In no part of the country visited, from the Sault Ste. Marie to the Shebawenahning, was any great area wholly destitute of cupriferous veins, and it would appear singular if a region extending over a space of between one and two thousand square miles, and so marked by indications, did not in the course of time yield many valuable results.

In regard to the productiveness of lodes, it is to be remarked, that it appears probable it will be different in different qualities of rock they may intersect. From the described arrangement of the strata, it will be perceived that the lodes must vertically pass from one quality of rock to another; and as they keep a rudely regular course, they must do the same thing horizontally, from the effects produced in the geographical distribution of the rocks, by undulation or denudation of the strata. So far as my observation went, it appeared to me to be a fact, that the copper was most abundant in the greenstone, least so in the sandstone or quartz rock, and more copious in the slates than in the syenitic conglomerates.

Alexander Murray, Esq., Assistant Provincial Geologist, in his Report of 1849, states as follows:—

Geological Characteristics.—North coast of Lake Huron, west of French River.

The greater portion of the immediate coast line on the north shore of Lake Huron, in so far as my observation extended, may be described as generally poor and rocky, in some parts wholly destitute of vegetation, in others thickly clad with trees, which, however, are of stunted growth and of inconsiderable value. These marginal forests are chiefly composed of trees common to the cooler and more mountainous parts of Canada, the species being balsam fir, spruce, red and white pine, white birch and poplars, predominating on dry parts, while white cedar and tamarack abound on the swampy and moister ground. But while the coast line exhibits this uninviting appearance, the interior in many places presents a very different character, especially on the principal streams, where there are frequently to be seen extensive flats of rich and deep soil, producing maple, oak, elm, birch and basswood, besides occasional groves of both red and white pine of large size Various places of this description have been cleared and cultivated by the Indians, and where such has been the case, as at Spanish River, notwithstanding the rude state of aboriginal agriculture, the crops of maize and potatoes are nearly equal, both in quantity and quality, to those usually seen in the more favored latitude, and under the more enlightened system of tillage in Canada West.

Sir W. E. Logan, Provincial Geologist, in his Report of 1852–3, states as follows:—

Copper.

The Copper Ores of Lakes Superior and Huron were generally represented by Cabinet specimens, which had been collected during the exploration of the shores of those lakes by the Officers of the Geological Survey. None of the lodes being worked, with the exception of those of the Bruce mines, it was impossible, without great expence, to procure, except from the Bruce Mines, such large specimens as would have attached effective attention. The whole, however, formed an illustrative collection, and the prize medal awarded the Montreal Mining Company for its exhibition of Copper Ores, and Copper extracted from them, attests the interest with which the collection was examined. Of the remaining materials of this class of objects—zinc, lead and nickle ore, with native silver and gold—the specimens, with the exception of the last, were all of cabinet size, and those of them which excited enquiry were the sulphuret of nickle, from the Wallace Mines, and the native silver from Prince's location. * *

A considerable number of agates, some of them of large size, obtained on Michipicoten and Simpson Islands, and various parts of the north shore of Lake Superior, in which places they abound, together with several beautiful specimens of Perthite and peristerite, (different species of feldspar contributed by Dr. Wilson,) were placed in the hands of a London Lapidary to be split and polished for exhibition, and their addition to the collection, as materials applicable to jewellery, served to embellish its appearance.

Further information respecting the mineral resources of the north side of Lakes Huron and Superior may be found in the Journals of the years 1856, 1857 and 1858, and in Mr. Gibbard's Reports, on Mining Operations, of 1862 and 1863; also, in a Report on the Geology of Canada, published in the year 1863, by Sir W. E. Logan, Provincial Geologist.