

20
receive some instruction in the farming business. Captain
Lewis when we left his town, accompanied us several
miles on our journey, and on parting ^{from us} most earnestly
entreated that friends would not overlook his vil-
lage - he ~~stated~~ ^{stated} to us that his people were willing
and anxious to work, but that they were very ~~ig-~~
~~norant~~ and in great need of instruction, and that
if we could do no more, he hoped we would send one
of our young men, if it would only be to stay 3 or 4
months to encourage and shew them how to put in
and manage their crops. It is therefore our opinion
that these Indians have a strong claim upon the
attention and sympathy of Friends - their situation
is peculiarly calculated to awaken the commiseration
and excite the active benevolence of all who ~~can~~
feel for the sufferings of their fellow men. They are
themselves now fully convinced that they have no
alternative, but to abandon their former habits &
apply themselves to agriculture, or, become totally extinct
as a people, at the same time many of them feel the
force of their ancient habits opposing itself to the change
which they know to be essential to their very existence, &
with an anxious solicitude, they are looking towards
friends to throw in their aid and rescue them from the
destruction, ^{which they now believe awaits them} these considerations, added to the unbounded

23 the return of
confidence which they appear to have in our ²¹ society
- the lively gratitude they manifest for the assistance
we have already furnished them, and the strong affection ^{which}
they generally ^{feel} towards us, cannot we hope fail to excite
friends, to a renewed, and more vigilant attention to
the highly interesting and important concern in which we
are embarked

James Ellison
J. E. Thomas
Bath. 8 Mo 3 1816