

William Bentley, the subject of this sketch was born in Salford, England Aug. 8th, 1850, he is the son of John Bently, who was born in England about 1810, and he was the son of John Bently.

John Bentley the father of William Bentley married Elizabeth Middlefell, about 1822, to these good people was born Edward Bentley, Fredrick Bentley, Elizabeth Bentley, Lucy Bentley, Matilda, Sarah Jane. John, William and Joseph Bentley.

Early in the life of William Bentley he became apprenticed to a very capable workman in England and learned the carpenter and cabinet makers trade well, he served as an apprentice for eight years. I will say right here that to give the life of William Bentley it also necessitates giving the life of John Bentley as well, because they were inseparably connected in their life's work, both here in this land and in England.

Early in the life of William Bentley and John Bentley they were brought in close contact with the gospel message, because Grandma Bentley had been among the first in England to embrace the church, she was a faithful member, but Grandpa Bentley never joined the Church in his life time, but was always friendly and treated the Elders with great kindness. Among the elders that made their home with John and Elizabeth Bentley were such men as Brigham Young, George Q Cannon, and many others of early history of the church, Bishop William H. Dame was also an Elder who shared the hospatality of these good people. John and Elizabeth Bentley kept the mission house in Manchester for many years, in fact until the family came to America. John Bentley died Jan. 1867 just as the family were preparing to leave for Zion, but the family soon made up their minds to come to the promised land. John Bentley, William Joseph and their mother set sail for this country early in the year 1868, they came as far as the Missouri River on ship and rail and were met there by the ox and mule teams from the valleys. They traveled over the plains following the trails of the old pioneers of 1847, until they came to Fort Laramie, Wyo.

... THE BENTLEY FAMILY WAS BEING BUILT AND JOHN AND WILLIAM BENTLEY, DECIDED TO stay and work for a while on the railroad, and their mother and Joseph went on to Salt Lake City. The work on the railroad being new to them and they being new to the country, they did not hold their job very long, but decided to walk into Salt Lake City, quite a distance away. These two brothers arrived in Salt Lake early one morning and were met accidentally by Bishop Hunter of the Church, he asked them where they were going and if they had had any thing to eat, they replied "they had had nothing," he took them to his home and gave them breakfast, and told them that their mother and younger brother had just left that morning for Parowan, John and William decided then and there to take up the trail and follow them to Parowan. About 2 A. M. of the same day they arrived in Sandy or Murry, and accidentally came upon their mother and younger brother, they having been delayed by some trouble with the teamsters. They were given the job of driving one of the teams and were thus able to travel in the same company as their mother and came to Parowan with her, arriving here in the year 1868.

John and William Bentley, soon after their arrival began working at their trade, whenever possible, President William H. Dame, furnished them with considerable work, and other people recognized their ability and soon they were able to accumulate enough to bring to this country their sister, who had lost her husband since their leaving England. With silent patience they began to accumulate again, this time with the idea of returning to their native land, but one day they received word that their brother Fredrick had lost his wife and that he wished to come to Utah, these two brothers sacrificed again of their means and helped the brothers family to this land.

William Bentley, married Lovian Banks, Mar. 6, 1878, when she was a girl of sixteen, to this happy couple has been born ten children, seven girls and three boys.

William Bentley and Lovina Bentley were fine people, Lovina, was a lovable woman, William was a sturdy citizen, and at this writing their son the writer of this sketch, pays this loving tribute to them, that they are real parents, they are

This community will long remember with gratitude the work of the Bentley Brothers, which work still stands in all of these southern communities as monuments of their industry and thrift. Wm. Bentley died Dec. 2, 1933.  
Lovina M. Bentley died June 4, 1928.

John W. Bentley.