

cate stomach. And so he nibbled his dry toast and sipped his cup of warm water. Returning to his hotel late in the evening, Williams determined to make amends for his enforced spare diet, and ordered the waiter to set on some cold ham, and other substantial to match; and Gen. Ellis declared that he verily believed Williams ate fully two pounds of that ham—enough for three stout men; he then arose, gave a hearty Indian chuckle, and retired for the night, and the general could not perceive that the parson's delicate stomach was any the worse for his hearty meal the next day.

He ate so enormously as to excite the attention of the whole Indian party; and when Gen. Ellis informed them of Williams' refusal to eat at the officer's party, and the reason he assigned for it, they all laughed immoderately, declaring it was one of his tricks to excite sympathy, or perhaps induce a donation by that means. Such hypocritical *acting* was a very common occurrence with him. Gen. Ellis concludes this characteristic anecdote with this remark: "It was his chief effort never to *speak* or *act* a truth, but always a *falsehood*. If he could not mislead his hearers, he would scarcely talk at all: with him words were not used to exhibit, but always to conceal the truth; and he was the most perfect adept at fraud, deceit and intrigue that the world ever produced."

Dr. John G. Shea, in the *American Historical Record*, for July, 1872, asks if Eleazer Williams was not insane, or led away by strange delusions? He then states that while in Canada, prior to the publication, in 1852, of his *Discovery and Exploration of the Mississippi Valley*, with the original journal and map of Marquette in his hands, he received a letter from the office of the secretary of state at Albany, stating that the Rev. Eleazer Williams proposed to sell to the State, Marquette's original journal and map, which, with other papers he professed to have found in a box in the walls of the old church at Sault St. Louis, Canada, at a time when it was abandoned and in ruins. Dr. Shea replied that the present church was never in any such ruinous condition; that its predecessor had been taken down to make way for the present one, years before, and the box-finding was, therefore, clearly a delusion;