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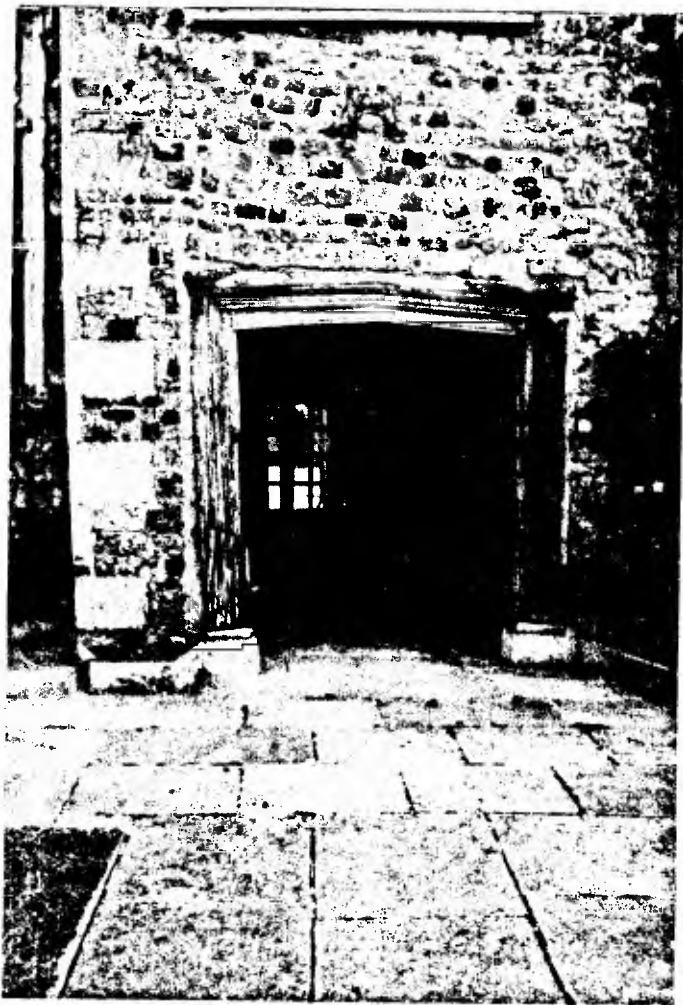
### CHULMLEIGH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

will celebrate its 350th Anniversary next July. It is one of the three oldest Congregational Churches in this country and some of us visited there last year during our family gathering. Rev. John Copleston, Pastor of The Great Meeting House in Bideford 1718-1729, was also Minister at Chulmleigh during 1719-20 when he preached his sermon to sea-faring men of the Newfoundland Trade.

Rev. Elsie Chamberlain is the present Minister and sent the fine drawing of the Church shown below, made by B. Clarke in 1981. Early history of the Church is being researched for publication to commemorate the Anniversary.

Dr. Williams's Library, at which so much information has been found on Rev. John and his son, Rev. Coriolanus of St. Mary's, Luton, will again be consulted in reference to the 17th and 18th in Chulmleigh.





KNIGHTSTONE in Ottery St. Mary, situate in some of the most fertile soil in Devon, has recently been sold again. Above the front entrance can be seen an oval wherein the weather-worn Copleston Arms are carved. This property was acquired when Richard Coplestone of Woodland married Gertrude, daughter of John Sherman in 1624 and has been the home of a number of families since.

I wonder what was the origin of the name, 'Knightstone'?

NEW CONTACTS - AND THEIR 'TWIGS'

3.

Having received information from Moira Tangye, Sec. of Cornwall FHS, of entries in St. Winnow Parish Book, I visited the Census Office to find details of Wm. Henry Copplestone of Dawna Farm. In the 1881 Census I found him at Bridgend Mills, aged 30, with wife Elizabeth and three children. Dipping into my indexes I found Wm. b. 1850 at Liskeard; Elizabeth was dau of Thos. Wevell and that another son was born in 1888 - they had moved to Dawna Farm in 1886. Imagine my surprised delight to receive a letter from Stuart Copplestone in Cockington, Torquay, whom I had previously contacted, to say that his Father was Harry and Grandfather was Wm. Henry of Dawna Farm! I shall work on this information, but if anyone knows of this family, do let me hear.

Another new member is John Samuel C., with wife Maureen (see tree pp. 6&7) and I have heard from Mrs. Mary Southwick of this family also - and brother Bernard has joined our ranks. Kenneth in Australia please note that you are leaving gaps in the tree!

Another contact is Edward J. Copplestone of Fareham, who will be sending particulars of his family.

I'm still working hard at making 'trees' and the latest is a seven-page effort on the Offwell family on which I await a few current details. Mrs. Susan Blake (dau of Waters Edward) sent me a photocopy of a tree drawn up by Edward Copleston (later Bishop of Llandaff & Dean of St. Paul's) in 1803 on which he notes: 'How this branch is connected with the main stock of Copleston in the parish of Colbrook I have not yet been able to discover.' - aint it the truth!

A tree has been made, also, of the descendants of John C. = Christian Nichols, who include John, Seaford; Syd, Birmingham; Alan, Poole and Hermione's Mother, Joyce, not to mention Warner in N.Z. whose theory that Christian, twin of Hazael, tailor, married Philip Hellyer is in question, since I saw in the Parish Register that Hazael and Christian are described as 'twin sons of John and Christian'!

Hooker's History of Exeter tells us that in the reigh of 'Good Queen Bess', in St.Sydwells "The heyres of Crokehaye holds iij Messuages in the pishe of St. Sydwells ouer agaynst the sayd Churche betwene the Lande of the heirs of Thomas Hunt in the Easte the highe streete there one the Northe and the Lande late pteyninge to Plympton & Polso and Serells lane one the Southe and the Lane of Edwarde Drewe of Newton St.Cires one the west w<sup>ch</sup> houses were lately buylded by Henry Coplestone Esquier and Do paye yerely iijs (respited)."

"Edwarde Herle holdeth Duriinge his lyffe and the lyffe of William Martyn sonne to Nichus Martyn one garden lyenge upon the Mylleate betwene Bonehaye Mylls and newe Mylls one the west The Lande of Coplestone of Instowe one the Easte and Southe and the Lande of (blank) one the Northe And also one garden late inclosed to the Lande of the sayed Coplestone and nowe in the occupacon of Richard Mayne Brewer, ijs."

(If you find that odd reading, pity me in my palaeography studies trying to read the originals!)

I'm sure you will all applaud the following quote from MSS Notes on the History of Colebrooke, by Richard Ebbels (ed. Rev.V.Hope 1952): "Coplestons of Coplestone, The Great Coplestons, The White-Spurs, are the names and proud designations of a race of gentry that centuries since shed renown and honour on Colebrooke. Their splendid alliances with the wealthy heiresses of the most ancient and renowned families in our County show the great esteem and respect in which they were held and which they maintained for at least five hundred years." The gentleman goes on to think on 'white Spur' and gives his opinion that the 'SS' meant Saint Sergius. He quotes from a book of 1719 "...Those who serve the King in any worshipful calling, such as are created Esquires by the King with a collar of SSs of Silver." - All of which brings us no nearer knowing whether a Copleston was ever created a 'White Spur'!

## TREES

5.

Frank Copleston of Flamstead, St. Albans is engaged in drawing twigs and branches of the family, not only for his own pleasure, but so that copies may be available to family members at cost of photocopying and postage, plus one stamp to be used in the correspondence with librarians, archivists, etc. which always involves the inclusion of stamped addressed envelopes for replies. I am most grateful for this help and know that you will appreciate these finely drawn trees. For 3 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ p stamps the following are so far available:

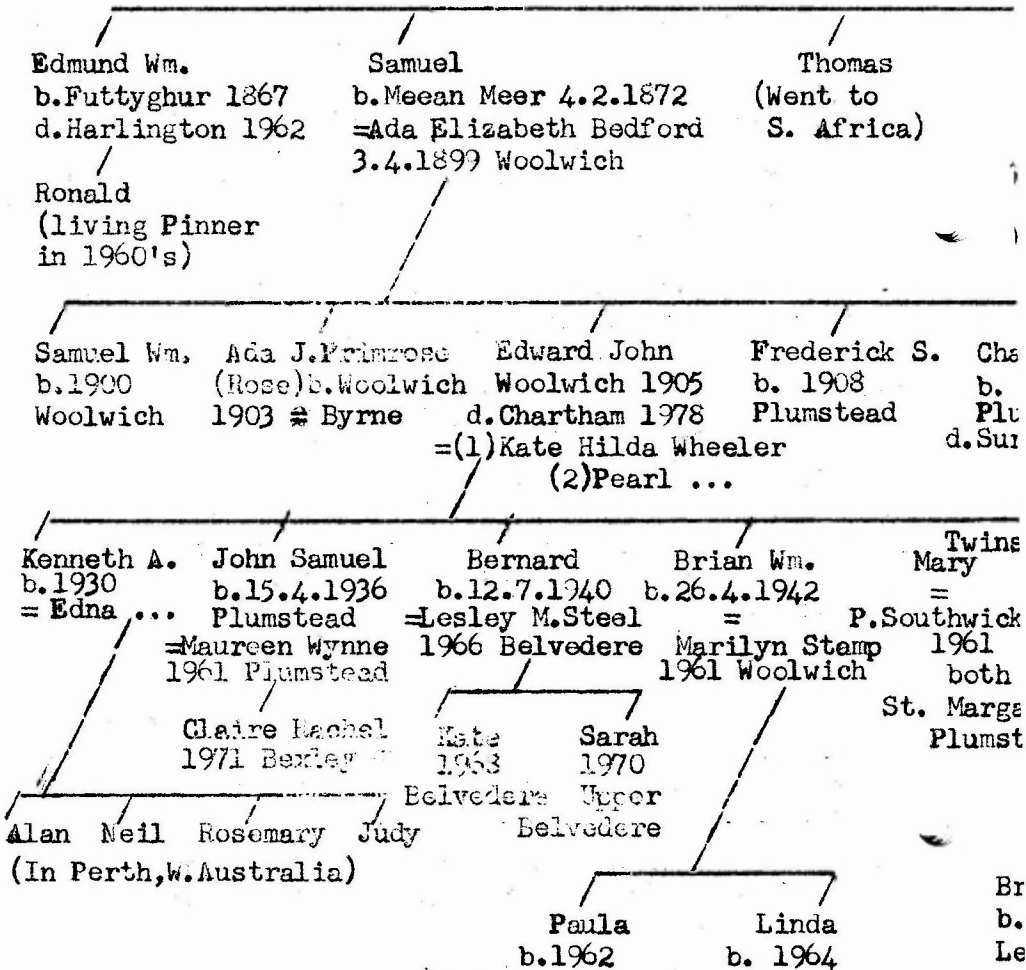
1. Tree from Rev. Coriolanus showing families of David, Chester and Muriel, London.
2. Descendants of Thomas & Olive Money through Thomas Augustine and Emily Mason (Frank's family).
3. Descendants of Coriolanus, bookseller and (2) Ann Hadaway, including families of Bill, Dagenham; Marjorie, Worthing and Christine, Leeds.
4. Family of Samuel Wesley, 5th son of William & Nanny.
5. Family of Benjamin and his 1st wife, Harriet Roberts.
6. Pedigree from Adam to Frank's son Peter Vaughan.
7. Pedigree with family legend and including the 'Armada Tree'.

I shall be supplying Frank with further draft trees for as long as he cares to continue making these attractive trees. Should you want more than one of the above, please send 1 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  stamp for each copy plus 2 extra stamps, i.e., 3 copies = 5 stamps.

The Offwell pedigree should be completed shortly and will be 7 pages typescript. Photocopying charges will be 70p on this, plus postage.

I have a number of trees 'in limbo', that is, 5, 6 or 7 generations to which I have not found antecedents or present descendants and mostly formed by following up small items gathered or sent to me by fellow FHS members in various parts; particularly Moira Tangye, who sent a note of a Sarah C. married to Samuel Peter in St. Winnow. Once I had found Sarah's parentage (Richard C. & Jane Wherry) I was able to build 2 generations before her and 2 after - every piece of information helps.

Samuel Copleston  
 (4th son of Olive (Honey) & Thomas  
 b. Maidstone 1837  
 d. Woolwich 1908



Sources : Information given by family members; GRO;  
 Public Record Office, Kew; Census.

= Elizabeth .....  
(Married in India while Samuel in 37th Regt.)

Robert  
b. Subathoo  
1874

Olive  
(Went to  
S. Africa)

Eliza(Lizzie)  
b.Nynsee Tal  
1869

s.Thos. Reginald David  
1909 b.1916 Plumstead  
umstead =Dorothy E.Green  
rey 1981 1942

Gladys  
b.1918  
Plumstead  
= Diamond

Philip George  
b. Plumstead  
=  
24.12.1939

b.1933  
Margaret  
=  
R.Farmer  
1961

David Richard Raymond  
b. b. b.  
d.1974

at  
ret's  
ead  
Roy b.9.4.1946 Greenwich  
=Noreen Mary O'Carroll  
Forest Hill 11.7.1970

Janice b.3.3.1950  
Woolwich = Kenneth Wm.  
Butler 1971 Eltham

ian Robert  
3.2.1972  
wisham

Joanne Nicola  
b.31.5.1975  
Lewisham

Sean David  
b.30.3.1978  
Woolwich

(Living Pudsey, Yorks)

Descent: Via George Copleston of  
Ley in Morwenstow, Visitations  
of Devon. (George was 2nd son of  
John 'The Great' Copleston of  
Copleston.)

RECENT SEARCHES

8.

In the D&C RS collection in Westcountry Studies Library are a set of volumes of Inquisitions Post Mortem which produced earlier ones than I had so far found. The IPM on Philip Copleston (Sheriff of Devon 12 Edw IV) is particularly interesting. The following extract tells of the holdings of his father, John (= Elizabeth Hawley):

'John Copleston was seised of the manors of Copleston, Nymet Rowland, Huish, Tremelet, Longgealler, Teigngrace, Washborn, Leigh All Saints (Alhalwenlegh) and Yardbury; 20 messuages and 14 acres in Crediton, a mess. and 18a in Gunneston, a mess. and 48a in Tetborn; a mess. and 67 acres in Wotton, a mess. and ...a in Luggeston, a mess. and 90a in More and Lewerysland, a mess. and 12a in Caston, Dartmouth, Hardenesse, 112a in Yeengeston, Gripston, Morelegh, Heweldon, (Loperygge) Capeton and Stanburgh, in his demesne as of fee; and by writing dated 20 Oct 37 Hen VI (1458) gave the same to Henry Pomeray by John Cheyne, Walter Raleigh, Otho Gilbert, esquires, John Gambon of Moreston, John Denys of Orley, Thomas Douryysche, John More of Columpton, Thomas Copleston, clerk, and Robert Gambon; John Copleston died leaving issue Philip, who by his writing gave his share to such feoffees as were still living; dated 24 Oct 1472 and they, viz. Henry ..., John Cheyny, John Gambon, John Denys, Thomas Douryysche and Robert Gambon now hold the same. The manor of Copleston is held of Thomas Arundell, esq. by knight's service; worth, by the year, clear, £6.13s4d. Nymet Rowland, Yardbury and Syggeford held of George, Duke of Clarence by knight's service; worth &c., £9.'

Of great interest is the mention of Thomas Copleston, clerk, who is the Thomas mentioned in Papal Letters as being 'of unmarried parents'. This encourages me to think that somewhere there may be a document which mentions his parentage.

The land at Crediton, Gunston, Tetborn & Wotton was held of John, Bishop of Exeter by fealty & 20s rent and suit of court at Crediton; worth &c., 100s.

Philip Copleston died 16 Oct 12 Edw. IV (1472).



CORRESPONDENCE

9.

My thanks to all of you who sent in your family details - (incidentally, one member of the Offwell family who recently contacted Harrod's found that all the replicas of the Cup have been sold. I wonder how many non-Cop homes in various parts of the world are displaying them?) - I am very pleased to round out the genealogy.

Agnes and David have both written from Australia, but New Zealand is very quiet; how are you, Olga, Jack and Warner?

Willis has been giving more help from his end of the country and Syd telephones from Birmingham to see how things are going. I've been delighted to receive holiday postcards from various members - it is nice to be remembered.

Michael at Silverton sent me his precious copy of Prince's 'Worthies' to peruse leisurely at home, which I much appreciate.

June Ross in Palm Springs, Ca., searches Trevithick, sending me Cop(p)leston(e) information in exchange for my searches - alas, I cannot find her Grandfather, Josiah Christopher Trevithick anywhere (b.1873 in Cornwall and went to Michigan in 1893).

A letter also received from Willowdale, Ont., with a Beck/Copplestone connection.

Ann Chiswell, Sec. of the Federation of FHS's sends me b's, m's and obits from Plymouth which is very kind - likewise Moira Tangye from Cornwall. Reciprocal research is such a help to family historians.

More amusing reminiscences from Hermione, who also sent the picture she took of Knightstone (see p. 22).

A kind letter arrived from Stephen in Liverpool saying 'not to worry' about the lack of breakthrough with his family - I do feel a kind of guilt because there must be a way: also with Peter, Colin and Michael and our good cousin Leonard C. in Shrewsbury. I try!!

FAMILY - and other - VISITS

10.

A beautiful September afternoon in Worthing was spent chatting with Marjorie Copleston and admiring her two handsome feline friends, whilst sitting on the lawn drinking the inevitable tea.

A visit was also paid to Oxford recently, where I again had the pleasure of seeing Rev. Frederick C. Copleston at Champion Hall. I hope one day I may go there with a complete pedigree of the Offwell family, instead of having to admit defeat on this problem.

Rose, wife of Bill (Leonard) Copleston in Dagenham, joined me during the summer in extracting more of the entries from Kelly's Directories at Guildhall Library - thanks, Rose!

My 1st coz., Ron and his wife Anne met me for a visit to St. Katherine's Dock - what a transformation has been made there - and what a pity that St. Katherine-by-the-Tower, where Azaels and Ambroses were baptised and married, is no more. The memorial in its place is quite unusual; rather like a small Roman temple.

With my local Antiquarian Society I visited Lambeth Palace and was most impressed, particularly with the Great Hall and the number and antiquity of the books. Next door is St. Mary at Lambeth where the famous Tradescant is buried - also, William Bligh!

Visits will be made in October to Reg and Olive at Hadleigh and to John and Elizabeth at Seaford, where I shall take the opportunity of making sure that all my pedigree information is correct in both those branches.

A brief visit to Exeter one Saturday enabled me to take more parish register information from the collection of the Devon & Cornwall Record Society in the Westcountry Studies Library - also to accept an invitation to spend Christmas at Road Farm!