

money chests, and antique cabinets brought over in the Mayflower, with Indian tomahawks and arrow-heads strangely interspersed among the peaceful relics of the Pilgrims' primitive household furniture.

Until a few years, the original Rock on the shore has been suffered to remain protected from oblivion only by its historical record, and from the depredations of curious visitors who would carry it off bit by bit, only by the drifting sand which has nearly buried it out of sight. Now, a beautiful granite temple stands over it, at once a monument? a defence.

Above the strip of shore on which it stands rises the low hill or ledge on which the Pilgrims buried their dead through the first terrible year of struggle, when, as Governor Bradford wrote, they "dug seventimes as many graves as they built houses." These graves they were obliged to level, and sow the hillside with corn, to conceal them from savage attacks. Still above this ledge is "Burying Hill," thickly covered with ancient tomb-stones, and surmounted by the ruins of the first fort built to protect the little colony from the Indians.

At the foot of the first declivity, stretches the narrow street of the earliest PlymOUTH, of which not a single house remains, though there are some quite ancient ones in the present town. "We make narrow streets and small lots," says the Pilgrim chronicle, "because we have no strength to take care of more." Here Governor Bradford, and Governor Carver, and Captain Standish, and all the brave leaders, men of rare gifts and cultivation, from the best families of the old world laboured in the field together, built their own houses, planted their own corn, and shared all the toils and dangers of the pilgrim band. They were men of great heart and great genius; genius which sees the end from the beginning, a great state in a savage wilderness, and hopes all things, believes all things, and endures all things to accomplish the vision.

How has it been accomplished? Not one of that struggling band went back in the Mayflower which brought them over. More and more came out to them flying from religious persecutions in

England, where the royal commissioners told them "only obey the law and come to the established Church, and be a dissembler, hypocrite or devil if you will," They chose the wilderness rather than such a compromise with conscience, until as Dr. Bacon, in *Harper's Magazine* says, "Twenty-one thousand Puritans are supposed to have come over to America. The descendants of Bradford and Robinson, Winthrop, Cotton, and the rest, have increased to seven millions, carefully estimated. They have spread from ocean to ocean. Many of the early Puritans were cultivated and accomplished men. Most of them at heart republicans. The compact formed in the cabin of the Mayflower became the model on which every State from Maine to Oregon, has been founded. Like those early Pilgrims, our people everywhere pledged themselves to obey the laws which they have themselves sanctioned, and which derive all their authority from the consent of the people, but which the people will enforce with their united strength. The moral system of Puritans has become the foundation of our great prosperity. It was upon knowledge and religion they built their State. Every State has obeyed the precepts of Robinson and Brewster.—*Christian Weekly*

It often happens, that those are the best people, whose characters have been most injured by slanderers; as we usually find that to be the sweetest fruit which the birds have been pecking at.

#### INTERNATIONAL S. S. LESSONS, 1876.

##### FOURTH QUARTER.

- Oct. 1—Stephen's Defence.—Acts vii. 1-19.  
 " 8—Stephen's Defence.—Acts vii. 35-50.  
 " 18—Stephen's Martyrdom.—Acts vii. 51-60.  
 " 22—Simon the Sorcerer.—Acts viii. 9-25.  
 " 29—Philip and the Ethiopian.—Acts viii. 26-40.  
 Nov. 5—Saul's Conversion.—Acts ix. 1-18.  
 " 12—Saul's early Ministry.—Acts ix. 19-30.  
 " 19—Dorea Restored to Life.—Acts ix. 31-43.  
 " 26—Peter's Vision.—Acts x. 1-20.  
 Dec. 3—The Gentiles Received.—Acts x. 34-48.  
 " 10—Spread of the Gospel.—Acts xi. 19-30.  
 " 17—Peter's Release.—Acts viii. 1-17.  
 " 24—Review, or a Lesson selected by the School.  
 " 31—Annual Review.