

Adèle De P. Gratiot's Narrative

Mrs. Adèle Maria Antoinette Gratiot *née* De Perdreaux, was born Oct. 25, 1802, in La Maillerage, near Rouen, France. She was the daughter of René Alphonse de David, de Perdreaux. Her interesting narrative, with what Hon. E. B. Washburne says of her, gives the reader a good idea of this most estimable lady—a worthy pioneer of Western Wisconsin. She died in Washington, Arkansas, December 4, 1873.

Her husband, Jean Pierre Bugnion Gratiot—often referred to as Bion Gratiot—was born in St. Louis, February 18, 1799. He was well educated, and a man of enterprise and generous impulses. As early as 1824, he spent a year in New Mexico, in search of gold mines, without finding the precious metal in sufficient quantities for profitable mining. In 1825, with his brother, Henry Gratiot, he located in the lead region of Southwestern Wisconsin, and was long engaged in lead mining. During the Black Hawk War, he raised a party of men, principally his own employés, did good service, and received the thanks of Gen. Atkinson. These services are referred to in the *Illustrated Hist. of Lafayette Co., Wis.*, p. 472; and by Col. D. M. Parkinson, *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ii, p. 338.

In 1841, he removed to the lead region of Missouri, and located in Washington County, which he frequently represented in the legislature of that State. He was a member at the time of his death, which occurred while temporarily at St. Louis, April 7, 1871, in his seventy-third year. He was a man of much enterprise and usefulness in his day, of fine intelligence, and proverbial for his kindness and hospitality. L. C. D.

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"The residents of Galena," says the *Galena Gazette*, May 2, 1879, "and the Upper Mississippi lead mines prior to 1841, will remember John P. B. Gratiot, one of the prominent early settlers. He was the brother of the late Col. Henry Gratiot, so well and honorably known in the Northwest. Mr. J. P. B. Gratiot died several years since while a member of the Legislature of Missouri. His wife was a Miss Perdreaux, a French lady of noble family, and highly educated and accomplished. Her father filled several high positions under the first Napoleon, and was thrown on the