

Pieces Seen for TMC:

ADM 106/2918 Navy Bd. - Service & appts.

36/10882 Sprightly 1790 muster

52/3232 Mutine 1801-3

52/3721 Zebra 1804-5 51/1539 Wrecked '05,
Trinity Hse. qual. 1806

36/16945. Ariadne 1806 muster

51/4501 Snipe 1807

6/132 Sen. List 1809-10

51/2456 Horatio u/confinement 1810

37/5913 " muster 1809-10

37/2572 " " dismissed "

13/103 Lt. Martial 10.9.1810

52/4139 Horatio 1809-10

1/5409 Court Martial

(from ADM 12) 1/4432, 4444, 4459, 4852, 4462, 4564

3198, 4409 (not there), 4413,

52/4443 Children 1812-14

Harbor Hosp report Mar 1815

102/72 2nd Bk - to Endymion to England.

102/299 Harbor Muster 1815 - no mention.

37/4978 Volcano. Aug 1815 "arrested for debt.

27 Nov 1790

Thomas Copplestone: entered ship 21 July 1791. No age or place of birth given, but under 'Whether prest or not and whence' is Powey. Given 'Lieut's servant'. He would have been about 14 in 1791, having been baptised 1777. He says he entered the Sprightly in 1789, but there is no mention at this time.

Also on the Sprightly through the whole of this Muster is William Copplestone, Carpenter's Mate in 1789 and Carpenter at 11 Feb 1791. This man was son of John and Elizabeth (Gerrans) of Powey, born 1758 (his age is given 33 in the Muster). He was brother of Richard Copplestone, miller of Powey, gt-gt-grandfather of Leonard Copplestone of Shrewsbury, now deceased.

By the Right Honble Lord Keith Knight of the (torn) Admiral of the Blue and Commander in Chief of H.M.'s. Ships and Vessels employed and to be employed in the Mediterranean, &c., &c., &c. WHEREAS Mr. David Roberts Master of H.M.'s. Sloop the M(torn)

having resigned his Warrant for the said Sloop - You are therefore hereby required and directed forthwith to repair on board the Mutine and take upon you the Employment of Master in her accordingly and to be obedient to such commands as you shall from time to time receive from the Captain of the said Sloop or any other your superior Officers to hold the same Employment till further (torn) together with such Allowance for Wages and Vic (torn, probably victuals) yourself as is usual for the Master of the said Sloop and for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given on board the Foudroyant the 10th day of Dec^r 1801.

To Mr. Tho^s Mitchell Coppelstone, Master's Mate of H.M. Ship the Pallas hereby appointed to act as Master of H.M.'s. Sloop the Mutine. By Command of the Admiral Wm. Brown (?)

By Lieut. Geo. Wood Commander lying in the Wallet, H.M. Ship Adder, April 27th 1803. You are hereby required and directed to take upon you the Charge and act as Second Master and Pilot of the said Ship. Given under my hand on board H.M. Ship Adder in the Wallet April 27th 1803. Geo. Wood, Lt. Commander

To Mr. Thomas Mitchell Coppelstone, hereby appointed Second Master & Pilot of H.M. Ship Adder.

By Commodore Sir William Sidney Smith Knight Commander Grand Cross of the Royal Military Order of the Sword M.P. and Senior Officer of H.M. Ships and Vessels in Hosely(?) Bay, the Wallet and Channels of the Thames.

You are hereby required and directed to repair on board H.M.'s. Gun Vessel the Monkey and there take upon you the Charge and act as Master and Pilot of the said Gun Vessel. Given under my Hand on board the Antelope in Hosely(?) Bay this 25th day of August 1803. sgd. W.S. Smith

To Mr. Thomas M. Coppelstone hereby appointed Master and Pilot of H.M. Gun Vessel the Monkey.

By Bartholomew Samuel Rowley Esq^r Rear Admiral of the Red &c - &c -&c You are hereby required and directed to repair on board H.M. Ship the Zebra and to act as Master until further Orders. Given on board the Zealand at the Nore 11th Sept^r 1804 B.S. Rowley

To: Mr. Tho^s M. Copplestone (Second Master and Pilot of the Monkey) Hereby appointed to Act as Master of the Zebra until further orders. By Command of the Rear Admiral. John Dredge.

THESE are to certify the Honble Commissioners of H.M. Navy that Mr. Thomas M. Copelston served on board H.M.'s. Ship Utrecht under my command from the 2nd day of November 1805 to the date hereof as Master's Mate during which time he behaved himself with diligence and sobriety and was always obedient at Command. Given under my Hand on board H.M. Ship Utrecht in the Downes this 23rd day of Dec^r 1805. Thos. C. Seccombe, Captain.

By Thomas Seccombe, Esq., Captain of H.M.'s. Ship Utrecht and Junior Officer of H.M. Ships and Vessels in the Downes.

There being no Master on board H.M. Bomb Vessel Explosion, you are hereby required and directed to repair on board that vessel and act as Master of her till farther orders. Given on board the Utrecht in the Downes 23rd Dec^r 1805. Thos. C. Seccombe

Mr. Thomas Mitchell Coppelstone Midshipman of H.M. Ship Utrecht, hereby appointed to act as Master of H.M. Bomb Vessel Explosion till farther orders. date? (1806)

THOMAS MITCHELL COPPLESTONE, Master, RN

Bapt. 22 June 1777, Stoke Damerel, Devon, son of Thomas, baker and Elizabeth

Married Sarah ^{Edmonston, wid.} b.1804 ~~(b.1804)~~ Son George Horatio b.1805 'London/Middx' (Mitchell)
✓ 1 other child

PCC Admon: June 1820 Thomas Mitchell Copplestone. On the 13th day Administration of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of Thomas Mitchell Copplestone late of the Island of Guernsey and a Master in the Royal Navy dec'd was granted to Sarah Copplestone widow the lawful relict of the said dec'd having been first sworn by Comon duty to Administrator. Sub £40

Information found at PRO, Kew :

ADM 11/5 Analysis of Masters' Half Pay. p.85. Sloop 6. Thos.M. Coppelstone 16 April 1806. 'Horatio' 29 November 1809 (see p.174). Dismissed His Majesty's Service for neglect of duty and disobedience in the Horatio. First sentence of Court Martial 10 September 1810. Re-instated 22 July 1812 - see Admiralty Order with qualification. p.174. HP Childers. 6 July 1812. Thos.M. Coppelstone 22 July 1812 - from p.85.

Childers 1 August 1812
March 1815

Volcano
21 June 1815

DD 19 August 1820
Widow's letter

26th? August 1815 arrested
for debt

ADM 6/132 Seniority List. 16 April 1806 Ariadne. Vestal 5 May 1809. Horatio 29 Nov 1809 (writing after this looks like 'Mr.R.Curtis')

ADM 13/103 Courts Martial. 1810 September 10. Coppelstone, Thos. Mitchell Acting Master 'Horatio'. Charge: Neglect of duty and Disobedience of Orders. Dismissed H.M. Service.

ADM 51/2456 Captain's Log 'Horatio'. Friday 1st September 1809. Joined the ship Mr. Thos. Michail Copplestone Master. August 9 1810 Mr. T.M. Coppelstone Master order under confinement for neglect of duty. *Sprightly 21.7.1791*

Ships: 1806 Ariadne 16.4. 21.6.1815 Volcano
5.8.1809 Vestal 1816 Hyacinth
1.12.1809 Horatio 1818 Tortoise
1.8.1812 Childers 1818-20 Wolf X
1814 Malabar?

ADM 51/2246 Captain's Log 'Childers'. 1812, John Bedford Commander. Thursday 6th August. Joined the ship as Master Mr. Tho. Mitchell Coppleston.

ADM 52/4443 Master's Log 'Childers'. 4 Logs: 6.8.1812-31.1.1813; 1.2.1813-6.8.1813; 7.8.1813-30.1.1814; 1.2.1814-6.8.1814 - written by Thos. Mitchell Copplestone.

ADM 51/2954 Captain's Log 'Volcano'. Saturday 26 August 1815 AM Warrant Officers at Dockyard settling their accompts. (Portsmouth?)

ADM 51/3591 Captain's Log 'Wolf'. Tues 1st Feb 1820. Returned the Hulk to the charge of the Warrant Officers. (No mention of T.M.C. found in this log).

~~Is it merely coincidence that a Thomas Copplestone had the Half Moon Inn in Devonport in 1793 (T.M.C. would have been 21); the Alexander & Roxanna in Plymouth in 1802 and the White Horse Inn, Kensington Road, Islington in 1811 - bearing in mind that 1811 was the year between TMC's dismissal and reinstatement and that George Horatio, his son, was born 'London/Middx' in 1805?~~

~~Is the reason that his Admon gives him as 'late of the Island of Guernsey' the fact that he and/or his wife lived with George Horatio, who seems to have been in Guernsey at that time? Did Sarah live with her son while TMC was at sea? -~~

~~(George Horatio only 14 in 1820.)~~

~~Many sources at Kew have been searched for TMC's papers without success, - neither has the letter of his widow (August 1820) been found.~~ Found,