

A F A I T H F U L  
20  
NARRATIVE,  
O F .

The many *Dangers* and *Sufferings*, as well as  
wonderful *Deliverances* of ROBERT EAST-  
BURN, during his late *Captivity* among the  
INDIANS: Together with some *Remarks*  
upon the *Country* of CANADA, and the  
*Religion*, and *Policy* of its *Inhabitants*; the  
whole intermixed with devout *Reflections*.

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By ROBERT EASTBURN.

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*Published at the earnest* REQUEST of many  
FRIENDS, for the *Benefit* of the AUTHOR.

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With a recommendatory PREFACE, by the  
Rev. GILBERT TENNENT.

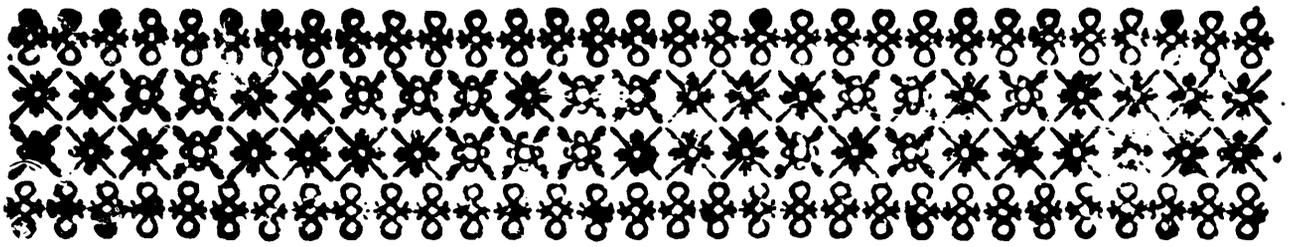
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PSALM 124. 6, 7. *Blessed be the Lord, who hath not given us up  
as a Prey to their Teeth; our Soul is escaped, as a Bird out of  
the Snare of the Fowler: The Snare is broken, and we are escaped.*  
PSALM 103. 2, 4. *Bless the Lord, O my Soul; and forget not all  
his Benefits: Who redeemeth thy Life from Destruction; who  
crowneth thee with loving Kindness, and tender Mercies.*

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P H I L A D E L P H I A :

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# P R E F A C E.

Candid READER,

**T**HE AUTHOR (*and Subject*) of the ensuing Narrative (*who is a Deacon of our Church, and has been so for many Years*) is of such an established good Character, that he needs no Recommendation of others, where he is known: A Proof of which, was the general Joy of the Inhabitants of this City, occasioned by his Return from a miserable Captivity! Together with the Readiness of divers Persons, to contribute to the Relief of himself, and necessitous Family, without any Request of his, or the least Motion of that Tendency! --- But seeing the following Sheets, are like to spread into many Places, where he is not known, permit me to say, That upon long Acquaintance, I have found him to be a Person of Candor, Integrity, and sincere Piety;

## The PREFACE.

Piety; whose Testimony, may with Safety, be depended upon; which give his Narrative the greater Weight, and may induce to read it with the greater Pleasure; the Design of it is evidently Pious, the Matters contained in it, and Manner of handling them, will, I hope, be esteemed by the Impartial, to be entertaining and improving: I heartily wish it may, by the divine Benediction, be of great and durable Service. I am, thy sincere Servant, in the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST.

PHILADELPHIA,

Jan. 19, 1758.

GILBERT TENNENT.

Kind READERS,

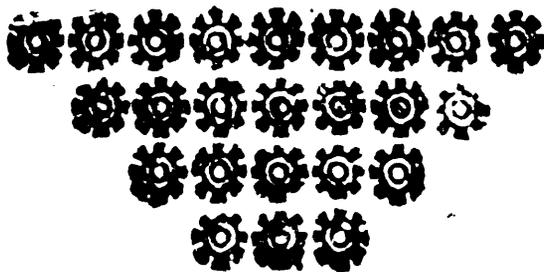
**O**N my Return from my Captivity, I had no Thoughts of publishing any Observations of mine to the World; in this Manner; as I had no Opportunity to keep a Journal, and my Memory being broken, and Capacity small, I was disinclined to undertake it; but a Number of my Friends were pressing in their Perswasions, that I should do it; with whose Motion I complied, from a sincere Regard to God, my King, and Country, so far as I know my own Heart: The following Pages contain, as far as I can remember,

ber, the most material Passages that happened within the Compass of my Observation, while a Prisoner in Canada; the Facts therein related are certainly true, but the Way of representing some Things especially, is not so regular, clear, and strong, as I could wish; but I trust it will be some Apology, that I am not so much acquainted with Performances of this Kind, as many others; who may be hereby excited to give better Representations of Things, far beyond my Knowledge. I remain,

Your unfeigned Well-Wisher,  
and humble Servant,

PHILADELPHIA,  
Jan. 19, 1758.

ROBERT EASTBURN.





A F A I T H F U L  
N A R R A T I V E, &c.

**A** BOUT Thirty Tradesmen, and myself, arrived at Captain *Williams's* Fort (at the *Carrying-Place*) in our Way to *Oswego*, the 26th of *March*, 1756; who informed me, that he was like to be cumbered in the *Fort*, and therefore advised us to take the *Indian-House* for our *Lodging*. About Ten o'Clock next Day, a *Negro* Man came running down the *Road*, and reported, That our *Slaymen* were all taken by the *Enemy*; Captain *Williams* on hearing this, sent a *Serjeant*, and about 12 Men, to see if it was true; I being at the *Indian-House*, and not thinking myself safe there, in Case of an Attack, and being also

also sincerely willing to serve my *King* and *Country*, in the best Manner I could in my present Circumstances, asked him if he would take Company? He replied, with all his Heart! Hereupon, I fell into the Rear, with my Arms, and marched after them; when we had advanced about a Quarter of a Mile, we heard a *Shot*, followed with doleful *Cries* of a *dying Man*, which excited me to advance, in order to discover the Enemy, who I soon perceived were prepared to receive us: In this difficult Situation, seeing a large Pine-Tree near, I repaired to it for Shelter; and while the Enemy were viewing our Party, I having a good Chance of killing two at a Shot, quickly discharged at them, but could not certainly know what Execution was done 'till some Time after; our Company likewise discharged, and retreated: Seeing myself in Danger of being surrounded, I was obliged to Retreat a different Course, and to my great Surprise, fell into a deep Mire, which the Enemy, by following my Track in a light Snow, soon discovered, and obliged me to surrender, to prevent a cruel Death. (They stood ready to drive their Darts into my Body, in case I refused to deliver up my Arms.) Presently after I was taken, I was surrounded by a great Number, who stripped me of my Cloathing, Hat, and Neckcloth (so that I had nothing left

left but a Flannel Vest, without Sleeves) put a Rope on my Neck, bound my Arms fast behind me, put a long Band round my Body, and a large Pack on my Back, struck me on the Head (a severe Blow) and drove me through the Woods before them: It is not easy to conceive, how distressing such a Condition is! In the mean Time, I endeavoured with all my little remaining Strength, to lift up my Eyes to God, from whom alone I could with Reason expect Relief!

SEVENTEEN or Eighteen *Prisoners*, were soon added to our Number, one of which informed me, that the *Indians* were angry with me, and reported to some of their *Chiefs*, that I had fired on them, wounded one, and killed another; for which he doubted they would kill me. Hereupon I considered that the Hearts of all Men are in the Hand of God, and that one Hair of our Head cannot fall to the Ground without his Permission: I had not as yet learned what Numbers the Enemy's Parties consisted of; there being only about 100 *Indians* who had lain in Ambush on the Road, to kill or take into Captivity all that passed between the two Forts. Here an Interpreter came to me, to enquire what Strength Capt. *Williams* had to defend his Fort? After a short Pause, I gave such a discouraging Answer (yet consistent with Truth)

as prevented their attacking it, and of Consequence the Effusion of much Blood ; a gracious Providence, which I desire ever to retain a grateful Sense of ; for hereby it evidently appeared, that I was suffered to fall into the Hands of the Enemy, to promote the Good of my *Countrymen*, to better Purpose, than I could, by continuing with them ; verily the *Almighty is wise in Council, and wonderful in Working.*

IN the mean Time, the Enemy determined to destroy *Bull's Fort* (at the Head of *Wood-Creek*) which they soon effected, all being put to the *Sword*, except five Persons, the *Fort* burnt, the *Provision* and *Powder* destroyed (saving only a little for their own Use) then they retired to the *Woods*, and joined their main Body, which inclusive, consisted of 400 *French*, and 300 *Indians*, commanded by one of the principle *Gentlemen* of *Quebec* ; as soon as they got together (having a *Priest* with them) they fell on their *Knees*, and returned *Thanks* for their *Victory* ; an Example this, worthy of Imitation ! an Example which may make prophane pretended *Protestants* blush (if they are not lost to all Sense of Shame) who instead of acknowledging a God, or Providence, in their military Undertakings, are continually reproaching him with Oaths and Curses ; is it any Wonder, that the Attempts  
of

of such, are blasted with Disappointment and Disgrace!

THE Enemy had several wounded Men, both *French* and *Indians* among them, which they carried on their Backs; besides which, about Fifteen of their Number were killed, and of us about Forty: It being by this Time near dark, and some *Indians* drunk, they only marched about 4 Miles and encamped; the *Indians* untied my Arms, cut Hemlock Bowes, and strewed round the Fire, tied my Band to two Trees, with my Back on the green Bowes (by the Fire) covered me with an old Blanket, and lay down across my Band, on each Side, to prevent my Escape, while they slept.

SUNDAY the 28th, rose early, the *Commander* ordered a hasty Retreat towards *Canada*; for fear of General *Johnson*; in the mean Time, one of our Men said, he understood the *French* and *Indians* designed to join a strong Party, and fall on *Oswego*, before our Forces there, could get any Provision or Succours; having, as they thought, put a Stop to our relieving them for a Time: When we encamped in the Evening, the *Commanding-Officer* ordered the *Indians* to bring me to his Tent, and asked me, by an Interpreter, If I thought General *Johnson* would follow them, I told him I judged not, but rather thought he would proceed

need to *Oswego* (which was indeed my Sentiment, grounded upon prior Information, and then expressed to prevent the Execution of their Design.) He farther enquired, what was my Trade? I told him that of a *Smith*; he then perswaded me, when I got to *Canada*, to send for my Wife, 'for said he, you can get a rich Living there;' but when he saw that he could not prevail, he asked no more Questions, but commanded me to return to my *Indian* Master: Having this Opportunity of Conversation, I informed the *General*, that his *Indian Warriors* had striped me of my *Cloathing*, and would be glad he would be good enough to order me some Relief; to which he replied, that I would get Cloaths when I came to *Canada*, which was cold Comfort to one almost frozen! On my return, the *Indians* perceiving I was unwell, and could not eat their coarse Food, ordered some *Chocolate* (which they had brought from the *Carrying-Place*) to be boiled for me, and seeing me eat that, appeared pleased. A strong *Guard* was kept every Night; one of our Men being weakened by his Wounds, and rendered unable to keep Pace with them, was *killed* and *scalped* on the Road!--I was all this Time almost naked, traveling through deep *Snow*, and wading through *Rivers* cold as Ice!

AFTER

AFTER Seven Days March, we arrived at *Lake Ontario*, where I eat some *Horse Flesh*, which tasted very agreeably, for *to the hungry Man*, as *Solomon* observes, *every bitter Thing is sweet* (a). The *French* carried several of their wounded Men all the Way upon their Backs, and (many of them wore no Breeches in their Travels in this cold Season, they are strong, hardy Men.) The *Indians* had Three of their Party wounded, which they likewise carried on their Backs, I wish there was more of this *Hardness*, so necessary for *War*, in our Nation, which would open a more encouraging Scene than appears at present! The *Prisoners* were so divided, that but few could converse together on our March, and (which was still more disagreeable and distressing) an *Indian*, who had a large *Bunch* of green *Scalps*, taken off our Men's *Heads*; marched before me, and another with a sharp *Spear* behind, to drive me after him; by which Means the *Scalps*

B 2

were

a On the Friday before we arrived at the *Lake*, the *Indians* killed a *Porcupine*, which is in bigness equal to a large *Raccoon*, with short *Legs*, is covered with long Hair, intermixed with sharp *Quills*, which are their *Defence*: It is indeed dangerous coming very near them, because they cast their *Quills* (which are like barbed Irons or Darts) at any Thing that opposeth them, which when they pierce, are not easy to be drawn out; for though their *Points* are sharp and smooth, they have a kind of *Beard*, which makes them stick fast: However, the *Indians* threw it on a large Fire, burnt off the Hair and *Quills*, roasted and eat of it, with whom I had a Part.

were often close to my Face, and as we marched, they frequently every Day gave the *dead Shout*, which was repeated as many Times, as there were *Captives* and *Scalps* taken! In the Midst of this gloomy Scene, when I considered, how many poor Souls were hurried into a vast Eternity, with Doubts of their Unfitness for such a Change, it made me lament and expostulate in the Manner following; O Sin what hast thou done! what Desolation and Ruin hast thou brought into this miserable World? What am I, that I should be thus spared? My Afflictions are certainly far less than my Sins deserve! Through the exceeding Riches of divine Goodness and Grace, I was in this distressing Situation supported and comforted, by these Passages of sacred Scripture, *viz. That our light Afflictions, which last but for a Moment, shall work for us a far more exceeding and eternal Weight of Glory. And that, though no Afflictions are for the present joyous, but grievous; yet nevertheless, they afterwards yield the peaceable Fruits of Righteousness, to them who are exercised thereby. And farther, that all Things shall work together for Good, to them that love God; to them who are the Called, according to his Purpose. But to return,*

I MAY, with Justice and Truth observe, That our *Enemies* leave no Stone unturned  
to

to compass our ruin ; they pray, work, and travel to bring it about, and are unwearied in the Pursuit ; while many among us *sleep* in a *Storm*, that has laid a good Part of our Country desolate, and threatens the Whole with Destruction : O may the Almighty awake us, cause us to see our Danger, before it be too late, and grant us Salvation ! O that we may be of good Courage, and play the Man, for our People, and the Cities of our God ! But alas, I am obliged to turn my Face towards cold *Canada*, among inveterate *Enemies*, and innumerable *Dangers* ! O Lord, I pray thee, be my safe Guard ; thou hast already covered me in the Hollow of thy Hand ; when *Death* cast Darts all around me, and many fell on every Side, I beheld thy Salvation !

*April 4th*, SEVERAL *French Battoes* met us, and brought a large Supply of Provision ; the Sight of which caused great Joy, for we were in great Want ; then a Place was soon erected to celebrate *Massin*, which being ended, we all went over the Mouth of a River, where it empties itself into the East-End of *Lake Ontario*, a great Part of our Company set off on Foot towards *Oswegotchy* ; while the rest were ordered into *Battoes*, and carried towards the Entrance of *St. Lawrence* (where that River takes its Beginning) but by reason of bad Weather, Wind, Rain, and Snow, whereby  
the

the Waters of the Lake were troubled, we were obliged to lie-by, and haul our Battoes on Shore; here I lay on the cold Shore two Days. *Tuesday* set off, and entered the Head of *St. Lawrence*, in the Afternoon; came too late at Night, made Fires, but did not lie down to sleep; embarked long before Day, and after some Miles Progress down the River, we saw many Fires on our Right-Hand, which were made by the Men who left us, and went by Land, with them we staid till Day, and then again embarked in our Battoes, the Weather was very bad (it snowed fast all Day) near Night arrived at *Oswegotchy*; I was almost starved to Death, but hoped to stay in this *Indian Town* till warm Weather; slept in an *Indian Wigwam*, rose early in the Morning (being *Thursday*) and soon to my Grief discovered my Disappointment! Several of the Prisoners had leave to tarry here, but I must go 200 Miles farther down Stream, to another *Indian Town*; the Morning being extreamly cold, I applied to a *French Merchant* (or *Trader*) for some old *Rags* of Cloathing, for I was almost naked, but to no Purpose!

ABOUT Ten o'Clock, was ordered into a *Battee*, on our Way down the *River*, with 8 or 9 *Indians*, one of which was the Man wounded in the Skirmish before mentioned; at Night we went on Shore, the Snow being  
much

much deeper than before, we cleared it away, and made a large Fire; here, when the wounded *Indian* cast his Eyes upon me, his old Grudge revived, he took my *Blanket* from me, and commanded me to *dance* round the *Fire* Bare-foot, and *sing* the *Prisoners Song*, which I utterly refused; this surprized one of my fellow Prisoners, who told me they would put me to *Death* (for he understood what they said) he therefore tried to persuade me to comply, but I desired him to let me alone, and was through great Mercy, enabled to reject his Importunity with Abhorrence! The *Indian* also continued urging, saying you shall dance and sing; but apprehending my Compliance sinful, I determined to persist in declining it at all Adventures, and to leave the Issue to the divine Disposal! The *Indian* perceiving his Orders disobeyed, was fired with Indignation, and endeavoured to *push* me into the *Fire*, which I leapt over, and he being weak with his Wounds, and not being assisted by any of his Brethren, was obliged to desist: For this gracious Interposure of *Providence*, in preserving me both from *Sin* and *Danger*, I desire to bless God while I live!

FRIDAY Morning, was almost perished with Cold. *Saturday*, proceeded on our Way, and soon came in Sight of the upper Part of the Inhabitants of *Canada*; here I was in great  
**Hopes**

Hopes of some Relief, not knowing the Manner of the *Indians*, who do not make many Stops among the *French*, in their return from *War*, till they get *Home*: However when they came near some rapid Falls of Water, one of my fellow Prisoners, and several *Indians*, together with myself, were put on Shore, to travel by Land, which pleased me well, it being much warmer running on the *Snow*, than lying still in the *Battoe*; we past by several *French* Houses, but stopt at none; the Vessel going down a rapid Stream, it required haste to keep Pace with her, we crossed over a Point of Land, and found the *Battoe* waiting for us, as near the Shore as the Ice would permit: Here we left *St. Lawrence*, and turned up *Conasadauga River* (*b*), but it being frozen up, we hauled our *Battoe* on Shore; and each of us took our Share of her Loading on our Backs, and marched towards *Conasadauga*, an *Indian Town*, which was our designed Port, but could not reach it that Night:  
 Came

*b* The River *St. Lawrence*, at *Lake Ontario*, takes its Beginning through several *Islands*, by which we are in no necessity of coming within Sight of *Frontenac*, when we go down the River; it is smooth Water from thence to *Oswegotche* (or as it is called by the *French* LEGALET) but from hence to *Montreal*, the Water is more swift, with a Number of rapid Streams, though not dangerous to pass through with small Boats and Bark Canoes, provided the Steersmen are careful, and acquainted with the Places; in transporting Provision and warlike Stores upStream  
 from

Came to a *French House*, cold, weary, and hungry; here my old Friend, the wounded *Indian*, again appeared; and related to the *Frenchman*, the Affair of my refusing to *dance*, who immediately assisted the *Indian* to strip me of my *Flannel Vest*, before mentioned, which was my All: Now they were resolved to compel me to *dance and sing!* The *Frenchman* was as violent as the *Indian*, in promoting this Imposition; but the Women belonging to the House, seeing the *rough Usage* I had, took pity on me, and rescued me out of their Hands, till their Heat was over, and prevailed with the *Indian* to excuse me from Dancing; but he insisted that I must be shaved, and then he would let me alone (I had at that Time a long *Beard*, which the *Indians* hate) with this Motion I readily complied, and then the *Indian* seemed content.

Sunday, April 11th, SET off towards *Conasauga*, traveled about two Hours, and then saw the *Town*, over a great River, which was  
 C still

from *Canada* to *Lake Ontario*, there is a necessity of unloading *Battoes* at several of the rapid Streams, and hauling them empty through shoal Water near the Shore; and carrying the Loading by Land to where the Water is more slack; though there be several of those Places, yet the Land-Carriage is not very far: The Land on both Sides the River, appears fertile a great Part of the Way from the *Lake* to *Montreal*; but the nearer the Latter the worse, more mirey and stony: The *Timber* is *White Pine*, *Ash*, *Maple*, *Beach*, *Hickory*, *Hemlock*, *Spruce*; and from the *Lake* about 150 Miles down plenty of *White Oak*, but none about *Montreal* of that Kind.

still frozen; the *Indians* stoped, and we were soon joined with a Number of our own Company, which we had not seen for several Days: The *Prisoners*, in Number Eight, were ordered to lay down our *Packs*, and be *painted*; the wounded *Indian* painted me, and put a Belt of Wampum round my Neck, instead of the *Repe* which I had wore 400 Miles. Then set off towards the Town on the Ice, which was four Miles over; our Heads were not allowed to be covered, lest our fine Paint should be hid, the Weather in the mean Time very cold, like to freeze our Ears; after we had advanced nearer to the Town, the *Indian* Women came out to meet us, and relieved their Husbands of their *Packs*.

As soon as we landed at *Conasadauga*, a large Body of *Indians* came and encompassed us round, and ordered the *Prisoners* to *dance* and *sing* the *Prisoners* Song, (which I was still enabled to decline) at the Conclusion of which, the *Indians* gave a Shout, and opened the Ring to let us run, and then fell on us with their *Fists*, and knocked several down; in the mean Time, one ran before to direct us to an *Indian* House, which was open, and as soon as we got in, we were beat no more; my Head was sore with beating, and pained me several Days. The *Squaws* were kind to us, gave us boiled *Corn* and *Beans* to eat, and *Fire* to warm us, which

which was a great Mercy, for I was both cold and hungry : This Town lies about 30 Miles North-West from *Montreal*, I staid here till the Ice was gone, which was about Ten Days, and then was sent to *Coknewago*, in Company with some *Indians*, who when they came within Hearing, gave Notice by their Way of Shouting, that they had a *Prisoner*, on which the whole Town rose to welcome me, which was the more distressing, as there was no other *Prisoner* in their Hands ; when we came near Shore, a stout *Indian* took hold of me, and hauled me into the Water, which was Knee deep, and very cold : As soon as I got a-shore, the *Indians* gathered round me, and ordered me to *dance* and *sing*, now when I was stiff with Cold and Wet, and lying long in the *Cannoe* ; here I only *stamped* to prepare for my Race, and was encompassed with about 500 *Indians*, who danced and sung, and at last gave a Shout, and opened the Circle ; about 150 young Lads made ready to Pelt me with Dirt and gravel Stones, and on my setting off gave me a stout Volley, without my suffering great Hurt ; but an *Indian* seeing me run, met me, and held me fast, till the Boys had stored themselves again with Dirt and small Stones, and let me run ; but then I fared much worse than before, for a small Stone among the Mud hit my Right-Eye, and my

Head and Face were so covered with the Dirt, that I could scarce see my Way; but discovering a Door of an *Indian* House standing open, I run in: From this *Retreat* I was soon hauled, in order to be pelted more; but the *Indian Women* being more merciful interposed, took me into a House, brought me Water to wash, and gave me boiled Corn and Beans to eat. The next Day, I was brought to the Center of the Town, and cried according to the *Indian* Custom, in order to be sent to a Family of *Indians*, 200 Miles up Stream, at *Oswegotchy*, and there to be adopted, and abused no more: To this End, I was delivered to three young Men, who said I was their Brother, and set forward on our Way to the aforesaid Town, with about 20 more *Indians*, but by reason of bad Weather, we were obliged to encamp on a cold, stony Shore, three Days, and then proceeded on; called at *Conasadauga*, staid there about a Week, in which Time, I went and viewed four *Houses*, at a Distance from the Town, about a Quarter of a Mile from each other; in which, are represented in large *Paint Work*, the *Sufferings* of our *Saviour*, with Design to draw the *Indians* to the *Papist's Religion*; the Work is curiously done: A little farther stands three *Houses* near together, on the Top of a high Hill, which they call *Mount Calvary*, with three large  
*Crosses*

*Crosses* before them, which compleats the whole Representation : To all these Houses, the Priests and *Indians* repair, in performing their grand Proceſſions, which takes up much Time (c).

SET off on our *Journey* for *Oſwegotchy*, againſt a rapid Stream, and being long in it, and our Proviſion growing ſhort, the *Indians* put to Shore a little before Night ; my Lot was to get Wood, others were ordered to get Fires, and ſome to Hunt ; our Kettle was put over the Fire with ſome pounded *Indian* Corn, and after it had boiled about two Hours, my oldeſt *Indian* Brother, returned with a *Shee Beaver*, big with *Young*, which he ſoon cut to Pieces, and threw into the Kettle, together with the *Guts*, and took the four young *Beavers*, whole as they came out of the *Dam*, and put them likewise into the Kettle, and when

c The Pains the *Papiſts* take to propagate ſuch a bloody and abſurd Religion as theirs, is truly amazing ! This brings to my Remembrance, the following *Diſcourſe*, I had with two *French* Priests in my *Captivity* ; one of them asked me, if I was a *Catholic* ; apprehending he meant the *Romish* Religion, I answered no ; he replied, no Bon. On my relating the above to a fellow Prisoner, he ſaid, I had answered wrong, becauſe by the Word *Catholic*, he meant a *Chriſtian* : Some Time after, I was again asked by the other *Prieſt*, if I was a *Catholic*, I answered yes, but not a *Roman Catholic* ; at which he ſmiled, and asked if I was a *Lutheran*. I replied no ; he again inquired whether I was a *Calvanist*. I told him I was ; to which he ſaid, with warmth, no Bon ! no Bon ! which ſignifieth, it is not good, it is not good ! O ! may not the Zeal of *Papiſts*, in propagating *Superſtition* and *Idolatry*, make *Proteſtants* aſhamed of their *Luke-warmneſs*, in promoting the Religion of the *Bible* !

when all was well boiled, gave each one of us a large Dishful of the Broth, of which we eat freely, and then Part of the old Beaver, the Tail of which was divided equally among us, there being Eight at our Fire; the Four young Beavers were cut in the Middle, and each of us got Half of a Beaver; I watched an Opportunity to *hide* my Share (having satisfied myself before that tender Dish came to Hand) which if they had seen, would have much displeas'd them. The other *Indians* caught young *Musk-Rats*, run a Stick through their Bodies, and roasted, without being skinned or gutted, and so eat them. Next Morning hastened on our Journey, which continued several Days, till we came near *Oswegotchy*, where we landed about three Miles from the Town, on the contrary Side of the River; here I was to be adopted, my *Father* and *Mother* that I had never seen before were waiting, and ordered me into an *Indian House*, where we were directed to sit down silent for a considerable Time, the *Indians* appeared very sad, and my Mother began to cry, and continued crying aloud for some Time, and then dried up her Tears, and received me for her Son, and took me over the River to the *Indian Town*; the next Day I was ordered to go to *Mafs* with them, but I refused once and again, yet they continued their Importunity several

several

several Days, saying it was good to go to *Mass*, but I still refused; and seeing they could not prevail with me, they seemed much displeas'd with their new Son (*d*). I was then sent over the River, to be employ'd in hard Labour, as a Punishment for not going to *Mass*, and not allowed a Sight of, or any Conversation with my fellow Prisoners; the old *Indian* Man that I was order'd to work with, had a Wife, and some Children, he took me into the Woods with him, and made Signs that I must chop, giving me an Ax, the *Indian* soon saw that I could handle the Ax: Here I tried to reconcile myself to this Employ, that they might have no Occasion against me, except concerning the Law of my God; the old Man began to appear kind, and his Wife gave me Milk and Bread when we came Home, and when she got Fish, gave me the *Gills* to eat, out of real Kindness; but perceiving I did not like them, gave me my own choice, and behaved lovingly! Here I saw that God could make

*d* When I was at *Oswegotchy*, the *Indians* took Notice, that I frequently retir'd alone, and supposing I had some bad Design, threaten'd if I did not desist, they would *Sawbark* me; but my fellow Prisoner, who understood their Language, to'd them it would be a pity to hurt me on that Account, for I only went into a private Place to pray! which was true; the *Indians* replied, if so, it was good; but being yet suspicious, took Pains by watching to find out how the Case was, and when they satisfi'd themselves, seem'd pleas'd! and did not offer to *interrupt* me any more, which was a great Mercy; as the Contrary would have in some Degree, marr'd my Converse with God.

make Friends of cruel Enemies, as he once turned the Heart of angry *Eſau* into Love and Tenderneſs; when we had finiſhed our Fence, which had employed us about a Week, I ſhewed the old *Squaw* my *Shirt* (having worn it from the Time I was firſt taken Priſoner, which was about ſeven Weeks) all in *Rags*, *Dirt*, and *Lice*; ſhe ſaid it was not good, and brought me a new One, with ruffled Sleeves (ſaying that is good) which I thankfully accepted. The next Day they carried me back to the *Indian Town*, and admitted me to converſe with my fellow *Priſoners*, who told me we were all to be ſent to *Montreal*, which accordingly came to paſs.

MONTREAL, at our Arrival here, we had our Lodging firſt in the *Jefuit's Convent*, where I ſaw a great Number of *Prieſts*, and People that came to Confefſion; after ſome ſtay, we were ordered to attend, with the *Indians*, at a grand *Council*, held before the head General *Vaudriel*; we *Priſoners* ſat in our Rank (ſurrounded with our *Fathers* and *Brethren*) but were aſked no *Queſtions*: The *General* had a Number of *Officers* to attend him in *Council*, where a noted *Prieſt*, called *Picket*, ſat at his *Right-Hand*, who underſtands the *Indian Tongue* well, and does more *Hurt* to the *Engliſh*, than any other of his Order in *Canada* (his Dwelling is at *Oſwegotchy*). Here I was informed

informed that some Measures were concerted to destroy *Oswego*, which they had been long preparing to execute; we in our Journey met many *Battoes* going up Stream, with Provision and Men for an Attack on our *Frontiers*, which confirmed the Report: The *Council* adjourned to another Day, and then broke up. My *Indian Father* and *Mother* took me with them to several of their old Acquaintance, who were *French*, to shew them their lately adopted Son; these Persons had been concerned with my Father and other *Indians*, in destroying many *English* Families in their younger Days; and (as one standing by who understood their Language, said,) were boasting of their former *Murders!* After some Days the *Council* was again called, before which, several of the *Oneida Chiefs* appeared, and offered some Complaint against the *French's* attacking our *Carrying-Place*, it being their Land; but the *General* laboured to make them easy, and gave them fundry Presents of Value, which they accepted (e): After which, I knowing these

D *Indians*

e The *French* in *Canada*, well knowing the great Importance of having the *Indians* in their Interest, to promote their ambitious and unjust Desigus, use a variety of Methods with them, among which, the following one is excellent in itself, and well worthy of Imitation, *viz.* They are exceeding careful to prevent *spirituous Liquors* being sold to the *Indians*, and if any of the *Inhabitants* are proved guilty of it, their temporal Interest is quite broke, and corporal Punishment inflicted on them; unless

*Indians* were acquainted with Captain *Williams*, at the *Carrying-Place*, sent a *Letter* by them, to let my Family and Friends know I was yet alive, and longed for *Redemption*; but it never came to Hand. The Treaty being ended, the *General* sent about ten Gallons of *red Wine* to the *Indians*, which they divided among us; after came the *Presents*, consisting of *Coats*, *Blankets*, *Shirts*, *Skins* (to make *Indian Shoes*) *Cloth* (to make *Stockings*) *Powder*, *Lead*, *Shot*, and to each a *Bag* of *Paint*, for their own Use, &c. After we *Prisoners* had our Share, my *Mother* came to me with an *Interpreter*, and told me I might stay in the *Town*, at a Place she had found for me, if I pleased (this was doubtless the Consequence of my declining to obey her Orders, in some Instances that affected my Conscience) this Proposal I almost agreed to; but one of my fellow *Prisoners*, with whom I had before some Discourse, about making our *Escape* from

unless the *General*, on some particular Occasion, orders his *Commissioners* to deliver some to them. I may add, that knowing their Number is small, compared with the *British Inhabitants* on this *Continent*, and must quickly fall into their Hands, in case we united, and entered boldly into the Heart of their Country with a *sufficient Force*; for that very Reason, they choose to keep us continually on the *Defensive*, by sending when Occasion requires, large Bodies of *Regulars*, together with great Numbers of *Indians*, upon long and tedious *Marches*, that we may not come near their *Borders*; and especially by employing the *Latter*, constantly to waste and ravage our *Frontiers*.

from the *Indian Town*, opposed the Motion, and said, ' pray do not stay, for if you do, ' we shall not be able to form a Plan for our ' Deliverance ;' on which I told her I chose to go Home with her, and soon set off by Land in our Way thither, to *Lascheen*, distant from *Montreal* about 9 Miles, where we left our Canoes, and then proceeded, without Delay, on our Journey; in which I saw to my Sorrow, great Numbers of *Soldiers*, and much *Provisions*, in Motion towards *Lake Ontario*.

AFTER a painful and distressing Journey, we arrived at *Oswegotchy*, where we likewise saw many *Battoes*, with *Provision* and *Soldiers*, daily passing by in their Way to *Frontenac*, which greatly distressed me for *Oswego*! Hence I resolved, if possible, to give our People Notice of their *Danger*: To this End, I told two of my fellow Prisoners, that it was not a Time to *sleep*, and asked if they would go with me, to this they heartily agreed; but we had no *Provision*, were closely eyed by the Enemy, and could not lay up a Stock out of our Allowance: However, at this Time, Mr.

D 2

Picket

*tiers*, by which we are murdered by Inches, and beat without a Battle! - By what I could learn when I was among them, they do not fear our Numbers, because of our unhappy *Distressions*, which they deride, and from them, strongly expect to conquer us entirely! which may a gracious God, in Mercy, prevent!

*Picket* (before mentioned) had concluded to dig a large *Trench* round the Town; I therefore went to a *Negro*, the principal Manager of this Work (who could speak *English*, *French*, and *Indian*, well) and asked him, if he could get Employ for two others, and myself, which he soon did; for which we were to have *Meat* and *Wages*. Here we had a Prospect of procuring Provision for our Flight; this, I in some Time effected for myself, and then asked my Brethren if they were ready, who replied they were not yet, but said, *Ann Bowman*, our fellow Prisoner, had brought 130 Dollars from *Ball's Fort*, and would give them all they had Need of; I told them it was not safe to disclose such a Secret to her, but they blamed me for my Fears, and applied to her for *Provision*, letting her know our Intention, who immediately informed the *Priest* of it; on which we were apprehended, the *Indians* apprised of our Design, and a *Court* called; by Order of which, four of us were confined under a strong Guard, in a Room within the Fort, for several Days.

FROM hence, another and myself were sent to *Cobnewago*, under a strong Guard of 60 *Indians*, to prevent my plotting any more against the *French*, and banish all Hope of my Escape! However, when we arrived at this Place, it pleased that gracious God, who has the Hearts  
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of all Creatures in his Hand, to incline the *Captain* of the *Guard*, to shew me great Kindness, in giving me Liberty to walk or work where I pleased, within any small Distance; on which I went to work with a *French* Smith, for Six Livres and Five Souie per Week; which the Captain let me have to myself, and farther favoured me with the Priviledge of Lodging at his Mother's House, an *English* Woman (named *Mary Harris*, taken Captive when a Child, from *Dearfield*, in *New-England*) who told me she was my *Grand-mother*, and was kind; but the Wages being small, and not sufficient to procure such Cloathing as I was in Want of, I proceeded no farther with the *French* Smith, but went to my Uncle *Peter*, and told him I wanted Cloaths, and that it would be better to let me go to *Montreal*, and work there, where I could Cloath myself better, than by staying with him, and that without any Charge to him, who after some Reasoning consented.

SET off on my Journey to *Montreal*, and on my entring the City met an *English* Smith, who took me to work with him; after some Time, we settled to work in a *Shop*, opposite to the *General's* Door, where we had the Opportunity of seeing a great Part of the *Forces* of *Canada* (both *Soldiers* and *Indians*) who were commonly brought there, before their  
going

going out to War ; and likewise all *Prisoners*, by which Means we got Intelligence how our People were preparing for Defence ; but no good News from *Oswego*, which made me fear, knowing that great Numbers of *French* were gone against it, and hearing of but few to defend it. Prayers were put up in all the Churches of *Canada*, and great Processions made, in order to procure Success to their Arms, against poor *Oswego* ; but our People knew little of their Danger, till it was too late : Certainly, if more frequent and earnest Application (both in private and public) was made to the *God of Battle*, we might with greater Probability, expect Success would crown our military Attempts ! To my Surprise, the dismal News came, that the *French* had taken one of the *Oswego Forts* ; in a few Hours, in Confirmation of this, I saw the *English Standards* (the melancholly Trophy of Victory) and the *French* rejoicing at our downfall, and mocking us poor *Prisoners*, in our Exile and Extremity, which was no great Argument either of Humanity, or true Greatness of Mind ; great Joy appeared in all their Faces, which they expressed by loud *Shouts*, firing of *Cannon*, and returning *Thanks* in their Churches ; but our Faces were covered with *Shame*, and our Hearts filled with *Grief* !---  
 Soon after, I saw several of the *Officers* brought  
 in

in Prisoners, in small Parties, and the Soldiers in the same Manner, and confined within the Walls, in a starving Condition, in order to make them Work, which some complied with, but others bravely refused; and last of all came the *Tradesmen*, among whom was my *Son*, who looking round saw his *Father*, who he thought had long been *dead*; this joyful Sight so affected him, that he wept!--nor could I, in seeing my *Son*, remain unconcerned!--no; the Tenderness of a Father's Bowels, upon so extraordinary an Occasion, I am not able to express, and therefore must cover it with a Vail of Silence!--But he, with all my *Philadelphia Friends*, being guarded by *Soldiers*, with fixed *Bayonets*, we could not come near each other, they were sent to the common *Pound*; but I hastened to the *Interpreter*, to try if I could get my Child at Liberty, which was soon effected! When we had the Happiness of an Interview, he gave me some Information of the State of our Family, and told me, as soon as the *News* were sent Home, that I was *killed*, or *taken*, his *Mother* was not allowed any more *Support* from my *Wages*, which grieved me much, and added to my other *Afflictions* (f)!

WHEN

f In the mean Time. it gave me some Pleasure, in this Situation, to see an Expression of equal *Duty* and *Prudence* in my *Sons* Conduct; who, though young in Years (about 17) and in such a confused State of Things, had taken care to bring, with

WHEN the People taken at *Oswego*, were setting out on their Way to *Quebec*, I made Application for Liberty to go with them; but the Interpreter replied, that I was an *Indian Prisoner*, and the *General* would not suffer it, till the *Indians* were satisfied; and as they lived Two Hundred Miles from *Montreal*, it could not be done at that Time: Finding that all Arguments, farther on that Head, would not avail, because I was not included in the *Capitulation*; I told the *Interpreter*, my Son must go and leave me! in order to be ready at *Quebec* to go Home, when the *Oswego* People went, which probably would be soon; he replied, 'It would be better to keep him with me, for he might be a Mean to get me clear much sooner.'

THE *Officers* belonging to *Oswego*, would gladly have had me with them, but found it impracticable; this is an Instance of Kindness and Condescension, for which I am obliged! Captain *Bradley*, gave me a good *Coat*, *Vest*, and *Shirt*; and a young *Gentleman*, who formerly

with much Labour and Fatigue, a large *Bundle* of considerable Value to me, it being *Cloathing*, &c. which I was in great Need of; he likewise saved a Quantity of *Wampum*, which we brought from *New-York*, and afterwards sold here, for 150 *Livers*. He traveled with me Part of the Journey towards *Oswego*, but not being so far on his Way, as I was when taken, he did not then fall into the Enemy's Hands, but continued free till *Oswego* was taken, and was then remarkably delivered from  
the

merly lived in *Philadelphia*, gave Four Pistoles (his Name is *James Stone*, he was Doctor at *Oswego*). These generous Expressions of Kindness and Humanity, I am under great Obligations to remember with affectionate Gratitude, and if ever it be in the Compass of my Power, to requite: This Money, together with what my Son brought, I was in Hopes would go far towards procuring my *Release*, from my *Indian Masters*; but seeing a Number of *Prisoners* in sore Distress, among which were, the Captains *Grant* and *Shepherd*, and about Seven more in Company, I thought it my Duty to relieve them, and commit my *Release* to the Disposal of Providence! Nor was this suffered to turn to my Disadvantage in the Issue, for my Deliverance was brought about in due Time, in another, and unexpected Way. This Company informed me of their Intention to Escape, accordingly I gave them all the Help in my Power, saw them clear of the Town, on a *Saturday Evening*, before the *Centries* were set at the *Gates*,

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the Hands of the *Indians*, in the following Manner, 15 young *Lads* were drafted out to be delivered to them (which from their known Custom, it is reasonable to conclude, was to fill up the Number they had lost in the Battle) among which he was one: This *barbarous Design*, which is contrary to the *Laws of War*, among all *civilized Nations*, the *French* artfully concealed, under the Pretext of sending them to work in the *Battoes*; but my Child taking Notice, that all that were chosen

and advised them not to part from each other, and delivered to Captain *Shepherd* two Pocket Compasses; but they contrary to this Counsel parted, and saw each other no more: By their separating, Captain *Grant*, and Serjeant *Newel*, were deprived of the Benefit of a *Compass*; the other Part got safe to *Fort William Henry*, as I was informed by Serjeant *Henry*, who was brought in Prisoner, being taken in a *Battle*, when gallant, indefatigable Captain *Rogers*, made a *brave Stand*, against more than twice his Number! But I have not heard any Account of Captain *Grant*! Was enabled, through much Mercy, to continue communicating some Relief to other *Prisoners*, out of the Wages I received for my Labour, which was 40 Livres per Month!

In the latter Part of the Winter, Coal and Iron were so scarce, that I was hard set to get any more *Work*; I then offered to work for my Diet and Lodging, rather than be thrust into a stinking *Dungeon*, or sent among the *Indians*: The *Interpreter* took some Pains (which

were *small Lads*, doubted their real Intention was bad, and therefore slipt out of his *Rank* and concealed himself, by which Means, under God, he was preserved from a State of perpetual *Captivity*; his Place being filled up in his Absence, the other unhappy Youths were delivered up a *Sacrifice* to the *Indian Enemy*, to be instructed in *Popish Principles*, and employed in *Murdering* their *Countrymen*; yea, perhaps their *Fathers* and *Brothers*, O horrible! O lamentable! How can the *French*

(which I thankfully acknowledge) but without Success; however, as I offered to work without Wages, a *Frenchman* took me and my Son in, upon these Terms, till a better Birth presented; here we staid one Week, but heard of no other Place, then he offered me and my Son, 30 Livres per Month, to strike and blow the Bellows, which I did for about two Months, and then was discharged, and travelled about from Place to Place, having no fixed Abode, and was obliged to lay out the small Remains of my *Cash*, in buying a little *Viſtuals*, and took a *Hay-Loft* for my Lodging: I then made my Case known to the kind *Interpreter*, and requested him to consider of some Means for my Relief, who replied he would; in the mean Time, as I was taking a walk in the City, I met an *Indian Prisoner*, that belonged to the *Town* where my *Father* lived, who reported, that a great Part of the *Indians* there, were just come, with a Resolution to carry

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be guilty in cold Blood, of such prodigious Iniquity? Besides their insatiable Thirst of Empire, Doubtless the Pardons they get from their *Pope*, and their *Priests*, embolden them, which brings to my Mind, what I saw when among them: On a Sabbath Day, perceiving a great Concourse of People at a *Chapel*, built on the Commons, at some Distance from the *City*, I went to see what was the Occasion, and found a kind of a *Fair*, at which were sold *Cakes*, *Wine*, *Brandy*, &c. I likewise saw many *Carts* and *Chaises* attending, the *Chapel* Doors in the mean Time open, Numbers of People going in and out, and a *Board* hanging over the Door, on which was written, in large Letters, **INDULGENCE PLENARR, or FULL PARDON.**

me back with them ; and knowing him to be a very honest Fellow, I believed the Truth of it, and fled from the Town to be concealed from the *Indians* ; in the mean while, Schemes were formed for an *Escape*, and well prosecuted : The Issue of which was fortunate. General *Vaudriél*, gave me and my Son, Liberty (under his Hand) to go to *Quebec*, and work there at our Pleasure, without Confinement, as *Prisoners of War* ; by which Means, I was freed from paying a *Ransom* !

THE *Commissary*, Monsieur *Partwe*, being about to set off for *Quebec*, my Son informed me that I must come to *Town* in the Evening, a Passage being provided for us ; I waited till near Dark, and then entered the *Town*, with great Care, to escape the *Indians*, who kept watch for me (and had done so for some Time) which made it very difficult and dangerous to move ; however as they had no Knowledge of my *Son*, he could watch their Motions, without their Suspicion (the *Providence* of God is a great *Deep*, this Help was provided for my Extremity, not only beyond my Expectation, but contrary to my Design.) In the Morning, upon seeing an *Indian* set to watch for me, over against the *House* I was in, I quickly made my *Escape*, through the back Part of the *House*, over some high *Pickets*, and out of the *City*, to the *River Side*, and fled!

fled ! A Friend knowing my *Scheme* for Deliverance, kindly assisted me to conceal myself : The *Commissary* had by this Time got ready for his *Voyage*, of which my *Son* giving me Notice, I immediately, with no lingering Motion, repaired to the *Boat*, was received on board, set off quite undiscovered, and saw the *Indians* no more ! A very narrow and surprizing Escape, from a violent Death ! (For they had determined to kill me, in case I ever attempted to leave them) which lays me under the strongest Obligations, to improve a Life rescued from the *Jaws* of so many *Deaths*, to the Honour of my gracious *Benefactor* !-- But to return, the *Commissary* upon seeing the Dismission I had from the *General*, treated us curteously ! (g)

ARRIVED at *Quebec*, May 1st, The Honorable Colonel PETER SCHUYLER, hearing of my coming there, kindly sent for me, and after enquiries about my Welfare, &c. generously

g Saw many *Houses* and *Villages* in our *Pass* along the *River St. Lawrence* towards the *Metropolis* ; and here it may be with Justice observed, that the *Inhabitants* of *Canada* in general, are principally (if not wholly) settled upon *Rivers*, by reason that their back Lands being flat and swampy, are therefore unfit to bear Grain : Their *Wheat* is sown in the Spring of the Year, because the Winter is long, and would drown it ; they seem to have no good Notion of making *Meadow* (so far as I had an Opportunity of observing) their horned *Cattle* are few and poor, their *Living* in general mean, they eat but little *Flesh*, nevertheless they are strong and hardy.

nerously told me I should be supplied, and need not trouble myself for Support! This *public spirited Gentleman*, who is indeed an *Honour* to his *Country*, did in like Manner, nobly relieve many other poor *Prisoners at Quebec*!--Here I had full Liberty to walk where I pleased, and view the City, which is well situated for Strength, but far from being impregnable.

HERE, I hope, it will not be judged improper, to give a short Hint of the *French Governor's* Conduct; even in Time of *Peace*, he gives the *Indians* great Encouragement to *Murder* and *Captivate* the poor Inhabitants on our Frontiers; an honest, good Man, named *William Ross*, was taken *Prisoner* twice in the Time of *Peace*; when he was first taken, he learned a little of the *French* Tongue, was after some Time redeemed, and got to his Place of Abode: Yet some Years after, he, with two Sons, was again taken, and brought to *Quebec*; the *Governor* seeing the poor Man was *Lame*, and one of his Legs smaller than the other, reproved the *Indians* for not *killing* him, asking, ' what they brought a lame Man there for, who could do nothing but eat; ' you should, said he, have brought his Scalp!' However, another of his *Countrymen*, more merciful than his Excellency, knowing the

*poor*

*poor Prisoner* to be a quiet, hard-working Man, redeemed him from the *Indians*; and two other *Frenchmen* bought his two Sons: Here they had been *Slaves* more than three Years, when I first arrived at *Quebec*; this Account I had from Mr. *Ross* himself, who farther added, that the *Governor* gave the *Indians* Presents, to encourage them to proceed, in that kind of *Work*, which is a Scandal to any *civilized Nation*, and what many *Pagans* would abhor! Here also, I saw one Mr. *Johnson*, who was taken in a Time of Peace, with his Wife, and three small Children (his Wife was big with Child of a *Fourth*, and delivered on the Road to *Canada*, which she called *Captive*) all which, had been Prisoners between three and four Years, several young Men, and his Wife's Sister, were likewise taken *Captive* with them, and made *Slaves*!

OUR *Cartel* being ready, I obtained Liberty to go to *England* in her; we set Sail the 23<sup>d</sup> of *July*, 1757, in the Morning, and discharged our *Pilot* about 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon; after which, we neither cast *Anchor* or *Lead*, till we got clear of the great *River St. Lawrence*, from which, I conclude, the *Navigation* is much safer then the *French* have reported; in 28 Days we arrived at *Plymouth*, which occasioned great *Joy*, for we were *ragged, lowsy, sick*, and in a Manner, *starved*; and

and many of the *Prisoners*, who in all were about 300 in Number, were sick of the Small-Pox: My Son and Self, having each a *Blanket Coat* (which we bought in *Canada* to keep us warm) and now expecting Relief, gave them to two *poor sick Men*, almost naked! But as we were not allowed to go on *Shore*, but removed to a *King's Ship*, and sent to *Portsmouth*, where we were still confined on board, near two Weeks, and then removed to the *Mermaid*, to be sent to *Boston*; we now repented our well ment, though rash Charity, in giving our *Coats* away, as we were not to get any more, all Application to the Captain for any Kind of Covering being in vain; our Joy was turned into *Sorrow*, at the Prospect of coming on a cold Coast, in the Beginning of Winter, almost naked, which was not a little increased, by a near View of our *Mother Country*, the Soil and Comforts of which, we were not suffered to touch or taste (*b*).

*September* the 6th, SET Sail for *Boston*, with a Fleet in Convoy, at which we arrived on the Seventh of *November*, in the Evening; it being Dark, and we Strangers, and poor, it was difficult to get a Lodging (I had no Shoes,

*b* On board the *Mermaid Man of War*, being in a distressed Condition, and hearing little from the Mouths of many of my *Countrymen*, but *Oaths* and *Curses* (which much increased my *Affliction*) and finding it difficult to get a retired Place, I crept

Shoes, and but Pieces of Stockings, and the Weather in the mean Time very Cold) we were indeed directed to a *Tavern*, but found cold Entertainment there, the Master of the House seeing a ragged and lowly Company, turned us out to Wander in the Dark; he was suspicious of us, and feared we came from *Halifax*, where the *Small-Pox* then was, and told us, he was ordered not to receive such as came from thence: We soon met a young Man, who said he could find a Lodging for us, but still detained us by asking many Questions; on which I told him we were in no Condition to Answer, till we came to a proper Place, which he quickly found, where we were used well; but as we were lowly, could not expect Beds. The next Morning, we made Application for *Cloathing*; Mr. *Erwing*, Son-in-Law to the late General *Shirley*, gave us Relief, not only in respect of Apparel, but also *Three Dollars per Man*, to bear our Charges to *Newport*: When I put on fresh *Cloaths*, I was seized with a cold *Fit*, which was followed by a high *Fever*, and in that Condition obliged to Travel on  
F Foot,

down into the Hold among the Water Casks, to cry to God; here the Lord was graciously pleased to meet with me, and give me a Sense of his fatherly Love and Care; here he enabled me (blessed be his Name for ever) to look back and view how he had led me, and guarded me with a watchful Eye and strong Arm, and what Pains he had taken to wean me from an over-love of time Things, and make me content that he should choose for me: Here I was enabled to see his great

Foot, as far as *Providence*, in our Way to *Rhode-Island* (our Money not being sufficient to hire any Carriage, and find us what was needful for Support :) In this *Journey*, I was exceedingly distressed! Our *Comforts* in this *Life*, are often allayed with *Miseries*, which are doubtless great *Mercies* when suitably improved; at *Newport*, met with Captain *Gibbs*, and agreed with him for our Passage to *New-York*, where we arrived, *November 21st*, met with many *Friends*, who expressed much Satisfaction at our Return, and treated us kindly, particularly Messrs. *Livingston*, and *Waldron*.

*November 26th, 1757.* ARRIVED at *Philadelphia*, to the great Joy of all my *Friends*, and particularly of my poor afflicted *Wife* and *Family*, who thought they should never see me again, till we met beyond the *Grave*; being returned, *sick* and *weak* in *Body*, and *empty handed*, not having any Thing for my *Family's* and my own Support, several *humane* and *generous* Persons, of different *Denominations*,

Goodness in all my Disappointments, and that *Afflictions* were not *Evidences* of *God's Wrath*, but the *Contrary*, to all that honestly Endeavour to seek him with Faith and Love; here I could say, God is worthy to be served, loved, and obeyed, though it be attended with many *Miseries* in this World! What I have here mentioned, so far as I know my Heart, is neither to exalt myself, or offend any one upon Earth, but to glorify God, for his Goodness and Faithfulness to the Meanest of his Servants, and to encourage others to trust in him!

tions, in this City (without any *Application* of mine, directly or indirectly) have freely given seasonable *Relief*; for which, may God grant them *Blessings* in this World, and in the World to come *everlasting Life*, for Christ's Sake!

Now, GOD in his great *Mercy*, hath granted me a *temporal Salvation*, and what is a Thousand Times better, he hath given me with it, a Soul satisfying Evidence of an *eternal* in the World to come!

AND now, what shall I render to the Lord for all his Benefits, alas I am nonplust! O that Saints and Angels might praise thee, for I am not worthy to take thy Name into my Mouth any more! Yet notwithstanding, thou art pleased to accept poor Endeavours, because JESUS CHRIST has opened the *Door*, whereby we may come boldly to the Throne of thy Grace, praised be the *Lord God Jehovah*, by Men and Angels, throughout all Eternity!

BUT to hasten to the Conclusion, suffer me with Humility and Sorrow to observe, that our *Enemies* seem to make a better Use of a bad *Religion*, than we of a good One; they rise up long before Day in Winter, and go through the Snow in the coldest Seasons, to perform their Devotions in the Churches;

which when over, they return to be ready for their Work as soon as Day-Light appears: The *Indians* are as *zealous* in *Religion*, as the *French*, they oblige their Children to pray Morning and Evening, particularly at *Conasadauga*; are punctual in performing their stated Acts of *Devotion* themselves, are still and peaceable in their own Families, and among each other as Neighbours!

WHEN I compared our Manner of Living with theirs, it made me fear that the righteous and jealous God (who is wont to make Judgment begin at his own House first) was about to deliver us into their Hands, to be severely punished for our Departure from him; how long has he waited for our Return, O that we may therefore turn to him, before his Anger break out into a Flame, and there be no Remedy!

OUR *Case* appears to me indeed very *Gloomy*! notwithstanding our *Enemies* are inconsiderable in *Number*, compared with us; yet they are *united as one Man*, while we may be justly compared to a *House divided against itself*, and therefore cannot stand long, in our present Situation.

MAY Almighty GOD, graciously incline us to look to him for DELIVERANCE, to *repent* of our Sins, *reform* our Lives, and *unite* in  
the

the *vigorous* and *manly* Use of all *proper*  
Means to this End. AMEN.

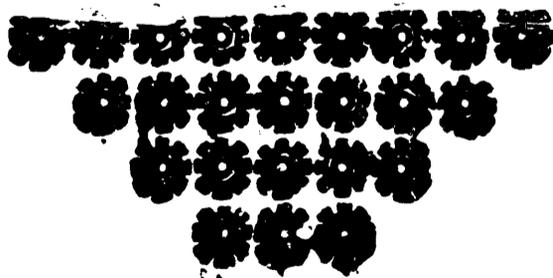
*F I N I S.*

*E R R A T A.*

**P**AGE 20. Line 28. for Stands, read,  
Stand.

Page 21. Line 1, for compleats, r. compleat.

Page 35. Line last. for Plenarr, r. Plenary.



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