

C.D. 22. Sbd. 8. Household 53.

14.19

Simpson	Sarah	Head	F.W.	75	9.7	St. Eliz.	Colour.	angl.	X homemaker
"	Crafton	son	M.S.	26		"	"	"	X farmer
Ford	Lydia	ad.dau.	F.S.	23		"	"	"	W.3. none
Simpson	Sydney	gr.son	M.S.	3		"	"	"	
"	Thelma	gr.da	F.S.	2		"	"	"	
"	Harvey	gr.son	M.S.	8		"	"	"	
"	Delrick	gr.da	F.S.	9		"	"	"	W.1. 3.E.
"	Wilfred	gr.son	M.S.	2/12		"	"	"	

Farm of Crafton Simpson in 1942.

tenant

Operates this farmland as ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ for 9 years.

~~XXXXX~~ The owner of the land is Simpson Sarah - his mother.

Total acreage 25 and 1/4 ac. in 2 parcels: 6 and 19 and 1/4 resp.

Chief produce - tomatoes - tobacco.

Does not employ labour.

Works 46 weeks p.a.

Pays for the land in kind. Lease 12 months.

6 acres in cultivation, 4 ac. cultivable but not used. 9 ac. pasture, /guinea grass 3 ac. common grass 2 ac. other past. grass - 4 ac./

5 ac. woodlands used as pasture. 1 ac and 1/4 other.

Total farm value L 120, value of buildings L 5

1 catchemnt.

Cultivations: 0.5 ac. tomatoes = 5800 lbs. 2 ackees = 13 heaps, 5 avocados = 40 doz, 8 bread- fruits = 48 doz. 1 coconut = 50 nts. 6 mangoes = 975 doz. 4 naseberries = 586 doz. 9 pimento = 83 lbs.

1 and 1/2 ac. congo peas = 15 bushels. 2 and 1/2 ac. cassava = 9800 lbs. 1/4 ac. sweet potatoes = 240 lbs. 1/2 ac. yellow yams = 1815 lbs. 1/2 ac. tobacco = 230 lbs.

Stock: 3 goats, 3 swine, 1 hen = 6 doz. eggs.

25 acres
- 12 -
13.
The 12 acres
belong to two
brothers living
separately
see FRs 156 & 157

Inform. Dudley Simpson.
13.3.48.
J.O.

Sarah Simpson.
Her late husband
Robert Simpson.

"Sarah Simpson was the wife of Robert Simpson. Him was relative to Simpson in Top Shaddock Hill. Izan Simpson call him uncle."

"The husband was Simpson - he died years ago. She is from Rochester. Call him father "Uncle Nun." Uncle Nun - living over there. Uncle Nun them son is: James Rochester, ~~Harv~~ Haaron Rochester - over there on the top, and one son Hendry Rochester, but him die. Uncle Nun - him have lots of daughter, cant even name some of daughter."

Her sons: Crafton,
James, Wilbert.

Three sons of Sarah Simpson are living in Bottom. One, Crafton, lives in the same yard with his mother, but in a separate house. Another, James, lives in his one house in close vicinity to his mother's place. The third, Wilbert, lives ~~somewhere~~ a bit further, up on the hill.

All the family is living on the "old father's land." "All of them live on the land left ~~them~~ by their father."

Inform. Dudley Simpson.
19.4.48.
J.O.

Sarah Simpson -
her parentage.
Her husband.

Sarah Simpson's maiden name is Rochester. She was an outside daughter of a Rochester who was known in the district under his nickname "Uncle None" ..

"Her father is Uncle None. He was living that home that Mrs. Fedrica Thompson is living now. I dont know her mother. She wasnt for the wife of Uncle None. Uncle None got her from a next woman."

"She was Sarah Rochester first - she marry to Simpson."

"Her husband - we call that man Dicky. Dicky was from Bottom. He was some relation to old Daniel Simpson, Izan Simpson's father."

Their children.

1. James Simpson - he is "the first child." See ~~xxxx~~ Family Record 156.
2. "Belle" - she is the second child: "she marry up into St. Mary district."
3. Martha - "she is Izan Simpson wife." See Family Record 61.
- ~~xxxx~~ 4. Wilbert - see Fam. Rec. 157.
- ~~xxxx~~ 5. Hilda - "marry to Annas Dyer." See ~~xxxx~~ Family Record 153.
6. Egbert. "He died some years ago. He died young - in my age"/laugh/.
7. Estelle - now in Kingston.
8. Crafton - with Sarah Simpson, his mother.

Present household.

James Simpson and Wilbert Simpson, two eldest sons of Sarah Simpsons, are living in their separate homes, besides Sara Simpson's house. See Fa. Records 156 and 157.

Crafton, his wife Lydia Ford. Their children.

The youngest son alive is Crafton Simpson. He stays with his mother. "Crafton still living in the same yard with old Sarah Simpson. Crafton and his wife."

"His wife - we call the girl "Shaggy". She is the daughter of Preston Ford and Dorothy Brooks in Ridge."

"They have a few children. They have something like 5 children or more."

Sarah Simpson's grandson by Estelle.

Nobody else living in this household. Only: "Sarah Simpson daughter, Estelle, - she have one boy that staying with her mother - a school age boy."

Other children. Their career.

Other children. Egbert died. "Hilda marry to Annas Dyer, outer Ridge." Wilbert and James in their separate homes with their families.

Estelle: "She is now living in Kingston. She have more children, but only one living with the grandmother. She and her husband not moving so well, they separate. Her husband is a Kingston man. Dont know his name. The boy staying with Sarah - her grandson - is by Estella's husband. She doing now a little higglering: come down to the country and buy and go back and sell."

Belle: "She marry in St. Mary district. She marry two time and two husband die. Dont know how many chuldren she have - I know of one boy she have."

"A Hewitt was the last husband. The husband leave her in the home. She marry in the first husband home and the first husband die. And the next husband marry in the first husband home. And then he die. And so she still living in the first husband home."

Visit at home. Inter. Sarah Simpson, Lydia Ford,
Mavis Jacobs.

28.6.48.
T.O.

Old Mrs. Sarah Simpson was sitting on a low bench under the mango tree in company of her daughter-in-law Lydia Ford. They were shelling french beans. On another bench a young woman was pleating. She was Mavis Jacobs. A lot of small children were running about.

The housing. The old two-room house belongs to Sarah Simpson. It was built by her late husband Richard Simpson. The kitchen in a separate all thatch building is rather quaint. It has a sort of "verandah" made of sticks. In the house lives Sarah Simpson with two grannies (children of her youngest son Crafton and Lydia Ford) and lodgers: Reggie Swaby with his C.L. wife Mavis Jacobs and their children Etheline and Dony. Crafton Simpson with his wife and 4 children lives in a newer house nearby to which a small "outhouse" is attached - it serves as a buttery. The three women use one kitchen.

Between the kitchen and the old house there is a big "donkey house" the only one I have seen in Bull. Sav. It has a thatched roof and "walls" made of thick sticks. Behind the old house there is a very small thatch structure. This is the "pig house" also the only one in B. Sav. (as far as I know)

Present household. At present cooking in the same kitchen

Living in the new house:

outside children?
also Powell

Simpson	Crafton	32	farmer	head	M.cl.
Ford	Lydia	28	homemak.	wife	F.cl.
Powell	Mervin	13	at school	step-son	with mgt. grandparent
Simpson	Melva	12	" "	daughter	
"	Sidney	9	" "	son	
"	Evax	4	†	daughter	

Living in the old house:

Simpson	Sarah	83 +	working at home	widow
"	Thelma	67+		gr.dau.
"	Wilfred	5 +		gr.son

9 persons

and lodgers:

Swaby	Reggy	32	cultivator	M.Cl.	head
Jacobs	Mavis	27	homemaker	F.Cl.	wife
Swaby	Etheline	4			dau.
"	Dony	2			son

As Reggie Swaby & Family are not living here permanently and plan to move soon to Dunder Hill where they are building a house on an acre of land bought from Neil, they are under a separate Fam. Rec. No 160.

Sarah Simpson

She is a very old woman and a little deaf. Some of my questions were shouted to her by the daughter in law. She was very willing however to talk. We reckoned her age in the following way: she said she was 24 when she married. "I marry when I was 24. For two years after I marry I didn't have any pickeny. The first one was James." Lydia said James was 57 now, so we calculated it - everybody the two young women, the two young men and myself making the sums. When Sarah heard she must be 83 she said she must be much more, but she didn't know really accurately.

Sarah said her mother's name was Elizabeth Elliott "Father Aaron Rochester and mother Elizabeth Elliott from Ballards Valley, family to Charlie Elliott. Charlie Elliot him die last year. He was shaky before he die." (Charles Elliot was the father of Moses Elliott F.R. 21) However ~~xxx~~ when I checked later the name of Sarah's mother in F.R. of Sarah's sisters and brothers it was Ann from Rochester family born in Green Olive. This has to be investigated again. Either Sarah gave me the name of her grandmother, or she was the child of Aaron Rochester in some other union. Sarah however said that her full brothers and sisters were: "Mehalda marry Thompson, Charlie Thompson and Peggy marry Freddy Thompson. Two sisters marry two brothers live here in Bottom. Judith Moses Elliott wife and Ellen Dyer. James Rochester and Aaron Rochester. And others them die. I am the oldest of the daughters, the living ones." (She omitted Jane Powell who is alive).

When Sarah was a young girl in her mother's home there was a church already in Bull-Savannah "I was a member" she said proudly. However Sarah didn't go to the Sabbath school nor to the daily school. "My mother too poor to send me. Father die and leave her with plenty pickeny. She had it hard, had to work hard and I help her." Sarah remembered however the names of the teachers: "There was teacher Blake and teacher Mense, ~~and~~ the old teachers them die. Then it was teacher Blythe and now instituted teacher another teacher" (She didn't remember the name of the present teacher Millard.) Sarah didn't learn to read. Her mother taught her the little prayer "Pray mamma etc" (See Village Life No) which Sarah in turn is teaching now her grandchildren who stay with her.

Her husband Richard Simpson. When she was 24 she married Richard Simpson. He was the son of Robert Simpson and Ellen from Holness family. Robert Simpson lived in the house

Ellen

in Shaddock Hill with his wife ~~xxxxxx~~ where Lena Holness lives now. Richard got from his father "This land in Bottom and built the house here." "Richard's brothers, Tommy Simpson, Alec Simspn and Robert Simpson. Them all dead now". Sarah knew also her husband's paternal grandfather Thomas Simpson. "Thomas Simpson Trip - a little nickname." Thomas Simpson was also the father of Daniel the father of Izan. "Izan he is to call me aunt. Him marry my daughter Martha." Sarah also spoke of "Aunty Sue" After a long genealogical disscussion we placed aunty Sue as one of old Thomas Trip ~~xixixix~~. She was also the mother of Robert Simpson who lives now in Shaddock Hill (F.R.39) Unfortunately I couldn't find out what was the reason why Sarah wanted to speak about aunty Sue. Perhaps talking of the older generation she focussed her memory on those people who belonged to it. Its with difficulty that Sarah passed from subject to subject, and although I tried not to rush the conversation she would sometimes answer a question after we passed already and were talking for a good while about something else. The younger people however wouldn't interrupt her, but only occasionally helped. There was definitely an attitude of respect towards Sarah shown by the younger people but not by the small children.

#daughters

Her widowhood. "My husband die and live me alone with the pickenjes. Died long ago. The youngest Crafton him never knew his father. Just two months." Sarah was left alone with her children . compared with her married life the time of widowhood was very hard. "I had it hard, I work hard, & in the field." Her other sons were already "big men". They worked in the fields but Sarah used to help them. "When them weed I weed with them and planting yams I work with the hoe and they come and help me in the home." I asked Sarah whether her brothers and sisters couldn't help her a little. But Sarah said they had their own families to look after. "he didn't want "To burden them". Sarah thinks that at present it is much easier to get help and assistance ~~xxo~~ from people. Not that they are better now, but "More people now more to come and help you with every little." When Sarah came to live in this place there was only one house in the immediate neighbourhood that of Mr. Dyer. And now there are in the same radius six houses. - She enumerated them to me. - The nearest shop was in Ballard's Valley and the markets in Malvern and Mandeville. They hardly ate bread, not so often as nowadays. Bammies were the staple food. Nobody went to the hospital "If you sick - just stay at home and call doctor if you can." The nearest doctors were in Mandeville and in Black River, they didn't come on visits to Bull Savannah ~~ixkaxxx~~ unless brought to a special case. Since all her children grew up Sarah feels easier. She ~~xtx~~ still works. She works in her garden, takes part in the cooking and pleats strips for hats.

The craft of pleating. After the french beans were shelled Sarah and the two young women set to pleat long tresses of silver thatch , some mixed with coconut leaves strips.

Sarah was working swiftly pleating 11 "threads". She was taught to do it not by her mother but by her husband. She said in her childhood this was not known in Bull Savannah. The parents of her husband used first to do it and sell. Now Mrs. Dyer from Chocolate Hole buys by yards. The one Sarah is doing will be paid 6d for 16 yards. Mavis was doing a simpler one which will be paid 9 d. for 40 yards. It takes Mavis 3 days to make 40 yards, of course she has some other occupations, but says she spends all the time free from home & children duties pleating.

Sarah's children "Izabelle in St. Mary. She married Plummer; Hilda Dyer don't have any pickeny; Martha married to Izan. Crafton the youngest stay with me; James and "ilbert them live here." I knew about the dispute about land between her two sons Wilbert and Crafton. Constable Holness from Chocolate Hole told me about it. "ilbert is a drunkard and a described here as unbalanced. He threatened to kill his brother and pushed the constable who came to settle the dispute. As Sarah said one of her grannies was a "bad boy" I asked her which one of her sons was a bad boy. But she said there were no bad boys among her children. She obviously didn't want to tell about the family dispute. (James the eldest is 57, Crafton the youngest 32. For others is resp. F.R.)

Her grandchildren.

Except Hilda Dyer all Sarah's children have children. The youngest son Crafton lives in common household but separate house. However two of his children The 6 yrs old Thelma and 5 yrs old Wilfred sleep with the grandmother Both Lydia and Sarah said Wilfred was a bad boy, introduced so the little boy demonstrated at once his "badness". His sister Thelma was eating a sweet I gave her and he snatched it from Thelma and gave her a kick. Reprimanded by the grandmother he went to the house took a machette and was waving it dangerously near other small children. Sarah says she teaches them "manners" and also taught them the little prayer which they say every evening. Thelma ~~shyly stammered~~ shyly stammered the prayer with the assistance of all present. When I gave sweets to the children Sarah insisted that every one says "Thank you Missis" and saw/that every child said it.

/to it

Her daughter in law and sharing household. I told Sarah that in all countries all over the world mother in law and daughters in law don't seem to get along very well especially if they live in one household. Sarah and Lydia laughed and ~~said~~ Sarah said "We live good we never quar-

rel." The three women: Sarah Simpson, her daughter in law Lydia Ford and the lodger Mavis Jacobs all cook in the same kitchen. They say they cook even all the meals in one pot. I asked how it was possible and how they knew what part of the food each had a right to. "We look one pot" said Sarah. After the meal is cooked it is dished out by one of them - the more numerous family gets more. I asked what part each puts in the pot. "Accordingly, what we have" said Mavis. From what they said in the long conversation which ensued it seems that there is no question about the ~~xxxx~~ part of the food each has to supply. They explained they are not "mean". I do not know yet how it is with the food which has to be bought like meat, sugar etc. This I will investigate at the next visit. They all were so eager to impress me that they "live good" that I felt I wouldn't get an objective answer.

Family ties. Sarah sees seldom her brothers and sisters. She stays mostly at home but sometimes they visit each other, especially those who live in Bottom. Sarah's children come often to her. Her late husband planted for each child and for Sarah a breadfruit tree. Sarah pointed each tree and told for whom it was planted. When the trees bear the respective "owner" comes and picks the fruit.

Means of support. Sarah avoided the question of the land, perhaps because she didn't want to tell about the dispute between her two sons. The land is the same which her husband got from his father. This is divided among her sons. She didn't mention daughters. (which doesn't mean they didn't get a share too). Grafton works the land. He works also on the field of a neighbour Mr. Burnell Powell. He is working there to-day. I couldn't get a clear answer to the question whether Reggie Swaby pays any kind of rent. She kept on saying "We live good together" so I had to drop the subject. For the same reason I ~~wasn't~~ wasn't able to get a picture of how the work of the three women is divided, but will tackle it from a different angle next time. Anyhow all the household activities seem to take place in the yard of Sarah. The house of Grafton was shut and Lydia with the smaller children was at her mother in law yard. Lydia said that the three elder children Mervin, Melva and Sydney were at school.

-Sarah thanked me for the visit and invited to come again. I asked whether she was not tired after so many questions, but she said "I like to talk with you Missis". She has gentle manners and a savoir vivre which very often is lacking among middle aged women and especially young girls.

Information from Leo Johnson.
Interv. Crafton Simpson.
17.6.48.
J.O. 19.8.48.

Family Record 155.

Present household.

- Simpson Crafton, 38.
- Simpson Lydia, 27, wife.
- Simpson Sarah, 80, Crafton's mother.
- ✓ Simpson Sydney, son, 8.
- ✓ Simpson Thelma, 7 daughter.
- ✓ Simpson Wilfred, son, 4.
- ✓ Simpson Eva, daughter, 3.
- Clarke Clide, Crafton's nephew, 15.

Sarah Simpson, widow. Her maiden name is Rochester. Her husband's name was Richard Simpson. ~~xxxxxxchildrenxxxxxxCraftonxxxxxxwithxxx~~ Had 9 children, only 7 alive. ~~xxxxxx~~ Crafton stays with her, in the old Home; Wilbert lives separately in his own Home in Bottom; one of her daughters married to Izan Simpson in Shaddock Hill. For her other children see F.R.61. Her parents: Elizabeth Roye and Aaron Rochester. She was raised by her mother.

Lydia Simpson. Her parents: Ernest Ford and Dorothy Brooks in Ridge.; She has one half brother and one halfsister through father: Raphael Ford and Elsie Ford. Her full brothers and sisters /Henry, John, Erol, Charles, ~~Rahexx~~ Rebecca and Elsa Holness/ live in Ridge and Ribbit.

Marriage.Children.

Crafton and Lydia lived together for several years before they married in 1946. They had 6 children, 5 of which are alive. Four children /see the list/ staying with them; one, Melva Simpson, 11 years old, ~~is~~ is adopted by Lydia's parents and is living with them.

Outside children of Crafton and Lydia.

Crafton has two outside children: Clarence and Aldith. Their mother is Violet Dyer in Chocolate Hole.

Lydia has one outside child: Mervin Powell. His father is Esbane Powell /son of Michael Powell in Green Olive?/. Mervin is 13 years old; he was raised by his maternal grandfather Ernest Ford in Ridge.

Sarah Simpson. Sarah's parents: Elizabeth Roye and Aaron Rochester. Her brothers and sisters living in B.S.: James and Aaron Rochester /in B.S., Old Top Side/, Henry /died/, Mehala Thompson, Frederica Thompson, Judith Elliott, Fannie Thompson /died/. Her husband Richard Simpson was son of Robert and Ellen Simpson. Her children: Crafton, with her; Wilbert - in Bottom; James - in Bottom; Egbert - died; Martha - married to Izand Simpson in Shaddock Hill; Hilda Dyer /married, in Ridge/; Isobelle Plummer ~~xx~~ and Esthel Hall, both married, living in Kingston.

Clarke Clide. Clarke Clide is son of Crafton's sister Esthel Hall and William Clarke of Kingston. He is adopted by Sarah /and Crafton/, living with them, but supported by his parents.

Houses, land, farming.

~~xxxxxx~~ 2 dwelling houses, 2 rooms in each. Kitchen. Old mother with children lives in one house, Crafton and Lydia in another. Part of second house rented. 1 tank.

Land: 1.5 acre homeland bought by Sarah Simpson. The remainder of the land owned by brothers: Crafton, Wilbert, James.

Trees: breadfruit trees: "each child owns a tree"; 2 mangoes, 1 naseberry, 1 coconut, 2 pears.

Stock: 2 pigs kept by Lydia.

Religion: Sarah is Anglican.

School: Clide left school in the 6th stand. Sydney is in Bstand.