

23.3.48.
T.O.

Family Record 192

C.D.22. Sbd. 14. Household 23. p.2.line 23

Facey Ezekiel	Head	M.Cl. 55	St. Eliz. Col. Angl.	X Farmer
Bromfield Martha	wife	F.Cl. 42 1.1.	" " "	X Homemaker

His farm in 1942.

Operates this farmland as owner or part owner for 10 years.
 Owns $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres in two parcels: $1\frac{1}{2}$ & 3 ac resp.
 Main source of income mixed farming.
 No labour employed.
 Works 47 weeks p.a., 6 days per week, 8 hours per day.

2 ac. in cultivation. $1\frac{1}{2}$ cultivable but not used. $\frac{3}{4}$ ac. pasture (out of which $\frac{1}{2}$ ac in guinea grass)
 Total value of farm-£55, of buildings £20.

1catchment

Cultivations:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ ac. tomatoes - 2400 lbs.
- 2 avocados - not fruiting
- 8 bananas - 4 bunc.
- 6 coconuts - 148 nuts
- 7 mangoes - 100 doz.
- 1 naseberry - 25 doz.
- 1 pawpaw - ?
- $\frac{1}{2}$ ac. corn - 6 bushels; $\frac{1}{2}$ ac. congo peas - 4 bushels
- $\frac{1}{4}$ ac. sweet cassava - 350 lbs. $\frac{1}{4}$ ac. tobacco - 200 lbs.
- 3 sheep, 2 swine. 3 hens - 12doz eggs. (8 doz. sold).

Martha Bromfield is from Bull Savannah. She lives "on the road" near Calbert Elliott in Top Bull- Sav. She "never marry really" but had children. Her daughter married Cedrick Holness the son of Jane Holness.

Martha Bromfield was one of the very first persons who started their "business" round the factory before even the tomato season started. She was near the gate in the yard selling some ginger beer and buns. She works now at the packing house. On the days when she works only half day or on the day off, she sells "a little something to help".

Wednesday,
April 14, 1948.

-3-

Ed. F.

Family Record 192.

INTERVIEW WITH EZEKIEL FACEY.

/"choosey"

Found Ezekiel engaged in talk with two men. They were bargaining about his pig. They walked down to where the pig, a big sow was. They settled down to continued bargaining. Ezekiel, in the meantime, fed the pig with some tomatoes. The animal was rather/as to which fruits it ate. It choose only the riper ones; squashed these less ripe with ~~its~~ snout.

One of the pig buyers name was Bent. He comes from Ballards Valley. He is nicknamed Bundy. He did all the bargaining. The other man with him seemed to have been only an accompanying friend. The men seated themselves on the grass watching the pig eat.

"Well, what y'u saying uncle Zeke?" Bundy asked. Uncle Zeke (Ezekiel) replied that he had already spoken his mind. Bundy then told him that if he bought the pig for the price he had named he would loose on the transaction. Uncle Zeke ~~the~~ repeated that he had named his price, and added that he could not do any better. For a few moments silence fell on the group.

Eglon Rochester of B.B.S. joined the group, which fell to discussing Clifton's withdrawal from the George Washington pick-up business. (The Clifton referred to is Clifton Roye, who until recently was the regular driver of the pick up). Eglon said that Clifton has 2 shares in the pick-up -one share his own, and the other belonging to a woman whom has pledged the influence of her share to his interest. (I did not hear distinctly enough the name of the woman: it was not convenient to ask for it) He ridiculed Clifton for leaving off the pick-up business which is his ~~we~~ own, "to go and turn side-boy for another man." He is "a fool" -does not know what is in his own interest.

Here one of the pig buyers -the man who said little in the buying transactions, said with pointed sarcasm -"Well y'u know the higher monkey climb, the more ~~xx~~ him haas (arse) expose to the win'."

The talk turned once again to the pig buying. Bundy repeated that he could not pay what Facey was asking for the animal because he could not "make back the money." Here Eglon broke in teasingly -"Y'u know what, when y'u comin' to buy pig wear y'u worse old clothes, an' them wont sey a gal y'u a look and that y'u noh mean to buy!" This joke was accepted with a grin by everybody.

Bundy offered £9 for the sow. Ezekiel refused it. Eglon left. The group got up. They ~~want~~ returned to the vicinity of the house behind which another pig was tied ~~behind-a~~ under a mango tree.

This pig was smaller than the first. Bundy said he ~~xx~~ would pay £3 . 14/- for it. Ezekiel said he would not accept that because the pigs owner had instructed him to accept no less than £4.

The group fell silent for a little while once more. Later they were discussing some irrelevant matter, when Bundy took some currency notes from his pocket; he stretched some of them towards Ezekiel saying as he did so ~~xxxx~~ -"Alright then A will give you £3 . 16/- for the pig. He said that with an air of convincing finality. Ezekiel seemed quite impressed did not answer for a while. At last he said, ~~xxx~~ -"but what a man you are!" He seemed to be considering the proposition, and then quite definitely announced ~~xxxx~~ -"a tell y'u a can't take less than £ 4. 0. 0 for the pig; that is what its owner sey it mus' sell ~~xxxxx~~ fo'."

Bundy did not reply. He walked ~~xxx~~ towards Ezekiel who was then leaning against the wall of his house. He put one pound note and then another until he had put £4 in Ezekiel's hand. That done he put a ten shillings note. Ezekiel asked what was the tenshillings note for. Bundy told him -"a giving you £9 .10/- for the pig -the sow, and proceeded to count the other notes out. Bundy said and did that with a kind of undoing charm of manner; he looked Ezekiel understandingly in the eye as he was speaking. Ezekiel watched him lay the money down as though he (Ezekiel) was under a spell. When Bundy had finished counting the money out, Ezekiel folded it satisfyingly in his hand, remarking as he did so, -"Well sa (sir) a don't understand what kind of a man you are; is because a know y'u ~~xx~~ so well though." (He was saying that Bundy had made a good bargain with him in paying him ~~xxxxxx~~ £9 .10/- instead of £10. only because they were on friendly terms and he Ezekiel did not want to be business hard with a friend.)

Household -present.

Ezekiel lists his present household as follows:

1. Himself.
2. Miss Martha Broomfield wife c.l.
3. Cynthia Williams, dau. adopted by Miss Martha.

Cynthia is the daughter of Miss Martha's nephew Vincent Williams. Vincent has requested the adoption because ~~xxxx~~ he has ceased to share house and living with Masie Rochester the child's mother. The adoption took place either in November or December of last year.

Asked how old he was Ezekiel said -"Well sir, a really couldn't tell y'u mi right age, but a must be in mi 60. Later he said he was about 62.

Born in Ballards Valley he came to Bull Savannah about 20 years ago because he ~~was~~ "was running woman business -ruuning with woman." He added -"an' a never go back to ~~Ballard~~ Valley"-Ballards Valley. That was befor his parents died. The woman he was "running with" is Miss Martha with whom he has been sharing house since then.

Meeting Miss Martha

Ezekiel first met Miss Martha at Alligator Pond where she used to go at that time to sell Mammies. He used to see and make jokes with her. They became friends; ~~the~~ "promised her marriage" after that. About a year after they had met she came to to share house with her in Bull Savannah.

He had not asked Miss Martha's parents for her because they had died at the time of his courtship with her. Miss Martha was born here and grew here.

Family History

His mother Gustina Ebanks and father Leon Facey died many years ago. They had 2 children.

1. Himself.
2. Joel Facey; Joel died many years ago.

Gustina did not share house with Leon. Ezekiel grew up with his mother in Ballards Valley, and remained with her till he was about 16 years old. He then left to ~~live~~ share house with his father with whom he remained till he was about 30 years old. His father was a "hard cultivator;" i.e. his father cultivated extensively, and strenuously. For this reason his father invited him to ~~come and~~ stay with him, and to help him plant his crops.

He never got any money for the help he used to give his father, although -"people sey him was a man have money." He was however fed and clothed by his father.

His father's other children

Leon had other ~~bx~~ children by another woman named Georgiana Williams. Altogether Georgiana had for him 6 sons all whom are alive, as is also herself. They live in Junction. Three of the children were born while he was sharing house with his father. Georgiana shared house and was living with Leon then.

Ezekiel recalls that she treated him kindly. He cannot recall any instances where ~~xx~~ she showed any embarrassing preferences for her own children.

At fishing

n He left off cultivating for his father and took up "fishening" -fishing, "because fishening was a good trade. Y'u get good fish to eat and money to'; From cultivation a only get food fi^r eat but no money. Fisherman can get the best fish: usually him save the best fish for himself."

At first he used to "fishen with a next man that have him own boat," but later he (Ezekiel) also got his own boat. The man with whom he used to fish ~~x~~ was Arthur Jones of Ballards Valley. Arthur is now dead.

Conditions on Arthur's boat.

On Arthur's boat Ezekiel had his own fish pots -5 in number. He was not allowed to fish with more than that number of pots by Arthur who was also the capt. of the boat. Arhtur used to fish with 10 fish-pots.

Asked what were his earnings then Ezekiel said -"That is hard to ~~tell~~ average out; sometime y'u get a 10/- a day, sometimes y' u dont get but 5/-, and sometimes even lesser than that."

He buys his own boat

He had continued to work with Mr. Jones for about 5 years, at the end of which time he had managed to save enough money to buy his own boat. Boats were cheap then; -"Good fishening boats used to sell for about £10 at that time, now y'u have to pay from £30 to £40 for a good one."

He gave up fishing about 15 years ago because "fishening wants healthy man; if a man don't have good health particularly in our South side here him can't carry on." As a did not have the health to carry on a gi' it up." He did not save any monies from the operation of his own fishing boat.

His land

He bought his piece of land "long time ago." He does not know what is the acerage because ~~wi~~ "wi buy wi land by the piece chiefly." People in the community never bother overmuch about measuring up their land and selling it according to the acerage.

*1/2 acre
in 1942*

His cultivations

He never knows how much acreage or how many holes of tomatoes he plants because he ~~never~~ ~~XXXX~~ never bothers about measurements or to count the number of holes he has planted. A rough estimate of his tomato crop just reaped ~~xxx~~ 4,000 holes."

places it at

He did not plant anything aside from tomatoes last season. He has made "a little money" -a little profit, but it has not been "bright" with him. He does his own planting -never employs labour.

His Children

Asked if he had any children he said he had 3. By Helila Ebanks he had Phillip and Doris Facey. By Minnie Elliott he had Iris May Facey. These children as well as their mothers live in Ballards Valley. He had the children before he met Miss Martha. Phillip and Doris are older than Iris.

His appearance and attitude

Ezekiel wore sandals made from an old motor vehicle tyre. On his head was an old felt hat. His clothes were rather soiled and were extensively patched.

He did not seem to enjoy the interview, and yet he was unfailingly obliging and courteous. He complained of having caught a cold -was continually snuffling. The cold is possibly the reason for his seeming merely to tolerate the interview rather than to ~~xxx~~ enjoy the talk.

It began to rain. He did not take me into his house because he explained, the house was not yet tidied. We went instead, under a 2 roomed house in the process of construction, and having the vertical side posts only in place. The roof of course was also on. It is a thatched roof. The house belongs to one of the Calbert Elliott sons. It is being built on a small piece of land the Elliott youngster has bought from Benjamin Heathe.

The interview was concluded here because Ezekiel ~~xxxxxxxx~~ seemed to want to go about his business. Miss Martha was seen but not interviewed. She was courteous and cheerful.

24.7.48.
T.O.

I met Martha Bromfield several times, but never had the opportunity of a longer talk with her as she is always very busy. I always spotted her easily as she has exceptional features sharp but well proportioned, an aquiline nose, thin lips, bright beautiful eyes. In her younger days she could be an Arab beauty, her complexion is also like Arabs have (at least those I have seen in Southern Spain).

I met her first last year in December selling buns near the factory. During the winter months I have seen her in the packing house working on the grader. I met her again a few days ago. She was carrying a big square tray buns covered with a white cloth. A little girl - I learned it was Cynthia Williams her niece - was carrying behind her a tin vessel with water and a tumbler. The first time we met I complimented Martha on her ~~xxxx~~ looks and I think she appreciates the compliment. She said "I know I have features" (She pronounces it like "future").

The higgler

Martha was going this time with her buns to the place where the new house for the factory directors is being built. She told me she has been a higgler all her life. She is certainly alert to all the possibilities of openings in this line of "business". She avoided the answer to the question how much she makes on this trade. "Hard work - but sometimes business not too bad" she answered diplomatically.

We talked about her niece Vera the wife of Merton Francis. Martha said it is a very clever and hard working girl. Vera stayed with Martha for a number of years and Martha ~~taught~~ her the business of higgling.

It seems to me Miss Martha's wits are as sharp as her features and she has an engaging way with the people so she must be rather successful in her enterprises. She was hurrying to the place and I couldn't keep her longer than a few minutes. I almost felt the load of the heavy tray on my own head.

wife

Her only daughter Marion (~~xxxx~~ of Cedrick Ho-
ness resembles so much her mother, that when I met her I guessed who she was. Marion doesn't seem to have such a speculative mind.

It occurred to me that Miss Martha's features might be the result of some Sephardi admixture, which judging by the name is very likely.

Information from Lillian Powell
 who interv. Martha Bromfield
 on 18.6.48.
 J.O. 13.7.48.

Present household.

Facey Ezekiel, 50.
 Bromfield Martha, c.l.wife, 48.
 Williams Vincent, Martha's nephew, 35.
 Williams Cynthia, Vincent's daughter, 10,
 Francis Morene, Martha's niece, 6.

adopted by Martha

Martha Bromfield: father Daniel Bromfield, mother Fanny Bromfield, Bull Savannah. She has one full sister, Lattie Bromfield, that lives in Browns Hill, and one half brother, Daniel Bromfield that lives in Junction. Martha Bromfield has only one child. ~~Martha's child~~ The child was for ~~Martha's~~ Maurice Sinclair /B.B.S./ who died. She is Marrison Holness now /married and living in Bull Savannah/. She has no children with her present c.l.husband Facey Ezekiel.

Facey Ezekiel: Facey Ezekiel /fisherman/ is ~~from~~ ~~Exton~~ a new-comer in Bull Svannah. His father Lion Facey was from Exton, his mother Gustina Ebanks was from Ballard's Valley. He has six half brothers by his father: Burnel and Noel living in Kingston, Charles, Stafford, Rigley and Godson - in Junction. His wives and children:

Before Facey Ezekiel started to live with Martha Bromfield he was along with 3 different women and had 5 children by them.

1. Ivy Facey, her mother was Emmeline Elliott in Ballard's Valley. Ivy is married and lives now in Comma Pen.
2. Iris Facey, the same mother. This girl lives with the mother in Ballard's Valley.
3. Doris Facey, her mother is Elila Ebanks in Ballard's Valley. The girl lives with her mother in B.V. mother.
4. Philip Facey, same mother. The boy lives in B.V. with the mother.
5. James ~~Martha's~~ Facey, his mother is Julia Senior in Ballard's Valley. The boy is with the mother.

Williams Vincent. : Vincent Williams is known in B.S. also under the name of Daniel Williams. ~~Martha's~~ Vincent Williams is son of Joseph Williams in Mandeville and Maud Bromfield, Martha's late sister. Vincent Williams parted recently with his c.l. wife Maisie Rochester /in Shaddock Hill/. See her Fam.Rec.163.

~~She~~ He had with Maisie Rochester 4 children:

1. Cynthia Williams, 10 years old, staying with him at Martha Bromfield's place.
2. Willy Williams, with the mother at Shaddock Hill.
3. Bertie Williams, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
4. Bettie Williams, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

Maisie Rochester has also another boy that is supposed to be Vincent's. The boy, Moxsy Williams, lives with Maisie's grandparents, ~~Martha's~~ James and Ann Rochester. in Green Olive.

Francis Morene, 6 years old, is grandniece of Martha Bromfield. She is daughter of Merton Francis and Vera Francis, nee Bromfield. Vera's mother was sister of Martha ~~Francis~~ *Bromfield*. Martha Francis is Vera's aunt.

Carrer. Facey Ezekiel - fisherman. Williams Vincent went to ~~USA~~ USA in 1944-45, is building his own house from the savings.

House, land, farming.

House: 1 room, furniture: 2 beds, 2 chairs, 2 tables.

1 kitchen, 1 latrine, 1 tank conveyiung water.

Land: 3,75 acre owned by Martha Bromfield /homeland/. Bought from Land Settlement in 1909.

Trees: 1 naseberry, 5 mangos, 6 sweet saps, 2 pears, 7 bananas, 4 coconuts.

Cultivations: 3000 holes tomatoes, L12. /crp failed/. 18 yam hills. 1/4vaacre cassava 1/4 acre congo. Corn.

Animals: 4 hens, 2 chickems, 1 donkey, 4 sheep, 2 dogs.

Occupations: Martha Bromfield worked at the factory in the season: 3 months work, L4 earned.

Spending: weekly spending on meat, fish, flour, rice, oil, soap, salt - 40/-. Clthes: for household : suits, shirts, pants, sheets, etc. - L20 for the past year. Health: L6 for the past year /medical treatment/.

School: Cynthia in the 2nd stand.