

St. John. Boisherbert, the French officer in command of the river, was at one time at the head of as many as fifteen hundred of these French fugitives. The French, thus reinforced, were able to hold the mouth of the River St. John, and they had a fortified post at St. Anns, ninety miles up the river, on the site of the present City of Fredericton. The destruction of both posts, and the entire removal of the French from the river, were the objects to which the attention of the English was now directed. At all events it was clear that the fort at the mouth of the river must be re-occupied.

Accordingly in the summer of 1758 three ships of war and two transports with two regiments, one of Highlanders and the other of provincial troops, were despatched from Boston to re-take Fort LaTour. They landed at what is now known as Negro Town Point, and cut a road through the woods to the place where the Carleton City Building now stands, and which was then used as a vegetable garden by the French. The location of these gardens is shewn upon a "Plan of the Harbour of St. John in Nova Scotia,"* surveyed and sounded in September, 1761, by R. G. Bruce, engineer. From this point they advanced against the fort in the order of battle, and after one repulse succeeded in carrying the fort by storm. They captured nearly three hundred prisoners, and the rest of the garrison escaped across the river in boats, and finally made their way up the river. Many, however, were killed by the shots of the attacking party. The French lost over forty men. This ended their occupation of the mouth of the River St. John, and soon after they were driven entirely from the river, with the exception of a few families who continued to reside near St. Anns. A blockhouse was erected by the British at Fort Howe.

* Published in History St. John, by D. R. Jack.