



*Charlotte's pencil sketch of Bolton Abbey, Yorkshire.*

One instance of Patrick's concern that events in nature should be studied, and that man and environment are interwoven in a common fate, sheds considerable light on the origins of Emily's involvement with the moors and indicates the atmosphere in which the children were reared. On Thursday, 2 September 1824, in the evening, while the very young Emily, Branwell and Anne were being taken walking on the moors, the marsh at Crow Hill erupted during a thunderstorm precipitating a great flood of water, mud and boulders down the moors. Patrick's anxiety for the children caused him to watch the course of the storm when 'the clouds were covered in gloomy, and lowering; the clouds were covered in electrified, and unbroken; the clouds were covered in

following, he does not merely moralise solely on God's wrath as evidenced in the storm to considerable lengths to present as objectively accurate an account as possible: 'You all know, that on the second day of September, and in this present year of thousand eight hundred and twenty-four o'clock in the afternoon, two portions of the neighbourhood sunk several yards, during of thunder, lightning and rain, and issued a volume of mud and water, that spread a moment, and danger, along its course of mar-