

The Fisken Family of Lal Lal

ARCHIBALD FISKEN, the grandson of Archibald Fisken, of Auchterarder, Perthshire, Scotland, and son of Archibald Fisken, of Backsweethope, Bothwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland (who was born in 1797 and died in Australia 17th November, 1854), was born at Backsweethope, Bothwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland, on 27th August, 1829. In his eleventh year he came out to Australia with his parents and uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Inglis, arriving in Port Phillip in the ship "Dauntless" in 1840. His education had been com-

rison, who was minister of an Independent Church in Collins Street.

When 17 years of age he entered on a pastoral career and was placed in charge of his uncle's cattle grazing stations, Warrenheip and Lal Lal, near Ballarat. The two runs mustered 6000 head. At this period the Ballarat district was but little known. Dense scrub covered the country and passage through it was unusually difficult; Archibald Fisken, when only 17 years of age, had the honour of being the first person to drive a vehicle



Archibald Fisken of Lal Lal
(Pioneer).



Charlotte Emily Fisken of Lal Lal
(Pioneer).

menced at Bothwell before he left Scotland, and on his arrival at Port Phillip he attended for a year Scott's School on Collins Street Hill (where George and George's warehouse now stands). His uncle, Peter Inglis, having bought Ingliston Station, between Bacchus Marsh and Ballan, Archibald lived on the station with his uncle and continued his studies under a private tutor for a few years. He then returned to Melbourne and completed his education under the Rev. Alexander Mor-

through. In 1846, accompanied by William Taylor, later of Overnewton, he drove a tandem team in a dog-cart through the forest country of Longerenong on the Wimmera.

During the gold rush his station hands joined in the search for gold, but with the help of a few friends, amongst whom were Sir Charles Stirling, of Glorat, Stirlingshire, N.B., and Lord Burghley, he managed to keep everything in good order, and it was at this