CLASSICS LIBRARY · STORY MAP

Mourt's Relation

William Bradford and Edward Winslow · *1622 · Alexander Young, Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers (Boston, 1841), the complete Mourt's Relation extract; typography modernized from the 1622 quarto. Harvest letter collated where the Internet Archive OCR was broken. Not the 1963 Heath edition.*

Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling. So the relation begins the voyage. The hosted text is the complete Mourt's Relation as in Young's 1841 Chronicles, typography modernized from the 1622 quarto. For grades 7–12. Quote the relation, not only Young's notes. By God's providence they will espy land.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

What do Bradford and Winslow think worth recording of a crossing, a landfall, and a first winter's dealing with the people already here, and how should a school read this 1622 relation as a primary witness, not as a later legend of the Pilgrims?

"Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling"

The voyage, 6 September

The relation, in this hosted Young 1841 text, begins with a Wednesday in September: a fine small gale, east-north-east, and a loosening from Plymouth, after kind entertainment by divers friends. The landfall, later, is by God's providence, at what they deem Cape Cod. Teach the voyage, the exploring, the first dealings, and the harvest-letter as this file prints them, for grades 7–12. The authors are William Bradford and Edward Winslow. It is a primary witness, not a later school legend, and not the 1963 Heath edition. Quote the relation, not only Young's footnotes. Some later lines in the file still carry a marginal-date artifact; quote a clean sentence, as this map does.

KEY CHARACTERS

William Bradford, and Edward Winslow
The authors of the relation; name both

The company that loosed from Plymouth
On a Wednesday in September, after kind entertainment by divers friends; the first sentence's "we"

The people already at Cape Cod and inland
Who will enter the later pages; teach those meetings with respect

Alexander Young
Whose 1841 Chronicles preserve this extract; his notes are not the relation itself

A FINE SMALL GALE, AND A LOOSENING FROM PLYMOUTH

> *"Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling"*
>
> The voyage, 6 September

Grades 7–12
Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01

A 1622 Relation, in Young 1841

THE FILE AS A WHOLE

The source note is careful: Alexander Young, Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers (Boston, 1841), the complete Mourt's Relation extract; typography modernized from the 1622 quarto; harvest letter collated where Internet Archive OCR was broken; not the 1963 Heath edition. Say that.

- Authors: William Bradford and Edward Winslow. Name both.
- For grades 7–12.
- Quote the relation, not only Young's notes.
- Complete as hosted.

> *"Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling"*
>
> The voyage, 6 September

02

We Loosed from Plymouth

THE OPENING OF THE VOYAGE

Wednesday, the 6th of September, a fine small gale, east-north-east: they loose from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling. The first sentence is already a record of date, wind, and thanks.

- The sentence is exact, including "east-north-east," "fine small gale," "loosed," and "divers friends."
- Stop a quotation before the later landfall sentence, where a marginal "Nov." has been pulled into the word "following" in this file.
- 7–12.
- Quote this clean opening.

> *"Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling"*
>
> The voyage, 6 September

03

By God's Providence, a Land

THE LANDFALL

After difficulties in boisterous storms, they espy land, which they deem Cape Cod. Teach the landfall as they record it, with the providence they name, and with the fact that the land is already a place, not an empty stage.

- Gravity and honesty. The people already here will enter the relation; teach those meetings with respect, as the file gives them.
- This is not a later legend of a rock only.
- 7–12.
- Quote the relation.

> *"Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling"*
>
> The voyage, 6 September

04

Dealings, and a Harvest Letter

THE LATER PAGES

The exploring, the first winter's dealings, and the harvest letter belong to the work. Teach them as a witness: hardship, help, and the letter's thanks, as printed, including the collation noted in the source.

- Do not flatten the relation into a single feast-day picture.
- Name Bradford and Winslow.
- Young's notes are notes.
- Finish as far as you assign, honestly.

> *"Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling"*
>
> The voyage, 6 September

05

This Hosted English

THE EDITION

Typography modernized from the 1622 quarto, via Young 1841, is still this relation, not a 1963 classroom rewrite. Keep "loosed" and "divers."

- The opening Wednesday is the right first quotation.
- Not a later film.
- A sister-text, Good Newes from New England (Winslow, 1624), is a different file in this wave. Keep them distinct.
- 7–12.

> *"Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling"*
>
> The voyage, 6 September

A Voyage, Recorded · Providence Named · A Primary Witness · Meetings Already There · Thanks, and Hardship

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 7–12

1. Mourt's Relation, in this Young 1841 text (typography modernized from the 1622 quarto; not the 1963 Heath edition), opens: "Wednesday, the 6th of September, the wind coming east-north-east, a fine small gale, we loosed from Plymouth, having been kindly entertained and courteously used by divers friends there dwelling." Keep "loosed" and "divers." For grades 7–12.
2. Authors: William Bradford and Edward Winslow. Quote the relation, not only Young's notes. The harvest letter was collated where Internet Archive OCR was broken, as the source note says.
3. A later landfall sentence in this file has a marginal "Nov." pulled into "following." Quote a clean sentence, as this map does; do not copy the artifact.
4. Teach the landfall and the meetings with the people already here as a primary witness, not as a later legend or a single feast-day picture.
5. Good Newes from New England, also in this wave, is a different Winslow work (1624). Keep the two distinct.

Quotations are verbatim from the Alexander Young, Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers (Boston, 1841), the complete Mourt's Relation extract; typography modernized from the 1622 quarto. Harvest letter collated where the Internet Archive OCR was broken. Not the 1963 Heath edition., Alexander Young, Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers of the Colony of Plymouth (Boston: C. C. Little and J. Brown, 1841), the complete Mourt's Relation extract; typography modernized from the 1622 quarto. Harvest letter collated where the Internet Archive OCR was broken. Not the 1963 Heath edition., the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/mourts-relation/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.