Eighteenth-century Enlightenment Europe was filled with idealism, but practical John Adams had little patience for romantic optimism in politics or government. Voltaire, Condorcet, and others emphasized rationalism over religion and asserted that reason could overcome human passions. Adams believed that tyranny was an inevitable expression of human nature. Adams's objections range from points of style and usage to a distaste in certain of Wolff's maxims, which he found simplistic. Adams's political sympathies with the author and her gender. Most importantly, Adams's objections range from points of style and usage to a distaste in certain of Wolff's maxims, which he found simplistic.