

## Document F

Source: Captain John Smith, *History of Virginia*, 1624

When the [large ship] departed, . . . those of us that had money, spare clothes, credit to give bills of payment, gold rings, fur, or any such commodities, were ever welcome to [purchase supplies. The rest of us patiently obeyed our] vile commanders and [bought] our provisions at fifteen times the value. . . . yet did not repine but fasted, lest we should incur the censure of [being] factious and seditious persons. . . . Our ordinary [food] was but meal and water so that this . . . little relieved our wants, whereby with the extremity of the bitter cold frost . . . more than half of us died.

The worst [among us were the gold seekers who] with their golden promises made all men their slaves in hope of recompenses. There was no talk . . . but dig gold, wash gold, refine gold, load gold. . . . Smith, perceiving [we lived] from hand to mouth, caused the pinnace [small ship] to be provided with things fitting to get provision for the year following.

[Two councillors] Wingfield and Kendall, . . . strengthened themselves with the sailors and other confederates [and planned to go] aboard the pinnace to alter her course and to go for England.

Smith had the plot discovered to him. Much trouble he had to prevent it, till with store of saker and musket shot he forced them to stay or sink in the river; which action cost the life of Captain Kendall.

These brawls are so disgustful, as some will say, they were better forgotten.

## Document G

Source: Governor Berkeley and His Council on Their Inability to Defend Virginia Against a Dutch Attack, December 1673

We thought it our duty . . . to set forth in this our Declaration, the true state and condition of this country in general and our particular . . . disabilit[y] to . . . [engage in] war at the time of this invasion [by the Dutch]. . . . [We] therefore do most humbly beseech your majesty and your most honorable council to consider that Virginia is intersected by so many vast rivers as makes more miles to defend than we have men of trust to defend them. For by our nearest computation we leave at our backs as many servants (besides Negroes) as there are freemen to defend the shores and all our frontiers [against] the Indians. . . . [This] gives men fearful apprehensions of the danger they leave their estates and families in, while they are drawn from their houses to defend the borders. Also at least one third [of the freemen available for defense] are single freemen (whose labor will hardly maintain them) or men much in debt, . . . [whom] we may reasonably expect upon any small advantage the enemy may gain upon us, . . . [to defect] to them in hopes of bettering their condition by sharing the plunder of the country with them.