CONTENTS

Preface	ix
Books and Periodicals	xi
Introduction	3
PART ONE	
DRYDEN THE POET	
ONE. Dryden's Early Attitudes toward Politics and the Heroic	23
Two. The Controversy with Sir Robert Howard	59
THREE. Dryden and His Betters	88
FOUR. Dryden among the Courtiers	111
FIVE. Among the Wits	139
PART TWO	
THE SUCCESSION CRISIS AND ITS O	CRITIC
Six. Aureng-Zebe: The Character of a Loyal Successor	183
Seven. On Stage: Sophocles, Shakespeare, the Popish Plot	203
Етент. Absalom and Achitophel	227
NINE. The Augustan Interlude (1683–1684)	265
Index	301