

NAME _____

SOCIAL STUDIES 7

DATE _____

MR. O'CONNOR

THE PROCLAMATION OF REBELLION

In an attempt to avoid further bloodshed and war, the colonists sent King George III the Olive Branch Petition in July of 1775. The King's response, The Proclamation of Rebellion, left no doubt as to the king's feeling on this issue. Read the edited excerpt of the Proclamation below, and answer the questions that follow.

Many of our subjects in our colonies in North America have been misled by dangerous and wicked men, and have forgotten the allegiance which they owe the power that has protected and supported them. Many disorderly and violent acts have been committed which have disturbed the public peace, lawful commerce has been blocked, and people have proceeded to open rebellion. They have become hostile, and have traitorously prepared to make war against us.

None of our subjects may neglect their duty by claiming ignorance, nor should they doubt the power of the law will protect them if they show that they are loyal. We hereby proclaim that all our officers, as well as all our loyal and obedient subjects must use every available means to withstand and put down this rebellion, and to make known all treasons and conspiracies which they shall know to be against us, our crown and our country.

King George III
August 23, 1775

1. According to this document, what does the king think of Colonial leaders?

2. According to this document, what have the colonists done to show that they are in rebellion?

3. What are two things that colonists would have to do if they were loyal to the king?
