

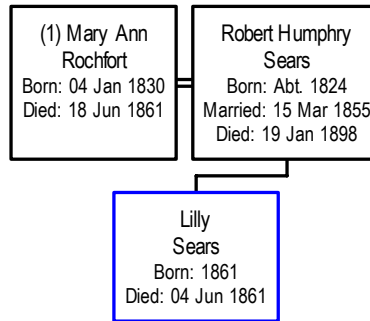
Mary Ann Rochfort

Mary Ann Rochfort, was born on 4th January 1830 at Chowinghee, Calcutta, and baptised the following year on 9th January at St John's, Calcutta and, at the age of 25, quite elderly for the time, she married in 1855. To mark the occasion a notice was placed in the Bombay Times.¹

At Kishnaghur on the 15th Mar by the Revd CH Blumhardt Mr Robert H Sears to Mary Ann third daughter of Marcus Rochfort Esq.

And yes, this is the same Robert Sears who later went on to marry Mary Ann's niece Mary Anne Rochfort Smith. Robert Humphry Sears was a son of Robert Sears and Eliza Humphry, who had married at St Mary's Parish Church, Guildford, on 31st March 1812. According to a christening record, Robert was born on 22nd September 1824 and baptised at St Mary's Lambeth, Kennington. As a bonus, the record provides the name of his maternal grandfather – Thomas Humphry.²

Mary Ann and Robert suffered the great loss of a child, a daughter Lilly Sears, who died and was buried on 4th June 1861 at Calcutta. Robert suffered an even greater loss when his wife, probably from post-natal complications, died very shortly afterwards. At the age of 31, Mary Ann Sears died at Calcutta on 18th June 1861. She was buried the same day. As recounted earlier, Robert outlived both his wives, and he died at Taunton on 19th January 1898.³



Notes

¹ India Office Family History Search N/1/29 f.19; FIBIS Birth Announcements taken from the East India Register; FIBIS Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce Marriages 1855 1 Mar edition; Family Search India Marriages 1792-1848.

² London Marriages and Banns 1754-1921; England & Wales Christening Records, 1530-1906; but there is a conflicting record for a Robert Humphry Sears for 31st August 1813, with the same parents and grandfather; but from the census returns, the later date would seem to be more reliable.

³ Family Search India Deaths and Burials 1719-1948.