

MICA BAY

On November 14th, 1849
came a knock on the company door
It was four in the morning at the Mica Bay mine
on the lake Superior shore
Bonner was the name of the company man
and he didn't seem too surprised
to see Allan Macdonell and Chief "Little Pine"
and their friends with their guns and knives

CHORUS

It was windy and cold on November 14th, it was 1849
when "Little Pine" and Allan Macdonell shut
down all the digging at the Mica Bay mine

Whoa . . .

"Little Pine's" name was Shingwaukonse
he was the Chief of the Garden River Band
and he led his braves from the Sault to Mica Bay
'cause the miners were on his land
Now he didn't just get out of bed that day
and decide to take over a mine
He'd asked and asked for a Treaty
but no Treaty-makers could he find

Allan Macdonell was a lawyer who came
up north to dig a mine for himself
but the greed of others made him feel ashamed
so he offered Little Pine his help
or maybe he did it 'cause another Macdonell
helped the Highlanders across the sea
Whatever the reason the attorney decided
he would offer his expertise

CHORUS

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when "Little Pine" and Allan Macdonell shut
down all the digging at the Mica Bay mine

Whoa . . .

When daybreak came at the Mica Bay mine
the workers and their families
heard Bonner say, "Look at this pretty "sunshine,"
and by the way, we're about to leave."
Two days later one hundred and sixty
people felt the north wind blow
they sailed on a schooner bound for the Sault

as Little Pine watched them go

Lord Elgin was the Governor General then
and when he was told the tale
He sent Captain Cooper and a rifle brigade
to engage and to prevail
They were rollin' right along 'till Superior's waves
and winds really started to sing
Then the gales of November turned them back to the
Sault
where they'd have to wait until spring

CHORUS

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Whoa . . .

On December the fourth, 1849
eight men turned themselves in
Shingwauk and Macdonell and six other guys
were jailed in Toronto and then
They were released and sent back home
when the Chief Justice decreed
that since Macdonell was his relative,
they'd been arrested illegally

Some papers pointed out Little Pine
was a veteran of the war of 1812
Some papers said the mining wasn't right
but then you can't un-ring a bell
with all of these papers talkin' up a storm
Elgin had to get a Treaty man
He appointed Bill Robinson who
then made a deal with the Garden River Band

CHORUS

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