Hugh Ferguson – East Lodge

Huge Ferguson, Father of Bride (seated on the right)

Born East Lodge, 8th March, 1829. 5th Eldest of family of 12 who lived at East Lodge. 1841 Census record shows father, mother and 8 children plus lodger all living there, by that time 3 children had already left home for work.

Hugh, at the age of 20, emigrated to Australia, and worked in the gold fields of Victoria, before sailing on to New Zealand. He worked at Collingwood Goldfields in South Island. He and his partner Thomas Charles, Vass Field, bought 80 acres of farm property, which they split in half and farmed. They subsequently married two sisters, daughters of a John Clark, who had emigrated from Guildford, Surrey, England. Hugh married Mary Ann Clark on July 21st, 1868 in St. Marys Church, Nelson, New Zealand. They had 10 children, Isabella (Bride) is 7th child, born in 1880.

Father Hugh died 27th July, 1921 in New Zealand, buried there aged 92 years.