

bright countenance; and truth to say, he was not bad looking at the age of thirty or thirty-five. "See," said he, "is this the face of a savage? How much Indian blood is there?" "We will see," he says, "in time, whether the Indian or white man prevails in this face." Such is the substance—almost the precise words he used, and it was the first, last and only time of his talk of the kind to me. Could that be construed into a claim to be the dauphin or a Frenchman? I understood it to be an allusion to his descent from the Williams family, as his paternity on that side was ever his theme—his constant boast—and such I still believe it to have been. This is all that ever fell from his lips, in my hearing, that could by any possibility have been construed into a claim to anything but his Williams-Caughnawaga Indian origin. Well, then, could he have been the dauphin? He had never conceived the idea till after his fall from the dizzy height he had soared to in his dreams, as despot of Indian empire. A considerable part of his library remained; his reading was ever that of narrative and history; of course that of France was not omitted. The suggestion of dauphin might have been drawn from his books, though Col. Eastman claims it was had from him.

I shall not attempt a discussion of the possibility of Louis XVII having escaped from prison in France, and his subsequent arrival in this country, further than to observe, if, indeed, he did so, and, as claimed by Dr. Hanson, was domiciled with the Caughnawaga Indians at St. Regis, it is no more than a reasonable presumption, that subject to the hardships of Indian fare and diet, in his weak and sickly state, he died there very soon after his arrival.

With these possibilities in view, why may not the Indian, Eleazer Williams, as well set up in the dauphin business as Naundorff and many other pretenders? Shall I be answered that on account of Williams' childlike simplicity, rendering him totally incapable of intrigue or deceit, the thing would be impossible? I answer that *malgre* all that is said on this point to the contrary by Dr. Hanson in the *Lost Prince*, and by Dr. Hawks, Eleazer Williams was the most perfect adept at fraud, deceit, and intrigue that the world ever produced. That if Naundorf and