

the work. The sieur De la Ronde asks for one whom he offers to pay. You alone, Monseigneur, are able to procure one for him and in case you should be unable to find one, he begs you, Monseigneur, to have an instructive treatise drawn up which will teach the easiest and least expensive Manner in which such a mine can be worked, And which will consequently mention the implements and tools to be Used as well as The precautions to be taken as a protection against the noxious gases that the metal may exhale when mined.¹

I remain etc.

HOCQUART

[Enclosure in the above. Source, same as preceding document, but fol. 61.]

Report made to Monsieur hocquart by one Corbin, a Carpenter, An Employee of the Sieur De la Ronde, respecting the copper mines of Lake Superior and the River Tonnaganne.

The said Corbin left Sault Ste. Marie, The place where the sieur De la Ronde is building his Vessel,² on The [blank space in MS.] May last with two men named Vaudry and Le Beau who were going to meet the Sieur de la Ronde's son. The latter was returning after spending the winter at Chagouamigon. He embarked with Them, and they were followed by two others

¹Marginal note on MS.:

"Respecting the Tonnagane Copper Mine. Appends The report of one Corbin. Will send next spring one Chambellan, And some Hardy men with suitable implements for mining the ore. Asks the Minister on behalf of the Sieur Le Ronde, who offers to pay him, for a person well skilled in such matters, or in default of such a workman a good instructive treatise in order that these mines may be more easily worked also suitable implements and tools. L. P."

²In a letter written about this time (see Macalester College *Contributions*, 1st series, No. 4, p. 114), it is said of La Ronde: "He has constructed at his own expense, a bark of forty tons on Lake Superior, and was obliged to transport in canoes, as far as Sault Ste. Marie, the rigging and materials for the vessel. The post Chagouamigon was given him as a gratuity to defray expenses." See also Wisconsin Historical Society *Proceedings*, 1894, pp. 87, 88.—Ed.