

Fortunately for Denys as well as for Latour, Charnisay was near the end of his violent and wicked career ; for in 1650 he was drowned in the river of Port Royal, by the upsetting of a canoe. There is little doubt that if he had been anything but the hated tyrant that he was he would have been saved, for M. de la Varenne, writing from Louisburg a century later, relates the tradition in regard to his death. He says that " Monsieur D'Aunay, a French captain, with a servant, being overset in a canoe, within sight of some savages, they threw themselves into the water to save them, and the servant was actually saved. But the savage who had pitched upon Mons. D'Aunay, seeing who it was and remembering some blows with a cane he had received a few days before from him, took care to souse him so often in the water that he was drowned before he got ashore."

Charnisay's death enabled Denys to return to Acadia and resume the shore fishery at La Have. He also obtained from the company of New France a grant of all the territory from Canso to Cape Rosiers. This grant was made in 1653, and it was the intention of Denys to re-establish himself at St. Peters in the island of Cape Breton. But a new enemy of his interests soon appeared in the person of one Emanuel LeBorgne, who had been a creditor of Charnisay to a very large amount, and who now came to Acadia to take possession of all the dead man's property. As Charnisay had claimed the lands occupied by Denys, Le Borgne made the same claim and proceeded to dispossess the latter. Denys was busily engaged in founding a settlement at St. Peters when Le Borgne attacked him. Denys states that his people were then on shore clearing land, and that he himself had gone to St. Annes to see the harbor, when sixty of Le Borgne's men landed and made his people at St. Peters all prisoners. They also took possession of his vessel and its cargo which was valued at fifty thousand livres. Then twenty-five of Le Borgne's men were sent to lie in ambush on the road which Denys would take on returning from St. Annes, and as he was unarmed he was captured by this detachment and carried to Port Royal. As they passed La Have on the way back with their booty and prisoners, Le Borgne's men burnt down the establishment which Denys had there, not even sparing the chapel, which, with the fort and buildings was destroyed. Denys was placed in irons and confined in a dungeon at Port Royal, but he was liberated before the end of the year and went to France to obtain redress for