His shape arises!

Arrogant, masculine, naive, rowdyish,

Laugher, weeper, worker, idler, citizen, country-man,

Saunterer of woods, stander upon hills, summer swimmer in

rivers or by the sea,

Of pure American breed, of reckless health, his body perfect,

free from taint from top to toe, free forever from headache

and dyspepsia, clean-breathed,

Ample-limbed, a good feeder, weight a hundred and eighty

pounds, full-blooded, six feet high, forty Inches round the

breast and back,

Countenance sun-burnt, bearded, calm, unrefined,

Reminder of animals, meeter of savage and gentleman on equal

terms,

Attitudes lithe and erect, costume free, neck open, of slow

movement on foot,

Passer of his right arm round the shoulders of his friends,

companion of the street,

Persuader always of people to give him their sweetest touches,

and never their meanest,

A Manhattanese bred, fond of Brooklyn, fond of Broadway, fond

of the life of the wharves and the great ferries,

Enterer everywhere, welcomed everywhere, easily understood

after all,

Never offering others, always offering himself, corroborating his

phrenology,

Voluptuous, inhabitive, combative, conscientious, alimentive,

intuitive, of copious friendship, sublimity, firmness, self-

esteem, comparison, individuality, form, locality, eventuality,

Avowing by life, manners, works, to contribute illustrations of

results of The States,

Teacher of the unquenchable creed, namely, egotism,

Inviter of others continually henceforth to try their strength

against his.

-- Walt Whitman, “Song of the Broad-Axe” (1856 version)