

not have been the lost prince—for he was too young, and was, moreover, a veritable Indian.

In the further discussion of the dauphin question, a few points may be especially noted.

1. Mr. Williams' birth-year and age do not correspond with those of the real dauphin, who was born in 1785. If the proof is pretty conclusive that he was some five years younger than Louis XVII, then his claim to the dauphinship was preposterous, and falls to the ground. In this view of the case, it matters little whether the young Louis was actually abused by his tyrant-keepers while incarcerated in prison till death released him from his sufferings, or whether he was spirited away—Eleazer Williams was not, and could not have been, the person thus secretly removed from prison, if, indeed, the dauphin was thus mysteriously disposed of. And had he been brought to America, there was no possible reason for concealing his escape and safety, but, on the contrary, every motive for proclaiming it.

The late Rev. Calvin Colton, who was somewhat Williams' senior, and his fellow schoolmate at Long Meadow, Massachusetts, mentions in his *Tour of the American Lakes* in 1830, that when he first met this member of the noted Anglo-Indian family of Williams—in 1800—he was "perhaps ten years old." The late Dr. Stephen W. Williams, who knew him from the time when "he was quite young," says: "Eleazer has frequently told me that he was born about the year 1790—by this he did not mean five years before, or five years after. We have often compared ages, and he called his age about the same as mine, and I was born in the year 1790." Dr. Williams adds, that Nathan Hale, LL. D., long editor of the Boston *Daily Advertiser*, with whose father, at Westhampton, Massachusetts, Eleazer lived for some time, says, when he "first saw him, in 1800, he was then but ten years of age;" and the late Gov. Charles K. Williams, of Vermont, who knew Eleazer Williams from 1812, wrote to Dr. Williams in 1853: "Although I cannot fix upon any particular data, yet my impression is the same as yours, that he was born in 1790."

Gen. A. G. Ellis, in a letter before me, states: "When I first knew Williams at Oneida, in 1820, he appeared to be about