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BOOK ONE  
BENTLEY ANCESTRY

Some Notes on the Ancestry of the Bentleys of Upton.  
From the 14th to 20th Centuries.

After Dr. Simon Bentley of Stratford On Avon (deceased 1349), there became also scions of Bentleys at Henley-in-Arden and at Kineton.

Dr. Bentley married Agnes .... Their daughter Margery was grandmother of Richard Bentley, 1446-1508, Alderman of 'Stratforde-upon-Avone' 1484-1508, and 'Guild Master' (Mayor), 1492. 93. & 94, in 1505 he was taken before the STAR CHAMBER for intervening in a Municipal (Guild) Election. The result is not known.

GEOFFREY BENTLEY, thought to have been his son, was in 1487, a property owner resident in Woodstock (Bladon). Geoffrey had several sons, among them --- Thomas, at Oxford. John, Vicar of Upper Ottery. and Nicholas, " Preest of Pawles" (St Pauls Cathedral). He died 1557.

THOMAS BENTLEY was at New College, Oxford, at the same time as a Hugh Bentley was at Queens, and a Peter Bentley at University College, he becoming the Rev. of Colemore (Colmer near Selbourne), and suffered imprisonment for religious beliefs denying acceptance of Henry VIII as the Authority of the Church. The relationship of these Bentleys, although close, is not certain.

THOMAS BENTLEY, together with Thomas Wuley (Wolsey), studied Divinity. Thomas also studied Linacre's views and opinions on anatomy and medicine. His interest became concentrated on medicine.

In 1512 he became a Licentiate of the University of Oxford.

In June 1516 he became Bachelor of Medicine.

In June 1518 he received his Degrée of Doctor of Medicine.

He was soon chosen as 'Phisickan' to the influential Duke of Buckingham.

Whilst a Fellow of New College he married ANNE ..... They first resided at one of the George Halls in St, Marys Parish, and then moved to London.

"Doctor Bentley of Oxford" was summoned to The Royal Court.

It is on record that he was consulted several times in 1521.

King Henry VIII, assisted by his now powerful Minister, Thomas Wolsey, founded THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHISICKANS in 1518

In 1523 Thomas Bentley was chosen as a Censor of the College. Censors had the sole power of granting licences to practise medicine in London.

He became 2nd President of the Royal College 1525, 1526, and 1529 and 1530, having been 'Consiliarus' (Counsellor) 1527 and 1528.

Doctor Linacre was Phisickan to the King until his death 1524.

Thomas Bentley was then formally appointed to 'His Grace'.

In 1528 & 1529 'sweating sickness' re-appeared. Both the now Cardinal Wolsey and Anne Boleyn suffered attacks and were attended by Doctor Bentley.

Doctors to Court rarely received payment in money. They usually received a 'Guerdon' (honourable reward) in grants of beneficiaries such as tithes or rents, properties, furniture, plate or jewels.

Doctor Bentley attended the birth, autumn 1533, of Princess Elizabeth, future Queen.

In 1537 the Queen (Jane Seymour), mother of Edward VI presented Bentley with a gold "brouche" in recognition of his services.

Soon after 1545, Dr. Bentley retired and moved to the old family home at Stratford-on-Avon. He died 1548/9. HIS WILL was proved 4th March 1549.

A famous 16th Century ancestor was THOMAS BENTLEY. He studied at Oxford with Thomas Wuley (later Cardinal Wolsey). Bentley studied medicine and received his Doctorate 1518. In London he became 2nd President of the 'Royal College of Phisickians!'. Summoned to Court he attended King Henry VIII Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour and Cardinal Wolsey. He attended the birth of Princess Elizabeth, later to be Queen, and Prince Edward, later to be King Edward VI. He died 1548.

**IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.** The xxvj<sup>th</sup> day of January in the yere of our Lorde God a thousande fyve hundreth forty and eight and in the seconde yere of the reign of Edwarde the Syxte by the grace of God of Englonde Fraunce and Irelande Kyng, defender of the Fayth, and in earth of the Churche of Englonde, and also of Irelande, supreme hedd.

I, THOMAS BENTLEY of Stratford vppon Avon in the cowntie of Warwyck, Doctor of Phisick to the late Kyng of famous memory HENRY THE VJIII, thankes be geven to God beyng hole in body p̄fet in memory and of good remembraunce do make ordeyn and dispose this my present last wyll and testament in maner and forme following: First and principally I bequeth my soule to Allmyghtie God only trustynge and firmly beleving to be saved by the fayth that I have in Chryst who dyd suffre for the redempcon of me and all mankynde—and I wyll that my body be buried w̄tin the parishe churche of Stratford afforesaid. Item I bequeth to my welbeloved wyf ANNE BENTLEY my best standinge cuppe of sylu' and gylte w̄t the cou' A nest of goblettes of sylu' and gylte w̄t the cou' My best salte w̄t his cou' Syxe pottes of syluer and gylte w̄t their couers and all my sylu' spones w̄t all my juelles and all my right, tytle, and interest, and terme of yeres that I have of and in my house in Oxforde called George Hall together w̄t the indent<sup>r</sup> of the same house w̄t certeyn ymplementes therein remaynyng as standerth whiche house is nowe in the tenure of Harman Evans. Item I bequeth to my sonne WILL<sup>m</sup> BENTLEY my seconde best standynge cuppe of sylu' and gylte w̄t the cou' and a potte of sylu' and gylte w̄t the cou' Item I bequeth

**IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.** The 26th day of January in the yere of our Lorde God a thousande fyve hundreth forty and eight and in the seconde yere of the reign of Edwarde the(Sixth)by the grace of God of Englonde Franncce and Irelande Kyng, Defender of the Fayth, and in earth of the Churche of Englonde, and also of Irelande, supreme hedd.

I, THOMAS BENTLEY of Stratford uppon Avon in the cowntie of Warwyck, Doctor of Phisick to the late Kyng of famous memory HENRY THE VIII, thankes be geven to God beyng hole in body perfect in memory and of good remembraunce do make ordeyn and dispose this my present last wyll and testament in the manner and forme following: first and principally I bequeth my soule to Allmyghtie God only trustynge and firmly beleving to be saved by the fayth that I have in Chryst who dyd suffre for the redempcon of me and all mankynde-- and I wyll that my body be buried w'tin the parishe churche of Stratford afforesaid. Item I bequeth to my welbeloved wyf ANNE BENTLEY my best standinge cuppe of sylu' and gylte w't the cou' A nest of goblettes of sylu' and gylte w't the cou' My best salte w't his cou' Syxe pottes of syluer and gylte w't their couers and all my sylu' spones w't all my juelles and all my right, tytle and interest, and terme of yeres that I have of and in my house in Oxforde called George Hall together w't the indents of the same house w't certeyn ymplementes therein remaynyng as standerth whiche house is nowe in the tenure of HARMAN EVANS. Item I bequeth to my sonne WILL<sup>m</sup> BENTLEY my seconde best standynge cuppe of sylu' and gylte w't the cou' and a potte of sylu' and gylte w't the cou' Item I bequeth

THOMAS BENTLEY.

HIS WILL.

26th January  
1548.

to **ANNE BENTLEY** my daughter my seconde best sylu' salte w't his cou' thre pottes of sylu' and gylte w't their cou's and a kowe orelles rrs in money. Item I bequeth to my daughter **DOROTHE BENTLEY** my isf<sup>re</sup> salte of syluer and gylte w't his cov'r a kowe and a calf orelles rrs in money Item I bequeth to **ROBT WYNCOCKE** a sylu' cuppe w't the cou' Item I bequeth to **WILLm CLERCKE** whome I have brought vpp of charitie twoo heyfers to be delyu'ed vnto the said WILLm by myn executor at suche tyme as the said WILLm shall fortune to be maryed. The resydewe of all my goodes and catalles before not geven or bequethed as movable as not movable whatsoeu' they be my dettes beyng payd my funerall discharged and this my wyll beyng well and truly p'formed and doon I doo geve and bequeth vnto my forsayd wyf **ANNE BENTLEY** whome I doo ordeyn and make my soole **EXECUTRIX** of this my present last Wyll and testament them to distrybute as she shall thinke necessary to the pleas' of God and for the welth of my soule and all chrysten soules I also desyer and wyll my trustye and welbeloved frendes **THOMAS BLOUNT** and **ROBT WYNCOCK** to be supvysers of this my present last wyll and testament to see the same well and truly p'formed and doon accordyng to the tenor therof—And the same Thom' Blount to have for his paynes so to be taken in the premisses a sylu' potte gylte w'toute a cover. **IN WITNES** wherof I the forsayd Thomas Bentley to this my present last wyll and testame't have putte my bande the day and yere above wrytten in the presence of **John Jeffreys, Thom' Waturman, Laurens Seytun, and WILLm Myns—**

(sd) **THOMAS BENTLEY.**

to **ANNE BENTLEY** my daughter my seconde best sylu' salte w't his cou' three pottes of sylu' and gylte w't their cou's and a kowe orelles 22s in money. Item I bequeth to my daughter **DOROTHE BENTLEY** my lilde salte of syluer and gylte w't his cov'r a kowe and a calf orelles 22s in money Item I bequeth to **ROBT WYNCOCKE** a sylu' cuppe w't the cou' Item I bequeth to **WILLm CLERCKE** whome I have brought upp of charitie twoo heyfers to be delyu'ed unto the said WILLm by myn executor at such tyme as the said WILLm shall fortune to be maryed. The resydewe of all my goodes and catalles before not geven or bequethed as movable as not movable whatsoeu' they be my dettes beyng payd my funerall discharged and this my wyll beyng well and truly p'formed and doon I doo geve and bequeth unto my forsayd wyf **ANNE BENTLEY** whome I doo ordeyn and make my soole **EXEXUTRIX** of this my present last Wyll and testament them to distrybute as she shall thinke necessary to the pleas' of God and for the welth of my soule and all chrysten soules I also desyer and wyll my trustye and welbeloved frendes **THOMAS BLOUNT** and **ROBT WYNCOCK** to be supvysers of this my present last wyll and testament to see the same well and truly p'formed and doon accordyng to the tenor thereof— And the same THOMs BLOUNT to have for his paynes so to be taken in the premisses a sylu' potte gylte w'toute a cover. **IN WITNES** whereof I the forsayd **THOMAS BENTLEY** to this my present last wyll and testame't have putte my bande the day and yere above wrytten in the presence of **JOHN JEFFREYS, THOMs WATURMAN, LAURENS SEYTUN, and WILLm MYNS—**

(sd) **THOMAS BENTLEY.**

THIS WILL  
was proved  
On the 4th  
March 1549

cou'.....lid  
couers..... lids or covers  
catalles.... chattels  
goblettes... wine cups  
gylte..... gold

indent's.....contents  
p'fet.....sound mind  
pottes.....jars  
orelles.....**ORNAE DANGL.**  
sylu' salte..silver cruet.

sylu' )  
syluer ).....silver  
standynge )  
standinge )..upright  
syre.....six

syрте.....sixth  
ymplementes..fixtures  
spones.....spoons  
wt' & w't....with

Doctor THOMAS BENTLEY had 3 daughters.

ANNE, married Wm Botterel of Ashton Botterel, Salop, after her father died  
DOROTHY, to Roger Gifford of Hillersden, Bucks, also after her father's death.  
BARBARA, married to Thomas Raynsford of Little Compton, Glos.

RICHARD BENTLEY of the old Shropshire family of Ffelton Grange, Oswestry. bequeathed his lands & tenements in 1651. The last of this family branch to be at Ffelton Grange was Rev. Peter George Bentley. Died 18... leaving issue.

WILLIAM BENTLEY of Finningly Park near Halifax. An author of works including "Halifax and it's Gibbet Law".

JEREMY BENTLEY of this same family was M.P. for Halifax. 1654-1656.

Also a Dr. Richard BENTLEY. The last was ROBERT JOHN BENTLEY, Magistrate for the County of Nottingham. Married Sarah Hirst 1844. One son, ROBERT 1848-1870.

THOMAS BENTLEY of Oulton, in the Parish of Rothwell, member of a family impoverished by the Civil War. A son by his second marriage to Sarah Willis was -----

RICHARD BENTLEY 1662-1742, Classic scholar & critic. Educated St Johns, Cambridge, became Keeper of the Royal Libraries 1694 & Chaplain in Ordinary to the King, 1695. Controversial, he was brought to trial before The Bishop of Ely in 1714 & 1733. The vice-masters responsible for any sentence refused to act against him.

THOMAS BENTLEY 1693-1742. B.A. 1711. M.A. 1715, (Grandson of Thomas Bentley of Oulton), son of James, half-brother of Richard the Classic scholar.

RICHARD BENTLEY 1708- Oct. 1782. An eccentric, Playright. Youngest child of Dr. Richard & only son to outlive infancy. Admitted as Fellow of Trinity College, 1723, at age of 15 by special favour. No particular profession. Connections with Horace Walpole & Thomas Gray. One son & several daughters.

EDWARD BENTLEY 1752-1838, Grandfather of George Bentley of The Mere. Upton had a career in the Indies planned for him. He became temporarily employed 1774 as clerk in Lalande's State Lottery Office, Charing Cross. Bookseller Nathaniel Conant then employed Edward as his managing clerk and persuaded him to abandon an Indies career. Edward became acquainted with John Nichols, antiquary, historian, & painter, Edward married Nichols sister Ann, 24 Jan 1774. They had 11 children.

The first three died very young.

The fourth, Samuel, became printer & antiquary. (1785-1868)

The fifth, John, became Secretary of The Bank of England.

The sixth, William, became Principal of The Bank Stock Office.

The seventh, eighth, and ninth were daughters.

The tenth, Richard, 1794-1871, was Publisher in Ordinary to his Majesty.

The eleventh, a daughter, Isabella.

Edward, who had entered The Bank of England on 23 May 1782 became Principal of the Accounts Office 1802. He kept connection with (now Sir) Nathaniel Conant and with him also became publisher and joint proprietor of The General Evening News, St. James Evening Gazette & The Lawyers' & Magistrates' Magazine 1791-4.

Edward held a Royal Commission from the King as Lieutenant on the Bank of England Volunteers formed to combat the threat of invasion by Napoleon.

Resigning The Bank, 31 January 1837, age 85, after 35 years service, he died 1838.

JOHN. Uncle of George Bentley of The Mere, & fifth child of Edward, was born 12th November 1786, Entered service in Bank of England 4 November 1803, in The Office of the Secretary, becoming the Secretary himself 1850. He retired 1859 after 55 years, died age 74 11th December 1860. His wife Mary died 1867.

They had 4 sons and 1 daughter.

Dr. Edward.----- John (Jr).---Thomas William, who joined The Bank, (age 17) 19th December 1805. (born 1788).---Rev. Samuel & Isabella.

\* \* \* \* \*

4 BENTLEYS --- Edward. John. William. & Edward. were all in service of The Bank of England. Their collective total was over 200 years.

\* \* \* \* \*

Edward Bentley, 1753-1838, publisher, entered Service in The Bank of England, May 23 1782, rising by 1802 to be Principal of The Accountant's Office. He resigned Feb. 2, 1837 after 54 years of service.

John, his 5th child, (Nov. 12. 1786 -- Dec 11, 1860) was for many years editor of the 'Gentleman's Magazine' and a man of unwearied labour in all matters touching on antiquarian history or topography. He was educated at St. Paul's School. On Nov. 24, 1803, he entered Service with the Bank of England, placed in the Secretary's Office, he became Secretary in 1850. Of kindly disposition, he possessed a playful satire which was often very effective. Some regulations are still in force in 1896, his appended signature bears evidence of his nature. One is hanging in the guardroom of the Bank refers to visiting of officers to sentries in the middle of the night.

JOHN had 4 sons -- Dr. Edward, John, Thomas William and the Rev. Samuel; also one daughter Isabella. John retired from the Bank July 28, 1859. A service of 55 years.

William Bentley (Aug. 21, 1788 - 28 Jan 1877). Citizen of London and Member of the Leathersellers Company; entered the Bank Service Dec. 19, 1805. (William, 6th child of Edward, and brother of John)

Edward Bentley (Dec. 31, 1817 - Feb. 2, 1861) also entered Service in The Bank of England.

The total of years of service in The Bank of England by the 4 Bentleys amounted to over 200 years.

My g/father Edward Bentley  
Entered the B. of E. at  
29 years of age on the 23<sup>rd</sup>  
May 1782.  
Resigned Feb. 2 1837  
died July 1839.  
My Uncle John entered the Bank  
Nov. 24 1803.  
filled the office of Secretary  
& resigned July 28 1859  
My Uncle William entered the  
Bank at the age of 17  
on the 19 Dec. 1805

Notes on the Bentley Family  
History by George Bentley  
(1828-1895).

Written on the reverse of a  
photograph of The Mere,  
Upton, Slough. about 1892.

Bentleys in The Bank of  
England.

" My g/father Edward Bentley,  
born 1759, entered the B.  
of E. at 29 years of age on  
23rd May 1782.  
Resigned Feb. 2. 1837.  
died July 1839.

My uncle John entered the  
Bank Nov. 24, 1803. filled  
the office of Secretary &  
resigned July 28, 1859.

My uncle William entered  
the Bank at the age of 17  
on the 19 Dec. 1805. "

The Bentley  
Publishers



Edward

Samuel

Richard  
Senior

George

Richard  
Junior

R. HARRISON  
90 SEACOURT ROAD  
LANGLEY  
SLOUGH SL3 8EW

' S N I P P E T S '

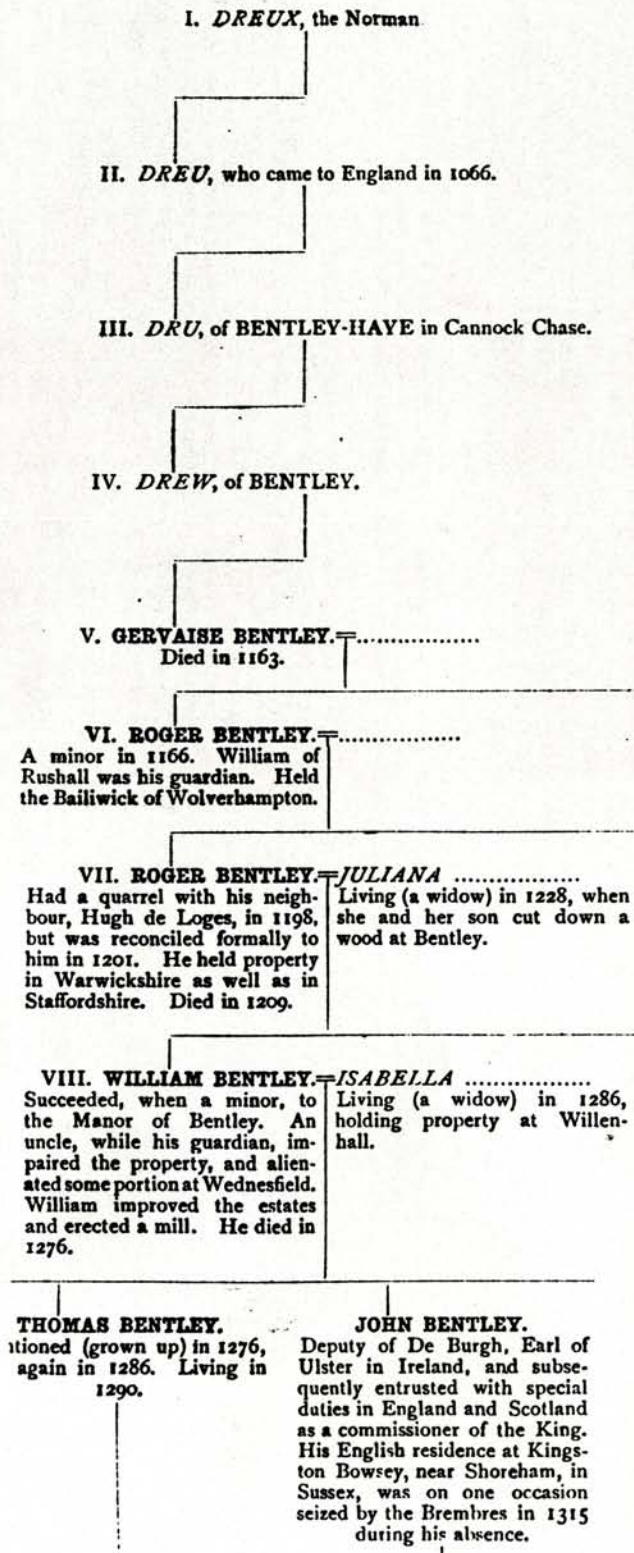
from

Bentley Family  
Pedigrees

1066-1974.

LA DYNASTIE DES BENTLEY.

Research, and production of family pedigrees by Richard Bentley of The Mere, Upton, reveal the family origination from Normandy.



The first reference is DREUX, a Norman family, who came to England in 1066. This lends support to the supposition that a nobleman of that family was among the invaders with William, the Conqueror, at Pevensey.

Names in those days of no writing or reading, were passed on by word of mouth, and the name was soon sounded as DREW, where they settled at Bentley-Haye near Cannock Chase.

( A Haye was an enclosed forest, and this one was called Bentley from it's rush-like grasses and leas, or moors, supporting herds of red and fallow deer, celebrated for the venison they provided. )

The family settlers became known as BENTLEYS and were here for several hundred years.

They supported or opposed Kings and the religious factions of those wild Middle Ages. Many became civic dignatories and persons of substance and respect.

Coats of Arms and Crests were granted, verifiable at the College of Heralds.

'Great Oaks' were felled, and the deer destroyed about 1555, in the reign of Edward VI.

By this time the family were holders of the 'Manor of Bentley in Staffordshire'.

In those hundreds of years the family numbers naturally grew and some had moved on to establish other branches.

Many personalities emerged, some active in the development of national foundations, others mediocre but revealing the times.

Here it is very noticable that the passing on of Christian names from father to son, be they King or Commoner, was predominant within the families of Bentleys.



# Pedigree of Bentley of Bentley=Haye in Cannock Chase, Staffordshire and also of Beverley in Yorkshire

Two detailed accounts of the family of Bentley of the Haye in Cannock have been published—one by the Rev. Stebbing Shaw, F.S.A., the historian of Staffordshire, in 1801; and another, a century later, under the editorship of General Wrottesley, in 1880-1908, in the *Archæological Collections of the County of Stafford*. These accounts coincide in all the essential points, but differ occasionally in some minor details. Hence the information derived from them contained on this sheet has been collated, as far as possible, with the abstracts of the original documents at the Record Office in London, and in the William Salt and other libraries, supplemented, where practicable, by references to various topographical and historic works. Some of the Roll Kalendars are, however, not yet issued.

The earlier descents, the Rev. Stebbing Shaw states, possessed the name of Dreux or Drew, which became "of Bentley." The subsequent descents in all the documents referred to bear the name of "de Bentley" (or "de Benetele," or "de Bentelegh"), but the constant repetition of the "de" is omitted to save space on the chart.

Cannock Chase (writes Mr. Masefield in 1910) is still a great and very charming expanse of high moorland, but is now only a shred of the once enormous forest of Cannock—"Great Arden's eldest child," as Michael Drayton styled it—which in mediæval times covered the whole country between Stafford and Tamworth in one direction, and Stafford and Walsall in another, with exception of the clearing in which stood the city of Lichfield. Cannock Chase is the most southerly part of England on which the red grouse breeds.

Haye denotes an enclosed forest, and Bentley-Haye was celebrated for its venison. Bentley-Haye, says Mr. Duignan, until the beginning of the sixteenth century, was woodland and moor, over which roamed herds of red and fallow deer. The "great oaks" were felled and the deer destroyed in the time of Edward VI., according to papers in the Walsall Town Chest. In Coxe's "Royal Forests" mention is made in 1281 of a wolf taking a buck in Cannock Chase. Rademore is a district in the Chase, where in ancient times there used to be a hunting-lodge of the King; also a monastery, which was afterwards moved to Stoneleigh Abbey.

The Manor of Bentley in Staffordshire, in the absence of surviving issue to Sir William Bentley, passed, in the reign of Henry IV., into the possession of the family of Griffith, into which Ellen Bentley (mentioned below) married when she was a widow. Later on it came into possession of the Lane family, and a picture of Bentley Hall (between Willenhall and Walsall) at the time Charles II. took refuge there will be found in Dr. Plot's "History of Staffordshire."

The Manor of Bentley in the East Riding of Yorkshire is situated between South Cave and Beverley, and is in the parish of Rowley. It subsequently passed into possession of the Tibetôt and Ughtred families.

Arms of Sir William Bentley.  
(born 1348 at Little Sardon.  
baptized at Snareshull.)

also,

Arms of Sir Walter Bentley,  
Viceroy of Brittany.

and,

Vice-Admiral.  
Sir John Bentley.

William repurchased some of the alienated property of the Manor in 1373.

Named as 'Sir William' in 1374, he parted with his Warwickshire lands. (Deceased circa. 1390.)

*Arms on record in the College of Arms.*—Or, a bend vair, between two bendlets engrailed sable, a martlet for difference.

*Crest.*—A talbot passant, argent, the dexter forefoot resting upon an ancient shield, vair, charged with an annulet or.

*Motto.*—Fide et Fiduciâ.



## THE BENTLEY FAMILY

BENTLEY families were to be found in Staffordshire in the 14th to 16th centuries, in Shropshire in the 15th to 19th centuries, Derbyshire and Oxfordshire in the 16th and 17th, Lancashire in the 18th and 19th and at Tipperary, Ireland in the 17th to 19th.

It appears that all these families had their origin in Staffordshire, where at Hungry Bentley there is found a traceable pedigree, verifiable at the College of Heralds, over 3 centuries. Dr. William Bentley of Northwell was the last of the male line there. He died in the reign of Henry IV.

The Register at Cound, Salop. reveals no Bentleys there in 1611 but it was soon after when another Richard Bentley established his home there about 6 miles south east of Shrewsbury. From then-on Cound became the accepted centre of the family for another 250 years. In that time scions of the Bentleys were established at :-

Derbyshire. Breadsall and Derby, traced descendants from Staffordshire until the death of Sir John Bentley, 1672

Oxfordshire. A family at Banbury. Some became burgesses 1554 and 1608. The famous Physician, Thomas Bentley, was a student at Oxford.

Worcestershire. a small family at Marndon in 1652. Some were still known to be there in 1900, and some at Worcester.

Yorkshire, The family of the great critic, Dr. Richard Bentley, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. There was also a family which was still existing about 1900 at Fenningly Park, near Bawtry.

Lancashire. the Bentleys of Birch House, near Bolton, for some centuries at Bentley Hall, near Bury.

There was also a family in the Eastern Counties

## ARMS

(From the Visitation of Staffordshire, made in 1583)

WILLIAM BENTLEY has :

*Bendy (3) Or and Sable.*

[SIR JOHN BENTLEY, of Breadsall Priory, Co. Derby, bore the same.]

SIR WALTER BENTLEY (the Captain-General of Brittany, and victor of Mauron in 1352) has :

*Argent, a Chevron Gules.*

NOTE.—The arms of Vice-Admiral SIR JOHN BENTLEY (who died in 1772) were somewhat similar, viz. :

*Argent, a Chevron, between Three Martlets.*



RICHARD BENTLEY. Last Abbott of Welbeck. 1539. Displaced in the Dissolution of Monasteries by Henry VIII.

JOHN BENTLEY. of The Ashes near Leek, refused a knighthood in the reign of King Charles I.

**Pedigree of Bentley of  
Hungry Bentley  
in Derbyshire  
and its Branches in  
Warwickshire and Cheshire  
and at Leek and Cheadle in Staffordshire**

*Hungry Bentley lies west of Derby and about six miles south of Ashbourne. "Edmund Browne obtained the manor of Hungry Bentley from the Crown about 1584 (? 1587) owing to the confiscation of the estates of the Bentleys of Bentley for adhering to the ancient faith in the reign of Elizabeth" (Cox's "Derbyshire Churches," iii. 194). What remains of Bentley Hall, says Lysons, is now used as a farmhouse. The massive stone-work of the boldly projecting porch, and the curved mullions (with figure-heads inserted) of the great window overhanging it are fine specimens of early Elizabethan work. The ceilings inside are also richly moulded.*

*Only a few fragments of the early church at Hungry Bentley now remain (Glover's "History of Derby").*

Within the Pedigree ---

ROBERT BENTLEY. Over 21 years in 1286, in which period he carried off much venison. Guardian of John Bentley 1286. Rector of Rademore 1303.

JOHN BENTLEY. Granted a charter for land at Tunstead, 1335. Murdered by Nicholas de Anglesey, 1367, at Wolverhampton.

JOHN BENTLEY. Born 1330, Succeeded to the Estates in 1340 at the age of 10. He died Easter Day 1349 of the Pestilence, (Black Death) which also swept off all the tenants of the Estate.

RICHARD BENTLEY. Justice of the Peace. Knocked off his horse in a riot 1282. His assailants were sent to prison and he recovered damages.

RICHARD BENTLEY. of Bentley and Gildhouvesdal, near Beverley in Yorkshire. Had the Right of Free Warren in 1281. Killed in a dispute with Simon le Pasteur in 1289. His son became Sir Richard Bentley. Knight. He also lived in the East Riding.

JOHN BENTLEY. He who became Earl of Ulster came from here.

JOHN BENTLEY. Was known in 1310. Twice took part against the King on the Lancastrian side.

JOHN BENTLEY. Was assaulted and murdered in Whitehill in 1334. He had been involved in prolonged litigation for carrying off an heir in 1334.

On 7th October 1330, a political pardon was granted at the request of Sir William Trussell, Chief Justice, to Nicholas de Bentelye "for appearing in arms against the King at Winchester with other magnates of the realm and holding that City against him for some time, "By The King" Patent Rolls of Edward III.

SIR WALTER BENTLEY. King's Lieutenant and Captain-General of Brittany. Commanded the English forces at the Victory at Mauron. 1352. Had castles and estates in Brittany and the large island of Nourmoutier granted to him.

JOHN BENTLEY. Justice of the Peace, Beverley. He made a large gift of land at Lutryngton and neighbourhood, and at Beverley, to the Convent of Wartre in Yorkshire, to found a Chantry, 1356.

SIR THOMAS BENTLEY. Participated in the campaign in Brittany, under Sir Walter Bentley in 1348. "Thomas de Bentele" chevalier, claimed at law some property in Staffordshire, 1361. He died in 1378.

# Bentley of Fenny Bentley, Co. Derby

**FENNY BENTLEY** is near the south end of Dovedale, and is situated about two miles north of Ashbourne. Readers of *Izaak Walton* may remember his mention ("Compleat Angler," part ii., chap. ii.) of the pretty Bentley Brook—a narrow, swift stream, full of very good trout and grayling, "but so encumbered with wood in many places as its troublesome to the angler." Fenny Bentley is very picturesquely situated in a fertile dip between many hills, and its church is vignettted in trees, its spire standing up in the centre. Bentley "Cottage" is a large modern house of many gables and stands on a hill. Bentley Hall is less modern, and "contains some architectural features of the late fifteenth-century date," says Cox, in his "Guide to Derbyshire."

The oldest building in the village, known as "Bentley Castle," situated at the foot of the hills, and near the church, is now occupied as a farmhouse. The south wing has some interesting mullioned stone windows, but the most ancient part, all that now remains of the original building, is a solid, nearly square, stone tower of considerable size and strength. It is in the vicinity of Bentley Brook.

**ADAM BENTLEY.** Goldsmith to King Henry III in 1240.

The King granted, in 1256, to Adam Bentley, citizen of London, and Maud his wife in survivorship, that whenever the City of London is tallaged at 1000 marks, they shall not be tallaged at more than 40s. and at the same rate whatever the tallage may be. (Rolls) High Sherriff of London. 1245.

**"ADAM DE BENTLEE".** Son of Adam (above), goldsmith & citizen of London. A banker for King Edward I. in 1303.

**HENRY BENTLEY,** King's Coroner for Berwick-on-Tweed.

In command of the garrison there, attacked the Scots, at Lamberton, 12th October 1314.

**RICHARD BENTLEY.** circa 1345. Held a moiety of the Manor of Sheen, Staffs. for life of himself and his wife at a rent of a rose yearly.

## ARMORIAL BEARINGS

### OF BENTLEY OF LEEK:

Quarterly 1 and 4 argent, three bends sable, 2 and 3 argent a lion rampant sable. The crest a spanyell pass. ar.

### OF BENTLEY OF NORTHWICH:

Argent, three bends sable. The crest, on a wreath, a hound statant argent.

### OF BENTLEY OF BREADSALL:

(As given by Lysons) Or, three bendlets sable. The crest a lion statant argent. (In the Heralds' College the figure on the crest is shown as a dog, and not as a lion.)

### OF BENTLEY OF KINETON:

A mermaid regarding herself in a looking-glass.

*NOTE.*—Not far distant from Kineton is a record at BANBURY of Edward Bentley, Sen., a burgess in 1554; of Robert Bentley, a burgess in 1608 (whose daughter, Anne, married Ralph Ashmole); and of Edward Bentley, Jun., an assistant burgess there also in 1608.

John Bentley of Banbury died in 1643-44, leaving his wife, Jane, and a daughter, Mary, surviving. His son, John Bentley, who matriculated at Oxford in 1628, predeceased him.

Confirmed by *Edm Knight, Not*  
16<sup>th</sup> April 1589

## King Henry VIII's Physician

**THOMAS BENTLEY**—**ANNE** .....

of New College, Oxford. M.B. 1516; M.D. 1518, Oxford. "Doctor of Physic to the late King of famous memory, Henry the Eighth." Second President of the Royal College of Physicians. Died in 1549. Property at Stratford-on-Avon. Lay Rector of Tottenham.

Living in 1549.

*NOTE.*—Simon de Benteleye of Stratford-upon-Avon died about 1348, leaving his wife, Agnes, and daughter, Margery, surviving him.

**WILLIAM BENTLEY**—**ANNE**

Died at Aston Boterell, Co. Salop, in 1574. (Though no issue is mentioned in his will, a James Bentley was residing at Aston Boterell in 1597.)

**PORTER.**

Living in 1574.

**ANNE**—**WILLIAM BOTERELL**

**BENTLEY.** of Aston Boterell, Co. Salop. Living in 1574. Married after 1549. Living in 1574.

**DOROTHY**—**ROGER GIFFORD.**

**BENTLEY.** Son of John Gifford of Hillesden, Bucks. Became the first wife of R. Gifford after 1549.

Bentleys in Derbyshire.

EDWARD BENTLEY. was tried and convicted of high treason in London in May 1587. His estates in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire were confiscated to the Crown. They were granted to Sir Michael Stanhope, Mr Edmund Browne and Sir William Paget. Edward Bentley still alive in 1596 was a "Recusant"

Edmund Browne then obtained the Manor of Hungry Bentley from the Crown 1587. The Manor had been confiscated from the Bentleys for "Adhering to the ancient faith in the reign of Elizabeth."

JOHN BENTLEY. Chaplain at Beverley 1378. Rector of "Scheffelde in Com Cantiae" (? Sheffield in Sussex). Chaplain to King Richard II. Prebendary of Bangor, 1387. Chaplaincy for life of the King's Castle at Roxburghe.

JOHN BENTLEY. Went to War in France 1379. Fitted out fleets for Sir Philip D'Arcy and Sir Thomas Trivet at Hull. M.P. for Surrey 1390. Commissioner for Treasure Trove, Sussex and Surrey, 1392. J.P. for Surrey 1401.

WILLIAM BENTLEY. Mayor of Plymouth 1400. Carried on an active war with the French for some years, in return for which they sacked and burnt Plymouth Town in 1403.

## Bentley of Derby, and of Highbury.

ARMS.— Or. three bendlets, sable.

CREST.— A talbot, sejant, argent.

THOMAS BENTLEY. 1654, known living in 1700. His son, the talented ---

THOMAS BENTLEY, subsequently became a partner of Josiah Wedgwood, the famous pottery maker. Thomas's relative WALTER H. BENTLEY, was the famous naturalist. (died 1848) and his grandson Woodbury, was the discoverer of collotype and photogravure.

NATHANIEL BENTLEY. Great grandson of the Thomas of 1654, was born February 1719. Unitarian. Taken prisoner by the Rebels when they captured Derby in 1745. Living in 1761.

JOHN BENTLEY. Born October 1752. (son of Nathaniel) died September 1835. Aged 21, came to London with no means beyond his earnings. Early interested in politics. With Major Cartwright presented a petition in favour of Reform of Parliament, for which John narrowly escaped imprisonment. In 1775 was a Burgess of Nottingham and President of the Sherwood Foresters. Was a Deputy of the Old Jewry Society. A friend of Dr. Priestly and a staunch supporter of Queen Caroline. Amateur astrologer. Bought Highbury House, with 74 acres extending from Islington nearly to Hampstead for £13,700 in 1806. Merchant of the City Road. Afterwards resided at Highbury Grove and Highbury Grange.

John Bunbury was buried in Bunhill Fields which became the central burial place for the family in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Here, also, John Bunyan was buried, he was inter-married into the Bentley family.

The descendants of the first Bentley settlers in Cannock Chase 'migrated' about 1611, to Cund, (now Cound) in Shropshire.

With the continued natural expansion of family numbers more scions formed around London. The last of those ancestors at Cound eventually came to Upton in 1860 and remained until the middle 1900's.

# Bentley of Hurdlestown, co. Clare.

**ARMS.** — A Chevron on shield with three martlets.

"The chevron signifies protection, and has often been granted in arms as a reward to one who has achieved some notable enterprise. It is supposed to represent the roof-tree of a house, and has sometimes been given to those who have built churches or fortresses or who have accomplished some work of faithful service,"

**THOMAS BENTLEY.** Born 1617-20. Known living 1687.

Came to Ireland, a Cornet of Cavalry, about 1649. Took part in the siege of Limerick under Ireton in 1651. Ensign (or Cornet) Bentley, after the siege, was attended by Dr. Arthur. He subsequently (1653) rented for a time the Town Mill at Limerick.

Cornet in 1661, he was Captain of a troop in 1671, when he received a Royal Grant of lands from Charles II. (viz, 61 acres at Mullinagrone, Co. Wexford; 201 acres at Garteene, in Barnard, King's County; and 124 acres at Ballinagleagh, Co. Clare, afterwards called Hurdlestown).

He is believed to have had also other property granted to him — Adare Manor — which he lost by the fraud of one Quin, besides a house at Kilmallock, where he resided after his retirement from the army.

On one occasion, when Ballinagleagh was invaded by the Bridgemans (who were neighbours and owners of all other property in the neighbourhood), Bentley arrived with a large body of men from Kilmallock and drove them off, and was never again molested in the occupation of his property.

It is not known what became of the Mullingronagh and Garteene properties. The ruins of this building, called "Bentley's Castle", were visible as recently as 1850, but being unclaimed, the property passed out of the hands of his descendants.

Captain Bentley was living at Broadford, Co. Clare as late as 1687.

## Bentley<sup>1</sup> of Elstow.<sup>2</sup>

Knollys was with WALTER DE BENTLEY when he defeated Guy de Nesle at Merton, on the 14th of August, 1352. — *Geoffrey le Baker: Thompson's Edition*, p. 120.

The only daughter of SIR WALTER BENTLEY, of Sussex, was married January 26, 1735, to George Whitfield, Esqre. — *Gentleman's Magazine*.

WILLIAM BENTLEY, = Mary Goodwin, married at St. Paul's Church, Bedford, 1601. See will of MARY BENTLEY, died 1632.

an occupier of land at Elstow. Living in 1612, and, according to Dr. Brown, possessed of "an amount of education not common in those days, even among persons of good social position."

Alcyn, Tariton, Knell, and BENTLEY said to be the four greatest English Actors. — *Pierce Penilesse* (Thomas Nash), 1592.

EDWARD BENTLEY, appointed Pastor of the Congregational Church at Coggeshall, in Essex, in 1706. — *Dictionary of National Biography* vol. xxii., p. 269.

MARGARET BENTLEY, = Thomas Bunyan  
Born at Elstow in 1603. Baptized November 13, 1603. (The second wife of Thomas Bunyan.) Married May 23, 1627, and died in June, 1644.

(who married *three* times). Born at Elstow in 1603. Buried at Elstow, February 7, 1676

ROSE = Edward  
BENTLEY, Bunyan  
Married in (half-  
1628. brother of  
Thomas  
Bunyan).

ELIZABETH  
BENTLEY.  
Living in  
June, 1632.

ANNIE  
BENTLEY.  
Living in  
June, 1632.

Mary(?) . . . =  
Married about 1649.  
Died about 1656.

JOHN BUNYAN, = Elizabeth . . . . .  
Born at Elstow, November,  
1628. The first edition published in 1678 of

Married about 1659.  
Died in 1691.

*The Pilgrim's Progress.*

Caught in heavy rain near Slough, and died from chill, August 31, 1688. Buried in

THE MIGRATION TO COUND. after 1611.

The Registers of Cound (Cund), commencing in 1611 reveal no entries of the name of Bentley, and it would appear that a ~~Bentley~~ Richard Bentley was the first of the family to settle here, having apparently migrated from some other part of the country.

Cound is a small scattered village on undulating ground, about six miles south-east of Shrewsbury, on the Bridgenorth Road

In 1872 no one of the name of Bentley remained in the parish.

- 
- RICHARD BENTLEY. (buried at Cound, April 28. 1647.)
- RICHARD BENTLEY. April 2. 1638-1702.
- SAMUEL BENTLEY. 5th child, born December 30. 1885. at Cound. died September 1749.
- SAMUEL BENTLEY. born near Cound August 19 1724. died March 22. 1794.
- EDWARD BENTLEY. born at Cound January 15. 1753. died 1838. (great-grandfather of Richard Bentley of The Mere, Upton.



Edward, in September 1774, found temporary employment as a clerk in Lalande's State Lottery Office at Charing Cross.

He was dissuaded from taking up his proposed career in the Indies by Nathaniel Conant, a bookseller whose managing-clerk he became for a while. Conant was the proposer to the Government for the establishment of "Police Offices". He became a magistrate as 'Sir Nathaniel'.

EDWARD BENTLEY entered service in the Bank of England, May 23, 1782, and when the stoppage of the Bank took place in February 1879, the accounts, 'being at that moment much upset', the Directors availed themselves of his business training and capacity to reorganize. He was subsequently, 1802, made Principal of the Accountant's Office.

Edward maintained his connection with Sir Nathaniel Conant and, in addition to his official work, became publisher, as well as part proprietor, of the General Evening Post and St James Evening Gazette, one of the oldest journals, established half a century.

Edward Bentley held the Royal Commission, signed, in the custom of those days, by the King himself, as Lieutenant in the regiment of The Bank of England Volunteers, formed at the time of the threatened invasion by Napoleon.

Edward had married Ann Nicholas January 24. 1779 and she bore him 11 children. The first three died quite young. The fourth, Samuel, became printer and antiquary. The fifth, John became Secretary to The Bank of England. The sixth, William, also joined The Bank of England, becoming Principal of the Stock Office. The seventh, eighth, and ninth, were girls. The tenth RICHARD, with brother, SAMUEL (4th), formed Bentley Publishers in 1819.

OTHER BENTLEY FAMILIES.BENTLEY, of FINNINGLEY PARK.

This family came from the neighbourhood of Halifax, in Yorkshire, and is said to number in it's ancestry William Bentley, the author of "Halifax and it's Gibbet Law"

JEREMY BENTLEY, returned to Parliament for Halifax in 1654-56:

The last representative of this branch was ROBERT JOHN BENTLEY, born in 1822, of Finningley Park, near Bawtry, and of West House Rotherham. A magistrate for the County of Nottingham.

BENTLEY OF FFELTON GRANGE, near OSWESTRY

A very ancient Shropshire family, already for a long time established at Ffelton, when RICHARD BENTLEY bequeathed his land and tenements there in 1651.

The last representative of that branch of the family was the Rev. Peter George Bentley, of Ffelton Grange He left issue.

NATHANIEL BENTLEY.The Eccentric.

Nathaniel bentley was born, it is believed, in 1735. His father, who had a hardware business in the City, had a country house at Edmonton. In 1754 he presented a bell to the Church of St Catherine Cree, which was to be rung on his birthday for the rest of his life. He died in 1809.

He entered his father's warehouse and inherited a considerable estate.

He was known from his fastidious dress and manner, as the 'Beau of Leadenhall Street'. He was not infrequently seen at Court.

On the eve of his marriage his bride to be died suddenly. He always afterwards kept the room closed which had been made ready for the wedding-breakfast, and his personal habits underwent a great change, this earned him the sobriquet of "Dirty Dick".

Though he still maintained the honourable punctuality of his business antecedents, he became penurious, and his premises remained for years without proper attention.

It was generally confessed, however,

"Though the dirt was so frightful,  
The dirty man's manners were truly delightful."

He left Leadenhall Street in February, 1804, and left behind him the undisturbed dust of close upon forty years.

He moved to Jewry Street, Aldgate, his landlord refused to renew his lease after three years. He went to Leonard Street, Shoreditch for a year and then he was siezed of a restlessness and "Commenced a perambulation from one country place to another, more in the habit of a beggar than of a traveller for pleasure."

Nathaniel Bentley died at the Crown Inn, Haddington, towards the close of the year 1809, and he was buried there in the churchyard.

JOSEPH CLAYTON BENTLEY. 1809- 1851.

Landscape painter and line engraver. (Dec'd 9 Oct 1851)

\* \* \* \* \*

ROBERT BENTLEY. 1821-1893. Botanist. Educated at Kings College. London. Died 9 October 1851.

Editor of Pharmaceutical Journal.



JOSEPH BENTLEY.

An Originator and Reformer.

" Having risen from a very humble position as compiler of names for Pigott's Directories, Joseph Bentley became the promoter of many national and local institutions.

He was the first Inspector of Schools at his own expense.

He started, early in life like Thomas Raikes, to found evening and Sabbath schools, as well as Mechanics Institutions, and he originated the Exhibition of Manufactures and Works of Art in connection with the Sheffield Institution in 1839. From 1838 to 1842 he employed and paid several Inspectors of Schools, and also investigated the conditions of pauperism and crime in different parts of the country.

In 1839, at the request of the Privy Council, he rendered assistance in arranging the original plan for the Government Inspection of Schools.

In 1842, he issued a work on Education, Pauperism, and Crime, which it is believed helped to pave the way for the educational minutes of 1846 and 1847.

Indeed, as far back as 1841 Lord Normanby adopted his idea for the examination of criminals by ordering a "character-book" of all prisoners to be kept by chaplains, which has largely aided our criminal reformation.

Joseph Bentley also suggested, for the improvement of middle-class schools, the giving of certificates of merit to such teachers as had passed a test examination. He also claimed to have been the founder of "Penny Savings Banks", thus pioneering the way for the Post-Office Savings Bank, while for the protection of the saving classes he established a registry in 1845 for the accounts of all Assurance Offices, Savings Banks, &c. This, he stated, "gave the public seventy times more information as to the financial position of these institutions than the Government did", and in the course of ten years caused no less than one hundred and fifty of these concerns, which had defrauded the public of upwards of four millions of money, to be closed.

After many strenuous efforts, he succeeded in gaining a hearing for his views, and in 1862 a measure on this subject was placed upon the Statute Book largely embodying them.

For forty years Joseph Bentley was engaged in the cause of popular education, and for five-and-twenty years engaged in the preparation of class-books for the purpose, in the course of which he travelled over England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

His free lectures to the poor, as well as his publications, were favourably noticed in the press. In 1866 he prepared an autography. "

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BENTLEY, OF BIRCH HOUSE, LANCASHIRE.

The Bentleys of Birch House are said to belong to an old Lancashire family, resident for two centuries at Bentley, between Bury and Bolton.

John Bentley, the last representative, was born June 21. 1797, and was a deputy lieutenant for Middlesex, and a magistrate for Westminster, Middlesex and Lancashire.

His estates were 2<sup>+</sup> Farnworth, and Heaton Norris, in Lancashire, and in the vicinity of Stockport in Cheshire, and he was also the owner of property in Manchester.

His London residence was at 9. Portland Place. W.

Edward Bentley 1752 - 1838.

Principal of the Accountant's Office in the Bank of England.  
also Publisher and Part Proprietor of London Evening Papers.

His 10th. child, Richard, 1794 - 1871.  
with his brother, Samuel, founded  
BENTLEY PUBLISHERS in 1819.

His 4th child (3rd son)

GEORGE BENTLEY

Born in London 7 June "at seven o'clock in the morning of Saturday," baptised at St Bride's, Fleet Street, London, 4 July 1828; entered at King's College, London; Citizen of London and Member of the Stationers' Company; Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society; of 8 New Burlington Street, Westminster, Publisher in Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen, and of UPTON, SLOUGH, BUCKS.

ANNE,

daughter of William and Anne Williams of Aberystwith, Co. Cardigan; born 16 December 1826; married at St. James's, Westminster, 16 June 1853.

RICHARD BENTLEY.

LUCY ROSAMOND

Born at Regent's Park Terrace, London, 5 May at a quarter past six in the morning, baptised 5 July 1858 at St Mark's, Albert Road, Regent's Park, London; entered at Tonbridge School 1868-1870; Citizen of London and Member of the Stationers' Company; Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and of the Linnean, Royal Geographical, Royal Statistical, Royal Meteorological, and Royal Botanic Societies; of 8 New Burlington Street, Westminster.  
Publisher in Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen.

Born at Nelson, Lancashire, 25 January at 11.50 a.m.; baptised at St. Paul's, Little Marsden, 23 February 1879.

THE MERE

1986.

Carved oak pelmet of the Badges and Titles of 15  
of the known scions of the Bentley ancestry.

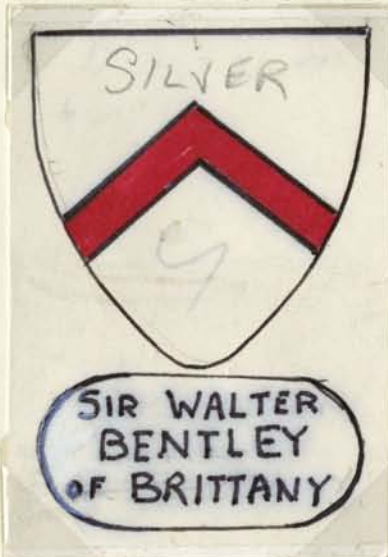


SAME AS SIR JOHN B

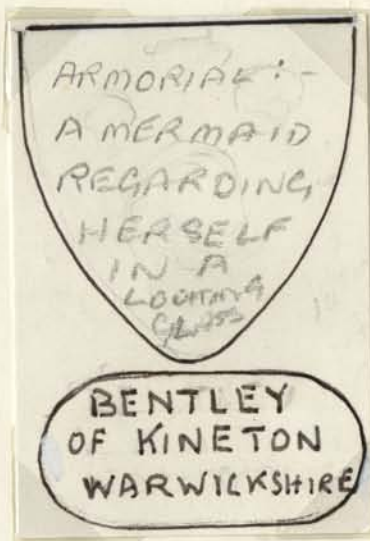


SIR WILLIAM  
BENTLEY  
OF CANNOCK

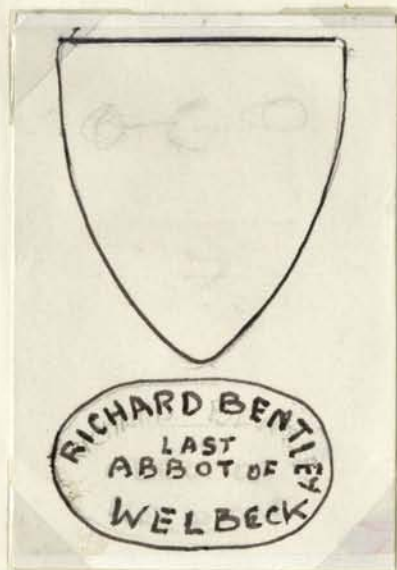
ARGENT (SIL) CHEVRON  
GULES (R)



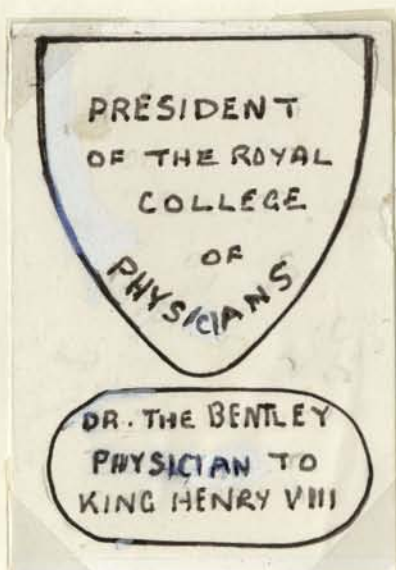
SIR WALTER  
BENTLEY  
OF BRITTANY



BENTLEY  
OF KINOTON  
WARWICKSHIRE



RICHARD BENTLEY  
LAST  
ABBOT OF  
WELBECK



DR. THE BENTLEY  
PHYSICIAN TO  
KING HENRY VIII



JOHN BENTLEY  
OF ST. (LEEK)

OR GOLD WITH 3  
BENDS (SABLE) BLACK

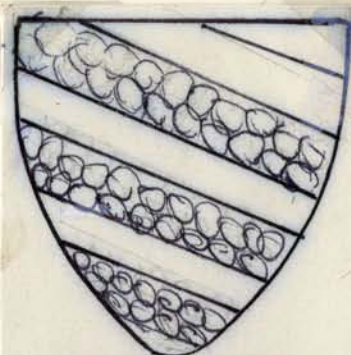


SIR JOHN  
BENTLEY  
OF BREADSALE



BENTLEY OF COUND  
SALOP

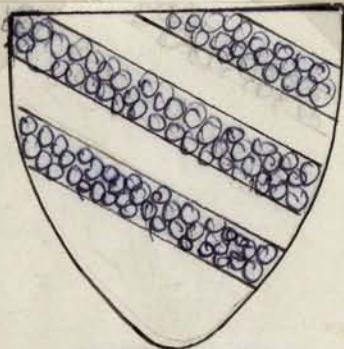
The direct ancestors  
of the Bentleys of  
UPTON.



SIR WILLIAM  
BENTLEY  
OF NORTHWICH



BENTLEY  
OF  
CO CLARE



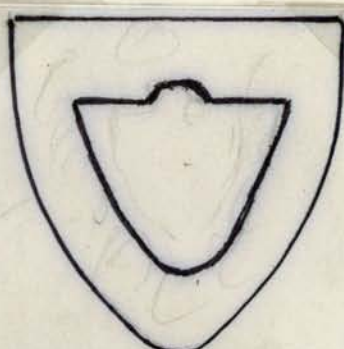
DR RICHARD  
BENTLEY



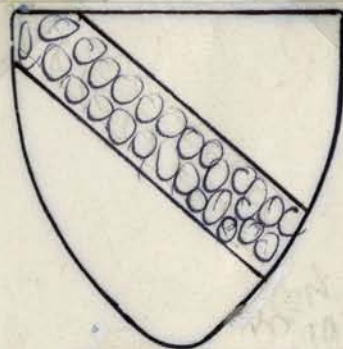
THOMAS BENTLEY  
MINISTER  
OF  
WIDOWOOD



ADMIRAL  
SIR JOHN  
BENTLEY



BENTLEY  
OF DERBY



BENTLEY  
OF BIRCH HOUSE  
BOLTON, LANCS

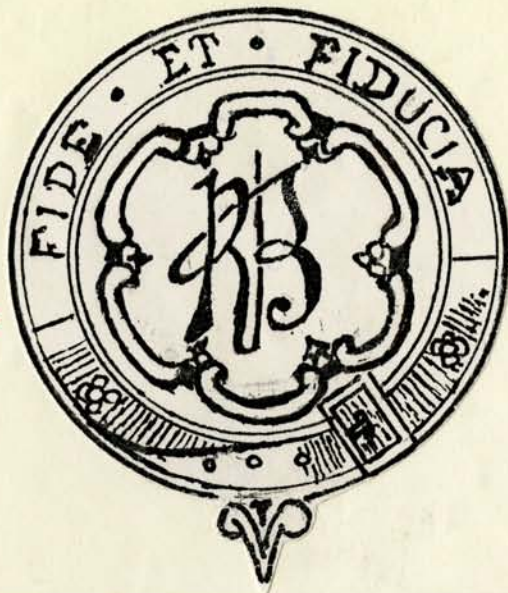


*Arms on record in the College of Arms.*—Or, a bend vair, between two bendlets engrailed sable, a martlet for difference.

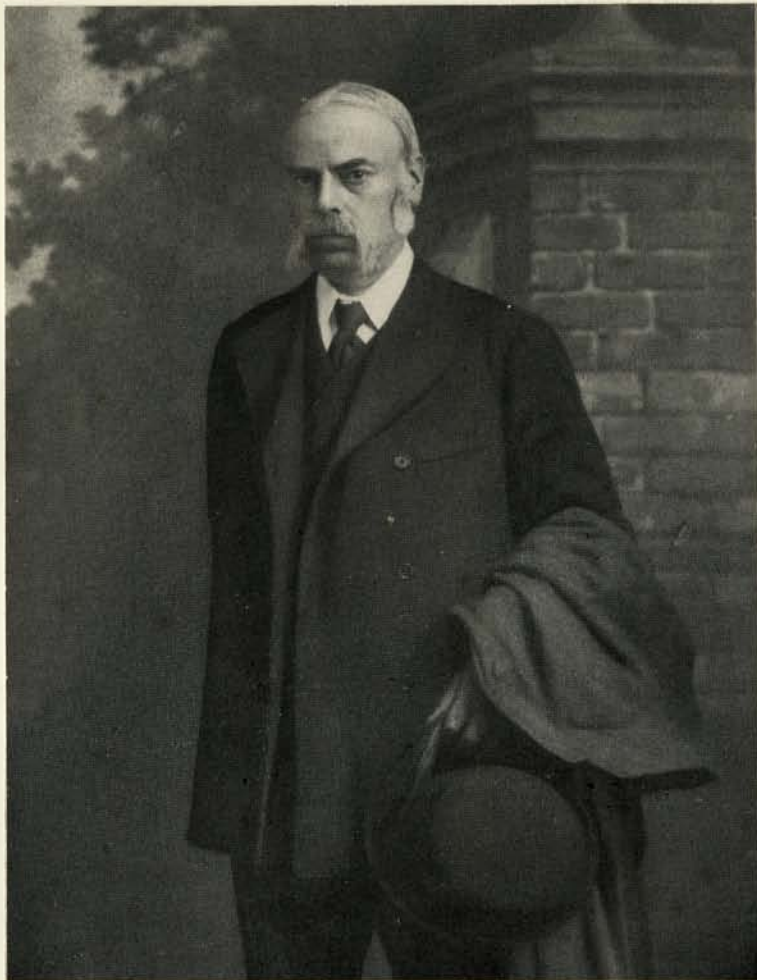
*Crest.*—A talbot passant, argent, the dexter forefoot resting upon an ancient shield, vair, charged with an annulet or.

*Motto.*—Fide et Fiduciâ.





RICHARD BENTLEY. 1854-1936. Educated at Tonbridge School.  
circa 1885-1887, with father, purchased plots of land and  
jointly built The Mere. Upton Park. Died 1936.  
Survived by wife Lucy Rosamund who continued to live in The  
Mere, 35 room mansion, until 1961 when all was sold up.  
Lucy died 1974, aged 95.



Richard Bentley, Citizen of London; Member of the Stationers Company;  
Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and of the Linnean; Royal  
Geographi Society; President Royal Meteorological Society, 1905-6;  
Member of the Royal Botanic Society.

Printer & Publisher in Ordinary to Queen Victoria. Inherited Bentley  
Publishers 1895 and sold out to Macmillans 1898.

Researched local history, established his own meteorological station,  
Wrote & published several local histories.