

#644 The Cotton Saints vs. the Linen Saints – Theophilus Cotton and the American Revolution: Moving the Plymouth Rock

Theophilus Cotton, a great-grandson of Puritan John Cotton, is attached to the history of the Pilgrims' Plymouth Rock.

Plymouth Rock. Plymouth Rock is the traditional site of disembarkation of the Mayflower Pilgrims who founded Plymouth Colony. There was no reference to it at the time in the journal of leader William Bradford. The first reference to the Pilgrims landing on a rock is found one hundred years after they landed in 1620.

It is recorded that in 1774, under the leadership of Colonel Theophilus Cotton, the inhabitants of the town of Plymouth, Massachusetts, “animated by the glorious spirit of liberty which pervaded the Province” and “mindful of the precious relic” of America’s forefathers, resolved to move the rock to the liberty pole square in Plymouth. A large number of inhabitants were assembled along with about 20 oxen. The 20,000 pound rock was elevated from its bed, but split in two in the attempt to mount it on a carriage. The separation of the rock was construed to be a sign of the coming division of the colonies from the British Empire. The question was whether both parts were to be removed. It was decided that the bottom part should remain in its original bed. The upper portion, weighing many tons, was conveyed to the liberty pole square.

[The top part of Plymouth Rock was moved several more times over the next 150 years.]



The Plymouth Rock at Plymouth, Massachusetts, is protected by a canopy shown *above left*. It was designed by McKim, Mead, and White and built by Roy B. Beattie of Fall River, Massachusetts. Donated in 1921 by the National Society of Colonial Dames.

Key Understanding: *Plymouth Rock and the American Revolution.* The evolution of the *Cotton Saints* in their role in the birth of the *sword-carrying Christian Democracy Body of Americans* as a *counterfeit* of the true *cross-carrying Body of Christ* occurred in three distinct steps, symbolically capped by Plymouth's Theophilus Cotton leading the moving of Plymouth Rock in 1774 in tribute to "the glorious spirit of liberty," and by him heading the Plymouth militia at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War.

Revelation 19:14-15 (KJV) And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, CLOTHED IN FINE LINEN, WHITE AND CLEAN.

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

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