tion of our progress and success to primitive races, above all to the American Indian. An examination of our culture reveals the fact that many of our accomplishments may be traced directly to assistance received from the American Indian. Our agriculture has been touched by the beneficial influence emanating from the Indian, for he has taught our farmer the use of fish manure."

"The Plymouth colonists were told to add fish to their old planting grounds," writes Bradford in his "History of the Plymouth Plantation." (Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., 4th ser., iii, 1856).

In March, 1621, three months after the landing of the Pilgrims, Chief Massasoit came with his warriors and his friend, Squanto, to visit the settlement at Plymouth. Squanto became so enamored of his new friends that he moved to Plymouth. He gave his knowledge of Indian husbandry to the Pilgrims and taught them how to fertilize the soil with fish.

Wisconsin Indians sometimes fertilized the corn hills on their planting grounds with fish or fish entrails.

Indian Methods of Preserving Fish

The Indians cured their supplies of fish by drying them in the sun, or over fires. Then the product was sometimes finely ground and packed in skins or baskets for future use. In general, the woodland tribes mainly depended upon the deer family and fish for their animal food. Fish food, from its peculiar character, was often dried or frozen, but for preserving it for time of need it was more often smoked.

The Indian mode of smoking fish was to split them open and remove the bones, after which they were scarified in various directions, and then hung up for a time in the smoke of a fire. They were then hung on poles or on the branches of trees and freely exposed to the wind until perfectly dry. These smoked fish formed a principal food of the natives during the winter.

Alanson Skinner, in his "Material Culture of the Menomini," gives us an interesting description of that tribe's manner of curing fish. "Fish were dried on scaffolds," writes Skinner, "or split, tied by the tails or hung from a