

member of the Church of Rome. This question of religion becomes a matter of some interest, because the fact that Lady La Tour was a Protestant was one of the means used to effect her husband's ruin by prejudicing the Court of France against him.

In 1635 La Tour and his lady were residing in a fort at the mouth of the River St. John, which is usually spoken of in histories as Fort La Tour. The site of this fort has been a subject of controversy; some historical works represent it as having been at Jemseg, but the mortgage of the fort and territory, made in 1645, proves conclusively that it was somewhere about St. John harbor. The site which is generally accepted as the correct one is that piece of ground on the west side of the harbor which lies immediately opposite Navy Island, and which is now known as the "Old Fort." This fort was rebuilt and garrisoned by the English after the capture of Louisbourg in 1758, and was named Fort Frederick.

La Tour's fort at St. John was occupied by a large force of his retainers, its garrison sometimes numbering as many as 200 men. It was the centre of the large trade in furs which he carried on with the Indians, and there he lived, like a feudal lord, with his wife and family, the absolute master of half of Acadia, and holding a commission as lieutenant-general for the King of France in that portion of his dominions. He was likewise the holder of a large grant of territory in Acadia which had been obtained by his father from Sir William Alexander, who held it under a concession granted by the King of England, James I. The connection of the La Tours, father and son, with Sir William Alexander led to their both being made baronets of Scotland by Charles I., and that is why we call the woman who is the subject of this sketch Lady La Tour, and not Madam La Tour, as some writers of history have done. Lady La Tour was the first woman of title to live at St. John, and there seems to be no good reason why she should not receive the proper designation due to her rank.

Unfortunately for La Tour, he was not without rivals and enemies. At Port Royal, the name then given to the modern town and district of Annapolis, lived Charles de Menou, Sieur d'Aulnay Charnisay, who sought to compass La Tour's ruin. Charnisay was also engaged in the fur trade, and he looked with envious eyes on the vast territory which was controlled by La Tour, from which every year he obtained about 3,000 moose skins, besides large quantities of beaver and other furs. Charnisay's fort was on Port Royal Basin, six miles from the