

The Heroine of Acadia

became acquainted with Sir William Alexander, who then had a grant of Acadia from the King of England, and who was a court favorite. LaTour was introduced at the court of King Charles I. and was received with favor as a person likely to promote the plans of Alexander for colonizing Acadia. One of the maids of honor of the Queen Henrietta Maria fell in love with him and married him, and he was made a baronet of Nova Scotia. The same title was given to his son Charles whose wife thus became Lady LaTour. Moreover a grant was issued to father and son by Sir William Alexander of a large tract of territory in Nova Scotia having an area of about four thousand five hundred square miles. In consideration of these favors the elder LaTour promised that he and his son would become subjects of the English King and would assist in promoting its settlement by Sir William Alexander.

This arrangement became inoperative in consequence of the refusal of Charles LaTour to consent to it. He was rising in favor at the French court and did not feel disposed to change his allegiance. The reward of his fidelity came soon, for in 1631 he was granted a commission by King Louis XIII. appointing him to command as lieutenant general for the King in Acadia. The homeless wanderer of 1613 who was driven into the wilderness with Biencourt had risen to be the first man in Acadia.