

from its being true, that there has never appeared amongst them men disposed to raise their countrymen from the misery under which, for centuries, they have been sinking, nothing is easier than the proof that at all times they have duly estimated the absolute value of European endowments, and the necessity that they should themselves acquire them, in order to prolong their own existence. The examples illustrative of this assertion, which now fill a few back scenes in history, are too familiar to need enumeration; the sublime language in which the Logans, the Philips, the Brants, and the Tecumthes expressed their noble aspirations to a better fate, will never fail to be listened to with respect.

Although you are perfectly unaware of the fact, it is nevertheless not to be denied, that *at all times*, since the first settlement of Europeans in America, *traces of advancement in the Indians have been distinguishable*, and men "of superior genius" have arisen among them, capable and desirous of inspiring their people with wishes to establish durable civil institutions.

Instead of repeating what is to be readily found in general histories, it may be more acceptable to produce, from earlier accounts, a few proofs of what Indians have desired to be, and what, under