



Presents

## The Pilgrims



By Janet Giel-Romo, Ed.D.



Copyright 2015 All Rights Reserved  
Austin and Lily Solutions  
Photo credit: Shutterstock license.  
[www.austinelily.com](http://www.austinelily.com)



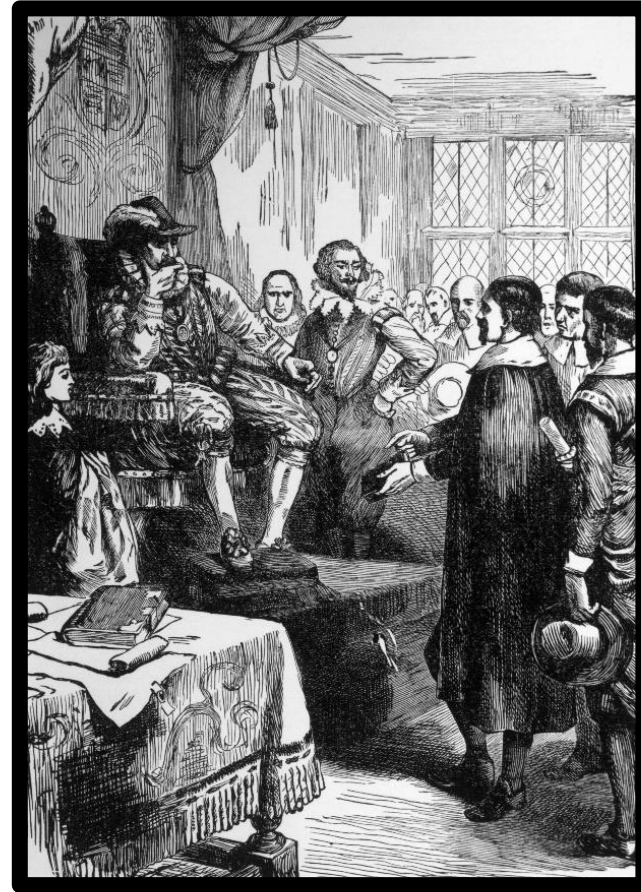
The Pilgrims were from England. They were the first people from Europe to move to America and start a settlement.



The Pilgrims moved to America because they didn't like the law about **religion** in England. The law was that there was only one religion. It was the Church of England.



The Pilgrims called themselves **Separatists**. That is because they did not like the Church of England, and so they separated from it. They started a new religion.



The Pilgrims asked **King James** to change the rule about only having one church. King James said, "NO". The Pilgrims could not have their own church in England.



Joseph Sohm / Shutterstock.com

The Pilgrims decided to move to America. They could build their own churches there. They sailed across the Atlantic Ocean on a ship called the **Mayflower**.



The Pilgrims needed rules for their new settlement. The rules were called the **Mayflower Compact**. The Pilgrims signed it before they got off the ship.



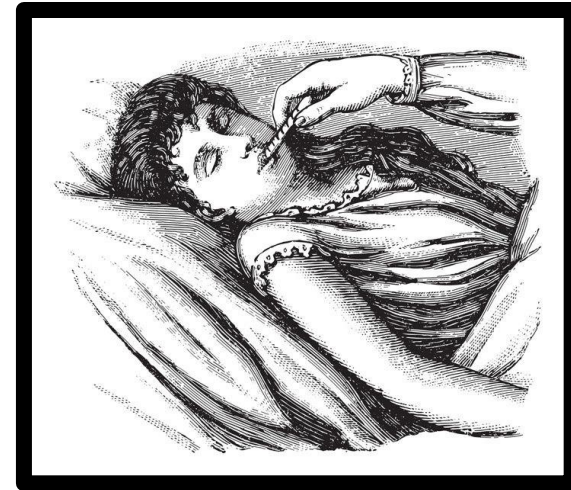
The Pilgrims landed in Massachusetts in December of 1620. The Pilgrims stepped on a rock to get off the ship. They named it **Plymouth Rock**. They called their settlement Plymouth.



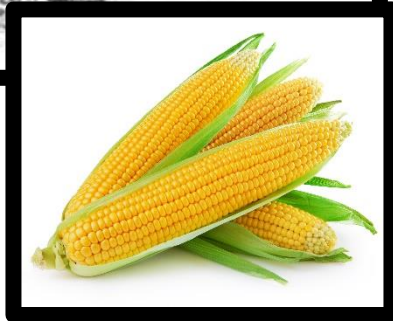
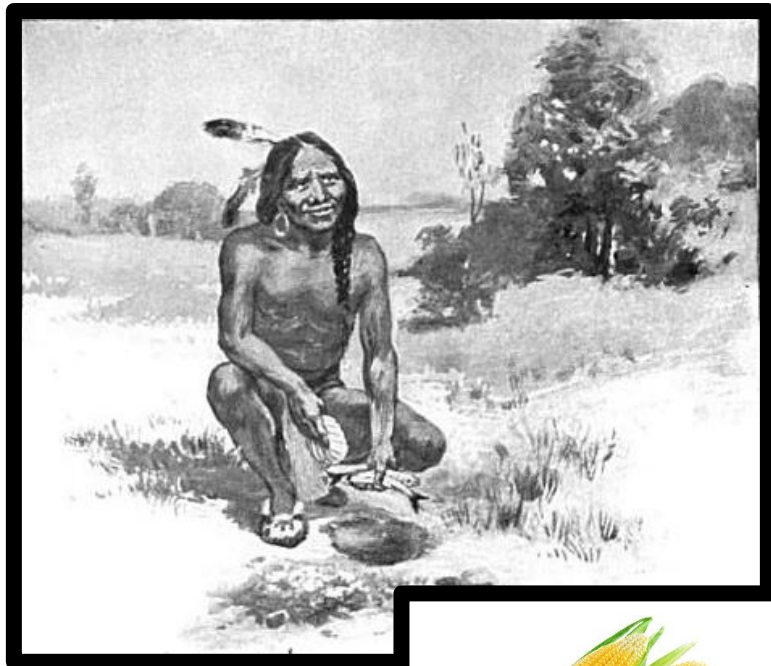
There were no cities in **Plymouth, Massachusetts**. There were no houses, stores, or doctors. The Pilgrims had to build their settlement in the forest.



The Pilgrims lived on the ship that first winter. They worked on building houses and barns. They did not have a lot of food.



It was very cold that first winter. A lot of Pilgrims got pneumonia. Many Pilgrims got sick and died. It was hard living in the new settlement.



The next spring, the Pilgrims had to grow their own food. They needed help. **Squanto** was a Native American. He taught the Pilgrims how to grow corn and other vegetables.



The gardens grew all summer. In the fall, the Pilgrims had a good harvest. They had food to eat.



The **Native Americans** helped the Pilgrims survive that first year. The Pilgrims were very grateful.



The Pilgrims and Native Americans celebrated the harvest. They prepared a feast. This was the first **Thanksgiving**.





**William Bradford** was a Pilgrim leader. He wrote about the Pilgrims in Plymouth. That is how people know about the Pilgrims today.



Copyright 2015 All Rights Reserved  
Austin and Lily Solutions  
[www.austinelily.com](http://www.austinelily.com)