

C Bentley Family Collection, 1818-1980
3042 73 folders, 1 volume

MICROFILM

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

INTRODUCTION

Correspondence of Nancy V. Bentley, Jordan R. Bentley, and J. Marshall Bentley. Reminiscences of Jordan R. Bentley and material pertaining to Bentley and other allied families. Material on the Civil War in Chariton, Howard, and Cooper Counties, family and social life in the 1880s and 1890s and Chariton County history.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were loaned for copying to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mrs. Jordan R. Bentley on 12 Aug 1982 (Accession No.2433). An addition was loaned for copying on 27 Sept 1982 by Susan Franklin (Accession No. 2441).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Since James Bentley settled near Forest Green in 1831, a Bentley has held a position of prominence in Chariton County. They prospered in tobacco farming before the Civil War and depended on the wholesale tobacco business after the war. The family declined during the decade after the Civil War because of their loyalty to the Confederacy. In the 1880s the family pursued interests in banking, business, and the legal profession. The distinction of the Bentleys continued through the 20th century with Jordan R. Bentley becoming a notable lawyer and founder of the Chariton County Historical Society and Museum in Salisbury.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection was gathered by Jordan R. Bentley and his daughter Susan Franklin and reflects their interests in family genealogy and the history of Chariton County. Of significance is the collection of correspondence to Nancy Bentley. Life in a small Missouri community is portrayed in these letters. Also of importance are Jordan R. Bentley's reminiscences of his boyhood in Forest Green, and the correspondence between the Office of Commissary of Subsistence in Washington, D.C., and local officials in Brunswick, Missouri. The only idiosyncrasy is the organization of the Jordan R. Bentley papers. This series is in the order Bentley kept it in.

FOLDER LIST

f. 1-28	<p>Nancy V. Bentley Correspondence, 1879-1910</p> <p>This correspondence consists of letters to Bentley from family and friends. Topics of discussion include Bentley's schooling at Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri: home life; marriages and deaths; fashion; and entertainment. Correspondence is weak in that Bentley's replies to letters are not available, making the discourse of the letters unclear. Until 1895 the number of letters remains consistent, after this time correspondence slowed. The correspondence is in chronological order.</p>
f. 29	<p>Fristoe Family Correspondence, 1846-1873</p> <p>Correspondence to the Reverend Thomas Fristoe and Richard "Dick" Fristoe. These letters concern the Schooling of Thomas' daughter and Richard's business ventures. Both men were respected in the community of Salisbury and were often the leaders in religious and business ventures. Chronological order.</p>
f. 30-31	<p>Lillian Bentley Correspondence, 1869-1924</p> <p>This correspondence is divided into two parts. The 1869-1870 letters are from her older brother James, and the remaining correspondence is concerned with Bentley's marriage to William O. LaMotte and her work with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The correspondence with other WCTU members is interesting and reveals the attitudes that preceded the inception of prohibition in the United States. Correspondence written by Bentley can also be found in the Nancy V. Bentley correspondence. This correspondence is arranged in chronological order.</p>
f. 32	<p>Jordan Bentley and John P. Watt Correspondence, 1880-1881</p> <p>Letters to Jordan Bentley (1826-1919) dealing with business and one letter from his daughter Nancy recounting the effects of an epidemic at Stephens College in the early 1880s. The John P. Watt correspondence pertains to a romantic courtship between Watt and Floy Leland. Letters from both Watt and Leland are present. Bentley's correspondence is filed before Watt's, and both are in chronological order.</p>
f. 33	<p>Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1871-1923</p> <p>Correspondence includes letters to Bentley and Fristoe family members from friends and distant relatives. Also included are wedding, anniversary, and death announcements and the marriage license of Nancy and Lloyd Herring. Chronological order.</p>
f. 34-46	<p>Jordan R. Bentley Correspondence, 1959-1971</p>

		This material consists of newspaper articles and correspondence pertaining to the creation and opening of the Chariton County Historical Society and Museum. Bentley corresponded with the State Historical Society of Missouri, book publishers, and general business interests. Included are copies of replies by Bentley that add to the understanding of the series. The frequency of correspondence remains constant except for the absence of correspondence from August 1961 to July 1963. Arranged chronologically.
f. 47-51	Jordan R. Bentley and J. Marshall Bentley Correspondence, 1969-1974	Correspondence consists of letters between these two cousins. Within the correspondence the two traded newspaper clippings, pamphlets, and other material pertaining to the Bentley family and the history of Chariton County. Other topics include the Younger brothers and the Civil War and its effects on the Bentley family. By 1971 the number of letters had decreased considerably; by 1974 the correspondence ended. Correspondence of both men is interfiled and in chronological order.
f. 52-66	Jordan R. Bentley Papers, 1823-1977	These papers consist of a collection of newspaper clippings, magazine articles, excerpts from books, copies of state and county records, and material composed by Bentley that deals with such topics as William C. Quantrill, the Younger brothers, Jefferson Davis, the Bentley, Fristoe, Lovell, Cockerill, Marshall, and Woodson families, and histories of Chariton County and Forest Green. Dates range from an 1823 newspaper article to genealogical records compiled by Bentley in 1977. This material is in Bentley's original filing order, with a contents listing in folder 52.
f. 54	Copy of an article explaining why Quantrill looted Kansas Border towns and how his life ended violently. Building specification, 1962-1963	
f.58	Reminiscences of Jordan R. Bentley's childhood at Forest Green, Missouri.	
f. 60	Article recounting the death of John Younger in St. Clair County, Missouri.	
f. 61	Article pertaining to the treatment of Jefferson Davis at the end of the Civil War.	
f. 62	Transcript of a speech given by Cole Younger following his release from a Minnesota prison after serving a twenty-five year sentence.	
f. 67-68	Financial and Legal Documents, 1833-1902	Documents pertaining to the Bentley, Fristoe, and Cockerill families. Included are orders to appear before the court and documents relating to Thomas Fristoe's work as executor and guardian of several estates. Other documents include tax receipts,

	receipts for land and slave purchases and sales, and ledger from Bentley and Heryford Tobacco Company. Documents are arranged in chronological order.
f. 68	Listing of the material in the Bentley papers.
f. 69-70	Magruder Papers, 1818-1863 The Magruder papers were obtained by Jordan R. Bentley at a sale held at the Magruder home outside Brunswick, Missouri. The material has no pertinence to the Bentley family or Forest Green, but it does have information concerning the Civil War in Chariton, Howard, and Saline Counties. Other topics include medicine in the early nineteenth century and the history of Brunswick, Missouri. The papers are in chronological order.
f. 71	Miscellaneous Newsprint, 1897, 1902 This series consists of two newspapers-an 1897 issue of the <u>Clifton Hill Banner</u> which has an article concerning the opening of the Roanoke Baptist Church, and a copy of the Baptist newspaper, <u>The Word and Way</u> from 1902, which concentrates on the question of Christianization of China after the Boxer Rebellion in 1900.
f. 72	Magazines, 1866, 1875 Three copies of <u>Peterson's Ladies National Magazine</u> . Chronological order.
f. 73	Susan Bentley Franklin Papers, 1980 Correspondence and genealogical material pertaining to the Bentley family. Included are Franklin's corrections of her father's errors in the family history. The papers remain in the order that Franklin kept them in.
v. 1	Thomas Fristoe Society for Ministerial Education, 1869-1872 This volume consists of the constitution and minutes of the Thomas Fristoe Society for Ministerial Education. The Society's purpose was to educate and train young men in the mold of Fristoe. The recording of minutes ends in 1872, but there is no evidence to show that the Society stopped operating at that time.

INDEX TERMS

Subject	Folders	Other
Allin, Thomas	69,70	
Almond family--Genealogy	59,62	
Almond, Mann (1796-1883)	59	
Almond, William B. (1808-1860)	63	
Architecture--Missouri, 1850s	53	
Arkansas, Hot Springs	17	

Subject	Folders	Other
B. W. Lewis and Brothers Tobacco Factory	53	
Banks and banking, 1930s	47	
Banks and banking--Missouri, 1900s	47,48	
Baptist Church--Missions	7	
Baptist Church--Missouri	61,63,66,70	
Baptist College, Lexington, Missouri	5-9	
Baptist Training Fellowship	65	
Benecke, Louis	62	
Bentley and Heryford Tobacco Company, Chariton County, Missouri	68	
Bentley family--Genealogy	53,55,56,62,66,73	
Bentley, Almond (1899-1973)	50,51	
Bentley, Daniel (c. 1750-1832)	73	
Bentley, Eliza "Lida" (1859-1910)	1-12,20,21	
Bentley, Elizabeth (1854-1891)	2-4,7	
Bentley, J. Marshall (1886-)	14,47-50	
Bentley, James W. (1849-1875)	30,47,73	
Bentley, Jordan "Pike" (1826-1919)	32,47,56,63,67,73	
Bentley, Jordan R. (1897-1981)	34-51,53-66	
Bentley, Lillian	1-4,17,21	
Bentley, Nancy V. (1861-c. 1940)	1-30,39,45,47	
Bentley, Stonewall Jackson "Tony" (1863-1923)	1,17,33	
Bentley, Susan Fristoe (-1923)	56,63	
Bentley, Thomas M. (1857-1924)	1-4,6,7	
Bentley, Uncle Butler	65	
Bentley, William F. (1867-1955)	1,2	
Bowling, Fannie	4,5,18	
Bowling, Laura	1,2,5-15	
Broughton, Lulu Mary	4,6,7	
Chariton Baptist Church, Chariton County, Missouri	47,66	
Chariton County Cemetery, Missouri	59	
Chariton County Historical Society and Museum, Salisbury, Missouri	34-46	
China Painting	20-24	
Chinese--U.S., 1902	71	
Civil War--Guerillas	54	
Civil War--Loyalty oaths	70	
Civil War--Missouri, Boonville	69,70	
Civil War--Missouri, Brunswick	69,70	
Civil War--Missouri, Chariton County	57,62,63	
Civil War--Missouri, Howard County	60	
Civil War--Prisoners and prisons	70	
Civil War--Quantrill's Raiders	54	
Civil War--Reminiscences	49,50	
Civil War--Special orders	70	

Subject	Folders	Other
Cockerill family--Genealogy	62	
Cockerill, Henry Clay	61,62	
Cockerill, Kate Almond (1845-1923)	56,63	
Cockerill, Thomas N.	53	
Crittenden, Thomas Theodore (1832-1909)	70	
Dating (Social customs), 1880s	32	
Davis, Jefferson (1808-1889)	60	
Diseases	3,13,14,17,20	
Donohoe, Stephen (1773-1857)	53, 60, 66	
Dooley, John	66	
Dunnica, William F. (1807-1896)	53	
Election, 1888-- Missouri	16	
Evans, Laura Bowling	21, 23, 26	
Family life--Missouri, 1880s	1-3, 7, 8	
Family life--Missouri, 1890s	21	
Farm life--Missouri	57, 58	
Fashion, 1880s	2-6, 10, 15, 17	
Fashion, 1890s	22, 23	
Fellows Hatchery Buildings, Salisbury, Missouri	43-46, 48	
Forest Green Tobacco Factory, Forest Green, Missouri	47	
Franklin, Susan	73	
Fristoe family--Genealogy	54, 55, 59	
Fristoe, Daniel (1739-1774)	59	
Fristoe, Richard (1789-c. 1844)	29, 33, 54, 59, 67	
Fristoe, Thomas (1796-1872)	29, 47, 54, 59, 66, 67	v. 1
Fristoe, Thomas B.	67	
Fristoe, William (1742-1828)	59	
Geronimo, Apache Indian (1829-1909)	63	
Hayes family--Genealogy	58	
Health, 1880s	13-17	
Health, 1890s	20	
Heryford family--Genealogy	56, 58	
Hibler, W. D., Jr. (1905-)	45	
Home Mutual Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Louis, Missouri	67	
Hutchinson, B. E.	69, 70	
Jack family--Genealogy	56	
James, Emily A.	18, 19	
LaMotte, Lillian Bentley (1851-1938)	6-8, 30, 31, 56	v. 1
Leach, Christene	14, 16-19, 27	
Lewis, Benjamin W. (1812-1866)	53	
Lovell family--Genealogy	54	

Subject	Folders	Other
Major, Lutie Lee	5-20	
Manners and customs--Missouri, 1880s	1-15	
Manners and customs--Missouri, 1890s	24	
Marriage records--Missouri, Chariton County, 1824-1855	61	
Marshall family--Genealogy	54	
Martin, T. F.	4-7, 33	
Maupin, L. Motie	13-14	
McCorkle, John (1838-)	55	
Meriwether, Lee (1862-1966)	60	
Missouri, Brunswick--History	69, 70	
Missouri, Chariton County--History	57, 61, 63	
Missouri, Chariton County--Marriage Records, 1924-1855	61	
Missouri, Forest Green--History	64, 65	
Missouri, Glasgow--History	53, 56	
Missouri, Independence--History	63	
Missouri, Jackson County. Courthouse	63	
Missouri, Salisbury, Lincoln School	37-42	
Missouri, Salisbury--History	55, 61, 63	
Missouri, Sesquicentennial	43, 45	
Mount Pleasant Association of United Baptists, 1872	66	
Old Chgariton United Baptist Church, Howard County, Missouri, Records	61	
Owen family--Genealogy	56	
Potts Trust Fund Committee	45, 46	
Presidents, U.S., Inauguration, 1849	69	
Purcell family--Genealogy	56	
Quantrill, William Clarke (1837-1865)	54	
Rider, Richard Price (1837-1927)	1-3, 10	
Roanoke Baptist Church, Roanoke, Missouri	70	
Robertson, Capitola Simons	25	
Russell, Sol Smith (1848-1902)	63	
Shackelford, Thomas (1822-1908)	53	
Simons, Capitola	22-24	
Skelton, Ike (1931-2013)	45	
Slave bills of sale	65, 66	
Steamboat, Anne Jacobs	70	
Steamboat, Benefit	70	
Steamboat, Independence	60	
Steamboat, New Orleans	60	
Steamboat, Western Engineer	60	
Steamboat, Zebulon M. Pike	60	
Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri	1-7, 9, 13, 14, 28, 39	
Taylor, J. P.	69, 70	

Subject	Folders	Other
Thomas Fristoe Society for Ministerial Education		v. 1
Tobacco, Missouri, Chariton County	47, 55	
Truman, Martha	39, 45, 47	
U.S. Office Commissary General of Subsistence, 1863	69, 70	
Wallace, John S.	63	
Watt, John P.	32	
Woman's Christian Temperance Union	30	
Women--Education, 1880s	1-3, 5, 6, 8-10	
Woodson, Charles H. (1841-1909)	61, 63	
Woodson, Mattie	2-12	
World War, 1914-1918, Correspondence	63	
Younger, Bob	47	
Younger, Coleman (1844-1916)	40, 41, 47, 62	
Younger, Ida	47	
Younger, James Henry (1848-1902)	47	
Younger, John (1864-1874)	60	