

to Buffalo had already begun. The *Commercial Advertiser* of that city gives lead and shot as among the imports from the West, in 1841.¹ The following, from a Milwaukee paper, gives a hint at the reason for the establishment of the lead trade: "*White Lead*.—The manufacture of this article has lately been commenced at Buffalo with the most flattering prospects of success. About ten tons, pronounced by good judges to be a first rate article, have been made this fall, from lead obtained from the newly opened mines west of the Sugar river in this Territory."² The *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser* remarks: 'Taking into consideration the superior facilities for procuring the raw material enjoyed here, the proprietors, we have no doubt, will be enabled successfully to compete with foreign establishments, and at the same time meet a fair reward for their enterprise.'"³

In connection with the increased lead production after 1842, the influence of the white-lead factories of New York is stated to be of considerable importance: "These factories are of recent origin. The Saugerties paint company, in Ulster county, New York, was one of the first established in this country. It was suggested by the extremely low price of lead in 1842. It then commanded but 3 cents per lb. in New York, and sometimes was as low as 2½ cents. When lead was such a drug, it was thought by some enterprising man in New York to be a most favorable time to try whether a fair profit could not be realized by making paint here, instead of shipping the lead to England to be

¹ Cited in *Milw. Sentinel and Wis. Farmer*, Jan. 29, 1842; also, Gordon, *Gazetteer of New York* (Phila., 1836), pp. 89, 92.

² *Niles' Register*, vol. 60, p. 384, Aug. 14, 1841: "The lead trade of Milwaukee, says the *Cleveland Herald*, bids fair to be an important item of commerce. The 'diggings' are about eighty miles west of that place, and the mineral is already found to extend over about 25 miles of country, and large quantities are constantly being raised. The *Sentinel* says Mr. Corbin's furnace smelts 5000 lbs. per day, which is brought to Milwaukee and shipped to Buffalo and New York. From 20 to 30 teams now arrive weekly at Milwaukee loaded with lead and return with goods, etc."

³ *Milw. Sentinel and Wis. Farmer*, Dec. 4, 1841.