

The young man was tired, and said to his uncle: "Why then, did you not say so?" But his uncle explained to him that it was more learned not to say things right out, but to hint at them, so that the mind might have exercise in finding out what the instructor meant.

The next day the boy went hunting again and saw the marks of the bear on a tree. In order to be sure this time, he went home and asked his uncle just how he should go about killing the animal.

The uncle began to explain, but the more he explained, the more the nephew could not understand; he tried his best to comprehend, however and went back to the tree in which the bear had his den.

Around the tree he stuck cornstalks as his uncle had told him to do, and then beat hard on the sides of the tree until the bear came out.

When the bear came from the hole in the tree he walked through the corn stalks and made off into the woods as there was no reason why he should not do so.

Then the boy went back to his uncle and told him what had happened.

"Oh! oh!" cried the uncle, "You should have killed the bear as he was going away."

"Then" replied the nephew, "why did you not tell me so in the first place? After this please make your explanations less learned and more to the point, so that I may know what it is that I am to do. Do not give so many illustrations in your directions."

For a time the uncle and the

nephew got along very well together, until one day the old man said:

"I am going to give a feast. You shall carry the invitations. I have cut sticks to represent so many friends. Go to the highest tree you can find and leave this stick there. Then go along until you find a place all swamp—bad place, leave one stick there," and so on.

So the boy distributed the sticks as his uncle directed. But when the day of the feast came, no guests approached the wigwam of the uncle.

"Did you do as I directed?" asked the old man.

"Yes," replied the boy.

"Why then has no one come to the feast?" asked the uncle.

"How do you expect swamps and trees to come to a feast?" cried the nephew.

Then the two ate the food prepared, and as they did so the uncle explained what he had meant by sending invitations to the trees and swamps and the lesson it was expected to teach the boy.

But after the meal the boy said: "Uncle, I am afraid I shall never learn wisdom from your parables. I shall go forth into the world to learn wisdom by experience, which I think is the only way I can learn it."

So forth into the world the young man went, and in time he became wise, a great chief, and a mighty hunter, and when he was old he was sage in counsel. He always remembered the attempts of his uncle to teach him wisdom by precept, and advocated, instead, that young men should learn by experience, as the only sure way of acquiring knowledge.—Sunday Oregonian.