

Young People's Department.



THE MAYFLOWER.

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AMERICA is a great country, yet, like most things, it had a small beginning. It had its beginning chiefly from England. Four hundred years ago scarcely anything was known about it. It was looked upon as a very far-off land, and as a place full of wild beasts and savages. The first missionary work that was done in England was in the year 1501, when Henry VII. paid two pounds to "a priest that goeth to the new island." We call two pounds at the present time about ten dollars, and that does not seem much for a king to give a missionary when leaving for a long and dangerous journey. We don't know anything about this missionary, or what he did, but people kept going slowly to the "new island" until new countries were formed in the south. One missionary, whose name was Robert Hunt, used to hold services

under a big sail which he hung from four trees. Twice every day he used to read the prayers of the Church there, and on Sundays he would preach. These were Church of England people.

But many years afterwards a different kind of people set sail for America. Some of them were people who killed King Charles I., and tried to kill the Church, too. They first sailed in the *Mayflower*, and landed on the shores of a wilderness. They called it New England, and it is called that still. It was not in the sunny south, but in the north, where the winter was very cold, and the poor people suffered greatly. The voyage, too, had been rough and dangerous. No one would like to cross the Atlantic now in a ship like the *Mayflower*, but she was a fine big ship for her day. It was in 1620—a long time ago. Nearly all this great country was then a wilderness. How it has improved since then! By little and little, villages and towns and cities were built. At first the people of