

1667. to sustain it, and to the opinion of the goodness of the country which he had himself given to the court. He had especially at heart the iron mines, which were said to be very abundant, and, on his voyage back from France, he had landed at Gaspé, where, on the assurance of some travellers, he hoped to find silver; but he was soon undeceived.¹ He was more successful in regard to iron. In the month of August, 1666, he had sent the Sieur de la Tesserie to the Bay of St. Paul, where that miner discovered a mine which seemed to him very rich: he even hoped to find copper there, and perhaps silver. In the journal which he made of his voyage, he remarked that, wherever he made investigations, the earth was disturbed by the earthquake of 1663.²

1668. Mr. Talon, having returned to France in 1668, induced Colbert to follow up these discoveries, and the Sieur de la Potardiere was sent to Canada with this view. On his arrival at Quebec they presented to him specimens of two ores that Mr. de Courcelles had ordered from the neighborhood of Champlain and Cap de la Magdelaine, two parishes below Three Rivers. One was sand, and the other solid ore; la Potardiere went to the spots, and on his return to Quebec declared that it was impossible to see mines which gave better promise either for the quality or the quantity of the iron.³

Much hope was also entertained from a tannery, the first attempt of which had been crowned with perfect success. This, joined to the freedom of trade proclaimed this same

¹ Talon to the Minister, October 4, 1665, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., pp. 30-1. It was on his voyage out from France, not back from France.

² The report of de la Tesserie, which Charlevoix seems to have had, does not appear in any collection.

³ La Potardière's report is also inaccessible. Besides these iron mines, the Jesuits called attention to the slate quarries near Lake George (Rel.

de la Nouvelle France, 1668, p. 5), and the copper mines of Lake Superior: Boucher, *Histoire Vèritable*, p. 165; Relation, 1670, pp. 83-6; *Ib.*, 1672, p. 2. Talon gave a great impulse to manufactures, by introducing cattle and inducing the cultivation of flax and hemp, as well as spinning and weaving. Tanneries and breweries were established at Quebec and Montreal.