

Lapham states it to have begun for the Mineral Point mining region in 1839.<sup>1</sup> In a Madison paper for 1841 we find the following: "*The Lead Trade*.—We are pleased to observe by notices in Milwaukee and Southport papers that this trade is beginning to find its way to our Lake ports on its way to Eastern markets. The *Courier* of the 4th inst. says: 'Our citizens on Saturday afternoon were not a little surprised by the appearance in our streets of four sucker teams loaded with lead from the furnace of Thomas Parish, Esq., near Muskoday, in Grant county. These teams brought over about ten tons of lead to be shipped to New York.' If, as the *Courier* adds, the lead can be sent from that place to New York for about 50 cents per hundred, and it costs but 93 cents to have it delivered there from the mining country, making the entire expense of transportation to New York less than \$30 per ton, while by the New Orleans route the average cost is \$40 per ton, we can see no reason why the entire lead trade of the Territory should not be diverted from the Mississippi to the Lake route, especially when is taken into consideration the additional fact, that there is a difference in favor of the latter route, in the time of getting returns, of at least *two-thirds*. The *Courier* says: 'The lead which arrived here on Saturday was shipped on the 'Madison' on Monday, and will be in New York within twenty days from the time it left the furnace near the Mississippi river; and the owner will get his returns in about four weeks from the time the lead was smelted. A gentleman from Galena recently informed us that he shipped over 90 days since about \$1,500 worth of lead to New York by the southern route and he had not then got his return from it.' Besides getting a better price for their

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<sup>1</sup> Lapham's *Wisconsin* (ed. 1844), pp. 139, 140: "The first exportation of flour was in 1839, and in this year commenced also the exportation of lead brought here [Milwaukee] by wagons overland from the mining district about Mineral Point. In 1841, copper was added to the list of exports; and the amount of lead, shot, and copper shipped here during that year was 1,768,175 pounds."