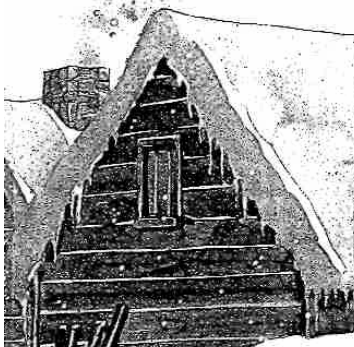


▷ **An American Indian smoking a pipe of tobacco.** An English colonist, John Rolfe, brought tobacco seeds from South America to Virginia in 1612. Tobacco grew well there, and soon became a valuable crop. Most of it was exported to England.



The Pilgrim settlers had to work very hard:

- finding a dry and safe site for their village
- cutting down trees in the nearby forests for timber to build their houses and to clear land to grow crops on
- sowing the seeds they had brought with them
- hoeing the weeds
- hunting for game and fish to eat.

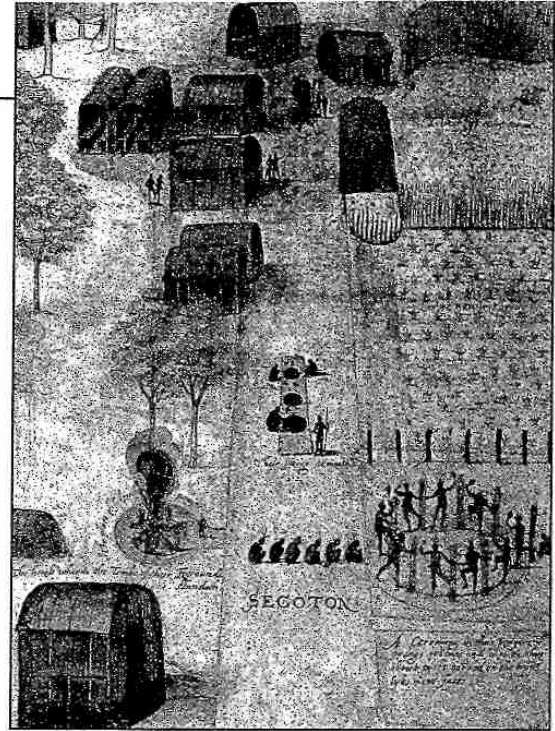


△ **The Fortune** sails for Plymouth in November 1621. The ship took 35 new settlers to America.



△ **Turkeys and corn cobs** were sent to Europe from America as new types of food.

The Indians taught the settlers hunting skills and their own ways of growing crops. They showed them how to bury fish in the ground as fertilizer, and how to plant corn, pumpkins and beans.



△ **The Indian village of Secoton**, Virginia, drawn by John White, an English colonist who first came to America in 1585. His picture shows Indian houses, Indians feasting and performing religious ceremonies, and fields planted with corn.

Thanks to the Indians, the Pilgrims' harvest in autumn 1621 was a very good one. They invited the Wampanoag to a three-day celebration. This festival, called Thanksgiving, has been held by North Americans every year since then.

The Pilgrims lived a simple life, ruled by their Puritan faith. They were not concerned with making money out of trade. As a result, Plymouth did not grow as fast or as rich as other colonies. By 1630, its population was only 300.

By 1700, British colonists were well established and exporting goods to Europe. From the north they sent timber and fish, from the central colonies wheat and other grains, and from the south they sent tobacco and rice. Their numbers had grown to 250,000.