

a bad omen and am just thinking that something has gone wrong at home. It is rather early but we better saddle up quietly and make a dash upon the owl or whatever creature is that's worrying me." he said.

We pulled up our picket ropes and saddled up quickly but the owl continued hooting and whistling. By this time it was getting day break and we could dimly see a little knoll ahead of us and the sound came from the other side of this knoll.

We mounted our horses quickly and at full speed rode up the knoll and looking down on the other side we saw right in front of us, a coyote. No sooner he spied us than he took to his heels and disappeared in a deep gulch.

We did not chase or annoy the animal. My uncle said, "The Great Spirit communicates to us sometimes in mysterious way and this animal may be sent to convey a message to us."

And sure enough, upon our arrival home, there was sickness in my uncles family, my family and my brothers family though, glad to say, not very seriously to alarm us.

This was the first time in my life that I had learned of the coyotes' hooting, whistling and howling as a sign of sickness in family.