

Mendez Victor	Head	M.S. 48.	Taylor	Private Estate.
" Mary	Mother	F.W. 75. 6. 1.	Retired.	
Spencer Una	Niece	F.S. 22.	Homemaker	
Swaby Millicent	"	F.S. 13.		

14.5.47.

Mrs. Mendez,  
mother of Victor  
Mendez. *y.o.*

Family origins.

Mrs. Mendez was not born in Warsop. She is ~~from~~ from Mandeville. She came to Warsop on a family visit to see and stay with his grandfather. She met Mr. Mendez here, married him and remained in Warsop for ever. She has now in Mandeville two daughters. They are "domestics". One of them married. Both have sons, who went 3 years ago to U.S. and still stay there.

Mrs. Mendez's grandfather was a proprietor of big property in Warsop. /retreat/. The size of the property was 120 acres and it extended from Rockspring till a "over here". He was also the bookkeeper in Allsides. Worked in Allsides and ~~was~~ cultivated his land.

His house was on the same spot ~~where~~ where to-day Mrs. Maud Brisset's house stand. The old grandfather's house was smashed by the hurricane in 1903, when the old Wesleyan Church was blown by the wind too. She lived at that time in her own marital house which was where our house is to-day. Her house fell down too in the storm. She moved from that place to the place where she lives to-day. ~~It did not belong to her at that time. She rented it as she rents now.~~

Her grandfather Sinclair had many children and many grandchildren: "plenty, plenty of them". The land passed to them after her grandfather's death and partly ~~was~~ was sold to other people. She has to-day no land of her own and lives on the rented land.

The most precious  
of the  
family.

I visited Mendezes seeing them almost all the afternoon idle and just engaged into looking around, meeting friends passing by the road, talking and laughing. I thought they will be inclined to have a talk with me. Unfortunately they were so eager to impress me with their parrot that it was difficult to keep to any other subject.

Mr. Mendez wanted ~~to~~ me to hear all the human voices which his parrot can produce. He made his "Pretty" to say "thank" and then tried to incite her to call "calvin", ~~xi~~ "vin", "willy", "yuta" and many others. Pretty was undisposed and was dropping constantly into more natural voices. "You shame me, Pretty; you make me, Pretty, ashamed" repeated Mr. Mendez. Miss ~~who~~ who is the woman he lives with was helping in other way. She stood on the top of the hill in front of the house and shouted aloud ~~intaxxvillagaxfer~~ as she would like it to be heard in Allsides all the calls which probably constituted the ordinary set in which Pretty was trained. She did nothing all the time and replaced casual talks with casual passers-by by this more purposeful occupation. ~~Mrx~~ Old Mother Mendez did not take part in this ~~parrot~~ parrot pageant, but stood near-by and looked at the scene with satisfaction and ~~prax~~ pride. Everybody seemed to share the same feelings with her.



Mendezes /victor and his mother/

Pretty is 3 years old and Mr. Mendez boasted that he ~~paid~~ paid for the bird 5 shillings when he bought him. Pretty was taken just from the nest. He is attached to Mr. Mendez. To demonstrate this Mr. Mendez petted the bird for a while and then left it, going away and causing by this a whole cascade of terrific cries of the ~~bird~~ parrot. ~~Praxxy~~ He is not afraid of loosing him - Pretty will never ~~leave~~ leave him. He gets out from the cage by himself, sits on the cage and climbs over the door. When Mr. Mendez is working in the shop Pretty cries after him and comes to see him in his hut. "I like him" - said Mr. Mendez. "He makes me jokeful. I like it."

During the ~~day~~ the night Pretty stays home in his cage, but ~~during~~ all the day his cage is hanging in front of the house and everybody can admire Pretty and compliment his owners. Mendezes are very touchy upon the interest paid by visitors to the bird and first time when I visited ~~their~~ their place, their immediate reaction was to take off the cage and to bring it to me to show the parrot.

Their houses.

Mendezes have two buildings on their place: one is a wattle house in which the family lives. Another is a thatch house which is Mr. ~~Mendez~~ Mendez's shop. He does his tayloring here.

The living house looks old and shacked. The inside is poor too. Newspaper walls, an old and slightly ~~broken~~ bent table with mixed crockery, a bed. Some kitchen utensils. Near-by is the kitchen: wattle building almost without walls and with a thin thatch roof.

Mr. Victor's shop ~~is~~ hardly can be recognised as taylor's workshop. It is bent ~~and~~ with ~~holes~~ built ~~in~~ over one side and ~~in~~ the roof leaks through. ~~It~~

Mr. Mendez was busy for the last two days with mending the roof and covering it with a new thach. He made some bundles of the "weir. grass" /?/ ~~and~~ and covered with them the lower parts of the roof. Then a boy was sent over the roof to cover ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~material~~ all the surface of the roof with coconut leaves. Then he covered the ridge with the "roots" of foxtail grass. To-day Mr. Mendez passed some time during the day in plaiting the coconut leaves. The plaiting will ~~provide~~ be put under the "roots" which were placed yesterday on the roof. They will provide better covering against the rain then leaves which are unplaited. Mr. Mendez estimates that the thatch will ~~stand~~ stand now any rain "for years" - he thinks it will be Three years.

The "weir" grass, used for the thatch was growing everywhere previously, when all the place around was under the forest. To-day they must buy it from people ~~who~~ on whose land it grows. They do not buy "fox-tail". One get it for nothing from the neighbours. Coconut leaves are from the palms which grow on Mr. Mendez's rented land.

Taylor's work.

For three days at least Mr. Mendez does no tayloring. The roof was leaking and he stopped his work. He is engaged now in reaping the roof and the walls of his shop. There are many pauses in this work, but something is done evryday.