

debt to Le Breton, earns it a place in this list. The bird is here turned to the right and there is some confusion and ambiguity in the treatment of the legs. Whereas in the engraving the far (right) foot is advancing, in this wood-engraving it is the near (but still apparently the right) foot that is advancing.

L'Aptérrix

100 × 70 mm (irregular), signed LEBRETON lower left, no engraver's signature, *L'Illustration*, no. 450, 11 octobre 1851, p. 233.

This wood-engraving is a copy neither of the coloured engraving nor of the 1842 wood-engraving. The bird is turned to the right, but instead of walking is motionless and appears to be squatting.

Le Phormium tenax.

103 × 70 mm (irregular), unsigned, no engraver's signature, *L'Illustration*, no 450, 11 octobre 1851, p. 233.

This block groups six separate illustrations showing the plant as a whole and five details. Although unsigned, we attribute the original drawings to Le Breton for it was he who provided the author of the article they illustrate with a lengthy and detailed description of the plant.

Épisode de l'arrivée de M. Dumont d'Urville.

145 × 109 mm, signed LEBRETON lower left, engraved ANDREW BEST LELIOR (sic), place and date of publication unknown.

This engraving is unrelated to any other recorded work by Le Breton. The canoes are apparently New Zealand ones.

Original Lithograph (reproduced):

Naufrage de la corvette française l'Alcmène / près de Kaïpara côte ouest de la Nouvelle Zélande / 3 Juin 1851.

367 × 600 mm (image, corners rounded), drawn and lithographed by Louis Le Breton, published by Wild, Passage du Saumon, 38, Paris, and Gambart et Co., London, copyright deposit date, 1853. (Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, Cabinet des Estampes, Dc.279.b.)

REFERENCES

- 1 The most accessible general account of the voyage is provided by John Dunmore, *French Explorers in the Pacific*, volume 2 (Oxford University Press, 1969), pp. 341–83.
- 2 Biographical details have been drawn chiefly from Le Breton's personal file, Naval Archives, Service Historique de la Marine, Château de Vincennes, Vincennes, France and two collections on deposit in the Archives Nationales, Paris (mss Marine 5 JJ 158bis and mss Marine BB4 1009). Further information has been gleaned from obituary notices (*Le Moniteur universel*, no. 244, (1er septembre 1866) 1073; *L'Illustration*, 48, no. 1228, (8 septembre 1866) 155) and an article by Yves Tanneau, 'Louis Le Breton Dessinateur (1818–1866)', *Bulletin de la Société Archéologique du Finistère*, XCV (1969) 85–9.
- 3 Contained in a long report published in the *Moniteur universel*, no. 315, (11 novembre, 1838), pp. 2430–2.