## CONTENTS

Preface	page ix
Introduction	1
Part I England's Milton	
1 Milton's politics	11
2 Milton's moral idealism	22
3 Milton as literary hero	33
Part II After Milton: literary possibilities	
4 The traditional genres Epic Pastoral Classical tragedy Masque	45
5 Adaptations: re-making Milton Translations and corrections Milton on the stage	62
6 New genres The evening poem Mock-epic Novel "Christian poetry"	72
7 Regaining paradise "The world was all before them" Retirement poems Pleasures of imagination: Akenside and Young An English Eden: Philips and Dyer Miltonic marriage	101

## CONTENTS

Part III	
The major writers	
8 Dryden  Dryden's literary heritage  Dryden's criticism of Milton  The State of Innocence  Dryden's heroic poems: Absalom and Achitophel,  The Hind and the Panther, and the Aeneis	137
9 Pope "Constant remembrance" The early Pope: Pastorals, Windsor Forest, and The Rape of the Lock An Essay on Man The Dunciad	155
10 Thomson Thomson's blank verse "Il Penseroso" and The Seasons Paradise Lost and The Seasons Paradise unlost Edenic evenings	179
11 Johnson  Johnson and the biographical tradition  Johnson Agonistes	203
12 Cowper Cowper the Miltonist Recovered paradise	217
Afterword: notes toward an eighteenth-century theory of literary influence	229
Notes	239
Index	293