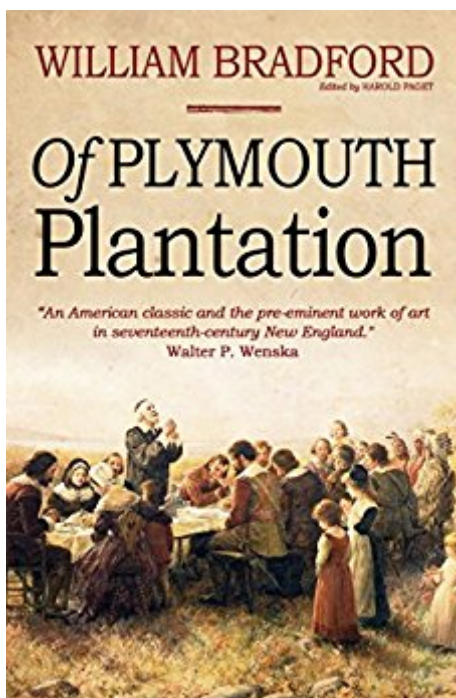


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# Of Plymouth Plantation



## Synopsis

In August 1620, 102 English Separatists set off in the Mayflower for New England. These men, women and children, who became known as the Pilgrims, would found the Plymouth Colony. They had to survive harsh winters, poor harvests, disease and famine in the early years of their new settlement. These struggles were only exacerbated by conflicts they had with other English settlements, French settlers and against Native Americans. But they persevered in what has become one of the most iconic periods in the history of the United States. William Bradford, who was Plymouth Colony Governor five times for a period of nearly thirty years, recorded a detailed history of this settlement and the lives of its colonists in his *Of Plymouth Plantation*. Charles F. Richardson stated that this work was a “forerunner of literature” and that Bradford was “a story-teller of considerable power.” Moses Coit Tyler called him “The father of American history.” This account is a fascinating history of seventeenth century colonial America, that takes the reader on a year-by-year journey through the highs and lows of the colony from before it began in 1608 through to 1646. Never published during his lifetime the manuscript disappeared until 1780 when it appeared in England, probably stolen by the British in the American Revolution. It was then published in the nineteenth century. This edition, edited by Harold Paget, has been rendered into modern English so it is much more readable than the original seventeenth century version and was first published in 1920. William Bradford eventually died in Plymouth in 1657, where a stone monument exists in memory of his life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am planning a visit to Plymouth plantation for an out of time visitors and wanted to learn more about it to be a better guide. This book is based on a diary written by Governor Bradford, who was guiding the settlement for over 30 years. His writing feels a little heavy for a modern reader but this is how people spoke at that time and I felt immersed in the times of the story. I was really amazed at how people persevered in the wilderness and built a settlement. I don't think I would be able to do it. It is both humbling and inspirational. This is a fairly long book that starts with 1630 and end in 1659 when William Bradford dies. The book ends with the list of all people who came on the Mayflower. Ali Julia review

Purchased this book because I recently found strong proof I had ancestors on the Mayflower! That gave me the interest to research further into this time period. This book "Of Plymouth Plantation" was very interesting reading for several reasons. Because it was written by William Bradford who, of course, had first hand knowledge of the trials & tribulations of the Pilgrims. I am so thankful this book was reissued. How wonderful to have this first hand account. I would have given this 5 stars but because it was so subject specific I was hesitant to give 5 stars!

Fascinating book in many ways. A little hard to read, despite the editor "adjusting" some of the wording. The book begins long before the ship sails. Learn the background as to why these people were willing to rise everything for freedom to worship. There are two books on titled the same and are the same book. One has a list of the passengers and what happened to them later. This book does not have that list. Thus the four stars.

This is a very interesting book. Appreciate the update to more modern language. It gives a very different perspective of the beginning of our nation than what we usually see. Interesting letters and excerpts of letters from colonists and those who were in England and the Netherlands.

Very interesting but a difficult read. You learn a lot about life and people in the early colonies. Not all of it pretty.

Very interesting to learn that the voyage was funded by investors expecting a profit. Without their funds, the voyage would not have happened. Also, it is interesting to compare this settlement, where the inhabitants lived mainly in family units, with Jamestown, inhabited mostly by single men. The affects of previous European visits in, sadly, depopulating the area through disease, was also a major factor towards success as was Tisquantum.

This book provides an excellent insight and understanding about the establishment of the New Plymouth Colony. It shows how the commercial nature of the founding of the Colony significantly impacted their very survival. There are many details as well about the Colony's relationship with the Native-American tribes of New England along with the formation of the New England Confederation. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in broadening their knowledge about the English colonies in New England specifically as it relates to our Pilgrim ancestors.

I thought it would be a story about the pilgrims voyage to the new world and life after they arrived not a bunch of letters to and from people. I could not keep interested in the book at all. I struggled through the book because if I start a book I am determined to finish it.

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