

to succeed as completely as you have done. It is faithful to a letter, perhaps more so than is *politic*, since had you made some little alteration in her ladyship's position, and dressed her rather more in accordance with the taste of this after age, I have no doubt the picture would tell better with the majority of those who may hereafter see it. I of course think you quite right in sticking as rigidly to the 'letter of the law' as you have done."

Additional statements could be adduced, but we think these will be deemed amply sufficient upon which to rest the genuineness of the original picture, as well as the first copy taken by Sully. He employed great labor in attaching the mutilated and decaying parts together, so as to bring the whole within his power, and at length happily succeeded. When Sully proposed to execute a new copy of Pocahontas for our Society, and another for the Virginia Historical Society, his own deep reverence and admiration for the memory, virtues and *portrait* of the lovely Forest Princess, led him while anxiously desiring to preserve a faithful copy of her features, to wish to change the full facial front, to the three-quarter view, and substituting for the absurd costume of the time of James the First, the more appropriate Indian dress of that period. Sully thought that in this ancient English costume, all Indian association was destroyed, and that the proposed change would give her a much more truthful and characteristic representation. The Virginia Historical Society expressed a wish that Sully would so paint it—thus *Indianizing* the original portrait; and our Society left the matter entirely to the artist's taste and judgment, as the copy he designed for us was to come as a gift.

As Sully learned from the early Virginia historian Beverly, that it was customary for the Indian maidens on their gala days, to weave wreaths of the fairest wild flowers of the forest, into their hair—and that Pocahontas took part in these pastimes, he conceived the idea of heightening the effect of the picture by introducing such a wreath encircling her brow, and particularly as he had unquestionable historical authority for it, and himself