Contents

Acknowledgments	page ix
A Note on Texts	х
Introduction	I
The Drama of History in the Early Revolutionary Prose	8
The Millennial Vision	9
Of Reformation and Historical Conflict	13
Apocalyptic Wrath, Apocalyptic History	20
"Dramatick Constitutions"	25
Impassioned Prose and Historical Vision	28
"The Wars of Truth": Areopagitica and the Dynamics of History	ry 35
	36
The Politics of Confrontation and the Vision of Truth	41
The City of Refuge and the Temple of God	45
Historical Re-Vision	48
"Casting Down Imaginations": Iconoclasm as History	51
	52
	55
Milton Iconoclastes	62
"Great Acts and Great Floquence": The Historical Imagination	
	74
	74
· ·	81
Revolutionary Tracts	88
	Introduction The Drama of History in the Early Revolutionary Prose The Millennial Vision Of Reformation and Historical Conflict Apocalyptic Wrath, Apocalyptic History "Dramatick Constitutions" Impassioned Prose and Historical Vision "The Wars of Truth": Areopagitica and the Dynamics of History Parliament, Censorship, and the Renovation of History The Politics of Confrontation and the Vision of Truth The City of Refuge and the Temple of God Historical Re-Vision "Casting Down Imaginations": Iconoclasm as History The King's Book: Image, Ideology, and History The Spectacle of Martyrdom Milton Iconoclastes "Great Acts and Great Eloquence": The Historical Imagination in the Later Revolutionary Prose The Defenses and the Poetics of History The History of Britain History and the Relapsing Nation: The Final

• •

Contents

5	Paradise Lost and the Configurations of History	92
_	Adam's "Prospect": History as Tragedy	94
	Historical Crisis and the One Just Man	101
	Divine Presence and Power	107
	History as Decline and Apocalypse	III
	History and Typology	120
6	Spectacle of Power: Samson Agonistes and the Drama of History	126
	"The Mystery of God"	128
	"Horrid Spectacle"	136
	Samson Iconoclastes	140
	Calm of Mind?	149
	Notes	152
	Index	189