**Excerpt from John Smith, *A Description of New England*, 1616**

“Here [in New England/America], nature and liberty affords us that freely, which in England we want, [but] it costs us dearly. What pleasure can be more than [instead of doing hard labor like planting and building] to recreate themselves before their own doors, in their own boats upon the sea, where man, woman, and child, with a small hook and line, by angling [fishing] may take diverse sorts of excellent fish, at their pleasures [and catch enough fish to sell]? . . . If a man work [just] three days in seven [as a fisherman], he may get more than he can spend, unless he be excessive.”

“For gentlemen, what exercise should more delight them, than [exploring] those unknown parts, using fowling and fishing, for hunting and hawking? . . . For hunting also: the woods, lakes, and rivers afford not only [animals] sufficient, for any that delights in that kind of toil, or pleasure: but such beasts to hunt, that besides the delicacy of their bodies for food, their skins are so rich, as may well recompense thy daily labor, with a captain’s pay.”

“My purpose in writing this is not to persuade children to leave their parents; men to leave their wives; or, servants to leave their masters. People should be willing to come to this land. Each parish church or village, in the city or countryside, should send thirteen or fourteen year old orphan children and young married people to New England. Here they can work and make out very well provided that there are leaders to govern them. There should also be houses for them and means to defend them. They should be assigned to work as servants for carpenters, brick masons, fishermen, and other skilled men so that they will learn a trade. These skilled masters can each take ten, twelve, or twenty young people to work for them and in this way they will quickly grow rich. The workers will also learn a trade and will, in time, also grow rich. This will help the King, England, the masters, and also the servants. Everyone will benefit.”