

Yet, before the sacred rites began, one thing was still needful. The sermon over, and the preacher conducted back to his place, the Archbishop of Canterbury left his chair and crossing before the Altar approached the King. He had come to ask His Majesty's ratification of the undertaking made and signed before the two Houses of Parliament in the early days of last February. Speaking now, not only for the Church of England, but for the whole people of Great Britain and the Dominions, he had three things to ask. And the King having first consented to take the Oath, the Archbishop proceeded to ask for three pledges, which, sitting in his Chair of Estate and holding the Bible in his hands, the King gave.

Archbishop. Will you solemnly promise and swear to govern the people of this United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Dominions thereto belonging, according to the Statutes in Parliament agreed on, and the respective Laws and Customs of the same?

King. I solemnly promise so to do.

Archbishop. Will you to your power cause Law and Justice, in Mercy, to be executed in all your judgments?

King. I will.

Archbishop. Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God, the true profession of the Gospel, and the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law? And will you maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the Church of England, and the doctrine, worship, discipline, and government thereof, as by law established in England? And will you preserve unto the Bishops and Clergy of England, and to the Churches there