

19th April 1947.
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Rattray Wesley. Head.
 Smalling Wife. C.L.
 Rattray, Frederick. aged 5 months.
 Rattray, Philbert. aged 2 years (living with her mother)
 Parents names: Matilda and Za hariah Smalling. House on hill-
 side opposite.

I have spoken to Mrs Smalling on several occasions when passing her house which is at the top of a rising opposite Watson's house. She is a young woman who has recently had a baby (5 months). She has always been doing something about her house. On this occasion she was stripping ginger. She answers questions docilely and without reservations, but shyly and seems completely without energy. I have not yet seen her smile of her own accord though she responds to coaxing. I have never noticed an food in the house or yard. The cooking is done in the open on some stones in the yard where there was a pot and some tins. There was no food being cooked. I asked her what she was going to have for dinner (which is at 4 o'clock) and she said she did not know. She was nursing the baby. In the morning she gave it milk if Mr Rattray had got a tin -- if not she gave it "only the breast".

Yard around house. This consists of $1\frac{1}{2}$ stretches. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of a stretch is in yams. There is one root of cane marking the boundary on one side.

Ground. They have also $1\frac{1}{2}$ stretches which they rent from Allsides. On this they grow cane (about 1 stretch), yams, coco, gungo peas and cassava. They grew a little ginger this year but it was not plentiful so she was not putting any more in. Ginger needs light soil -- sandy. The land round the house was good for ginger.

Crop Rotation. Yams. Yams are planted in April. You cut off the head and put it to shoot before planting -- "that is the better way". Otherwise you plant it right away, in the hill. You reap it next April.

Coco. Same time as yam to plant. Not put in any yet. Waiting for the rains.

Gungo peas. You can plant from January to April. May is not a good month -- "it no bear so nice". It take a year to reap. But you can start to eat the young ones from December. Plenty of people sell peas -- she plants only to eat. They eat all the grow.

Cane. About one stretch of the Allsides land planted in cane -- "but it not thick -- one is there (pointing about six yards apart) and one is there". I said have you got something growing between? No, -- we couldn't get sufficient tops". Tops are bought from other farmers at 1/- per 100. This stretch would give she thought about 3 barrels, (of sugar). One ~~xxxxxxx~~ about had been cut and it made one barrel or 7 pans. So they should get another 2 barrels. Mr Rattray ~~xxxx~~ made his sugar yesterday and finished last night. He left "before day" this morning to walk to Christiana to sell it in the market there. 7 pans make $4\frac{1}{2}$ dozen "heads" or "pans". He sells it at 2d per head. Her husband carried it on his head as it was only $4\frac{1}{2}$ doz. It is 12 miles to Christiana. There is a shortcut from Allsides to Craig but if the river comes down they have to go round by Troy. She believes as he left early he should be there by 12 o'clock.

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She did not go with him to market unless sometimes when there were things to buy.

Mr Rattray has his cane ground at Mr Sanley Bartlett's mill. (Note: This is on the All sides road, the first mill on the right as you walk up from Wareps). You have to pay for it. The charge for grinding includes the pans which you return to the owner. The charge is 2/- per barrel. 1 Barrel makes 7 pans of liquor.

Summary of Cane-sugar costings:

1 stretch (thinly planted) makes one barrel.
1 Barrel " 7 pans.
7 Pans " 4½ doz heads.

4½ doz heads at 2dperhead - 9/- less 2/- charge for mill.
Land on Allsides rents at 32/- per acres per ann.
At 10 stretches to the acre 1 stretch - 3/3 p.a.
Labour ? x days for planting; for reaping; for carrying to mill??

Mrs Smalling brought out her baby who was in the house to see me. It is a big baby for 5 months and looks well nourished. It was born in the house. She had been to the Child Welfare Clinic, and was attended by the District Nurse Miss Williams. She has not taken the baby to the Clinic since it was born. She would not go out for 3 months after it was born -- not on the road.

Her other baby, Philbert, who is 2 years old is staying with its grandmother and-father -- Matilda and Zachariah Smalling. Philbert was "here" yesterday but cried to go back with her mother so she let him. Her mother and father had 14 children -- all of whom are now grown up. She was the last. She hopes she will not have so many children.

She would be going to the cricket match this afternoon. The last match Warsop beat Freeman's Hall. This time they were playing Rock Spring. At that moment a string of men in good clothes passed along the path towards the cricket ground. I asked when the game would start. She said it would soon start : " I don' see dem pass wi' de ball and wicket - on'y de bat."

She and her husband -- she is married -- have lived in this house for two years.

Note: Although this woman said she was married she gave me her name always as Smalling. Mrs Ashman confirms that she is married and that she is Mrs Rattray. She says it is common here for married women to continue to call themselves by their maiden name. One woman whose husband died calls her self Mrs (maiden name). Mrs A. says they are "very poor".
