

August, 1961

Mrs W. Johnson, Home Cottage Farm, Ulpha, Ad. Lancs, aged 75.

Mrs Johnson was staying with Mrs Airey when I interviewed the latter.

Mrs Johnson was brought up in Ulverston, and from the age of 4 onwards she attended classes held in Ulverston by Stainton Robinson (she was Queen at the end of her first session). Stainton Robinson came to Ulverston each year for a quarter [but it was not clear whether she attended each year].

Mrs Johnson confirmed the previous accounts of the Robinsons' classes and balls, and added that Stainton Robinson taught the boys a Sword Dance. This was a dance for 3 or 4 (at least). There were 2 swords (not 4) and they were laid on the ground in the form of a cross - . She cannot remember whether they ever picked the swords up. So far as she could remember it was taught at all the sessions she attended - she has no memory of what the boys wore. Mrs Airey had never heard of this Sword Dance.