A Journal of Mr. John Havel during his time of his journey to the French Country & his going out with some Indians Against the French in Canada where he was taken Prisoner (Confined in Prison in Quebec During the Space of Twenty Months Etc.)

first in 1726. I was bid by the Governor to go to the Mohawk Country & there to remain for the Space of Seven Months for the Sum of £250. I took with me a Gun & Arms & a servant to remain there with me for the same time. Of my same Coat. I at the Expiration of my time I returned (having paid to my attendant the Whole Salary so that I had nothing for my Service but what I got by Industry in Trade) with 10, Albany with five Indians I being then ordered to make out a party of Indians at Canajohary. I went there with about 30 Indians & we made up a Company of 35: 10 & 7 women & 4 children from thence we proceeded towards Montreal. After a 130 days we came to their Frontenay Point on the Island of Montreal about a little before day I with a party of 5 men attacked a house (the remainder of the company being separate in small Companies) & took 3 prisoners & burnt two houses. On going further to destroy an other building when we were way laid by a French party of upwards of a hundred men by whom I very soon were taken by the French. Prisoners & taken, I was carried to Montreal. I after 5 Days imprisonment there was sent down to Quebec. at the same time Vandenhaue Homelad of our Indians were also taken & put in the Prison in Quebec & my wife was to be left with our children in Quebec as above mentioned, being bound there we were sent & A while I 10 Indians arrived to the castle & put in the Dungeon. I was there for 40 hours after that the Indians were separated from us & we were from the 2nd Throat but remained in that dark hole for five months having no other allowance than our subsistence on half pound pork & one Loaf of bread & water. To other sort, but I had better say that my allowance was only bread & water & the pork was not be eaten by reason of its badness but by such as we had no other choice or Thrash, at the Expiration of the first five months we were removed to another Place where we were better (Conditions than before), yet had not the same Privilege with other English Prisoners. They being allowed 2 Gymn in the morning & two in the afternoon to walk without Door & so & I made it & we but once on the A.M. T. or P.M. not knowing how long I should continue in this state I wrote a Letter to the Government in London for only 1000 Pounds to be paid for the Satisfaction of my danger & the treatment I was in, & the Indians to put one at a time to do labour at different work. My wife & children, were left at my sister's house which accompanying with a many of other Prisoners (my Brother & many with him) to receive our English Prisoners at his arrival in Quebec, he applying to the Governor for Vindication, my self in particular, with some effect or at least as many.
Receiving...Zeal for my Education I with all the art and good Endowment he was master of to no more than 12 persons prisoner were allowed. All the he brought with from Albany a much greater Number. Judge then what capacity the said Williams had it treat with the French Geniuses — at this time my Brother who came on purpose to procure my Release...found his Journey would be of no Service to me and...he keep his Brother's Love to me and afford the Governor to go in me and remain there instead of me to be Effective my friend...which is just shall be so well taken by the Governor that he did after such an offer by one Brother for the other should do prove a Spirit of love that my Brother should be content for one that I should have my Return with J. Williams, which agreeable to his Answer...Brod by my spirit; but alms it was soon done, and I went again to its former State having met the Governor's Command that I should not depart the Goal while the French Prisoners were allowed...that were among the Indians, the see all my hopes to nothing...not the time...to keep my Brother's fair to me with you Albany friends to provide...their Voyages to Albany to give them only to give an Account of our...Mennethly Condition, notwithstanding all my Misfortunes I still made myself as happy as possible a man can be in the like long captivity...not to expect any Relief during the War. Some time in the year 1740 another flag of truce was commissioned by Gov. Clinton...Appointing Capt. Ross, a young Captain of the Company from Maryland for the Intended expedition against Canada I with him...my Brother came a second time, I am precisely informed that...made Application to the Governor for the Release of our Indian Prisoner...he took upon me of any one of my fellow Prisoners, and which the Governor made Replied to him saying what you have you set a greater Value Upon the Indians than the Christians or do you think it would be...Advantage by your Indians, by your Applying for them before the, what the answer was I cannot tell, however...at length this second...flag of Truce gentlemen upon which I used to at the, I supposed, release the poor English prisoners from their Detention...the poor Number of them, those...After the composition of arms was limited now my Brother very...fellow, I was of the opinion that...our...the Governor at the time of Tho. Williams to take 10 of our Prisoners for me, which he complied with and at the Instant I came...that out she entered therein in my stead, from long he will...continue in that State I cannot tell but if not soon Relieved
I am resolved (according to my promise to him) in the spring to return to Canada. I believe him I become the Old Brigadoon again. And I happily arrived at Albany in company with a number of French men. Some of them people of note and see them daily. I had much work from place to place, having all the opportunity men can wish to make their observations. I live in splendor whilst my brother and other unhappy prisoners are round up. I have no such liberty of their worst attendant.
Love creek's
Journal of his
journey thence
On his going out
with Indians
against the French
His captain & detaches
1746

Talked at ye 23:12