

many more came by way of Green Bay, Manitowoc, and other lake ports.

The following statistics of arrivals of Wisconsin-bound Germans are obtainable from other state immigration reports:¹

1872.....	* 5,190.	1880.....	* 8,079.
1873.....	* 3,031.	1881.....	* 17,074.
1874.....	† 2,458.	1882.....	† 18,922.
1875.....	† 1,479.	1883.....	† 17,446.
1879.....	† 2,702.	1884.....	† 14,539.

* For Milwaukee and Chicago (Wisconsin bound).

† For Milwaukee only. No report for Chicago.

The number of German-born in the state, at each census from 1850 to 1885, is given in our opening table (p. 300). These figures show that the largest German immigration has been in the decades 1840 to 1850, 1850 to 1860, and 1880 to 1890. To be more exact, we may place the largest immigration periods in the years 1846-54, and 1881-84, which are not only periods that correspond to those of the greatest German immigration to the United States, but they are also the times when Wisconsin probably received a much larger proportion of Germans than other states.

The causes of the presence of this large German element among us must be looked for, not primarily in plans to form a German state in the Northwest, though such plans have undoubtedly had their influence, but they are rather to be looked for in economic, political, and social influences. Among these were the natural advantages which this state possessed for Germans in the way of climate and productiveness, the low price of lands,—due to the abundance of government land and the peculiar policy of the state in disposing of its land grants for schools at low prices, for the sake of attracting immigration,—and the opening of the

¹ The report for 1872 includes the months April to November for Milwaukee, and May to August for Chicago; that of 1873 is April to November for Milwaukee, and May to August for Chicago; 1874, April 1 to December 15; 1875, for the calendar year; 1880, May to December 31; while those for 1881-84 give the total for the year.