

Contents

List of illustrations	viii
Preface	ix

Part I

<i>'But in thine own fields exercisest long . . .'</i>	1
1 ' . . . by birth a gentleman'	3
2 ' . . . his native wood-notes wild'	14
3 'Girds yet his sword and ready stands to fight'	24
4 'Fresh fields and pastures new'	31

Part II

<i>' . . . while indefatigable Cromwell hies And cuts his way still nearer to the Skyes'</i>	41
5 Member for Cambridge	43
6 The Long Parliament	55

Part III

<i>'Now he began to appear in the world'</i>	67
7 'War without an enemy?'	69
8 'Lay not too much upon the back of a poor gentleman'	82

Contents

Part IV

<i>Ironsides</i>	93
9 'Is Cromwell there?'	95
10 'Ironsides is come!'	104

Part V

<i>'The inglorious arts of peace'</i>	115
11 'We are full of faction and worse'	117
12 'Overturn, overturn, overturn!'	128
13 'A net of such a scope?'	141
14 'A man against whom the Lord hath witnessed'	151

Part VI

<i>'Still keep thy sword erect'</i>	165
15 'An Irish interest . . . is most dangerous'	167
16 ' . . . but the instrument . . . ?'	173
17 'Let God arise and His enemies shall be scattered'	187
18 'I am wearied . . .'	200
19 'Crowning mercy'	209

Part VII

<i>'Peace hath her victories no less than war'</i>	217
20 England	219
21 'Somewhat of monarchical power?'	229
22 'Not answerable to the simplicity and honesty of the design'	241
23 'Power over the three nations'	250

Part VIII

<i>Oliver Protector</i>	263
24 'I called not myself to this place'	265

Contents

25 'I came with joy the first time, with some regret the second . . . now with most regret of all'	274
26 Swordsmen and Decimators	281
27 'I beseech you . . . do not dispute of unnecessary things'	289
28 'Let God be judge between you and me!'	301

Part IX

<i>'For to be Cromwell was a greater thing than ought below, or yet above a king'</i>	307
29 'If these the Times, then this must be the Man'	309
Notes	324
Bibliography	330
Index	337