

1885

## Amelia Fontenelle Lockett

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## AMELIA FONTENELLE LOCKETT.

THIS lady, notice of whose death appeared in last week's *Economist*, was a native of Louisiana, and a direct descendant of a powerful family of the French nobility, a daughter, if we are informed correctly, of the Marquis de Fontenelle, a nobleman of great wealth and character, whose property was contiguous to the city of Marseilles, but who in all probability had sought, like many others, either health or increased fortune on the fertile shores of New France.

The family was in every respect a remarkable one. A young and adventurous brother of Mrs. Lockett, who left Louisiana at the early age of sixteen to embark in the perilous fur trade in the far West, in his traffic with the red men was deeply smitten with the charms of a young Indian maiden of rank in the then powerful Omaha tribe. After a romantic wooing, like a great many others, he determined to make her his wife, and the twain were united by the renowned Father DeSmet, the courageous missionary and priest, whose name is a household word in most homes west of the Missouri. The issue of that marriage was Logan Fontenelle, successively warrior, hunter, scout, and chief of his powerful tribe. No word of praise need be spoken of Logan Fontenelle to those who have ever heard his name. A large and thriving city in Eastern Nebraska is his monument and bears his name. Renowned for his courage, bravery, and kindness, and hospitality to the whites in their most critical time in the West, he was admired and loved by all from the Missouri to the Rockies. He was killed in battle about the year '54 on a high bluff overlooking the Missouri river—a spot where many pleasant hours have been spent by the writer of this—and a spot which neither he nor any one who has seen it will be likely to forget.

Mrs. Lockett was a lady of striking appearance, and the merest novice in the science of faces would not have failed to detect in her countenance the traces of the great strength of character which she possessed to the last. She was a thorough gentlewoman of the old French type, and spoke very little English. She had long been in feeble health.