Thanksgiving Tradition: Five Kernels of Corn

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THE LEGEND OF

FIVE KERNELS OF CORN

THE FIRST KERNEL REMINDS US OF THE AUTUMN BEAUTY ALL AROUND US.

THE SECOND KERNEL REMINDS US OF OUR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

THE THIRD KERNEL REMINDS US OF GOD'S LOVE AND CARE FOR US.

THE FOURTH KERNEL REMINDS US OF ALL OUR MANY FRIENDS.

THE FIFTH KERNEL REMINDS US THAT WE ARE A FREE PEOPLE.

TEACH BESIDE ME

THE LEGEND OF FIVE KERNELS OF CORN

THE FIRST KERNEL REMINDS US OF THE AUTUMN BEAUTY ALL AROUND US.

THE SECOND KERNEL REMINDS US OF OUR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

THE THIRD KERNEL REMINDS US OF ALL THAT WE HAVE.

THE FOURTH KERNEL REMINDS US OF ALL OUR MANY FRIENDS.

THE FIFTH KERNEL REMINDS US THAT WE ARE A FREE PEOPLE.

TEACH BESIDE ME

FIVE KERNELS OF CORN

BY HEZEKIAH BUTTERWORTH

''TWAS THE YEAR OF THE FAMINE IN PLYMOUTH OF OLD,
THE ICE AND THE SNOW FROM THE THATCHED ROOFS HAD ROLLED;
THROUGH THE WARM PURPLE SKIES STEERED THE GEESE O'ER THE SEAS,
AND THE WOODPECKERS TAPPED IN THE CLOCKS OF THE TREES;
AND THE BOUGHS ON THE SLOPES TO THE SOUTH WINDS LAY BARE,
AND DREAMING OF SUMMER, THE BUDS SWELLED IN THE AIR.
THE PALE PILGRIMS WELCOMED EACH REDDENED MORN;
THERE WERE LEFT BUT FOR RATIONS FIVE KERNELS OF CORN.
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
BUT TO BRADFORD A FEAST WERE FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN! FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
YE PEOPLE, BE GLAD FOR FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!

SO BRADFORD CRIED OUT ON BLEAK BURIAL HILL,
AND THE THIN WOMEN STOOD IN THEIR DOORS, WHITE AND STILL.
LO, THE HARBOR OF PLYMOUTH ROLLS BRIGHT IN THE SPRING,
THE MAPLES GROW RED, AND THE WOOD ROBINS SING,
THE WEST WIND IS BLOWING, AND FADING THE SNOW
AND PLEASANT PINES SING, AND ARBUTUSES BLOW.
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
TO EACH ONE BE GIVEN FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!

O BRADFORD OF AUSTERFIELD HAST ON THE WAY.
THE WEST WINDS ARE BLOWING O'ER PROVINCETOWN BAY,
THE WHITE AVENS BLOOM, BUT THE PINE DOMES ARE CHILL,
AND NEW GRAVES HAVE FURROWED PRECISIONERS' HILL!
GIVE THANKS, ALL YE PEOPLE, THE WARM SKIES HAVE COME,
THE HILLTOPS ARE SUNNY, AND GREEN GROWS THE HOLM,
AND THE TRUMPETS OF WINS, AND THE WHITE MARCH IS GONE,
AND YE STILL HAVE LEFT YOU
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
YE HAVE FOR THANKSGIVING FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!

THE RAVEN'S GIFT EAT AND BE HUMBLE AND PRAY,
A NEW LIGHT IS BREAKING, AND TRUTH LEADS YOUR WAY;
ONE TAPER A THOUSAND SHALL KINDLE; REJOICE
THAT TO YOU HAS BEEN GIVEN THE WILDERNESS VOICE!
O BRADFORD OF AUSTERFIELD, DARING THE WAVE,
AND SAFE THROUGH THE SOUNDING BLASTS LEADING THE BRAVE,
OF DEEDS SUCH AS THINE WAS THE FREE NATION BORN,
AND THE FESTAL WORLD SINGS THE "FIVE KERNELS OF CORN."
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
THE NATION GIVES THANKS FOR FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!
TO THE THANKSGIVING FEAST BRING FIVE KERNELS OF CORN!

TEACH BESIDE ME