

Contents

Acknowledgements	page ix
Introduction	I
PART ONE THE HUMANISTS: 'WORDS'	
1 'A Chattering Flock': the Humanist Experience	II
2 'Fashioned not Bórn': Erasmus	53
3 'A Graceful and Nonchalant Spontaneity': Castiglione	74
4 'The Governor': Sir Thomas Elyot	95
5 'A Knowledge of Nature': Vives	106
6 'Que Sçais-je?': Montaigne	115
PART TWO THE EMPIRICS: 'THINGS'	
7 'Heaven Here': the Coming of Science	135
8 'Knowledge is Power': Francis Bacon	165
9 'Celestial Agriculture': Comenius	184
10 'The Under-labourer' in Courtly Clothes: Locke	214
11 'The Disenchantment of the European Mind': the Enlightenment	251
12 'The Mountain Goat, not the Ballet Dancer': Rousseau	266
Conclusion	287
Short Biographies of the Main Theorists	290
Select Bibliography	295
Index	300