

This seems to be the earliest record of any such custom. There is a possibility that a part of the process escaped his observation.

It is interesting for comparison to note that white people occasionally add oats to the water in which seed corn is germinated. Oats are also sometimes planted with cuttings of trees and shrubs.

PLANTING OF THE CORN.

After the corn medicine has been applied—to continue Chief Gibson's description—the family all turn out. The woman of the house stands in the middle of the field and offers up a brief invocation, using some such form of words as: "God, our Father, you see me and my children. We stand in the middle of the field where we are going to plant our food. We beg you to supply us with an abundant yield of corn." They then commence to plant, usually placing beans, squash seeds, or pumpkin seeds in every hill, or every few hills apart.

John Echo (On.), who lives in the same locality, described the man as the head of the family. The following was given as an example of the prayer offered: "Gaiāhia'de'si'dā' sowānī'yu' o'nāwa'agwa'ade'sa' u'nā'ohe'dagō'wa ēyagowa'yē' āgionhe'gwī' unē'ha' unendi' wagwaiiwa'ne'gā' skānōtseyagwatga'twa' unē'ndi' daskoājdā'ā'. This may be rendered freely as: "In the sky you live, Hawēnī'yu'. We are ready to place in the ground the corn upon which we live. We ask for assistance and that we may have a plentiful crop."

All the cultivation given formerly was to chop down the weeds, or to clear away the last year's cornstalks. The weeds which sprang up were either pulled up or trampled down.

A couple of beans, mentioned specially as cornstalk beans, were obtained from Mrs. Fannie Johnson of Tonawanda, whose grandmother had kept up their cultivation. One of these, called o'ia'gekaa', was buff with stripes of a very dark maroon, and of a short, flat shape. The other, a small, dark brown bean, was called oyē'gwā'ā' (smoky-coloured).

The sunflower was also sometimes planted with the corn and beans, although it was perhaps more frequently cultivated in