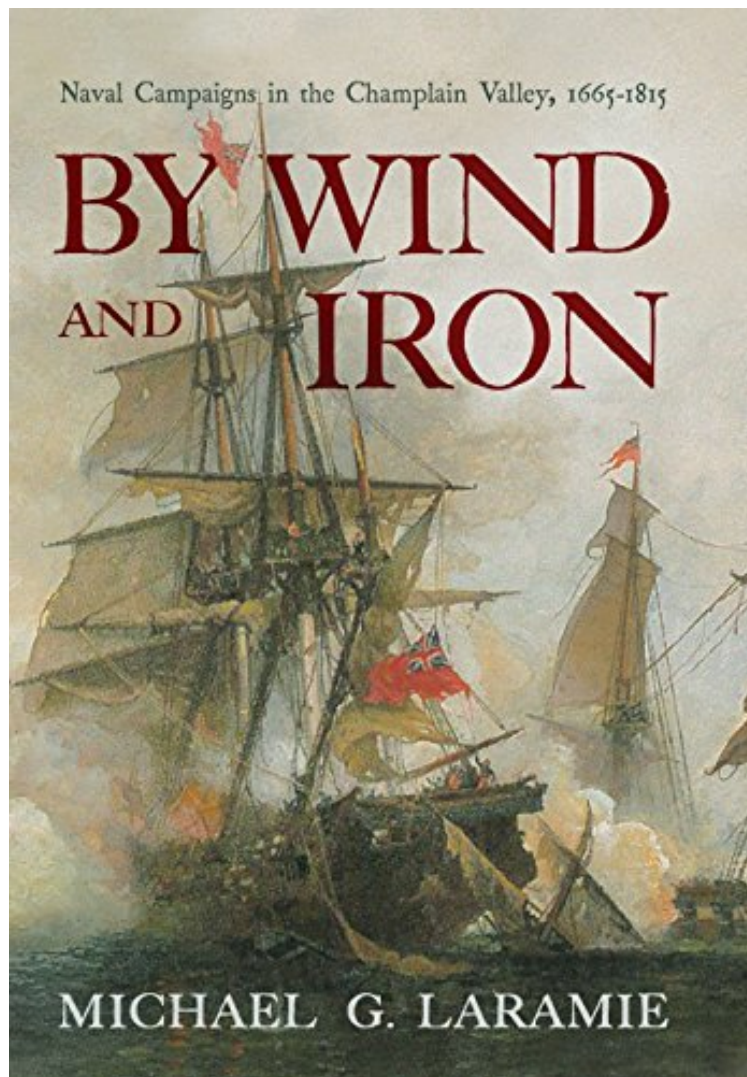


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## By Wind and Iron: Naval Campaigns in the Champlain Valley, 1665-1815 (Spirituality in Education)

*Michael Laramie*

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By alicia ibey  
I was pleasantly surprised and delighted with the readability and historical accuracy of Michael Laramie 's book, *The European Invasion of North America*. It is a snapshot in time: portrayed in the early American conflicts along Vermont 's Champlain Valley. Students and history buffs alike will be pleased as the author makes history come alive through his knowledge, his extensive research and his eloquent use of language. It is full of history, yet, it reads like fiction. A positive addition to any history library or any 'curious to know' library. Well done !

For more than 150 years, the natural invasion route along the waterways of the Champlain and Richelieu valleys into northeastern North America was among the most fiercely contested in the history of the continent. Whether the French and their Indian allies attacking British forts and settlements during the Seven Years War, the American Continentals striking north into Canada during the American Revolution, or the British battling French and later American forces in these wars and the War of 1812, it was clear to policy makers in Quebec, London, Paris, Philadelphia, and Washington that whoever controlled this corridor and its lakes and rivers, controlled the heart of the continent. In *By Wind and Iron: Naval Campaigns in the Champlain Valley, 1665-1815*, Michael G. Laramie details the maritime history of this region from the first French fortifications along the Richelieu River in the late seventeenth century through the tremendous American victory over the British at the Battle of Plattsburgh on Lake Champlain in 1814. Using period letters, journals, and other primary source materials, the author examines the northeastern waterways and their tributaries within the framework of the soldiers and sailors who faced the perils of the campaigns, while at the same time clarifying the key role played by this region in the greater struggle for North America and American independence. In support of the narrative, the book also contains appendices that include after action reports from various fleet commanders, tables of fleet strengths, additional battle maps, a glossary, and a dictionary of lake warships with notes on vessel types, typical armament, construction, deployment, and fates.

About the Author  
MICHAEL G. LARAMIE is the author of *The European Invasion of North America: Colonial Conflict Along the Hudson-Champlain Corridor, 1609-1760*, and several articles on colonial military affairs. An engineer by profession, he currently resides with his wife and four children in Arizona.