

True English Men, drink a good health

The Second Book of the Catch Club or Merry Companions, c. 1700

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)
ed. Raymond Nagem

[1.] True En - glish Men, drink a good health to the

[2.] may their cun - ning and For - ces no long - er pre -

[3.] Then re - mem - ber the Seven,² who sup - por - ted our

Mi - ter,¹ let our Church ev - er Flour - ish, tho' her E - ne - mies spite her;

-vail, but their ma - lice, as well as their Ar - gu - ments, fail:

Cause, as stout as our Mar - tyrs, and as just as our Laws.

1 The tall folding cap worn by a bishop; by metonymy, a symbol of bishops, and of the Anglican Church.
2 The Seven bishops (of Canterbury, Bath and Wells, Chichester, St. Asaph, Bristol, Ely, and Peterborough) who petitioned James II on May 18, 1687 in opposition to the King's Declaration of Indulgence, which granted religious freedom to Catholics and Nonconformists. The "Seven" were briefly imprisoned in the Tower of London before being tried for seditious libel; they were all acquitted. Public sentiment turned greatly in favor of the bishops and against the Catholic King, helping to pave the way for the Glorious Revolution of 1688, which removed James II and installed William and Mary as joint monarchs.