

text again at 'Other parts of the world – the bleak shores and isles of Lapland, Siberia, Spitzbergen, Nova Zembla, Iceland, Greenland, etc., with the vast sweep of the Arctic Zone, are also enlivened in their seasons by swarms of sea-fowl, which range the intervening open parts of the seas to the shoreless frozen ocean.' After a sentence on scientific enquiry, Bewick continues, 'In these forlorn regions of *unknowable* dreary space, this reservoir of frost and snow, where firm fields of ice, the accumulation of centuries of winters, glazed in Alpine heights above heights, surround the pole, and concentre the multiplied rigours of extreme cold; even here, so far as human intelligence has been able to penetrate, there appears to subsist an abundance of animals in the air, and in the waters.'

Of all this, Jane's recollection offers a heightened summary, not uninfluenced by Bewick's later phrases about 'drifts of ice', 'the mid-sea deeps', etc., and omitting as irrelevant Bewick's note of the 'abundance of animals'. It is this Polar landscape that Jane is possessed by, while the 'long and lamentable blast' of a real November dusk sweeps by outside the window. 'Of these death-white realms I formed an idea of my own: shadowy, like all the half-comprehended notions that float through children's brains, but strangely impressive. The words in these introductory pages connected themselves with the succeeding vignettes.' (p 40).

Jane then describes three sea vignettes which complete these images of desolation, and to which Bewick's words 'gave significance'. 'the rock standing up alone in a sea of billow and spray' 'the broken boat stranded on a desolate coast' 'the cold and ghastly moon glancing through the bars of cloud at a wreck just sinking.'

Since Bewick has many such scenes, one cannot be positive about these tailpieces. The most likely candidate for the 'rock alone' is shown in Plate A. The 'broken boat' is probably the tailpiece shown in Plate B, which in most editions has the added prominence of being the final

A 'the rock standing up alone'



B 'the broken boat'

