

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	9
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	11
1. The Child	13
2. The Student	21
3. A Way to Make	33
4. 'An exaggerated woman'	42
5. The Doldrums	58
6. Ireland	84
7. Lady Branden	100
8. The End of the Huskissonians	111
9. Captain Swing	127
10. The Years of the Reform Bill	141
11. The Irish and the Unions	150
12. Prime Minister	167
13. Peel's Hundred Days	181
14. Master in His Own House	193
15. Church and State	208
16. 'The Threat of Passion'	226
17. 'Fretted by Opposition'	244
18. Protector Somerset	256
19. The Queen's First Minister	266
20. The 'Stationary System'	274
21. Bedchamber Treason and Plot	290
22. Playing Out Time	299
23. Eastern Crisis	318
24. Decline and Fall	330
25. The Race of Glory Run	343
APPENDIX I: Melbourne's First Cabinet	367
APPENDIX II: Melbourne's Second Cabinet	369
NOTE ON MANUSCRIPT SOURCES	371
NOTES	373
INDEX	403

ILLUSTRATIONS

First Viscount Melbourne (<i>National Gallery</i>)	opposite page 16
Lady Melbourne with her father (<i>National Gallery</i>)	17
William and George Lamb as infants (<i>Lady Ravensdale</i>)	32
William Lamb at Eton (<i>By Gracious Permission of Her Majesty the Queen</i>)	33
Emily Lamb (<i>Lord Gage</i>)	48
Lady Caroline Lamb (<i>Mrs Kerr</i>)	49
Brocket Hall (<i>Victoria and Albert Museum</i>)	64
Melbourne Hall (<i>English Life Publications</i>)	64
Caroline, William and Augustus Lamb (<i>Henry Blyth</i>)	65
William Lamb by Lawrence (<i>Lord Sudley</i>)	224
Mrs Norton (<i>National Portrait Gallery</i>)	225
Cartoons by John Doyle	240
Lord Grey, Lord Brougham, Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell (<i>National Portrait Gallery</i>)	241
The First Council (<i>By Gracious Permission of Her Majesty the Queen</i>)	256
Riding with the Queen (<i>By Gracious Permission of Her Majesty the Queen</i>)	256
Frederick Lamb (<i>National Portrait Gallery</i>)	257
Cartoon. The Diner-Out	272
Lord Melbourne by Landseer (<i>Earl Mountbatten of Burma</i>)	273