

An iron-master came to see whether any use could be made of the deposits of iron ore here,—some of which was tested a few years ago, and found to be better and softer than that of Spain.²⁸

I was mistaken when I told you that the Iroquois wore no masks. They make some very hideous ones with pieces of wood, which they carve according to their fancy. When our people burned the villages of the Tsonnontouans, a young man made every effort in his power to get one that an outaouae had found in a cabin, but the latter would not part with it. It was a foot and a half long, and wide in proportion; 2 pieces of a kettle, very neatly fitted to it, and pierced with a small hole in the center, represented the eyes.²⁹

We have had no news of Monsieur de la salle,³⁰ except the few words that you wrote us.

You will not have the census of Canada this year, because Monsieur de Champigny is not taking it.

Were it not for the test that you made of the mineral that I sent you last year, we would not yet know that it is a mine of lead, with traces of silver.

While writing this letter, I am informed that the Iroquois have killed 5 more of our men, and have wounded some others; and, what is still worse, they have begun to burn houses and barns, in the country places, and to kill the cattle. They were pursued, but how is it possible to catch deer running through very dense thickets?

The contents of the box that I am sending you are as follows:

24 bark dishes of various sizes.

2 wooden spoons.