

The copper is embedded in stone, of which I should think it did not compose one half. The copper might perhaps weigh one ton. With great difficulty we cut off some very small pieces. What this mass might have been I cannot say, but at present it in no respect equals the account heretofore given of it. It may have rolled from the mountain back of it, but of this there is no appearance—I should as soon believe it was deposited where it is by some freshet with the other rocks. It appears to be no stranger as to situation, for it has a regular place among them.¹

Perhaps this is not the mass generally spoken of, but is the only one of which we could obtain any information.

The distance from the mouth of the river to the rock is about 35 miles. I think it might be approached in light canoes, but they usually make a portage of 6 ms. Any man in his senses having crossed this once will hardly venture again. The river lies in a S. Easterly direction from the place where we landed to walk.

We returned from the mine to the canoe a little before sun set, and were much surprised to find the Gov. had not yet returned with the men who accompanied him. In no way could we account for his absence, and we all felt very anxious for his safety. Firing guns and halloing were resorted to, but without effect. One of the canoes was manned and sent up the river in search of him. Having proceeded about 3 miles up their gun was answered by a pistol and soon the Indian who had went with the Gov. was seen stretched at length floating down the rapids on 2 logs of which he had made a raft.² In a short time they all arrived safe at the camp to the great satisfaction of every one. When crossing over the mountains I had blamed myself for bringing my pistol, powder and hatchet with me.

¹ Schoolcraft gives a sketch of the stone, and its surroundings (*Narrative*, p. 97).—Ed.

² *Schoolcraft* (p. 97): "This canoe had not proceeded a mile, when the object of search was discovered, with his companions, sitting on the banks of the river, with a real jaded air, with his Indian guide standing at no great distance."—Ed.