

vignette of *Water Birds*; Plate C, however, is also possible, and there are others, such as the vignette numbered 1 in the subsidiary location table (see p 19). Plate D shows the 'cold and ghastly moon' and wreck. Reproduction of this is difficult but in some variants which I have seen of this vignette, it is possible to make out a sinking hull at the foot of the rock. Other sea vignettes which present similar themes are those numbered 2, 3, 4, and 7 in the location table. In connection with number 4, one recalls that Cowper's 'The Castaway' was a favourite poem of the Brontës.

Next Jane gives an extended account of a fourth vignette, this time in its own paragraph. 'I cannot tell what sentiment haunted the quite solitary churchyard, with its inscribed headstone; its gate, its two trees, its low horizon, girdled by a broken wall, and its newly risen crescent, attesting the hour of eventide.' This vignette is shown in Plate E. Note the inscription of the headstone: 'Good Times and Bad Times and all Times get over.' As for the gate, it reappears, surely, as the 'gate . . . opening into the meadow, between two stone pillars crowned by stone balls' which is the back entrance by which Jane approaches the ruined Thornfield Hall in chapter xxxvi (p 449). That moon, too, crescent or full, is a key image in the novel, as Lodge and others have shown.<sup>20</sup> The indefinable emotion roused by this vignette is reinforced, for those who know their Bewick, by his many other churchyard images, which reveal a 'marked morbid strain', as Austin Dobson says. There is in Bewick's work, he writes, 'a section which may be said to deal with the lachrimae rerum – the sad contrasts and mutabilities of things – minute pictorial homilies . . . the old man reading *Vanitas Vanitatum* on the crumbling tombstone . . . the church on the shore, where the waves are rapidly effacing the records of the dead.'<sup>21</sup> These two vignettes are noted as numbers 5 and 6 in the location table.

After this deliberately emphasised tailpiece, Jane comes to the three mysterious ones which suggest to her the 'profoundly interesting' world

C Ship wrecked in ice

D 'moon . . . wreck just sinking'

