

Primary Source: Excerpt from a Letter by Edward Winslow, 1621

Edward Winslow wrote these few lines in a letter to a friend in 1621. This letter was printed in a book, *Mourt's Relation*, in 1622. Winslow was at the harvest celebration and is the only person we know who wrote about what happened. This letter can be pretty hard to read. Sometimes the letter "s" looks like an "f." Also, people back then did not spell words as we do today!

ENGLAND, &c.

...; our harvest being gotten in, our Governour sent foure men on fowling, that so we might after a more speciall manner reioyce together, after we had gathered the fruit of our labours; they foure in one day killed as much fowle, as with a little helpe beside, served the Company almost a weeke, at which time amongst other Recreations, we exercised our Armes, many of the *Indians* coming amongst vs, and amongst the rest their greatest King *Massasoit*, with some nintie men, whom for three dayes we entertained and feasted. and they went out and killed five Deere, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governour, and vpon the Captaine, and others. And although it be not alwayes so plentifull, as it was at this time with vs, yet by the goodnesse of God, we are so farre from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plentie.

A Relation or Journall of the Beginning and proceedings of the English Plantation settled at Plimoth [Mourt's Relation] London: John Bellamie, 1622

Courtesy of Massachusetts Historical Society