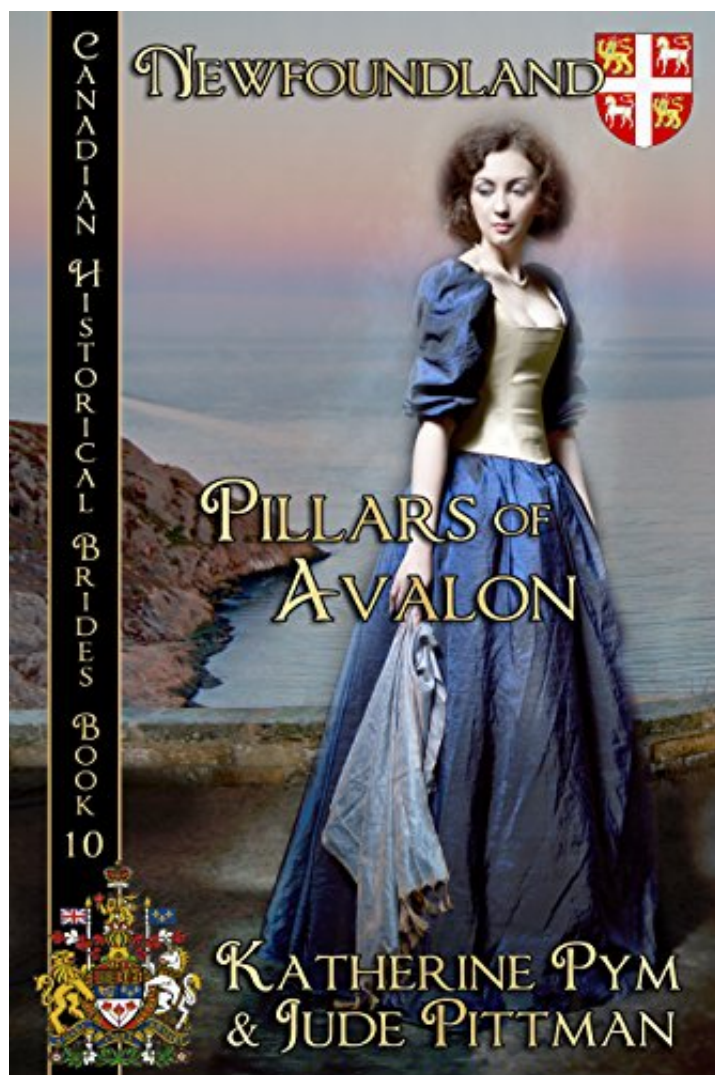


# Pillars of Avalon: Newfoundland (Canadian Historical Brides Book 5)

*by*

Katherine Pym



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## Synopsis

David and Sara Kirke live in a time of upheaval under the reign of King Charles I who gives, then takes. He gives David the nod of approval to range up and down the French Canadian shores, burning colonies and pillaging ships that are loaded with goods meant for the French. When Louis XIII of France shouts his outrage, King Charles reneges. He takes David's prizes and returns them to the French, putting David and his family in dire straits. Undeterred, David and Sara will not be denied. After years, the king relents. He knights David and gives him a grant for the whole of Newfoundland and Labrador. There David and Sara build a prosperous plantation. They trade fish and fish oil with colonies down the American coast, Barbados and ports of call in the Mediterranean. They thrive while England is torn in two by the civil wars. Soon, these troubles engulf his family. David is carried in chains back to England to stand trial for being a malignant, a follower of Laud's high church. He entreats Sara to manage the Ferryland plantation, a daunting task but with a strength that defies a stalwart man, she digs in and prospers, becoming the first entrepreneur of Newfoundland.







































## What people say about this book

Janet Walters, "Great read. Ms. Pym gives us another trip into a historical era and the founding of Newfoundland. I'm always drawn into the worlds she created and this time as well. The book is a great read."

Rosemary Morris, "First Settlers in Newfoundland. Books We Love dedicated this series to the immigrants male and female, who left their homes and families, crossed oceans and endured unimaginable hardships in order to settle in the Canadian wilderness and build new lives in a rough and untamed country. At Fort Quebec in July 1628, there is very little food and ammunition. Champlain knows he and his family cannot survive another winter. He intends to go to the fisheries in New Foundland although Protestants don't accept Catholics. However, he is still relying on the arrival of the French Fleet which will bring supplies and settlers. Captain David Kirke, who has a letter of marque from King Charles I to seize all of New France's settlements, wins a battle against the French fleet. He fills his ships' holds with goods taken from it, decides to ransom the French captain and another nobleman, and to return the settlers to France. Four months later in London, David dines at Lord Andrew's house where he becomes reacquainted with Sara, who is fourteen-years younger than he is. Throughout the novel, I enjoyed Ms Pym's descriptions of people and places in England and Canada. The Andrews' four storey house "is grand. Large windows filled with leaded lights twinkled in the sun and brightened the chambers. Finely worked wooden balusters took one to the living areas and rich panelling gave the chambers a warm glow. Their mantelpieces were decorated with gold leaf." Ms Pym also captures London's sights, people from every walk of life, the stink of the city and much more and paints superb word pictures of Avalon. Andrews and the other shareholders in The Merchant Adventurers are pleased with their investment. In Spring David will return to Canada to take the French colonies and make them English, but David and Sara's parents arrange for them to marry when he returns. Reluctant to consent, he admits he cannot sail the seas forever. From the moment I met Sara in Pillars of Avalon I admired the clever young lady with a mind of her own. When her mother objects to David taking her to see his father's fleet at Deptford she says: "We will do well, Mother, have no fear. After All Mister Kirke has subdued savages and French Roman Catholics. He's crossed violent seas filled with Moor pirates." One day Sara will rise to the challenge of single handedly managing her vast legacy of land and fisheries from David. While writing this fictional biography based on fact, Ms Pym gives the reader many interesting historical facts. In Deptford, David explains the stink is caused by the combination of pitch, raw wood, sulphur and brimstone to purify the interior of ships after long voyages. I recommend Pillars of Avalon the story of a husband and wife, who love each other, can conduct business alone or together, endure hardship and success at home and abroad, who are remembered today"

Jo Ann Butler, "Pillars of Avalon - a great read. Life in 1628 Fort Quebec is a struggle, with Samuel de Champlain's settlers barely surviving by trading with the Indians for furs. They look eagerly for fleet from France, but an English ship appears instead. Captain David Kirke has a letter of marque from King Charles I, granting him permission to seize all settlements in New France. Kirke's men have already raided the coastal villages; now he demands that de Champlain surrender Quebec. Thus begins Pillars of Avalon, the fifth volume in the Historical Brides of Canada series, dedicated to the immigrants who left everything they knew to cross the ocean and build new lives. David Kirke is one of those bold persons, and he soon brings his tough-as-nails bride Sara from London to Newfoundland, where he has taken over a coastal village abandoned by Lord Baltimore. Newfoundland is not luxurious, but the Kirkes' settlement makes a living harvesting cod and furs. However, the captain's fortune rises and falls at the whim of King Charles. Peace with France? Kirke's letter of marque is revoked and he's accused of piracy. Prosperity? Kirke is ordered to pay a fortune in taxes. Katherine Pym and Jude Pittman's Pillars is an enjoyable, intensely researched read. The authors provide not only a gripping view of how Canada's earliest settlers struggle to survive, but also great insight into how King Charles' policies helped provoke the Puritan revolution which led to his downfall. Pillars of Avalon is described as a romance, but historical fiction readers will love it too!"

Laurel Freemont, "Bringing history alive.. Kathryn Pym is to be congratulated on a masterful, sweeping story that held me spellbound from Page 1. This book read so well I could have been watching a TV documentary. As much a detailed recounting of the machinations of King Charles 1 reign in England and how that prompted a Civil War, it also addresses the hopes and hardships suffered by men and women of vision. In an era where traveling anywhere was a major undertaking, it was astonishing that not only Sir David Kirke but also his wife, Lady Sara, crossed the Atlantic on many occasions. Whatever the historical period, there are people who stand out like beacons. The Kirkes are one such pair and that Lady Sara, a strong-willed and intelligent woman, is still recognized today by the Canadian Women in Technology organization, says much about her legacy. A splendid book from start to finish."

Candy b, "Amazing Book. This is a complicated story, all sorts of things are going on around this time. But it centers around the Kirke and Andrews families. David is the oldest son and helps with the wine business and they own a couple of ships. Sara Andrews and her sister, Frances are very close. Sara is to marry David when he comes back from Quebec. There are a lot of threads to this story and the author has managed to twist them into an excellent tale, there are battles, negotiation and travel on the high seas. The characters are life like and you feel like you know them. The descriptions are amazing, like Freeland (Newfoundland) where Lord Baltimore once lived. It is a beautiful sounding place, the rocks, the birds, the fish jumping into the boats. David loves it there, as does Sara. The author has done a marvelous job of making it possible for us to get a glimpse of this long ago land. It got a little slow in spots but picked right up. I am glad I

was able to read this sweeping saga. This can be read by any age. I received this from Net Galley and voluntarily reviewed.”

Rosemary Morris, “First Settlers in Newfoundland.. Books We Love dedicated this series to the immigrants male and female, who left their homes and families, crossed oceans and endured unimaginable hardships in order to settle in the Canadian wilderness and build new lives in a rough and untamed country. At Fort Quebec in July 1628, there is very little food and ammunition. Champlain knows he and his family cannot survive another winter. He intends to go to the fisheries in New Foundland although Protestants don’t accept Catholics. However, he is still relying on the arrival of the French Fleet which will bring supplies and settlers. Captain David Kirke, who has a letter of marque from King Charles I to seize all of New France’s settlements, wins a battle against the French fleet. He fills his ships’ holds with goods taken from it, decides to ransom the French captain and another nobleman, and to return the settlers to France. Four months later in London, David dines at Lord Andrew’s house where he becomes reacquainted with Sara, who is fourteen-years younger than he is. Throughout the novel, I enjoyed Ms Pym’s descriptions of people and places in England and Canada. The Andrews’ four storey house “is grand. Large windows filled with leaded lights twinkled in the sun and brightened the chambers. Finely worked wooden balusters took one to the living areas and rich panelling gave the chambers a warm glow. Their mantelpieces were decorated with gold leaf.” Ms Pym also captures London’s sights, people from every walk of life, the stink of the city and much more and paints superb word pictures of Avalon. Andrews and the other shareholders in The Merchant Adventurers are pleased with their investment. In Spring David will return to Canada to take the French colonies and make them English, but David and Sara’s parents arrange for them to marry when he returns. Reluctant to consent, he admits he cannot sail the seas forever. From the moment I met Sara in Pillars of Avalon I admired the clever young lady with a mind of her own. When her mother objects to David taking her to see his father’s fleet at Deptford she says: “We will do well, Mother, have no fear. After All Mister Kirke has subdued savages and French Roman Catholics. He’s crossed violent seas filled with Moor pirates.” One day Sara will rise to the challenge of single handedly managing her vast legacy of land and fisheries from David. While writing this fictional biography based on fact, Ms Pym gives the reader many interesting historical facts. In Deptford, David explains the stink is caused by the combination of pitch, raw wood, sulphur and brimstone to purify the interior of ships after long voyages. I recommend Pillars of Avalon the story of a husband and wife, who love each other, can conduct business alone or together, endure hardship and success at home and abroad, who are remembered today”

unicorngirl, “It’s Like You’re Right There. When Katherine Pym writes, she lives the story. She uses the dialect of the era very effectively and convincingly and creates a world full of imagery, sights, and sounds that transport the reader back hundreds of years ago. I loved her depiction of

the Newfoundland of earlier times as well as the way she portrayed the love between Sarah and David. A sad ending made me blink back tears.”

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