

(CORONATION OATH).

An Act for Establishing the Coronation Oath. (258)

Oath heretofore framed in doubtful words.--Whereas by the law and ancient usage of this realme the Kings and Queens thereof have taken a solemne oath upon the Evangelists at their respective coronations to maintaine the statutes laws and customs of the said realme and all the people and inhabitants thereof in their spirituall and civil rights and properties But aforasmuch as the oath itselpe on such occasion administred hath heretofore beene framed in doubtful words and expressions with relation to ancient laws and constitutions at this time unknowne. To the end therefore that one uniforme oath may be in all times to come taken by the Kings and Queens of this realme and to them respectively administred at the times of their and every of their coronation. (259)

2. Oath hereafter mentioned to be administered by the archbishop of Canterbury, etc.--May it please your Majesties that it may be enacted and bee it enacted by the King and Queens most excellent Majestyes by and with the advice and consent of the lords spirituall and temporall and commons in this psent Parlyament assembled and by the authoritie of the same that the oath herein mentioned and hereafter expressed shall and may be administred to their most excellent Majestyes King William and Queene Mary (whome God long preserve) at the time of their coronation in the presence of all persons that shall be then and there present at the solemnizeing thereof by the archbishop of Canterbury or the archbishop of Yorke or either of them or any other bishop of this realme whome the King's Majesty shall thereunto appoint and who shall be hereby thereunto respectively authorized which oath followeth and shall be administred in this manner that is to say,

The archbishop or bishop shall say (260)

3. Form of oath and administration thereof.--Will you solemnely promise and sweare to governe the people of this kingdome of England and the dominions therefo belonging according to the statutes in Parlyament agreed on and the laws and customs of the same?

The King and Queene shall say,
I solemnly promise soe to doe.

Archbishop or bishop,

Will you to your power cause law and justice in mercy to be executed in all your judgements,

King and Queene,

I Will.

Archbishop or bishop,

Will you to the utmost of your power maintaine the laws of God the true profession of the Gospell and the Protestant reformed religion established by Law? And will you preserve unto the bishops and clergy of this realme and to the churches committed to their charge all such rights and privileges as by law doe or shall appertaine unto them or any of them.