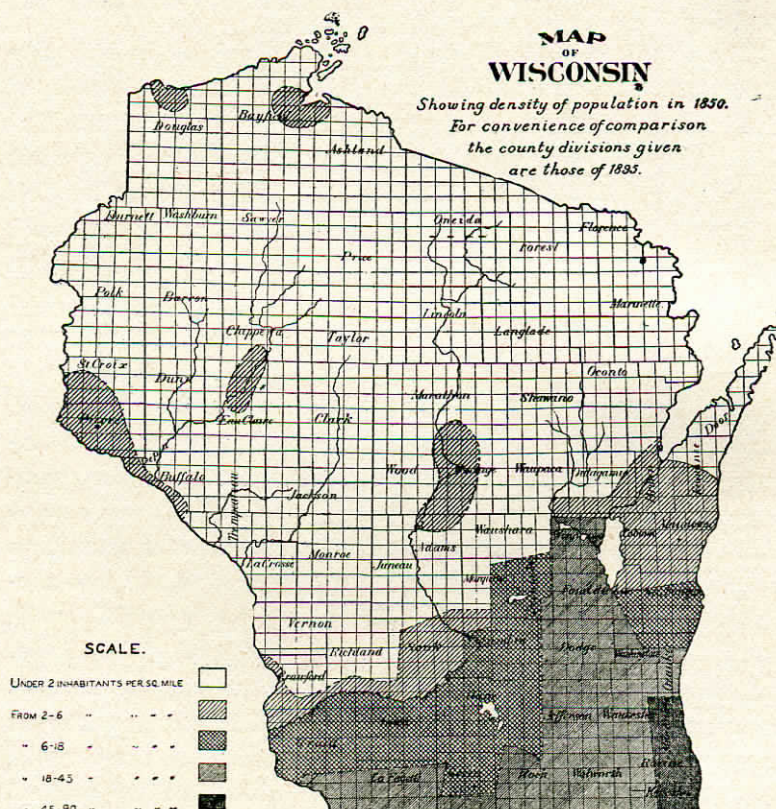


forward movement of population, and fill up the fertile counties of the Rock River valley, and farther west. Without such a path as was traced out for them by the teamsters of 1836-38, the emigrants of 1840-50 might have been delayed a decade in penetrating to these regions; without the prize of the lead trade to tempt them, the merchants and capitalists of Milwaukee, Buffalo, and New York would



not at this early date have taken so lively an interest in our lines of communication between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi.

In general, then, the lead trade and the shot trade together attracted capital to Wisconsin, helped to fill its southern counties with population, and gave an impulse to its industrial life that the State has never lost.