

# Table of Contents

Acknowledgments.....	vii
List of Abbreviations .....	ix
Introduction.....	1
<b>Chapter One: Backgrounds of Self-Taught Poets.....</b>	<b>13</b>
Social Status .....	16
Educational Background .....	22
Geographic Marginality.....	34
<b>Chapter Two: What Self-Taught Means for Poetic Form.....</b>	<b>39</b>
Poetic Models .....	44
The Classification Conundrum.....	51
Occasional Poetry.....	54
Formal Faults.....	60
Transgressions of Taste: The Sordid and the Sexual.....	66
<b>Chapter Three: The Aesthetics of the Self-Taught .....</b>	<b>73</b>
Natural Genius and the Critics .....	73
Nature or Nurture: How the Self-Taught Portray Themselves.....	80
Poetics in the Verse Epistle .....	88
<b>Chapter Four: Patronage in Poetry .....</b>	<b>101</b>
Crabbe: Patronage as Theme .....	105
Poems Soliciting Patrons.....	111
Petition Poems .....	118
The Flattery Problem .....	123
Thanking or Rebuking Patrons.....	126

<b>Chapter Five: Analyses of Social Inequality.....</b>	<b>135</b>
Inequality of Women: Zäunemann, Yearsley, and Leapor.....	137
Fractured Fables: Müller, Schubart, and Leapor.....	146
Corporal Class Divide: Schubart and Burns.....	152
<b>Chapter Six: Winter Poems .....</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>Bibliography .....</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>Index .....</b>	<b>193</b>