

C.D. 22. Sbd. 8. Household 7

Elliott Cornelius	Head	M.M.	56		St.Eliz.	Col.	Jeh.Wit.	X farmer
" Ellen	wife	F.M.	48	14.14	"	"	"	W.2.homemaker
" Enid M.	dau	F.S.	21		"	"	"	W.3. none
" Bezrik	son	M.S.	20		"	"	"	W.3. farmer
" Percival	son	M.S.	17		"	"	"	W.3. farmer
" Hicksford W	son	M.S.	12		"	"	"	W.2. 3.E.
" Edna P.	dau	F.S.	11		"	"	"	W.3. 3.E.
" Helen	dau	F.S.	8		"	"	"	W.1. 3.E.
" Pamela	dau	F.S.	3		"	"	"	
" Alton G.	son	M.S.	9/12		"	"	"	

10

His farm in L942.

Operates this farmland as owner or part owner for 30 years.

Owns 15 acr. in 3 parcels: 6 and 3/4, 4 and 4 and 1/4 resp.

Main income from tomatoes.

No labour employed.

Works 52 weeks p.a.

See also p. 3

4 and 1/2 ac. in cultivation, 4 and 1/2 ac cultivable- not used, 4 and 3/4 ac. in various grass, 1/4 ac. woodlands. 1 ac. other land.

Total value of farm L80, buildings L10
1 catchment.

15 rows cabbages = 110 heads. 1 ac. tomatoes = 5100 lbs.

1 ackee = 14 heaps. 2 coconuts = 80 nuts
14 mangoes = 960 doz. 1 pawpaw = 20.

2 and 3/4 ac. congo peas = 23 bush.
1 and 1/2 ac. cassava = 3876 lbs. 3/4 ac. sweet pot. = 2174 lbs. 1/4 ac. yam = 430 lbs.

1 donkey. 4 sheep, 1 goat. 12 hens =
20 doz eggs.

Friday.
16. 4. 48.
I.D.

Interviewed Ellen Elliott

Present household

Cornelius Elliott	Head
Ellen do	Wife.
Percel do	Son
Hicksford do	Son
Marjorie Brown	Step niece.
Helena Elliott	Dau.
Edna Edwards	G.Dau.
Pamela Elliott	Dau.
Alton do	Son.
Alvin do	G.Son.
Vilma do	G.Dau.
Semo .Simpson do.	"Semo's mother is in Canada."

Family History:

Mother Rachael Edwards. Father Thomas Simpson "He died when I was only a child. of 7. Mother's mother Emily Neil. Mother's father Joseph Neil. Father's mother? "They always tell me that I name after me grand mother. So she was Ellen Simpson. Father's father Robert Simpson

The Elliott family.

"The Elliott family come from Scotland. You go to Ballard's Valley, you see some are white blood. You can see the hair yellow, and the eyes blue. You can see the pure scotch blood. Those don't mix. Some of them gone back to Scotland. They are real high blood people, especially the older one them; but coming down it degenerate."

"Some of the families are not really Elliotts. All Henry Elliott, he is not really a Elliott, but him grow with the Elliotts. Who is Henry? "Him live at a place name Thatch Walk. Him dead now but the children still live there. Any body would wonder how all the Elliotts are fair people and them black. I believe the Elliott that raise Henry is David Elliott."

Indian blood.

Ellen believes she has indian blood in her. Granpa Robert, I believe them was indian. Him black, darker than you, nose straight, and him hair pretty, just lay down 'pon him head. I go to Kingston, and them say I am Indian."

Land

Cornelius is living on his grandfather premises, who was Thomas Sinclair. The land was handed down to him."

The land around the house is $6\frac{3}{4}$ acres. He has 4 acres at Duff house land settlement. Part of the land at Duff house is divided among the X Service men. "The same person Government buy Duff House from is the same person them buy New Forest from, so every thing just include in the Land settlement."

Cornelius has 4 acres in Burnett Wood. Asked if she had any. "I don't have any, for them rob my father land from me. My father marry another woman, and when him dead, she divide the land among her children. Those children don't belong to my father."

Fences are not used in Bull Savannah to tell where one person's land ends and ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ where the other man's land begins. "We can live out our life without having a line fence. This place never have a fence and must say that is about 2 generation ~~xxxxxxx~~ that I know live sameplace."

Ellen has a daughter working in England. She was a member of the A.T.S.

Semo - Ellen's 2 year old grand daughter, did not look very happy this morning. She had the child on her knees all the time. Ellen asked Helena to mix a little salts for Semo as hse was having "tummy ache" Helena said the baby was perfectly well. "Notheng noh do him. Put him down make him run up and down. Not a thing do him, him jus' spoil. Wait till Miss Jud (Sona's mother) .come, make him beat spoil out a him."

Ellen could not remember what year her daughter joined the A.T.S. Helena said it was 1944. She was perfectly sure as she wrote it down on a tree at Swallowfield. While in Kingston Helena attended the Mico Practising school. She did not like it there. Ellen aid she preferred the school in the country "Them get on better here."

Helena would like to do commercial work when she grows up. She does not like teaching. "Me can' beat up pickney." Ellen stated that Helena thinks the teachers cruel. "I don't think it is right to murder the children If the children are afraid of the teacher they can' learn. They will know the right answer to a subject and they don' say it. through fear."

A little boy passed through the yard with his sling shot. Ellen said he should be assisting his people in planting instead of hunting birds. "Unoo grow let go like whaat. She was not able to tell me the names of his parents.

Ellen hesitated before she told me anything of the land owned by her husband. She did not want to tell me anything ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ at the beginning of the interview. She told me gladly and proudly that the Elliotts were from Scotland.

Visit at home. Interv. Cornelious and Ellein Elliott.
8.7.48.
T.O.

Mrs. Ellen was sitting on a bench against a little shed sewing; in front of her two young women were washing clothes. Thirteen children between the ages of 1 to 9 were playing in the yard, eating mangoes and "driving the truck" which was a wooden crib.

Mr. Cornelious Elliott soon came on his donkey from his field in the woodlands.

The house "one of the oldest in the district" said Cornelious. In this house his grandparents Thomas and Dorothy Sinclair lived. Cornelious (called "Fiti") remembers that he was a very small boy when his mother Judith brought him here for the set-up after the death of his grandfather. ~~He remembers his grandmother's~~ After the grandfather's death Charles - "Fiti's father - came to live here, with wife Judith and children. When Judith died and Charles married Rhoda Dyer the sons helped the father to build another house and Cornelious took the house over. That was about 40 years ago.

The two-room house was thatched freshly last year. Ellen says there were parts of the old thatch in the wall. She showed me a place. It seems these were the remains of the thatch which was put still by the grandfather and ~~is~~ Elliotts cherish this family souvenir.

The furniture in the first room is surprisingly "rich" as contrasted with the modest outside appearance of the house. There is a big, comfortable armchair covered with dark brown leather. It has also some history, but unfortunately I couldn't get it, as we were all exhausted when we went through the names ~~of~~ etc. of their 14 children and their progeny.

There is a china cabinet ~~with~~ with a curved facade, table with glasses, a shelf etc.

The kitchen with a buttery is accross the yard. Behind the house there is a small shed with walls and doors where a bicycle is kept and some odds and ends. The building in which the kitchen is is much bigger than the living house.

We sat on some logs in front of the house. Mrs. Elliott was busy all the time at sewing the dress which she was making ready for her daughter Loyis who is to go to-morrow to Top-Hill to take her 3rd year examinations

Mrs. Elliott was clad in a black dress which is very unusual in Bull-Savannah especially on a week-day. This dress is a present from a daughter who is in Canada.

I learned that the young women doing the washing were a niece and the wife of Hubert Elliott (nephew of Cornelious) who lives in the neighbouring house.

Present household:

Elliott	Cornelious	head.	M.	over 60	Jeh. Witn.	Cultivator	
"	Ellen	wife	M.	58		housewife	
"	Loyis	dau	S.	17	}	student	
"	Helena	"	S.	14			
"	Pamela	"	S.	9			at school
"	Hicksford	son	S.	18			cultivator
"	Alton	son	S.	7			
Ashman	Beril	gr. dau	S.	14			
Simpson	Semo	gr. dau	S.	4		<i>little girl's</i>	
Elliott	Alvin	gr. son	S.	?	(below school age)	<i>Liuh</i>	
?	Vilma	gr. dau	S.	?			
Torres	Sherliane	gr. dau	S.	1		<i>dan's</i> <i>Ellen's</i>	

It was a very difficult task to get the names and ages of the children. In addition to those belonging to this household there were the 4 daughters of Hubert Elliott who came here to keep company to their mamma who was washing and two children of a neighbour - Vincent Dyer. All of them were covered face and clothes with a paste of mango juice with red soil. Also both Mr. & Mrs. Elliott were giving the informations and all children crowded round us. In spite of the bewildering multitude they were behaving nicely, without too much noise and silly jokes. Mrs. Elliott was keeping an eye on them: she told one to go and wash, she took off the panties from Sherliane and told to take them to be washed. A little storm occurred when I offered cigarettes and asked for light. Only Mr. Cornelious is smoking. He was very cross that the matches couldn't be found and finally a girlie brought us a glowing piece of wood from the kitchen.

Cornelious Elliott is the son of Charles and Judith Elliott. The detailed history of this family is in the F.R. 21 (Elliott Moses).

Ellen Elliott said her father was Tom Simpson son of Robert Simpson. "I call Sarah Simpson aunt." The other "oldest" house in the district was her grandfather's Robert Simpson. (In Shaddock Hill belongs now to Claston Holness & family) She lived with her mother in Shaddock Hill. When she was still small her mother married (Ellen's father died) and she went to live with her mother in Top Bull Savannah, ~~Kranxtux~~ (I believe her mother married a Dyer) from there she came to live here with Cornelious. They lived together for some years before they married.

Fam. Rec. 196.

Cornelious and Ellen had 14 children: (I didn't get the married names of the daughters for the following reason: they told me that one-Judith-married, left her child Semo with the grand-parents and went ~~knax~~ a year ago to Canada. I wanted to get her married name and said "She was Missis..?" Ellen said "Well she went abroad as Judith Elliott - it's a delicate question you are asking." It is rather interesting they didn't mind telling me quite casually they lived together for some years and had children before they married, but didn't want to tell about their daughters. The only married name Ellen said was that of her daughter Mirtle who married Ashman and lives at Cross Keys. About the ages they frankly didn't know exactly. All they know is that the eldest daughter is 37 or 38 and the youngest son Alton is 7.

Judith Elliott married (?) Her husband lives in Chocolate Hole. She had a friend in Kingston who went to Canada. This friend left behind her two children and asked Judith to bring them over to her and stay there. Judith travelled with the two children by air to Miami. She intends to stay in Canada for good and her "husband" wants to join her. The husband is Simpson from Chocolate Hole a nephew of Behi Simpson from Shaddock Hill.

Cynthia Elliott joined the A.T.S. some years ago and is in England.

Elliott/
Etheline/Torres? married a soldier. He is at present in Gibraltar. She never went to Gibraltar. She wants her husband to come to Jamaica and live here. Etheline doesn't want to go to Gibraltar to join her husband there. He is at present working in Kingston. Her little daughter Sherliane Torres is one year old. She is certainly much loved and petted by both grandparents. She has golden curls and very blue eyes. Sherliane is called "Peachy", because her mother said she loved her as peaches.

Edna is in Kingston with Etheline.

Mirtle married Mr. Ashman and lives at Cross Keys. She has 2 children with her. Her eldest daughter Beril is with the grandparents. I am not quite sure Beril is by the husband Ashman. She might be an outside child. Beril is a quite big girl, she was present at our talk.

Enid died one year ago in April. She had some kidney trouble. When she had her first child she had this trouble, and when again she had another one they had to take her to the hospital in Black River where she died. She was brought home to be buried. (I recollect a story of abortion which caused death, but I am not quite sure it was Enid. I do not know who was the father of her child. Her child is Vilma and stays at present with the grand-parents.

Loyis Elliott is at home. She is taking private lessons with Teacher Millard. She is going to-morrow to Top Hill with other young people from Bull-Savannah to take her 3rd year examination. Mrs. Elliott would like ~~ka~~ her to go to Kingston and learn typing and shorthand "She will be able to help herself better than here." Loyis is a very good looking girl. She has delicate features and a lot of very long corkscrew locks. Looks like a Renaissance portrait.

Helena is younger than Loyis. I believe she is still at school but I am not quite sure.

Pamela addressed by the mother always "Miss Pam" is a little girl. When we were talking she just came from school in a clean beautiful pink dress with blue butterfly pattern. She is helpful with the smaller children.

for the children.

Hicksford is a young shy man. He was busy getting mangoes from the tree behind the house. He didn't join us. When he was nearest I offered him a cigarette but he said he didn't smoke.

Alton is an energetic little boy. He doesn't go to school yet. He took his father's knife and was carving a stick. The mother said "Your father had no right to give you this knife. It is sharp." Alton is the youngest child

Lindon, Bezrik and Percy Elliott are in America. Lindon was there for a time, came back and now went "on his own". Bezrik and Percy are on contract. All three of them are in the same place. The little boy Alvin is "for Linton". I don't know who is the mother. Lindon is the oldest son.

Attitude towards children.

"I don't want my sons to have to work so hard in the earth as I" said Fibi. He would like his sons to stay in America "You get a better raise there". Of course he would like to see them here too "I leave it to them." "Too many children" he repeats often, but seems to be also proud of the fact. I asked whether the children who are abroad write often. "We get 4 and 5 letters a week sometimes". "We spent a lot of money on stamps." The daughter Cynthia who is in England sent them air letter envelopes which cost only 6d. to post to England instead 1/3 of the ordinary air letter. Pictures of the children were found in the chest of drawers and shown to me. The young man Lindon has a becoming little mustache a la Ronald Colman and grins in an American fashion from the picture. Judith sent her picture from Canada with a delicate fur around her neck. She writes the sun there must be made of ice. It shines but ~~max~~ gives no heat. "Every one is a good child" they said. It might be true, but also it is a conventional sentence, which I heard said about children about whom I knew they weren't good.

The land. I knew from Moses Elliott about the division of the family land. According to Moses their father Charles gave each ~~2~~ child $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres and kept himself $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres which went after his death to the youngest Calbert. (See F.R. 21.) However Cornelious presented this in quite a different light. He said the land was not given by the father, in fact it never belonged neither to his mother nor to his father. The land belonged to his grandmother Dorothy Sinclair who gave it to her grandchildren. "It's we the sons help father to build the house and each help him."

Cornelious' share was anyhow $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres. "And I had the good opportunity to buy the portion of Emma." Thus he has 5 acres of home land. He also bought 4 acres in Duff House from the settlement and 4 acres in Brednutwood. He plans to give the outland to sons who would be settling on their own. But he has no definite plans yet, as the three eldest sons are still in America and one at least is likely to stay there for good. "He would rather wish the other two stayed there too "It would ease for the remainder."

At present he works with the help of Hicks for his land. His cultivations are as the pattern here: 2 acres of guinea grass, cassava and corn, peas, sweet potato toes and yams for home use. None of these crops are sold

The growth of Bull-Savannah. Both old Elliotts were of opinion that life is much easier now for the young people than at their youth. "It is easier to get money, the schooling is more accessible and better. They consider the school education very helpful in life "can't go far without school". They are eager to educate their children. Mr. Cornelious is very pleased with the improvement in Bull Savannah. The road near the factory is being sphaleted "You will call it a street not a road any more."

The growing family in third generation.

Cornelious plans to add two more rooms to the old house. "The family is growing, big." In spite of the fact that some of their children left the home, the family is not decreasing in numbers. Their place is taken by the grannies. Out of their 9 grannies 5 stay with them. "12 of us to sit round the table, sometimes more when the daughters visit." I think the "round the table" is a figurative way of speaking, the family hardly eats round a table - there isn't even one big enough to accommodate so many. The cooking is done by Mrs. Elliott with the help of girls. For washing they hire outside help "We must get somebody to wash." I noticed the girls are rather educated and treated at home more as "young ladies". Mrs. Elliott would like to prepare them for emigration from Bull-Savannah. "They get more chance, can help themselves better." She achieved it with 4 of her 9 daughters already.