

MARRIAGES IN THE 1870's - 1880's from the GRO

<u>Year</u>	<u>Mtr.</u>	<u>Name & Spelling variation</u>	<u>Place</u>
1877	Sept Dec	Margaret Anne John Alice Mary Matilda Jane Herbert Frederick Albert Thomas Eliza Joy Chas. Christopher Elizabeth Wilinda Louisa Ellen Benjamin John Charlotte George James Clara Amy Elizabeth Emily Nathaniel Edwin William Harry Robert John Fanny Louisa Mary Ellen Christopher Florence Jane William Henry Herbert William Elizabeth Sarah Jane Benjamin John H.	Edmonton Cheltenham Credition Honiton Portsea Richmond, S Nantwich Alverstoke Lambeth Brighton Weymouth Penzance Plympton St. Thomas Portsea Newton Abbot Tiverton Bethnal Green Woolwich Hackney Holsworthy Nottingham ** Stroud Lambeth Portsea Kingston Marylebone Fulham Liskeard Newton Abbot Portsea Liskeard Portsea
1880	Mar	(e) (ppe) (e) (ppe) "	
1881	June Sept Dec Mar June Sept	" (ppe) (e) (ppe) "	
1882	Mar	" (e) (ppe) "	
	Sept Dec	" "	

* Dau. of Samuel Wesley C.

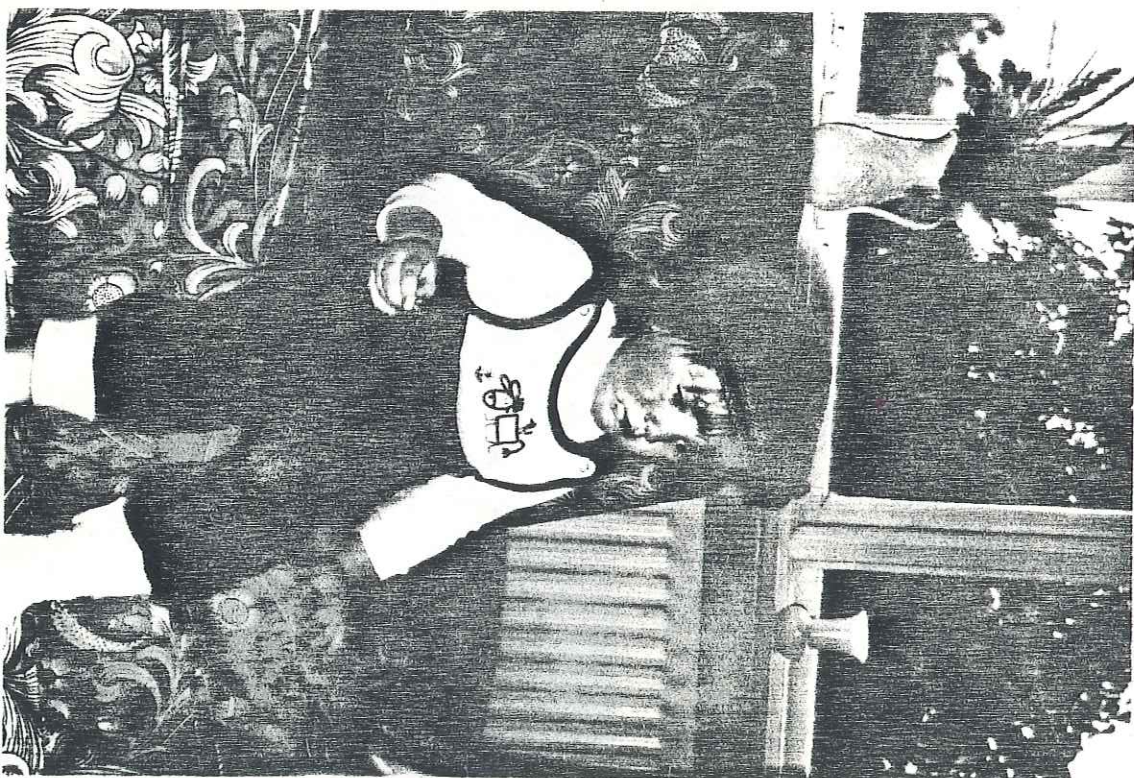
** Gt-Gfr. of Christine Mulvaney - went to Canada.

300 years earlier, Anne, dau John Copleston was christened at St. Botolph, Bishopsgate in the City of London 21 October 1583. John Copleston son of John, Esq. was baptised Morwenstow Church 9 Aug 1581. Elizabeth Copleston and Hugh Earth were married at Exeter in 1584.

THE COPLESTON FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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MISS LAURA COPPLESTONE - LIVER BIRD!

Our Cover Girl is Laura, daughter of Stephen and Margaret Coplestone of Crosby, Liverpool. On 29th August Laura gained a brother, Andrew - congratulations!

On September 11th was born Paul James Reson, first grandchild of your Editor, son of Michael and Esther, who weighed in at 8 lbs 14 ozs. He is $\frac{1}{8}$ Copleston and combines Irish, English, French and German blood with Canadian connections. Andrew weighed 8 lbs 12 ozs, so this year's boys have a good start.

Christine Mulvaney, née Copleston, appears below with son Matthew, who will have a brother or sister in October.

The parents of David Copleston in Guilden Sutton, John Edwin and Gwendoline, celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on June 27th and received a telegram from the Queen. Special congratulations to them.

Will those of you with special anniversaries and other events coming along, write and tell me so that they get early coverage? Sometimes announcements are late, particularly since the Newsletter is quarterly. Thank you!



THANKS. - to Hermione for sending a copy of the 1591 Will of Thomas Coplestone, widow of Richard of Woodland; also for making a visit to Woodland, where she met the present owners (it is not, after all, for sale) who seem to be doing a wonderful restoration job on the house. It is hoped that Woodland will be a guest house - in which case it would be an ideal place to stay if we have another gathering to 'do' Bideford, Alverdiscott, the Torringtons and Morwenstow.

- to David and Ruth for having discovered that John Copleston of Eggesford's father-in-law, Sir George Beeston, was "a pretty remarkable chap, since he was knighted for his services at the Armada at the age of 92 and lived to be about 103"; he adds "Pretty good for those days don't you think?" Indeed, I do! Thanks to Ruth also for pics taken at the gathering.

- to Michael and Eileen at Silverton and Reg and Olive, Hadleigh, for pictures from the same event. (The album of family pictures progresses well - can those of you of whom I don't have pictures please send one?)

- to Fred Filby, of whom most of you will not have heard, but whose help in connection with the Family Newsletter has been enormous and whose services to family history in general are inestimable. The Filby Family have their gatherings at Filby in Norfolk and like our own, are a far-flung people. The Guild of One-Name Studies owes much to him, as do other organisations in the genealogical field. This is a "thank you" long overdue to a modest and dedicated gentleman.

- to members of my local Waltham Forest Family History Society who pick up odd references to Cop(p)leston(e)s whilst doing their own searching. We in the WFFHS have recently completed the recording of monumental inscriptions in the churchyard of St. Peter's in the Forest (Epping Forest) - the worst part comes next, the making of the plan, for the graves are higgledy-piggledy and not in nice straight lines! We visited the Newspaper Library at Colindale recently, which was a help to a number of members.

Fine Rolls Vol. 14. May 20 1418 Westminster: Commitment of the office of the escheatry in the counties of Devon and Cornwall to John Copleston the younger, during pleasure, so that he answer at the Exchequer of the issues thereof. Order to all persons of the said counties to be intendant to the said John as escheator. Order to John Jaybyn, late escheator, to deliver to the said John Copleston by indenture the rolls, writs, memoranda and all other things relating to the said office.

Patent Rolls, Hen VI. 1 Sept 1422 West'r: Appointment of John Copleston the younger and Walter Colles, clerk, to let to farm or to approve all castles, lordships, manors, lands & tenements, chaces, warrens and the agistments of all parks, being in the king's hands by reason of the non-age of Thomas son & heir of Hugh Courtenay kt., earl of Devon, tenant in chief of Henry V, saying sufficient pasture for the deer in the parks; also to take into the king's hands all wardships, marriages, reliefs, knights' fees, escheats and forfeitures belonging to the king for the same reason.

24 Nov 1422 West'r: Appointment, during pleasure, of John Copleston of the co. of Devon, the younger and Thomas Congreve, to be receivers-general of the Duchy of Cornwall in all counties of England, without the counties of Cornwall and Devon, receiving in that office £20 yearly. The like within the said counties with the usual fees. The like of the same to be stewards of the said duchy within the county of Devon and wardens of the stannary in the said county, receiving in that office £20 yearly.

Transactions of the Devon Assn. Vol. 35: On 30 August 1435 Nicholas Radford and John Copleston were returned as members for the county of Devon. A few days after their election they were appointed "Commissioners of our Lord the King by virtue of Letters Patent" to superintend the collection of one entire fifteenth and one tenth from the laity in Devon granted by Parliament 14 Henry VI. They were several times employed in this work. In Easter 1438 they "as Knights of the Shire" superintended a Lay Subsidy and in 18 Henry VI (1439-40) an "Alien Subsidy" for Devon when all foreigners were taxed. One of the documents relating to this subsidy is endorsed: "Nobis Johanni Copleston et Nicho Radeford apud Croydon die jovis in vigilia Sancti Bartholomei" (23.6.1440).

Wot an incurious lot you are! Doesn't anyone want to know about the possibility mentioned in the very last sentence on page 12 of the last Newsletter? I'll tell you anyway!

Taking part in the 1585 Roanoke Voyage was the Lion, which a storm forced onto the north shore of Jamaica. Since the captain was low on supplies of food, he put 20 soldiers ashore to find food for themselves and chased off after Grenville. It seems that half the men stayed on the shore and starved to death (which seems ridiculous with such lush vegetation around); the rest, under Captain John Copeltope (who could very well have been a Copleston(e), since we find no trace of the name 'Copeltope' anywhere) went into the interior and were heard of no more. * Two of these were 'rescued' by the Spaniards.

Much as I'd like, I haven't time to research this, so if any of you are interested in the Virginia adventures, perhaps you could investigate.

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Through Vera Toettcher I am in touch with other descendants of Samuel Wesley Copleston, another of the sons of William and Nanny. Christopher Copleston of Colchester, son of "W.H." (William Horace) of whom we all know through his searches; his Mother Ada (I'm told that she is 96 this year!) and sister Catherine (Kit) in Priddy Green, near Wells. Christopher's wife, Viviane, was a de Carteret of Jersey before her marriage. Just before 'going to press' I have heard from Kit that Christopher is hospitalised and I'm sure you will all join with me in wishing him a good recovery.

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First prize for cacti and succulents at Shrewsbury Show was won - again - this year by Leonard Coplestone. He obviously gives as devoted attention to the plants as he does to the study of our family history. (David spotted this news in his paper and sent it on.) Two plants given to me on my visit to Shrewsbury still flourish - in fact threaten to take over the flat!

"A HISTORY OF CHAGFORD" by Jane Hayter-Hames
Published by Phillimore & Co. Ltd. 1981

I was delighted earlier this year to receive from Rev. William Bulley, Rector of Chagford, a subscription to the above book which has just been published and want to record my appreciation of the gift and of the book itself, which I am sure every member of the family will enjoy.

In her Introduction Miss Hayter-Hames records her indebtedness to Mrs. Winifred Osborne (some of us had the pleasure of meeting her during the Gathering), who asked her to complete the project for which the late Francis Osborne had collected material.

From the description of Devon as it was 400 million years ago to the present century, the story of Chagford unfolds in a very readable manner - the day the book arrived I was about to go out, but could not put the book down and remained at home until I had read it through.

For people searching families in this lovely part of Devon there are a wealth of names and descriptions of their homes. There are chapters on the Church, Tin Mining in the Teign Valley and on various well-known families connected with Chagford over the centuries, including our own. Pedigrees of Prouz, de Chagford and Wibbery, Bonville and Copleston(e) are shown and there is an extremely good selection of pictures of Chagford past and present. Included is one of Bellacouch, which was probably built by the Coplestons and is presently the home of Mrs. Osborne.

There are lists of Rectors, Medieval Rectors and Patrons; the Protestation Returns 1642 and the 1840 Tithe Commutation are given and there is a most interesting chapter on the Hayter and Hames families of the author, who is Chagford born. A Bibliography, Index and List of subscribers complete this book, of which is said rightly on the dust cover "... this is a book to own, not a book to borrow!"

THE AT ST. MARY'S, TAMERTON FOI IOT

Having heard from Hermione that there had been a fire at the Church I wrote Pip Bebbington, whom many of you met at Tamerton Foliot, but he had already written to tell me about it and our letters crossed. The fire occurred on Friday night, 18th September and the roof of the nave and part of the roof of the north aisle were destroyed. "Fortunately the 15th century roof bosses survived intact and John and Susanna Coplestons memorial on the wall of the north aisle is unaffected apart from smoke." The estimated £100,000 cost of restoration is substantially covered by insurance. We are again obliged to our good friend for his thoughtfulness in assuring us that the memorial is safe, but I'm sure you will all be sorry to hear of the fire. He also mentions that the History of the Church is going to the printers, including, he hopes, several pictures of the fire-damage. It should be ready for sale before Christmas.

Apologies for the quality of the pictures on pp 1&2. My usual printer of the cover is no longer doing copy-printing and while searching for someone who uses this method, this issue cover is photocopied.

The females in the family having mentioned that the males have their ties showing our Arms, but that we have nothing, I have been thinking about the possibility of a bookplate, which everyone can use. In the September "Swinerton Family History" is shown a bookplate used by Rev. Henry Ulyate Swinerton in the States, which looks very handsome with Arms, Crest and Motto. If sufficient numbers of you are interested in the idea we can investigate. With a fairly large order it should not be too expensive. A bookplate by a Thomas Copleston is mentioned in the British Library Catalogue - I will look at this.

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It is sub renewal time for those who have not re-membered! New members and those joining us during the year or who have contributed for more than one year, please ignore.

A kind gentleman in the PRO suggested I refer to John Weaver's 'Ancient Funeral Monuments' in the British Library, the which I did. Fascinating 'though this old book is, the only reference I found was "Necessaries for the creation of an Herald of Armes, Booke, sword, letters P., a Collar of SS of silver, to put about his neck, bowle of wine to poure on his head, which Bowle the new Herald is to have. His coat of Armes which must be Satten embroidered and enriched with gold. The King or Earl Marshall putteth the Collar of SS about his neck, whereby he is created an Esquire ...". Nothing about spurs - and I don't think any of our forbears were Heralds, or we'd know about it, but it is interesting to note the creation of esquires with the giving of the Collar, for L.G.Pine states in his "Story of Titles" that one of the types of esquire is created in this fashion.

I wonder if, as Professor Hoskins suggests in "Devon", our early family members might have been 'represented in the Exon Domesday under the misleading label of villani'? He states also that "The Coplestons were seated on their estate of that name as early as Henry II's time", but I think he is accepting Pole's word for this. I know of no earlier mention of the family than the witnessing of the Grant of Wootton by William de Copleston in 1241.

In a paper read at Tavistock in 1914 (Transactions of the Devon Association, Vol.46), interesting theories are given. Firstly that the Camelford of the Saxon Chronicle, assumed to be in Cornwall, might have been Keymelford, only a couple of miles from Copplestone and that the Copelanstun may have been carved and erected after the battle between the Welsh and the men of Devon' in 823. Secondly, that it has even greater antiquity and might have been set up as a memorial of the great event of 743 when 'Aethelbald, king of the Mercians and Cuthred, king of the West Saxons, fought against the Welsh' (A.S.Chron.)

Even earlier, were our ancestors occupying any of the mysterious Nymeds/Nymets in this geographical centre of Devonshire? The Sacred Woods fire the imagination! I have yet to identify Adam de Broadnymet who lived at the same time as Adam de Copleston - could they be one and the same?

You will remember Rebecca's Will, reproduced in Newsletter No. 9. I made the wrong guess as to her identity, having looked too hard through the Visitations and missing her altogether. She was of the Bowden family, sister to Thomas Bowden, MP for Callington from 1719 to 1754.

Visits to Somerset House are bringing the Wills index closer to completion. Into which family, I wonder, will go Nellie Copplestone of Dawna, St. Winnow, spr.d. 10.12.1900. Admon to Wm. Henry C., farmer - and William C. of St. Winnow, engineer, d. 23.5.1903 with admon to the same Wm. Henry? Wm. Copleston of Albert Street, St. Albans, Herts, beerhouse keeper d. 5.2.1893-admon to widow Elizabeth. Elizabeth d. 21.3.1904 at 29 Church St., St. Albans; probate to H.J. Paul & H. Evans, carpenters. John Copplestone of Fore-st, Sidmouth, greengrocer d. 23.1.1895. Probate London to Edith Melhuish Cooper, wife of Robt. Cooper. Herbert Copplestone of 43 Upper High St., Taunton, gent d. 8.2.1905. Probate to Fred C. & Wm. Joseph C., bakers.

If any of these names are familiar, please let me know.

Two first visits have been made to source libraries; the India Office Library in Blackfriars Road has a department containing East India Company records most helpful to those whose forbears served in various capacities in the Company, including baptisms, marriages and burials in the three big Presidencies, cadet papers giving birth, parentage and other details and books covering every aspect of the Company.

The Methodist Library at Southlands College, Wimbledon is a mine of information since it contains a run of magazines from the late 18th, Minutes from inception, books and pamphlets from almost every county on the growth and progress of the Methodist Church and many other interesting sources of information.

In both these Libraries the staff are kind and very helpful. In future visits to the latter Library I hope to supplement the information already given by Mr. Leary, the Methodist Archivist in Manchester.

CORRESPONDENCE

Reciprocal research continues to be rewarding, both in the giving and the receiving of information. I sent Mr. Clay of Wiveliscombe notes on his wife's ancestor, Rev. Thomas Cornthwaite of Hackney St. John and he mentioned when replying that he was at school (Lancing) with a J.A. Coplestone whose father was a Doctor in Leeds. My gr-gr-grandfather, William Copleston, was a printer in Leeds and Christine's family have been there for some time, but the 'e' denotes another branch - does this 'strike a chord' with anyone?

Col. Iain Swinnerton was recently in Beverley Minster and noted in the War Memorial Chapel: Pte. W. Copleston, Royal Marines, 1914-18 War. Killed in Action. I have Army and Navy deaths in my index, but until now no Marines and I wonder if any of you know of him?

A short letter from Barry Coplestone of Natick, Mass., arrived in July informing me that he was coming to this country on vacation and has relatives in London, Devon and other parts of England and would try to contact me - so far I have not heard and do hope he doesn't go home without getting in touch! I wrote him long ago, but had not heard until this letter. Perhaps he descends from Edwin, whose father, Lancelot, was a bookkeeper in Franklin, Mass. in 1878 when Edwin was born and who was himself born in Wrentham, Mass. in 1859? The present Utah family descend, also Dorothy Marie Brittain in Calif.

Elsie Forrest of Clarkston, Glasgow (granddaughter of Benjamin C. and Mary Ann Bott) visited Penzance this summer and also saw her brother Alexander at Plymouth (he lives in Abbotskerswell).

Reg & Olive, Harold & Eileen are in the south of France for two months until early November. Mick and Colin and family have vacationed in Devon. (A recent evening spent with the latter and their cousin, Peter was uproarious, with everyone drinking wine from the Copleston Grace Cup!)

Sue Read of the Crediton Country Courier wrote enclosing the issue of August 4th with picture and article on the Rev. Elsie Chamberlain of Chulmleigh Congregational Church was pleased to have Rev. John's sermon.

SEARCHING IN ALL DIRECTIONS

There are so many sources in London that one is inclined to take advantage of them all and in so doing, become like Jack of all trades who was master of none. I have amassed a large amount of information about the family from the 13th to the present day, but it has become obvious that before doing anything else I should have completed the extraction of births, marriages and deaths from the GRO, Wills from Somerset House and entries from Kelly's and other directories.

With all this information indexed I shall be able to do a lot more searching without leaving home! Here is a 'for instance':

I had the birth of John Bartlett Coplestone in Liskeard in the December qtr of 1854 and because of the connection with the Bartletts in Bideford, was interested in finding more about him. In my Will index I have Henry Coplestone, late of Liskeard, basket maker, d. 23 May 1882. The Will was proved at Bodmin by John Bartlett Coplestone of 10 Tav Vale Parade, Barnstaple, Pianoforte Dealer, the son, the sole Exor.

My index of Directory Entries shows J.B. as Pianoforte Dealer in Barnstaple in 1882 and much later in London between 1923 and 1930 as a Piano Importer in Wardour St and later at 38 Berners Street, with (F.M. Copleston) beside his name.

I then looked for a marriage and found that he wed in Lewisham in the Dec qtr of 1876. Back in my Will index I found that J.B.C. of 7 Palace Grove, Bromley, Kent, d. 4 Dec 1924 and that administration of his effects was given to Florence Mason Coplestone, widow. 'F.M. Copleston' above was, then, his wife.

These are the bare bones, but we have birth, occupation, marriage and death - the next thing is to look for children, when time permits.

In Kelly's 1908 is 'Copleston, Piano Player Makers, 85 Newman St. W.' and 'Copleston & Co. Piano Player Makers, 95 Regent St. W.' t/a "Stercopian", 1913. With the different name spelling I do not think this is John Bartlett - but who is it, then?

If anyone recollects relatives having this kind of connection, please tell me about it, or if you have heard a relative mention that a cousin imported pianos.

Perhaps while extracting the rest of the GRO names I should contact some more Coplestones in the London area.