

Rowe Alfred	Head.	M.M. 60.	Farmer	Mixed farm.
" Wilhelmina	Wife.	F.M. 64. 11. 9.	Homemaker	
Dixon <del>Dixon</del> Simonnete	G. Dau.	F.S. 17.	None /yes/	
Facey Levi	G/Son	M.S. 9.		
Rowe Avis	G/Dau.	M.S. 6.		
" Lucy	"	F.S. 5.		
Thompson Lucy	"	F.S. 3.		

## First visit

26.IV. 47.

J.O. + T.O. right

"Rowe Town"

~~Rowe~~ Alfred Rowe's house is on the left side of the road, in Wilson's Valley. It is below the turning of the road between Top Warsop and Bottom Warsop, opposite to Eva Murray's house /which is to the right from the road/.

The whole place is called in the village "Rowe Town" - from the people who ~~used to~~ live here. Besides the old Alfred Rowe ~~there~~ some of his offspring built their houses nearby and live in close neighbourhood with the father and, as it seems in a sort of family community. A little up, nearer to the road there ~~is~~ are buildings where Palmer Rueben, Alfred Rowe's son-in-law, and Aneta Rueben, his daughter, live with all their family. A little "down" ~~there~~ there is the farm, where his two sons: Egbert and Adonijah Rowe have their house.

We visited this family compound in presence of the old Alfred Rowe, ~~and~~ his daughter Aneta Palmer, and ~~her~~ Sylvester /?/ Palmer, her son. These ~~were~~ acted as our informants, collectively or in turn.

Alfred Rowe, the founder of Rowe Town. worked

He was ~~working~~ in Allsides and for Mr. Hendricks. for Sir Archibald

Alfred Rowe was not born in Warsop. He came here from St. Elizabeth, where he was born. He was an orphan. "My father dead me baby." His mother had little land. He went to Warsop, where already his uncle was staying. He came here "to make living" and stayed here for ever. "Me love the place, me stopped here. Up here it is different place - fruitful."

He settled down in Warsop about 40 years ago - right on the spot where he lives to-day. He bought 1/2 acre of land and built the house. The land was bought from Simian Murray. All the land around was at that time in Murrays' hands. "Murrays people around here." He married and "make a living here." For the land he bought he paid Simian Murray 50 shillings. The land at that time was £.5 an acre.

History of his property. and land prices now and in the past.

Half an acre he bought 40 years ago ~~was~~ and is the only land he has. He never bought more. "Me never buy more." The land to-day is far more expensive than it was years ago. "To-day a stretch of land cost almost as a mule. She /his daughter/ paid £.10 one stretch of land. It was an acre in old time."

His family in St. Elizabeth and here.

His mother died in St. Elizabeth 12 years ago. He has no brothers, no sisters in Warsop. His uncle "Uncle Almy" did not stay here - he went back to St. Elizabeth. Richard Rowe was his name. He is "dead - buried in St. Elizabeth." No children of Uncle Almy stayed in Warsop. After his death "some his son sell the home and went ~~to~~ live in Manchester."







~~His membership in the Baptist Church goes back to~~

Alfred Rowe's mother and father were Baptists too. He himself was "an officer in the Church" for many years. /He was the deacon/. Now he is ill and can not longer held this dignity. ~~That~~ He cannot even go to the Church. "This time me cant go. But the Minister come me"/to visit him/.

Old age and sickness.

Alfred Rowe does not know ~~his~~ exactly his age, but he is an old man. "I dont directly know my age. Age paper is St. Elizabeth. How can I guess it?". He estimates his age at about 65. He is ill now for several years. Suffers of reumathism and is half paralysed. He cannot go without a stick and sometimes must be led and supported by other people. "I cant describe my poorness. to you. 4 years I taken disease. Reumatic pain. Cant go. Anybody lead me - and stick to help. Poor man me." The picknies who live on the farm will soon burry him. The tombs near his house are those of his dead children - "two me picknies dead in the tomb - son and daughter."

Life in olden times and now.

The life is hard now. It was easier when he was a young man. The land was cheaper and everything was cheaper too. Previously they paid 2/6d. for a yard of cloth, and now it costs 6/. a yard. "Fancy Mrs. you offer 3/. for a yard just to make a patch" instead of buying sufficient amount to make a new suit. And there is plenty of people to live on the same land on which only a few people lived previously. His daughter has plenty of children: "have a quantity of them." "Three baby at one time she had." /Aneta Palmer/.

Comment on our ~~work~~ work.

Alfred Row asked us what for "this census is taken." We answered it is no census at all, but people in England and elsewhere want to know how people live in their country, in order to know what help must be given to them.

"Me soon dead - said Alfred Rowe - but I wish the Gentleman and the Lady what they do will bring some benefit to other

*people here.*



hel

Alfred and Wilmena Rowe:

23.6.47

Date.

I found Mr. Rowe in the kitchen beating oil nut in a mortar. I saw Mrs. Rowe standing at the door of the kitchen and from the time I descended the path leading to her house she never took her eyes off me until I reached where she was standing. They are a very friendly pair.

Maud Brissett  
Fredriana Plummer and her  
self among  
others

History of Anglican Church: "We are the first one carry Church of England to Warsop through me teacher. It was a old shop used as a School and Parson use to come and keep Open Air Meetin we did have some converted people who use to help with the church an' it wwan so tell Parson Lynch put up that rich Church you see there."

Baptist Church: It was a Society for the old people. The people carry stone and partly built the church themselves. Even now them carrying stone big and small, them going to lay some foundation or other.

Mrs. Rowe does not know her age as a guide she said "Meanwhile me in a School, free School come in, my mother used to pay 3d a week fo' me".

Illigitimate,

Children: First child Nathaniel Smith. When asked how she felt when she knew she was going to have a child she said "Me was a little girl under me parents, and them did 'trick' and miserable, so me wasn't glad me was more fretful, but them didn't turn me out, me was a pet, an you no the one gal pickney in a the yard me was a pet them didn't illtreat me". I asked her about Nathaniel's father and she said "Well trick in trade material in business. Is me true loving cousin, Richard Smith, him was fretful but not so bad because them talk over it and every body cometo live peacefully because him was a obedient man. Him was one pretty sambo man. I asked her them if she loved him and she replied laughing "The first man mek you know what worl' give you would a mus' love him".

Richard Smith second child. "Me never fretful with this one because it would a better fe me have it fe the same man, an' me live in all the time. I sue to go to fe him home and him use to come to mine because we was family. Him married long time but him dead now. Suppose you see him brown pickney them?"

could

On 24.6.47. while conversing on a different topic Mrs. Rowe suddenly said that she can remember some things which happened long ago. "Some time them pickney see me laugh them don't know is what. I was a tattler when I was small when me Aunt come in from groun' I always tell her every ting that happen, so the other pickney them never like me. Me cousin (Richard Smith) was a youngester and I was a young lady - when I remember of them thin I have to laugh. One day I did have on a clean white dress and I went down to the spring for water and when I stoop down my dress was in the water but I didn't know, him sit down onside an look pon me them him say "Look how Dot sit down with her frock in the water" by this time we no 'gree, and when me realise that is me him a talk to me laugh. When me go home w me say Auntie Cousin a joke with me an she say "mus' be because you a get big", an we go on until I have 2 pickney fe him.

Husband

23.6.47 I asked her how she met her husband. She told me that her husband came from St. Elizabeth "Him come here come see me with 2 pickney, one a them a suck, I was still green an him was

green



Dale.

MARRY the first man, and all the same the man did not married to her. I am not sorry because the ~~the~~ man take sick afterwards. My husband did not marry me same time, but him promise, him is a man go and come, and him leave me at my mother home and go and work money and come back, then he became aliver here, afterward we married He was helping Postman before Royal Mail.

Legitimate Children: Josephine Rowe. She died at about 17. "You can call it child's birth, because she say she go have pickney, and as she take in to have the baby she had fits, and she died. Me quarrell when ~~me~~ find out that she was going to have a child, but what me was to do me could not kill her?"

Dilon Rowe: (last one) died at 13. "Him just take dick, him was a good educated boy. Every pickney mehawe grow in the Sunday School Before the child's death he was taken to the doctor, his father ~~he~~ carried him on his back.

Ada Baker (Mrs) is the first child. "You know what first pickney vgive, obedient, she was a church lady and nice to me. ~~so~~ as much as you see the yard rough and stay, when the pickney them married ishere it keep up". Mrs. Baker does not have any children. After my talk with the mother I was told by one of the sisters that she has adopted several children.

Aneta Palmer (Mrs) She has 9 sions and 2 daughters. "She had 3 girls one time and God take them back as them reach 6 months. That time the Government did not have any train nurse and Rebecca Foster the old Nana who just dead last year attended her. Cubba attended her with the other one them but she did goge out so we get the other one".

Adina Rowe: Has 6 children, 1 by ~~Facey~~ Facey, 1 by Dixon, and 4 by Rutty She is now living at Allsides with Rutty. "Dina had her first child when she was going to school, not School but Sunday School, the fellow come here but him could not come and stop because we were cross parents, but them meet on the road. When shehad the second one we never so like it, me did want to break up the friendship rather than push it on, and the man never own the pickney. The first one him (Facey) did want to live sweetheart life and we would not allow it. Rutty promise to marry her. When she leave here she go and live with her sister Mrs. Baker while she was there she had 2 pickney for Rutty, afterward she leave the sister and go and live with the man at allsides - she never leave my home direct to live with him. Diana have bad luck, poor thing, him meager in the sin, owing to that she does not have any pluck.

Egbert Rowe: Egbert is married and lives close to his mother's home. "Him did live with Theressa (wife) before ~~them~~ married, but not for long because he knows shame and he was fretful and him did want to go the church and all that". Adonijah and Egbert live in the same house.

Martha Wilmouth: Mrs. Wilmouth paid a visit to her mother while I was there, her mother askd her for her ring and she said "People hate me because me have on the two ring, so me keep my finger empty, them no like me, so it better all of us do without. Them too grudgeful, as me married two time them have it to say that me @ evil" Speaking to me Mrs Rowe said "Them is convert you know mam but them will not do God work. First time when any body say anything ~~to~~ them they would just suck them teeth but now them is toe to toe." Mrs. Wilmouth said that she was very sickly "I cant keep no health before me did have the first pickney me was quite healthy, but since me stop me cant keep any health. I am sure if I have more pickney I will be more healthy. Martha then told me that she had her first child at about 15, I asked her how her mother found out. I did not know

/about



25.6.47.

Dale

Parents and  
Children are  
Baptist except  
Mrs. Baker.

THEM won't do God work, firs' time when anybody say anyt'ing 'bout them them would a jus' suck them teet' an' go but now them a toe to toe" / Mrs. Wilmoth said that she was very sickly "I can' keep no health', before me did have the firs' pickney me was quite healthy, but since me stop me can' keep no health. I sure if I have more pickney I wil' more healthy" Martha then told me that she had her first child at about 15. I asked her how her mother found out, she said "I didn' know that I would have a pickney so quick, as you know, you have gal fren, an' you may not see anyt'ing them month an you tell you fren and that fren tell another one till it scatter over the distric' an' it scandalise till me mother fin' out, then she carry me to midwife and fin' out fe herself. The man Arthur Palmer, hide himself say him fraid fe Dr. bill, but him worse than me today becay' him a walk with stick. She said she was not afraid when she was about to have the child "God put it and God take it out".

First Marriage  
(First husband's name)

Martha's first husband - Houston: Martha met her first husband in Warsop, he is really from Albert Town, when I asked her if she loved him, she said "Some time some a the man them love the woman more than how the woman love them and when you know say "Bitter ~~groun'~~ groun' can' bear pumpkin" you jus' have to combine. From his coming here him give me the words of marriage him never take it back and him die with the love". After 1 year and 5 mos. of marriage life Houston died, he got a cut from a maschett and was blood poisoned.

Martha's second marriage: Mr. Wilmouth and Martha have been married "December gone 1 year " When I asked her where they met she said "The truth is the truth, him could a be me firs' husban' him was talking to me long ago, but thorough freckle mind we leav' out one abother, and me find another man and married, and him go and live with a woman, and them have 4 children. After me husban' dead him come back again and married to me same one". I then asked her which one she loved more, her reply was "The two a them good this one little bit better than the firs' one because him have him own little piece o' lan' " She evaded the question of love altogether, or perhaps she did not hear what I said. She went on to tell me that she would like to have a child for her husband "all my working is in vain but if me have one fe him an me dead him wil' get what me work fo' then me work won't be in vain." Martha has 2 of Wilmouth's children living with her and also her son.

Viola Thompson (Mrs) Viola had 2 children before she was married Mrs. R. said "The man come and ask fo' her but I never particular fe them married because the man is a adventist me na tell no lie 'pon them him did really come in boldly an' ask fe her but a me never like i". All her children are Thompson's. (4) She is now expecting another. When she entered the kitchen where her mother was boiling castor oil her mother said "Mine you eye you no Vie". she replied "tha's alright". /

Family life:

Other information: / Mrs. Rowe said "You see we have manners fo' one another jus' as the pickney them say Auntie Vie or Sister Martha me say the same. The pickney them good, you ha' you pickney them wha God gi' you, God know wha' Him do, son-in-law an' son tumble down in a me groun' fe work wuppose me didn' have them. You wan' see all when Christmas come, everybody roun' me them only wan' hear say me head a hurt me every body come roun' me.

Church affairs: "Erskine was a nice man but them give him a bad name, this Minister wife leave him fo' about 2 year, but him good though, some other man would a devote/her" One of the daughters then said. "No minister can' get devotion"

There is a be-  
lief that if  
some people  
especially preg-  
nant women  
look at the  
oil while it  
is being boiled  
it will either  
be spoilt or the  
beaten oil nuts  
will not yield  
the correct  
amount

/divorce

25.6.47.

Date.

It's rather interesting to note that Mrs. Rowe was engaged in sewing while looking after the castor oil, and she kept on doing her work throughout the conversation. Castor oil is now being sold at 1/6 a pint.

Mrs. Thompson started to play with Mrs. Wilmouth's pet dog, the dog licked her mouth and her sister said "Them say if dog lick you moth you wi' have toothache." "Some people say you musn' pet up dog and you no even have not'in fe give picney, but I know I see in a my fourth book that you mus be kin to dumb animal, an me love me dog".

Mrs Rowe's grandson wants to go to America and one afternoon while I was there he started to talk to her about it, so she asked him why he wanted to go away so she said "Me wi' live an' dead fe me distric', me make up me min' fe dead and berry ya".

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