

It, by implication, supported Hursthouse's views: 'The figures of the men . . . are incorrectly drawn and feebly executed. Indeed, almost all the foreground is deficient in care and finish.' However, topographically the scenes were commended. The review concluded with a wish that Brees would in time produce similar panoramas of Nelson, New Plymouth, Otago, etc, which from the advertisements in the *Key* . . . a year later he appears to have done. However from a footnote in that work it seems that he gave offence to the promoters of Canterbury and Otago. ' . . . if I have described anything erroneously, why not confront, instead of endeavouring to injure me by setting people against my panorama, merely because it originated from Mr Brees . . . ' He repeated the story that Edward Jerningham Wakefield on seeing the panorama on his return from New Zealand 'was so moved, that he burst into tears upon seeing Wellington'.³¹ One feels that this incident must relate to the sight of the panorama in the *Pictorial Illustrations* . . . which appeared when he was in England.

Brees in the *Key* . . . advertised his Engineering and Architectural Agency Office on the Strand in which he had a department 'expressly devoted to the Colonies' he 'procures Land for intending Colonists, and secures them Passages in sea-worthy Vessels and Outfits'.³² At the moment, from this last known year of active New Zealand interest until his death at sea fourteen years later, he is virtually beyond our knowledge. While on passage in the *La Hogue* from Sydney to London in 1865 with his wife and family he died on 9 May. The death certificate quite simply gave his occupation as architect, the profession in which he had commenced over 35 years before.

A.G.B.

NOTES

- ¹ The Library is indebted to Mr and Mrs E. C. White of Matahiwi, Masterton, for giving the Library the opportunity some years ago of purchasing this copy.
- ² As in numerous other research activities, I am grateful to Miss J. S. Hornabrook, National Archives for locating and in the present instance transcribing from the microfilm copy and other papers some of the New Zealand Company references.
- ³ Testimonials with New Zealand Company papers and in *A Key to the Colonies*, pp 82-7.
- ⁴ New Zealand Company micro ms CO 208/186 reel 1443; minute for 9 September 1841.
- ⁵ Agreement in New Zealand Company papers.
- ⁶ The vessel arrived on the 9th. *New Zealand Gazette* and *Wellington Spectator*, 12 February 1842.
- ⁷ Brees to Principal Agent, New Zealand Company papers 16 February 1843.
- ⁸ *Ibid*, 1 August 1843.
- ⁹ Revans to H. S. Chapman, 3 June 1842. Chapman letter in Alexander Turnbull Library.
- ¹⁰ Edward Jollie, *Reminiscences*, 1872. Alexander Turnbull Library Manuscript.