

The Heroine of Acadia

Great was Charnisay's rage when he heard of the escape of the hated wife of LaTour. As he had a great superiority of force, he was able to maintain the command of the Bay of Fundy and to prevent any supplies from reaching Fort LaTour. The people of Boston, who had no desire to encounter the enmity of so powerful a personage, agreed to withdraw their support from LaTour, although they did not bind themselves not to trade with him. LaTour's force had in the meantime been weakened by sickness and by desertions. He had to contend against treason within his fort, as well as an implacable enemy without. Supplies of all kinds had to be provided and they could only be obtained from New England. It was necessary for him, therefore, to have a well equipped ship at sea most of the time, and this weakened his force in Fort LaTour and gave his enemy an opportunity to destroy it.

Early in the winter of 1644-45, LaTour had to go to Boston to obtain provisions for his fort. Charnisay soon after began a blockade of St. John, and while his vessel was cruising there he was hailed from the shore by two friars, who asked to be taken on board. These men had been turned out of her fort by Lady LaTour, because she discovered that they were in league with her enemies and endeavoring to corrupt her men. They informed Charnisay that LaTour was absent and that the fort contained but fifty men. There