

## Macee Cutbirth, Ava

The Pilgrims set sail to the “New World” in September of 1620. They were on the famous *Mayflower* ship, which landed in present day Massachusetts in November of 1620 and then made an appearance at their permanent settlement in December of the same year. When you think of the Pilgrims and their voyage, you think of the *Mayflower*. However, the *Mayflower* wasn’t the only ship to bring passengers from England. *Fortune*, *Anne*, and *Little James* were also a part of the process of new arrivals in the Pilgrim colony.



The three main problems that the Pilgrims faced were hunger, death, and disease. A big part of the new arrivals in the colony wouldn’t work because they weren’t sent there for that reason. This caused inaction and disagreements within the colony. Without cooperation and hard work, the colony would struggle. Starting a whole settlement from the ground up was quite difficult. People with drive, determination, and a strong work ethic were needed. With the arrival of new people came new problems. While more people could help fulfill the colony’s needs, the arrival of these curious newcomers was not completely beneficial.

*Fortune* arrived in November of 1621 and brought thirty-five new colonists. *Anne* made her arrival in 1623 just a week before *Little James*. These ships combined carried 90 new colonists. The arrival of these three new ships were extremely impactful to the Pilgrim colony and how it would evolve. The new group of people, however, posed a fresh problem for the already settled colonists. When *Fortune* arrived, they didn’t bring any goods, clothing, or provisions. This caused the rations of the settlement to be cut in half. Therefore resulting in hunger and lack of resources. Both of those things were major, prominent issues inside of the colony. What you could grow and how it was grown was different from their previous life in England. Figuring out how to supply and grow food was a huge challenge for the Pilgrims. Different soil, temperature, and crops all played into that problem. Food was just one issue *Fortune* and the other ships brought among many others. Three weeks after *Fortune* arrived, it was scheduled to leave. However, it never made it back to England. The ship was unfortunately overtaken by the French.

The other two ships that arrived after *Fortune* had their own baggage. Around 60 people aboard *Anne* and *Little James* were sponsored by a joint stock company and were there to work for the “common good.” The other 30 passengers were not under the same obligations. They had paid their own way onto the ship and they would function under their own rules. An order from the colony’s leaders to send some of the new passengers back to England was issued because of their lack of work ethic. A big part of *Anne*’s passengers were women and children of the men who already resided there. These people were of no disturbance to the colony and worked as directed. The issue arose with the thirty people who weren’t there under work circumstances. The colony needed workers to survive. So when these people wouldn’t work, the other colonists were not happy. However, there are pros and cons to every situation.

No matter what the ships brought to the Pilgrim colony, this is how the history of the United States of America started. Every event needed to play out so we could become an independent nation free from England. The Pilgrim colony fought hard to stay alive and thrive in their new home. They faced struggles and successes. Both the ups and downs do not go unnoticed. The passengers of *Fortune*, *Anne*, and *Little James* had both good and bad effects on the Pilgrim colony. If I was forced to choose between the two, I could not pick. Overall, every situation that presented itself in this time period shaped who we are as a country today. From hunger to disease, the Pilgrims faced huge obstacles. They were brave, resilient, hard working, and driven. The Pilgrims are a major part of this country's history and they should never be forgotten.

#### Bibliography

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