

Richemont could so far impose on the whole French ministry as to make the king on his throne tremble for safety, Williams was just the man with his assumed simplicity to impose successfully upon the easy credulity of Dr. Hanson, who, by his own showing, was more than half convinced in advance. It is no pleasant task to differ with one of Dr. Hanson's high standing; and if seeming in any way to impeach the record of the *Lost Prince*, we would on no account be understood as doubting the entire good faith of the author of that work. As to the testimony therein given to the public in support of the pretensions of Williams to the claim to be Louis XVII, nearly all that is material seems to have been derived from Williams himself, and as such is inadmissible.

I am not insensible of the bewitching idea of a "Bourbon among us," and the great eclat derived from it. The volume, to the uninformed reader, seems something better than romance; to one that has been "behind the scenes," as it were—who knew the pretender most thoroughly, the narrative is anything but reality, and can hardly be read with patience.

But to the consideration of his being dauphin or not? He could not have been; first, because he was born of half-breed Indian parents at Caughnawaga. His own testimony before he had thought of being dauphin supports this. He maintained this for days and months before the simple Oneidas, when he first came here giving numerous instances of his child life, and his early youth.

His person bore ample evidence of his Indian extraction. His skin was dark and of peculiar Indian texture. His hair, eyebrows and eye-lashes were of the most inky raven blackness, such as no blonde ever wore.

His father, Thomas Williams, visited Oneida twice while I was with his son. The remark was special, and made by many, how much Williams favored his father. If, as is maintained by Dr. Hanson, Williams had the Bourbon cast of countenance, the father, Thomas Williams was a Bourbon before him; as the particular cast of countenance named by Dr. Hanson was stronger in the father than in the son. As to his being a Frenchman, it is not at all impossible; half the Caughnawaga Indians through their