

PILGRIM SETTLERS DEMAND MORE LAND!

**By our investigative reporter,
Looking Mouse** Time When the
Herring Run, 1623

RUNNERS HAVE noted that the English are now moving beyond the palisade that surrounds their town.

They have been in our country three years, and in spite of the agreement with Massasoit and the allied villages, they once again have not approached our leaders in regard to the use of

more land. This land is still within the bounds of the Wampanoag Nation, and Massasoit was chosen to oversee that responsibility.

Runners observe each English family clearing new ground to plant more corn. The total area appears twice as large as that originally settled on.

The sachems and elders agree this is a dangerous precedent. These English want more land now—and how much more in the future?

Another ship has already arrived, bringing even more people to settle here.

They have been informed as to which sachems are responsible for which lands, yet most disregard our laws and boundaries. Each day brings another intrusion for our people to contend with.

WILLIAM BRADFORD, originally from Yorkshire, England, was repeatedly elected Governor of the Plymouth colony between 1621 and 1657. An entry from his chronicle, dated 1623, shows the impact on the community made by offering families parcels of land to own. He writes: “The women now went willingly into the field, and took their little ones with them to set corn; which before would allege weakness and inability.” Private land ownership as a form of individual incentive became a hallmark of immigrant culture, as distinct from the shared land ownership principles of Native peoples.