

Henry VIII's Coronation Oath

C. Stephenson & F. G. Marcham, *Sources of English Constitutional History, supra*, vol. 1, 192 (Harper Brothers, 1937).

“Sire, will you grant and keep and by your oath confirm to the people of England the laws and customs given to them by the previous just and god-fearing kings, your ancestors, and especially the laws, customs, and liberties granted to the clergy and people by the glorious king, the sainted Edward, your predecessor?” “I grant and promise them.”

“Sire, will you in all your judgments, so far as in you lies, preserve to God and Holy Church, and to the people and clergy, entire peace and concord before God?” “I will preserve them.”

“Sire will you so far as in you lies, cause justice to be rendered rightly, impartially, and wisely, in compassion and in truth?” “I will do so.”

“Sire, do you grant to be held and observed the just laws and customs that the community of your realm shall determine, and will you, so far as in you lies, defend and strengthen them to the honour of God?” “I grant and promise them.”

Latin version:

Rymer, *Foedera* (R. E.), II, i. 33, printed from the Coronation Roll.

Poesta metropolitanus vel episcopus eundem mediocri distinctaque interroget voce, si leges et consuetudines ab antiquis, justis, et Deo devotis regibus plebi Anglorum concessas, cum sacramenti confirmatione eidem plebi concedere et servare voluerit; et presertim leges et consuetudines et libertates a glorioso Rege Edwardo clero populoque concessas? Si autem omnibus hiis assentire se velle promiserit exponat metropolitanus de quibus jurabit, ita dicendo:

Servabis ecclesie Dei cleroque et populo pacem ex integro et concordiam in Deo, secundum vires tuas?

Respondebit: Servabo.

Facies fieri in omnibus judiciis tuis equam et rectam justiciam et discrecionem in misericordia et veritate, secundum vires tuas?

Respondebit: Faciam.

Concedis justas leges et consuetudines esse tenendas, et promittis per te eas esse protegendas, et ad honorem Dei corroborandas, quas vulgus elegerit, secundum vires tuas?

Respondebit: Concedo et promitto.