

Carter John Head M.Cl.

Farmer. Mixed f.

1rst visit

30.5.47.

J.O.

John Carter,
Doctor of beasts.

I found John Carter ~~xxxxxx~~ sleeping on a mat in front of his cabin. He came from a drive to some distant place where he attended somebody's beast. ~~xxxxxx~~ He helps people to cure beasts. He learned his profession from his father, who ~~xxxxxx~~ practised the same job. ~~xx~~ "My father learned me everything." Carter was sleepy and the talk ~~xxx~~ with him was not easy. His answers were vague /he is the father of one of Henlon's partner/. Besides he has no teeth, and ~~x~~ sometimes I could hardly grasp his ~~xxxxxx~~ not enough articulate speech.

Some details
of the family
history.

John Carter was born in Warsop, just the same as his father. His grandfather was not born here. He came to Warsop from St.Elizabeth. He knows practically ~~kn~~ nothing about his grandfather. He does not know, how much land did he own. His father's land was on another place-"over there on the hill" - nearer to the road. He does not know ~~xxxxxx~~ how big was his father's property.

All his land is around his house, here. He does not know how much land he owns actually; he sold much of the land in small pieces to other people to keep himself alive, and now only a part of what he had previously belongs to him.

~~xxxxxx~~

His father had 12 children, but only three of them, including John Carter, are alive. They are not in Warsop.

He had two wives, both of them dead. ~~xxxxxx~~ But he had no children by them. All his children are from other women, not from his ~~wives~~ two wives.

The children around his house, are his "granpicknies". There is "plenty of them". Mrs.Allen who lives next house to him is his daughter. The house on the top of the hill is his son's house.

His house.

Carter's house is a small wooden cabin, with a shingle roof. Surface of the floor, accord. to the Census, is only 160 f. There are two tiny rooms in the house. The most valuable possessions of the owner of the house seem to be his saddle and his cask, which can be seen always ~~hang~~ through the window hanging on the wall. These are paraphernalia of Carter's profession, of which he and all his family seem to be very proud.

Carter's farm.

In 1942, according to the Census, Carter's farm consisted of 5 acres of land. The value of all the farm was L.160, the value of buildings - L.30. Carter was at that time running the same farm for 40 years. There were 4 people in his household: 2 males, one over, another under 14 years, and 2 females of the same age.

The chief produce of the farm was: canes, roots, bananas. He employed 4 labourers each week during 30 weeks of the 1942; ~~worked himself for the~~ the labourers' week was 4 days week. He worked himself on the farm for 35 weeks, 5 days a week, 7 hours a day.

3 and 1/2 acres of his farm were under cultivation; ~~ixaa~~ 1 acre - cultivable, but not cultivated; 1/2 acre - under buildings etc. There was a spring on his land.

1 acre of his land was under bananas. ~~ix~~ 1 and 1/2 acre - under cane. 1 acre - under yellow yam; and 1/4 acre - under sweet potatoes.

He produced in the Census year from these cultivations: 6 tons of cane, equiv. to 30 tins of wet sugar; 180 bunches of bananas; 5000lb. of yellow yams; and 1500 lb. of sweet potatoes.

He kept 4 goats/and kids/; ³ 3 swines/over 6 months/.

His fruit garden consisted of: 3 breadfruits /18 doz./; 30 fruiting and 100 not fruiting bananas; 2 coconuts /80 nuts/; 5 common mangoes; ~~ix~~ 1 fruiting and 3 not fruiting sour oranges/~~ix~~ 1/2 fl.bex./"

Carter's religion.

Carter is himself an Anglican and all the Carters in the Census data show the same denominations

Some of his neighbours:
Eva Scott.

Carter was reluctant in volunteering any information. A woman on a field adjoining to his land was ~~working~~ singing all the time when cutting the grass on her plot. Who is the singer? It is Eva Scott. A woman who ran mad after the ~~ix~~ death of her husband. On the first day after the husband's death she started to sing and sings all ~~the~~ the time day after day. ~~She said~~ "It took us time to get used to it."

"Carter's Town."

I am not quite sure, whether the designation ~~is~~ "Carter's Town" which is mentioned by some people in Warsop, refers to John Carter and his family. Any how, the place, where John Carter lives, is really a kind of "Carters' Town", if not the "John Carter's Town."

It seems, that ~~John Carter's~~ John Carter's home is surrounded by houses, in which descendants of John Carter, from his multiple unions with different women, live with their families. It seems also, that these descendants own but little land and live and work chiefly on John Carter's 5 acres.

Here is the description of "Carter's Town" as obtained at our first walk through this part of the village.

"Going further down we ~~entered~~ passed again along two grass-houses. McLean said they belong to Mr. Willy Clarke and Mr. Bulla Carter. Still further down we entered a group of grass-buildings. There were two grass-houses, surrounding poor and disorderly. One of them was to the left, one to the right. McLean said, the left one belongs to Bulla Carter, the right one to Burnett /or Burnell/ White. The third house which is a tiny "board-house", is the property of John Carter, the father of the Stanford Carter/known in the village under the nickname of Sheik/. The House of John Carter was surrounded by banana grove; some coconuts were nearby; and the whole property presented a view of a farm, and not of the labourers home. Ruby Allen explained the relationships of people living in these houses in more detail. Burnell/Burnett?/ White is the husband of her mother, Emily Allen. They have just one stretch of land, which belongs to Emily Allen. The members of the family work as labourers chiefly on John Carter's farm and occasionally on other farms."

"John Carter owns a bigger portion of land. It is over 1 acre but probably under 4 acres. Bulla Carter is his son. His name is Ashburn Carter. He works on his father's land. Vincent Carter is the grandson of John Carter and a nephew of Bulla Carter. He calls Bulla Carter "uncle Bulla".

Carter John

27.6.47.

Dale

different family

Land: John Carter had 35 acres of land but he does not know now how many acres he has in his possession "No knowhow much but me got very well me can help myself, the lan did belong to me granpa an' him lef i' fe me father, then me fader lef it to me, mfather brother and son say them did have portio in de an them run me a law an' me win them, I lose part o' the lan throug them becau' them encroach pon Jeremiah Carter (dead)/lan' an' him run them into law and win them and them had to pay cos' so him sieze pieve o' the lan and sell it to meet the debt". I asked him who would eventually own the land when he dies "When me dead me ago gi' me daughter and me f' g. pickney them. Who me give nobody can' worry 'bout them because everybody get fe them own."

Tag: J.C. says he cannot tell how much tax he has to pay, he would have to look up the last paper. "When you get you sur charge this month you know how much you have to pay" I then asked him if the people now living on the land paid any tax he replied promptly, "No missis, me pay all the taxes is my lan' jus' as cheap me say me gi' them the place fe live. Them g&' mea little somethin' sometime but them poor so me pay all the taxes

House: "From me las' wife dead me pull down the big hose and then put up this small one. From me born me no live in a grass house yet, an' me no have no pickney born in a grass hose. He proudy told me that his present house had pure cedar shingles. It was erected 1/2 years ago. I asked J.C. if he lived alone. "Me pne live ya to myself nobody no trouble me, me go out as me like, an' come in as me like, me no keep no frien'".

Family: J.C.'s grandfather was William Carter, he does not remember his g.mother's name, his father Thomas Carter and mother Henrieta Carter.

Trees: 3 Coconut tree, & 10 breadfruit, all bearing, and they were planted by J.C.

J.C. called out to his daughter to get some soup for him, after she had gone he said to me " Beef and mutton/soup a that me like and good peas soup".

A rebtive entered the house and started to talk about Vincent again, then Johnie said to me "Me bail people all the time all a Kingston" He then suggested that we go outside for coconut water, then I left and he begged me to come back to see him, and I promised him that I would.

X10
- 6 -

Johny's
family history.

"My mother is from Fairfield. My father married to her." His parents lived in Wait-a-bit on rent land. They planted ginger over there. Ginger was much better there than here, in Warsop. This was the reason why they stayed in Wait-a-bit. At thoes times ~~ginger~~ the price of ginger was high. They paid 1/6d per lb. It was when he was a young boy. He is now 70. Was born ab.1877. He came to live at Warsop as a small child and cannot recollect any details of this event. "I came here - I dont remember." His parents cultivated here "yams, cane and ginger - we cultivated." At that time they ~~did~~ did not grow bananas. It was before the road was built. The old track went below the present road - it turned down at the boundary of Wislon Valley and Durham and ~~xxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ and went up to the present road more or less where Henlon Ryland lives to-day. "The Gnt put the road up."

His father's land was on Durham. It was given to him by his grandfather still when the old man was alive. "They ~~sd~~ sell Dirham - my father when my grandfather dead". They moved to live on this place on which Johny Carter house is to-day. "My grandafather give the land to his son. What my grandafather left he give - my father - to me."

"My father died I was 20 years old. He dead in Kingston." He went to work on tram line in Kingston. "Take a contract." He earned more money in Kingston - that's why he left Warsop. "I live here, live with me mother. The same place I live now."

His father had many children. "Them dead - my brothers and sisters." They left no offspring. "No children of my brothers left here - no, sir. Good time dead. Some of them get children and dead them. One of them Kingston. They call him Bushy Park." He works on tram line.

He stayed in Warsop with his mother. "Only my sister Margaret Carter stayed with me and my mother." Later on he admitted that also another sister, Funny /Francella/ stayed in the family. othe "brother and sister" left - went to work. He stayed to help his mother. Margaret and Francella stayed also for the same reason. He stres es the point that he helped his mother.

They had only 5 acres of land left by his father. ~~Why~~ They did not buy any new land. They planted ginger and yam and canes. His father did not plant any fruit trees. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Only ground cultivations. Breadfruits, coconuts etc. at his house were planted by Johny Carter. "Whatever is me planted, sir." They worked all on the land. "Children had to work, to maintain her /the mother/ - she was old." "5 acres all the time." His mother died about 12 years ago. She lived all the time with him, on the same place where his house is now.

~~xxxxfather~~

His wives
and children.

First wife -
Magene Gallimore.

"Many good time I marry. Magene Gallimore. She was of St. Ann, born in St. Ann. I go to St. Ann, I go to St. Ann to work and meet her. Attend to stock. She was cooking for a gentleman, a parson. I worked the same parson, Edaward Park his name. SHE was Church of England. My father was Wesleyan, mother also Wesleyan. I marry her here - Church of England."

He had no children with his first wife.

Last wife -
Caroline Johnson.

"Last wife - I marry in Ulster Spring, in Baptist Church. Caroline Johnson her name. Quarter after I met her I marry." He had no children with her.

Outside children.
Concubines.

"No children from both wives. All my children - outside." "I had plenty of children. Plenty."

1st child?
Uriah Carter.

"First child Uriah Carter - but him dead." His mother was Elena Facey. "She come from Lime-Tree in St. Ann. Come to work here." "I didnt marry her. My first wife alive." "She worked and went back to St. Ann." "The child go with the mother and died."

5th child:
Emily Carter-
Allen.

His fifth, and as Johny assures, the last child, was from the same woman, Elena Facey. "Elena Facey was her mother." He did not marry the woman. "She wasnt intelligent" enough.

2nd child:
Christiana Harris
the mother, Nathaniel
Carter, the
child.

His next woman was Christiana Harris. She had child for him: Nathaniel Carter. Christiana Harris was not born in Warsop. "Born in Porus she was. She got an uncle here and came to him. William Brown was his name - no family to Cousin Brown." Christiana Harris stayed in Warsop. She didnt marry. She lived in Allsides on rented land. She died ab. 15 years ago. Her child grew "big gentleman". He was "big man" when she died. "he live here - a cultivator and trader. He is trained man. He live up Allsides, on rented land, near to road."

Why didnt he marry Christiana Harris? "At that time didnt intelligent enough."

3rd child:
Samuel Carter.
Catherine Johnson
his mother.

His next union was with Catherine Johnson. She had a son for him: Samuel Carter. "She live on New Road - dead long time. She born in Warsop, up Allsides property." Samuel Carter lives "same place up New Road." "Mother dead and leave land him." Catherine Johnson bought her land from Jeremiah Carter. "Jeremiah Carter - white man, no family of mine."

He did not marry her. "She had too many bastard picknies."

4th child;
Stamford Carter.
Annie Mendez
his mother.

His 4th child was Stamford Carter. His mother was Annie Mendez. She ~~was~~ married Zaki Smith's uncle, who probably live and owned /or co-owned/ the place on the top of the hill /5 acres of land from the old ~~max~~ property of William Carter, the grandfather, bought by Zaki Smith's father/.

Johnny, did not marry Annie Mendez, because "she was sickly": "some pain".

Cubba/Margaret
arter/ and her
family history.

"Cubba is my sister - one mother, one father." She didnt marry. She had however two children: "one dead, one alive". Willy Clarke, who lives opposite to her hut, is her son. His father's name was also William Clarke. William Clarke/the father/ is "dead with many years ago". They did not marry: they were too poor, he, Johnny Carter, did all the work himself. Clarke, the senior, was too lazy. Next child of her was Maud Clarke - from the same man, the same father. Maud Clarke is dead. Cubba's outside husband, Clarke the senior, "owned the place at Durham. "Samuel Lewis got this place". It was the family place - Clarke could not dispose of this place freely. ~~Thaxpiazax~~ One understands, there many successors and claimants to this place. Samuel Lewis's mother was sister of Willy Clarke /junior or senior?. Her name was Sarah Brown. Gladys Wright, who lives with Cubba in the same house, is Cubba's grand-daughter. She was Maud's ~~sikax~~ Clarke daughter. Maud Clarke married twice: her first hus band was a Hewitt. Then she married Thomas Genas. Gladys Wright's father was Thomas Genas. Thomas Genas was "same family as Alice Genas."

Funny Carter.

"She is my sister: one father, one mother." She stayed with them, when their father left for Kingstón and died. "help me care my mother." She got 3 children. All of them from the same man. the same father. Aaron Dixon was their father. He had 3 children with Funny. All this was before he married Vira Dixon. Caswell Dixon was her first child. Next child was Israel Dixon - he "went away". The third one: James Dixon /shoe-horseman, black smith, who lives near to Miss Lou's shop on buy land.

3.7.47.

Dale &

Dr. Ob.

Price of gin-
ner

Family Origin: X J. Carter's grand father came from Savannah, St. Elizabeth, his father was born at Durham, "over the other side where Slater live, and he was born at Wait A Bit. His mother came from Fairfield" and she go to W.A.B. with the stomach after she married, to plant ginger, and me born up there, them used to sell ginger 1/6 a lb.. (about 1877) that time.

Land: "Grand father buy about 20 acres of land from Wilson" about 15 minutes afterwards he told us that the land was given to his grand father by Wilson for "servant wages" "Wilson get land from sh very time, my grand father buy a piece of land over Durham (12 acres)" He was asked what happened to the 32 acres his g.f. possessed "G.F. divided land among his sons and them sell it out to other people" Sammie Copeland bought a part of this land and Smith purchased 5 acres. after his death it went to Zaccie Smith, who sold it to Othinel Gager in January of this year. J.C.'s father left his portion (5 acres) to him which is situated in Wilson Valley.

Relatives

G.F. had 5 sons and 3 daughters "but them dead" they are all buried at Durham. His G.F. tomb can be found on Stanford Smith's land at Durham. His Aunts and Uncles had children but they did not live in Warsop "Them go to sea and get money and buy land at Manchester to make themself a man, nothing not here to keep them".

Brothers: When asked about his brothers he said "them dead out, one of them dead at Bushy Park over train line" his father also died while working on train lines in Kingston. "Plenty of them get £20 and £40 as contract, so him go and work to see if him could get some, and him take sick and dead". J.C. was 20 years old when his father died. Some of his brothers went to Clarendon and died there. He was asked why he remained in Warsop "I have to work and maintain my nother because she was old".

J.C. had not worked on his trade for quite a while.

Profession: "My father was a farrier. I learn the trade from train line time, and me work and help me mother, my two sisters help me to mind her".

Crops: "Father cultivate yam and cane and ginger that time them did not grow no banana, them did not understand it that time" me plant ginger, yam and cane, whatever on the place is me plant it.

Old Road: The old road as pointed out to us by J.C. ran behind John Dixn's half finished hose (beside the shop) and came out at Ryland's house The road broke away and Government move it up".

First Marriage: His first wife was Maisie Gallimore from St. Ann. He told us that he met her there when he went to that Parish to work "farrier work" Maisie was then a cook for Parson Edward "Anglican" "Me court her 3 months as she was working at Parson yard we have to married quick" Maisie died without leaving any children.

Illigitimate children: Uriel Carter - mother Eliza Facey who came from Lime Tree in St. Ann "top side Wait A Bit" "menever married to her, she go back and dead at St. Ann, where her mother was.

Nathaniel Carter - mother Christiana Harris who was born in Porus, Manchester, but came here to work. I did not marry her because she was not intelligent, she was living at Allsides

Carter John

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Dale &
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8.7.47.

but she dead about 15 years now. Nathaniel grow big man doing black smith work and him cultivate and live at Allsides, near to the road, but me no worry round them, them position weak".
Samuel Carter: - mother Catherine Johnson "dead long time, born in Warsop at Allsides". Samuel is now living on land which was left to him by his mother, which she bought in her lifetime. "Catherine buy land from Jeremiah Carter, him was white, but them dead out". He was asked why he did not marry her "She did have too much bastard pickney". Note. Although J.C. was married twice all his children were illegitimate.
Stanford Carter - mother Anne Mendez "she never hearty, trouble with rheumatism pain".
Emeline Allen (nee Carter) - mother Eliza Facey also mother of Uriel Carter ~~see/see~~ "She could not wash and she could not patch good".

Cubba: He told us that Cubba and himself had the same parents, she has 2 children 1 dead 1 alive. William Clarke the father of Cubba's children was not liked by J.C. "Him would not work for him self, would not plant no ground, him too lazy" Cubba son was named off his father. Maud Clarke (dead) the other child was married twice, first husband Hewitt, second Genas. Gladys Wrich daughter of Maud Clarke, Gladys' father was Thomas Genas her mother's second husband "same family as Alice Genas".
Fanny Carter sister of J.C. - 4 children Aaron Dixon, "his father is the same man who married Vera Dixon", he had 3 children with Fanny" Caswell, Israel and Jay. Israel went away.

In the first part of the interview J.C. told us that Anne Mendez was Samuel Carter's mother see above he said Catherine Johnson. Anne Mendez married Zaccie Smith's Uncle "both of them dead"