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### **The Oath Taken by the Parliament of England, Concerning the Maintenance of the Protestant Religion, and the Advancement of His Majesties Honour and Regall Prerogative. Whereunto Is Annexed the Oath of the Dukes, Earles, Barons, Gentry and Commonalty of His Majesties Kingdome of Scotland**

England and Wales. Parliament (1642)

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THE  
OATH

Taken by the Parliament of  
ENGLAND.

Concerning the maintenance of the Protestant  
Religion, and the advancement of His Majesties  
Honour and Regall Prerogative.

Whereunto is annexed the OATH of the  
Dukes, Earles, Barons, Gentry and Commonalty  
of His Majesties Kingdome of SCOTLAND.

Wherein is declared their great care to maintaine and de-  
fend the Gospell, and the professors thereof; And al-  
so their Loyall intentions towards His Majesty and his  
Heires, promising to use all carefull meanes, to ful-  
fill his Majesties just and Royall Commands.

Ordered by the House of Commons that this be printed &c.  
*Hen. Elsing, Cler. Parl. D. Com.*

Also a Declaration of both Houses of Parliament, con-  
cerning severall matters of great importance.  
And Ordered to be Printed.

*John Browne, Cler. Parliamt.*

LONDON, Printed by T. FAVVCEY. 1643. June, 17.



THE  
OATH

Taken by the Parliament of

ENGLAND.

Concerning the maintenance of the Protestant  
Religion, and the Honour of His Majesty  
Honour and Regal Prerogative.

Whereunto is annexed the OATH of the  
Dukes, Bishops, Barons, Knights, and Commonalty  
of His Majesty's Kingdom of SCOTLAND.

Wherein is declared the great care to maintain and de-  
fend the Gospel, and the Protestant Religion: And al-  
so their Loyall intentions towards His Majesty and his  
Honour, promising to use all lawful means, to dis-  
turb the Catholics and their Royal Communion.

Ordered by the House of Commons that this be printed &c.  
Wm. Baskett, Printer, Pat. D. Com.

Also a Description of both Houses of Parliament, con-  
taining severall matters of great importance.  
And Ordered to be Printed.  
John Browne, Clerk, Parliament.

London, Printed by T. Fawcett, 1643. Jan. 17.





**The Oath taken by the Parliament**  
has and by them prescribed to be  
taken by all his Maiesties  
loyall Subjects.



At all Nationall Assemblies,  
Parliaments, and Councils,  
it hath beene customarily used  
among the Members thereof, at  
their first comming together,  
to take an Oath both before God  
and Man, Protesting not to de-  
termine or execute any thing, contrary to the word  
of God, or prejudiciall to the Honour of His Ma-  
iesty, kinely that all their Studies, endeavours, coun-  
cels, and determinations, shoud be imployed to  
the increase of Gods Glory, the advancement of his  
Maiesties Honour, and the Peace and quiet free-  
dome and blest prosperity of Church and Com-  
mon-Weale.

Which Oath and Protestation, is as well for the  
inducement of others (as for all his Maiesties loy-  
all Subjects) as themselves, since tis not in their  
power to performe what they protest, without the  
assistance



assistance of such his Majesties Subjects: as shall be commanded by them, to the fulfilling of whose commands such an Oath and Protestation binds.

And to the End that none may be ignorant or plead excuse, after that they have themselves taken the said Oath or Protestation, they cause it to be published in print, that every man may know what they have promised, and what they are to command, and likewise what his owne dutie is, and must be, if he desire to have any share or portion in their religious Protection.

An exact testimony I will give you, of this, which has been lately done, and is at this day fresh in your memories.

At the late Parliament held in *Scotland*, in the year of our Lord 1641.

At the Nationall Assembly, they tooke an Oath, which I have here published for your better satisfaction.

### **The Oath taken by the Parliament in *Scotland*.**

**F**Or so much, as the honour, greatnesse, and happiness of the Kings Royall Majesty, and the welfare of the Subjects, dependeth on the purity of Religion; (as it is now established in this Kingdom) the Lawes, Liberties, and peace thereof, which ought to be sought after by all good Christians, loyal Subjects, and true Patriots; And to be furthered and maintained by them, against all such, as by any means endeavour to shake or subvert the same.

Therefore we under Subscribers and every one of Us, doe in the presence of Almighty God, promise



mise and vow that in this present Parliament, We shall faithfully and freely speake, answer, & expresse our selves upon all and every thing, which is, or shall be proponed so farre as we thinke in our Conscience, may conduce to the glory of God, the good and peace of the Church, and State of this Kingdome. And imploy our best endeavours to promote the same: And shall in no wayes advise, voice, nor consent to any thing which to our best knowledge we thinke not most expedient & conduceable thereto. As also that we shall maintaine and defend with our lives, power, and estate, his Majesties Royall Person, honor, and estate, as is exprest in our Nationall Covenant. And likewise, the power and priviledges of Parliaments; And the lawfull rights and liberties of the Subjects: And by all good means and waies, oppose and endeavour to bring to exact tryall all such as either by force, practise, counsell, plots, conspiracies, or otherwise have done, or shall doe any thing in prejudice of the purity of Religion, the Lawes, Liberties, and peace of the Kingdome: And further, that We shall in all just and honourable wayes, endeavour to preserve Union and Peace betwixt the three Kingdomes, Scotland, England, and Ireland: And neither for hope, feare, nor other respect, shall relinquish this Vow and Promise.

*Read in the Assemblies of Parliament, who approoveth the same, and approveth the same to be taken by all members of this Parliament whin all Parliaments hereafter, before they passe to any Act or determination.*



This I have done with intent to silence some malicious tongues, and malignant Spirits, who hold it unlawful for a Parliament to impose an Oath (by themselves taken) on the Subject, for it is apparantly knowne, that this Oath was with willing heart taken by the Clergy and Laity, of this Kingdom, and at this present is justified by the whole body of the Kingdom, witness the true Petition presented to the Lords of the privy Councell of Scotland.

Now give me leave, (having shewne you by what president the Parliament of Scotland hath taken an Oath themselves, and imposed it on other his Majesties loving Subjects, and although some maliciously object that such an Oath ought not to be imposed, but when necessity requires it, and pretend that at this time there is no such necessity, I answer, that if the objectors heart were loyall, or his judgement grounded on reason, he would not, nor could not be ignorant of the necessity, and of the benefit received, by the taking such an Oath, if seriously weigh'd, and conscientiously applyed, since the duties were lawfull in themselves before this imposition, not taking Law and Authority from their present commands, but their commands taking Authority from precedent Lawes, which the high Court of Parliament observing, thought it necessary (having presidents from times past, and present Examples for the future) to take this Oath themselves, and to recommend it to all his Majesties loving Subjects, that they might with the like affection manifest their Zeale towards God, and their loyalties to his Majesty.



The manner and Exact Forme of which  
Oath I have set downe as followeth.

**I** A. B. doe in the presence of Almighty God, Promise, Vow, and Protest, to maintain and defend as lawfully I may, with my life, power, and estate, the true Reformed Protestant Religion, expressed in the Doctrine of the Church of England, against all Popery and Popish Innovations within this Realme, contrary to the same Doctrine; and according to the duty of my Allegiance, His Majesties Royall Person, Honour and Estate, as also the Power and Priviledges of Parliament; The lawfull Rights and Liberties of the Subject, and every person that maketh this Protestation, in what so ever he shall doe in the lawfull pursuance of the same. And to my Power, and as farre as lawfully I may, I will oppose, and by all good wayes and means endeavour to bring to condigne punishment, all such as shall either by Force, Practice, Counsels, Plots, Conspiracies, or otherwise, doe anything in this present Protestation contained. And further, that I shall in all just and Honourable wayes endeavour to preserve the Union and Peace between the three Kingdomes of England, Scotland, and Ireland; And neither for hope, feare, nor other respect, shall I relinquish this Promise, Vow, and Protestation.

This I leave to thy consideration, desiring thee seriously to consider the necessity of the Oath imposed by the High Court of Parliament, with all the Efficacy and Benefit thou shalt receive by the cheerefull performance of what thou hast Protested.

Thus



\* Thus hoping that all doubts will cease, and a Religious Faith increase, I leave thee to GOD, who no doubt will guide thee through this Labyrinth, and convert all our feares to a Religious Joy.

*Die Sabbathi 11. Junii, 1642.*

**I**T is this day ordered by the Lords in Parliament assembled, That a strict Search and Examination shall bee made by the Justices of Peace, Majors, Bayliffes, Constables, and other His Majesties Officers, inhabiting, or neere adjoining to all the Northern Roads, for the stopping and staying of all Armes, Ammunition, Powder, Light-horses, or Horses for Service in the Warres, and great Saddles that are, or shall be carried towards the North parts of England, but by the privacy and direction of one, or both of the Houses of Parliament: And that the said Officers shall stay them accordingly, and speedily give Information thereof unto one of the said Houses of Parliament.

*Dio Mercurii, 15 Junii, 1642.*

Ordered by the Lords in Parliament, That this be Printed and Published.

*John Browne, Cler. Parliament.*

**FINIS.**