Pilgrimage of grace



The Pilgrimage of Grace was a rebellion against the rule of Henry VIII. The rebellion began in 1536 and lasted only one year. The participants in the Pilgrimage of Grace had both concerns and goals in the movement, there were also those who opposed the movement.

Those who were for the Pilgrimage were against-Thomas Cromwell because he was Henry VIII??™s Lord High Chancellor and Head of his council. Many followers of the pilgrimage had concerns with the policies of Henry VIII as well as the economy under Henry??™s reign. Those who were for the Pilgrimage were also against Henry VIII and his followers.

These supporters of the pilgrimage were also against Thomas Cromwell.

Thomas Cromwell was one of King Henry VIII supporters and members of the king??™s council. A petition was presented to this council by Robert Aske, listing numerous complaints of changes that needed to be made. (Doc.

- 5) Aske was listing that Cromwell should be punished for what he has done by supporting the King. Cromwell was the Head of the Privy Council in the name of the king. Nicholas Lache, a Catholic priest gave his testimony while imprisoned, about how the rebellion could have been stopped because their actions were offensive to the king.(Doc.
- 8) Cromwell also known as an evil counselor who need to be expelled of being a preserver of the Kings power.(Doc. 1) It appeared obvious, even to the ones whom wouldn??™t speak of their names, that they wanted the king to grant the petition against Cromwell as well as elect other people beside a parliament to speak on behalf of the people.(Doc. 6) Those who were for the Pilgrimage had an influence from the economy; economic concerns lead

people to be for the pilgrimage. It seemed to be an issue when ordinary people could not be protected by their king. Their complaints were that they were not being defended by Scots or thieves; the only things that they could rely on were charity, faith, poverty and pity. (Doc.

2) Common people were not the only ones to complain about economic matters. Catholic monks were upset with Henry VIII because he took their cattle and corn, their main sources of food. The Catholics were simply trying to preserve Catholicism and Henry VIII took that from them. The Catholic Monks were attempting to preserve Catholicism for the pilgrimage because Henry VIII took all that they had from them.

(Doc. 4) Not only did the monks have complaints to King Henry about economic issues but again Robert Aske voiced his opinion; to have monasteries??™ houses, lands and goods restored this petition was simply written to state what people needed and wanted to change about the king??

™s council. Aske was petitioning to restore what was lost, as well as punish Thomas Cromwell.

(Doc. 5). As an attempt to make his facts as well as opinions heard Aske gave his final testimony before his execution. Aske was trying to save his life for pilgrimage by stating that farmers had to rent out their farms for money, and bridges, high walls and other structures like dikes were no longer maintained for the good of commonwealth. Aske was not trying to save his life because he knew he was going to get executed, Aske was rather trying to prove his point against the King to receive followers for the pilgrimage.

(Doc. 11) Whenever there are groups, and people for a movement there are also people against it.

The people who were against the movement were supporters and followers of Henry VIII. Thomas Cromwell as said before was one of Henry VIII??™s closer followers and worked for him. A writer hired by Mr. Cromwell wrote that there needs to be a way found so the better rule the rest. This was proking Henry; the main point by the writer to be seen was order was needed to be preserved. (Doc. 7).

Henry VIII apologized to the people who were for the pilgrimage in hopes that he could and would grow back supporters to keep his power. Henry said the people, his commoners and subjects have committed rebellion that might have ruined their country; he goes on to say the offense came from ignorance and false tales. (Doc. 9) Unfortunately for Henry VIII many people were no buying it. They did not accept the pardon made by Henry, and statistics show that this was a crime. Not accepting the apology left many commoners gentlemen and clergy men accused of a crime and they were tried.

According to the Letters and Papers of Henry VIII, the king??™s collection was inaccurately displaying the results of the first treason trials of the participants of the Pilgrimage of Grace, these Letters and Papers were meant to be displayed to make Henry VIII look better as a king. (Doc. 10) The Pilgrimage of Grace was both supported and opposed by many. The goals and concerns were very much alike for those for the movement.

There were both economic reasons for the supporting of the pilgrimage and feelings of dislike to certain followers of Henry VIII. Those against the Pilgrimage of Grace were against it for similar reasons involving king Henry ultimately the Pilgrimage was supported over by a majority of people.