

but the first lot sent over by Wakefield? Some light is thrown on this situation by Brees's own letter of 3 November in which he said: '... I retained my Private drawings when I left the colony just as every surveyor has done [with] drawings made in stolen moments. I told Colonel Wakefield that if the Court wished I certainly should be proud of the honor of laying them before the Court but ... they are principally duplicates of those formerly sent home with a few unfinished additions. I employed my time from the 9th Febry. until I obtained a settlement with Col. Wakefield in sketching and although these sketches are said to be valuable, yet the loss of time to me was immense. I estimate that £5,000 would no more than pay me for this detention, incredible as it may appear – such has been the demand for Civil Engineers at home ...'²⁰

The statement there that in effect at least two sets of drawings were prepared was an exciting discovery. Today the very incomplete group of originals in the Library, discussed later in Part III of this paper, is the only known major collection.

The question of title having been settled, Brees could go ahead and plan his work although to his cost his claims against the Company were still unsettled and apparently were outstanding throughout 1846. Finally on 14 November he attended a special Committee meeting²¹ at which it was decided to allow him pay and allowances for the full period mentioned in his letter, presumably until May 1845, but neither his bonus nor his solicitor's fees, which had been earlier granted.²²

The first reference to his publication was at a meeting of the Court of 5 March 1846 when 'A Proof being submitted of Views in New Zealand, about to be published by Mr Brees, two copies were directed to be purchased.'²³ Progress from this point would appear to have been slow. The *Illustrated London News* in January 1847 featured engravings of three sketches and said '... These three views are from the pencil of Mr S. C. Brees (now of Lincoln's Inn Fields) who was the Principal Surveyor and Civil Engineer to the New Zealand Company ... he has collected a large number of Sketches, which are preparing for publication ...'²⁴

The actual date of publication would appear to have been late August or early September 1847. The *Illustrated London News* again, on 11 September reproduced two Brees sketches stating that Brees '... has just published a beautiful work, entitled "Pictorial Illustrations of New Zealand".' No current review has so far been traced. According to advertisements in *A key to the Colonies* where he described it as 'a most beautiful Drawing-room book' the published price was £2 2s 0d subsequently reduced, presumably for the later issues, to £1 11s 6d. Large paper proofs were available for £3 3s 0d.