

this novel, chiming some fifty times or more – this inner world, then, is the one we, like Jane, are introduced to through Bewick's pictures. Many of these are surprisingly macabre. (See numbers 8 and 9 in the location table.) They are linked in Jane's memory with Bessie's tales, which cannot be discussed here. It is enough to say that John Wesley's *Henry, Earl of Moreland* (p 41) is a hair-raising but moral tale, not unlike those which the Brontës devoured among Aunt Branwell's Methodist books, 'full of miracles and apparitions, of preternatural warnings, ominous dreams and frenzied fanaticism'.²⁵

Jane, then, is happy in her way, with Bewick on her knee, until John Reed hauls her into the outer world and knocks her down with the book itself. The 'objective correlatives' set up by these Bewick references are touched upon constantly through the rest of the novel, in the supernatural material already noted, in the bird imagery of the lovers' exchanges, in the polar imagery for sexual suppression, and in many other ways.

One further Bewick item may be given to complete this part of the record. This is Charlotte's poem, 'Lines on Bewick' (see Appendix). It is dated November 27, 1832, four years to the month after Bewick's death, when Charlotte was sixteen. Looking back from the 'riper age' to her 'childhood's days', she remembers the 'rapture' with which she had then studied his 'enchanted page'. She has already been impressed by the same sea vignettes as appear in *Jane Eyre*, those depicting the 'lone rock . . . dashing billows . . . wan moon'. The traveller who 'stands alone on some desert heath' and may have to find a bed, like Jane, 'on the wild moor', may be seen in Plate I. The 'marble Naiad placed beside a fountain' is noted as number 10 in the location table.

Doubtless, too, the poem's 'great eagle, with his lightning eye' and 'tyrant glance' played its part later in the creation of Rochester, who is spoken of as the 'caged eagle', the 'royal eagle', (p 456, 464), and has a 'falcon-eye' (p 301). Introducing the falcon species Bewick writes,

I 'a traveller stands lone'

J Poacher and shadow

