

of my duties during 53 years has not profited me, I implore you, Monseigneur, to take steps to enable my present long service to benefit my Children, who will always make themselves worthy of the honor of your protection, whenever you may be pleased to confer advancement on them. The eldest is a man 27 years of age who is a second Ensign; the second is 23 years old,¹ a Cadet with aiguillettes since that rank has been established in Canada, and who left last spring for the war.

All these just reasons lead me to hope, Monseigneur, that you will listen favorably to the requests of a father who is still prepared to shed the last drop of his blood in the service of the King and who has always inspired all his Children with the same sentiments.

I remain with very profound Respect, Monseigneur, Your very humble and very obedient servant,

LA RONDE DENYS

QUEBEC, October 18th, 1739.

Continuation of the Discovery of the Mines by Monsieur de la Ronde Denis.

1736 On my arrival at Quebec, I reported my discovery to Monsieur The Marquis de Beauharnois, and I begged him, jointly with Monsieur The intendant, who was going to France, to ask Monseigneur, The Comte de Maurepas, to send out skilled Miners from the Mining country to find the main lode for we found only masses of virgin Copper in rich, red, and sandy soils. Monsieur The intendant took with him about 500 pounds in the King's ship, and Monsieur the general sent a piece weighing about 80 pounds by a ship that sailed for havre de grace.

1737 I went back to my post, pending the arrival from France of the Skilled Miners whom I had asked for. This did

¹These were Philippe and Pierre François Paul. The elder son was still ensign in 1748, and returned to Chequamegon in that year. Apparently, he retired as ensign on half-pay. The younger was made ensign in 1742, and lieutenant in 1753, being killed at Quebec in 1760.—Ed.