

Date . . . t.

Napier, Mrs Agatha. (Seen.)  
Napier, Mr Augustus. Not seen.

14

12. . . '47.  
E.C. alone.

House first on right on road turning off left after passing Mrs Frater's house. On Allsides.

Two buildings in yard. One -- kitchen, like house wattle and daub and thatch. Kitchen door of lattice, shut on inside, through which could see and hear children. Elder boy opened door and came out -- caught glimpse of smaller children in room. Said Mrs Napier was ill.

Went to door and asked if might come in. A young man was sitting on a chair besides the bed in a one-roomed hut on which a woman, fully dressed was lying on her stomach. Man said she was ill and she explained that she could not get up as she was in great pain with her head. She had not been able to move since she dressed, and that was why she was not at the ground with her husband. I asked her if she would like some asperin (her forehead was quite cool). The young man agreed to come to the shop (which is nearby) to get some and bring back for her.

On the way he told me that his name was Jonathan Beckford, that he was unmarried, lived alone and had no children. He was no relative of Mrs Napier. I bought four asperin at one penny per tablet in Chung's shop (Miss Loo's) and sent him back with it promising to return and inquire for Mrs N. some other day.

13.2. '47. E.C.  
With D.

Mrs Napier alone, fully dressed but still on bed. She was however able to sit up and talk to us, occasionally holding her head. She appeared ill. But was glad to see us and talk. Said her husband had been very grateful for my help yesterday and had said how much he would like to meet me to thank me. Her husband had gone to cut shingles. The one room is largely bed with a small table with glasses etc. The walls of the house are bad (wattle and daub whoing the light through) but there is some very fine thatching on the roof on which I complimented her. She said her husband had made the house. It was a poor one but they were not allowed to build anything but grass huts on the property. He was looking for a piece of land to buy to erect a decent house but land was hard to buy. They rent about 3 acres at Allsides besides the piece round the house. They pay 32/- per annum per acre. She works on the land with her husband. She has either to take the children with her to the field or leave them with the elder boy at home. (We saw him yesterday and some idea of what "leaving them with him" means for them -- locking them in the kitchen).

She has five children as follows : -

1. Oswald Wallace aged about 15. #
2. Ralph Napier aged 12.
3. Hubert Napier at school.
4. Lucy May aged 5. (Napier)
5. Felix Napier aged 3.

#Having admitted Oswald was not a Napier she immediately said -- "but dont write down Wallace put Napier". I said Mr Napier had adopted him then? She said yes, hesitatingly, and added, "dont put Wallace -- put Napier". I said I would remember. Noticed that she was very vague about Hubert's age and the others -- said "you must ask The Father". Noticed she frequently deferred to him. Said since the baby was born -- "which was three years now" -- she had not had another, and added anxiously that "she was half-frightened, half-glad." But it seemed more the former than the latter. Added "the babies were coming too quickly".

I asked her to identify the houses in view from her door.

She showed me that for Mrs Hilda Jones who had three children and was lately married. She knew her. She did not know the husband well. She thought Mrs J. would be interested in the subject of a P.C. but did not know if Mr J. would be or what he would say. I suggested it might be better then for us to see Mrs J. when her husband was at home and she seemed relieved. (Does not like husband? or thinks he would not like us?) She suggested that we should see Mrs Webb and "Mumsie". Asked Mumsie's name could not give it -- everyone knew her as Mumsie. They both lived on the road above.

Said goodbye and hoped she would soon be better. She then asked "if I had not something for her?" First case of begging encountered in the two days. (For second see a/e of Chung's shop.)

us Sch. P.D. 29. Household 25.

Napier.	Augustus	Head.	M.M.38.	Writes.	Elementary Upper.	Farmer.	Mixed Farm.
"	Agatha	Wife.	F.M.29.6.6.	Writes.	Elem. lower.	Homemaker.	
"	Ralph A.	Son.	M.S. 7.				
"	Rupert L.	Son.	M.S. 3.				
"	Lucie M.	Dau.	F.S.7/12.				

All born in Trelawny, Black, Baptists. Head owns house.

Farm Sch. No 15. Census District 11 sub-district 6. Enumerator Edwards. (FORM 2)

Operates 1 Parcel of land. Has operated it for 14 years, as Tenant.

Area:  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Value of land: £42. of House: £10.

Main source of Income from agricultural operations: Cane, Bananas, yams (Roots)

No persons living on Farm: M. under 14: 2. M. Over 14: 1.  
 F. " " : 1. F. over 14.: 1. Total 5.

Members of Family working on Farm: 1 male and 1 female over 14 years.

Did not work for pay on any other work.

Did not employ any wage labour.

Himself worked 52 weeks in year, 6 days per week, 9 hours per day.

Full  $3\frac{1}{4}$  acres used for agriculture: rent paid 24/- per annum per acre. Rented for 12 months. All sides property.

Use of land:  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre for pasture and grazing.

Water-supply: river or stream.

No Farm machinery.

Vegetables for sale and home use: 8 rows of cabbages (each row 2 yds). Prod: 20 heads.

Tropical fruits & nuts: 1 Avocado Pear; 40 Banana trees fruiting, 150 not fruiting, yield, 110 bunches; 7 Mangc trees (40 doz.) Oranges pimento.

Sugar cane:  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres produced 30 tons and 210 tins wet sugar. Not a Registered Cane Farmer.

Grains & Pulses: Corn (4 bushels from  $1/10$ th acre); Rice,--eenge-peas.

Roots: Sweet potatoes:  $1/10$ th acre, 780 bushels; Yams, (yellow)  $2/10$ th ac. 1250 lbs harvested; other Yams  $2/10$ th ac. 1000 lbs.

Miscellaneous: Coffee.

Livestock: 1 donkey 1 swine

FORM 3. Animals, Animal Products, Gardens Fruits etc, NOT on Farms.

No 15. Napier. Agatha. Poultry: 6 hens & chicks: 16 doz eggs.  
 Vegetables: £6. Banana Trees: 30 (20 Bunches)  
 1 Lime tree (4 doz).

Visit:

May 1947.

Mr Napier was outside his house in working shoes and long gun boots. As these cannot be bought in Jamaica deduced he must be either an ex-soldier have been to U.S. with labour. Was the latter. He is a strongly built rather square set man, but short bad front teeth, and high cheekbones. He has a very direct and honest expression and is friendly and co-operative. He was one of the best informants I have had so far and above the average in farming knowledge and probably technique. He referred to putting something back into the land and rotating crops. But his passionate ambition and the drive of his work and life is to have a home of his own that is "more decent" than his present one.

Land:

Mr Napier said that he ~~owned~~ rented land amounting to 5 acres in all on Allsides:

- 1) The piece round the house where we talked which amounts to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stretches;
- 2) a piece amounting to  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres within view of the house but not adjacent;
- 3) 3 pieces on Allsides, not adjoining, but "all running to 4 acres".

He works on his land all the year and employs labour to help him in the Planting Season. The Planting Season is from February to August according to the Crop. For instance Yams are planted from February to July.

Crops Grown: Primarily Yams and Cane. He grows all kinds of Yam -- yellow; negro; boat yam (Lucea); St Lucia (Renta); St Vincent and Hard Yams.

The Yams grown on the house site are yellow yams and they are grown for home consumption -- never sold. He also grows on this site a little vegetables. The square chain of yams grown here produced 100 hills. Asked as to production he said: "100 hills when it is well handled and done good (cultivated properly) and if it bear well will give you 1000 lbs and "the expense of it would run down to a simple amount by occupying" (I don't know what this expression meant). As to cost of production: to plant 100 hills would require 200-300 heads. We don't buy heads but if I had to buy them they would cost 12/- or 16/- or 20/- according to the scarcity. If you buy heads 1 cwt of yam heads when its big would plant 13 hills.

Labour: You can dig from 25 to 40 hills in a day. That is from 8 in the morning till 4 in the afternoon. You take your food to the field and eat it there. You take about an hour off.

There are other costs: sticks, cutting the bush, and cleaning.

Yam sticks: cost 16/- per 100. These are common sticks. They only last one year -- though a few of the stronger ones may last two years. Bamboo is very good for yam sticks when it is good.

Cutting Bush: 3/- per square chain

Ploughing (with Fork) 8/- per sq. ch.

Digging Holes: 100 hills to dig with feeding would cost 10/- He worked it out thus: the man who digs would charge 9/- and feeding would cost 1/-

Meal for workers: Sanitary Inspector Thompson who was with me here interpolated that he thought that was not enough to allow for the cost of feeding. It was explained that the man would be really three or four men as he would bring others

Note:

It would probably be a team of 4 men to dig 100 hills in one day. (Presumably they are paid at 2/6 a day which would equal the 10/- mentioned. It will be noted too, that they work the minimum. Reference to C.H. No 16 David Bailey shows that he estimated a good worker could do up to 50 hills a day if the soil was good. It is a question therefore whether this form of "friendly" neighbourly work is not more expensive in the end.)

The men would be given one meal. It would consist of food-stuffs (yams etc) and fish. He would buy 1/- fish. The rest would be from his own garden. (Note: He omits to charge for this food).

He said that "the men do it as a favour. The day labour rate is 3/-. But when they work for each other they do not charge that because they are poor and could not afford it. His words: "With a poor man it is different. They would desire to charge more than I am telling you but on account as we are poor they would not distress you for the full price -- so what I am telling you is only done at a mean rate to help one another."

Vegetables grown on house site : Cabbages; does not grow kalalu, nor carrots. About carrots he said "the big shots" eat those because they could cook them in special ways but they, the poor ones, did not. I pointed out their value dietetically and he said Yes, he had heard that but until he went away to America he never knew anything about that. But in America they ate all those things.

As a Labourer in the U.S. He went to the U.S. in 1945 and was away six months and five days. He was in New Jersey with War Man Power. He was a Janitor and had to tidy an office, clean windows and keep the place clean and go for things for his boss to the "Caffeteary" (Cafeteria). there were 480 Jamaican in the camp. He liked it and he loved the Americans-- they were frank He liked them and he had no quarrel with them Like he was sorry to say he had with his own people here. They had good manners whereas he thought the young fellows out here now had very rude ways.

Re food: he thought they deducted too much for Board -- \$12.50 per week. (Later conversation showed that Mr N. would gladly have starved or lived on lower rations in order to save more to bring home). Money was deducted from their wages to send home to the wife and for the Compulsory Savings. After that was taken out they got \$12 "flat" apart from what we earn by working overtime on Sundays. The wife got £3 per month. He also sent her small sums from time to time.

Use put to Compulsory Savings: He had a cow before he went away which he had bought for £16.12. He swapped it for a better one which cost £20. 2.6. He put £3.10 on the cow. It was a "common cow" and gives around 2 qts milk.

Mule for £22. 10. This is a draw mule and he uses it to carry produce and grind cane.

Donkey: £ 6.

Sow: £3. 7/- She has had 10 pigs but two of the litter died leaving 8.

Lumber for House £25. And 1½ stretches for house site.£5.

The House and the Dream. I intend moving this spot so I buy £25 worth o' lumber. This is not a real home. All my ambition is to secure a home. He had already purchased 2½ stretches for a house site. He bought a further 1¼ "on the same junction".

This site is "down at Baptist from Stanley Lynch". ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Fowls: "I dont keep fowls -- they is too chuck to neighbours".

Mr N. spoke at some length of his longing for a home of his own. His parents were too poor to have done much for him and he wanted to have a decent home for his wife and his children and to leave her when he died. It was not decent to live as they were all together -- the children were growing up. They should have a room to hemselfes so they did not all breathe each others breath. "You know what I mean". When he aw the nice houses in America he thought he wanted something better here. But all this savings -- he had saved all his savings "I dont s spend any money that co e from America to eat or to drink" -- meant, you see, that sometimes I dont have a shilling. I need a shilling and I dont have it. I am a Communicant member of the Church, and I belong to somethings and it takes money. But "Tin pan better an' it done." Here he laughed and explained for my benefit: "Tink on de ting is better dan eat it clean." Or as them say again A bird in the Hand is worth a hundred in the bush." He said "I patronise as how de Saviour come -- he see a

His Family: His parents were Mrs Mary Bennett (see C.H.No 60 under Satira Lindo) and Mr George Napier (who also lives at Warsop. He helps the old lady.

( poor shed but he come all the same." He spoke with simple faith.

The use of Rented Land on Allsides. ~~XX~~ He said in the first part of the interview that he had 5 acres in all. The two pieces round and near the house came to one acre: then he had 3 pieces on Allsides which should therefore come to 4 acres. ~~XX~~ at 2 acres:  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre in cane;  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre in Yam and 1 acre of Blank land

This does not come out right and I shall have to check these facts again with him.

Cane: Used for pan sugar. (Leaves for feeding stock). In bouting I would have to take an estimate of cost. Does not know exactly. I do it little little (i.e. reap it over a long period) to keep my family, to feed stock, and to make sugar. I made about 15 pans last year which comes to 5 dozen cans a pan. For the estimate "I has to take the lowest value i.e.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d per can. or head. This would come to 7/6. I He uses the Mill at Henry Baker's which is about 5 chains away, from one section and 10 chains away from the other section of his land.

You have to draw the cane to the mill. When you grind one barrel of liquor with a man's beast (i.e. not your own) you has to pay 1/- to grind per barrel, 1/- to boil and 4d to feed the mill.

A square of good bearing cane will give you 3 barrels of liquor; sometimes the first crop 3 and the second crop 2 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ .

We scarcely replant cane because the soil is good. I have been 13 years here on the same land and have never replanted. We supply roots as needed.

I market the sugar at Balaclava or Santa Cruz and sell some locally.

Yams. Where yams were planted last year I feed stock on that part this year and plant there next year. I learn that here. And I dont burn bush. I chop it and plough it in.

I have  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre in yams -- I plant all kinds. I have 300 hills. "I ~~xxxx~~ plant it wide to get air in and for little little things" (i.e. to plant small things in between).

To arrive at the amount produced he again said he would have to take an estimate as he never took account (tek a cause) of what they ate. But the 300 negro yams, with the expense of "drawing out to plant and everything" would bring in £10.

Details : -

To dig : <del>xxxx</del>	£1.10.
To broke the bar (plough between the yam hills)	9.
To cut the bush	9.
For 300 Yam sticks	2. 8.
2 weedings @ 2/6 per stretch	15.

Total costs £5.11.

~~xxxxx~~

Deduct from £10 get profit of £4.9/- on the  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre.

Blank Land. He keeps an acre of blank land for feeding stock. this is moved from place to place on the cultivations so that the land is rested every year.

Family history: His parents were Mrs Mary Bennett (see C.H. No 60 under Satira Lindo) and Mr Geroge Napier who lives in Warsop.

ever seek after it." Father's parents: He does not remember his father's father's name. His paternal grandmother was Jane Martin who came from St Elizabeth.

Maternal grandparents: My mother's mother was Ann Allen and she came from Albert Town. Before she was married her name was "right."

My mother's father was Matthew Bennett from Albert Town. My mother done lots of work on the road. (He almost implied she built it). She had 5 children but them all dead lef' me alone.

(At this juncture he broke off to tell Mr Thompson, whose wife little baby died last week, how sorry he was about it. I regret that I did not get this part down verbatim but there was so much to remember that I have forgotten the exact wording. I did not like to write while he was speaking with such feeling and on a private matter to T. But I remember the ending "Mr Thompson it is hard to lose your baby but dat is on de Lord and de Lord's love is to (comfort) you."

Sunday  
18.5.47.  
T.O. - J.O.

Mr. Napier arrived round 1p.m. after Church while we were having a session with Mr. Zaki Smith. He said sister Kathleen visited his wife twice and had a talk with him as well. He said sister Kathleen told him to come and see the Doctor. /J.O./ It is only after his visit we discovered that "sister Kathleen was really F.C. whom he promised to visit - and he mixed up names and addresses.

The general conversation in the presence of Mr. Smith was about the peculiarities of the English language - how it differentiated from the American, and Mr. Napier's experiences in America.

It is only after Mr. Smith left that Mr. Napier proceeded to his personal story, experiences, activities, ambitions and hopes. He was much stressing the point of how he loved his family and what hardships he had to undergo to secure for them a decent living.

The following is the verbatim account - almost full - of what he said.

" The start is in America. I travel to America, I accumulate a little money to help me in the future. The first of it I ask to say of my ambition and my mind. Having 5 children round - my house is not fit.

I am a bastard. When I was small boy no father care me. My mother broke stone to help me to go to school. I buy my own book. I got to 4th book only. When I become a young man parents were not able to help me. Come up to come a man. Take a woman - she has to batter hard to make the two ends meet. I worked hard before we were able to marry. We married in 1937. In the Baptist Church.

I went to America in 1945. I suffered dead for my family - because I love them.

xpenses  
nasty life  
My life is nasty life.

Came back from America I buy \$25.- of lumber. I rent 5 acres - \$8.- a year. 6 children to undertake. I join my Church and such societies as the Agricultural Society. I like to appear decent. A nasty life to where I am living. It is not suitable for my family. Two apartments and a hall.

ow life of  
Jamaica.

I go to America to make an effort - to make a building. It will be a long time and I don't know when, according to slow life of Jamaica when I start /building/

The little house so crowded that the air you breath - if illness - it spreads. Breath the same air. I send children to friends to continue the night. / The house is over crowded so they send children to sleep to neighbours who have better accomodation/

per sexes  
My planning to my mind it is to upper sexes - people like you. My intention is high. 27th December - Libra is my planning. To cling from where I am. / He refers to the sign of the zodiac "Libra". It is in the "calendars" widely used and read by the farmers in Warsop/ I am not a jealous man, but ambitious. I have zealous nature: you live good - I would like to live good, you have that glass, I would like to have that glass, you have that house, I would like to have such house. . But I wish every poor man the best prosperity. I don't like to hold debt. I like to give but I don't like to be in debt which I can't pay. - My life would be a misery.

Sunday  
18.5.47.  
T.O.- J.O.

Since I bought the lumber I have /bought/ 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> stretch in War-  
sop below Mrs. Brissett's, near the common. Common is a  
level place. My land is beside Cibert Brooks. I bought  
3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> stretch. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stretch for £2.-- leaving £6/2. "ithout th e  
surveyor. Buy from Lynch. Lynch intend to go further over.  
/It is why he sold Mr. Napier's a portion of land. The sur-  
veryor will be called when Mr. Napier finishes buying. He  
intends to buy a little more./

Life is so slow I can't build just now. I buy 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
stretch at £40.-- an acre. It is good price - land is extra  
dear. If it is in the front I would be asked to pay more.  
Our Government does not treat us as it should. Though I am  
a poor man I ask too to help a poorer man below me. When I am  
better, the one below is better, and the one below is better.  
I help the man below me, he helps the man below. You can go  
back and help abck right away.

I am telling you to God as the rain is falling that  
my life is hard. I had no own land. Can't buy fleh kind. Dig  
food from soil, boil it - no flesh kind to it.

My father's parents are from St. Elizabeth, my mo-  
ther's parents from Brown's Town. I am a bastard. Wondi-  
tion hard. My name is my father's name but my father didn't  
marry. Mary Bennett thats my grand-mother -. She lives near  
the butcher's shop. The new shingle house - Gilbert Facey a  
cousin made that house.

I wouldn't mind how hard my life is since I have a  
home. I am jealous after a home.

The reason a man fight a war - for the children co-  
ming.

No matter how black I am but I am comely and know  
how to strike with good people. Some dark people they are  
selfish / won't talk with white people/ but / it is beacause/  
~~xxxxxxx~~ they are a little timid. Poor people. Their life  
is confused. They would rather die than live more such life.

ost of  
nired labour.

A stretch of land you plant you has to pay 3 sh.  
of cutting - a stretch - the bush. you pay 10/- of ploughing  
land - for one stretch and you /are/ asked to feed the man  
that work. It take 4 days when the land is bad and 3 days  
when the land is good. You give him yam and fish. That man  
take s 3 or 4 helpers. You pay that man 4 and he takes hel-  
pers 10 shillings and 2 /- food. 1/ food and 1/- flesh  
kind. You give him that along with 10 shillings. Digging the  
land - yam hills - cost 10/- and the same feed. I will show  
you my land - so you will be able to describe how we work.  
The road is extra bad after the rain time. Wait two days  
with no rain. For one stretch:

10/- to plough and meal

10/- to plant and meal

2/6 to weed the grass and a little meal - twice  
a year. Getting sticks for those yam. Those stick are 16/  
a hundred. Only serve one year, and have to pay for bringing.  
£2 - £ 3 for lasting stick. "epp you ever so long - whole  
life. They are made of burned eye - they cannot rot. The  
Government stick different. 6/- /you pay/ to what you can  
accumulate for 3 months. But you ask/ asked/ to go very far.  
And get worker with yu. It is much easier to pay 16/- I h  
have a mule I paid £22/10. The mule is not yer trained.



Sunday  
18.5.47.  
T.O.- J.O.

I have a donkey - paid for it £ 6.- To make sugar:  
for the mule 1/ - 1 barrel  
for copper 1/ "

4d. a boy to feed the mill.

Sometimes the sugar is sold at the boiling house for 1½ a head / 1 lb/ sometime 2 d a head, sometime 2½.d. The legal price is 1½ d.

My land is divided in 4 sections. 1 acre - we are living, one portion with yam - 1½-acre, one with cane ¾ acre, one for stock - where you feed your stock. I have 300 negro yam hills- the income of it £10.- beside what we eat and excluding the cost of ploughing / etc/ one acre is empty for the stock. I have one mule, one cow and calf, one donkey. The stock is what I accumulate from America. I don't spent money from America on eating, on food. Banana dead out from Panama disease. I usual to produce 24-30 bunch - not every week. Some 7, 5 or 3 stem a week.

Living in All sides around 14 years. I was renting 2½ acres untill I grow stronger. I planted yams to maintain ourselves. I rented more and more according to your produce that increase.

America  
start  
me.

That America help me to start to accumulate to buy lumber. America start me. America is the greatest help may God help that country.

I cannot blame English, but the people they select/ to govern/ are all for themself. If England sent a million pounds we wouldn't see a cent.

are pressed  
to the earth.

can't talk to  
a king.

King does not know what happen. I would live and die for stranger because I would feel to be a traveller all the time. When I travelled in States and see conditions I say Jamaica is into a deep hole. Since I travel I gather lot of experience. We are behind time. Once I travelled with a woman in America and I asked is that right you make difference between white and black people. She said we like colour. If you cut me it is the same blood, the colour of the skin is only different. It is nothing so fashionable that a black suit a white shirt. Black and white wear very good. England is not to be blamed, because they are rulers and they had no information from us. Government in Jamaica makes hammock. We are pressed every day - down to the earth - we are trampled. / Here Mr. Napier illustrated by vigorous trampling with his feet the state of Jamaican people/ you can't sent a letter or send a telegraph to the king, unless it is signed by the government. You can't talk to the king. King knows nothing at all of the life and condition in Jamaica. All Government were well coked by the stunch /or staunch?/ men - they bribe the government. We live by the leisure of the Government. We get nothing to speak of. Jamaica has to bear - poor Jamaica takes whatever we get. The only man who is free xxxxxx free from the boundage of Jamaica is the man who died in the God.

I believe in scripture. The footstep you take the child must step in it. I like live life that my children could step in. I love my family. I have a tender heart than the mother. When she kicks them I say take a strap and flog the child but not knock the child. ?gesture/ we have a little saying: Fatherscare, but motherslove sisters fear and

S unday  
18.5.47.  
T.O. - J.O.

brother strong, a love at home and school each day for guidance less we go astray.

I buy lumber, hog say catch the first water you wash.

I travel and I grow with white people. George Wiltshire parents adopt me when I was a little child.. I grow with them. They sent me to school. Most of black people are afraid to talk with white. Are little selfish to talk with white. White are proud. Jamaican whites are proud. They are not like real white. The real white is not proud. I have seen in America real white, they accomodate you, kind to you. American have no tongue of their own. They use english. When I speak they admired me much. They fear the English. When I was in America I went to a caffeteria. They said me go the other side. I said I am a British subject, and was served. They dread English in America very much, we are well protected. If anything should happen to us England would seek after the boy."