

passed. A little above the river on the lake shore there are several lodges of Indians on a piece of level ground bounded on 3 sides by mountains, through which a small creek runs.

From the river our course was N. 70 W. to a point, thence the same course to the lower end of point Chequamegon. In a bay below this Mauvais or bad river enters, 12 miles from Montreal river, from which to the end of the point is 6 miles. This point is scarcely 600 yards over. It forms a bay 15 miles deep & from 3 to 5 wide. We crossed over 3 miles to the lower end of St. Michaels Island and landed a short time near Mr. Cadottes Establishment.¹ We met several Indians here who informed [us] that many years since a young Indian had found about 3 miles from this on the Island a large piece of pure copper—that they had never been to the place nor had they heard from him or others whether there was any more there. He carried away the piece. Also that about 60 years since an English gentleman with several attendants came up and he must be informed of all the mines in the country. The Indian who told this said he was then so small he did not go with them but that he recollects they crossed over to one of 2 creeks on the main nearly opposite the Island, and which he does not know, where they found a silver mine. The Gent. left the Island saying he should come back the next spring and work both the silver and copper he had found, but he died on his passage home. Since that time the Indian had heard nothing of them. The Gov. did not deem this information sufficient to warrant a search and we proceeded on.

The land through which those streams mentioned run is high and mountainous, and in many respects would favor the assertion frequently made by the Indians that they contain silver.

¹ The fur trade station of Michel Cadotte, on what is now Madelaine Island. See "The Story of Chequamegon Bay," *post*. Schoolcraft gives (p. 105) an excellent map of Chequamegon Bay; he styles the Apostle Islands the "Federation Group," and names the several islands after each State then in the Union,—but his nomenclature was not adopted by any subsequent geographer.—ED.