

50 THE IRON MINES OF THE ST. MAURICE TERRITORY.

oumanon, and from this point they can easily reach the residence of the Kilistinons on Hudson's Bay ; but in leaving Trois Rivières they ascend the Metabéroutin to this Lake Ouapichioumanon about 150 leagues from Trois Rivières ; from this Lake they travel directly towards the River Onakouingouechiouchi, this distance being about forty leagues. A route from the Huron country to Trois Rivières, is to start from Tamagami Lake, which I consider to be the inland fresh water sea of the Hurons and the head waters of the St. Lawrence ; after following that river for a few miles we cross the country about fifteen leagues, through small streams, as far as a lake called Onassisanik, out of which a river flows which conducts us to Trois Rivières.

"Daniel de Remi, Seigneur de Courcelles" was appointed Governor of La Nouvelle France in 1665.

Monsr. Talon was appointed Intendant at the same time. As before stated, the discovery of iron mines in the St. Maurice Territory was made during their administration.

Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac, succeeded Monsr. de Courcelles, as Governor of La Nouvelle France, in 1671. We refer again to the original manuscripts, relating to his administration, in which we occasionally find some allusion to the St. Maurice Iron Mines.

Extract from a letter addressed by Comte de Frontenac to the Imperial Government, 2nd November, 1672.

"The iron mine, of which I have already spoken, is of great consequence. I have visited it myself in order that I may be enabled to give a more accurate account of its nature. I am gratified to learn that another mine has been discovered in Champlain, which is much richer than the Cap la Madelaine Mine, and the ore is in greater abundance. I apprehend that it will be next to impossible to exhaust this mine, as there is an extent of country of four leagues in length, from Cap la Madelaine to Champlain, which is covered with iron ore ; all the streams indicate its existence. I had the curiosity to taste the water and I found it all strongly impregnated with rust and iron ore, but the miners whom I sent there render the affair certain ; they are now working there, and if you have any intention of establishing forges and a foundry, you may be certain that the material will not be wanting. There are six piles of ore now lying at Cap la Madelaine, which, according to the annexed report of the miner, would last for two castings per day for four months. The important question is the placing of the forges. According to my opinion I would prefer building them on 'Ruisseau