

Document H

Source: Bacon's "Manifesto," justifying his rebellion against Virginia Governor Berkeley in 1676

We cannot in our hearts find one single spot of rebellion or treason or that we have in any manner aimed at subverting the settled government. . . . All people in all places where we have yet been can attest our civil, quiet, peaceable behavior far different from that of rebellion. . . . Let truth be bold and all the world know the real foundations of pretended guilt. . . . Let us trace . . . [the] men in authority and favor to whose hands the dispensation of the countr[y's] wealth has been committed. Let us observe the sudden rise of their estates . . . [compared] with the quality in which they first entered this country. Let us consider their sudden advancement. And let us also consider whether any public work for our safety and defense or for the advancement and propagation of trade, liberal arts or sciences is in any [way] adequate to our vast charge. Now let us compare these things together and see what sponges have sucked up the public treasure and whether it has not been privately contrived away by unworthy favorites and juggling parasites whose tottering fortunes have been repaired and supported at the public charge.

END OF 1993 DBQ DOCUMENTS