

cannot perform the impossibilities, so lavishly and *judiciously* promised in their name by Mr. Dickson.

Sincerity with an Indian, as it ought to be with all mankind, is the only mode. It is the first of Virtues (upon that subject Mr. Dickson ought to remember the cutting reproach of an Indian Chief on this very Island). Tell them fairly & candidly the truth, tell them that their Great Father the King; ever true to his engagements (tho' he at times cannot be to those of his thoughtless & improvident servants) is sedulously endeavoring to do his *utmost* to do what is possible to support them, & relieve their distresses, but that the road being blocked up, the supplies which used to come in ships, now creep along by stealth in canoes, & are of course both small & precarious. that he has also a great many red children to provide for, that they must therefore be moderate in their expectations, & contented with little, (as even that little adverse circumstances may prevent their receiving!) until the impediment is removed, which will restore to them that abundance which the King, their benificent Father, has provided for them in Lower Canada—that the difficulty is in getting it conveyed to them, & that they must never relax in their efforts, until the road is again opened, & the days of plenty restored—that these happy days could not be far off, as the Enemy pressed on every side, by the numerous sea & Land forces of the King would soon be compelled to do them justice.

Had this language, dictated by truth itself, & delivered in the genuine spirit of sincerity, been held out to the western Indians, (instead of pompous & high sounding promises, trusting only | what a reed to lean on | that "*something would turn up*," to realize them)—had the situation of affairs been thus explained to them, accompanied at the same time, by a fair, impartial & judicious distribution, of the large & magnificent assortment of goods, which within the last fifteen months have been sent to the Mississippi, (independent of what Mr. Dickson received for his Indians at this place, at Amherstburg, and on their arrival