

C.D. 22. Subdistrict 12. Household 47.

Powell Joshua	Head	M.Cl.45.	St.El.	Col.	Angl.	Ill.	Farmer
Sinclair May	Wife	F.Cl.50.9.8.	"	"	"	"	Homemaker
Robinson Stanley	StSon	M.S. 23.	"	"	"	"	Sideman on truck
Powell Regina	Dau	F.S. 12.	"	"	"	W.2.1E.	
" Gerald	Son	M.S. 9.	"	"	"	W.1.3E.	
" Kenrick	Son	M.S. 7.	"	"	"	"	
" Wilbert	Son	M.S. 5.	"	"	"	"	
" Cynthia	Dau	F.S. 5.	"	"	"	"	
" Ellen	Dau	F.S. 3.	"	"	"	"	

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His farm 1942.

4 acre

25 years operates as owner.
 1 parcel - 4,25 ac. Tobacco. Worked 36 weeks. No labour employed.
 Out of 4,25 acres: cultivated 1,5 + cultivable 0,5 ac. Pasture: 1,25 ac / guinea 3/4 ac. + common 1/2 ac. Woodland not used as pasture 1/4 ac. Other land 3/4 ac.
 Value: £45. Build. £25. No mortgage.
 1 catchment.
 3 coconuts - 50 nuts. 5 mangoes - 7 not fruit. - 130 doz.
 Congo 1/2 ac. - 5 bush. Cassava 1/2 ac. - 1000 lbs.
 Tobacco 1/2 ac. - 350 lbs.
 Stock: 1 goat. 2 swines. 2 hens - 2 doz eggs prod.

Inform. Dudley Simpson.
13.3.48.
J.O.

Joshua Powell-
his ancestry.His
relatives.

"Joshua Powell - he is brother of Elleen Powell.
And he is brother of Ethel Simpson."

"Joshua Powell and Ethel Simpson are brother and
sister. By mother side. The mother of Ethel ~~waxx~~ Simp-
son was Retchel Simpson and the mother of Joshua Powell
was Retchel Simpson."

"Retchel Simpson did marry to my uncle, my father
brother, Archibald Simpson. Retchel was 'nt from Simp-
son - she was Stephenson. But she get her name by her ~~hx~~
husband. Retchel Simpson husband was Archibald Simpson.
But after his death she lived with Abraham Powell.
After the death of Archibald Simpson Retchel has a
shild by Abraham Powell."

Children's names
in olden times.

Discussing complicated family genealogies in
Bull Savannah Dudley Simpson ~~gaxaxaxxxxpianaxkixexefxxkome~~
~~fxkixkixis~~ explained some of their intricacies by the
old custom of naming children after their fathers and
mothers.

"In those day they always give the child name afte
the mother, if it is the girl, and after the father, if
it is the boy. Father and son - one of the sons - will
have one name. And mother and girl will have one name."

13.4.48.
T.O. & J.O.
Informants: Dudley Simpson & Bradley Rochester.

"Joshua Powell (lives) up on the Ridge near
to Robert Simpson. Joshua Powell and Joseph Dyer are
in one direction, and Elleen Powell - all of them in
one direction on the Ridge."

A poor man's
lot.

"Joshua Powell - he is a poor man. In those
days- he told me - he has to go out and plant for a
man for 1/- a day. One shilling a day! Worked with
Charles Dyer in Spring Pasture and on the hill.(Shaddoc
Hill)."

" One day he work and him wife confine in
the house with a baby and nobody at all beside. When
him draw in the evening with the shilling, he had to
pick up the pan and go to Manchester to the spring
to get water. It was drought and there was no parish
tank at that time. After bring water (he) had to take
the towel and went to the shop. There was no food in
the garden. Poor fellow I tell you, After him back ~~fx~~

from the shop he had to look for the fire to make some food stuff for the wife and smaller children. After fixing them up with the food he had to take all the children and bathe and put to bed and then he have some ease."

"Now things are not ~~xx~~ badly with them - you know. Children come big and them stop have children now. So them can look after themsleves and explain what life is."

"Once the wife - I remember had two baby (twins). It was terrible time. Poor fellow he had to rally out every hard details of life just to have them out. Right now everyone is big. The depression is not so hard on him now. Can make things much better."

May Sinclair.

"His wife May is old Thomas Sinclair and Pigeon Sinclair daughter - from Ribbit. They both died now. Her first child berfore she marry was Robinson Stanley - Dorrell Robinson child."

"Dorrell Robinson was old William Simpson wife Mary Simpson child but not for William "(Dorrel's mother was Mary Simpson the wife of William Simpson. But William Simpson was not Dorrell's father). ~~This~~ Robinson is not from Bull Savannah - is from a next district."

"Stanley Robinson is living with mother. Is a side man on Powell truck."

The children:

"The first child Regina. We call her Euclen, remember Ukraine. She is married to Angus Dyer in Dunder Hill."

"Gerald staying with parents. Couldn't afford to keep him in school. Age not up. ~~Helping father~~ Helping father."

"Kenrick is a dumb. Helping his father. Is a noble boy. Helping his father more than Gerald. Can't speak."

"In Algonan Dyer home (there is) a daughter of Joshua Powell (Powell Viola) who has no palate. Is doing domestic work. Talk quite low. She was so from she was born."

"Wilbert and Cynthia - twins. Willy can talk. Cynthia cant talk. Ellen can talk."

Marriage among
relatives.

At this point Dudley and Bradley made some reflections concerning the causes of such deficiencies as dumbness etc. with which children are born.

"Nobody knows why. Even in Jamaica them profess if two first cousin marry - have dumb children"

But Dudley's observation of his community does not confirm this opinion: "Ezra Linton and Ida Elliott are first cousins but they have no dumb children. Ida's father uncle Moses brother to aunty Emma (Emma ~~xxxx~~ Linton nee Elliott). Two first cousins aren't to marry, yet it happen and they have no dumb." And here ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ negative example too:

"My aunt and Hubert Dyer marry and they don't have any children that sensible. Every one is an idiot. Yet they are no cousin."

"I just don't know how dumb comes in."

In the case of the Joshua Powell family Dudley couldn't find any cause in heredity.:

"Rachel Simpson and Abraham Powell - parents of Joshua - quite collective. And May Sinclair parents was quite collective."

Friday .
25. 6. 48.
D. B.

Interviewed Joshua Powell .

Present House hold .

Joshua Powell	Head	Age 40
May Powell	Wife	" 44
Regina Powell	Dau.	" 18
Gerald Powell	Son	" 14
Kenrisk Powell	"	" 13
Cynthia Powell	Dau.	" 10
Willie Powell	Son	" 10
Ellen Powell	Dau.	" 8
Evadne Rochester	StepGr. Dau.	3
Stanley Robinson	Son to May	23

sep. 20
11/10

The house .

Joshua's house is a two roomed cottage situated on a hill between ~~the~~ Dyer's house and Ellen Powell's . It has a thatched roof and spanish walls with concreted floors and steps . The live in one room and the mother and father in the other . Joshua built his house , "it cost me a lot fe build it , a hit take all me money " . The took about £46. to build . He had to buy board , cement , thatch and lumber for the roof , "and that time things did well dear . The house was built 16 years ago . He has white washed it several times since it was made . "If the wall don' white/all the time the foundation won' keep fe long , and the house look old quick " .

hill/
Joseph/
children /
house /
wash /

The kitchen is very shabby , and half falling down . It is kept up by posts that are put to one side . The walls are of coconut leaves , with roof of thatch . In the kitchen could be seen about six rows of tobacco hanging there to be dried . Asked if he was going to sell - " a fe me fe smoke , we no worry with the tobacco selling now for we have the tomato" .

Source of living .

Joshua is a cultivator earning his living from what he plants . He has been cultivating from he was quite a boy . He used to plant tobacco as that was the only thing then to earn a living from . He cultivates on his own land all the time , except for the last two years when he worked on Mr Pinny Powell's land planting tomato and ~~ee~~ corn . He had to plant a ~~lag~~ large field of tobacco , so that he could make "something worthwhile out of it " . Tobacco was very cheap then , and was sold at 3d per lb.

He plants tomato every year, cassava and gungo peas for his home use and a little tobacco still for his own use . From the tomato he planted on his own land last year he got £22. 10. "after clearing expense" and from the field he worked with Pinny they got £23. 10. which ~~could be~~

was/

50 /

was shared between them .The field at Ridge had 2, 000 holes and the other about 11, 00 . Joshua plants about one acre of cassava , but he does not sell his cassava crop . His cassava along x with the gungo peas and french beans "a fe feed me family " . He has about/roots or more of banana - "honey banana " quite close to his kitchen . "You no find plenty people round this side who plant them ya banana . Me cultivate plenty because me like them . Me no sell them at all - use them fe me home . When them fit me ripe them and we have themfe eat . All the time me plant them " .

He has a field of corn where he had planted the tomato . That also is done on partner ship with Pinny .

His children .

With the exception of Viola all his children live at home . His wife had two children before she became friends with him . They are Stanley/~~Byx~~ and Agatha Dyer . Agatha is married and lives at her own house ,

Robinson/

Regina his first daughter went to school , read to the 4th standard and stopped . he is now at home doing domestic's work . She worked at the factory about three years wrapping tomato at 1d per box .

Gerald used to ~~wre~~ work at the factory in the shed getting 2/-3 per day . When he is not working he helps his father in ~~g-~~ the field .

Viola has been staying at Mrs Edna Dyer for six years . Edna asked the parents to allow Viola to stay with her . She is supported by Edna . She is fifteen years old . he did not go to school, "because she snuffle and before them laugh after her she never ~~ge~~ send her" . Sometimes Viola comes to visit her mother and father , "but ~~hee~~ she never stay long " .

Kenrick is dumb and cannot do nothing but run up and down , and "help do any little thing sometimes" . Cynthia is also dumb .

Willie and Ellen go to school when they can find the lunch to give them . "Them have ~~saxx~~ dinner wey the pickney them can buy , but a whole 3d for it and a no eve every body can find the 3d every day fe give them fe lunch . And the people them that have more than one pickneydey go a school caan manage that . Teacher Millard do a wrong thing fe charge 3d for the lunch , him dow run some a dey pickney from the school , for a no every body caan ~~feaf~~ find it fe give them every day . When me no ~~he-~~ have it fe give them me won' make them go , then can 'tan home a yard " .

Evadne is the daughter of Agatha , adopted by Joshua and May . She was horn at Joshua's house .

Family History.

Abraham Powell father (dead)

Rachel Bryan mother (dead)

Does not know mother, grew with Miss Ellen Powell. He heard that she took him when he was ten months old. He stayed with her until she died. At that time he was a "big man". His father supported him until he was about 14 years old he started to work for himself. He does not know if Ellen was related to him in any way.

She took "good care of him". Ellen was married but he does not remember her husband's name. She was not his father's wife. He did not go to school, "that time they did not particular fe send children to school".

He has a brother in Cuba but he does not know him. He went away long ago. Perhaps he is dead. He has another one in Christiana, he does not remember his name. "Him married and settle and everything. Him never write to me so me no know nothing much 'bout him". His two brothers are his mother's children.

When he grew up and could work he used to help Ellen. She died and left him living in her old house. He lived in the old house until he could build one for himself.

~~Mexxxxxxxgotxxxxxxkingxxxxxxxhisxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
Land.

The only thing he has got from his father is 3 1/2 acres of land. His house is built on it, and he cultivates on a portion of it.

Contribution to house hold and Expenditure.

Joshua contributes to the house hold and Stanley too (see page where Stanley was interviewed seperately) Having so many children Joshua has to spend a large amount at the shop weekly. Sometimes for a week he has to spend £ 2. , 4/- cannot give a meal for the day, "for we have fe buy fish and food every day".

To clothe the family is another hard thing, rather expensive. To show how hard it is he gave an instance in getting a shirt and pants for himself. The other day he bought a shirt for 10/- and pant for 12/-6, to make the pairs he had to pay 5/- . "You can judge from that and see wha' it wi' cost fe clothes everybody".

Sickness.

He had to spend a lot of money last year on sickness. Three of the children were sick, they had to go to the Doctor. The mother also issick, she had to go to the Doctor too. He could not give an idea of how much he spent.

26. 6. 48.
Saturday.
D. B.

Interviewed May Powell & Stanley Robinson .

Family History .

Her father Thomas Sinclair who is dead

Her mother Emma Sinclair also dead

three/

Has ~~xxxx~~ sisters in Bull Savannah Alice Sinclair and Edith Sinclair . and Mrs ~~KEK~~ Relda Kneale .

May grew with her father and mother . She did not go to school . She started to trade when she was quite a girl doing bammies .

She had Stanley when she was very young . She could not remember Stanley's ~~father's~~ father's name . Her next child is Agatha Dyer by "Meridie" Dyer of B.S. Her other children are by Joshua Powell . She has been living with Joshua for a long time . They got married last year May .

Her sickness .

She is very sick with her heart - it is gathering water . She went four times to the Doctor . Dr. ^{Ma}ais. She got no help , so she went to Miss Reta's Balm at Blake's Pen last Good Friday . She paid 2/-6 to Miss Reta to take up the case and 3d for the bath. She got medicine , she was told to beil parch nichol , & dandelion that ~~xxxxxxx~~ should be made into tea and taken with nutmeg every morning . She should also take wine and nutmeg three times for the day.

The bath is prepared by ~~Keta~~ Reta and there is an old lady to bathe the patients . She was stripped and bathed "from her head to her foot". Since she has been there she is feeling much better - better than when she went to the Doctor . She went a second time to Miss Reta and was told that she is improving . She does not have to pay every time she goes to Miss Reta . The first amount is to do the case until the patient is better . Miss Reta is very famous , "people from all over the world come to her and she better them . What Doctor can better she can better".

Miss Reta's trouble.

Once Miss Reta was put in Jail with her father , mother sister . It was reported that they were practising obeah , but they were released after they were found guiltless . Sometime after the Judge that tried them got sick and he was taken to Miss Reta , and "she better him so from that they never trouble them again " .

Stone breaking .

To help to make a living May is carrying and breaking stones for the Ridge road . She does not know how much she will get per box "i' no measure yet . You wi'

have fe come back fe that dey story fa me no know whe
when i' gwine measure . Next time when you dey come carr'
one viol a healing oil with you fa you no know that we wi'
get hoarsefe gi' this x long ~~stey-~~ story " .

Saturday .
26. 6. 48.
D. B.

Interviewed Stanley Robinson & Joyce Broomfield

Stanley grew ~~ti~~ with his mother and step father . He does not know his father . He does not sleep at his mother's house . He sleeps at a house that he has rented from David Simpson , with his girl friend Joyce Broomfield . During the day Stanley and Joyce are at May's yard . They are of the same house hold as May's .

His work and living .

Stanley does all kinds of work . He cultivates , work as a side man on Immanuel Powell's truck , and he works at the factory when the crop is on . He cultivates on part-ner ship with his step- father , planting corn , cassava , yam and peas. What he gets from his crops is to help to feed him .

At the factory his work is to make fire on the boiler . He got 5/- per day working everyday in the crop . He got his x job from Mr Hastings to work at the factory , after asking for it .

As a side man on the truck he was paid 3/6 per day . He is always working when the crop is on , and after the crop he cultivates . He helps to contribute to the house hold. "hen things are "hard and he has no money his mother and step father give him all the same " .

He was not sent to school , "me parents no did sned me " . Having nothing to do he turned to cultivation very soon. Asked if he did not have a girl friend , "them too expensive fe keep " . At the same time Joyce was standing there (every body ~~aghe~~ laughed) .

Joyce .

She comes from Ballards Valley and is the daughter of Ezra Broomfield and Icilda Broomfield. Her parents had nine children , two are dead and seven are alive , She worked at the factory "in the twox last crop " spreading tomato in the shed at 2/- per day .

She and Stanley became friends six months ago and she is living here with him now . At Ballards she used to do domestic's work . She worked with Mrs Ramsay at Lowland at 10/- per month for two months . Next she worked with Mrs Agatha Ebanks in Ballards Valley at the same price. She is not working now . Stanley maintains her .

Monday.
21. 6. 48.
D. B.

Interviewed May Powell.


May like Ellen had been visited ~~before~~ before, and she refused to tell me ~~me~~ anything about herself. After talking a long while about babies and children, she told me of the hard times she had in the delivering of two of her children. She had it very hard when she was to deliver her first child. "A because a did the first one make it did so hard". She fainted in the delivering of it. She took in Sunday night and had the baby 9 o'clock Monday morning. The midwife who attended her was Mrs Ellen Powell, who is dead now. "The Midwife had to help her make way for the baby." "I tell you she a did one good midwife, for though the case did so hard me never have any need fe ~~a~~ send fe Doctor. She did really work hard 'pon me". To help to strengthen her after delivery the midwife gave her "eggpunch fe drink and after that me feel good". Her first child was ~~Steele~~ Stanley Robinson.

on a /

Her next hard case was when she had the twins. Labour started, "'bout dusk/Saturday night. One of the babies was born Saturday night and there was no sign of the other one. It had removed from out the right place and had gone into her hip, "him no mus'e did wan' born. Him nearly take me life. She had a different midwife this time because Ellen Powell is dead. This midwife was Mrs "Sella" Simpson, she was an excellent one, recognized "by Government and everything". Sella had a hard work to get the baby back into the right place, anyhow she succeeded. The other baby was born at about 2P. M. Sunday after-noon. She never knew when the baby was born, until when she woke up Sunday night she found out that she had delivered. The midwife rubbed her with bayrum and gave her "taddy" (that is egg rubbed with rum) ~~and~~ that was given to her warm.

The girl was born first and the boy that gave all the trouble came last. She did not get a fall or nothing else had happened to her, why she met it so hard. The midwife told her she was too small to have a twin, that is why one had to go in the hip. Then when the first one was born the midwife had to work the other into the place where the first one was. She did not send for the Doctor because she did not have the money, but the midwife was just as good as any Doctor. She was very sick about three months after the birth of the baby with pain and fever. She had to take Phospherine and wine to get better, and that helped her very well. The little twin girl is dumb.

She feeds most of her babies on cow's milk, condensed milk and cornmeal porridge. She teaches her children how to behave, and teaches them manners, but sometimes "them won' even hear and take it for them head so hard.



Sometimes we have to stamp our foot 'pon them, to make them hear me. She does not prevent her children from going to the neighbours' yard to play "for we all a we live loving and if we stop a fe me pickney from go a them yard them we stop fe them from come a fe me yard. When the children are naughty and want to be chastised she does it or the father. Sometimes her children curse but "when we hear them, we bawl 'pon them and make them know that them mustnt use them dey word". The behavior of the children was not half as bad as that of the children in lower Ribbet Town. They obeyed more readily, when they were spoken to, though after a while they came to the door of the kitchen peeping in, without making an attempt to come in.

Tuesday .
29. 6. 48.
D. B.

Interviewed May Powell.

I had another talk with ~~her~~ ^{Yvonne Bannister} today . She was washing clothes at Mrs Edna Dyer's house . She was very pleasant and ready to talk . She was helping Edna to wash and "not doing it for money". A full account of her life with Stanley Robinson was not possible to get , as there were many people standing around and made it most inconvenient . She and Stanley were not living together , "we live at my mother house still after my fall". ^{is father}

eight /

She was supported well by ~~Stanley~~ Stanley up to the first months after the birth of the baby . After that Stanley went away to St Thomas and since then she has not heard from him , neither has he ~~xx~~ sent any ~~x~~ thing ~~xx~~ for the baby . She had it very hard after he went away to support the baby . Her parents had to help her with the child , and she had to start working very soon just to be able to support the child . She had to weed grass , wash clothes and trade on bannay .

She next became friends with "Meridie " Dyer the father of her second child Agatha . She did not live with Meridie , "we only get the child from him". Meridie did not treat her as hard as Stanley , he supported his child until the child could help herself .