

Now let's look a little bit at the difficulties that the pilgrims faced. The pilgrims were a group of poor people. There were in the whole group of them == there were 102 who came over in the Mayflower, and that included only 37 adult males. There were only one or two who had ever been to college. There were hardly any of them who had any special crafts or skills, or special training of any kind. They had practically no money. They came to one of the coldest sections of the eastern shore of the U.S., and area in which it was very difficult to become settled and especially when they landed there in mid-winter. They came to an area where there were fierce wild Indians, and who knew how these Indians would treat them? In fact let's anticipate just a minute here and let's see ~~something~~ something of one of their experiences with these Indians.

After they had become acquainted with some of these Indians and had a good friendly relationship with the ~~trip~~^{tribe} of which Massasoit was the chief, they heard one day that Chief Massasoit who was about 40 yrs. of age was very ill, and they were told by one of the Indians with whom they could talk, who was friendly to them that it was customary when a Chief was very ill that friends would come to call on him and give him their best wishes. So the pilgrims had a little experience with medicine. There wasn't a fraction as much known about medicine then as there is today anyway of course, and none of them were really trained physicians but they knew a little bit about it, and they went simply to give him their regards and see if there was anything they could do. It was a trip of about 20 to 30 miles, and when they got there they ~~found~~ found that Massasoit was in a wigwam all closed in; they were trying to keep the evil demons out, and the result was they were keeping all the good fresh air out, and he was shut in in this little place there and ~~for~~ for four nights he had not been able to sleep. He was in utter agony, and the medicine men were jumping around and waving their hands and going through all kinds of incantations, and the poor fellow felt as if ~~we~~ he would not live very much longer, and the pilgrims who came gave him their regards and everything, and he said, These men don't seem to be able to do anything much to help ~~us~~^{me}. He said, Could you do something? Well they said, let's try. Stop the medicine men. So he told the medicine men to get out, and they had him open ~~the~~ up things and get a little fresh air in, and they gave two or three simple hygenic things, a little advice they had in mind and within a few hours Massasoit was feeling much better.