

John Robinson



Born: 1575 Sturton-le-Steeple, England

Married: Bridget White

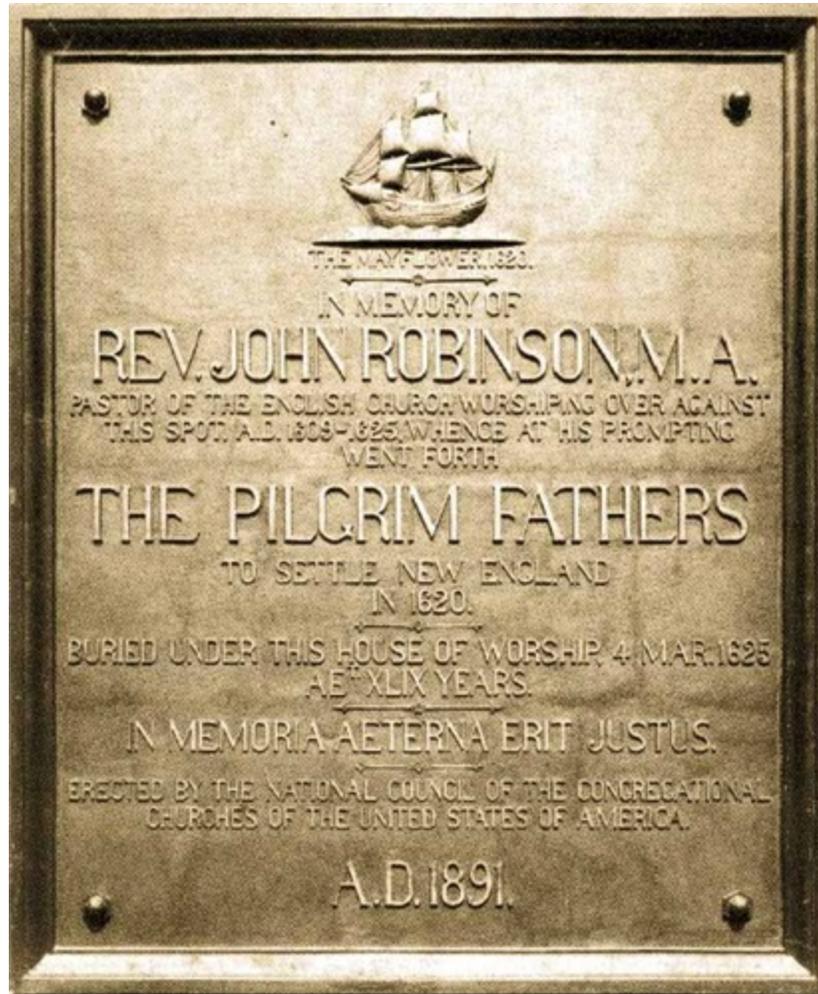
Died: 1 Mar 1625 Leyden, Holland

Parents: John Robinson & Anne White

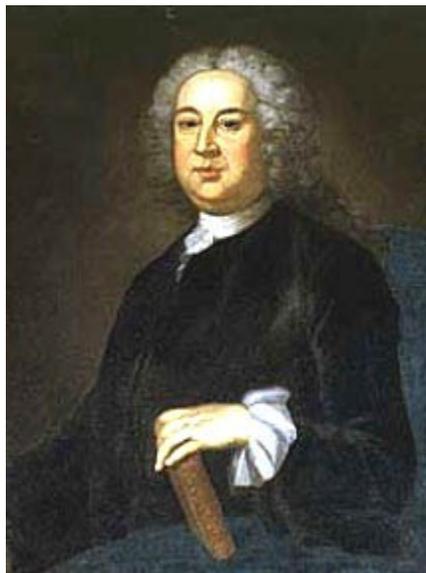
Rev. John Robinson was born in Sturton-le-Steeple, England in 1575. In 1592 Robinson received his master of arts degree from Cambridge University. After graduation he took orders in the Church of England but because of his progressive views he was suspended by the bishop of Norwich. In 1608 he fled with his congregation to Amsterdam Holland and in 1609 settled in Leyden Holland. He was the founder of "Independents" - a middle course between the narrow line Brownism and broader line Presbyterianism. In 1620 he consummated arrangements for the settlement of his flock in America. He bid them farewell and preached his famous departure sermon. They sailed on the Speedwill to England, where they embarked on the Mayflower for America under Miles Standish. Rev. Robinson was expected to follow later, however he died in Leyden, Holland on March 1, 1625 and was buried beneath the pavement of St. Peters Church.

Robinson and Bridget had six children at least one of whom went to America. Born in Holland were Isaac, John, Bridget, Mercy, Fear and James.

Information from online research at: Ancestry.com



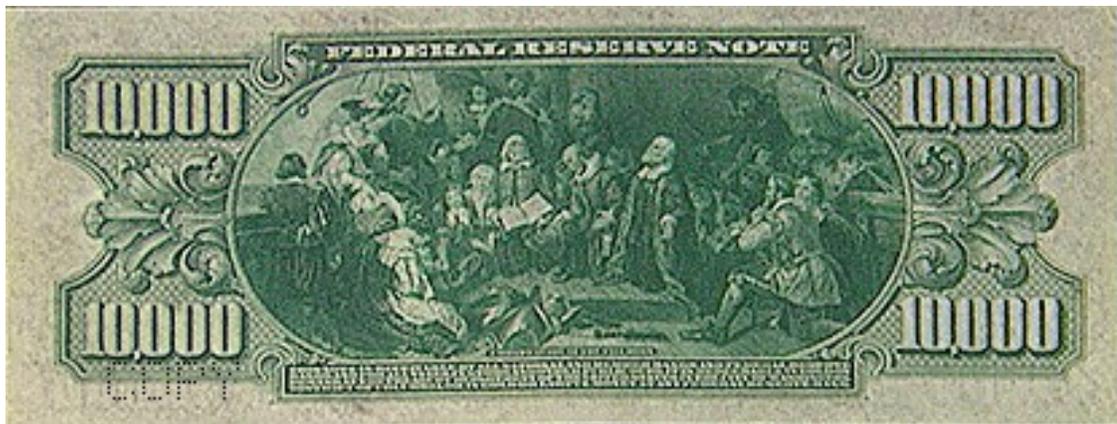
Bronze memorial to Rev. John Robinson, on the wall of Pieterskerk (St. Peter's church).
http://www.pilgrimarchives.nl/html/pilgrims/top_html/history.html



From Harvard Square Library



In 1836, the United States government commissioned Robert W. Weir to paint The Picture of the Embarkation of the Pilgrims from Delft Haven in Holland. Completed in 1843, it depicts the Pilgrim families gathered around their pastor, John Robinson, for a farewell service on the deck of the Speedwell before its departure from Holland. ***This painting is found in the Rotunda of the Capitol Building in Washington, DC.**



The Pilgrim Society commissioned Massachusetts artist Edgar Parker to recreate Weir's well-known painting for the museum in 1875. This well-known painting can be found on the reverse of the United States \$10,000 bill.

Information from online research at: Ancestry.com

Below is a letter referenced in the book, "John Robinson, Pastor of the Pilgrim Fathers" by Walter Burgess

Towards the close of the year 1602, the news leaked out that Jegon was likely to be appointed Bishop of Norwich. The fellows lost no time in addressing the following letter to Sir Robert Cecil. It is signed, among others, by John Robinson, and gives us the names and standing of some of his fellow-collegians

"

Right Honorable. or dutie most humblie remembred.
wee beseech yor Honor [give] us leave to become humble
suitors to you in a cause wch we hope will to yor Hoble wisdom
appeare reasonable, we the fellowes of Corp8 Christi
Colledge in Camb. have gotten knowledge that by yo honorable
suite and mediacon to her Matle our worthie Mr. [Master], Dr. Jegon is like
to be advaunced to the sea of Norwych,
and so thereby his place in governement of vs like thereby
to become voyde : wee and this o* poore Coll. have received
much good by his wisdom and p'vident care over vs and
it, in that he hath restored it, wch was neere fullie ruined by
some needie and careles Mra . before him. From whence
havige taken a dew consideracon (as is behovefull for vs)
we are desirous and well advised to make choyce of such a
one to succede him, as is for his learninge & degrees,
experience, gravitie, and wisdom verie meete and sufficient
to guide vs and o* little comon wealth; and in his
owne estate so well settled as he shall not neede to pray
vppon vs, butt wilbe able and carefull to vphold or howse
in the p'sent flourishinge estate.

" Now therefore this is o* must humble suite, that it
would please Yo* Honor (as o* noble Chauncelo*, to whose
will we humbly submitt o^selves) to vowchsafe yo* allowance,
that accordinge to or oathes and the statutes of or
howse, we may be p'mitted (when o* Master shall leave
this place) to proceede freelie to a new election, wherein
we wilbe so carefull, as we doubt not, but that Yor Hono'
shalbe fullie satisfied; both in or generall respect to this
howse and the good government thereof; and also in o*
pticuler to yo* Honor

, when you shall see, that both he and
wee have o* myndes bente to doe yo* Honor all services.

" And so prayinge pdon for this o* boldnes, and humbly
beseechinge two lynes from yow to allow or free election,
(as in that case you have most honourably done to others)
we recomend you to the Almightye, who graunte you longe
life and continuall encrease of hono* and happines.

" At Cambrydge December the 22th, 1602.

" Yor Honow most humblie at comaundement.

lt Anthonius Watson, Proprceses. George Hall.

"

Henry Buttes. Decanus. / Marlian Higden. prlecto[r] " grec[i]. William
Starkey. pr
lector Rhet.

" Edward Gent, p'lector. / " Edmund Gurnay. pr

l : top.

4t John Robinson." *

Original document:

Your honorable & vertue most humble remembrance, we have in a true
 wisdom appare reasonable, we the fellows of Corpus Christi College
 have gotten knowledge that by your good grace and mediation to be
 worthie M^r. Dⁿ feyn is like to be aduanced to the see of Rochester
 thereby his place in gouernment of vs like hoistly to be vacant and
 and this o^r poore bodie have receiued much good by his wisdom and prudent
 rare abillitie and it is in that he hath restored it, we would haue bene
 by some neede and necessity, before him, from whence hitherto taken a
 deuⁿ consideration (as it behooueth for vs) we are desirous and in a
 to make choise of such a one to succede him, as is for his leaue, diligent
 apperience, graditie and wisdom verie meete and sufficient to guide and
 little tomen wealth, and in his shou^r estate so well settled, as he shall not
 to pray, vpon vs, butt will be able and carefull to supporte o^r estate in the
 present flourishinge estate, now therefore this is o^r most humble suit, that it
 would please your hono^r (as o^r noble chancellour, to whose will we humbly submit
 o^r selfe) to worthie vs aduantage, that we might (to o^r o^r and the
 statute of o^r house, we may be permitted (when o^r m^r shall leaue this place)
 to provide facillie to a new election, wherein we would be carefull, as we doubt
 not but that your hono^r shall be fullie satisfied, both in o^r general respect
 to this house and the good gouernment thereof, and also in o^r particular to
 you, when you shall see that both by and peace have o^r mended bent to de
 your hono^r all forward. And so prayinge you for this o^r behalf, and humbly
 beseechinge two times from you to allow o^r free election, as in that rest you
 have most honourably done to others, we commend vs to the Almighty,
 who graunte you longe life and constant increase of hono^r and happines.
 At Cambridge December the 22. 1602.

Your hono^r most humble at commaⁿdment.

Antonius Watson, Prouoc. George Platt. /
 Henry Butte Parson. / Marhan Hadden, Rector. /
 - William Sharkey, Chanc. /
 Edward ... /
 John Robinson



LETTER FROM THE FELLOWS OF CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, 1602, BEARING THE EARLIEST SIGNATURE OF ROBINSON THAT HAS YET COME TO LIGHT.