

I like this researcher's theory on our mystery Charles John Marten Essex:

It makes sense as to why we can't find him in any records in England as Essex, but the big question is, if he, Charles John Marten changed his surname to Essex, what is the significance of the Essex name to him? Maybe he was raised in an Essex home, maybe William and Mary (Heams) Essex in Leicester?

Rootschat.com member name Frenchy:

<https://www.rootschat.com/forum/index.php?topic=794230.0>

"I believe he may possibly have been Charles John Martin born 1863 in Marylebone, London to Thomas Martin and Harriet Cherryman/Cherreyman. This Charles' mother died in 1864 and his father remarried to Matilda Stanaway in 1866. His parents, with his older brother, emigrated to the US in 1867 but left Charles behind in England. I purchased this Charles' birth certificate but the birth date did not match that on the death certificate of Charles John Martin Essex. However, I know that death records aren't a reliable source for birth information. I have lots of information on both individuals but I've been unable to confirm whether or not they are one and the same person. The 1881 England Census shows a Charles Martin, born about 1864 in Marylebone, London working as a footman to the Tinker family. The two youngest Tinker sons were born in New York, USA. I can't find this Charles in England following this census."

My comments: I ordered this birth registration years ago (Vol-01A_p384) but dismissed it because of the birth date. The certificate information is, Charles John Martin 26 June 1863 6 Riding House Street, parents Thomas Martin and Harriett Cherreyman:

Superintendent Registrar's District <u>Marylebone</u>										
Registrar's District <u>All Souls</u>										
1863. BIRTHS in the District of <u>All Souls</u> in the County of <u>Middlesex</u>										
No.	When Born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother	Rank or Profession of Father	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant	When Registered	Signature of Registrar	Baptismal Name if added after Registration of Birth
256	<u>Twenty sixth June 1863</u> <u>6 Riding House Street</u>	<u>Charles John</u>	<u>Boy</u>	<u>Thomas Martin</u>	<u>Harriett Martin formerly Cherreyman</u>	<u>Clerk Commercial</u>	<u>H. Martin Mother to Riding House Street Marylebone</u>	<u>Fifth August 1863</u>	<u>Thomas Durham Deputy Registrar</u>	

I agree, I think our Charles John Martin Essex was Charles John Martin. If he is indeed the person mentioned in the rootschat forum message posted by 'Frenchy', then our Charles never knew or remembered his parents. Left behind in England by his father and stepmother in 1867, I can see that one day he would possibly go looking for his father in the U.S., Michigan, and it may explain how it puts Charles in nearby Indiana.

Researching this scenario I find:

Thomas Martin and Matilda in the 1870 Census, Bay City, Michigan

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MHHY-3Q?lang=en>

Thomas Martin b.1827 England

Matilda b. 1843 England

Harry age 9, born 1861 in England

Laura b. 1869 in Michigan

In the 1880 census, Thomas W (William) Martin bookkeeper