

12 with walk-in wardrobe and dressing rooms downstairs and for the children 'three sleeping apartments to be formed in the gables'. Pearse had thought of special earthquake provisions but like the men of his time had built with little thought of sunshine (his back door and drawing room fireplace faced north: the verandah east and south).

Another item, a letter³¹ in Maori with a phrase by phrase translation also shows John Pearse was laying a different foundation—that of friendship between his son Walter (aged twelve) and a Maori boy, Clement. The letter runs in translation: 'Well boy, there you are. Good the discourse; the letter you sing to the Father. I have got one dog, two cats—one very big—one young cat the name is 'nudge'. The nasty dog is full of fleas. I make a shave (which he did today) and all the fleas fly away. And I've got a nice pony. When you come you have ride my pony. Friend Walter Pearse greet your mother, your sister Rore (Laura) your sister Karera (Clara) your brother Mr Taure (Mr Charlie). Thats all friend. love by Clement.'

But the two-year old Charlie and four-year old Clara contracted scarlet fever and died.³² And Walter, Laura and their mother did not come out to New Zealand. John Pearse advertised his Town Section '469' Wellington Terrace North between Aurora Terrace and Bolton Street for sale by auction. It is described in detail but one paragraph is sufficient to show how John Pearse had spent his spare time in Wellington: 'The whole of the land is enclosed with a substantial Fence, and a live fence;—is, throughout, at great expense drained and under cultivation and growing crops, and stocked with choice fruit trees, Blue gums and shrubs. There is a Barn or Stable on the Ground. Gravel walks are laid out, ornamentally, and footsteps are run up on the hillsides secure with tree fern and manuka piles. A stream of water runs through the ground throughout the whole year. A site for a house is cut a considerable depth in the hill facing the Harbor [sic], presenting a first rate rock foundation for building. . . .'³³

The *N.Z. Spectator*³⁴ carried another advertisement to sell without reserve the 'Excellent library and effects of John Pearse, Esq.'.

John Pearse is listed³⁵ among the passengers on the 'Schooner William Alfred, 118 tons, Finley, for Sydney', which left Wellington on the first of March 1856. He returned to England and in 1862 was living in Alcombe Cottage, Dunster, Somerset.³⁶ We know from his great granddaughter that he and his family travelled together in Europe, that he made other scrapbooks, and that he lived for some time in Naples before his death in Tunbridge Wells on 25 October 1882.³⁷

His legacy in the pages of the scrapbook is one which will widen the historical knowledge and perspectives of all interested New Zealanders.