

From a Plaque in Colebrooke Church

This Chantry was built by Philip Copleston and his brother Walter about 1460 in memory of their father John who died in 1457 and lived at Copleston House in this Parish which was the farmhouse residence for several centuries. The Chapel was used as a family pew. The most striking features are the beautiful screen and the ancient prie-dieu known as the Copleston Desk on which is carved the family coat of arms. The desk is now used by the Vicar. The old sixteenth century fireplace in the pew has been boarded up but the original stone chimney still remains on the outer walls. Documentary references to the Copleston family go back as far as 1275, but there is ample evidence to show that the family was here long before. Three generations of this family previously held the same lands under the name of St. Vedast, before they took the name of Copleston from their property at Coplestone, where stands the ancient Saxon Copelandstan Cross mentioned in a Saxon Charter of 974 A.D.

N.B. Pinches of salt recommended, particularly with reference to St. Vedast.

From Burke's General Armory: Copleston Warleigh, Exeter, Bowden, Woodland, Instow, Wyke, Knighteston and Fullingcote, all in Co. Devon, traceable to the time of Edward II; the co-heirs of the eldest of these various families, Copleston of Copleston and Warleigh, m. Elford and Bampfylde.

Ar. a chev. engr. betw. three leopards' faces az. (Another sa.)

Crest: A demi tiger gu. tufted and maned or. (Another, a wolf pass. az.)

NEWSLETTER

THE COPLESTON FAMILY

Vol. 1 No. 2

April 1979

Organiser:

Mrs. Muriel Reson
73 Fleeming Road
London E17 5ET

The Earl of Bath to Sir Robert Cecil:

At my suit the Council sent warrant for Mr. Anthonie Coplestone to answer his contemptuous refusal at the last musters to furnish a horse as ordered. I now find Coplestone very penitent, promising speedy supply of all his defects, which no doubt he will perform; and if the submission be acceptable to the Council, I shall be very glad. The rumour of the course taken with Coplestone will cause many others to be more careful in performing their duties.

Towstocke, 29 July 1602

(Historical MSS Commission Pt. XII Hatfield.)

Goldebrook Church where our earliest known ancestors live.

My next visit will be to Exeter to look at more records and to stayed for three nights in Plymouth and to Mrs. Sylvia Blott for our thanks, too, to the two lady members of Devon FHS with whom we Rev. Hewitt for his help.

Rev. Samuel and a Mrs. Copleson, but found no mention of John's Thomas, a Samuel and a Mrs. Copleson, but found no mention of John's enting workshop in 1703 and 1721 respectively. I noted a George, a houses in Mill Street at the back of the church certified for his seat and 2/- per year thereafter. He and John had their church and I saw that John's father, Coriolanus the mercer, paid 5/- allowed me to use his vestry to examine old books and papers of the site of The Great Meeting House where Rev. John preached. Mr. Hewitt Mrs. Hewitt at Laviton Church (united Reformed) which stands on the At Bideford I was received with much kindness by Rev. Frank Hewitt and which go down to the Tay, at the edge of which stands the Chapel.

the present owner contemplates opening to see the Great Hall with minstrel gallery, which courtsey and allowed to John Copleson on commission out of the took place and wonder for how many more years the poor hollow tree will stand! I then went to Warleigh House, where I was received with kind stands seeking this Pardon and would be glad of help to find it). We saw the Warleigh Oak which, it is said, marks the spot; where the foul deed forfeited 13 Cornish men to the crown to the church and the Christians stopher who murdered his Godson on commission out of the church and with its beautiful mural memorial to John Copleson and family (second son of lived at Warleigh. Hence to Tamerton Foliot and a visit to the church of Mr. Radcliffe a list of documents pertaining to the family when they search of Coplesonea. To Plymouth where I obtained by courtesy with cousin Ron and his wife Anne I have recently been to Devon in

BACK TO GRASS ROOTS

11.

fully executed trees of his family.

David's son Peter in Toronto. Frank in St. Albans has made beauti- Rev. F. S. in Swansea, Arnes, Norman and David in New South Wales and the Welsh descendants include Willis in Flint, James in Malvern, last of this line. Christians' family descended from Edwin. (See July) son, Charles, who had one son Edward, who had one son Ronald, who had one on it! Muriel's William, printer, had one son, Josiah, who was a printer in the woolwich area who may be connected - we are working pharmacutical salesman in the States. Two new correspondents have Bronx, N.Y., is granddaughter of Coriolanus' eldest son Henry, who was a and sisters living and cousins in Canada and the U.S. Muriel in the Coriolanus, bookseller, has many descendants. Bill has 10 brothers and Merry Ann, and wife, Mrs. Arnes Crossbie nee Copleson in Australia has pictures of Benji aman and if you would like copies, Muriel now has negatives. very well and last wife Harriet. These photographs have copied of Benji aman's first marriage) kindly loaned documents and photographs of Mr. Hugh Copleson of Cummerdale (who descendants from Frederick, son ST. Albans.

Family at Barkeating and uncle to Bill am Henry of Frank's family at Muriel's family and Coriolanus, bookseller, of Bill and Rose's printer and he was therefore great-nephew to William, printer of writer. His father was Thomas, painter; his brother was Thomas, writer. Benjamin was born 1859 in Maidstone and moved to Wexham Hemley". Benjamin has been discovered, have been brought "The occupation has not yet been discovered, whose descendants of this

1834	Mar	Female	Christopher Richard	Bishopsgate	Luton	6.100	which are given with year, quarter, name, place and number - all of
1837	Sep	Male	Christopher Richard	Bishopsgate	Maidstone	2.50	needed when ordering a certificate.
1842	Sep	Male	Samuel	George	George (pp)	5.250	COPLESTON BIRTHS FROM THE G.R.O.
1843	Mar	Male	Sarah	Joseph	Orleinal George	2.345	9.
1844	Dec	Male	Richard	Shoreatch	Chelsea	3.38	These are given with year, quarter, name, place and number - all of
1845	Sep	Male	Henry (pp)	London	Luton	6.94	which will be used to prepare and maintain a revised Register of One Name Studies". Mr. Fred Filby of the
1848	Dec	Male	My Susanah	Maidstone	London	4.403	Steering Committee is the One Name Studies representative of the Federation of Family History Societies.
1863	Mar	Male	John Henry	St. Thomas (Exeter)	St. Thomas (Exeter)	10.24	One Name Studies is being formed and I have been invited to become a founder member. On behalf of all of us I have done so, also
"	Jun	Male	Arthur William	Barnstaple	Barntaple	5.315	registering the name "which will be used to prepare and maintain a
"	Sep	Male	Jane Elleen	St. Thomas	St. Thomas	10.251	revised Register of One Name Studies". Mr. Fred Filby of the
"	Dec	Male	John Elleen	Chelsea	Chelsea	11.211	Steering Committee is the One Name Studies representative of the
"	Jan	Male	Arthur James	West Ham	West Ham	9.427	Federation of Family History Societies.
"	Feb	Male	John Edward	Bristol	Bristol	6.542	One Name Studies is being formed and I have been invited to become a founder member. On behalf of all of us I have done so, also
"	Mar	Male	John Edward	Hertsford	Hertsford	6.542	registering the name "which will be used to prepare and maintain a
"	Apr	Male	John Edward	London	London	5.240	revised Register of One Name Studies". Mr. Fred Filby of the
"	May	Male	John Edward	W. Derby	W. Derby	8b.259	Steering Committee is the One Name Studies representative of the
"	Jun	Male	John Edward	Tottenham	Tottenham	1b.249	Federation of Family History Societies.
"	Jul	Male	John Edward	Portsea	Portsea	2b.406	One Name Studies is being formed and I have been invited to become a founder member. On behalf of all of us I have done so, also
"	Aug	Male	John Edward	Newtown Abbott	Newtown Abbott	5b.131	registering the name "which will be used to prepare and maintain a
"	Sep	Male	John Edward	Eliza (e)	Eliza (e)	8b.255	revised Register of One Name Studies". Mr. Fred Filby of the
"	Oct	Male	John Edward	Agnes Elleen Mary (pp e)	Agnes Elleen Mary (pp e)	11b.335	Steering Committee is the One Name Studies representative of the

8.

To all Copleston/e/pp/ppe's !

Very many thanks for your interest, for all your letters and for searching your memories and those of your families, for Family Bible entries, for contributions, stamps and kind thoughts. I have heard from other 'One-Namers' that their responses to letters are not always forthcoming - I have no complaints! This is and has been a very interesting family and I think you all feel that there is something special about it. Please do continue in your enthusiasm - it would be wonderful to have a full set of 'trees' to hand on. The Guild of One Name Studies is being formed and I have been invited to become a founder member. On behalf of all of us I have done so, also registering the name "which will be used to prepare and maintain a revised Register of One Name Studies". Mr. Fred Filby of the Steering Committee is the One Name Studies representative of the Federation of Family History Societies.

For the next Newsletter in July it would be nice to have written contributions from some of you - how about it? For that one, I hope to have a machine with elite type and a long carriage so that you may read it like a book and not, as with this one, like a calendar!

My very special thanks for thinking help and advice go to Shrewsbury and Barking. To the Copleston without whom I could not claim relationship I also give thanks.

I shall appreciate your asking brothers, cousins and uncles to send family details to assist in completing the puzzle. The 'new additions' too, please!

I hope the weather affords everyone a pleasant summer.

All good wishes,

Muriel

6. Adam de Copleston m
 Anne
 Fatherine dch of John Grasse of
 Lanherne co. Cornwall, Kt.
 Elleen dau of Sir John Arundell of
 Dartmouth. dch of John Bonville of Shute
 Dartmouth. dch of John Hawley of
 bur. 1453 at Horwell
 John Copleston of Copleston m
 bur. 1457 at Colebrook
 John Copleston of Copleston m
 bur. 1457 at Colebrook
 Phyllip Copleston of Copleston m
 Last son. Sherriff of Devon 12 Edw. IV
 Raphae Copleston of Copleston m
 Last son d. 3 Sept 1491
 John Copleston of Copleston m
 John Copleston of Copleston m
 d. 29 Aug 1550 bur. Colebrook
 George Copleston 2nd son m
 Ley in Morwenstow bur 28 Jan
 1569/70 Bidford
 Christopher Copleston of
 Kinraddon in Alverdiscott bap t
 27 Oct 1564 at Bidford
 Lancelot Copleston 2nd son m
 bap t 28 Apr 1597 Bidford
 Copleston 3rd son m
 Coriolanus Copleston 1st son m
 (1) Hannah Bowler, Princess Risborough
 b. 1718 Bidford d. 1800 Luton
 Gonfomed-Curate St. Mary's (2)
 Coriolanus Copleston 1st son m (1) Nancy Nichols, Barker, Essex 1800
 Luton 1770-1800
 18 Aug 1683 Bidford. Independent
 John Copleston 1st son bapt. m
 Minster ordained 1718
 /
 1. John Copleston 1st son bap t. m
 18 Aug 1683 Bidford. Independent
 Coriolanus Copleston 1st son m (1) Hannah Bowler, Princess Risborough
 b. 1718 Barker, Surrey 1756 (2)
 Gonfomed-Curate St. Mary's (2)
 Coriolanus Copleston 1st son m (1) Nancy Nichols, Barker, Essex 1800
 Luton; d. 2. 5. 1836 bur. Midstone
 /
 William, printer Thomas, Painter m. olive Honey
 Gristolanus, HNSO bookseller
 /
 Josiah Wood engraver. Benj. aman, m.
 Clement
 Edward
 Charles
 Edward
 Ronald
 Cousin to
 Marjel)

/
 Josiah Wood engraver. Benj. aman, m.
 Clement
 Edward
 Charles
 Edward
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 Cousin to
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/
 Josiah Wood engraver. Benj. aman, m.
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 Ronald
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 Marjel)

FITTING THE PIECES INTO THE JIGSAW - mostly!

The Wrexham family having been brought in, we turned our attention to Mr. Michael V.G. Copleston of Surrey and found that he descends from the distinguished line of Rectors of Offwell, one of whom was brother to Edward, Bishop of Llandaff - a book could be written on this family alone! There is also a connection with General Gordon of Khartoum, which we are presently researching.

Mr. Syd Copplestone of Birmingham is looking for the father of Christopher Coplestone who married Ann Ballamy 1737 (Spitalton Register).

Christine Mulvaney seeks date of death of Edwin (son of Corio, bookseller), probably in Canada; he had been a litho artist in Leeds.

Mr. W.E. Copleston of London descends from Ernest, brother of Frank's William Henry, sons of Thomas Augustine, printer and Emily Mason.

Mr. D.J. Copleston of Chester sent interesting correspondence and almost certainly is a descendant of Rev. Coriolanus. His Grandfather was a straw hat manufacturer in Luton who went to Canada in the early 1900's - he was Alfred Edwin and we are tracking him down!

Mr. B. Copleston of Ashford is not yet placed - his father was Edward John and the family lived in Plumstead. Mr. R. of Benfleet and Mr. J.W. in Kent both have forbears in the Southwark and Woolwich area - we work on these. J.W.'s earlier family was from Shobrooke, so close to the grass roots! For Mr. R., we seek the parents of John, blacksmith of Woolwich, who married Emma and who died 1900 Woolwich, aged 64. Could there be a connection with the fact that Corio the mercer of Bideford had a half-brother, Lancelot who, with others, owned a large part of Rotherhithe? We also have from Dorothy Marie Brittain nee Copleston in California a Lancelot forbear born in Massachusetts 1859 and are investigating.

"... I have sent you 3 cards painted in Sepia which you can hang up in your bedroom. I have done them by easel which this week so that beating nearly 70 years of age I am thankful for good eyesight, if you should have it framed, have a small brown moulding and a gilt slip. I am very pleased to hear of your using your voice - use it for God and it will bring great blessings. Keep entirely away from silk. I have heard of your relatives - use it for God comic songs and music, nothing will help you to keep from them more than sacred oratorios because there is always a great step between the grand and the ridiculous. I shall always feel interested in the hearing of your wife's voice." (Alfred was father of Hugh Copleston)

Extract of Letter from Benjamin Copleston to Alfie, 1908 :

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Obituary from The Gentleman's Magazine 1804 :

(see page 6 - Elizabeth Hawley)

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have told?

marry? Why, oh why, did I not ask my grandmother about them in my

at Greenwich - did she know of the first marriage? Did she ever two years before going to Leeds. Sarah was witness at the wedding but this sister Sarah was born Nottingham 1828, where William stayed a shock of white hair. I have not yet found his birth, 1829/30.

Elizabeth? He is described in later years as a handsome man with his cousins in North America? Did he go to sea? How did he meetaged 77 - I wonder if she ever tried to find Josiah. Did he visit years, in the vernacular, 'buck me'; Elieen Gopelston died in York grandather of mine I should be very glad to know - these masses If any family member has ever heard anything of this interesting fact.

of which were hung in Highbury Library - where he ended his days. Lost his money - I wonder how? He also did water colours, some sent to boarding school but had to be withdrawn because 'Josiah member the title. He and Elizabeth had a son, Charles, who was

cousins alone the strand were pulled down to make way for the Law by Holborn Viaduct, just inside the City of London, since the built-in Pickett Place as wood engraver, but had to move to Newgate Street the completerly disappeters. In the mid-1860's he first had premises the Parish Church of St. Alphege, Greenwich, staying himself, batchelor,

found! From that time until he married, Elizabeth Sarah Galloway at Elieen is shown living with her sister and Josiah is nowhere to be married Elieen King in Leeds Parish Church, but in the 1851 census of his craft and living his address as 18 Bank Street. In 1850 he 1849 he inserted an advertisement in Kelly's directory the virtuous Josiah to London to study with an artist. On his return to Leeds in printer who had moved to Leeds and started a business and sent

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WHAT HAPPENED TO JOSIAH?

3.

man being but three score years and ten".
dead he had preached a sermon, "an excellent discourse on the days of the Gentlemen, is Magazine 1801 says that not many months prior to his permission can be obtained, may one day remedy this? The obituary in Burton, but no memorial was placed there - perhaps his descendants, if son William, born Luton 1772. He was buried in the nave of St. Mary's, Risborough in 1747, the second to Sarah Bowler, 1756, in Surrey, but almost certainly there was a third marriage to the mother of his last wife to Hannah Bowler in Princetown Buzzard in 1825 aged 70 - denominated not yet known.

St. Albans. His son Samuel was a preacher who died in Leighton sumably by Corto, whose son Thomas, we are told, took Methodism to pulpit of St. Mary's, Luton, was given to John Wesley to preach, pre-coriolanus was a friend of the Wesley family family and on one occasion the lived in the Vicarage and ran a school there to augment his income.

here! He bore the greater part of parish burdens at Luton, for he 1770 to 1800 (when he died aged 83 'of a decline') - some overhanging

March 1769 to March 1771, yet was curate of St. Mary's Luton from confirmed in later years and was curate at Hinckley St. Mary's from states that he was 'to be ordained at Bath on 5 March 1742/3'. He describes as 'very acceptable, and most acceptable'. One report

nine Sundays during these years as a supply and at other places was various parts of the south of England. Corto preached in Norwich for until 1759 after which he and Coriolanus seem to have wandered to Oxford. John was pastor of The Great Meeting House in Bladeford or died. John was born in Alverdiscott in 1718, the year John was independent Minister of Bladeford and was born in Alverdiscott in 1718, the year John was