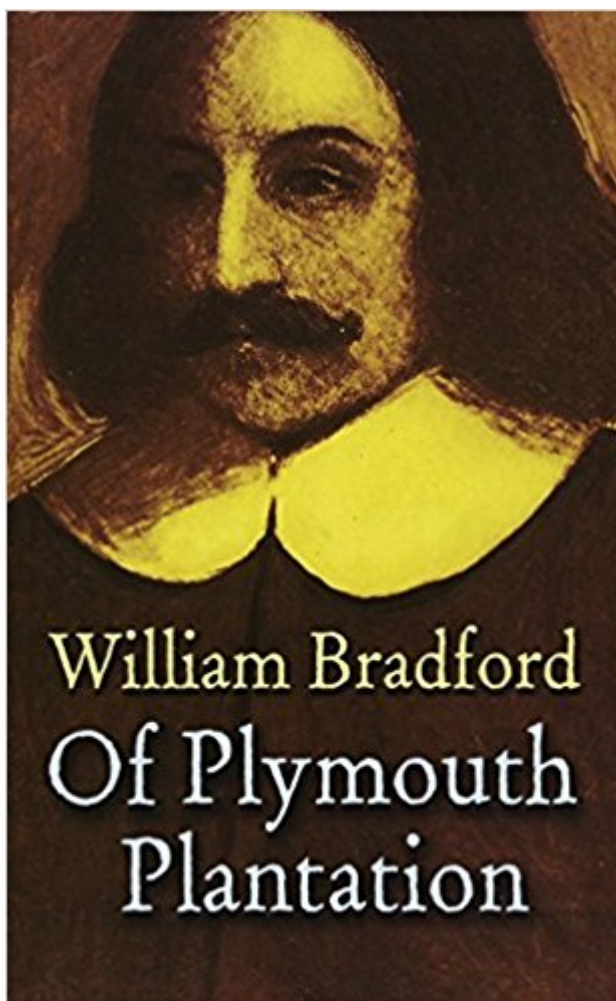


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Of Plymouth Plantation (Dover Books On Americana)



Synopsis

The most important and influential source of information about the Pilgrims and Plymouth Colony, this landmark account was written between 1630 and 1647. It vividly documents the Pilgrims' adventures: their first stop in Holland, the harrowing transatlantic crossing aboard the Mayflower, the first harsh winter in the new colony, and the help from friendly Native Americans that saved their lives. No one was better equipped to report on the affairs of the Plymouth community than William Bradford. Revered for his patience, wisdom, and courage, Bradford was elected to the office of governor in 1621, and he continued to serve in that position for more than three decades. His memoirs of the colony remained virtually unknown until the nineteenth century. Lost during the American Revolution, they were discovered years later in London and published after a protracted legal battle. The current edition rendered into modern English and with an introduction by Harold Paget, remains among the most readable books from seventeenth-century America.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bradford's history is a story of a simple people inspired by an ardent faith to a dauntless courage in danger, a resourcefulness in dealing with new problems, an impregnable fortitude in adversity that exalts and heartens one in an age of uncertainty, when courage falters and faith grows dim. It is this story, told by a great human being, that has made the Pilgrim Fathers in a sense the spiritual ancestors of all Americans, all pioneers. • Thus Samuel Eliot Morison, the preeminent

American historian in this field, in his Preface to this great American classic. For the first time the printed text of Bradford's history has been compared word for word with the original manuscript; for the first time the difficult abbreviations and contractions used by Bradford have been filled out and his archaic and variant spellings made uniform. This edition has a double value: it presents Governor Bradford's text in readable form and it provides contemporary readers with a history of that text and its enduring significance by the historian clearly elected to interpret it. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

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 ends 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 risk everything for freedom to worship. There are two books on it 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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