

6.1.1948.
T.O.

Fam, Rec. ~~267~~ 267.

22/10/46.

Johnson	Easton	Head	M.M	33	St. Eliz.	Colour.	Morav.	X farmer
"	Marion	wife	F.M:	28	2	"	"	W2. homemak.
Neil	Wilbert	st/son	M.S.	9	"	"	"	W.1. 4E
Johnson	Pearl	dau	F.S.	8	"	"	"	W.1. 4 E.
"	Lynette	dau	"	6	"	"	"	
"	Lilian	dau	"	4	"	"	"	
"	Amy	dau	"	2	"	"	"	
"	Cyril	son	M.S.	2/12	"	"	"	

Owens 7 acres (bought 11 acres more after census)
 1 1/2 cultivated, 1/2 not cult, 1 1/2 pasture, 1 woodland 2 1/2 "other"
 in form 2 reports as principal occupation farm labourer.
 1/4 tomatoes = 800 lbs, escallion, 1 ackee, 1 avocado, 1 coconut
 1 lime, 5 mangoes, 1 naseberry 15 pawpaws, 4 cashew nuts.
 1/4 cassava, 0.2 sweet pot. 0.2 yams, 0.1 tobacco = 90 lbs.
 1 gonkey, 1 swine, 1 goat.

"Everything hard with me" said Mr. Johnson ~~xxxxxx~~ relating his life history. He is from Comma Pen. His father was born there but his grandfather came from Low Lands. When Easton was a small baby could hardly walk and there was still a younger brother who couldnt yet walk - the father left them and went away. "Him never write, him never come back. My father - him was wild". "Me never get help from my people" yet Mr. Easton has to-day 18 acres of land, 7 acres of which on the main road, a house and kitchen, a big catchment and tank, a wife and 8 children. He says he is 35 (38 by census). How did he achieve all this? Did he travel abroad to earn money to start? ~~Ma~~ Mr. Easton did not go abroad, he didnt even go to school. Ever since he was 14 he started to work for himself. "Work that land on shares, got 10/-, bought a goat. That goat give you 2 kids - you sell one - you buy manure perhaps for 10/- and 5/- worth of grass and work up your land. You still have that ewe - wait, wait, take your time. You can afford ~~xxxxxxx~~ buy a cow. Work 1/2 acre tomatoes and 1/2 acre tobacco. Me work for meself with my machete, my hoe, or my pick."

The above story seems to be rather a pattern than the actual life-story of Mr. Easton. He worked for a long time with Claston Rochester who has a big field in Ridge Hill.

He bought the 7 acres he has on the main road to Junction eleven years ago for \$ 30. "It was bush like" this, I cut the bush - I build up the land". About 8 years ago he built his house which is on the hill overlooking his field. Shortly afterwards he married. There were two rooms in the house; one was their living room the other the kitchen. ~~xxxxxx~~ "Since I married I built a tank". Before that he had to go for

Fam. Rec. ~~27~~. 267.

water to the Junction tank, or give one day work to Claston Rochester for the right of using his tank. After that he built another house where the kitchen and buttry were transferred. The house now had two rooms, one occupied by children growing in number and the other by parents. The house cost him £30, the catchment and tank also £30 and the kitchen and buttry £15. The buildings are "spanish wall" whitewashed, with red concrete floors. Finally - four years ago he bought 11 acres of land for £ 39 in Ridge Hill. This he bought for the money he made on tomatoes. The first lot was bought for money made from tobacco. "Tobacco and tomato gave money to buy land. Before me buy this place it was tobacco. After that tomato tep in. The price of tobacco get to nothing. It is about 4 years dont plant tobacco except for own use." Did his sisters and brothers succeed in life as he did? "Me put more everything in my head - they more giggling". They didnt succeed so well. Mr. Easton was always hard working. When he was building his house he needed lime. But there was no lime in his ground. He had to go to a neighbours place and do it on shares. "Go to hill and make lime - after that I make tankx. Everything hard with me. Have to make on share - twice as much work - just to get through life."

His wife was in Mrs. Roach's shop which is opposite Johnson's house - the other side of the road. The lower side of the road is called Comma Pen - the higher Dunder Hill. Mrs. Roach has this shop for four years, there was here a shop before that also. It is a small, delapidated and desolated place. Mrs. Roach is a fat woman hardly able to turn between the counter and the shelves, Mrs. Johnson very thin and so all her children except the first boy, who is an "outsider" 14 years old. Mrs. Johnson is by no means shy, asked whether she would like to drink something she said with a presence of mind that she wished wine. She ordered a bottle, but did not drink any - took it for another occasion.