Contents

Introduction	9
A Note on Books	36
Acknowledgements	40
The Pre-Reformation Banns of the Chester Cycle	41
The Plays	
1. The Fall of Lucifer [Chester 1]	49
2. The Creation, and Adam and Eve [Ch.2]	62
3. The Killing of Abel [Towneley 2]	79
4. Noah [T.3]	97
5. Noah [Ch.3]	118
6. Abraham and Isaac [CII-4]	133
7. Abraham and Isaac [Brome]	152
8. Moses [York 11]	172
9. Balaam, Balak and the Prophets [Ch.5]	188
10. The Parliament of Heaven, the Salutation and	
Conception [Ludus Coventriae 11]	207
11. Joseph [L.C.12]	221
12. The Nativity [L.C.15]	230
13. The First Shepherds' Play [T.12]	244
14. The Second Shepherds' Play [T.13]	265
15. Introduction to The Three Kings [Y.16]	295
16. The Adoration [Y.17]	298
17. The Flight into Egypt [T.15]	311
18. The Purification, and Christ with the Doctors [Ch.11]	318
19. The Death of Herod [L.C.20]	332
20. The Shearmen and Tailors' Play [Coventry]	343
21. John the Baptist [Y.21]	381
22. The Temptation of Christ, and the Woman Taken in	
Adultery [Ch.12]	388
22. Lazarus [T.21]	400

CONTENTS

The Passion Play I	409
24. The Council of the Jews [L.C.26]	411
25. The Last Supper [L.C.27]	432
26. The Betrayal [L.C.28]	456
27. The Buffeting [T.21]	465
28. The Dream of Pilate's Wife [Y.30]	484
29. The Scourging [T.22]	507
30. The Crucifixion [Y.35]	525
31. The Death and Burial [Y.36]	537
32. The Harrowing of Hell [Y.37]	552
33. The Resurrection [T.26]	567
34. Christ's Appearances to the Disciples [L.C.38]	592
35. The Ascension [Ch.20]	607
36. Pentecost [Y.44]	616
37. The Assumption and Coronation of the Virgin [Y.47]	625
38. Judgement Day [Y.48]	631
Notes	647
Glossary	695