CONTENTS

1	Introduction: Too Much of the Boy-Man	1
2	Self-Incurred Immaturity	27
3	Literary Origins: Sterne, Rousseau, Chatterton and Wordsworth	53
4	Namby-Pamby Wordsworth	83
5	The Marks of Infancy Were Burned into Him	109
6	Little Johnny Keats: A Boy of Pretty Abilities	149
7	Lamb and the Age of Cant: Jokes, Puns and Nonsense	177
8	Hartley Coleridge and the Muscular Christians	203
9	Pantomime and the Politics of Play	231
10	The Dark Interpreter: De Quincey and the Legacy of Wordsworthian Childhood	263

хi

xii CONTENTS

11	Farewell to Skimpole: Romantic Boy-Men and Canonical Occlusion	285
Bib	liography	315
Ind	ex	353