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## Indian Legend.

I will try and tell a story that my dear mother told me, although it has been a long time since she last told it. At any rate I will try. Once there was a man that was friendless and all he did was roving. One day while he was travelling or looking for something to eat, he came to a large and deep river. He tried to cross it but the force was so strong that he found it impossible. So as the day was very hot he found shade and rested under a large tree that grew by the river bank. There he sat and cried, for the side he was on had no food, while the other side was loaded with fruit.

As he was sobbing and wishing, a large elephant happened to be coming that way and was to cross where the man had tried in vain. When the elephant saw the sad-looking man he offered to help him across. The man asked the elephant where he could sit so as to be safe while crossing. The elephant first asked the man to ride on his back, but the man was afraid of slipping off. Then the elephant told the man to ride on his trunk, but the man was afraid that the elephant would put his head down to

drink and wash him off. Again the third time the elephant told the man to hang to his tail. "No," said the man, "for you will switch your tail and throw me into the river."

So the elephant studied a long time and was about to leave the man when the man thought of a smart plan. He said to the elephant: "You swallow me and when you reach the other side just cough and I will come out." So the elephant swallowed the man and went across, but when he got on the bank he forgot to cough. He went and laid down and went to sleep. The man became angry. Having a knife of bone he cut the elephant open and went to find food. He did and told some Indians his story about the the elephant, then went on, for he never stayed with anybody.

While he was going through the bushes he saw a lot of mice playing with their eyes. They would throw them up and make them drop in place again, and were trying to see which could throw them the highest. The man liked the game and asked if he could join them. So he joined the crowd and he wanted to throw his eyes the highest.

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