

Excerpt from Of Plymouth  
Plantation

By William Bradford

I shall a little return back and begin with a combination made by them before they came ashore, being the first foundation of their government in this place; occasioned partly by the discontented and mutinous speeches that some of the strangers amongst them had let fall from them in the ship—that when they came ashore they would use their own liberty; for none had power to command them, the patent they had being for Virginia, and not for

New England, which belonged to another Government, with which the Virginia Company had nothing to do. And partly that such an act by them done (this their condition considered) might be as firm as any patent, and in some respects more sure. The form was as followeth:

In the Name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord, King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, having undertaken for the glory of God, and advancement

of the Christian faith, and the honor  
of our King and Country, a voyage  
to plant the first colony in the  
northern parts of Virginia; Do by  
these present, solemnly and  
mutually, in the presence of God  
and one another, covenant and  
combine ourselves together into a  
civil body politic, for our better  
ordering and preservation, and  
furtherance of the ends aforesaid:  
And by virtue hereof do enact,  
constitute, and frame, such just and  
equal laws, ordinances, acts,  
constitutions, and officers, from time  
to time, as shall be thought most

meet and convenient for the general  
good of the colony; unto which we  
promise all due submission and  
obedience.

In Witness whereof we have hereunto  
subscribed our names at Cape Cod the  
eleventh of November, in the reign  
of our Sovereign Lord King James,  
of England, France, and Ireland,  
the eighteenth, and of Scotland the  
fifty-fourth, Anno Domini, 1620.



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Handwriting practice lines consisting of three sets of three horizontal lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid). The first set is at the top, the second is indented to the right, and the third is further indented to the right.

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Main body of the page containing 18 sets of handwriting practice lines, each consisting of three horizontal lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid).

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