## **De Meyrick/Demeyrick, Julian Frank**

On 5th August 1881 Julian Frank de Meyrick, at St. Peter's, Woolloomooloo, only son of the late F. M. de Meyrick, of London, was married to Esther, second daughter of the late H. R. Whittell, M.D., of Sydney.

Esther was born in 1849, Sydney, daughter of Henry Rawes Whittell and his wife Esther (nee Wilshire - a descendant of James Wilshire who arrived in Sydney by the ship *Royal Admiral* on October 7, 1792, at the age of 22 years.)**1**

Children of the marriage were:

1882 Lucien Frank, district of Central Cumberland (died 1882)

1883 Julian Frank [junior], Penrith (died 1976)

1885 Louis, Penrith (died 1886)

1886 Norman C., Penrith (died 1970)

1888 Percival, Penrith (died 1889)**2**

In August 1895 Julian de Meyrick died at Penrith, aged 44 years, after a series of illnesses. For the previous ten years he was in charge of Cranebrook Public School. He was involved in the Penrith Company of Volunteers, a colonial military force.

One of the children ‘came to tell his mother that his father had gone to sleep. Mrs. de Meyrick then went in to see how he was getting on - she was usually in and out every few minutes - and found on examination that her beloved husband had breathed his last.’

‘Deceased leaves a widow and two children (both boys).’

‘He had some previous military experience in the Imperial Army, and had also studied medicine. He was first appointed Second Lieutenant in the 8rd Regiment on 2nd April, 1892, gazetted First Lieutenant on 1st May, 1894, and Captain on 24th December, 1894.’**3**

In May 1902 it was reported that ‘Mrs. de Merrick has purchased a property on the Beecroft-road, near the intersection of Malton-street, and the land is being cleared preparatory to the commencement of building operations.’**4**

[Her brother, Henry Rawes Whittell (junior), was then a long-term resident of Beecroft.]

In May 1906 John Wallace, flour merchant, rented for a term Mrs. de Meyrick's cottage in Hannah-street.**5**

The Hornsby Shire Ratepayer’s List for 1907 refers to Esther de Meyrick, widow, land on Beecroft–road, Beecroft, 60 x 210ft, occupied by Mark Lang, teacher; her postal address being Moss Vale.**6**

Esther continued to live at Moss Vale.

In April 1916 her son, Captain Julian Frank de Meyrick, late Acting Area Officer, Training Area 43a, at Liverpool, who had attended Beecroft Public School, and spent 9 years with the C.M.F., went to Duntroon Military College, Queanbeyan, for a term of instruction.

He married Constance, a daughter of George Broughton, of *Lindisfarne*, Carey Bay, Toronto, N.S.W., in November 1916.

He enlisted for active service in January 1917 with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant with the 55th Battalion, served overseas, and returned to Australia in July 1919.**7**

Esther de Meyrick, mother of Julian and Norman, died at Bundanoon on 6th October 1944, aged 95 years. Her son, Norman was then living at Bundanoon.**8**

**Bibliography**

1 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Monday 8 August 1881, page 1; Sydney Mail (NSW: 1912 - 1938), Wednesday 28 November 1917, page 17

2 NSW Births Deaths & Marriages

3 Nepean Times (Penrith, NSW: 1882 - 1962), Saturday 10 August 1895, page 6

4 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 17 May 1902, page 3

5 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Sat 19 May 1906

6 Hornsby Shire Council Rate Books

7 Commonwealth of Australia Gazette (National: 1901 - 1973), Thursday 13 April 1916 (No.47), page 929; Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 29 April 1916, page 6; Australian Town and Country Journal (Sydney, NSW: 1870 - 1919), Wednesday 22 November 1916, page 35; Commonwealth of Australia Gazette (National: 1901 - 1973), Thursday 8 February 1917 (No.20), page 246

8 Southern Mail (Bowral, NSW: 1889 - 1954), Friday 13 October 1944, page 1