

## EDWARD WINSLOW DESCRIBES THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

“Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruits of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as, with a little help beside, served the company almost a week. At which time, amongst other recreation, we exercised our arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest their greatest king, Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed on our governor, and upon the captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty.”

Quoted in Catherine O'Neill Grace and Margaret M. Bruchac with Plimoth Plantation, *1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving* (Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 2004), 29–30.