly because Henrietta Maria was deeply unpopular, but also because of Laud's High Church views and suspicions that he covertly favoured Roman Catholic doctrines. Desperate for money, Charles recalled parliament in 1640. Parliament moved quickly to assert control over the king, impeach Laud and execute Strafford.

Protestation

In May 1641, Parliament enacted the Protestation. This was an oath to maintain and defend "the true Reformed Protestant Religion" His Majesty's royal person, honour, and estate "the power and privileges of Parliament" and "the lawful rights and liberties of the subject".

The oath was intended to cement loyalty to Parliament as well as to affirm the protestant religion. Having been signed by every member of the Commons and the Lords, it was distributed by the members to their counties. Anyone not signing was unfit to hold office. Later, it was decided that all males over 18 should take the Protestation Oath. In Dorset, the oath was taken early in 1642.

The following is the Protestation Return for Fontmell Magna ('Funtmill Tything'), placed in alphabetical order. There are 174 names (with several names the same).

SHASTON EAST AND WEST DIVISIONS

SIXPENNY HANDLEY HUNDRED

D.A. 3. ô FUNTMILL TYTHING

Robt. Potter, minister	William Collens	Christouer Houill
<i>Churchwardens:</i>	Eadward Coombe, se.	John James
Thomas Rideout	Eadward Coombe	Nicolas Lambert
W ^m Vincent	Francis Coombe	Robert Lanning
<i>Ouerseeres:</i>	Henry Coombe, se.	John Lewes
Richard Dibben	Henry Coombe	Robert Louell
William Henbury	John Coombe, ju.	John Lush, se.
William Munckton	Nicholas Coombe	John Lush, ju.
Phillip Skiner	Richard Coombe	Christouer Meatyeard
Eadmond Abbitt	Robert Coombe	Christouer Meatyeard
William Batte	John Crine	Robert Meatyeard
Phillip Beamond	John Dauey	Nicholas Meatyeard
Thomas Beamond	Thomas Dauey	Eadmond Michell
John Beamont	Andrew Deane	William Miles
William Beamont	Franceis Downe	Thomas Mitchell
John Bowden	William Duffitt	Thomas Monke
Robert Bowden	John Dunne	John Mounke
Thomas Bowden	Robert Dunne	William Muncke
William Bowden	William Fare	John Munckton, se.
John Brookeman	Henry Fealtam	John Munckton, ju.
William Budden	John Foote	John Munckton
Eadward Burges, ju.	William Graye	William Munckton
Eadward Burges, se.	Nathaniell Habbitt	William Munckton
Robert Burges	John Hartwell	John Nicholls
George Burte	James Haruey	Richard Nicholls, se.
James Burte	George Haskole	Richard Nicholls
Robert Burte	Henry Haskole	Richard Nicholls
Robert Carde	John Haskole	William Nicholls
Morgaine Carde	John Haskole	William Petty
Henry Chamberline	Richard Haskole	Charles Plowman
Henry Chamberline	Thomas Haskole	James Plowman
Henry Chamberline	Thomas Haskole	John Plowman
John Chamberline	Thomas Haskole	John Plowman
George Chippe	Thomas Haskole	Robert Plowman
Richard Coale	William Haskole	Thomas Plowman
Willillam Coale	John Hembery	William Plowman
Nicholas Collens	Thomas Hext	Andrew Preast
Robert Collens	Beniamen Hiscocke	Christouer Reade
	Robert Horder	Henry Reade
	Robert Horder	John Reade
	Walter Horder	John Reade

John Reade
William Reade
William Ridout
John Russell
Mathew Russell
Robert Seamer
Morgaine Seamor
Robert Seamor
William Seamor
Marke Sprage
Eadmond Squibbe
William Stent
John Still
John Still
John Still
Richard Still
Richard Still
Richard Still
Robert Still

Christouer Sweatman
Roger Sweatman
Walter Sweatman
Joallife Toogood
Robert Tuffen
Henry Turner
James Turner
John Turner
Richard Turner
Thomas Turner
William Turner
Ambrous Vincent
George Vincent
John Vincent
John Vincent
Richard Vincent
Richard Vincent
Robert Vincent
Roobert Vincent

John Waram
William Waram
Eadmond Warde
Christouer Warram
John Warram
George Weast
Henry Weast
John Weast
Richard Weast
William Weast
John White
Larrance White
John Wincumbe
Eadward Wittrege
Eadward Wittrige
Willim. Yellow
Henry Younge
Thomas Younge