

sailed in the Lady Nugent'. Both are in the form of testimonials to Hilliard's selfless care and devotion to duty throughout the voyage. The second letter was signed by 'all the respectable Emigrants'. On balance one feels that this view of Hilliard's conduct was just. He was in an extraordinarily difficult situation and he handled it, on the whole, with good sense. The amiable Greenwood's function was to show that Hilliard was more flawed with ordinary human weakness than he was able to admit. Hilliard should have the last word and he has it in his last diary entry: 'I went in the Government Boat on Shore & delivered my despatches from the New Zealand Co. to Col. Wakefield as here ended my duty. I shall now therefore bring my Journal to a conclusion. Delivered the following list to the Emigration Agent (Mr Ritherford) got my Certificates signed & felt like a man who had travelled a very long and weary path with a heavy burthen on his back who has just reached some friendly shelter & thrown his cares & his load down together.'

MARGARET SCOTT