

be too late to regret having rejected his advantageous offers, and that he conjured him as a father not to compel him to act as an enemy. 1670. 

These threats were as unavailing as his solicitations and promises had been. The elder la Tour wished to carry them out, and the English having made their approaches, the commandant made such a vigorous defence, that, at the end of two days, the English general, who had not reckoned on the slightest resistance, and had already lost some of his best soldiers, thought it unadvisable to push the siege any further. On his announcing this, the elder la Tour was in a terrible dilemma. Return to England he durst not, much less to France; and the only course left to him was to throw himself on the clemency of his son.¹

He broached the matter to his wife, and told her that he had felt assured of rendering her happy in America; but that as untoward fortune had blighted his prospects, he was unwilling to require her to live there unhappily, and that he left her at full liberty to return to her family. The lady replied that she had not married him to abandon him; that wherever he chose to take her, and in whatever condition he might be, she should always be his faithful companion, and make it her happiness to alleviate his disappointments. La Tour, charmed and affected by this great generosity, besought his son to allow him to remain in Acadia.²

The young man replied that he would not expose him to lose his head on an English scaffold; that he would cheerfully give him an asylum; but that he could not permit either him or his wife to enter his forts: that, moreover, he pledged his word not to let them be in want of any thing. The condition seemed somewhat hard, but he had to submit to it. With the consent of the English commander, la Tour and his wife landed with all their

¹ Denys, Description Géographique, Scotch colonists to Port Royal. His des Costes, etc., i., pp. 70-4. His son was relieved by two ships under

² Ib., p. 75. The elder la Tour, Capt. Marot, and having been, in after his repulse, retired with his Feb., 1631, made Lt.-Gen. of Acadia,