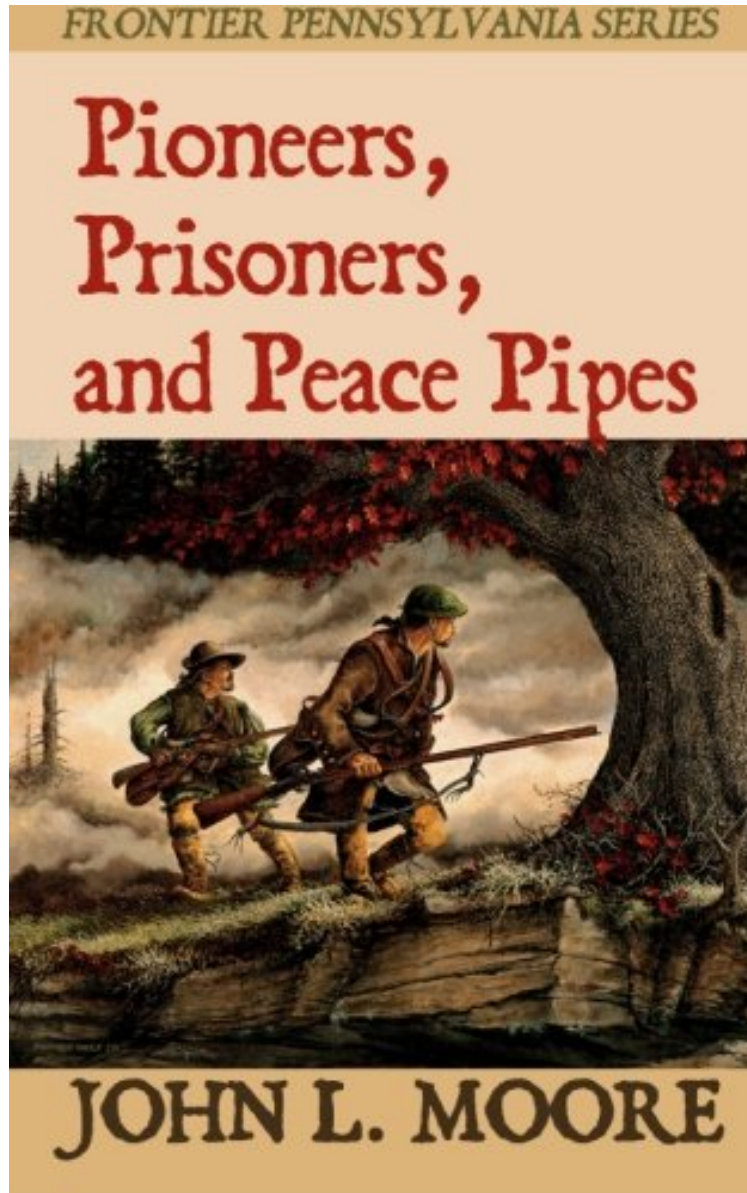


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Pioneers, Prisoners, and Peace Pipes (Frontier Pennsylvania) (Volume 4)

John L. Moore

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John L. Moore : Pioneers, Prisoners, and Peace Pipes (Frontier Pennsylvania) (Volume 4) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pioneers, Prisoners, and Peace Pipes

(Frontier Pennsylvania) (Volume 4):

Histories can be two-dimensional; these contain information strung along timelines. Other histories are three-dimensional, fleshing the basics out with descriptions and explanations. And then there are the four-dimensional histories, best savored slowly. *Pioneers, Prisoners, and Peace Pipes* falls in this last category. John L. Moore's four-dimensional tales draws the reader into a world long gone in such a way that the reader gets lost in a distant place with no desire to leave. This master story teller has discovered hidden eddies of history. He artfully weaves original source material into accounts that still touch the heart. There is the couple coming home to find their children kidnapped and their home ransacked. There is a husband searching for a lost wife, and years later finding and being reunited with her. There is a 16-year old man/boy lost in a military adventure, captured by the enemy, and spilling all he knows during polite but businesslike interrogations. The settings are all over Pennsylvania; the times are the late 1700s. All true stories. And if these stories all seem weirdly contemporary; its simply because people have always been people. Readers will have their favorites in this collection of 11 true American historical vignettes. Among mine: Boy soldier nearly starves in the woods. This tale starts, Michael La Chauvignerie was a 16-year-old French soldier who left his home in Canada during the summer of 1756, bound for the Ohio Country. Michael didnt know it as he left Montreal and sailed up the St. Lawrence River, but he had embarked on the first leg of a prolonged and complicated adventure that would take him to Philadelphia and, ultimately, to the Caribbean Sea. Maybe you could stop reading at this point but I had to continue. And rest of La Chauvigneries true story delivers! Elsewhere in *Pioneers, Prisoners, and Peace Pipes* the words of chastened but wise Ackowanothie ring true today, almost 250 years after they were uttered: Your nation always showed an eagerness to settle our lands. Cunning as they were, they always encouraged a number of poor people to settle upon our lands. We protested against it several times, but without any redress or help. We pitied the poor people; we did not care to make use of force, and indeed some of those people were very good people, and as hospitable as we Indians but after all we lost our hunting ground, for where one of those people settled, like pigeons, a thousand more would settle, so that we at last offered to sell it and so it went on til we at last jumped over (the) Allegheny hills and settled on the waters of Ohio. Here we thought ourselves happy. Poor deluded Delawares! Good history, in my opinion, makes one think. And think. And think. It also makes one feel. And emotion is the secret of *Pioneers, Prisoners and Peace Pipes*. Moore brings one face to face not just with facts (as important as they are), but with a larger and richer four-dimensional reality infused with feelings. He gently reminds us that humans without emotions have never existed, and that history without that dimension is not history, but simply a cheap cardboard imitation. *Pioneers, Prisoners and Peace Pipes* is four-dimensional work crafted with love. Enjoy it! Thomas J. Brucia is a bibliophile who lives in Houston, Texas. His favorite subjects include European and Asian history. Many of his reviews appear on Amazon.com

About the Author John L. Moore, a veteran newspaperman, said he employed a journalists eye for detail and ear for quotes in order to write about long-dead people in a lively way. He said his books are based on 18th and 19th century letters, journals, memoirs and transcripts of official proceedings such as interrogations, depositions and treaties. The author is also a professional storyteller who specializes in dramatic episodes from Pennsylvanias colonial history. Dressed in 18th century clothing, he does storytelling in the persona of Susquehanna Jack, a frontier ruffian. Moore is available weekdays, weekends and evenings for audiences and organizations of all types and sizes. Moore has participated in several archaeological excavations of Native American sites. These include the Village of Nain, Bethlehem; the City Island project in Harrisburg, conducted by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission during the 1990s; and a Bloomsburg University dig in 1999 at a Native American site near Nescopeck. He also took part in a 1963 excavation conducted by the New Jersey State Museum along the Delaware River north of Worthington State Forest. Moores 45-year career in journalism included stints as a reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*; as a Harrisburg-based legislative correspondent for *Ottaway News Service*; as managing editor of *The Sentinel* at Lewistown; as editorial page editor and managing editor at *The Daily Item* in Sunbury; and as editor of the *Eastern Pennsylvania Business Journal* in Bethlehem.