

ExDx C.D. 12. Sbd. 28 hh. 30.

Education

W.1.		Brooks Luther	Head	M.M.	40	St. Eliz.	Black.	Angl.	Farmer
no		" Adelaide	wife	F.M.	35.	10.3.	" colbured.	"	homenak.
W.1.		" Stanley	son	M.S.	19	"	"	"	farm lab
W.1.		" Charles	"	M.S.	17	"	"	"	farm lab.
W.2.		" Varona	dau	F.S.	15	"	"	"	none
W.2.	3 E.	" Alice	dau	F.S.	13	"	"	"	
W.1.	3 E.	" Hixford	son	M.S.	9	"	"	"	
		" Lineva	dau	F.S.	6	"	"	"	
		" Othniel	son	M.S.	2	"	"	"	

Form 3. Under one acre.

1 donkey, 5 ackee trees, 4 avocado, 1 bread fruit, 1 coconut  
5 mangoes, 1 naseberry.

The house and farm is adjoining to the path which divides Top Bull Savannah and Tad Town. (Tad Town on the left hand side going to Ballards Valley). It is also the last house in Bull Savannah, the next house lower down belongs already to Ballards Valley.

Information from Stanley Brooks and a man about 30 who gave his name as Crawford. He said he lived with his uncle Luther Brooks and that he and Stanley were half-brothers - the same mother but different fathers. He does not figure in the census. Mrs. R. says she thinks he came from Manchester, but Crawford said his father and himself were born in Bull Savannah. Perhaps they emigrated and he came back later - if he is the same.

They said there were 12 persons in the family on 3 1/2 acres of land (in census less than 1 acre). They plant tomatoes for the factory. Yams only for own use. Both boys go fishing. Crawford learned fishing from his uncle (Luther Brooks?) Stanley learned this trade from Crawford. Crawford says it is not worth while to work in the factory. They pay 2/6 or 3/- "according to your size and you have to feed yourself out of it". They derive their income - apart from agriculture from fishing. They do not own boats but go as ~~xxxxxxx~~ one of the crew of four (the owner of the boat included) Crawford goes every second day: on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The boat is in Alligator Pond. He starts at midnight and comes back at about 9 a.m. Nets are left for one week or more (?) The catch is divided: 1/2 goes to the owner and the other half divided equally among the 3 of the crew. There are 5 persons who own boats in Bull Savannah: 2 Roys, Johnson, Powell and...?. About 14 persons from Bull Savannah are fishermen. They go either to Alligator Pond or Little Pedro. There are about 40 boats in All. Pond and about 60 in Little Pedro. Last time Crawford went fishing his share was 3/4. But sometimes he makes £3 - £4 a week. The fish are bought by a "Syrian Jew from Kingston. The owner of the beach in All. Pond is Samson. He charges 3d. each time the boat goes fishing. The owner of the beach in Little Pedro is Eliot Pens (?). Mr. Crawford does not read and could not spell the name). He lives in Ballards Valley, has a shop there which he rents out. He charges every boat 1/- per month.

Fishing

Wednesday .  
28. 4. 43.  
D. B.

Interviewed Luther Brooks.

Meaning of my visit.

"Wha ' this mean ? Me na tell me name so quick .  
We no wan me name put down in a no book . Suppose a any  
thing fe sen' me a prison. When people come from yonder  
come ya come hear we business them carry i' go aboad go  
expose. We na hear fe them business a foreign . England  
in a the fault , a him gi' them chance fe come ya come  
hear everythin' bout Jamaica"

"If a man even thief any thing ya them caan get way  
people from Europe ha' fe come ya come hear every thin' .  
When them thief any thing over dey , we in Jamaica na  
hear bout".

Tobacco.

Asked about the tomato crop he said he does not  
plant so much tomato, for it does not pay so much. He  
prefers the tobacco, because when he plants tobacco he  
can cultivate his other things, such as cassava, peas,  
and yams. When he plants tomatohe cannot cultivate those  
things. "Some people mus'a fin' i' better fe plant the  
tomato".

No News .

"Na go any further for me no see through i' . Me no  
understand i' , i' kinda cow me . Me stop right wey me  
dey . You should a get a big pay for wha' you dey do .  
Wha ' money you get you spen' right ya , but them other  
carry fe them go a Europe.

"Me parents them name Simpson , them dead before  
me born . That deytime them no did ha' name like we  
them name Cubena , and Cubba".

~~XX~~

"Gain and Abel older and them mother, for them born  
before them mother . All the same me na interfere with  
the business , for me no understand i' . Me ha' fe con-  
sider me min' before me can tell you any thing bout me-  
self . Me ha' fe see one a the book before me tell you  
any thing".

Monday .  
3. 5. 48.  
D. B.

Interviewed Luther Brooks and Verona Brooks.

Paying another visit to Luther I found him in his kitchen . His daughter Verona was in the kitchen sewing , also Ardel Brooks was sewing too . There was another boy sitting in the kitchen who gave his name as "Quako" . About three or four smaller children were in the kitchen sitting down.

Luther told me he was very tired as he has been working very hard "from morning " . Asked what he was doing , he has been considering the whole day "considering ~~that~~ hard, hard. If you go a England dey now you see the King dey consider , or any way him deyhim dey consider this asx hard as meself " .

"Me dey consider how fe make life easier that is how fe get money . If me ha' money life wop' hard , but all the consider me dey consider me caan fin no way fe make it easier". Just then one of the little children began to cry Luther said "a fraid him belly fraid you know make him dey bawl . Fe me belly dey ya fraid too , come no gi' me wha you car ' fe me make me gi' the pickney , for him belly fraid".

Asked what he meant by the belly fraid he said "a hungry him hungry and him belly get fraid " . Luther was out to create humour rather than to necessary informations. Asking how many children he has , "me ha<sup>2</sup> a whole host wey them own 'pon me and a no fe me , and me own a whole lot wey a no fe me . Them wey them own 'ponn me and a nofe me x name Dick , Tom , and Harry " .

Verona said her father has twelve children . Luther said " two and a half x a them dead and me x you mus' subtract two and a half from twelve and the answer will tell you how much a them living".

Three people live in the house and "all the balance live outside round the house for the house too little i' caan hole . Them wey live in a the house name -Fun , Joke and Side". There is another little house close to the bigger house , Luther lives in the two houses at the same time . "Me occupy the two x a them one time , sleep in a the two : them one time " .

His wife was not at home. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ "Me see me wife a Wasop , me court him a Buck-up , me married him a Fur-enough , and bring him come Near-enough". He does not know how much the house cost him to build it . "Me never set down wha, me spend , when me want piece a board me go long go buy i' and when that done and me want one nether piece me go long go buy i' . So me no know how much it cost." "Me couldnt tell you when me build it " .

give the /

"Me na trouble the something dey yafor me no understand i' , me doubt i' , me caan see through i' at all , me na trouble i' . Me no know me mother nor me father them dead me tell you long time before me born ".

"The tobacco wey you see dey a no fe me, me tell you me no plant a thing at all , me no cultivate me no do nothing but consider all day long . You know wha' make a tell you the truth I doubt da something deyfor I dont know if the Government know bout this business and when I go tell you any thing bout the parish I may go expose wha' the Government don' wan to expose ., and tha time them car' i' gone abroad ".

" This ya parish too poor i' shouldnt even dey 'pon the map . A only fourteen Parish them should a ha' , i' too poor them better take i' off the map . We fe keep fe we poorness ya and no make i' go abroad . If any good even fe come out a hit me caan k help if me no get any , but me no feel that we should a tell out every thing 'bout weself so , for we down a this ya part too poor ".

Verona.

Verona has a child for Galbert Elliott from Ballards Valley . Verona does not sleep at her parents' home at night she sleeps at Ballards Valley . Her parents home is too small so she has to go there to sleep . Asked if the child's father is supporting it Verona was just going to answer when Luther said "you remember the little boy and his mother when them go to court and the judge ask him a question , the mother say, tun you mouth boy, tun you mouth " . As Luther said that Verona stopped .

Church .

Luther used to go to church , but he has stopped . "Me na go back neither for them no help you when you go dey . Them only read bible and them no explain any thing to you them no tell you of you danger and help you fe understand wha' you read . Them read and when them done read them shut up the bible and preach . So with that me na go back , me we stan' home ya read and try fe understand wha' me read . Them ha' some much denomination now that you don' know which one fe follow , so me na follow none . Me stan' a me house and read " .

"Them ha' one wey say you no ha' no soul then if you no ha' soul you can live any way and do any thing for you no ha' no soul fe save . But me no believe that any thing can go so" .

Thursday .  
13. 5. 48.  
D. B .

- 5 -

Family Record 2

Interviewed Luther Brooks.

Again I visited Luther , and he invited me right into his kitchen . In the kitchen his wife Adelaide was sitting down , Verona his daughter was sewing a little cap for her baby . A man who gave his name as Stanley Smith , but is known as Cleveland Mx McDonald was standing at the door, while some children were playing in the kitchen on the ground .

Luther was happy to report that "me mad from you leave ya last time . Look dey now , he pointed to two children who were playing on the ground , them dey two mad , see them dey rool 'pon dutty " .

Asked Stanley where he is from ? "Me come from Tadd Town", ~~xxxx~~ Luther put in to say "and him dey go a frog town now " . Luther started to sing "bow down to wood and stone " . He stopped and said "the African them poor old African " .

He does not know how long he has been married , "mus'e long time ago , long before Tipperary come in . Caan even tell you if a did married before , only if me married in a dream" .

"Some a the pickney them a two score year , some one and a half score and some one score year old . Me no know how old me is for when me born me see a owl " . He and his wife had a discussion a few ~~days~~ days ago about how old each was . "Me wife say him younger than me , and me say me younger than him , and that talking cause a run ~~off~~ on that cause me fe run off . The run off cause me fe shut me mouth , so me finish " .

"Me no ha' children , me ha' some boy ya from them born them a man . Me never adopt any children, me more fe chap them" .

"Me neither buy land nor inherit it , me this take it . Me no ha ' any house , me live right 'pon the piece a board that me sit down 'pon ya , and them other one live out dey so , he pointed to several places outside . But stop, me no know wey them other one live , because me sleep in ya and when me gone to bed me know wey them other one goto " .

"Me no know how much children me parents ha' for when me born some born before me and me no know who them belong to , whether a fe me parents or not" .

His house..

"House ? Me no ha' no house a one ol' man name , me no 'member him name , when me ask him fe him name him gone to and fro" .

~~Me no ha' no sto~~

ha' /

"Me neither ha' horse, cow , sheep goat nor nothing at all , me/one piece a board ".

Luther alone contributes to the house hold . "We ha' fe go a shop every minute a the day . One pound a week wouldnt be enough fe spend a the shop , but through me wages so small we ha' fe satisfy wid 3d a week , so through that everything come small".

"All me do fe a living isfe carr'water from ~~spring~~ spring fe sell , ten miles \* farthing a pan in a gode . Me do it every other day . Me life poor , me x strength weak, when me get the 1/2 d all mecansay is ggod-bye " Adelaide , Luther's wife was about to tell how much is spent at the shop , but Luther hinted "you 'member the woman and the pinkney when him say tan you mouth boy , tun you mouth". As Adelaide heard that she changed the argument , and said make Luther tell you ya me no know a how much meself me ha' fe x spend".

a bush /

"Me , me never go a school at all me and the teacher use to hide/, the teacher did name Duncan Slash . Me no ha a thing fe save out a the 1/2 d wey me get fe wages . It too small so it make me get tall".

Adelaide .

Adelaide does straw plaiting for aliving . She was able to speak freely after Luther went outside . She sells her straw at sixteen yards for 4 1/2 d, and 6d when the price is up . She can plait one or two hats for the day if she spends a "good time on it " . It does not pay her so well as the straw is difficult to get .

Health .

"A hit fe one help broke we down , because we have fe spend all what did have 'pon sickness and fire burn! Last year Adelaide's mother died, her daughter Alice died within a few days after the death of the mother . Adelaide had to go the hospital to confine . "Me take in fe ha ' the baby from the Wednesday morning , and me couldnt have it . Only one hand born up x to the Thursday evening . Me had three midwife round me , but with all that them couldnt help me ".

She was taken to the hospital Thursday night , and was not attended to until late Thursday night . The Doctor had to work very hard to save her life , and it was Friday morning before she had the baby . Doctor Henriques had to take the baby or else her life would be lost.

It cost her a great deal of money for going to the Doctor and for staying at the hospital . A @ little

after she had the baby , while hse was still at the hospital her daughter Alice died , then two days after, herx mother died . Adelaide's baby was born dead.

A little labor on her kitchen was ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ destroyed by fore . For the sickness, the death and for ~~xxxx~~ rebuilding the kitchen , it cost her about £ 70. 0. 0. or more.

going /

Schooling does not cost her very much at present , she has only one little girl/~~girl~~ to school . "It cost a whole lot to clothes the children for me ha' whole a seven and meself and Luther . To buy one frock now is plenty money for things so dear now".

"Me owe £4. 0. 0. a the shop, for what me trust fe eat, and me caan save nothing out a the straw tha me plait for me caan get x nothing much out, a it . Me no ha' as much money fe lend , for me no ha' fe me self ".

Thyy have meals three times for he day sometimes , but there are times when they have ~~two~~ or one . "Some- time the food get scarce and we caan this but find one f for the day".

Sunday.  
25. 7. 48.  
D. B.

Luther Brooks : Informant - David Brooks

Present House-hold

Luther Brooks	Head	ab44
Adelaide Brooks	Wife	" 40
Stanley Brooks	Son	" 25
Charles Brooks	"	" 23
Verona Brooks	Dau.	" 21
✓ Hexford Brooks	Son	" 15
✓ Lineva Brooks	Dau.	" 11
George Brooks	Son	" 6
Merlyn Brooks	Dau.	" 3
Lauren Elliott	Gr. Dau.	" 2

10  
The House & Kitchen

completed /

Luther's house was ~~built~~ after Luther's return from Cuba. He started it before he went. The house is spanish walled, with thatched roof. House has two rooms. He also has two out rooms.

The kitchen is of a fairly large size. Like the house it is spanish walled with thatched roof. To one end of the room there is a fire place, and over that, in one corner there is a cupboard for storing things. (these were observed on one occassion when Luther was visited).

All the members of the house hold sleep in the house. David stressed the point that "a no Cuba money finish the house though".

Source of living

Luther is a cultivator, earning his living from what he plants. He does not work on partnership with any one, he does his planting by himself. He plants on his own land. The chief things he plants are tomato, cassava, and gungo peas, "and other little things that hēm dont sell".

His wife, Adelaide trades on fish at Alligator Pond. For the week she goes sometimes three or four times, according to the weather. Sometimes she pliat straw and sell. The daughter Verona does dress making, but she get more work when the crop is on. Out of crop things are very slow.

could /

Stanley, Charles and Hexford are all cultivators, working for themselves and helping their father, David ~~wether~~ whether he/or not did not give in details what and where the sons did their cultivation. He merely said



"all a them work in a the dirt for a only wha' them caan do ya".

Family History

Alice Brooks his mother dead

Charley Brooks his father dead

His mother's parents

Isabella Gayle his mother's mother

James Brown his mother's father

David does not know his father's parents, and has never heard their names.

Luther Brooks

Grew with his parents. He was sent to school, he does not know what standard he achieved to at school. "Him can do a little reading though". Luther on leaving school "turn to the soil, an' start fe cultivate". He left off the cultivating and went to Cuba. No one did not send for him, he went of himself.

He spent three years in Cuba working - "cutting down mountain n land, fe make them get fe plant. He does not know how he was paid in Cuba. He came out with a little money "but no so much, for you x no know that even if you smake i' over dey you have fe pspend i'back".

Luther got married 16 years ago to Adelaide. He had most of his children before they were married. He has one outside child by Sarah Banton, called "Sarah Beccy". The child is Neville Brooks. Neville stays at his mother's house. He visits his father sometimes, "and any thing the father havd him give him". (during interview Neville was just returning from a visit from his father's home).

the /

David unable to tell any thing more about his brother's affairs, the talk was turned to/children~~x~~ in his home.