

celebrating to the extent that it has. But now as to the fact that it is God's providential care -- that you might say is under the

Did God providentially make it possible that this should happen or was it the good judgment, the great ability, the fine action of the Pilgrims themselves? Well we must say the Pilgrims were as fine a group of Christian people as you could ever find. They were a group of earnest devoted people anxious to serve the Lord. But they were not a particularly able group. Humanly speaking their effort was utterly faithless(?) if it were not for the sovereign grace of God which made it possible.

You know what happened to Francis Johnson and his brother when they joined in the royal efforts to make a colony in America about 1600. A little later in 1618 there was a group in Holland that decided to come to America and establish a colony under a leader named Francis Blackwell. 180 of them crowded into a ship, it was a larger ship than the Mayflower but too small a ship for 180 people. They were crowded into the ship, ^{and} they started the long journey across. An illness struck them and the three leading officers of the ship all died. There was no one else in the ship who knew how to control it or how to direct it. The ship was tossed to and fro, eventually it reached Virginia and only 30 were left of the 180. News of this reached the Pilgrims during the last few months before they made their start. You can see how they had to throw themselves on the mercy of God having heard how this just happened to this other party before, to really make the effort that they made.

If it were not for the providences of God they never could have succeeded. Now this providence of God showed itself in many ways. One way was in their protection from the Indians. The California Indians were called Digger Indians. They were mostly men who lay around in the sun and ate what they could dig up out of the ground, snails and things like that. A very lazy shiftless group!

But on the eastern ^{coast} shore here the Indians were an able, energetic group. The Virginia colony was almost wiped out two or three times by Indian uprisings. When the Pilgrims had been about two years in America, they heard that Massasoit the Indian Chief was sick. ~~They~~ ^A went, a group of them went to see him. They found he was in a wigwam that was all closed up tight; ~~they had~~ ^{they} four medicine men cavorting around making spells, trying to cure him. It was closed so tight there was practically no air. Massasoit was in great pain and misery and getting worse all the time. He said to the Pilgrims, Is there is anything you can do to me? They said, We can try. The Lord has been very good to us. Half of them died during the first winter but during the next ten years there was ~~hardly~~ ^{scarcely} a death in the group. They were in very good condition. They said, We'll try; get rid of these medicine men. Massasoit told them to get out. They opened up the windows (in the wigwam?) ^{partly} and let the fresh air in, used a few hygienic methods and in two or three days the ~~king~~ ^{king} (Chief) was in good health and continued that way for a number of years. Just as they were going to leave, he called to them through the Indian interpreter and said to him, I have something I'd like to tell you. There was another group of English people who had