

Contents

Acknowledgments, vii

Prologue, i

- 1 Johnson before Boswell: The Years of Struggle, 11
- 2 Johnson before Boswell: Fame at Last, 36
- 3 Boswell before Johnson: Setting Out for the Wide World, 49
- 4 Boswell before Johnson: The Search for Self, 73
- 5 The Fateful Meeting, 90
- 6 Boswell Abroad, 105
- 7 The Club Is Born, 123
- 8 Sir Joshua Reynolds, 138
- 9 Edmund Burke, 154
- 10 David Garrick, 173
- 11 The Spirit of Mirth, 193
- 12 A New Life at Streatham, 205
- 13 Boswell in Scotland—and Stratford, 230

- 14 Among the Farthest Hebrides, 249
- 15 The Widening River, 272
- 16 Empire, 294
- 17 Adam Smith, 314
- 18 Edward Gibbon, 323
- 19 Infidels and Believers, 337
- 20 Johnson Nearing the End, 350
- 21 Boswell on the Downhill Slope, 370
- Epilogue, 389

Appendix: Members of the Club in Its First
Twenty Years, 401

Short Titles, 403

Notes, 407

Illustration Credits, 445

Index, 451