



Taken from James Claypoole's Letter Book circa 1681



Color Rendition by artist Phil Wilson - 2003

(Heralds' College, K. I. p219.)

“The Grant of Arms to Cleypole – To all and Singular, as well as Nobles & Gentlemen as others to whom these presents shall come. Rob' Cook, Esq' ats Clarencieux Principal Herald and King of Arms of the East South and West parts of this realm of England from the River Trent Southwards sendeth Greeting.

“Whereas anciently from the beginning the valiant & vertuous Acts of worthy persons have been comended to the World with sundry Monuments and Remembrances of their good deserts, amongst the which the chiefest and most usual hath been the bearing of Signs in Shields called Arms, which are evident Demonstrations of Prowess and Valoir diverslye distributed according to the qualities and deserts of the persons meriting the same, to the entent Y' such as by their vertues do show forth to the advancement of the common weale the shine of their good life and conversation in daily practise of things worthy and commendable, being the right and perfect tokens of a Noble disposition, may therefore receive due Honor in their lives, and also derive the same successively to their posteritie after them, and being credibly informed not only by common renown but also by report of divers Gentlemen worthy of Credit that JAMES CLEPOLE of Norborow in the County of Northampton gent hath long continued in virtue and in all his affairs hath so vertuously behaved himself that he hath well deserved and is worthy to be from henceforth admitted accepted and received into the number of other ancient Gentlemen.

“For remembrance where if I said Clarencieux King of Arms have by power and Authorite to my office annexed & granted by Letters of Patent under the great Seal of England, devysed & ordained & assigned unto and for the said James Clepole the Arms and Crest hereafter following.

“That is to say The fylde gold, a Chevron of Azure between three Roundles, or otherwise in blazon Horts, and to his Crest upon the helme on a Wreath of gold and Azure, out of a Crowne, a flower de luce Silver, Mantled gules doubled Silver, as more plainly appeareth in this margent.

“To have and to hold the said Armes and Crest to the said James Clepole, Gentleman and to his posteritie, with their due differences and they the same to use and enjoy for ever without impediment lett or Interruption of any person or persons according to the antient Laws of Arms. In witness whereof I the said Clarencieux King of Arms have sett hereunto my hand and seale of office the 17th day of June in the year of our Lord God 1583 and in the 25 year reign of our most sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth etcth.

“Signed Robt Cooke alias Clarencieux Roy Dames.”

“Transcribed from y^e Original Grant in the hands of George Leafield of Longthorpe, Esq', produced at Peterborough 26 July A^o 1681 and compared therwith by me

“Gre^{vy} King Rougedragon”

*The above was taken from **Genealogy of the Claypool Family of Philadelphia** by Rebecca Graff*