

Give Thanks

The puritans were a persecuted lot,
So they set sail for a better spot.
The Mayflower landed at Plymouth
Rock,
A Red man greeted them much to their
shock.

Legend has it he spoke perfect English,
Seems his whole tribe by a plague got
extinguished.
He thought white man could help,
Other tribes not to meet the same fate.
And Red man could help white man,
To survive (not make deadly mistake).
The Indians showed newcomers plants,
Berries good to eat.

Some fish & game similar to the old country they
found,
Some that was quite different also around.
Redman used manmade bows & batches.
Whiteman had gunpowder & muskets.
Redman knew of some Native herbs,
White man had medicine for cures.
Redman equated newcomer's new lures and lore,
Together they helped each other better endure.
Indians taught Pilgrims how to grow corn and
keep warm,
Together they helped each other endure.
Half of the white man either died on the trip,
Or during the first winter with its hardship.

Legend has it white and Red,
Sat down beside each other,
And gave thanks to the,
Great Spirit for surviving together.
For suppling their needs,
Food, shelter, medicine.
Most of all the gift of life,
And worshiping as they liked.
President Lincoln signed the proclamation,
4th Thursday in November
People give thanks in this Nation.

— Mark B. Rockefeller, Thanksgiving, 2017

