

modern town of Annapolis, and there he lived in state, in the same fashion as La Tour, and had even a larger force of soldiers and retainers to carry out his orders. At that time the life and the manners and customs of feudal France were reproduced in Acadia.

Charnisay was a relative of the great Cardinal Richelieu, who then governed France as the minister of Louis XIII., and he succeeded in so poisoning the mind of the French Court against La Tour that in February, 1641, an order was issued requiring him to return to France to answer the charges which had been preferred against him. Charnisay was given authority to seize La Tour's person if he should disobey this order, and to take an inventory of his property. La Tour refused obedience, and Charnisay, having no sufficient force to coerce him, went to France to obtain assistance to carry out the King's orders. In the meantime La Tour had been communicating with his friends in Rochelle with a view to obtaining assistance in the struggle which he knew to be near at hand.

Early in the spring of 1643, Charnisay, with two ships and a galliot and four small craft, manned by five hundred men, attacked Fort La Tour, and, being unable to carry it by assault, proceeded to blockade it. This blockade had lasted several weeks, and supplies were running low, when a vessel, named the Clement, from Rochelle, appeared on the coast. This ship had been sent out by La Tour's friends in France, and she had on board abundance of ammunition and 140 men. Fortunately her presence was not discovered by Charnisay's blockading fleet, and La Tour and his wife succeeded in boarding her in the night, and set sail for Boston, where they hoped to obtain assistance against their enemy. The authorities of Boston refused to grant La Tour any help officially, but they permitted him to hire ships and men to enable him to return to his fort in safety. Taking advantage of this permission, La Tour hired, from Edward Gibbons and Thomas Hawkins of Boston, four vessels, with fifty-two men and thirty-eight pieces of cannon, and he also enlisted ninety-two soldiers to augment the force on board his vessels. When this little fleet made its appearance off Partridge Island Charnisay's ships promptly hoisted sail and stood right home for Port Royal. La Tour and his allies pursued and attacked them, and inflicted considerable loss on the enemy.

Soon after this Lady La Tour went to France to obtain more help against Charnisay, who was more determined than ever to bring about her husband's ruin. Charnisay went to France also to pursue his