

C.D. 22. Sbd. 14. Household 3. p.1.10.

Ellington Emily head F.S. 48 2.2. St. Eliz. Col. Ang.W.2. farmer

Her farm in 1942.

Under one acre.

1 goat,
Value of garden crop 6/-
1 avocado=? 4 mangoes= 78 doz.

Interviewed Emily Ellington.

Present household.

Nahaman Rowe Head. ⁴⁰⁻⁵⁰
Emily Ellington cl. wife. ^{ab. 50, over 50}
^{Gemith Brooks ab. 6th, Juliet's day.}
Family History.

Nahaman "is not a born ya." (was not born here.)
Mother Georgiana Ellington "born same place here, John
Ellington, her father was also born at Thatch Walk.
John and Geoggiana had 14 children.:- Ada died in Bocas
Rhoda (d) Ernest died at sea, Johnnie (d), Rutan (d)
Clementina "married name Francis and living at Old Top.
Rutan (d), Albert lives at Thatch Walk very near to
Emily, Rachael is living in Kingston.

Mother's mother Jane Heathe. Father's mother Emily
Banton. Emily was named after her 2 grand mothers,
she is Jane Emily Ellington. Mother's father Alexan-
der Heathe. Father's father Jackie Ellington. Jackie
used to live at Alligator Pond. "Him live and die there"

Land.

The land on which Emily now lives was owned by her pa-
rents. "Is family land. Mother never left no will,
but the boy (Albert) him take the whole of it, as him
a the one boy leave. Me take strong head take this
piece. If me noh did stand like lion me would not
get ~~this piece~~ it at all. The others no get none.
Well them don' get it for them never want it. Me mind
parents till them dead and bury; the whole district
can tell you. That time them (sisters and brother)
small, but you know, noh bad mind. Him say him seek-
ing to secure land for all of we, but instead, him se-
cure it for himself. Him sell it off. Him have one
renking (rank) woman over there, me and her can'
take tea at all (Emily and the woman cannot agree) she
little bit too gummie for me."

Holness

Albert lives with Martena Elliott, while Ernest/(Emily's
son lives with Doris Elliott a sister of Martena.
Doris and Ernest lives on the Holness' land. Ernest's
children visit Emily all the time but but Doris and
Emily are not friends.

"A noh easy something me go through for this place.
Every one of them sick and dead, is me handle them.
The same one you see there (Albert) him shroud make
and put down, all him ~~muffier~~ ~~alixhim~~ muffler (a piece
of cloth tied under the chin and passing over the head,
which is used to keep the mouth of the deceased closed.)

Thursday
Wednesday.
1. 4. 48.
I.D.
see p 5.

put down for him; and through the mercy of God and good handling - see him there. I don't know who did not cry shame at him when him take the little piece." Asked why she did not take all the land which was on this side of the road. "I did after the whole piece but as life all over, I leave it for them other one (sisters) but I sorry, for him take it. I must say the place cu'se, for late a days, anything plant, it never come out to nothing."

Diagram of land

Albert's land which adjoins Emily's is worked by his two sons. Emily has been living on her portion for about 7 years. Before she took the land from her brother she lived with Holness the father of her children. "After me have the picknie them and them get big, me leave and seek after me own. Them say mother have, father have, happy the child that have it's own."

Emily's father's mother died in the house in which Robert now lives. Her mother also died there.

When Emily took the land from Albert, he was not at all pleased. "We did not talk at all. Now it little better; we will talk, and sometime him will come over here, buy not often."

Ethel's illness.

Ethel Simpson, niece of Thomas Heathe's wife is now sick with her belly. Ethel used to live at Thomas' house. Something happened and Thomas and herself had a fight and he chased her from the house. "Him want the picknie fe wife. The child leave and him say a somebody she come out to."

"Thomas is my cousin and I don't go there, and not even death taking me there. Who me? Thomas have mouth trouble." What do you mean by that? Chat too much - lie too much, I not going there at all. Him old and a play young. "

Ernest Dyer said he was very sorry for Ethel if he had a bigger house he would take her in. "I tell you, I feel for the child you see." Emily then said she too was sorry for Ethel and that she was "good man and good woman picknie." Ethel's parents are dead. She has a sister in Kingston who looks after her. She should have seen the doctor today but he did not come to Bull Savannah at all. Ernest thought they would have sent

for the ambulance in order to take Ethel to the hospital. "If she don't get care, she must dead, for I hear yesterday them stretch her out say she dead." Emily said ~~that~~ Ethel was sick when she had the fight with Thomas "and after that weaken her and she go Benjamin Powell at Top Bull Savannah B. Brooks go 'round there and raise hell say she can't stay there. The man (Thomas) really beat him, and up top (B.S) them haup and pull him again." Benjamin Powell is Ethel's relative.

Emily said if she lived nearer to Ethel she would help her in some way or other. She has a terrible pain in her knee and is not able to go about. "Me render to stranger much more to him." Then she sighed and said "Jesus preach and Angels visit, my Lord." Benjamin's woman "Manasa" does not want Ethel to stay at the house either. She refuses to put a sheet on the bed.

/her

Rosetta - Thomas' grand daughter went to look for Ethel. She gave Manasa some arrowroot to make porridge for Ethel, Rosetta went to Bay, and returned and the porridge was still not made. "I hear Benjamin hollar you see."

Emily does not like Thomas at all. "You only want to go there one or two time and you hear that you and him is something."

Kitchen.

Emily's kitchen is build on Holness' land. "Me ask the old man before me put it up."

Interviewed Emily Ellington.

Saturday
Thursday.
3. 4. 488
I, D.

Water situation.

The first thing Emily told me was that they were now able to get water easily at the factory. The Parochial Board had extended a pipe line from the factory to the road. Water was given away yesterday between the hours of 8 and 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. As from tomorrow the water may be sold "6 juno pan for 1d." 1 juno pan holds 5 gallons.

Mr. Holness says that some of the people were quarreling. Some of them said that the water should not be sold at all. "Them too fool, if them even sell it, noh better than go to rock." Raglan Rochester is in charge of the pipe. "Don't him must get pay. We are not a good people, and them must have somebody in charge of it."

Meal time.

Emily's grand daughter who lives with her was seated on a box in the kitchen having her dinner which consisted of gongo peas soup and bammy. The soup was in a small yabba and the bammy in an enamel plate. One of her grand sons who lives nearby with his mother came afterwards. He was given his dinner, he sat out in the yard and had it.. Emily stated that every day he came for the dinner. "Even the big one you see o^ver there come to." She pointed to her son who lives nearby.

While the children were eating, Emily was making bammies. The flour used for making the last one was not very fine. Asked why, "that is for the dog." The dogs were also given gongo soup and bammie. One of the dogs was called Gomez after the Cuban gangster who was killed in Kingston years ago.

Emily does not eat gongo peas. "The only thing in peas that me like is banabis." Red peas, gonog, beaf, mutton, "all them things don't agree with me stomach." She is terribly fond of bammies. Her favourite dish is bammy and fish. "When you see me cook fish me can't eat it same time. Me have to put it down and eat it afterwards." Why? "Because is me look after it."

Emily used to sell bammies at Alligator Pond when she was younger. "Sometime me carry all 9/- wort' o' bammy go to Pond. Now we can hardly get the cassava. // When me can't get bammy is just like me in a trouble."

Pregnancy and childbirth

During pregnancy there are some things that the expectant mother does not want. "If you don't want a thing the baby mind don't give him for it."

Cella Simpson is the best midwife in the district, "I hear that she get pass from Dr. She well clever." Some women have their babies on the floor others on the bed. "According to what you like. When them on the floor you able to handle them better. You spread bag or clothes on the floor. Rain could even come Cousin Cella coming all the same. Some of them don't give her a thing. She don't charge, snything you give her, she take it.

Mother generally stays in the house 9 days with the baby. When you come out 9 day, you come out soon a morning, While no hard breeze not blowing or no rain. As the sun say 12:00 o'clock, - right in back." Why? "Will catch cold. Baby cold is the worse cold. Six month, them say you hard that time." The mother is supposed to be able to come out at night when her baby is 6 months old.

Weaning.

"Some suckle them baby up to 10 months; all when them a big picknie a walk."

He seems to have some form of venereal disease Emily's daughter has a little boy who is covered with sores. He has been to the Dr. about 4 times. "And it don't even give him a little fever. It don't even draw the boy. I believe him want some injection." The child's father does not support him.

Interviewed Nahaman Rowe.

Sunday
4. 4. 48.
I.D.

Father Nahaman Rowe from Bull Savannah died 1923. Mother Annie McLeod from Manchester. "Most of my time spent in St. Thomas."

Travels.

Nahaman was born in Manchester. After leaving school he went to Chapleton to his father's adopted daughter. He worked at Abraham's property "sometime don't work at all." Went to St. Mary and worked on plantation; then to St. Thomas "Was all member of the Industrial Trade Union." Nahaman worked for a time at Duckenfield. The first place he did fishing was Port Morant.

Fishing

"Fishing at Lucea and Greenisland, after leave Greenisland, went back to Lucea. After I leave Lucea I come ot a district they call Bull Savannah. I come right to my brother Charles Rowe." Charles is also a fisher man.

Nahaman works with Taba Powell of Alligator Pond. "Work pot with him on share." The boat belongs to Taba, 4 men generally go out on it. Taba is Captain, Nahaman, Mate; daCosta Heathe, son of Thomas Heathe also works on the same boat. "Don't have direct man as 4th. Chiefly get a man when the weather is hard to go with us."

Fishermen sometimes use landmarks to guide them. "When we can't see no land we use the star. North star we call it here. On the windward side - round Old Harbour, Rocky Point going east till you get to Morant Point - them call the star Over Mary." The fishpots, sometimes get lost. The pots are not taken ashore unless they need mending or if the fishermen are moving to another part of the island. In order to find the pot easily, apart from noting land markd, one end of a rope is tied to the pot and the other end to a piece of bamboo called "buye". The buye floats in the sea. Sometime steamer take away the pots, or e current, or people t'ief them." Asked if he made more money on the big fish. "I pbefer the big fish, but we have to take what we get, until we get what we want."

Nahamansells his catch to Diana Roache. 1st class quality 11d a lb. 2nd class 9d a lb. "3rd class sell on string to local buyer. From January to now it is very slow."

Expenses = fishing industry.

"Every thing dear, but when it come to things for the fishing industry, I think it dearer than all. At one time you could get nail for 4d a lb. now is 1/6. You could get 100 fathoms of Cayman rope for 5/- now if you don't have

16/- don't ask for it. Lay rope 1/- a coil, now is 3/6. I used to buy a roll of 4' 1" wire for 18/-, if you don't have £7. 10. now, you dare not ask them for it." Asked when he was going to buy his own boat. "Poor man can't own boat. For a man to buy a boat and rig it out with sails and everything, don't think it going to cost 2½d. Decide yourself on £200, don't go under that. You have to build different classes of boats. 3' feet, that is jack pot. 12 bar for yellow tail. The very lowest you get 12 bar pot for is 25/-." The 12 bar pot is made of bamboo.

A boat was sold at Alligator Pond the other day to some men from Kingston for £36. The owner of the boat is in St. Thomas, Nahaman does not know the name.

Bull Savanah - fishermen.

Aque Powell has his own boat. Percy. Brooks works Claston Rochester's boat on share. Joseph Thomas also works one of Claston's boats. Willie Brooks and his brother work together. Nahaman could not remember the name of Willie's brother.

Elliott family

Nahaman said the Elliotts were not good people. "Even though them is me cousin I don't go there. Me Aunt dead there, and I don't go."

Emily said if the Elliotts were a different set of people Daphne Perkins lip would not be like that. They told the mother to take her to the doctor and he would be able to sew it up and she would not do it. "The picknie mark for some ~~man~~ trotters or other." (when the mother was pregnant she wanted trotters and did not get it ~~and she~~ ~~for~~ she is supposed to have touched her mouth and the child was born with the mouth looking like a pig's foot.) "Sometime me say is God do it, for the way she use to curse when she did a breed, a mus'z him make the picknie mouth some so."

Nahaman said "Don't put no blame to ~~Y~~ Jehovah God, is no thing at all like that. It's a race that don't harken to the voice of man. Them life of living is not to my suit for that reason, I keep myself out of their course. All the day long them occupy them time in idle talk and foolish play." Referring to Daphne again he said. "Mr Garvey say anything happen to a child, don't blame the father, blame the mother."

Martene and Doris Elliott live very near to Nahaman and he does not visit them at all. Doris lives with Ernest Holmes Emily's son. Asked how is it he liked Doris. Emily replied. "Them say if hog nyam (eat) shit is him mind give him for it." Nahaman said "In other words where calaloo live is there him grow." Emily said after that. "Them have the word to say, - you bound to take me." Asked what she meant but she only laughed.

The Survey

"The new generation will be able to handle this business, like our Jamaica Government all over, it is very slow. If Government help us with wire, we would be able to handle ourselves much better. All this trouble that Government going through is idleness, the few that it help is simple; look how many suffering today."

Industrial Trade Union. & Bustamante.

When Nahaman came to Bull Savannah first, he asked for the Union office and heard that there was no such office. "I say well, you far gone. All the bing man them can take advantage of you. Moxy was manager at that time over the factory and man was getting 1/6 a day; woman 7d or 7½d. I say you mean such things still happening? Busta help every man in this island, whether you join his union or no. I say look the produce you have to sell, whatever you gain it cause through the Industrial Trade Union. When you take your goods to Kingston, if the people don't get money, you can't get pay."

"The people of Bull Savannah don't like Bustamante. The Chief - for is so we call him - say what he is doing is not for himself, it is for the children, children, children. That man - his should a live forever. D. Ashwood say Busta should a dead long time and see D. dead before Busta. Some of them say Busta make ship load of flour come here and have to turn back. Me say no, that flour was not to come here. Busta say why allow a man to land the flour at 3d a day and sell him at 1/- a lb."

"The people about here don't like me, I am too plain for them. I allow no man to take step with me, you could be white as snow, black as tar, red as blood, so them call me lawyer or barrister. I just keep myself neutral, just like Turkey in the time of Hitler war." Asked what Party he thought was the stronger. "With the strength of the Industrial Trade Union, I don't think P.N.P. can overpower them."

Jamaica Welfare Cinema.

"All the picture that you see them showing, we not to pay, you know. Them talk about 1d and 3d. Is real t'ieving business."

Where does the blame lie?

"Plenty land is unoccupied and Government should see to it that it is occupied, like in America and other republics. That is why I blame the Government. Lend people money and when they reap the crops, they pay it back. This will be helping themselves and helping the people."

Take a man working at the factory for one 3/- a day. There may be 5 in the home. The 2 bigger one will be
may

sonkers. You have to draw out money for smoke , you have to draw out for food, tell me if those people can wear clothes?"

Marriage.

Anytime you hear two young people married, them never live together till them hard. - Not living it out to the end, I bet you boot on that. The woman will see somebody she love more than her husband and he will see somebody to'. While if them did wait, them would get them right partner.

Nahaman does not have any children./ He has adopted Emily's grand daughter, Janet.

Nahaman has never been to the doctor. His eyes have been worrying him and he went to Blake's Pen balm. Miss Reta told him to get a bottle of Dr. Chase's liver pills . He bought a bottle last night and has started to take the pill

Tuesday
6. 4. 48.
I.D.

Interviewed. Emily Ellington.

Romance.

Where did you meet Nahaman? "Same place ya, hi come find me, same place in a me own little home." Nahaman and Emily have been living together for about 5 years. "From the time him come here, him name never call with another person. Me a the first person, him name ever call with."

Finances.

Before Emily started to live with Nahaman, her children used to help her. "Used to pick me bread well. Anything the picknie them have, them give me and if any body sick them hire me."

Emily lived with Holness, the father of her 2 children for a very long time. "Me could not get married out o' him so me lef'. Too much of one thing good for not'in". She likes Nahaman better than Holness. "You noh see him talk different from them other man." Emily was very busy today at her washing. She has pains in her shoulders and her knees, but did not think it wise to give out Nahaman's clothes. "Him a man don't use to half wash clothes. I don't give out him clothes for them have to well put together for me."

Nursing.

Emily used to do nursing very often when she was younger. "I treat 3 kind of fever one time, typhoid, dantis and another one." Emily likes to go with her patients to the doctor. "Noh/ dother call me if you go to Dr. a'ready if you tell me what to do me can't understand. Me must hear what the doctor say. The people them have a belief that if is even teeth ache them have and them call me, teeth ache can't kill them".

Ernest's son - Emily's grand son, had pneumonia, she took him to the Black River hospital. Dr. Johnson wanted to detain him, but she did not want to leave the child. He told her that the child would die on the return journey, she said she would prefer him to die in her arms than in the hospital. Dr. Johnson gave her a mixture for the child and pills, and did not tell her what the dose was. He was not at all pleased with her attitude.

"All the time when we coming back in the car I pass me hand over him face to see if him a breathe breath. When I reach ya, every body say him dead. I ask him parents if them will allow me to vomit him and them say yes. That time every body a bawl, the mother a roll in a dutty (on the earth). I get goat milk and a little piece of

allows, and I say I going to yoke him." To yoke the child, Emily dipped the feather in the milk and allows and pushed it down his throat, this caused him to vomit. "When him vomit I say thank God, and I tell you, after that picknie vomit him was a changed person."

stayed

Emily gave the child the medicine and the pills which were given her by the doctor. When the child was very ill she ~~sleep~~ stayed with him day and night. She nursed the child until he was quite better. "Sometime when I look 'pon the picknie running up and down I say well, if I did leave you at Black River, I would be looking on you grave now."

Another bad case was C. Roy's son. He had "typhoid, pneumonis and bronchitis." You know how much bay rum use 'pon that picknie - 10/6. That time bay rum was cheap and every tie them buy it by the bottle or by the half bottle, it set down." Emily did not sleep in the same bed with the sick. "Him sleep in the big iron bed, and me sleep in my little bed." She was paid 6/6 to nurse the child. "Them treat me good and me a live 'pon it up to now."

The last dead person Emily handled was Florence Hanson. She was paid 8/- for the job. Asked what she did with the deceased "Nothing much, throw little jeyse, and kerosene oil and salt down them throat. Bathe them, put on them muffler, and dress them and put them in the coffin. When me put them in the coffin, mme done with them."

The last person she carried to the doctor was Laura Simpson. She took Laura to Mandeville 2 weeks ago. "£1 them charge that poor cripple and is not we charter the pick up. It full so tell it could not even carry a message ." Laura's mother asked Emily to take her to the doctor. Owing to kind friends they were able to get the 28/- for the pick up and Dr's fee. Some time ago Laura was in the hospital at Black River. When she came out she was not able to walk. Emily went to see her at the hospital and could hardly recognise her. "She was just like a piece of stick, and him was as white as white, as the dripping snow, just as you see the dead rise out of the grave."

"Dr. Johnson say me a hang man." Why? "Every trip make to the hospital, him see me." After nursing one of Dr. Lyon's patients, he told ~~him~~ Emily that she had done a good job and that the patient was well cared for. He offered Emily a job at his office in Malvern. She did not take it because she did not like Malvern. "It too cold."

"When you see me band me waist, is is even me own me will stay with you till you dead." Why band waist? "You know when you tie the belly, you can stand it better."

Family Record 180.

"When Tourist wife first wife dead, is me go for her at Black River."

Emily was not taught to do nursing. "Is a sort of gift." She went around helping the sick with Benjamin's Heath's wife. Before Mrs. Heath's death she started to go about alone.

Emily is now suffering with pains and she feels it is due to her walking about in the open air late at nights when she was much younger. "Get up out a bed late at night and go out when anybody call me. Some time me go out soon a morning to the wood part to look wood, and me mind tell me all the dew water make me have the pain. A no same time leaf drop, it rotten you know."

Cupping.

She would like to get her knee "cupped" ~~Thaxmanxwke~~ She cannot find any one in the district now who is able to do it. Miss Reta told her that she had taken a cold. Emily is sure that the "cupping" would pull out the cold. How is it done? "Just cut the knee with a razor blade, pour in some rum, and then you light it with the matches and put the cup over it, and it stay there till it draw out all the cold. You see the natural cold in the cup. what it draw up."

Emily took Dr. Chase's liver pills on Sunday night. Now she is going to take "bitter portar and salt physic to circulate back the blood."

Niece at Alligator Pond.

Emily has a niece at Alligator Pond - Diana Roache. "Is a big eoman that, she have about 5 canoe 'pon the beach. She is a woman go to sea when she ready. She put on all her sea clothes. She renk (rank) with all the big man them. If all Judge Thompson did not married, I am sure ~~him~~ would marry her. She was along with Ellis the magistrate. Him dead now." Diana had 3 children for Ellis and he left £300 for them. Diana also has a shop At A.P.

"She grow right down in a yard ya." She pointed to her brother's place. Diana's mother is in Kingston. She did not stay with Emily all the time. "Emma Powell ask me for her and me give her to her. Is me cousin all the same."

"She see me now she don't know me. If all me and you see for her money we wont know what to do. Me and him rub shoulder to shoulder down at Alligator Pond and him don't notice me. It don't worry me all the same, hima live off a him riches and me a live off a me poorness. She don't notice Aunt Emma either."

Samson²