

## The Finding of a Mine.

**H**AVING heard from his earliest childhood tales concerning how the Indians, who inhabited a large territory in the central part of Ontario as late as the 'sixties, procured material with which they manufactured gun-balls, Marvin Brown was struck with an idea, that it might prove a wise undertaking to explore the regions, in which the legend maintained the ore was discovered, and to aid him in his search, he took two old friends into partnership, on condition that all expenditure and gain be borne equally by all three.

Having a slight knowledge of minerals, they felt certain, that the ore which would be melted over a campfire, as folk-lore relates, and run into gun-moulds, was none other than lead of a high grade or free silver, and, needless to state, they entered into plans for their coming tour of the wilds, with enthusiasm, despite the discouraging remarks which were hurled at them by the whole country-side.

The procuring of supplies, which consisted of food, tent, blankets and all the paraphernalia of the prospector was the first thing to which they attended after having secured the license to prospect, from the local Recorder. This done, they next had to secure some conveyance to carry them and their outfit out through the hills for thirty miles, where the waggon-road gave way to a foot-path, over which they had to carry their camp and working utensils in pack-sacks over the remaining ten miles, to the land of promise. The first man they asked to undertake the journey, agreed to go, in consideration of very large pay, and the work of loading up went on splendidly, until a box of dynamite was produced which was to form a portion of the load; then the teamster refused very emphatically to have anything to do with the trip, maintaining all the while, that he cared more for his life than for all the riches of the earth, whereupon they reasoned, argued with, and even coaxed him, but nothing could overcome his natural aversion to powder. Finally, they arrived at an agreement with him, whereby the explosive might be taken on the waggon, if they would deposit a sum of money in a local bank, sufficient to reimburse him for his belongings in case of accident, while he decided to come along walking a half-mile in the rear.