## **LOXTON, John Frederick**

John Frederick Loxton was born 1st March 1849, at Maitland, son of Thomas (1816-1882) and Lucinda Jane (nee Forster; 1823-1898) Loxton who were married on 2nd August 1845, at St. Mary’s Church, West Maitland.**1**

On 18th March 1878 John Frederick [1849-1923], eldest son of Thomas Loxton, *Claraville*, St Leonards, was married to Mary Elizabeth [1859-1920], eldest daughter of Bolton Molineaux, of *Glenrock*, St Leonards. Later that month the couple sailed to Hobart, Tasmania, presumably for their honeymoon.**2**

Children of the marriage were:

1879 - Hilda Mary, district of Inverell (1879-1963)

1881 - Florence Muriel, North Ryde (1881-1941)

1883 - Frederick Ewen, St. Leonards (1883-1976)

1886 - Amy Evelyn Forster, St. Leonards (1886-1958)

1888 - Newton A. F., St. Leonards (1888-1909)**3**

In January 1880 John Frederick Loxton, licensed surveyor, was appointed as a second-class surveyor on the Triangulation Field Staff of the Surveyor-General's Office.**4**

By 1920 John and Mary Loxton were living at Beveren, Beecroft, where Mary died on 26th December 1920.**5**

On 15th March 1923 John Frederick Loxton died at his residence, Beveren, Sutherland-road, Beecroft.

His obituary reads as follows:

‘The announcement of the death of Mr. John Frederick Loxton at his residence, "Beveren," Sutherland Road, Beecroft, recalls a name that was prominently associated with the development of the State of New South Wales, and who belonged to one of the pioneer families of North Sydney.

He was the eldest son of Thomas Loxton, of Neutral Bay and a brother of Mr. E. J. Loxton, M.L.A. Like his father, he was a surveyor by profession, and for many years was attached to the State Lands Department.

During the Russian war scare in 1882 he was entrusted by the Government to supervise the laying of the submarine mines in Sydney Harbor. He also was responsible for the plans of the fortifications at Bare Island, at the entrance to Botany Bay.

For many years he was Government surveyor for the County of Cumberland, and the immensity of his work can be the better appreciated when it is realised the immense scope of country which was disposed of during his period of service. On the creation of the Sydney Harbour Trust, he accepted the position of hydrographical surveyor, a position he retired from some years ago after giving faithful and diligent service to the State.

He is survived by one son — Mr. Hugh Loxton, who is chief inspector in Queensland for Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co., Ltd. — and three daughters, one of whom, Nurse Hilda Loxton, was one of the first Australians to volunteer for active service as nurse in the late war, and who received decorations from the French nation for the service she rendered.

The funeral will leave the late Mr. Loxton's residence for the Field of Mars Cemetery this morning.’**6**

He is buried at the Field of Mars Cemetery, Ryde – Congregational Section, Plot 170, with his wife and daughter Hilda in plot 169.

**Bibliography**

1 Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser (NSW: 1843 - 1893), Saturday 9 August 1845, page 3; NSW Births Deaths & Marriages; Ancestry.com

2 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Monday 25 March 1878, page 1; Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser (NSW: 1871 - 1912), Saturday 23 March 1878, page 366

3 NSW Births Deaths & Marriages; Ancestry.com

4 Freeman's Journal (Sydney, NSW: 1850 - 1932), Saturday 10 January 1880, page 10

5 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Tuesday 28 December 1920, page 6

6 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Friday 16 March 1923, page 8; Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1883 - 1930), Saturday 17 March 1923, page 8; Ancestry.com