

## *What happened on the last exploring trip?*

Only the Pilgrim leaders and the strongest men left the *Mayflower* and set out in the shallop—eighteen men in all.

The wind howled. One of the Pilgrim leaders, Edward Winslow, wrote that “the water froze on our clothes, and made them like coats of iron.”

When the sun went down, they sailed to the nearest beach. They saw Indians cutting up a big blackfish—a kind of whale. But the Indians ran away when they saw the Pilgrims.

That night the Pilgrims saw the Indians’ fire miles away. But in the morning there were no Indians to be seen.

The next night, around midnight, they heard a loud cry. The Pilgrims fired off their guns. The cry stopped as suddenly as it had started.

Somebody said it must have been wolves.

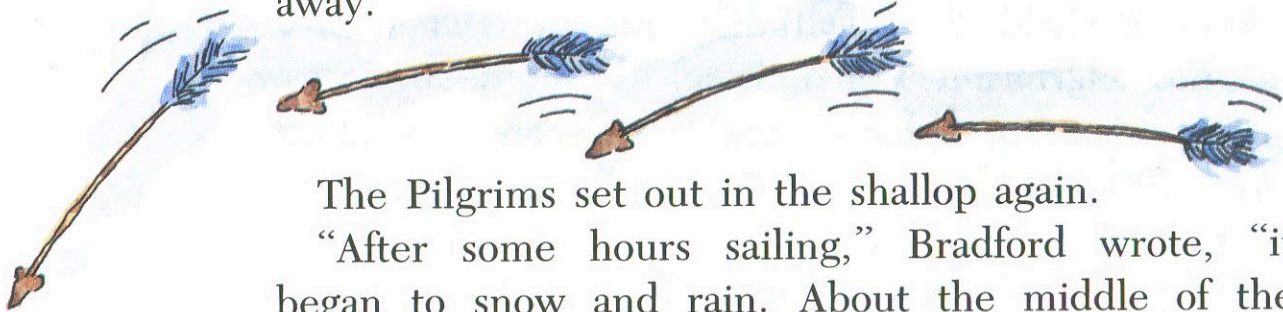
In the morning they heard the same awful cry they had heard in the night.

Wolves in the morning? Impossible.

Then arrows began to fly. Indians!

Miles Standish fired a shot. The Indians yelled. It sounded to William Bradford like, “woath, woach, ha ha hach woach.”

Arrows flew. Guns roared. Soon the Indians ran away.



The Pilgrims set out in the shallop again.

“After some hours sailing,” Bradford wrote, “it began to snow and rain. About the middle of the afternoon the sea became very rough. They broke their rudder and it was as much as two men could do to steer with a couple of oars.”

One of the men shouted, “Be of good cheer. I see the harbor.”



But the storm grew worse. The mast broke and fell into the sea.

They were heading straight for rocks. The men turned the boat around just in time.

Soon they came to an island, and the next morning, Saturday, the storm was over. But the men were too tired to do much work. They made a fire, cleaned their guns, and rested.

Sunday they spent the day in prayer.

On Monday they were up before the sun. Then the eighteen men sailed away from the island to try once more to find a landing place on shore.

In a while they reached land. It was December 11, 1620. They had come to Plymouth, the place Captain John Smith had discovered and named six years before.

