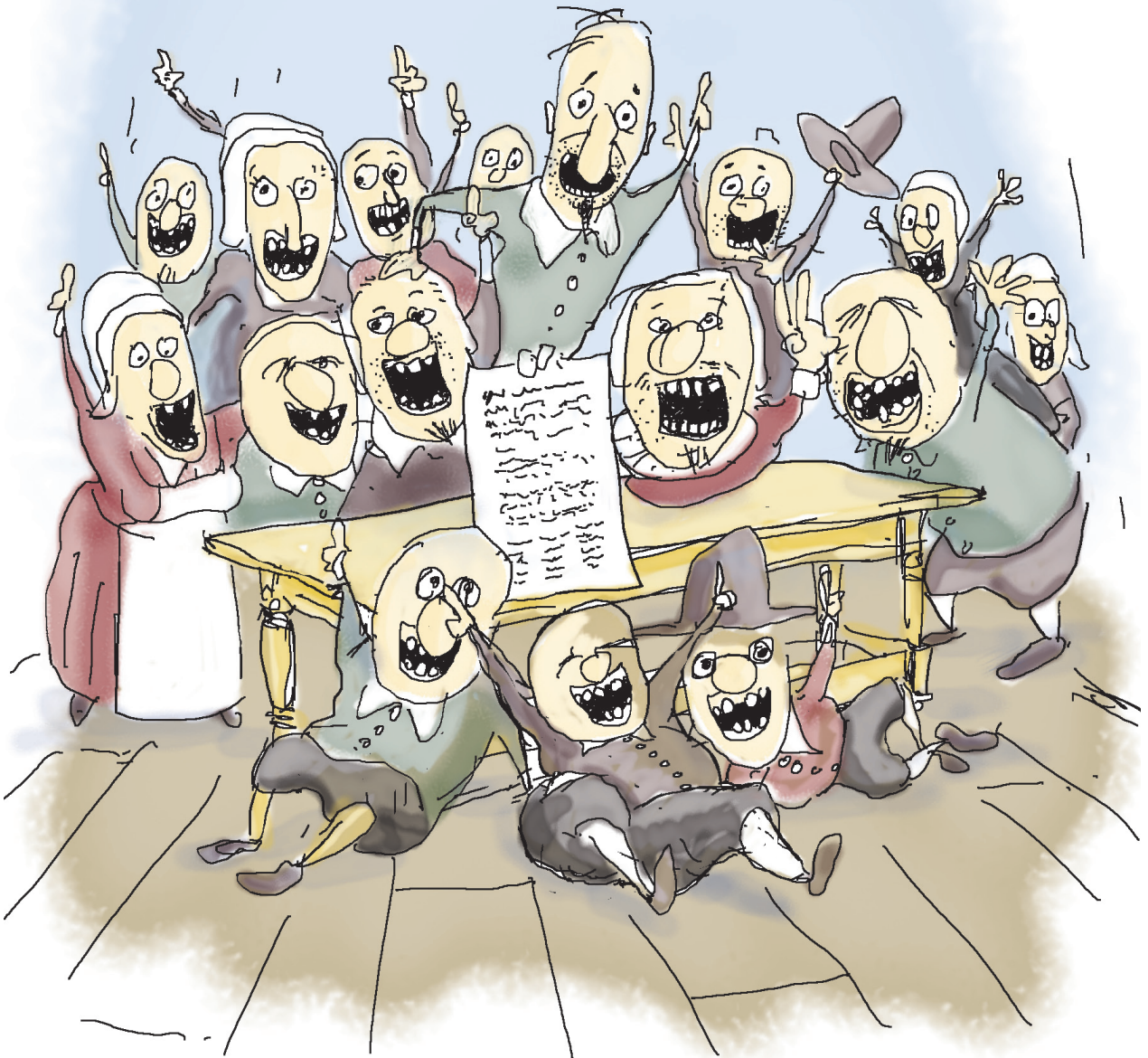


The **Mayflower Compact**



The Mayflower Compact

© 2020 Kevin J. Keane

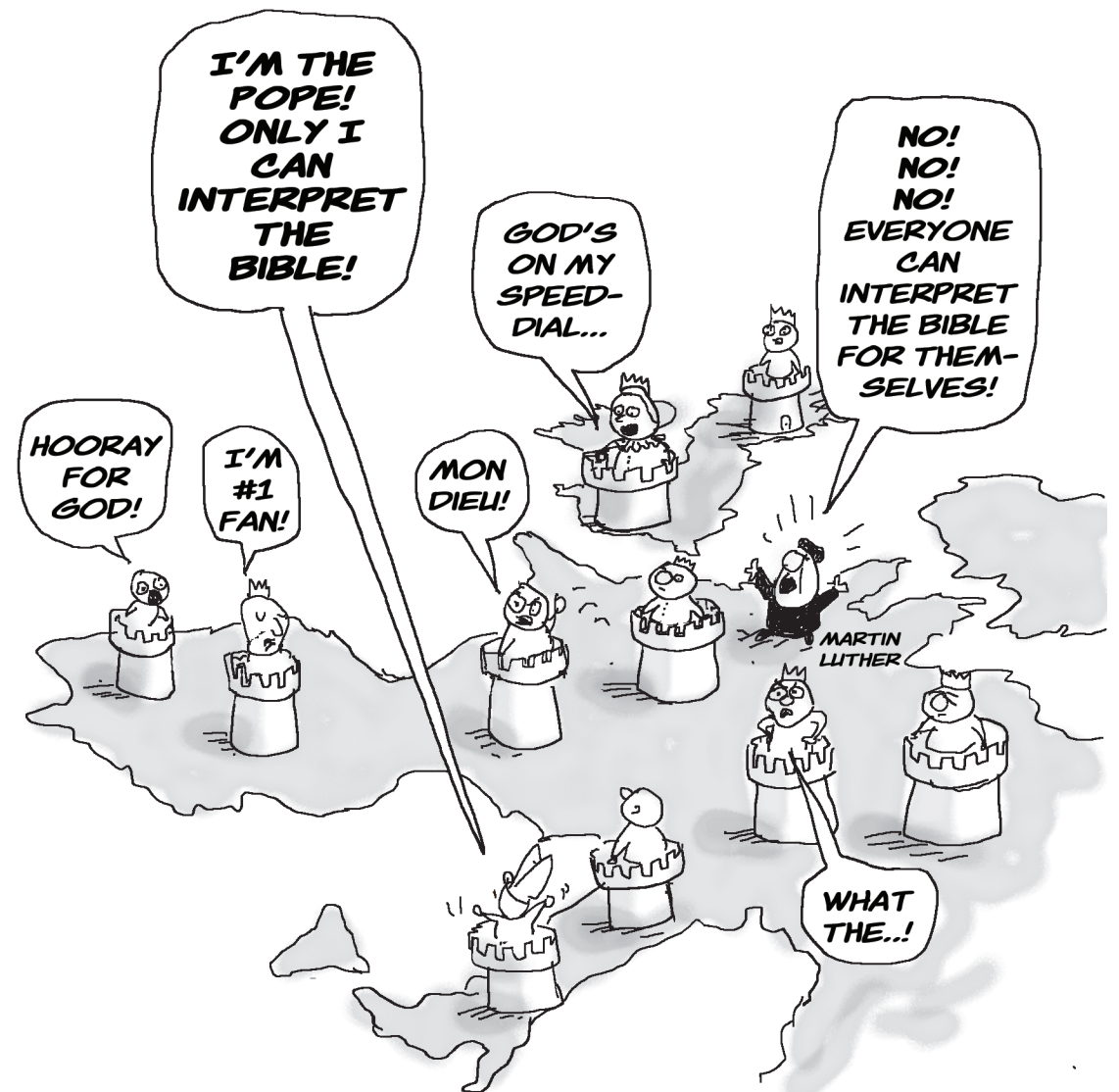


ACROSS THE AMERICAS,
EUROPEAN POWERS
CLAIMED WHOLE SECTIONS.



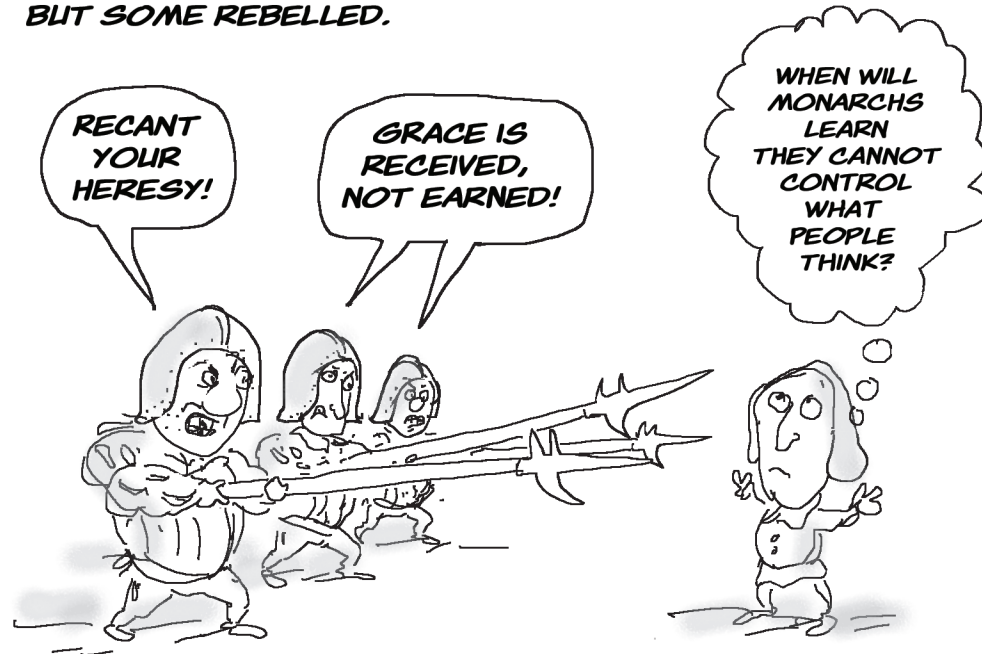
BUT BACK IN EUROPE IT WASN'T ALL
GOLD & GLAMOUR.

A RELIGIOUS REVOLUTION WAS
SWEEPING OVER THE CONTINENT...

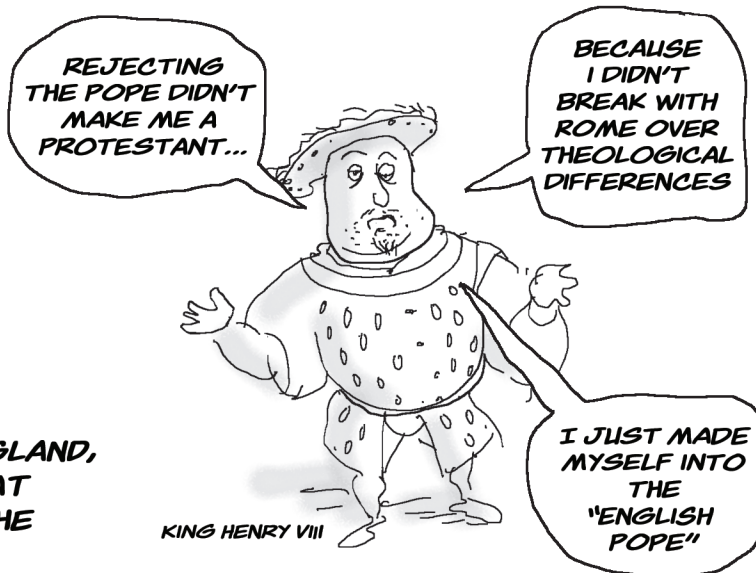


THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION CHALLENGED THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHURCH AND THE MONARCHS WHO SUPPORTED THE CHURCH.

KINGS AND QUEENS TRIED TO FORCE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS ON THEIR SUBJECTS, BUT SOME REBELLED.



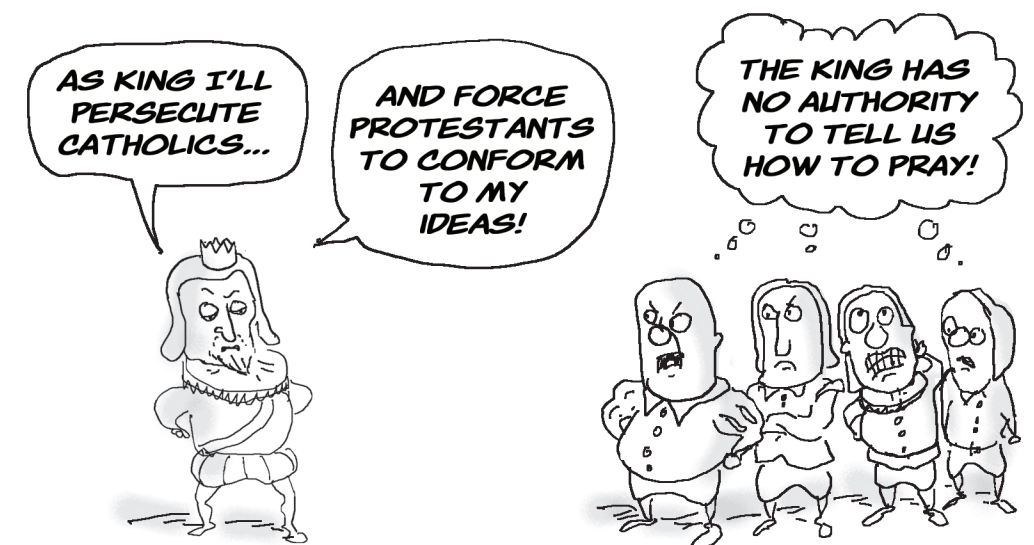
TO ADD A WRINKLE OF COMPLEXITY TO ALL THIS: IN ENGLAND, KING HENRY VIII BROKE AWAY FROM THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND CREATED THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, WITH HIMSELF AT THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH.



BUT FOR SOME ENGLISH PROTESTANTS, THIS WAS NO FIX AT ALL!

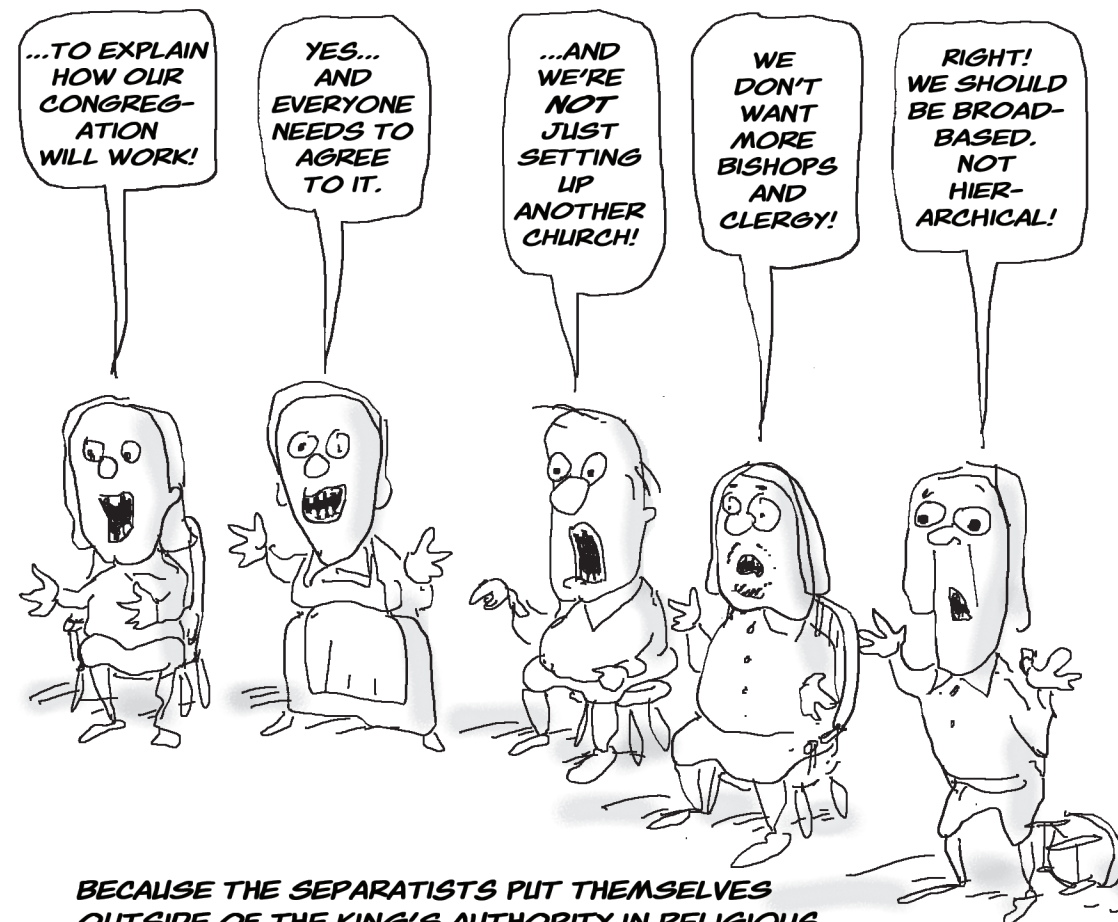
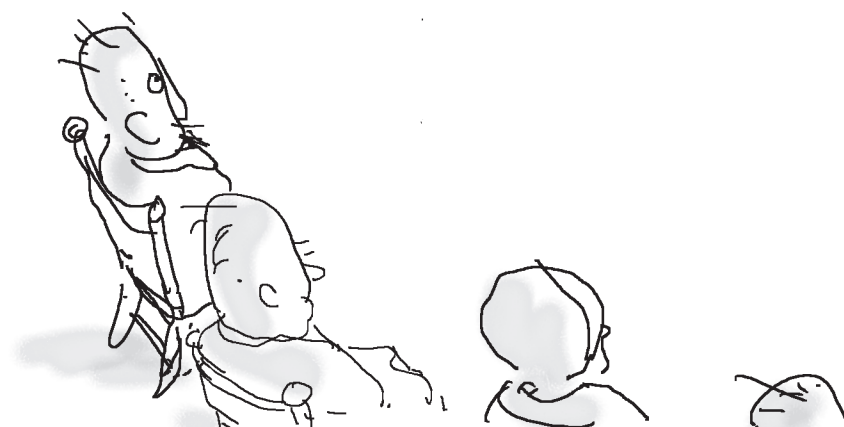
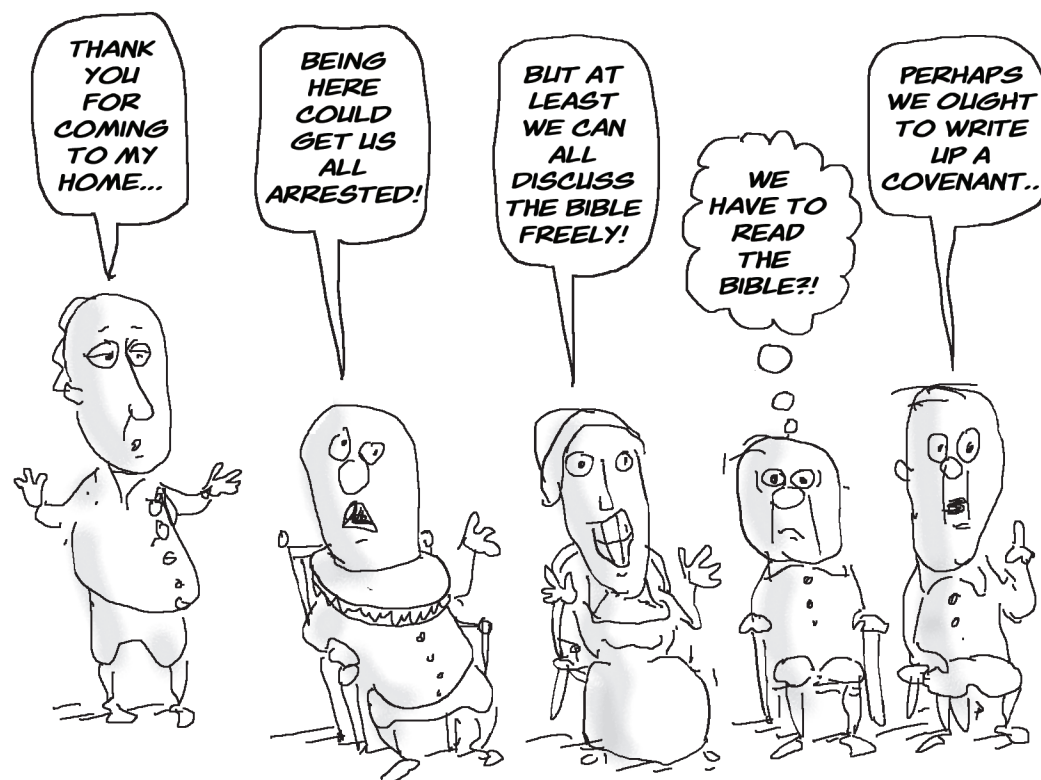


OVER THE YEARS IT CONTINUED. BUT IN 1603 KING JAMES I ASCENDED THE THRONE AND MADE A DIFFICULT SITUATION WORSE.



A SMALL GROUP OF ENGLISH PROTESTANTS CALLED THEMSELVES, "SEPARATISTS", BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO SEPARATE FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

THE CONGREGATION HAD TO MEET IN SECRET...



BECAUSE THE SEPARATISTS PUT THEMSELVES OUTSIDE OF THE KING'S AUTHORITY IN RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS, THEY HAD TO CREATE THEIR OWN AUTHORITY TO RUN THEIR CONGREGATION. THEY WROTE RELIGIOUS COVENANTS AMONGST THEMSELVES AND GOD.

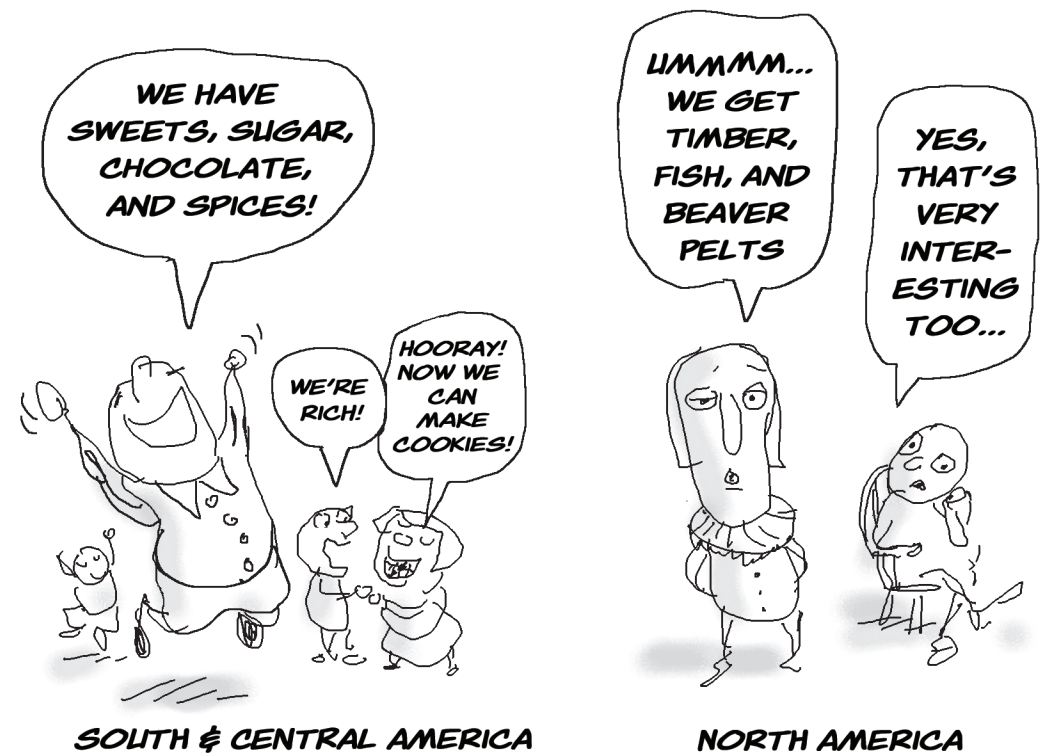
OVER THE YEARS, THEY GOT VERY GOOD AT WRITING COVENANTS...

EVENTUALLY THE SEPARATISTS WERE DISCOVERED AND THREATENED WITH ARREST. THE SEPARATISTS FLED TO LEIDEN, HOLLAND. HOLLAND WAS KNOWN FOR A NEW-FANGLED CONCEPT CALLED, "RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE."

MEANWHILE, THE KINGS AND QUEENS OF EUROPE HAD BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO MAKE MONEY OFF OF THEIR CLAIMED TERRITORY IN THE NEW WORLD.



IT WAS TRUE. THE VENTURES IN THE CARIBBEAN, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND SOUTH AMERICA WERE VERY PROFITABLE AND DRAMATIC. NORTH AMERICA WAS LESS EXCITING...

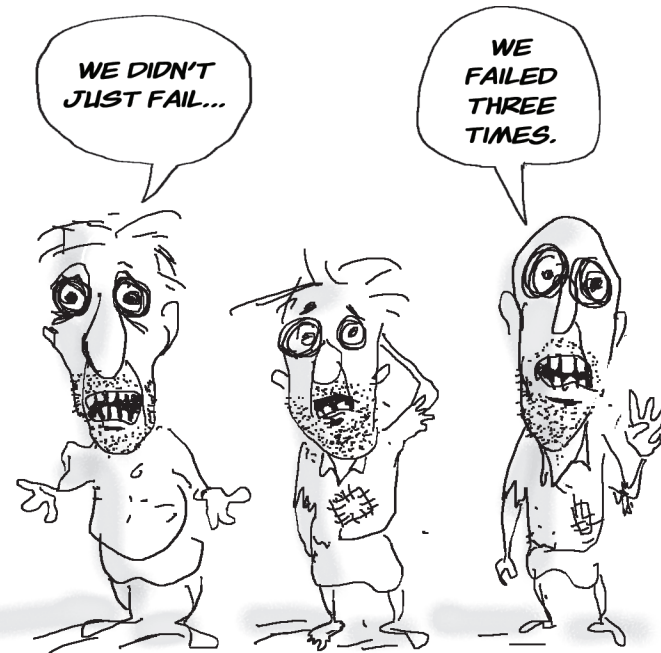


SOUTH AMERICA ALSO GAVE EUROPE POTATOES!

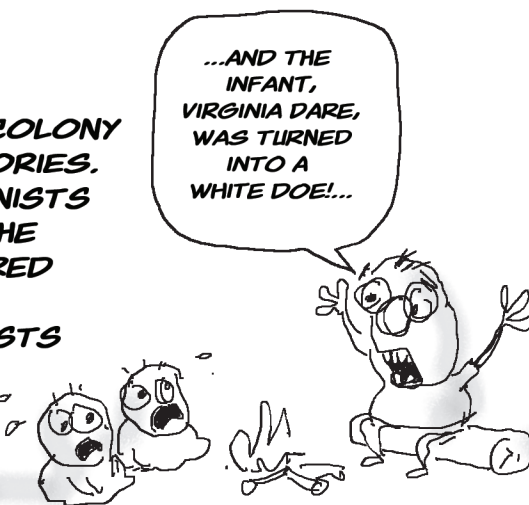


IN 1585 (BACK WHEN QUEEN ELIZABETH RULED), ENGLAND HAD BEGUN ITS FIRST-OF-THREE ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT, ROANOKE, IN WHAT IS TODAY NORTH CAROLINA.

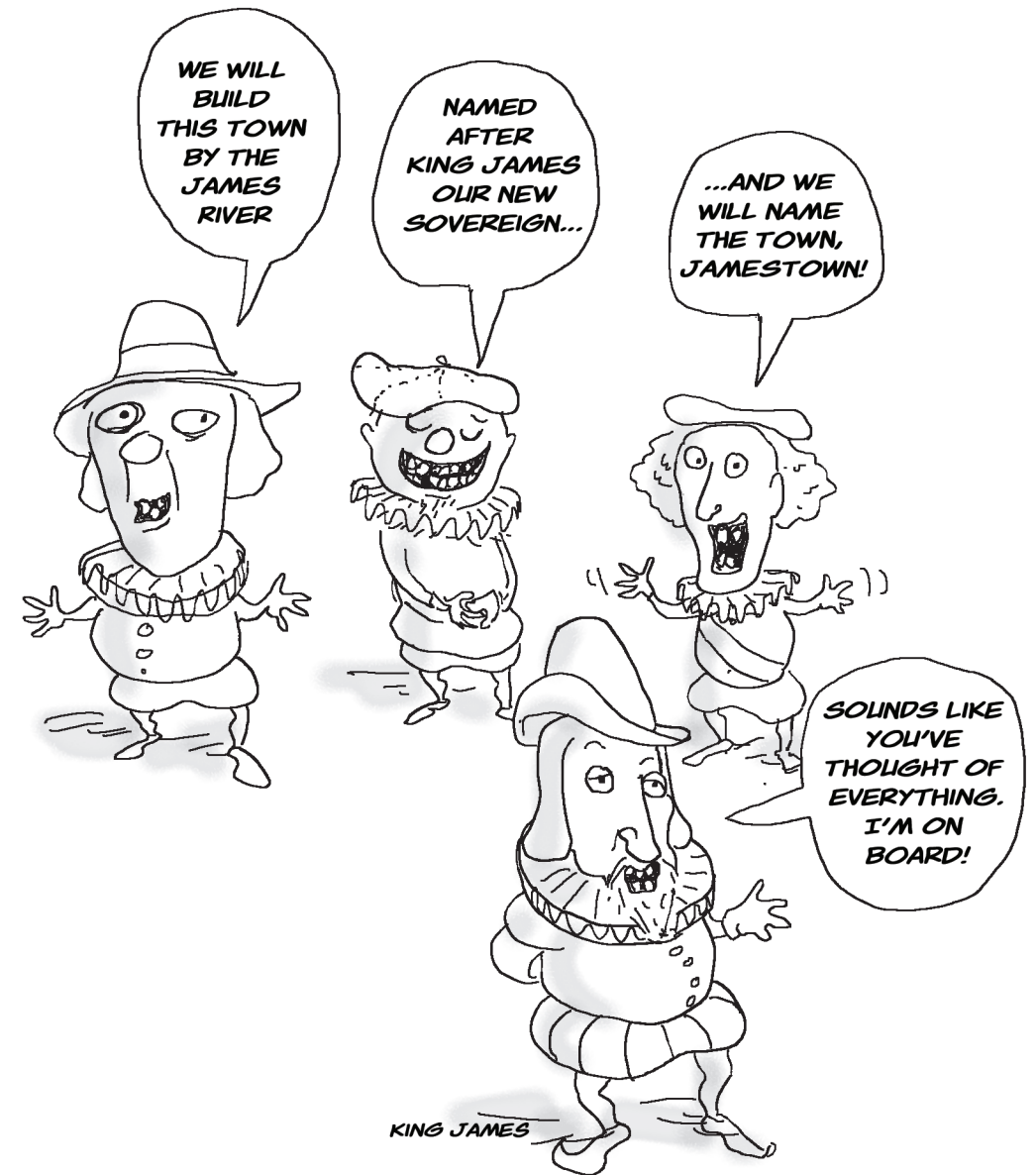
AFTER THE **THIRD** ATTEMPTED RESETTLEMENT FAILED, ROANOKE WAS GIVEN UP.



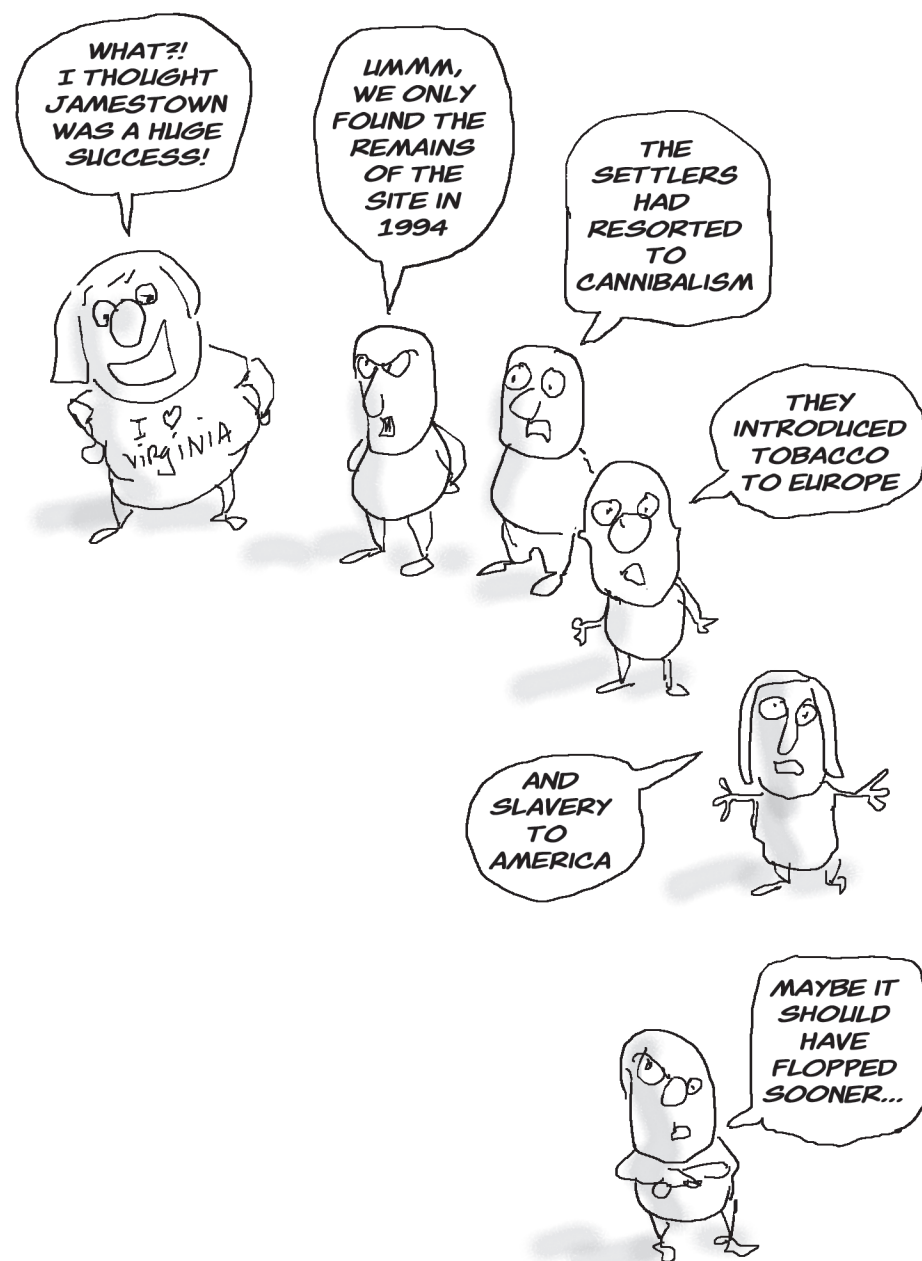
THE FAILURE OF ROANOKE COLONY INSPIRED A NUMBER OF STORIES. SOME SAID THE 120 COLONISTS WERE SWALLOWED UP BY THE WILDERNESS, OR MASSACRED BY THE NATIVE PEOPLE. RECENT RESEARCH SUGGESTS THAT THEY JUST MOVED IN WITH THE LOCAL TRIBES.



IN 1607, EAGER FOR ANOTHER BITE OF THE APPLE, THE ENGLISH, UNDER KING JAMES I, DECIDED TO CREATE A COLONY IN VIRGINIA.

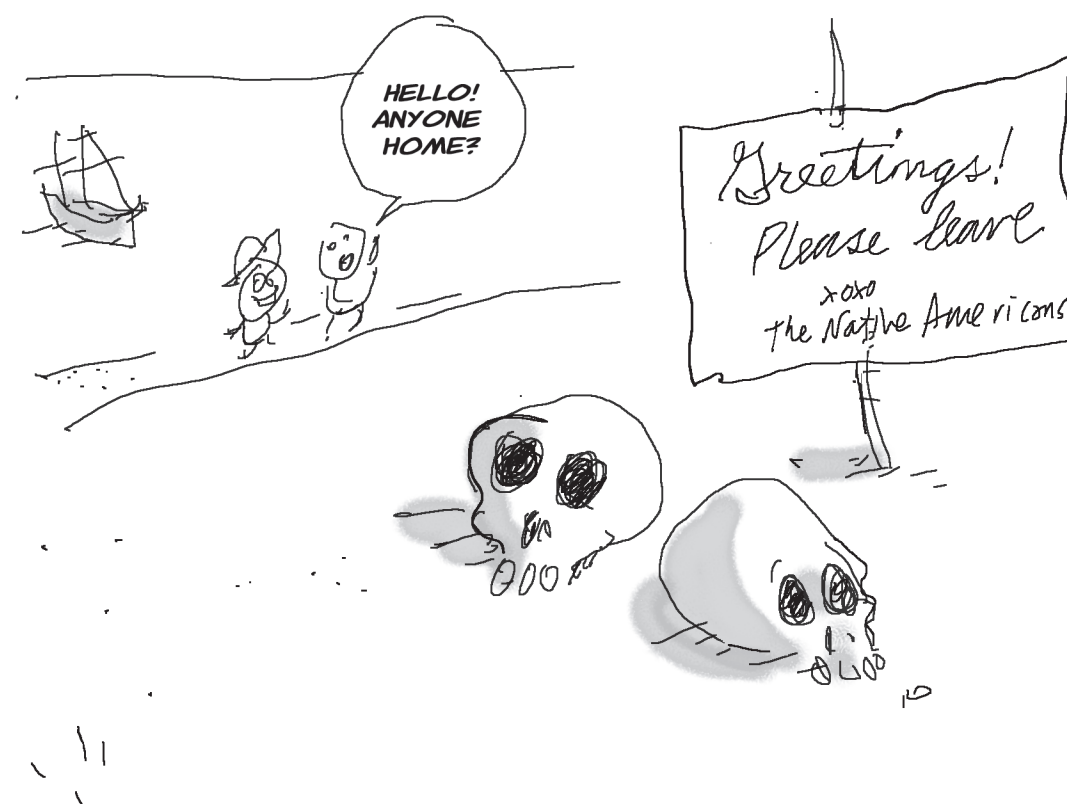


BUT FLATTERING KING JAMES, DIDN'T ENSURE JAMESTOWN'S SUCCESS. JAMESTOWN WAS A FAILURE; IT JUST TOOK LONGER TO FAIL.

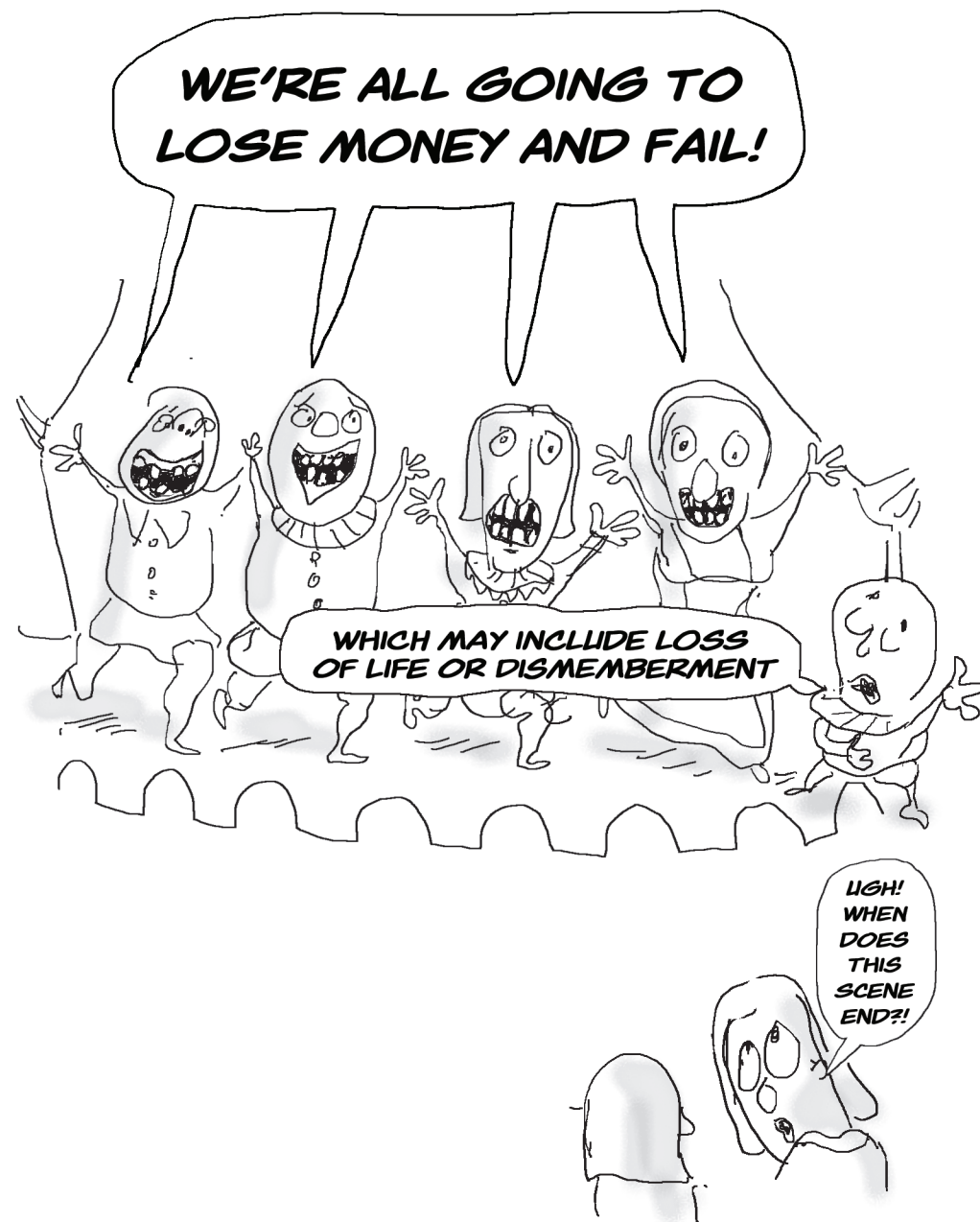


ALTHOUGH ROANOKE AND JAMESTOWN GET THE MOST ATTENTION, EFFORTS WERE ALSO MADE TO ESTABLISH TRADING POSTS UP AND DOWN THE ATLANTIC COAST.

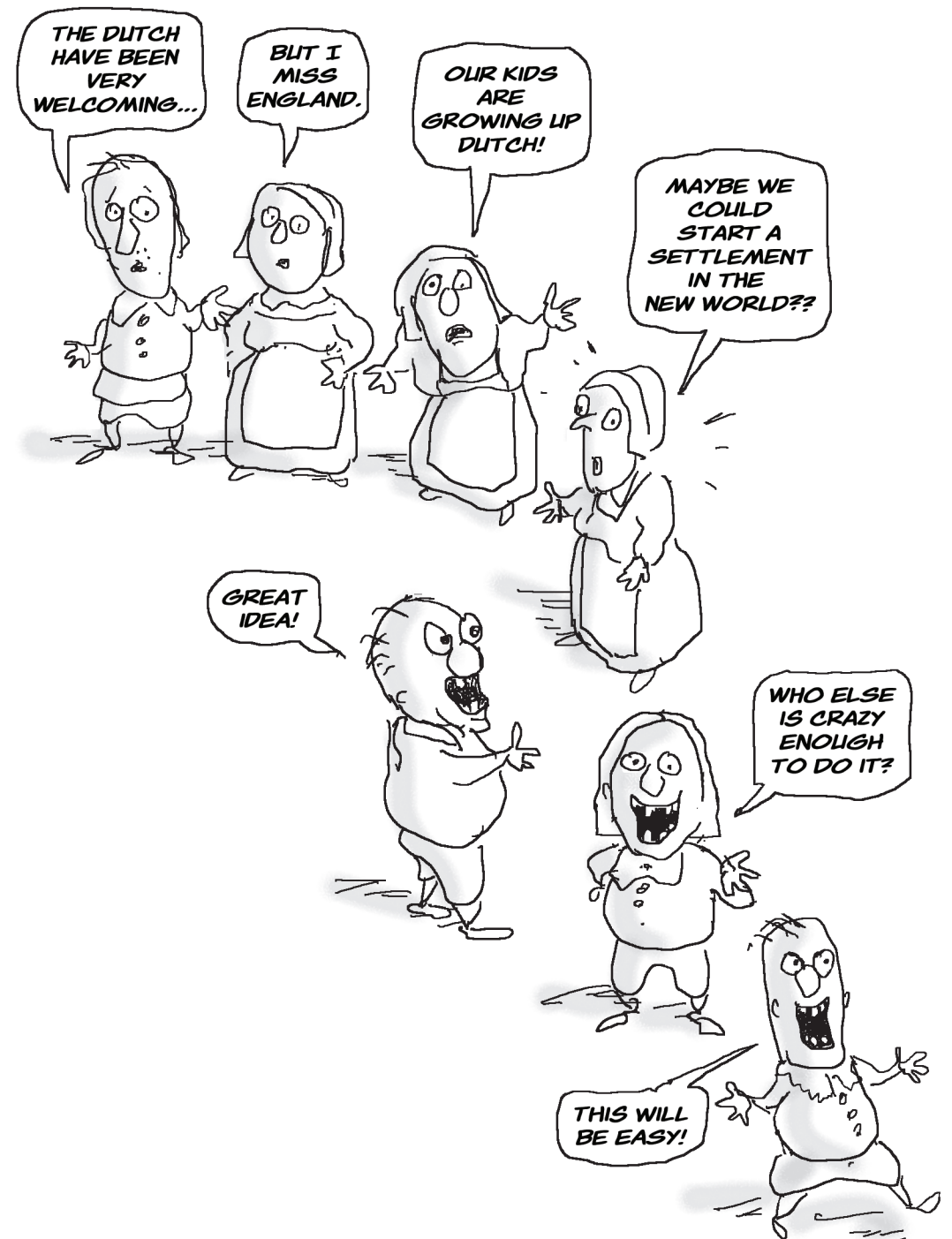
THEY SEEMED TO WORK -- UNTIL WITHOUT WARNING, THEY VANISHED.



FOR THE ENGLISH, ESTABLISHING SETTLEMENTS
AND TRADING POSTS WAS OFTEN AN EXERCISE
IN FUTILITY AND FAILURE.



AND LIKE A GOOD RECIPE: INTO THIS MIX,
WE ADD THE SEPARATISTS...



BUT KING JAMES WAS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THEIR PLAN...



SO WITH THAT IN MIND, KING JAMES DID SOMETHING BRILLIANT, DASTARDLY, WISE, AND CLEVER....

MWAHAH...



MWAHAHAHA...



MWAHAHAHA...



BWAHAHA...



HA HA HA



HE REFUSED.

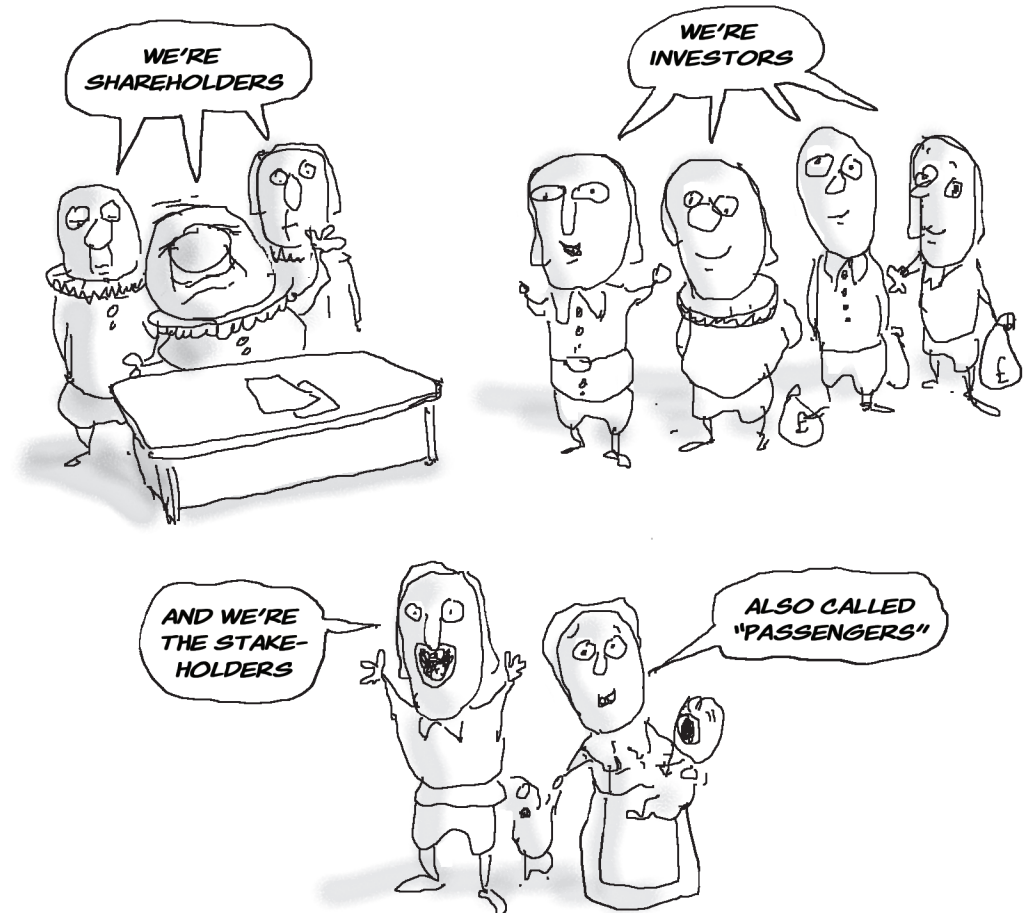


KING JAMES HAD SET UP THE VIRGINIA COMPANY TO ENCOURAGE AND FUND COLONIALIZATION. BUT EVEN THE VIRGINIA COMPANY FOUND THEY COULDN'T AFFORD BRITISH SETTLEMENTS (AND FAILURES) IN AMERICA.

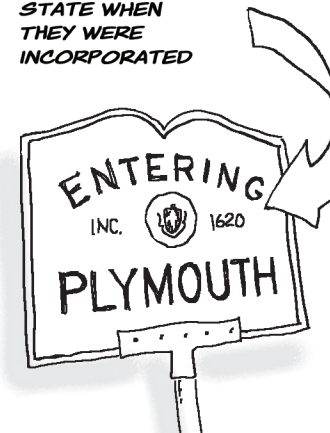
THEIR REVISED PLAN WAS TO FRANCHISE SETTLEMENTS. THEY WOULD PROVIDE A "PATENT", OR PERMISSION, TO SETTLE. IF THE SETTLEMENT LASTED FOR 5 YEARS THEN THE SETTLERS WOULD GET TITLE TO THE LAND.

WITHOUT ROYAL FUNDING, THIS VENTURE HAD TO BE PRIVATELY FUNDED. SO THE COLONY WAS SET UP AS A CORPORATION, JUST LIKE IN BUSINESS.

PRIVATE INVESTORS USING AN INVESTMENT COMPANY CALLED THE "MERCHANT ADVENTURERS" PAID FOR THE PROJECT.



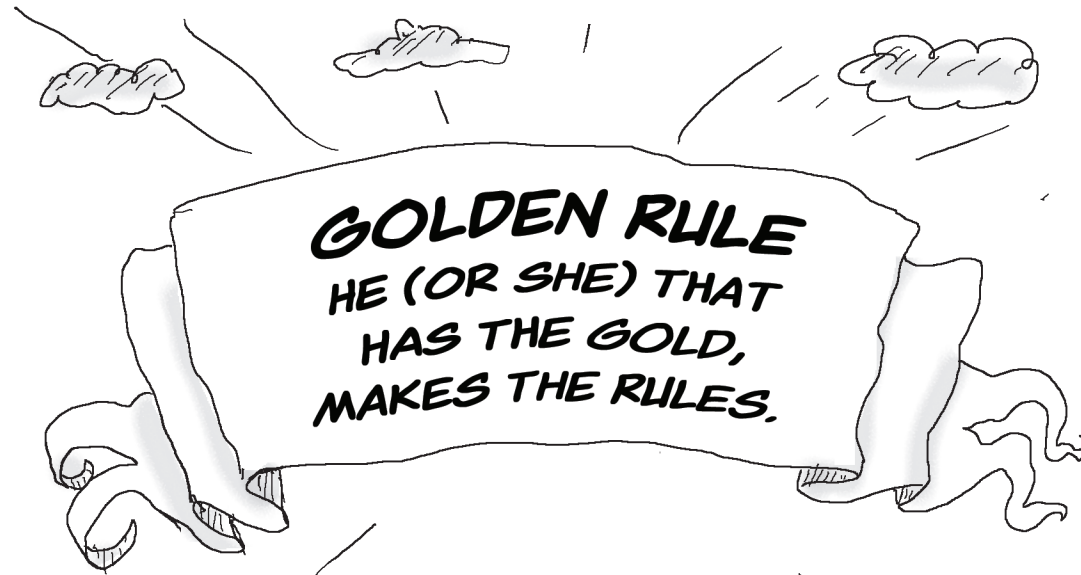
**FUN FACT:
MOST TOWN SIGNS
STATE WHEN
THEY WERE
INCORPORATED**



...AND JUST LIKE A CORPORATION, THE MANAGEMENT IS RESPONSIBLE TO THE STOCKHOLDERS.

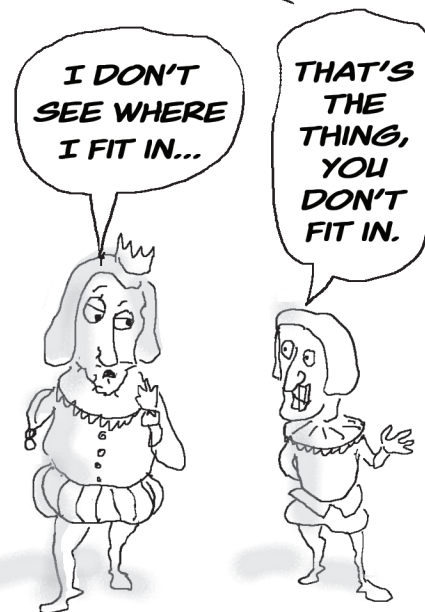
WITH INVESTORS PROVIDING FUNDING, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PLYMOUTH COLONY WAS A FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT, NOT A GOVERNMENTAL ONE.

KING JAMES HAD FORGOTTEN THE "GOLDEN RULE"!



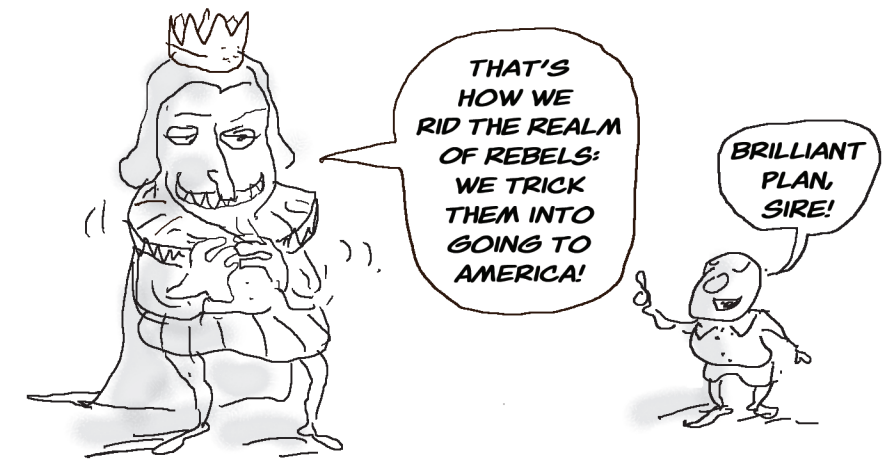
CERTAINLY ALL THE SETTLERS PLEDGED PATRIOTIC LOYALTY TO THE KING, BUT THEY WERE GOING TO BE 3,270 MILES AWAY FROM THE ROYAL COURT.

STOCKHOLDERS, WOULD BE ANSWERABLE TO THEIR INVESTORS, NOT NECESSARILY THE CROWN.



PERHAPS AT THE TIME, THIS SEEMED LIKE A SMALL DETAIL.

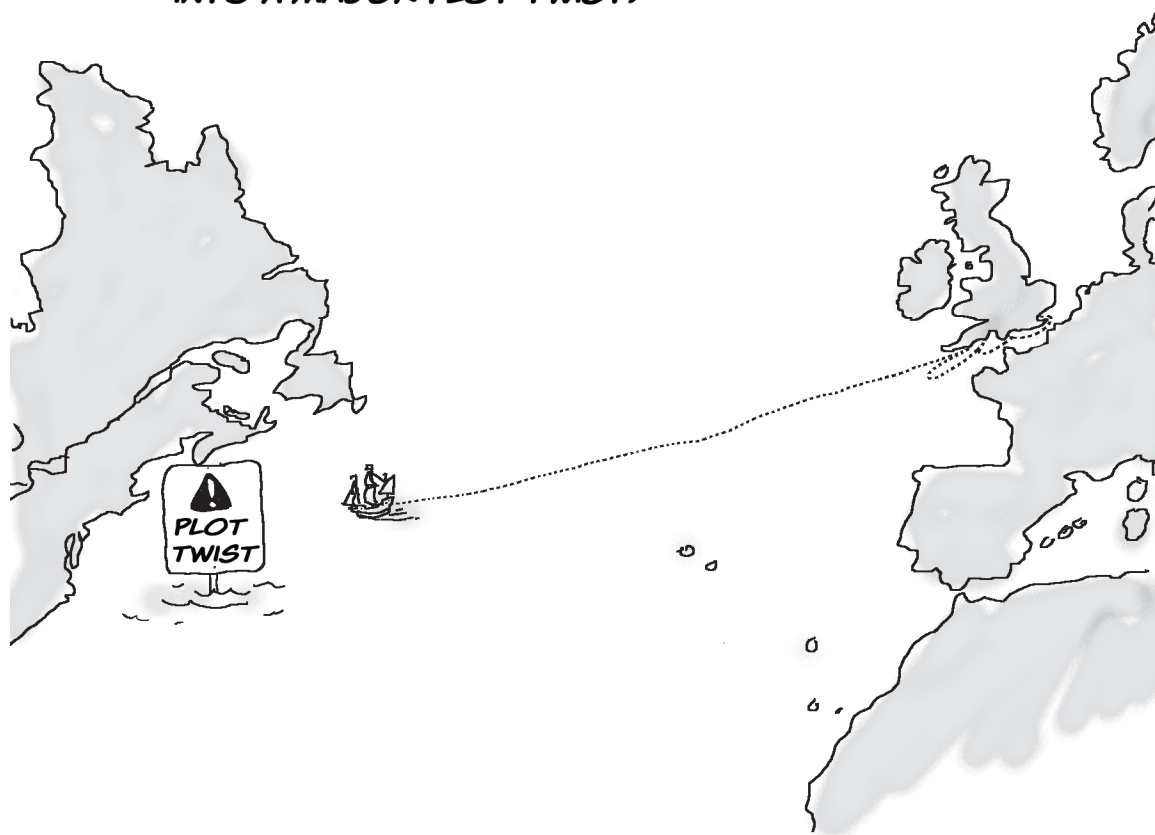
AND GIVEN THE TRACK RECORD OF PREVIOUS SETTLEMENTS AND TRADING POSTS, THE SMART MONEY WAS ON PLYMOUTH BECOMING JUST ANOTHER FAILURE ON THAT LONG LIST.



ALTHOUGH IT DID NOT SEEM LIKE A BIG DEAL AT THE TIME, THE SETTLERS WERE GOING TO BE CREATING THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT...



AFTER A VERY LONG, DIFFICULT, AND DANGEROUS 66 DAY VOYAGE ON A SHIP NAMED "MAYFLOWER", THE PILGRIMS SAILED INTO A MAJOR PLOT TWIST.

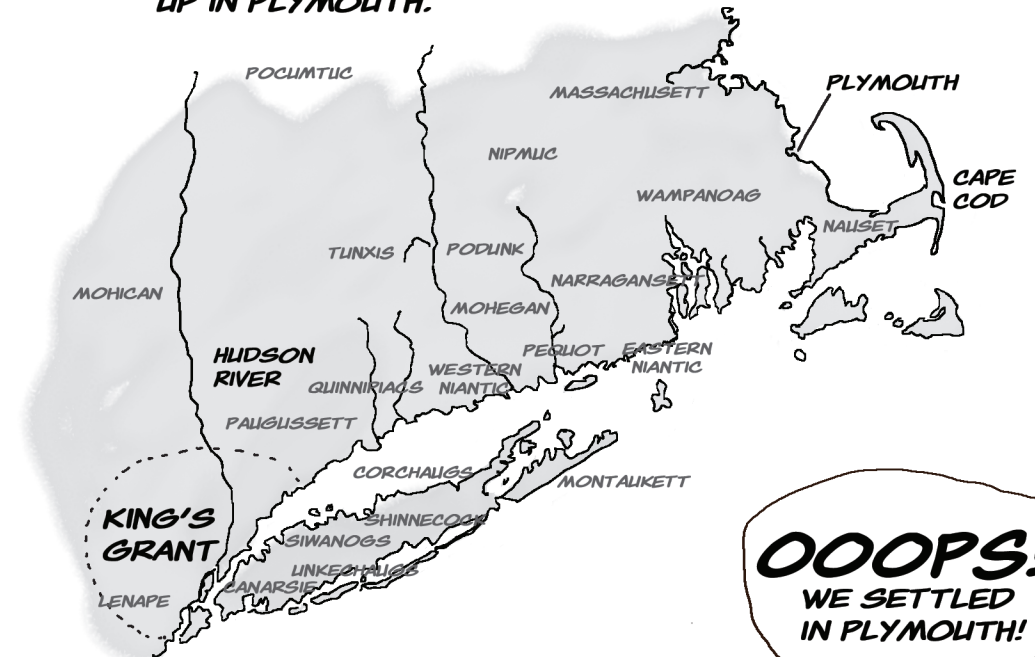


THEY LANDED IN THE WRONG SPOT.

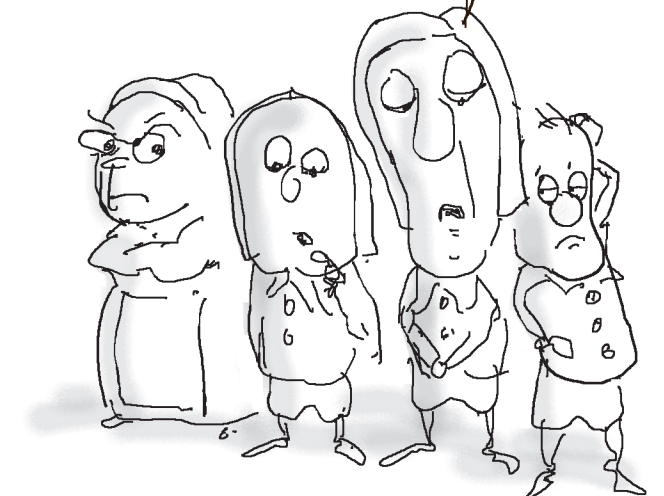
SERIOUSLY.

THIS MAY BE ONE OF THE MOST CONSEQUENTIAL MISTAKES IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

THEY HAD BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO SETTLE SOMEWHERE AROUND THE HUDSON RIVER (SO SOMEWHERE AROUND WHERE NEW YORK CITY IS TODAY), BUT THEY ENDED UP IN PLYMOUTH.



OOOPS!
WE SETTLED
IN PLYMOUTH!



**HISTORIANS HAVE WONDERED FOR YEARS
WHY THE SETTLERS CHOSE PLYMOUTH...**

**MAYBE THEY DIDN'T WANT TO BE
A PAWN IN KING JAMES' GAME WITH
THE DUTCH**



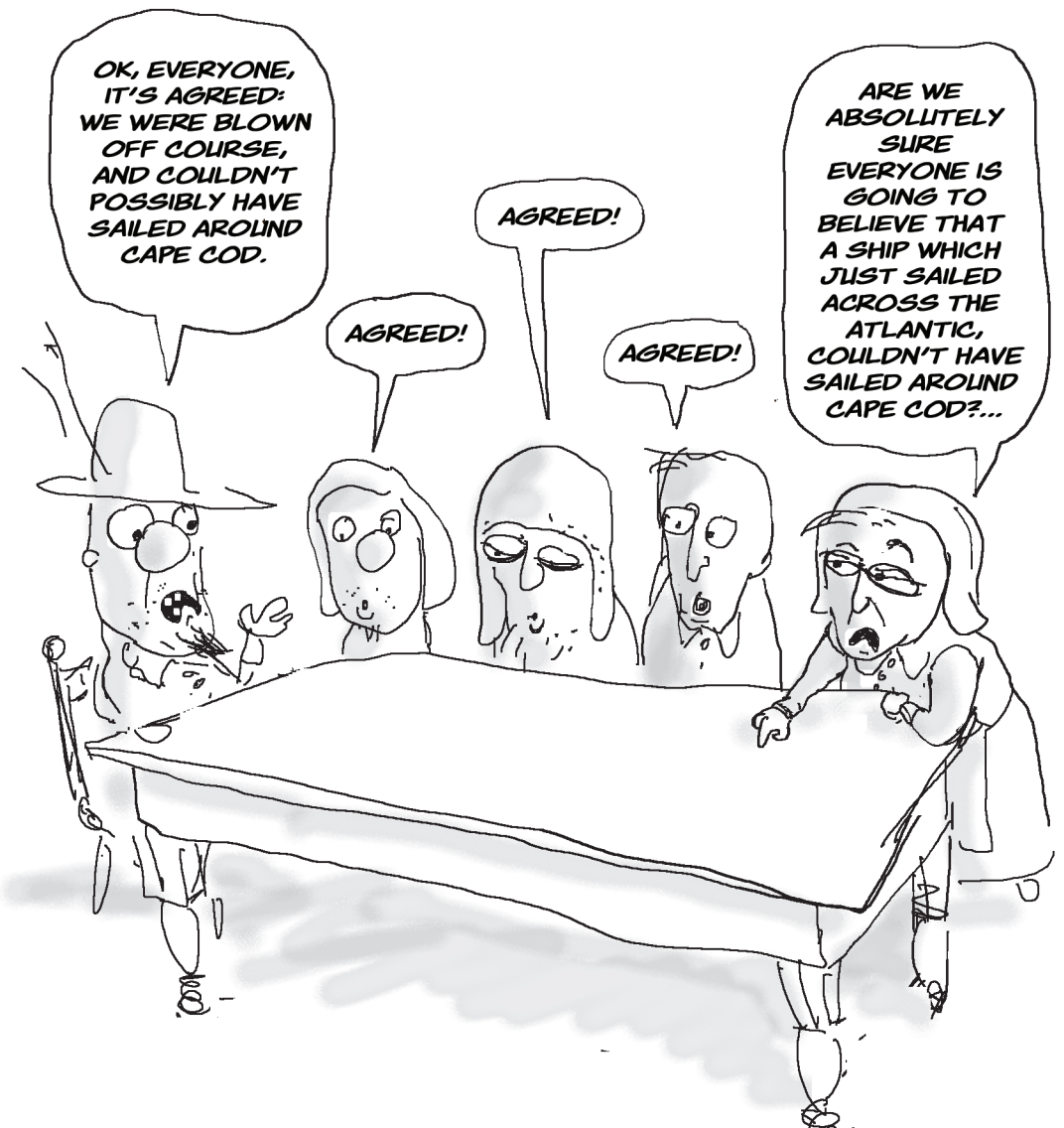
**MAYBE IT WAS AN ATTEMPT
TO BREAK THE CONTRACT
WITH THEIR INVESTORS
(WHO THEY DID NOT LIKE)**



**MAYBE THEY REALIZED IT
WAS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME
OPPORTUNITY TO GET
AWAY FROM THE KING
(WHO THEY DID NOT LIKE)**



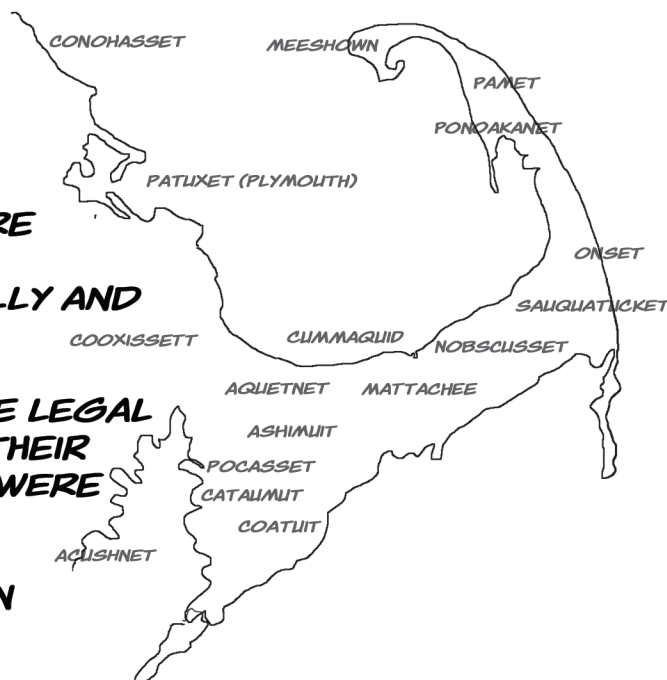
MAYBE IT REALLY WAS AS THEY DESCRIBED IT:



SETTLING OUTSIDE THE KING'S GRANT MEANT THAT THE SHAREHOLDERS WERE IN COMPLETELY NEW TERRITORY - LITERALLY AND LEGALLY.

INDEED, PERHAPS THE LEGAL UNDERPINNINGS OF THEIR OWN CORPORATION WERE IN QUESTION.

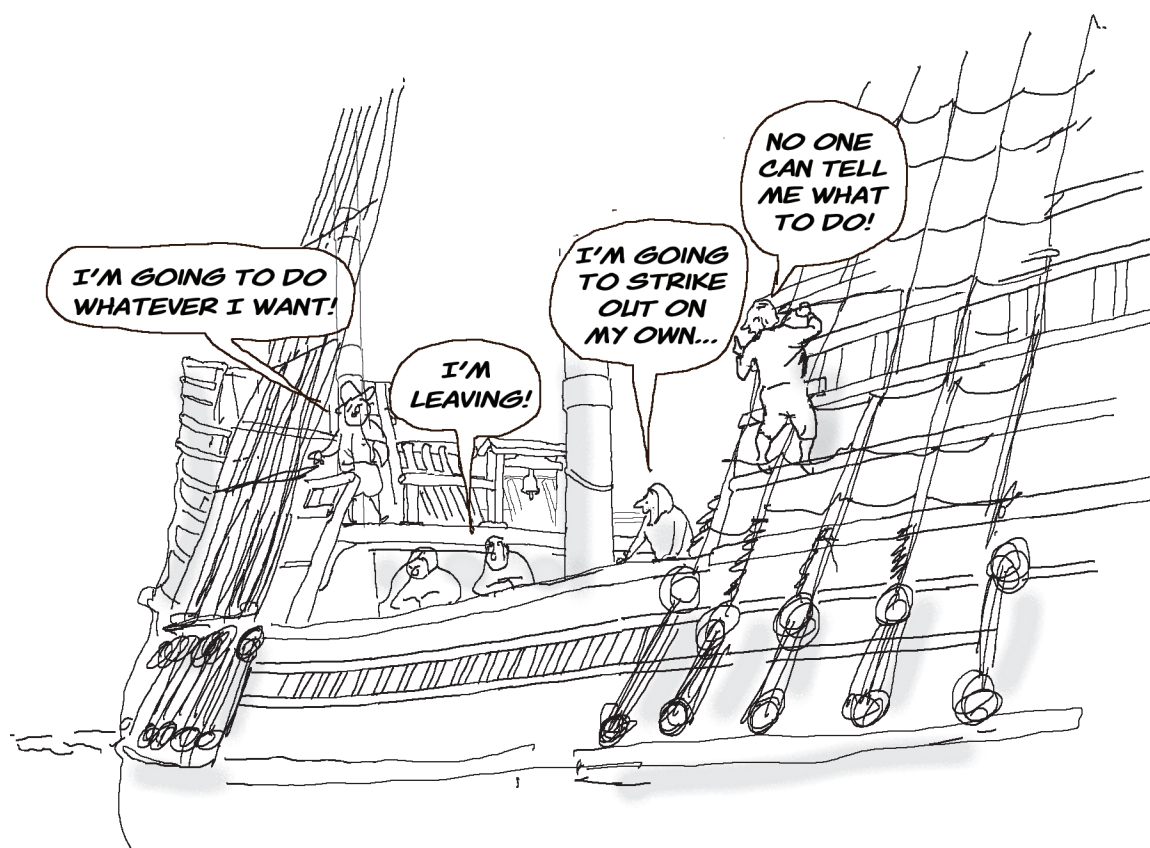
PASSENGERS BEGAN TO DISSENT AND GRUMBLE...



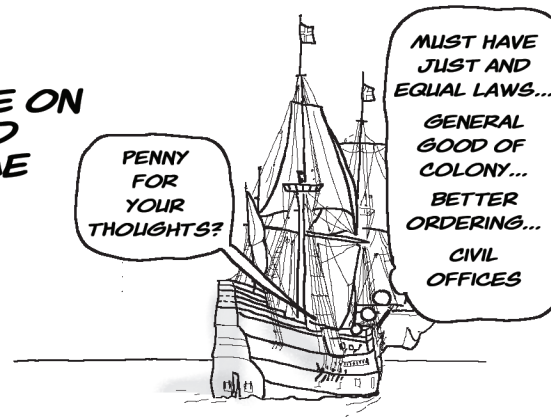
THE DANGER WAS VERY REAL. THE EXPEDITION MIGHT HAVE BROKEN UP WITHIN HOURS OF LANDING.

TO FIX THIS, THE SEPARATISTS DID SOMETHING THEY HAD DONE BEFORE AMONGST THEMSELVES: THEY WROTE ANOTHER COVENANT.

THIS COVENANT WAS THE MAYFLOW COMPACT.



EVIDENTLY SOMEONE ON THE MAYFLOWER HAD SPENT A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT THIS COVENANT.



IT'S A VERY SHORT AND WELL THOUGHT-OUT DOCUMENT. HERE'S THE FIRST PARAGRAPH:

THEY WERE VERY RELIGIOUS, AND EVERYTHING STARTED WITH A PRAYER

THIS IS ACTUALLY A COMPLIMENT TO THE KING. HE WAS "AWE-INSPIRING"

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. WE WHOSE NAMES ARE UNDER-WRITTEN, THE LOYAL SUBJECTS OF OUR DREAD SOVEREIGN LORD, KING JAMES, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, OF GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, AND IRELAND KING, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, ETC.

ENGLISH MONARCHS LONG AGO CLAIMED A RIGHT TO THE THRONE OF FRANCE

THIS MUST HAVE BEEN A HARD ONE FOR THE SETTLERS TO SWALLOW AS THE WHOLE POINT OF THE SETTLEMENT WAS TO GET AWAY FROM THE KING'S CHURCH. BUT THEY WERE WISE ENOUGH NOT TO MAKE THE POINT HERE.

MUTUALLY, IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD, AND ONE OF ANOTHER, COVENANT AND COMBINE OUR SELVES TOGETHER INTO A CIVIL BODY POLITIC, FOR OUR BETTER ORDERING AND PRESERVATION AND FURTHERANCE OF THE ENDS AFORESAID;

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. WE WHOSE NAMES ARE UNDER-WRITTEN, THE LOYAL SUBJECTS OF OUR DREAD SOVEREIGN LORD, KING JAMES, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, OF GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, AND IRELAND KING, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, ETC.

HAVING UNDERTAKEN, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD, AND ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, AND HONOR OF OUR KING AND COUNTRY, A VOYAGE TO PLANT THE FIRST COLONY IN THE NORTHERN PARTS OF VIRGINIA, DO BY THESE PRESENTS SOLEMNLY AND MUTUALLY, IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD, AND ONE OF ANOTHER, COVENANT AND COMBINE OUR SELVES TOGETHER INTO A CIVIL BODY POLITIC, FOR OUR BETTER ORDERING AND PRESERVATION AND FURTHERANCE OF THE ENDS AFORESAID;

AND BY VIRTUE HEREOF TO ENACT, CONSTITUTE, AND FRAME SUCH JUST AND EQUAL LAWS, ORDINANCES, ACTS, CONSTITUTIONS AND OFFICES, FROM TIME TO TIME, AS SHALL BE THOUGHT MOST MEET AND CONVENIENT FOR THE GENERAL GOOD OF THE COLONY, UNTO WHICH WE PROMISE ALL DUE SUBMISSION AND OBEDIENCE.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF WE HAVE HEREUNDER SUBSCRIBED OUR NAMES AT CAPE COD, THE ELEVENTH OF NOVEMBER, IN THE YEAR OF THE REIGN OF OUR SOVEREIGN LORD, KING JAMES, OF ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND IRELAND, THE EIGHTEENTH, AND OF SCOTLAND THE FIFTY-FOURTH. ANNO DOM. 1620.

JOHN CARVER
WILLIAM BREWSTER
JOHN ALDEN
WILLIAM MULLINS
JOHN CRAXTON
JOHN HOWLAND
JOHN TILLY
THOMAS TINKER
JOHN TURNER
DIGERY PRIEST
EDMOND MARGESON
RICHARD CLARK
THOMAS ENGLISH
JOHN GOODMAN

WILLIAM BRADFORD
ISAAC ALLERTON
SAMUEL FULLER
WILLIAM WHITE
JOHN BILLINGTON
STEVEN HOPKINS
FRANCIS COOK
JOHN RIGDALE
FRANCIS EATON
THOMAS WILLIAMS
PETER BROWN
RICHARD GARDINER
EDWARD DOTEN
GEORGE SOULE

EDWARD WINSLOW
MILES STANDISH
CHRISTOPHER MARSH
JAMES CHILTON
RICHARD WARREN
EDWARD TILLY
THOMAS ROGERS
EDWARD FULLER
MOSES FLETCHER
GILBERT WINSLOW
RICHARD BITTER
JOHN ALLEN
EDWARD LEE

MAYBE BY CALLING IT "NORTHERN VIRGINIA" THEY WERE TRYING TO PAPER OVER THAT THEY WERE SETTLING BEYOND THE LIMITS OF THEIR PATENT.

WOW! AS FREE PEOPLE THEY ARE CREATING THEMSELVES INTO A CIVIL SOCIETY. THIS IS REVOLUTIONARY!

SUPER-CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT!

HERE THEY GIVE THEMSELVES AUTHORITY TO MAKE LAWS, ADJUDICATE LAWS & HOLD ELECTIONS

HERE THEY PLEDGE LOYALTY TO THEIR NEW GOVERNMENT

SIGN AND DATE, AND INCLUDE THE CREDENTIALS OF THE KING AGAIN (OF COURSE)

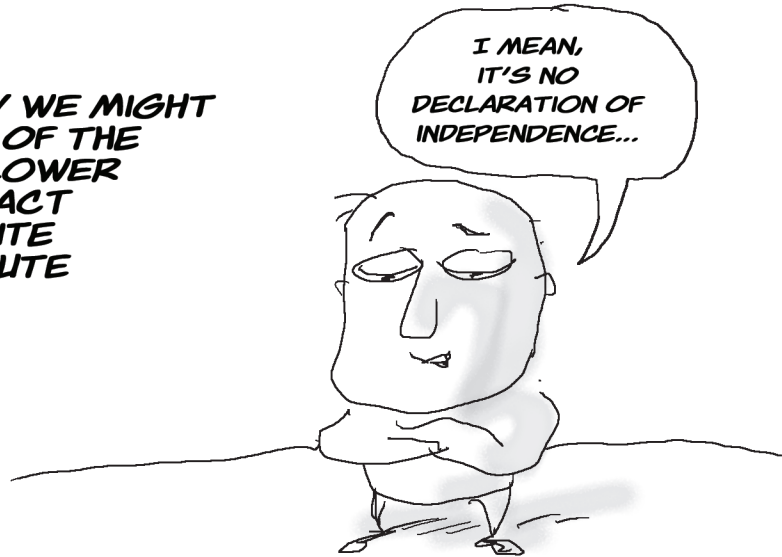
UNDERNEATH WERE THE SIGNATURES OF THE 41 MEN ONBOARD

SERIOUSLY? ONLY MEN?



TODAY WE MIGHT
THINK OF THE
MAYFLOWER
COMPACT
AS TRITE
AND CUTE

I MEAN,
IT'S NO
DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE...



BUT IT IS A **BIG DEAL!**
AND IT IS AS IMPORTANT AS THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

WE LIVED IN A WORLD
COMPLETELY CONTROLLED BY
IRRATIONAL MONARCHS, AND
HAD NO IDEA HOW TO RUN A
FREE SOCIETY.



1620

WE HAD 155 YEARS
OF SELF-RULE, POLITICAL
PHILOSOPHERS LIKE JOHN LOCKE,
ESTABLISHED DEMOCRATIC
INSTITUTIONS, AND A
KING CONSTRAINED
BY PARLIAMENT



1776

THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT DID NOT DIRECTLY
ADDRESS HOW THE NEW GOVERNMENT
WOULD WORK, RATHER IT ANNOUNCED THAT
THE GROUP ITSELF HAD THE POWER
TO CREATE ITS AUTHORITY.

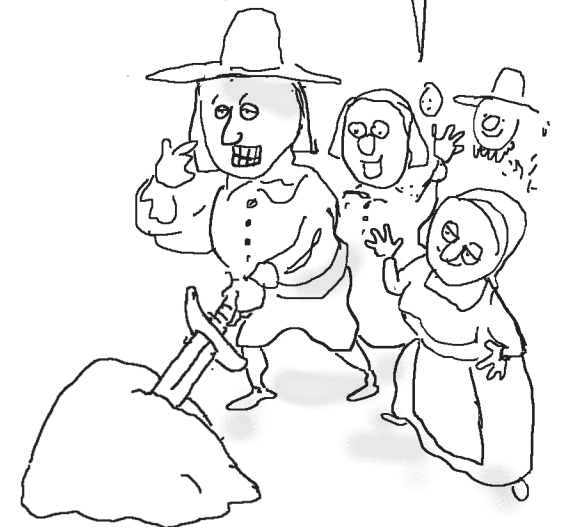
I CAN PULL
EXCALIBUR
FROM THE
STONE,
HENCE I
AM IN
CHARGE!



KING ARTHUR
~1100

WE CAN
PULL
EXCALIBUR
FROM
THE STONE
TOO.

WE CAN
BE IN
CHARGE
AS
WELL!

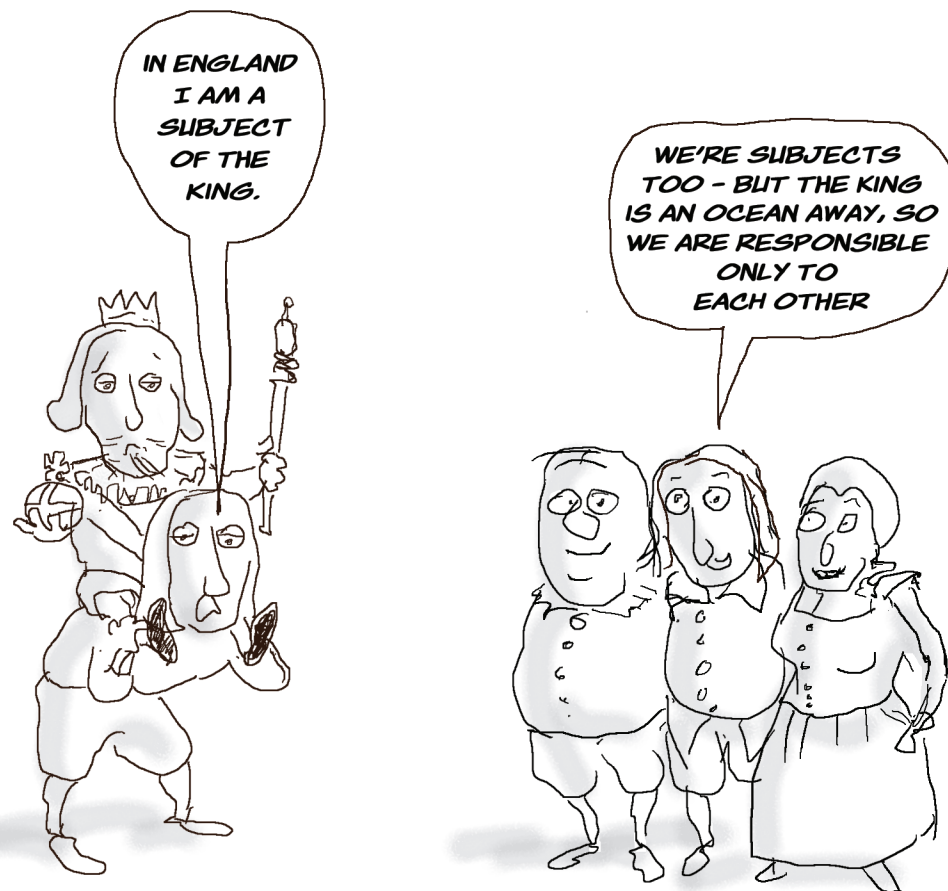


PILGRIMS
1620

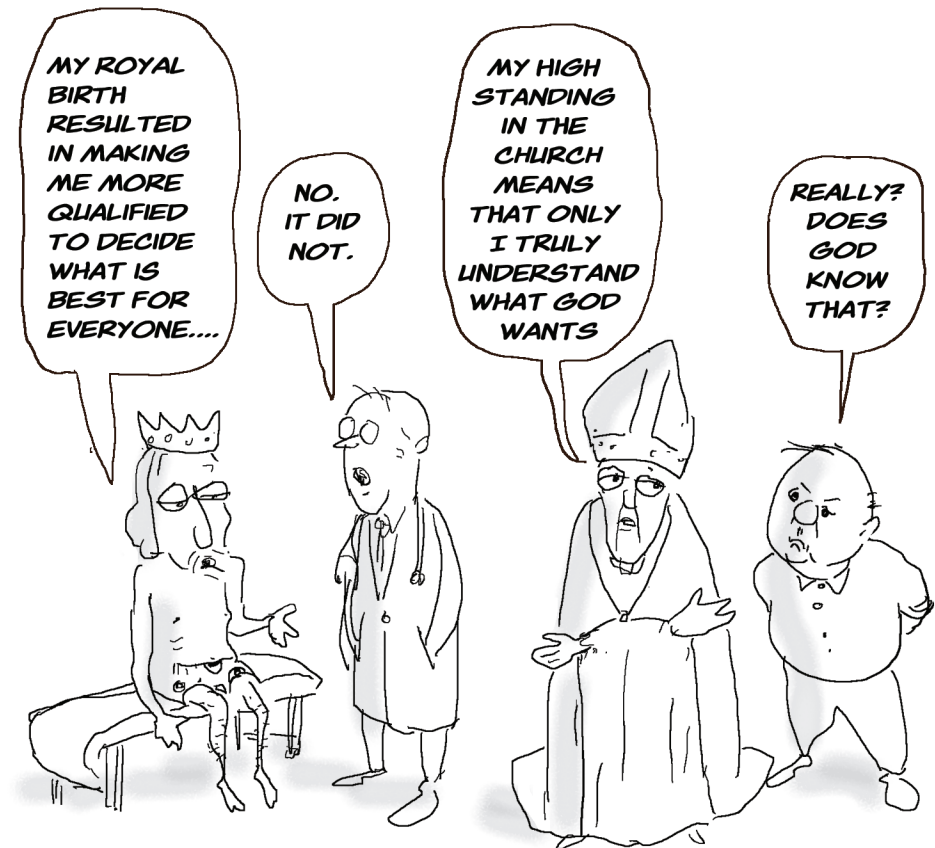
THE IDEA THAT A GROUP OF PEOPLE COULD CREATE A GOVERNMENT THAT WASN'T BASED ON NOBILITY, BUT JUST ON THEMSELVES, WAS RADICAL.

THEY ALSO GAVE THEMSELVES THE POWER TO MAKE LAWS, HOLD ELECTIONS, AND MODIFY THEIR GOVERNMENT AS BEST SUITED THEM.

IN 1620 THIS WAS JAW-DROPPING STUFF.



THE PILGRIMS' GOVERNMENT WAS NOT BASED ON ROYALTY, OR RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP. THEY CREATED A GOVERNMENT BASED ON EACH OTHER, SO IT IS A CIVIL GOVERNMENT



A CIVIL GOVERNMENT ALSO MEANS THE MILITARY IS UNDER CIVILIAN CONTROL, HENCE THE PLYMOUTH COLONY WOULD NOT BE A MILITARY EXPEDITION.

SORRY, MILES STANDISH!....

MILES STANDISH WAS THE MILITARY CAPTAIN OF THE COLONY.



THE MAYFLOW COMPACT IS ALSO A BRILLIANT EXAMPLE OF CITIZENS PLACING A GOVERNMENT OVER THEMSELVES TO BETTER ORDER THEIR SOCIETY.

CREATING A GOVERNMENT IS A SERIOUS AND TRICKY BUSINESS. GOVERNMENTS HAVE A LOT OF POWER:



THAT'S A LOT OF POWER!



ACTUALLY, NO. THAT WOULD BE CHAOS. AND CHAOS CREATES INEQUALITY, POVERTY, AND TYRANNY.

ALL ELIGIBLE MEN ON BOARD HAD TO SIGN THE MAYFLOW COMPACT OR ELSE BE RETURNED TO ENGLAND.

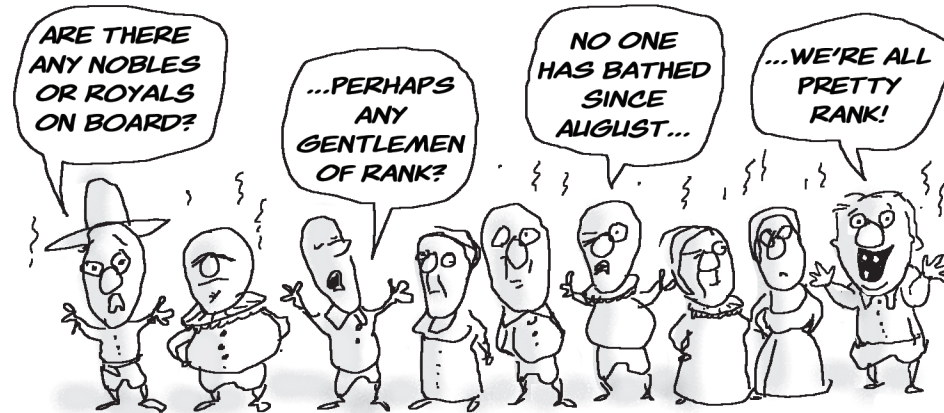
(PARADOXICALLY, YOU DO NOT HAVE A RIGHT NOT TO BE GOVERNED... GOVERNMENT REALLY IS A COMMUNITY AFFAIR.)

ALL THE MALE SETTLERS SIGNED THE COMPACT. IT WAS AN HISTORIC OCCASION.

THEY WERE ALL GOING TO BE FAMOUS THROUGHOUT HISTORY!



WITH THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT SIGNED AND NOW IN FULL EFFECT, THE SETTLERS TURNED TO THE ISSUE OF ELECTING LEADERS FOR THE NEW COLONY ...A NEW POWER THEY HAD GRANTED THEMSELVES (SEE PARAGRAPH THREE OF THE COMPACT).



ALAS, ON THE MAYFLOWER THERE WAS NO ONE OF ROYAL OR NOBLE BIRTH ON BOARD. HAD THERE BEEN, THE GROUP MIGHT HAVE TURNED TO THEM TO LEAD THE COLONY.

INSTEAD THE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE TO PICK A LEADER FROM AMONGST THEMSELVES.

THIS WAS A **BIG** DEAL TOO!

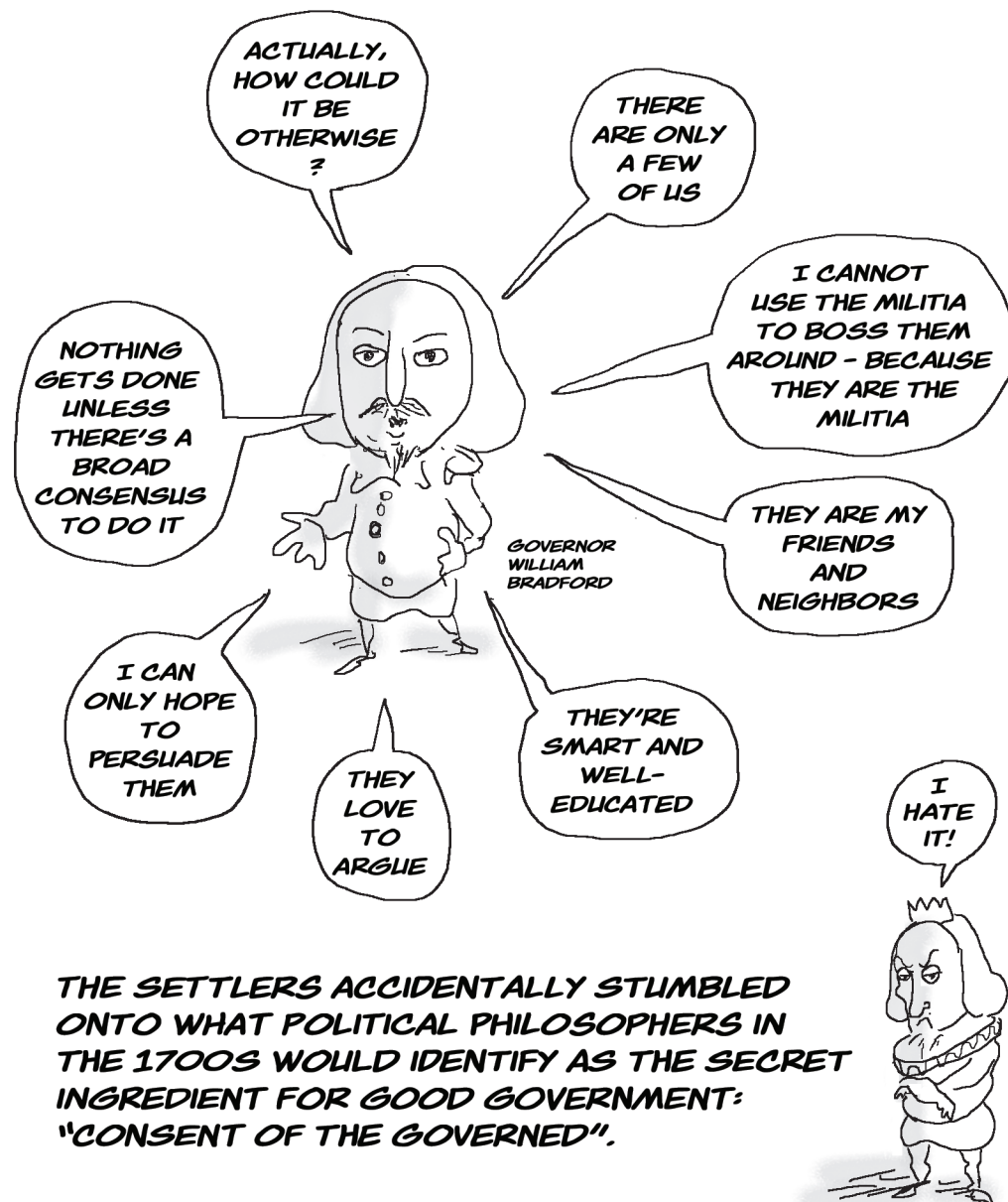


THE SETTLERS ELECTED JOHN CARVER AS THEIR FIRST GOVERNOR OF PLYMOUTH COLONY.

IT WAS AMERICA'S FIRST EUROPEAN ELECTION IN A LAND THAT HAD A LONG TRADITION OF ELECTIONS IN THE NATIVE CULTURE.



BUT VERY QUICKLY GOVERNOR CARVER AND HIS SUCCESSOR, GOVERNOR BRADFORD, REALIZED THAT THEY COULD NOT JUST BOSS THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS AROUND.



THE SETTLERS ACCIDENTALLY STUMBLED ONTO WHAT POLITICAL PHILOSOPHERS IN THE 1700S WOULD IDENTIFY AS THE SECRET INGREDIENT FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT: "CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED".

WHAT HAD STARTED OUT AS AN EFFORT TO MOLLIFY DISSENTERS ABOARD THE MAYFLOWER TURNED OUT TO BE EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE IN KEEPING THE COLONY TOGETHER.

IT BECAME THE BACKBONE UPON WHICH MECHANISMS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT COULD FLOURISH.



IT HELPED THAT (ALTHOUGH VERY STRICT) THE COMMUNAL AND NON-HEIRARCHICAL NATURE OF THE PILGRIM'S RELIGIOUS CONGREGATION SAW THE WORTH OF THE PEOPLE AND PLACED LIMITATIONS ON THOSE IN AUTHORITY.

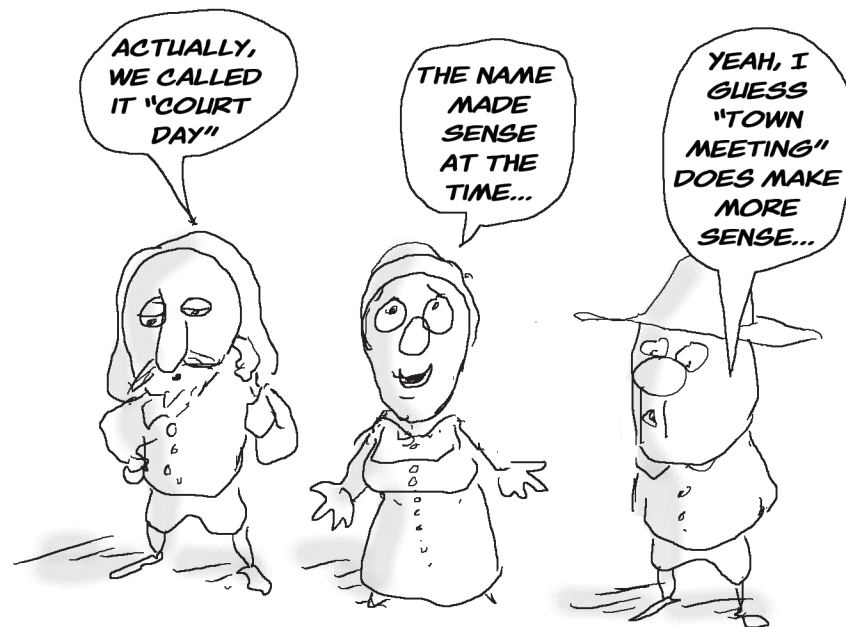
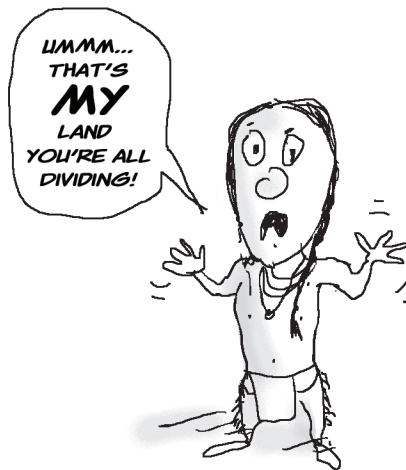
IF YOU COULD OFFER INSIGHTS ABOUT GOD AT SUNDAY MEETINGS...

YOU COULD ALSO OFFER INSIGHTS IN POLITICAL MATTERS

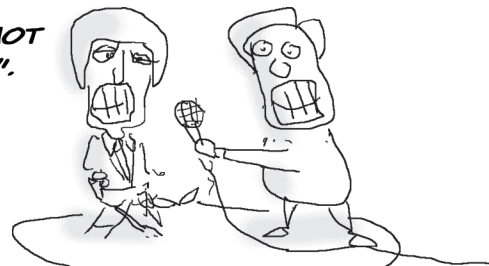


IN 1622 THE COLONY HAD TO DECIDE HOW TO DIVIDE LAND AMONGST THEMSELVES.

THE SOLUTION WAS TO HOLD A TOWN-WIDE MEETING - A TOWN MEETING.



BY THE WAY, "TOWN MEETINGS" ARE NOT THE SAME AS "TOWN HALL MEETINGS". TOWN HALL MEETINGS ARE QUESTION AND ANSWER FORUMS USUALLY MADE FOR TV PRESENTATIONS.



TOWN MEETINGS HAVE REAL LEGISLATIVE POWER.

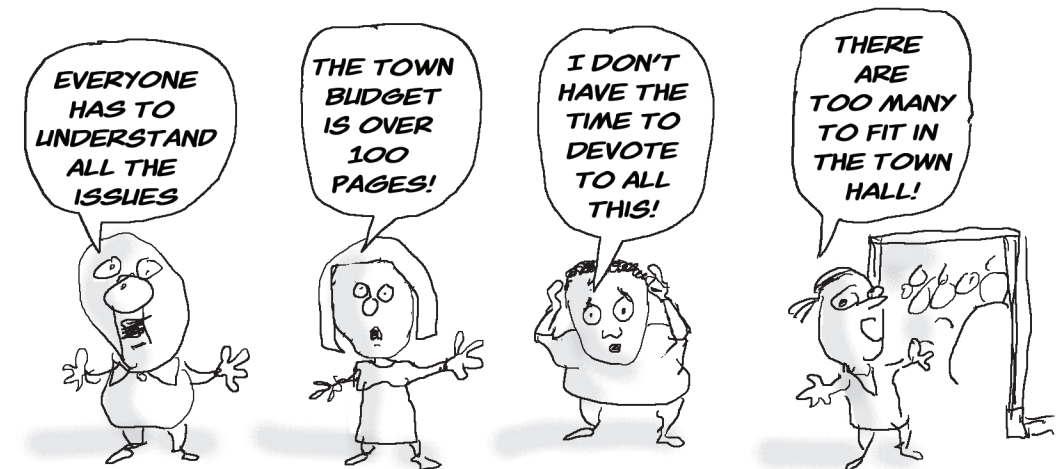
BACK IN 1622, EVERY "MEMBER OF THE CORPORATION" PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING AND HAD A VOTE.



TODAY MANY TOWNS IN NEW ENGLAND STILL HAVE WHAT ARE CALLED "OPEN" TOWN MEETINGS.

EVERY CITIZEN (AKA MEMBER OF THE INCORPORATED TOWN) CAN SPEAK AND VOTE.

BUT THERE ARE SOME LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS WITH OPEN TOWN MEETINGS...

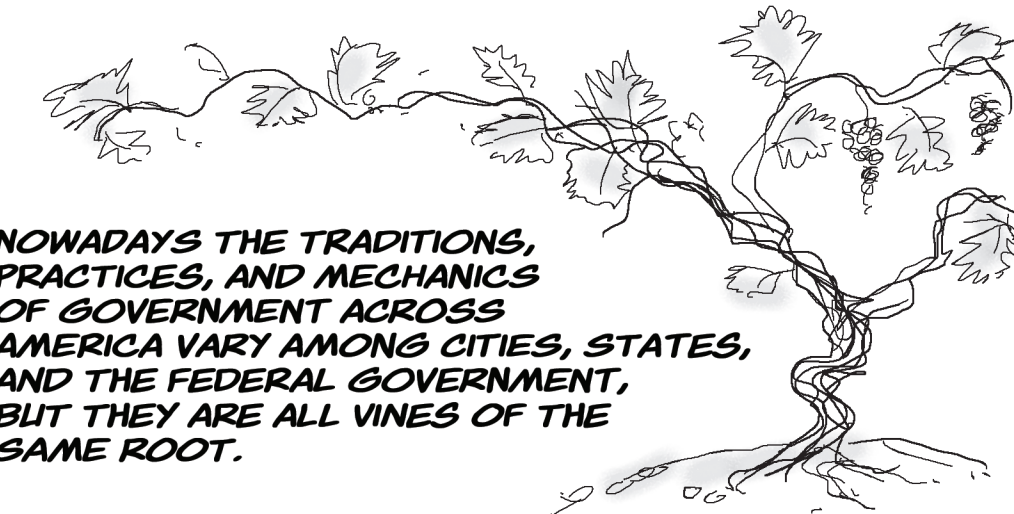


THE SOLUTION WAS TO CREATE "REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETINGS".

RESIDENTS VOTE FOR A SELECTED NUMBER OF THEIR NEIGHBORS TO REPRESENT THEM AT TOWN MEETING.

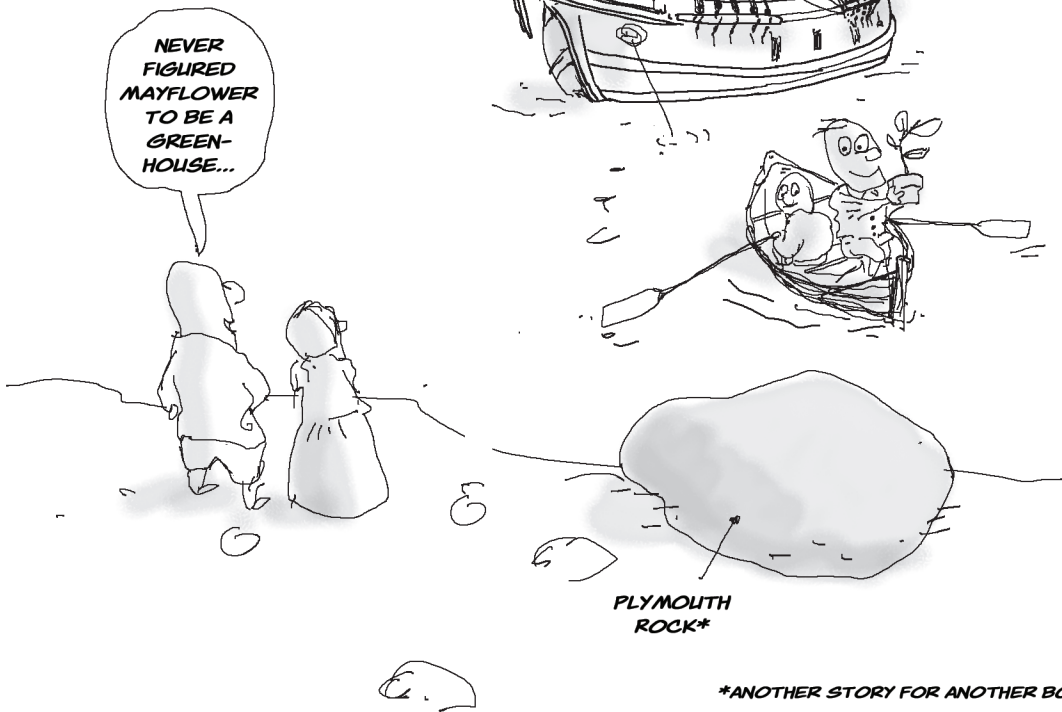
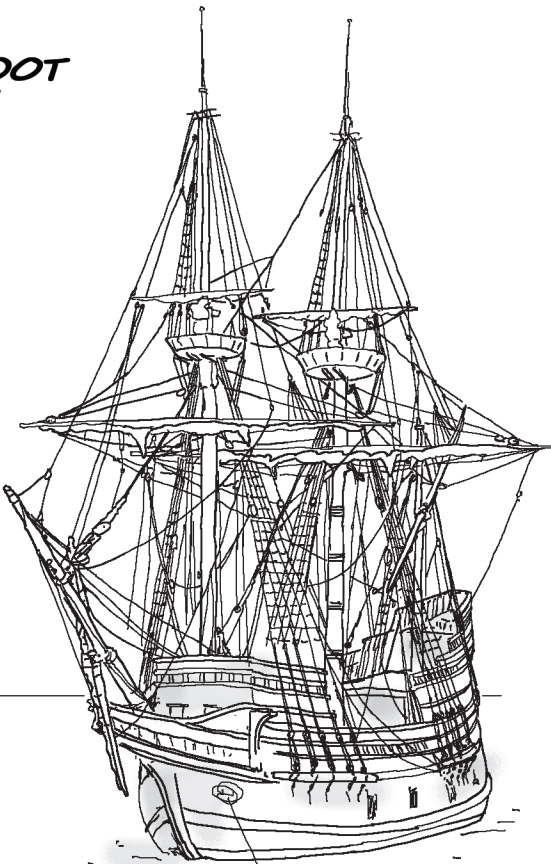


THIS "REPRESENTATIVE" MODEL IS THE BASIS FOR EVERY CITY COUNCIL, STATE LEGISLATURE, AND EVEN THE U.S. CONGRESS.



NOWADAYS THE TRADITIONS, PRACTICES, AND MECHANICS OF GOVERNMENT ACROSS AMERICA VARY AMONG CITIES, STATES, AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, BUT THEY ARE ALL VINES OF THE SAME ROOT.

AND THAT VINE FIRST TOOK ROOT ON BOARD THE MAYFLOWER.



**ANOTHER STORY FOR ANOTHER BOOK.*

**SO WHEN NEW ENGLANDERS
CONVENE THEIR
TOWN MEETINGS,**



**CITY
COUNCILLORS
GATHER IN THEIR
CITIES,**



**REPRESENTATIVES
MEET IN THEIR CAPITOLS,**



**OR SENATORS
ASSEMBLE IN
THEIR CHAMBERS,**

**ALL ACROSS THE UNITED STATES THEY ARE
CONTINUING THE LONG TRADITION
OF SELF-GOVERNMENT STARTED BY THE
PILGRIMS.**

**IN 1618 KING JAMES TOLD THE PILGRIMS
TO DO IT THEMSELVES;**

SO THEY DID.

**AND TODAY WE CONTINUE TO DO IT
"BY OURSELVES"; THE VERY DEFINITION
OF SELF-GOVERNMENT.**



**HOORAY FOR THE
MAYFLOWER
COMPACT!**

