

DECLARATION ON CHURCH REFORM

Parliament

8 April 1642

The Lords and Commons do declare that they intend a due and necessary reformation of the government and liturgy of the Church, and to take away nothing in the one or the other but what shall be evil and justly offensive, or at least un-necessary and burdensome; and, for the better effecting thereof, speedily to have consultation with godly and learned divines; and because this will never of itself attain the end sought therein, they will therefore use their utmost endeavor to establish learned and preaching ministers, with a good and sufficient maintenance, throughout the whole Kingdom, wherein many dark corners are miserably destitute of the means of salvation, and many poor ministers want necessary provision.

Henry Gee and William John Hardy, eds., *Documents Illustrative of English Church History* (London: MacMillan and Company, 1914):565.