

ness and well-being of the daughter of their best friend, and all her family.

It can but be with conflicting emotions that you contemplate the destiny that has overtaken the original possessors of your soil. They have passed away; their council-fires have been extinguished, and their monuments torn down.

"Ill-fated race, thy tribes have one by one
Sunk to their rest beneath the setting sun,
Just like the bubbles which the ocean bore,
The waves swept o'er them, they are seen no more."

Gentlemen of the Society, I have thus endeavored to give you a sketch, imperfect as it is, of one of the pioneers of Wisconsin. It only remains for me, formally, in the name of Mrs. Washburne, to present to your Society the portrait of her father, Henry Gratiot.

Prof. J. B. Parkinson, in behalf of the Society, gratefully accepted the gift of the excellent portrait of one of Wisconsin's early and meritorious pioneers; and, raised in the lead region, he was able to add his testimony to the worth of this distinguished man.

"Col. Gratiot was a thorough-going business man, and not a few of the 'old settlers' of that region, as I personally know, have had reason to be grateful to him for the enterprises he has set on foot. His versatility of business talent and power of adaptation were remarkable. It is of record that he was miner, smelter, farmer, merchant, mill-builder, and at each successful. It is worthy of note, that one of the first grist-mills in Wisconsin, and the very first within the present county of La Fayette, was constructed by Col. Gratiot as early as 1828-29, and the little buhrs that were put into it were imported from France by way of New Orleans and Galena. We should not forget the energy here shown was like in kind, and in view of the circumstances, scarcely inferior in degree, to that displayed a half century later in the erection of those huge structures at the Falls of St. Anthony, whose products reach to the ends of the