

1871 CENSUS: RG10/2065. Folio 42. Page 38.
Address: 11 Longbrook Terrace, Exeter, Devon.

James MASON. Head. Mar. 59. Builder. Taunton, Somerset.
(plus 2 family members, 1 servant, and 2 other lodgers)
Hector ESSEX. Lodger. Mar, 52. Retired Brass Founder. London, Middx.
Betsy ESSEX. Wife. Mar. 48. Fareham, Hants.

1881 CENSUS: RG11/1069. Folio 6. Page 6.
Address: Rotten Row, Hillside Lewes St. Ann, Sussex.

Hector ESSEX. Head. Mar. 64. Retired. London, Middx.
Betsy ESSEX. Wife. Mar. 60. Fareham, Hants.
Ann RICHARDSON. Serv. Unm. 19. Domestic Serv. Lewes, Sussex.

1891 Betsy and Hector were still at the same address as above.

1898 KELLY'S DIRECTORY of Hampshire & Isle of Wight – page 386
ESSEX Hector, 45 Queen's-road, Ryde, IW.

1901 CENSUS: RG13/1024. Folio 86. Page 30.
Address: La Plata, Queen's-road, Ryde, IW.

Hector ESSEX. Head. M. 84. Engineer Manager (retired). Aldersgate, London.
Betsy ESSEX. Wife. M. 82. Havant, Hants.
Annie BAKER. Serv. S. 19. Housemaid Domestic. Sandown, IW.

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Sat 30th May 1903

AN OLD LADY'S DEATH.---An inquest was held by James ELDRIDGE, Esq., acting Deputy Coroner, at the Castle Hotel on Saturday as to the death of Mrs. **Betsy ESSEX**, aged 84, wife of Mr. Hector ESSEX, of 45 Queen's-road.

Kate DONOVAN, domestic servant, deposed that the deceased was nearly blind. On the 14th inst., between 9 and 9.30 a.m., witness heard a fall on the stairs and found Mrs. ESSEX at the bottom of the first landing. She got her up, fetched Mr. and Mrs. HATCHER, who lived near, and also went for the doctor. Deceased had been able to get about the house without help. It was her usual time for coming downstairs. She had slipped before, but not so seriously. There were only seven stairs to the upper floor and the treads were wide.

Elizabeth COOPER, of Porchester, niece of the deceased, said she arrived on Thursday week and was with her aunt for the week before her death. Deceased told her that she made an attempt to step off the stair, but her foot twisted and she fell down six or seven on to the landing. It was a pure accident.

Dr. R. A. BUCK said he attended the deceased immediately he was informed by the servant that she had had a fall. She had a wound on her face, evidently caused by falling against the skirting on the wall. Witness at once recognised that deceased's back was broken and told her husband she could not recover. She was partly paralysed and practically blind, but could feel her way about the house very well.. She was a very intelligent woman.

The Jury found that death was due to the deceased accidentally falling downstairs, and with the acting Deputy Coroner expressed sympathy with the bereaved husband and relatives.
