

Mrs. Alex. Hamilton. She treated him with the greatest kindness, and placed him in an excellent school of her own selection.

In February, 1836, my husband and his brother Henry, left together for the East, partly on business and also to pay a visit to their elder brother, Gen. Charles Gratiot, the chief of the Engineer Corps. Henry remained in Washington. After a week Mr. J. P. B. Gratiot proceeded to New York. While there he was introduced to Mrs. Hamilton. He was charmed with her cordial yet dignified manners. She spoke of coming the next year to the West, to pay a visit to her son. Mr. Gratiot made her promise to come to our house during her stay. This visit to Washington City, which had promised to be so pleasant, terminated in the death of Henry Gratiot, one of the best of men, deeply lamented by his family, and deeply regretted by all his friends, and all who knew him.

Mrs. Gen. Hamilton, the widow of Alex. Hamilton, her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Holley, arrived in Galena on the first of June, 1837. She was on a visit to her youngest son, Col. William S. Hamilton, then living at Hamilton's Diggings, Wisconsin Territory. We had the pleasure to entertain them for several weeks. The souvenir of this lovely old lady stands among my dearest recollections. Pleasant and unaffected, she bore eighty-four years with graceful dignity. Remarkably active, every morning before breakfast she would take, unattended, a long walk in search of wild flowers; she would return with her hands full, her garments saturated with dew, but perfectly delighted with the blooming prize. Mrs. Holley remonstrated in vain; the amiable lady would shake her head and say, "It is a pleasure—I must take my morning walk." Mrs. Hamilton was fond of playing backgammon; every evening after tea, she had a game with my brother Leon.

Having expressed a desire to visit the Falls of St. Anthony, on the 24th of June, we left Galena for the Upper Mississippi on the steamboat "Burlington," Capt. Throckmorton. We had a very pleasant voyage. Mrs. Hamilton was