

REPORT OF MR. PETER McKELLAR.

THE JACK FISH LAKE MINE.

The Jack Fish Lake Mine, consists of a block of land half a mile square, containing 160 acres, with a rich gold and silver bearing lode running diagonally through the property near the middle.

This rich vein was discovered in 1871 and was the first known free gold discovery on Lake Superior. The following year, the many rich gold and silver specimens taken from it and distributed all over the country, created much excitement. At the time that section of country was in the possession of the Indians and they strongly objected to any improvement being made by the whites until a treaty was consummated. Besides that, the access to the mine was 90 miles of alternate stretches of land and water, which would render the cost of transportation of machinery and supplies very great. For these reasons it was decided by the owners, to let the mine rest until these obstacles were removed. Again Captain Frue, of Silver Islet, who had purchased a half interest in the property immediately after its discovery for \$20,000, was not alive to prosecute the work of the mine when these difficulties ceased to exist.

I may mention, that although, following its discovery the vein was well examined by mining crosscuts and excavations, yet, no practical test was made to ascertain the value of the average ore. At one place 10 feet were sunk, and about 100 tons of ore blasted out which now lies on the dump. From this, some of the richest ore only was taken away, of that, the best was distributed amongst friends and specimen hunters all over the country, the balance 123 lbs. was sent to Balback & Sons, Newark, New Jersey, and smelted. It yielded \$517.98 to the ton, or gold \$396.80, silver \$121.18. The button of gold produced weighed 1.16 oz., value \$24.60. It is now in the possession of Mrs. J. McIntyre, of Fort William. Many assays were made of the different kinds of ore in the lode with varying results from a trace up to thousands of dollars to the ton, but no test was made with a view to an approximation of the real value of the lode or to find out by which