

lowing occurrence took place, which I give in Champlain's words:

Peu de temps après auoir deuisé avec eux de plusieurs choses touchant leurs guerres, le sauuage Algonmequin, qui estoit vn de leurs chefs, tira d'un sac vne piece de cuiure de la longueur d'un pied, qu'il me donna, lequel estoit fort beau & bien franc, me donnant à entendre qu'il y en auoit en quantité là où il l'auoit pris, qui estoit sur le bort d'une riuere proche d'un grand lac, & qu'il le prenoiet par morceaux, & le faisant fondre le mettoient en lames, & avec des pierres le rendoient vny. Je fus fort ayse de ce present, encores qu'il fut de peu de valeur.—*Vide Les Voyages du Sievr de Champlain*, Paris, 1613, pp. 246, 247.

*Translation.*—Shortly after conferring with them about many matters concerning their wars, the Algonquin savage, one of their chiefs, drew from a sack a piece of copper, a foot long, which he gave me. This was very handsome and quite pure. He gave me to understand that there were large quantities where he had taken this, which was on the bank of a river, near a great lake. He said that they gathered it in lumps, and, having melted it, spread it in sheets, smoothing it with stones. I was very glad of this present, though of small value. *Champlain's Voyages*, Otis's trans., Prince Society ed., Boston, 1878, Vol. ii, p. 236.

The extracts, which I have thus presented from the journals of these early explorers, render it certain that the territory called by the Indians Saguenay was a copper-bearing region, and that copper was found there in great abundance. The Indians, both at Montreal and Quebec, in 1535, as we have seen, were familiar with the fact, and their testimony to this point is spontaneous, clear, direct and full. This historical evidence is confirmed by discoveries, within the last forty years, of vast quantities of native copper near the shores of Lake Superior, the only place in the United States where it is found to any considerable extent.

It should be observed that both Cartier and Champlain were, when they had the interviews referred to in the above extracts, at a great distance from the centre of the copper-bearing territory, probably not less than eight hundred or a thousand miles, as traversed by the Indians. They saw, nevertheless, at this remote