

Present Household / as in the record/.

Francis Charles, 40
Francis Ida, wife to Charles, 38.
Dixon Edith, daughter to Ida, 18.

For particulars concerning Charles Francis' family history
see Family Record of his mother, Alice Heath, No: 48.

Interview with Ida Francis

5. 3. 48.
D. B.

Her Family .

I found Ida Francis standing at her kitchen door . I approached and said "Good morning " . She answered me coolly , and looked as if she was anxious to know what I had come about . She offered me a chair . I sat down , and she came to sit beside me under a mango tree . Ida lives at home with her husband and her daughter . Her husband Charley is 40 years old . She is 38 , and her daughter is 18 . She has a son who is 22 , but is not living there . Her husband is from "Thatch Walk " . She is from Valley . She came to live here after she was married .

Husband's Parents

His mother is alive . She is Alice Heath . She is from "Thatch Walk " . His father -is dead she does not know about him only that he is from "Thatch Walk " too .

Ida's

~~Wife's~~ Parents .

Ida's mother died when she was a little girl . In the time of the "Flu " . It was a terrible time " Ma " . I hear dat a lady lose three sons one Ma " , dat was very hard . Ida's father died from a lame leg . Mother and father are from "Valley " .

Her Daughter .

Edith her daughter was born at "Valley " and came to live here when a little girl . Her Father is fro, "Valley " . He is now loving at Tryal " another District . She was not sent to school . I am too poor . Ida says . She mus' help me work.

Occupation .

Charley is a cultivator . He plants corn, cassava , and tomato . He was never employed . neither employs anyone . Works "day for day" with his neighbours . Only a small portion of his produce is sold . The balance is used for home . Ida said her husband is not a fisherman , because he cannot swim . " Sea no ha 'no tree" Ma" ef yu' aan swim "Ma" better yu' stay a lan' , life sweet" Ida works at home very hard . She bakes bammy . Has to buy cassava sometimes . Cannot get as much from what you plant . She bought a large quantity this morning . She has to work hard on it to get it to take to Little Pedro in the morning . It pays well . Can be sold one for a 3d . She buys cassava at 1/- to 2/- per lb. . Edith helps me every day . I could not do without her , she is my right hand .

Religion .

Ida and her family go to the Anglican church .

"Would never join the church , but go when I can" she
said . "People get drunk too often . Join me heart"
Ida said . "All sorts of meeting these days .
Everybody keeps own society . This one loves this ,
the other one loves that . Dont believe in them ."
"Anglican is the strongest in the district ."

Friday .
12. 3. 48.
D. B.

4-5

Family Record 46.

Interview with Ida Francis and Charley.

I had another talk with Ida Francis. We talked about her life in Ballards Valley before she met and married Charley Francis. She had two children with Dixon, but she did not marry the children's father.

The Father of her children before she married.

^{Dixon} He realized that Ida was not wealthy. Seeing another girl that had a little money, he married her instead. He thought he would be getting some money. But he was disappointed. He got nothing. Ida thinks he regrets his marriage to the girl. He has never maintained their children. Once Ida got one shilling to buy a dress for the girl, when she was a little child. It was not sufficient. One shilling could buy one yard, and one yard could not make a dress. He was never asked for maintainance.

The girl whom she had with Dixon lives now with them. The boy had his own house in Ballards Valley. Sometimes he comes to visit his mother and stepfather. When he is coming he takes a little present for them.

Her trade

She does cassava for a living. The cassava flour is made into bammies. One bummy can be sold for a 2s 3d. Cassava is very expensive. One cwt. costs 10/-. The trade does not pay so well. The most profit that is made is 2/6. If a portion is taken out of the amount that is bought to make dinner, only one shilling profit is made. Though it does not pay so well, the trade is continued. She likes to be doing something. It helps in some way, though small.

Father and step-children.

I had also a short talk with Charley Francis. As a child he was sent to school. He was naughty and would not go. He met M Ida in Ballards Valley. After courting her, they were married lawfully. He loves Ida's children very much. Ida says "the children can do anything with him, partaking any thing that belongs to him in his absence or presence."

Information from Lilian Powell.
 Interv. Charlie Francis.
 18.6.48.
 J.O. 25.8.48.

Present household.

Francis Charlie, 40.
 Francis Ida, wife, 37.
 Dickson Edith, ~~an~~ Ida's daughter, 18.

Charlie Francis: father Theodore Francis /Th. Walk/, mother Alice Heath, Th. W. One of his 3 half brothers Leonard Elliott lives in Th. W. with the mother, ~~two~~ ~~an-~~ ~~other:~~ Eustace Christopher /Boage; and Bellagh ~~-xawayx~~ ~~Unknown where~~ the third one, unknown where.

in

Ida Francis, nee Spence. Father Joseph Spence /d/, mother Beatrix Spence /d/, both from Ballard's Valley. Her 3 brothers and one sister live in Ballard's Valley. Ida had 4 children, only two alive. Her daughter Edith lives with her. Her son Bertie Dickson is in Ballard's Valley. They have one half sister through the father: Sylvia Dickson, living in B. Valley. Their father ~~former~~ Alan Dickson lives in B. Valley.

House, land, farming etc.

House: 1 room. Kitchen. Latrine. Furniture: 2 beds, 3 tables, 2 chairs. Tank.
 Land: 1/4 acre owned by Charlie Francis, given to him by his mother Alice Heath.
 Trees: 2 mangoes, 1 coconut, 1 grape.
 Tomatoes: now none. Yams: 10 hills. Congo none /now/.
 Animals: 1 pig, 1 cat.
 Weekly spendings: 20/-. £10 for clothes last year.
 £6 spent on medical treatm. for Edith Dickson last year.
 Religion - none.