

among feudal noblemen of the European middle ages, between two armed and virtually independent potentates.

Before entering upon the progress of this war, mention may be made of another notable event. Some time about 1639 or 1640, La Tour was married. There is good reason to suspect that it was in the latter year, and that he met, wooed and won his bride in Quebec; for I find that La Tour was in that place in 1640. I have been unable to discover the family name of La Tour's chosen wife, but her Christian name was Frances Marie Jacqueline, and she was a native of Mons, in France. We shall presently hear more of this lady.

La Tour had a natural daughter, born about 1626, by a Malicite squaw. Her name was Jeanne, and she was afterwards legitimated, and eventually married to Martignon d'Arpendistiqui, or Arpendistiqui, who afterwards had a grant of land on the River St. John.

In 1634 the Company of New France, doubtless through Isaac de Razilli, had made a grant of Port Royal to Claude de Razilli, although the whole of that seignior had been, with all his other property, conveyed by Bien-court to Charles de la Tour, in 1623. After the death of Isaac, D'Aulnay negotiated an agreement, or proposed to have done so, with Claude de Razilli, for the purchase of all his property and estate in Acadie, as well what he held in his own right, as what he inherited from his brother. This bargain does not seem to have been entirely concluded at that early period, for it was not until the 16th of January, 1642, that Claude de Razilli, for the consideration of fourteen thousand livres, gave deed to D'Aulnay of all his property in Acadie.

By way of terminating the disputes which were already raging between D'Aulnay and La Tour, a Royal Patent was issued on the 10th of February, 1638, and this is the wise mode in which it dealt with the matter: De Char-nisé was appointed Lieutenant-General on the coast of the Etchemins (now of the State of Maine), his territory "beginning from the centre of the firm land of the French (Fundy) Bay"—wherever that is—"thence towards Virginia." La Tour was to be Lieutenant-General on the coast of Acadie, "from the middle of the French Bay to the Strait of Canso." Of course, this was quite incomprehensible, and only made matters worse; for who could conjecture where upon earth was to be found "the centre of the firm land of the French Bay?"

It is obvious that, whatever La Tour's private designs may have been, D'Aulnay was determined to root the former out of Acadie. Accordingly, on the 14th of July, 1640, three of his (D'Aulnay's) creatures, named Germain Doucett, Isaac Pesely, and Guillaume Trahan, laid before the proper tribunal, in France, a formal information against La Tour. We know not what were the terms of this information, but the result of the movement was that, on the 29th of January, 1641, a citation was issued to La Tour to repair forthwith to France. Meanwhile all his functions were revoked, and D'Aulnay was ordered to seize him and carry him to France. The ship *St. Francis* was sent to convey these orders, and arrived out in August; but La Tour, so far as he was concerned, refused to obey or pay any heed to the orders. D'Aulnay dared not attempt to seize him in his fort, in St. John, where he then was. However, D'Aulnay himself went over to France, in this same August, the better to further his own interests, and especially to obtain recruits in preparation for what now promised to be a serious contest.

La Tour was busy, too, preparing for the struggle. In November he sent a Huguenot named Rochette to Boston to endeavour to negotiate a treaty with the New Englanders. He proposed three points, viz.: 1st, free commerce; 2nd, aid against D'Aulnay; 3rd, right to import goods from England *via* Boston. The wily Yankees readily acquiesced in the first proposal, but boggled as to the other two. La Tour also sent an embassy to his friends in La Rochelle, in France, urging them to send him assistance. Those friends concurred to the extent of fitting out and sending him an armed ship, called the *Clement*.

In the spring of 1642, D'Aulnay returned from France—in great spirits, no doubt. He brought a new and peremptory order for La Tour's return, dated 24th of February. He also brought with him two armed ships, a galliot and several other vessels, and 500 men. With this force he proceeded forthwith to blockade St. John, where La Tour was.

Discerning the impending fate, La Tour first sent his lieutenant to Boston with a letter to Governor Winthrop, urging his assistance. Some of the Bostonians fell in with his views; but La Tour's peril and impatience daily increasing, he himself got on board his ship *Clement*, managed to run the blockade, and got into Boston, leaving Madame de La Tour, his dauntless wife, in command at St. John. In Boston he at length effected an agreement with Edward Gibbons and Thomas Hawkins, by which they agreed to hire to him four vessels; to wit, the *Seabridge*, *Philip and Mary*, *Increase* and *Greyhound*, with 252 men and 38 pieces of ordnance. La Tour also enlisted 92 men as soldiers. The General Court had a long and earnest confabulation, considering whether they could allow this agreement to take effect or not; but eventually La Tour and his friends won the day. He forthwith put to sea with his little squadron, and, in due time, came in sight of D'Aulnay's blockaders. The latter, no doubt, had supposed that he was holding La Tour a prisoner in his own fort all this time. He was dismayed at this new aspect of affairs, and took to immediate flight. La Tour ran his late blockaders pell-mell into Port Royal. In his panic, D'Aulnay stranded his vessels just in front of the

mill hard by the mouth of what is now called "Allen's River," and his men floundered ashore. La Tour vigorously attacked them with his own men and about 30 New Englanders, and signally defeated them. D'Aulnay's losses were 30 killed and one taken prisoner; La Tour's, 3 wounded. The New Englanders met with no casualties. The latter reached Boston, on their return, on the 20th of August.

In 1643, we find D'Aulnay once more in France, with his dolorous complaints against the irrepressible La Tour. He could always get legal documents in abundance; but that was a sort of missile which seemed to give La Tour but slight disturbance. Indeed, these documents seldom if ever reached him. On this occasion D'Aulnay, as was his wont, got (March 6th) a new judgment against La Tour passed in Council—got him outlawed and otherwise extended his means for crushing that troublesome individual.

About the same time La Tour was in Boston trying his utmost to persuade the cautious Bostonians into some compact. We find him there on the 12th of June, when a long conference took place between him and the General Court. The Captain of the *Clement*, who was present, exhibited a document of April, '43, from a Vice-Admiral of France, authorizing him (the Captain aforesaid) to carry supplies to La Tour, as a Lieutenant-General of France. La Tour also showed a letter from the agent of the Company of New France, warning him against D'Aulnay's plots, and calling La Tour Lieutenant-General of the King. Both of these documents were of later date than the order for La Tour's arrest. The course pursued by the authorities in France throughout these transactions is utterly incomprehensible. As the result of the conference in question, the General Court eventually consented to allow La Tour to hire ships from the Bostonians.

D'Aulnay returned to Acadie in the spring of 1644. Before doing so he learned that Madame de la Tour was in France, having gone thither doubtless on the affairs of her husband. D'Aulnay at once got an order for her arrest. She was informed of it and made her escape to England. There she bought, equipped and loaded a ship—cargo valued at £1,100 stg.—in which she herself took her departure for St. John. After a long, tedious and, in many respects, vexatious voyage, she arrived there safely, in defiance of D'Aulnay's cruisers in the Bay of Fundy.

The Bostonians were again evincing an uncertain demeanour. The fact seems to have been that they were afraid of D'Aulnay, or afraid of offending France through him, as, of the two contestants, the favourite of the French Court. With this impression La Tour, in July, 1644, made another trip to Boston, and had another long confabulation with the General Court. At last, that august body agreed to send a letter of remonstrance to D'Aulnay—that was all; and, on the 9th of September, La Tour left Boston.

Almost immediately afterwards came D'Aulnay's turn. On the 4th of October the latter sent an emissary—one M. Marie—to Boston, with full credentials, showing D'Aulnay's commission under the Great Seal of France, and a copy of the proceedings against La Tour, denouncing him as a rebel and a traitor. The result of all this was a virtual treaty of peace and friendship between D'Aulnay and his new-found Boston friends, which was concluded on the 8th of October.

Some time in February, 1645, D'Aulnay prepared to make an attack on St. John. He probably knew, or suspected, that La Tour was absent, as was the fact. Where he really was I have been unable to learn. He was probably seeking somewhere for an effective ally, and for aid in the sore perils by which he was beset. His heroic wife was at home, however, in Fort St. John; and she was, as it proved, a host in herself. The attack was fierce and obstinate. On the defensive, Madame herself led forth her gallant men, who fought under her own eye, and fought as perhaps only Frenchmen could fight whilst stimulated by such glances and under such leadership. In despite of all his efforts, D'Aulnay was thoroughly defeated, and retired to his shipping with a loss of 20 killed and 13 wounded. He was, of course, intensely exasperated and mortified. To be defeated at all, after his great preparations to ensure success, was ignominious; but to be beaten by a woman, and that woman the wife of his most hated enemy, La Tour, was worse by far and utterly unendurable.

The sorely discomfited chief hastened to repair damages and to reinforce his strength; and, about the commencement of Holy Week, his squadron again appeared before Fort St. John. Again he met with most determined resistance. Day after day the little fort was fiercely cannonaded, and even that fort replied with vigour, the thunder of the competing ordnance mingling with the war of the cataract close by, and making a chorus which added to the wild terror of the conflict. By the arrival of Easter Sunday, D'Aulnay had twelve men killed and a large number wounded; and evidently his victory was as remote as ever. But treachery was to bring about what could not be effected by hard, open, honest fighting. In that fort, there was one sufficiently detestable to prove a traitor, even to such a heroine and such a woman as Madame de la Tour. On the morning of this same Easter Sunday, this traitor—said to have been a Swiss—managed to open to D'Aulnay and his troops a way of admission into the fort. Again Madame appeared in person at the head of her little garrison and fiercely assailed the storming party. Had the repelling force continued the contest with the same daring energy, the final result

might have been very different. But Madame de la Tour's garrison was already nearly cut to pieces; D'Aulnay offered her the most favourable terms; and, in an evil moment, the heroic woman consented to surrender.

Then the true character of D'Aulnay de Charnisé displayed itself. First, he put the whole garrison in irons. Then he decreed that they should be hanged, every man of them, except one, who was to save his life by acting as executioner for the others. Meanwhile, Madame de la Tour, the heroine who had led these brave fellows to victory as well as to death, was to stand by and witness the whole of this ghastly proceeding with a halter about her neck. So it was done. The torture of it all was too great for Madame de la Tour; and she died in a few days—some say, in a few minutes—afterwards. She left an infant child, who is said to have been sent to France, and of whom we hear nothing afterwards. It is, therefore, to be reasonably presumed that this child died young.

D'Aulnay carried away from Fort St. John booty to the value of £10,000 sterling. He repaired to France in September ensuing the date of the above mentioned achievement. It was possibly in honour of his glorious triumph over Madame de la Tour that he had the gratification of receiving a letter from the Queen Regent; also one from the little King—Louis XIV.—then seven years of age. In 1647, he at length realized the long-coveted reward of so much chicanery and cruelty as had distinguished his career, and was made sole Governor and Lieutenant-General of the King, throughout Acadie.

As for La Tour, he seems to have led a wandering life for some time after the tragedy at St. John. In the Autumn of 1645 he visited Newfoundland to have a conference with Kirk, the English Governor of that island, who was a Frenchman by birth. The winter of 1645 and 1646 he spent with Samuel Maverick on "Nottle's Island." In August, 1646, he appears at Quebec where he is saluted on his arrival as a person of distinction and becomes the guest of Governor Montmagny. He is said to have been for a time at Hudson's Bay engaged in the fur trade; but he was again in Quebec in 1648, where he became godfather to Charles Amador, son of Abraham Martin, born on the 7th of March of that year. This Abraham Martin is the same person who, at that time, owned and gave his name to the afterwards celebrated "Plains of Abraham." Later in the same year La Tour is reported as engaged with the Canadians in the war against the Iroquois.

We are now approaching the date of an event which was to make another great change in La Tour's prospects. On the 24th of May, 1650, D'Aulnay de Charnisé was found drowned, through the upsetting of his boat, in the Dauphin River. Such was the end of all his political manoeuvring and bloodthirsty achievements. There is reason to believe that his death was not wholly accidental. A letter from one M. de la Varenne, Louisbourg, 8th May, 1756, purporting to give a correct traditional account of the matter, states that "D'Aulnay," with a servant was overset in a canoe, within the sight of some savages; and that the latter threw themselves into the water to save them, and did actually save the servant. "But," says this letter, "the savage who had pitched upon Mons. D'Aulnay, seeing who it was, and remembering some blows with a cane he had a few days before received from him, took care to sous him so often in the water that he drowned him before he got ashore." This account illustrates a characteristic of D'Aulnay, who is reported by his contemporaries to have been tyrannical and cruel towards servants and others placed beneath him.

In 1651, La Tour proceeded to France, where, strange to say—at least it would be strange anywhere outside of France—he forthwith again reinstated himself in the confidence of the Court. He engaged men at his discretion and without interference. He raised a troop under the command of Sieur Philippe Mius d'Entremont, a Norman nobleman. He returned to Acadie with a new royal commission, restoring to him his seignior at St. John, and making him Governor of all Acadie as delegate of the King. Is it any wonder that all the aspirations of France in those early days, in the way of founding and sustaining colonies, should have resulted in failure? Unreliability, if not actual duplicity and bad faith, almost invariably characterized her demeanour towards those of her sons who ventured to engage in colonization schemes. To be petted one day and crushed the next, or the very reverse,—such has been their usual experience.

Soon after his return to Acadie, La Tour transferred to the before-mentioned D'Entremont, major of his troops, his old seignior of La Tour—Fort St. Louis,—near Cape Sable. The D'Entremonts and La Tours of a younger generation afterwards intermarried; and there are now thousands of the descendants of this Norman nobleman, Major D'Entremont, residing in the vicinity of Port La Tour and the old Fort St. Louis. He is often entitled "Pobomcoup" (Pubnico) in papers of the period.

Now comes another marvel to be recorded. On the 24th of February, 1653, Charles Amador de la Tour was again married; and, this time, to the widow of D'Aulnay de Charnisé, his old enemy.

In March, 1654, Emmanuel Le Borgne and one Guilbert, claiming to be creditors of the deceased D'Aulnay, sailed for Acadie with the intention of seizing the property supposed to have belonged to the latter in that country. They first alighted upon the fort and improvements at St. Pierre in the Island of Cape Breton, which belonged to poor Denys, who had taken no part in the long contest between La Tour and D'Aulnay, and had no business relations with either of them; and, in his