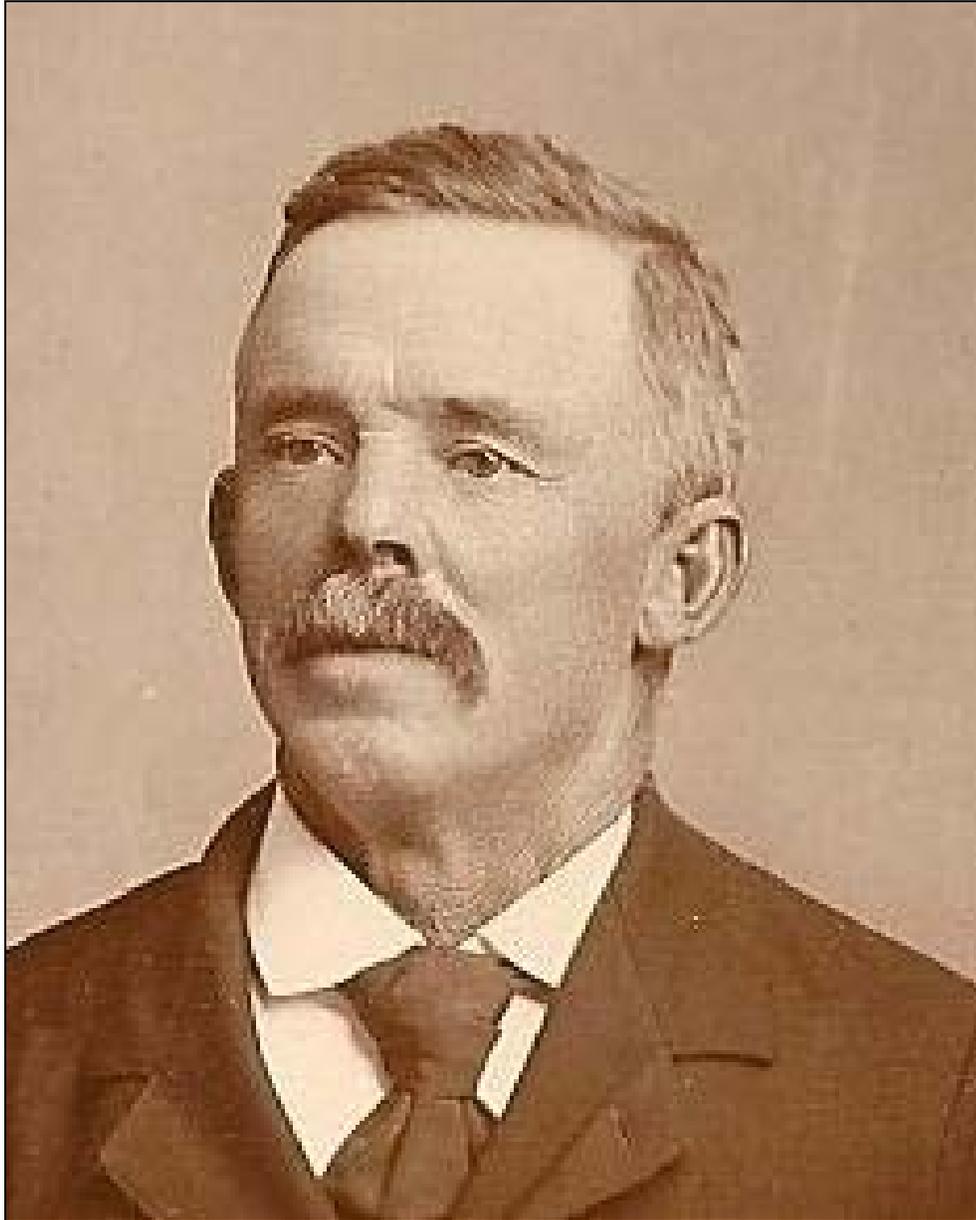


## Stephen Shelley



Born: 14 Feb 1849 - Bobbington, England  
Died: 11 Aug 1921 – American Fork, Utah

## **Biographical Sketch of Stephen Shelley**

Stephen Shelley, son of William and Jane Dunn Shelley, was born Feb. 14, 1849 at Bobbingham, Staffordshire, England. He was the third child of a family of thirteen.

In the month of February 1851, when Stephen was two years old, his father and mother with their four children: William, Hannah, Stephen and John Lyon, started for the Land of Zion. They were accompanied by Grandfather James Boyer Shelley and his wife Elizabeth Bray Shelley and their children: William, Thomas, John, James, Joseph and Sarah. One daughter Martha remained in England. They had all accepted the Gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by the humble Mormon Elders.

They set sail on the ship Ellen Maria, and after a voyage of several weeks landed at New Orleans, April 5, 1851. Within a few days the party proceeded by steamer up the Mississippi River. When near Memphis, Tenn. on April 14, Grandmother Shelley was drowned while attempting to draw a bucket of water from the swift stream. Her body was not found. This indeed was a great sorrow to the family.

When they arrived at St. Louis Stephen's father and mother decided to remain there for a season until they could get sufficient means to continue their journey to Zion. They remained in St. Louis about one year and arrived in Salt Lake City, Aug. 13, 1852 and from there they came to American Fork where the rest of the family resided and made this their permanent home. Here Stephen grew to manhood assisting his father and grandfather in helping to provide for the needs of loved ones by working on the farm also in the saw mill which was run by Grandfather Shelley.

He was united in marriage in the Endowment House at Salt Lake City, Feb. 21, 1870 to Sarah Clegg, daughter of Thomas and Susanna Redman Clegg, by Daniel H. Wells. To this union five children were born; Eliza Ann, Sarah Jane, Mary Elizabeth June, Amy Adelia and Stephen Thomas

Stephen Shelley was indeed a devoted, kind, and loving husband and father. His greatest happiness being in providing for those he loved and making them happy. The ill health of his partner in life surely proved his devotion and love to her by his presence at her side, his unwillingness to leave her. He was a keeper of the "golden rule"-- "Do to others as you would be done by." He was strictly honest in his dealings with his fellowmen, faithful to every trust, ever ready and willing to help and assist in time of need. He served as the city water master for 22 years and through his efforts and a few others, water was put in the cemetery. He worked for a number of years for the American Fork Coop. He also trained to help fight the Indians in the Black Hawk War but did not go into actual service.

Though quiet and unassuming, his heart was in the work of God. The last three months he suffered but had faith in the priesthood of God and asked often for them to come and as Father's blessings upon him and received rest and comfort. During his sickness his wife and family have been unceasing in their efforts to ease his suffering, and have done all that loving hearts and hands could do, showing their great love and devotion to him till death came to his relief August 11, 1921.



Back Row: Mary Elizabeth June and Sarah Jane  
Front Row: Stephen Thomas, Sarah Clegg, Stephen Shelley, Amy Adelia, Eliza Ann

We trust that Father will bless those bereft and grant to them the comfort needed in their hour of sorrow.

Father, help us see Thy hand  
Thy purposes to understand  
Help us in all to stand the test  
And feel each day Thy will is best.

Help us to live that we may claim  
Thy spirit here to praise Thy name.  
To live that we when life is o'er  
May meet in joy those gone before.

When death no more will us molest  
No parting know, but perfect rest  
With those we love O Joyous thought  
Help us Our Father, do our part.

Footnote:

**Bobbington** is a village and [civil parish](#) in the [South Staffordshire](#) district of [Staffordshire](#), [England](#), about five miles west of [Wombourne](#). According to the 2001 census it had a population of 506.

Bobbington is just on the county border with [Shropshire](#) (to the west), and is about eight miles east of [Bridgnorth](#) in Shropshire. It is only about five miles west of the border with [West Midlands](#), and during [World War II](#) was home to Bobbington airfield, renamed during the war as [Halfpenny Green](#), and now known as [Wolverhampton Business Airport](#).

In recent years Bobbington has seen favour in the commuter culture being roughly equidistant from many of the regions business centres [Wolverhampton](#) (9.5 miles) [Dudley](#) (9.4. miles), [[[Stourbridge](#)] (10.5 miles) and [Bridgnorth](#) (8.6 miles).

