

lect; selfish to the last degree, and consequently characterized by a sordid avarice; but they are brave warriors.

All these Tribes at the Bay are most favorably situated; The country is a beautiful one, and they have fertile fields planted with Indian corn. Game is abundant at all seasons, and in Winter they hunt Bears and Beavers; they hunt Deer at all times, and they even fish for Wild-fowl. I will explain my remark; in Autumn there is a prodigious abundance of Ducks, both black and white, of excellent flavor, and the Savages stretch nets in certain places where these Fowl alight to feed upon the wild rice.¹ Then advancing silently in their Canoes, they draw them up alongside of the nets, in which the birds have been caught. They also capture Pigeons in their nets, in the Summer. They make in the woods wide paths, in which they spread large nets, in the shape of a bag, and attached at each side to the trees; and they make a little hut of branches, in which they hide. When the Pigeons in their flight get within this open space, the Savages pull a small cord which is drawn through the edge of the net, and thus capture sometimes five or six hundred birds in one morning, especially in windy weather. All the year round they fish for Sturgeon, and for herring in the Autumn; and in Winter they have fruits. Although their rivers are deep, they close the stream with a sort of hurdle, leaving open places through which the Fish can pass; in these spaces they set a sort of net which they can cast or draw in as they please; and several cords are attached, which, although they seem to close the opening, nevertheless afford passage to the Fish. The Savages are apprised of the entrance of the Fish into the net by a little bell which they fasten on the

¹The wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*) formed an important part of the food of the northwestern Algonquian tribes. For information regarding their use of it, see Carr's "Food for American Indians," in *Amer. Antiq. Soc. Proc.*, x (1895), part I; A. E. Jenks's "Wild-rice Gatherers of the Upper Lakes," in 19th (and forthcoming) *Report of U. S. Bureau of Ethnology*—also published separately (Washington, 1901); and Gardner P. Stickney's "Indian Use of Wild Rice," in *Amer. Anthropologist*, ix, pp. 115-121. The Indian practice of capturing wild fowl in nets is also described by Dablon in the *Relation of 1671-72* (*Jes. Relations*, lvi, p. 121).—ED.