

they said that these Masses Were only fragments that had come from the Mountains. They found three Mines of this Metal in the Rocks, of which two are on the River St. Anne, which is Seven Leagues distant from the Tonagane, to The west-south-west. They said that they Were similar to those in their own country, that is to say, good and rich; and that there is one of the two in which they believe that silver can be found, though they do not guarantee This; even if there is none, the Copper will prove good.<sup>1</sup> They say that these Mines are better than Mountains of pure Copper, because the furnace will be run constantly, because the expense of Cutting the Copper is Considerable, and they Will produce marcasite<sup>2</sup> in melting it; The Mines, they say, are at the end of the Lake;<sup>3</sup> the country is fine, the woods very favorable, and the Waterfalls in the River are very well adapted to furnish power for their furnaces.

The Third mine is on the Black River, right on the shore of the Lake, where they have found the same advantages as on the other River. It is fifteen Leagues from Tonagane, toward the same Point of the compass.

I have had the Miners take specimens of Ore in several sacks, which they are to show you. They wish to Carry them off to their country, saying that we have no one in Canada Capable of Assaying them.

<sup>1</sup>This appears from the location to be the present Iron River, although no early maps have been found with this designation; but in one authority Iron River is spoken of as the "river where silver may be found." The reports of the early geologists, also, indicate that some silver was found in this region. See Foster and Whitney (*op. cit.*)—Ed.

<sup>2</sup>This word appears several times in connection with the copper mines. It means iron pyrites. La Ronde, as he says, not being familiar with minerals, has probably used this word without knowing its meaning. It has been translated into "ore," "mineral," etc., according to the sense of the sentence. Monsieur Oboltski, our [Quebec] mining engineer, has kindly looked over my translation of the part regarding the mines.—CRAWFORD LINDSAY, translator.

<sup>3</sup>The expression here, "au bout du Lac," means where the lake ceases and the river begins; that is, at the mouth of the river.—Ed.