

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 0: <i>Prologue: Looking It Up</i>	3
CHAPTER 1: <i>Justice in the Earth: Laws of the Ancient World</i>	11
CHAPTER 1½: <i>Of Making Many Books: Information Overload</i>	22
CHAPTER 2: <i>In the Beginning Was the Word: The First Dictionaries</i>	24
CHAPTER 2½: <i>A Fraction of the Total: Counting Reference Books</i>	34
CHAPTER 3: <i>The History of Nature: Science in Antiquity</i>	37
CHAPTER 3½: <i>Easy as ABC: The Rise (and Fall?) of Alphabetical Order</i>	48
CHAPTER 4: <i>Round Earth's Imagined Corners: Mapping the World</i>	52
CHAPTER 4½: <i>The Invention of the Codex</i>	64
CHAPTER 5: <i>The Circle of the Sciences: Ancient Encyclopedias</i>	67
CHAPTER 5½: <i>The Dictionary Gets Its Day in Court</i>	78
CHAPTER 6: <i>Leechcraft: Medieval Medicine</i>	82
CHAPTER 6½: <i>Plagiarism: The Crime of Literary Theft</i>	91
CHAPTER 7: <i>New Worlds: Cartography in an Age of Discovery</i>	94
CHAPTER 7½: <i>Tell Me How You Organize Your Books</i>	104
CHAPTER 8: <i>Admirable Artifice: Computers before Computers</i>	107
CHAPTER 8½: <i>To Bring People Together: Societies</i>	119
CHAPTER 9: <i>The Infirmity of Human Nature: Guides to Error</i>	122
CHAPTER 9½: <i>Ignorance, Pure Ignorance: Of Omissions, Ambiguities, and Plain Old Blunders</i>	133
CHAPTER 10: <i>Guarding the Avenues of Language: Dictionaries in the Eighteenth Century</i>	137
CHAPTER 10½: <i>Of Ghosts and Mountweazels</i>	152
CHAPTER 11: <i>The Way of Faith: Guidelines for Believers</i>	155
CHAPTER 11½: <i>Who's Who and What's What: Making the Cut</i>	167

CHAPTER 12: <i>Erotic Recreations: Sex Manuals</i>	170
CHAPTER 12½: <i>The Boys' Club</i>	181
CHAPTER 13: <i>Collecting Knowledge into the Smallest Areas:</i> <i>The Great Encyclopedias</i>	185
CHAPTER 13½: <i>Dictionary or Encyclopedia?</i>	197
CHAPTER 14: <i>Of Redheads and Babus: Dictionaries and Empire</i>	200
CHAPTER 14½: <i>A Small Army: Collaborative Endeavors</i>	211
CHAPTER 15: <i>Killing Time: Games and Sports</i>	214
CHAPTER 15½: <i>Out of Print</i>	225
CHAPTER 16: <i>Monuments of Erudition: The Great National Dictionaries</i>	228
CHAPTER 16½: <i>Counting Editions</i>	242
CHAPTER 17: <i>Grecian Glory, Roman Grandeur: Victorian Eyes on the</i> <i>Ancient World</i>	244
CHAPTER 17½: <i>Lost Projects: What Might Have Been</i>	257
CHAPTER 18: <i>Words Telling Their Own Stories: The Historical Dictionaries</i>	260
CHAPTER 18½: <i>Overlong and Overdue</i>	273
CHAPTER 19: <i>An Alms-Basket of Words: The Reference Book as Salvation</i>	278
CHAPTER 19½: <i>Reading the Dictionary</i>	290
CHAPTER 20: <i>Modern Materia Medica: Staying Healthy</i>	294
CHAPTER 20½: <i>Incomplete and Abandoned Projects</i>	307
CHAPTER 21: <i>The Foundation Stone: Library Catalogs</i>	311
CHAPTER 21½: <i>Index Learning</i>	323
CHAPTER 22: <i>The Good Life: The Arts and High Society</i>	326
CHAPTER 22½: <i>Some Unlikely Reference Books</i>	337
CHAPTER 23: <i>Presumed Purity: Science in a Scientific Age</i>	342
CHAPTER 23½: <i>At No Extra Cost! The Business of Reference Books</i>	352
CHAPTER 24: <i>Full and Authoritative Information: Doctrine for the</i> <i>Modern World</i>	356
CHAPTER 24½: <i>Unpersons: Damnatio Memoriae</i>	368
CHAPTER 25: <i>Nothing Special: Books for Browsers</i>	371

<i>EPILOGUE: The World's Information: The Encyclopedic Dream</i>	382
<i>A Brief Etymological Glossary</i>	391
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	399
<i>Bibliography</i>	401
<i>Notes</i>	425
<i>Index</i>	443