This tract of country upon the high lands is gently rolling, but as you approach the larger water courses it becomes more and more hilly, terminating in high, calcareous bluffs along their margins. About one third is first rate farming land. Not more than a tenth is covered with timber, which grows in detached groves; the balance prairie. Springs of the purest water are to be found in abundance. The interior is healthy; no local causes of fever exist except immediately on the Mississippi. The climate is pleasant & desirable except during the spring months. Snow seldom exceeds 12 inches in depth during winter. All the fruits, vegetables and grain which grow in the same latitude in our Eastern States, would succeed equally well here.

The mounds delineated on the map are natural formations rising several hundred feet above the level of the country; some one of which may be seen from almost every part of the mines, serving as natural beacons to direct the traveller in his course.

Amount of Lead manufactured.

	lbs.
In 1825	439 473
26	1560 536
27	6824 359
28	12.957. 100
1st qr. 29	2.494 444

Estimated number of inhabitants.

In 1825	200
26	1000
27	4000
28	10000

About 2/3 are females, & 100 are free blacks.

The United States have the Fee Simple in part, and the right to occupy the whole of the country between the Wisconsin and the surveyed lands south of Rock river, and the line marked along sugar creek to the Mississippi. Commissioners are appointed for the purpose of extinguishing the Indian title to the whole in the course of the summer, for the sale of which, the Government has made no provision except a section upon wich stands the town of Galena.

The mines are worked by private individuals, who pay the Government for such privilege, a tenth of all the lead manufactured. The Superintendent has the power of prescribing such rules, as will prevent disputes, and secure the Government against waste and fraud; to which all who engage in mining are bound to subscribe.

A lot of 200 yards square is allowed to every two miners, and one in addition for every two hands employed, (to be located & staked off by the miners on any unoccupied ground,) which may be abandoned at pleasure and another taken. The occupants have the exclusive benefit of their own discoveries, but are restricted in the sale of their mineral to a licensed smelter, who, is obliged to give bond in a penalty of $10,000, to pay the Government a 10th of all the lead he manufactures. Leases of half a section for three years, may be obtained on bonds of $5000 with like condition.

Miners are entitled to the free use of timber for building and fuel. Smelters are allowed sufficient to carry on their works. Lessees can only use for smelting on their half sections; but if there should be no timber, they must sell their mineral to a smelter.

The same person may either mine, lease, or smelt, or all together.

Farming is permitted free of rent, where ever it can be done without interfering with the timber needed for mining purposes. Mining is as simple a process, as the common method of digging wells.

Galena is the seat of Justice of JO. DAVIESS CO. & principal depot of the mines. Contains about 250 houses & 800 inhabitants. The mail arrives weekly in Stages from St. Louis, & private hacks run from Galena to every part of the mining district.

In 1828 there were 99 arrivals of Steamboats, & 74 Keels at the port of Galena.

Macaubie is the Indian name for the river on which Galena is situated, and when translated into English, means — Small Pox, or more literally, a Fever that Blisters, & was so named from the circumstance of several hundred of the natives dying there of that disease, and there being no characteristic to justify naming it, Fever river, or Bean river, as translated from the French, no reason is known why the original name should not have the preference.

Copper ore (Sulphuret) has been found in its original deposit, in such quantities, and over such an extent of this country, as to justify the expectation of that metal being produced in considerable quantities.

(Facsimile to accompany Vol. XI., Wisconsin Historical Collections.)

MAP OF THE United States LEAD MINES ON THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

Drawn & Published by

R. W. CHANDLER OF GALENA.

1829.

B. P. MARTIN ENGRAVER

CINCINNATI.

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