was taught for several years by a discharged soldier of Napoleon's army, by the name of Henry Boyer. He is represented as teaching French successfully, and as conducting his school in an admirable manner.

Early Schools of Lead Region

We have already alluded to the discovery and the occupancy of the Lead District, as the second important movement in the settlement of the State. Some slight attempts to work portions of the Mines were made as early as 1822, but the hostility of the Indians living in that region prevented any further operations. They were exceedingly jealous of the Americans, whom they would not allow to examine their country. By 1827, an excitement in regard to the Mines, like the more recent gold fever, prevailed in certain portions of the States, East and South. Hundreds rushed to the district, which, in a short time, was computed to hold five thousand inhabitants. The miners came principally from the Central, Western and Southern States, invited and protected by the Government. Checked for a season by the alarm which grew out of what is called the "Winnebago War," and by the actual hostilities of the Black Hawk contest, five years after, the emigrants spread rapidly over the whole section; and when Wisconsin was made a Territory by itself, in 1836, the Lead Region had a very large majority of the population. Prominent villages were located and built up near valuable openings in the Mines, as Mineral Point, Platteville, Shullsburg, Dodgeville, Cassville, Gratiot's Grove, and others. Several of the most useful citizens of the State arrived with the miners. I might mention Gov. Dodge, whose messages subsequently showed that he took the liveliest interest in the establishment of public schools; Hon. John H. Rountree, recently a Senator from Grant County, and who aided materially in opening the first schools in the south-western part of the State, including Platteville Academy, now a State Normal School; Gen. Charles Bracken, who first introduced in the Territorial Legislature a bill to create a common school