

The Vengeance of La Tour.

IN the Spring of 1645, Sieur D'Aulnay Charnisay sailed from Port Royal, N. S., now known as Annapolis, and appeared before Fort St. John, at the mouth of the St. John River.

At the time of Charnisay's arrival, Charles de La Tour was in Boston; his wife, Marie de La Tour, was left in charge of Fort St. John, with fifty men for a garrison. The Fort was steadily besieged for three days.

On Easter Sunday, when the heroic defenders were not thinking of an attack, Charnisay's troops, through the connivance of a Swiss soldier (one of the garrison), scaled the walls and were on the eve of victory when the spirited defence of the garrison, stimulated by Lady La Tour, caused them to retreat again for the fourth time.

Reduced in numbers, and with part of their walls broken down, the garrison and its brave commander decided to capitulate on the terms offered by Charnisay, which were that the whole garrison would be allowed to depart unmolested.

It is said that as soon as Charnisay got possession of Fort St. John, and saw the meagreness of the defences and the small number of its defenders, he at once imprisoned the garrison, and either shot or hung them all.

The intrepid and dauntless Lady de La Tour, at sight of this treachery and cruelty, must have turned upon Charnisay and told him of his baseness, calling down upon him the vengeance of her husband.

“ Oh Christ, that I were spared this awful sight !
What fiend is he, who, blacker than black night,
Commits such crime ? O, treacherous Charnisay !
Now breaks my heart, in horror at this day !
When final fate shall on thee trembling call,
And thou dost enter the great judgment hall
To know thy lot —