

paintings show, respectively, a little group of fishermen on the upper waters of the Hutt river, and a horseman herding cattle on the hills above Berhampore, looking across to Mt Victoria. Scenes in the Wellington area predominate but Brees ranges as far afield as Taranaki, the Bay of Islands and the Auckland Islands.

Of considerable interest and importance are two watercolour drawings of Maori carving, one showing a feather-box, the other a tomahawk handle. Detail is shown in very careful and exact draughtsmanship. Particularly useful, historically, are views of *The Courts of Justice* in Mulgrave Street, with the Thistle Inn; Ngauranga, where a settler is being ferried across the river on pickaback by a Maori; and the artist's own house in Hawkestone Street, just below the present convent school.

#### MELVILLE THE ENGRAVER

It is particularly unfortunate that, when Brees as an artist owes so much to Henry Melville who executed with unusual faithfulness and accuracy the very fine steel engravings for the *Pictorial Illustrations* . . . , we as yet know so little of Melville. That he was much superior to Brees as a draughtsman is self-evident. Yet as an artist he is not a known name and it would seem that his forte was book-illustration, though Graves records him as specialising in figures, exhibiting once at the Royal Academy and nineteen times at exhibitions of the Society of British Artists, between the years 1826-41. He may have been responsible for the figure work in two aquatints 'etched by J. Willis & H. Melville' and engraved by others, which appeared among the thirty-eight illustrating Captain Robert Melville Grindlay's *Scenery, Costumes and Architecture . . . of India* (2 vols), 1826-30.<sup>3</sup> Melville also engraved the plates for Leichhardt's *Journal of an overland expedition in Australia* . . . 1847, and for Jukes's *Narrative of the surveying voyage of HMS Fly* . . . 1847. In the latter case the originals had been made by his son Harden Sydney, who was an adventurous and prolific artist. According to Graves, Harden S. Melville exhibited between 1837-79, having six pictures at the Royal Academy, ten at the British Institution, and seventeen at the Society of British Artists. He specialised in domestic scenes for exhibition. Harden S. Melville was one of the five main artists who painted the Brees Panorama in 1849. He provided illustrations for a number of books, and was the author of two which resulted from his sojourn in the Pacific as topographical draughtsman on the surveying voyages of HMS *Fly* and *Bramble* - *Sketches in Australia* . . . 1849, *The Adventures of a Griffin* . . . 1867. There are some New Zealand illustrations in the woodcuts by H. S. Melville to Greenwood's *Curiosities of Savage Life*, 1863.

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