

there is a very good one at the Chaudières 40 leagues from Montreal, and there is no portage to be made throughout that distance. There is only the Long saut<sup>1</sup> up which the canoes have to be taken by Tracking and poling, and in going down the loaded canoes run the rapid in the middle of the river. There are Nepissing savages who live on the spot and who act as pilots. But without making use of that tribe we have very good Frenchmen who are just as skilful as they at this work. I think that a settlement should be established on the River Ste Anne, and that it would be advisable to bring out miners from Germany, founders, Carpenters, and blacksmiths; of these we shall need eight Miners, two founders, a Carpenter, a mason, and a blacksmith, and they must come from the Mines of Germany so that they may be thoroughly conversant with what they have to do, and all should be for the River Ste Anne. With regard to the Charcoal-burners and wood-Cutters we shall find enough of them in Canada. We shall also require two Additional Miners to be stationed at the Chaudières with four good men from among those salt-smugglers<sup>2</sup> who come from France, and they should be put at the spot where the lode is to strip it and if it should be a good one, as there seems no reason to doubt, it would be easy to Work it at less expense than that on Lake superior, and we could have as many men there as we would wish owing to the facility with which Provisions could be sent there from the Montreal government.

I must now speak of the Steps to be adopted for Working the Mines of Lake Superior, which are near one another. I shall have to build a vessel of 80 tons at Detroit, and freight it with

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<sup>1</sup>The Grand River is the Ottawa, then the usual route from Canada to the West. The Chaudières and the Long Sault are localities thereon—the latter, about 45 miles above Montreal, and six miles in length, navigation around it is now secured by means of the Grenville canal.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup>Salt was a government monopoly, and those who were detected smuggling it into France were transported to Canada, and used in manual labor. Nau describes the wretched condition of these transported convicts, in *Jes. Rel.*, lxviii, p. 229.—Ed.