

gold and silversmith in Quebec. This workman has, in truth, some Ability and Skill. On hearing the account that we gave him of the quality of these mines, He finds less difficulty in their Working than we do. He claims that when the mine is uncovered it will be easy with Iron Wedges well tempered and with iron Sledges to divide a Block of Copper of any size into portable ingots, especially if there are any flaws in it, as in the largest of the three pieces of copper which we send to Monsieur de Beauharnois to be Forwarded to you. We cannot warrant success until the Experiment has been made. The said Chambellan will start next Spring to join the sieur De la Ronde, and at all Events He will Take with him the tools he may need to work according to the proposed method, the mine that has been found, if the Sieur de la Ronde does not discover others easier to work in the course of the explorations that he is to make on Lake Superior. It seems to us that he really intends to prosecute this Undertaking. Perhaps he may obtain further assistance from the workman for whom he asks you. If it be possible to find One He offers to defray the expense, and we beg You in that case, Monseigneur, to give your orders to have one sought for and sent out by the first ships from St. Malo which sail for l' Isle Royale, so that he may proceed thence to Quebec in time to Embark in the sieur De la Ronde's Canoes and arrive during the open season at the Establishment on Lake superior.

That officer has also Sent us another small piece of Copper which was given to his son by a savage of that quarter, and which he claims to have been taken from another mine situate on a branch of the same Tonagan river. It is in the same box as the 3 other pieces.

We received the last Letters of the sieur De la Ronde dated the 22nd July in Time to be able to answer them, and to ask him for further Information On the situation,—the Extent, and everything relating to the Tonagan mine. We Hope that he will give us this information in a more detailed and more satisfactory manner, and we shall Report the same to you next year. We shall send him in the Spring a Copy of the memo-