

A Century in Captivity: The Life and Trials of Prince Mortimer, a Connecticut Slave (Revisiting New England)

Denis R. Caron



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On December 21, 1811, a Middletown, Connecticut judge sentenced Prince Mortimer, a sickly eighty-sevenyear-old slave, to life imprisonment for attempting to poison his master by lacing his chocolate drink with arsenic. Prince spent the next sixteen years in Connecticut's notorious Newgate Prison, a colonial copper mine that had been converted into America's first state prison. In 1827 the dungeons at Newgate were closed forever, and the prisoners were transferred to the newly constructed Wethersfield State Prison. Wethersfield was supposed to be modern and progressive, but prisoners suffered there every bit as much as at Newgate. In 1834, Prince died there in his 31/2-by-7-foot cell, reportedly at the age of 110. From his capture into slavery as a child in Guinea in about 1730, through his more than eighty years as a slave and twenty-three years as a prisoner, Prince had endured more than a century in captivity.

In an astounding feat of historical inquiry and scholarship, author Denis R. Caron has assembled a mass of facts and insights that will mesmerize general interest readers and students of African American, regional, legal, and penal history alike. A Century in Captivity is a marvelous and sobering story previously lost to history, filled with dashed dreams of freedom, unrelenting miseries, and struggles for wealth and power.

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A Century in Captivity: The Life and Trials of Prince Mortimer, a Connecticut Slave (Revisiting New England) can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to set every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing A Century in Captivity: The Life and Trials of Prince Mortimer, a Connecticut Slave (Revisiting New England) but doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can certainly drawn you into brand new stage of crucial pondering.

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