

Family Group Sheet

Partner:	Charles Edward Isaacs
Born:	13 May 1856
in:	14 Cavendish Road, Marylebone, England
Died:	12 Aug 1944
in:	Christianna, Jamaica, B.W.I.
Relationship with Father:	Asher Isaacs - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Charlotte Jane Thornthwaite - Natural
Burial:	Estate near Mandeville, Jamaica, B.W.I.
Miscellaneous:	SEE NOTES
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Isaacs Genealogy 101 (08/27/2004)

About the Isaacs of Jamaica: Charles Edward Isaacs, born in London in 1856, came to Jamaica where other members of his family had estates. Unfortunately, Charles was not the first son, and thus not the power or wealthy heir and son of Asher Isaacs(listed in Charles birth certificate as 'a gentleman.) and Charlotte Jane Thornthwaite. Asher, (also born in England,) your g g g grandfather was in Jamaica around 1840's and the land records show that he owned several slaves and several acres (called a Pen) on which he raised animals .

His land was near others of the Isaacs family in St. Elizabeth's Parish in an area of Southfield called Queensbury. We are talking about the south eastern coast of Jamaica. Nearby are: Treasure Beach, Alligator Pond, Black River, and an estate called Tryall and Top Hill, Font Hill, White House, Arcadia. All of these places along with a church (Anglican???) called St. Marks were written about in letters from your grandfather, Charles' son, Arthur Francis Isaacs. Recently I found information that the Bent land and the Isaacs land adjoined.

When Charles came to Jamaica, he met in Southfield, a woman named Annie Bent. All I know of her is that she was your gg grandmother. I assume that she was born in Jamaica and was probably the daughter or granddaughter of Bernard or William Bent. The Bent's were Scotsmen who settled in the area in the early 1800's or late 1700's. One of the Bents was quite a ladies man, or so I've read on the message boards about Jamaica. He was said to have over 100 offspring- legitimate and otherwise. I have come to assume that our Annie Bent was born of a tryst between the oft coupler or one of his offspring.

They never married . Evidence of this is Charles' death certificate which lists him as a bachelor. Also I do suspect that Annie and Charles never officially married because one of Arthur's brothers, Charley, was listed as Charles Bent in Charles Edward's will. I have a copy of that dialog. In the letter, the solicitor said that Charles Edward, of England left a small sum to Charles Bent, but none to his other son as the father felt that Arthur was well off and in Washington, D.C. with a daughter who was an attorney (Columbia University/Catholic University) this was stated in 1944 upon Charles Edward's death. In another letter, there was mention that Charles Edward had another family in Jamaica and money was left to them and to the family in England. Maybe old Charles had multiple families? The children of Annie Bent and Charles Edward Isaacs were: Arthur, Charles (Charley), and possibly Lillie. Julia, Daniel and Theodore, and Cleveland were Arthur's half siblings, born when Annie Bent lived with Alexander Staple. Arthur or Pa to us had a step brother who Bee and I were in contact with around 1970, Cleveland Staple.

Lucky for all of us, quiet Arthur left in 1903, and eventually met May Chamberlain at the Chamberlain Dance studio on Eye Street in Washington, D.C. May was lively and fun and made a terrific grandmother and a nice match for Arthur. He settled there, and never returned to the land of his birth. Pa was a waiter at the Ritz Carlton in Washington D.C. (16th Street NW). After remaining quiet for almost 30 years he made contact with his family in Southfield and thus began the correspondence from which I gleaned this information. I hope all of you will peruse the 'Antonio Y Cleopatra' cigar box with its treasure trove of letters and Christmas cards from the early 1900's. Annie Bent was alive at that time Arthur finally wrote to his family at May's urging, for a letter from his brother said that Annie wept when his letter was received, as they all thought he had died.

So are there any messages here? 1. Listen when old people talk about their families and write it down. 2. Things are not always as they seem. 3. In your will, leave equal amounts to all of your offspring, for that is fairer. The industrious shouldn't be punished for being thus. 4. God has a funny sense of humor. 5. Always write to your mother and auntie.

Names of neighbors repeated in letters and in message boards include: Bromfield, Forbes, Fraser, Parchment, and Powell.... Member of the Southfield community and nearby areas probably married each other. I do think one of Lily's children married a Powell and that is probably how we're related by marriage to Colin. So you three should begin your own research and now you have something to offer when you play "Jamaican Geography with someone

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from Jamaica.

Print this for your records. Someday you might be interested in your roots.

Love, Mom/Ann

In a letter to his granddaughter, Bea Oberg, dated 1938, Charles Edward Isaacs says that he was in Washington DC in Dec 1880 - "cherry blossoms in the winter but it was then a very beautiful city" and had traveled to Southern Colorado in late 1870

Hi Ann,

I'm not familiar with an Annie Bent. I'll ask some of the older members of my family, and let you know what they remember. One of my aunts was very friendly with a Babette Bent and a Cissy Bent during my childhood. Cissy married a man whose last name was Bromfield. She would be in her late sixties now. I believe she may still be living in the Southfield area. The name Cleveland Staple sounds very familiar. I'm sure I've heard it mentioned before. Do you know anything else about him?

I know St. Marks well. It's the local Anglican church, located about a mile from my grandparents' home. I'll try to find out who the current vicar is.

He may be able to help you with information from the church records.

Many of the Bents lived in Queensberry. People who lived there used the Southfield post office, because Queensberry didn't have one. It was also necessary to use the road through Southfield to reach the lane leading into Queensberry. It had a pre-school/kindergarten and a small church, but I think that was about it. The older children had to walk several miles to Mayfield School, which was right next door to St. Marks. The church was called Queensberry Church. I don't think it was Anglican. I do have some information about a John Bent that I came across while researching my own family.

After the American revolution, many American Indians who had sided with the British were sold as slaves to the British colonies. A group of Cherokees from Georgia were shipped to Jamaica, and sold to a John Bent who owned a plantation called Yardley Chase. Among the group were a married couple, their infant son, and the husband's mother. The couple was scheduled to be re-sold to different owners, so they planned to jump off a cliff with their child. The wife changed her mind and left the child with her mother-in-law, but she and her husband jumped to their deaths. The son later married into the slave population and became part of the Southfield gene pool.

That part is based on verifiable facts. My great-grandmother used to tell stories about the Indians from Georgia, who would stand and look out over the sea at sunset because they thought they might be able to get a glimpse of their home as the sun went into the sea. I don't know if that part is fact or legend.

Yardley Chase bordered Southfield Plantation and is now a very pleasant rural area. I went to a small private school there for years. The cliffs are still there. If you visit Jamaica you should go see them. The view is spectacular.

By the way, I'm Jewish. Many Jamaicans have Jewish ancestry, because Jamaica was a safe place to flee from persecution. There was a substantial Sephardic population and at least 2 synagogues by the early 1800s. There are still many fragmented elements of Judaism in Jamaican culture.

I'm going to copy this to both of your email addresses because I don't know which one you prefer to have me use. I hope to hear from you soon.

Cheryl.

>From: "Ann_Arnold Rabinowitz"

>To:

>Subject: Bent Family of Southfield, Jamaica, BWI

>Date: Sat, 24 Jul 2004 12:36:28 -0400

>

>I am searching for information about my grandfather's mother, Annie Bent.

>She was born in St Elizabeth's parish, I believe, just past 1860 and died

>around 1940's. She had several children by Charles Edward Isaacs: Arthur,

>Charles, Theodore, Lillie, Julia. Another son was Cleveland Staple and he

>was living in the Southfield area in the 1970's. Lillie, I believe was

>married to a man named Ritchie, and I have a newspaper article mentioning

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>that two of her sons had moved to Honduras. Charles wrote letters from
>Font
>Hill estate in the White House Post Office. Other letters were addressed :
>Southfield Post Office. St Marks was mentioned in a letter from a sibling
>to my grandfather, Arthur who died in 1970 in Washington, D.C. area of U.S.
>
>You suggested I write to find information about the Bent's. Have you ever
>heard of "Annie Bent?" Any of the other names?
>
>Thanks for your assistance.
>
>Ann Rabinowitz :

Dear Ann,

Thank you so much for the lovely old photograph of Iver Cottage in Malvern, Jamaica, which was the ancestral home of the Isaacs family. Now if I can only find a photograph of Mount Olivet Great House.

There are two old Jewish burial grounds in St. Elizabeth and Manchester. The first, at Lacovia in St. Elizabeth, dates from the 18th Century, and the second, near Alligator Pond in Manchester, dates from the 19th Century. However, you will not find any of the Isaacs family buried in either of them.

The fact is, that despite their Jewish name, the Isaacs family actually converted to Christianity in the late 18th Century and became Anglicans.

Several members of the Isaacs family are therefore buried in the churchyard of the old Anglican Church at Stanmore, near Malvern. Other members of the Isaacs family are buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's Anglican Church at Northampton in St. Elizabeth.

I shall be glad to email you copies of the inscriptions on their tombs, if you would like.

Yours sincerely,

Brett Ashmeade-Hawkins

>From: "Ann and/or Arnie Rabinowitz"
>To:
>Subject: Isaacs
>Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2006 20:45:46 -0500
>
>Dear Brett,
>
>I hope you can see the picture of the Iver Cottage in Malvern as
>attachment to this email. This picture was sent to my mother, Beatrice
>Isaacs by her grandfather, Charles Edward Isaacs in the 1930's. Beatrice
>was the daughter of Arthur Isaacs, son of Charles Edward Isaacs and Annie
>Bent. Arthur left Southfield, St Elizabeth in early 1900's. The family
>lived
>there and letters arrived to the U.S. from the Isaacs siblings and family
>members to Arthur from Southfield, Font Hill, White House, and Christiana .
>(Charles Edward Isaacs died there in 1944- Sept.)
>
> In regards to the actual picture, a note attached to the picture
>identified the man on the left as Charles Edward Isaacs, and women of the
>Isaacs family, including " the eldest Mrs. C Isaacs" and on the far right,
>Charles Earle Iver (Isaacs).
>

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>I hope you find this helpful. I would appreciate any information you might
>have about the Isaacs family. I have found no information about Charles
>Edward Isaacs' mate and mother of six of his children, Anny Bent. I
>believe
>the family lived in the Southfield area, perhaps Top Hill? Queensbury was
>mentioned as an area of Southfield where the Isaacs might have owned land.
>
>I heard from a member of the Iver family, a C. Jane that there was an
>Isaacs
>family cemetery. I thought the grave stone and surrounding stones might
>have information that might help in my search of the Isaacs/Bent family.
>Have you any knowledge of its whereabouts?
>
>Please contact me if you find any information that might help:
>ann.rabinowitz@gmail.com
>
>Thanks, Ann Rabinowitz

This was the residence of Charles Earle Isaacs (1838-1910), who was the son
>of Isaac Isaacs (1790-1869) of Iver Cottage, Malvern. Charles's widow, Mrs.
>Elizabeth Isaacs, continued to live at Mount Olivet Great House after his
>death in 1910 and I believe that his son, Charles Harold Albert Isaacs, who
>later changed his surname to Iver (after the name of the family
>plantation),
>also lived at Mount Olivet Great House for some time.

>
>Mount Olivet was once a coffee plantation and was originally owned by Col.
>John Earle (1802-1843). I find it interesting that the next owner was
>Charles Earle Isaacs, and that his middle name was Earle. Could there
>possibly be some family connection?

>
>It is also interesting to note that Charles Earle Isaac's daughter, Lydia
>Isabella Isaacs, married Dr. Edward Robert Charles Earle, M.D, who was the
>son of Edward Muirhead Earle and the grandson of Col. John Earle
>of Mount Olivet. The two families, the Earles and the Isaacs, were thus
>very
>close.

>
"Isaacs, C. Edward. Born in London, England 1856. J.P. for St. Elizabeth. Attorney for Fonthill Pen, the property
of Major D. C. Spencer-Smith. Add: Whitehouse P.O." from WHO'S WHO in Jamaica 1916 - Jamaican Family
Search Genealogy Research Library

Meeting Information	
Partner:	Annie Bent
Beginning status:	Partners

Meeting Notes

Family Group Sheet

Partner:	Annie Bent
in:	Jamaica
Source:	no source
Died:	Abt. 1942
in:	Jamaica
Relationship with Father:	X Bent - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Y Bent - Natural
Education:	1882
Occupation:	Illiterate(?): Birth of child- uses mark untrained mid-wife
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Based on a letter from attorney, C.H. Fraser dated Aug 27, 1944, right after the death of Charles E. Isaacs, Executor of will, money was left to Charles Edward Bent. This suggests that Charles Edward Isaacs never married Annie Bent.

Hi Ann,

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Cheryl.

Descendants of William Henry Bent

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1. William Henry Bent was born Abt. 1812. He married Ann Bromfield December 17, 1837 in St. Elizabeth (Source: B0056 St. Elizabeth Parish Register III & IV, 1835-1859, III, p. 273 #289.). She was born Abt. 1812 (.Jamaica Family Search)

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Charles Edward Bent Isaacs
Born:	1882
in:	Southfield, St Elizabeth, Jamaica
Died:	04 Sep 1963
in:	Southfield, Jamaica, BWI
Relationship with Father:	Charles Edward Isaacs - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Annie Bent - Natural

Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

His death certificate listed him as a bachelor.

Two oral sources said he was a dentist of some kind. Both remember people going to him to have their teeth pulled.

Marriage Information	
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Marriage Notes

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Child:	Arthur Francis Isaacs
Born:	28 Apr 1883
in:	St. Elizabeth Parish, Southfield, Jamaica, BWI
Died:	21 Apr 1970
in:	Takoma Park, MD
Relationship with Father:	Charles Edward Isaacs - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Annie Bent - Natural
Baptism (LDS):	29 Mar 1931 St Aloysius , Washington, DC
Burial:	24 Apr 1970 Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Bladensburg Rd. Brentwood, MD
Miscellaneous:	SEE NOTES
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

1910 census states that he told them that he was born in Puerto Rico

This is only child of Charles Edward Issacs and Annie Bent that emigrated to USA - Ann Oberg believes that they never were married and Charles Edward Isaacs had another family in Jamacia: letter from Charley Bent informed Arthur of this detail.

His address in the 1910 census was 1327 G Street Apts. 39 - 46

Letter of recommendation dated March 5, 1906 - Arthur says on 1920 census that he emigrated in 1907 ?? No record found in immigration as of Feb 19, 2006.

U.S. Naturalization occurred after 1930 according to records in the census for that year. Both he and May were listed as Aliens.

1930 census - he (or whoever spoke to census taker) said he was from Cuba as were both his parents

1920 census - he (or whoever spoke to census taker) said that he was born in Jamaica, BWI with both his parents born in Cuba

Your name was listed on a Caribbean site surname search for the Isaacs family.

I am searching for information about my grandfather, Arthur Bent Isaacs and his family.

Arthur was born in St Elizabeth's Jamaica near Southfield on April 28, 1883 according to him.

His mother was Annie (Anney) Bent and his father was Charles Edward Isaacs. (searching for any information on the Bent side.)

His father was born in 1856 in London, and I believe was the son of Asher Isaacs(?)(According to birth certificate). Charles' cousin was Harold Iver of Malvern and Black River. (He changed his name from Isaacs to Iver.)

Charles Edward Isaacs died in Sept 1944 at Christiana according to a newspaper clipping my grandfather received.- and I am unsure of his burial place, but I have a picture of the grave and it appears to be a walled family burial site, perhaps the Isaacs' graveyard in Malvern? Could you confirm this location?

Charles sent many letters from Jamaica- Fonthill, Santa Cruz Mountains, Spanish Town, White House, to his son, Arthur in Washington, D C.

I believe that Charles was a manager of an estate in St Elizabeth's parish. (Which one? I don't know.) One site listed Charles as a solicitor.)

Whether Charles ever married Annie Bent, I am not certain, though one letter from Arthur's brother, Charlie told of another family, so perhaps they never married.

Arthur's siblings included: Lillie (Millington), Julia (Ritchie), Charlie Bent, Theodore, and Cleveland Staple, a half brother.

*If any of these names or places are familiar to you, if you can confirm any of the information, or have additional information or sites I might look to find more information, I would appreciate an email back:
ann.rabinowitz@gmail.com*

I do appreciate your help. Regards, Ann Rabinowitz

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US Social Security Death Index

Name ARTHUR ISAACS
Birth 28 Apr 1883
Death Apr 1970
Last Residence 20782 (Hyattsville, Prince Georges, MD)
Last Benefit (none specified)
SSN 577-05-4201
Issued District of Columbia

From email dated 15 April 2007 from Carol Wright in Jamaica - in the 1940's, Arthur had sent a Ford car to Jamaica for his brothers Charley and Cleveland and Daniel. It was a luxury in those days and one of a kind. My mother recalled the day when Daniel died that it was the same car which took his body from Black River hospital. His body was wrapped in a white sheet and strapped to the roof of the car! She still recalls the red medicine on the white sheet and how the women all cried when the car drove up. That same car was also used to call the doctor when Charlie was ill.

Marriage Information

Wife:	Mary Urbana Chamberlain
Married:	02 Apr 1913
Beginning status:	Married
in:	St. Aloysius Church, Washington, D.C. 19 Eye St, N.W

Marriage Notes
