Jonathan Swift's angers were all too real, though Swift was temperamentally equivocal about their display. Even in his most brilliant satire, *A Tale of a Tub*, the aggressive vitality of the narrative is designed, for all the intensity of its sting, never to lose its cool. Yet Swift's angers are partly self-implicating, since his own temperament was close to the things he attacked, and behind his angers are deep self-divisions. Though he regarded himself as 'English' and despised the Irish 'natives' over whom the English ruled, Swift became the hero of an Irish independence he would not have desired. In this magisterial account, Claude Rawson, widely considered the leading Swift scholar of our time, brings together recent work, as well as classic earlier discussions extensively revised, offering fresh insights into Swift's bleak view of human nature, his brilliant wit, and the indignations and self-divisions of his writings and political activism.

SWIFT’S ANGERS

CLAUDE RAWSON
This book is dedicated, 
with affectionate admiration, 
to Pat Rogers.
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4.1 Title page of *Gulliver's Travels*, first edition, 1726 (Bodleian Library Arch., A d.34 v.1, title page).  
4.4 Title page of *Gulliver's Travels*, in *Works*, 1735, III (Bodleian Library Radcl. e.233 v.3, title page).  
4.5 Frontispiece portrait of Gulliver, in *Works*, 1735, III, octavo edition (Bodleian Library Radcl. e.233 v.3, frontispiece).  
4.6 Frontispiece portrait of Swift, in *Works*, 1735, I (Bodleian Library Radcl. e.231 v.1, frontispiece).  
10.1 Swift's Epitaph in St Patrick's Cathedral.
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Acknowledgements


Abbreviations


**Correspondence:** Jonathan Swift, *Correspondence of Jonathan Swift*, ed. David Woolley, 5 vols., Frankfurt, Peter Lang, 1999–.


**Ferguson:** Oliver W. Ferguson, *Jonathan Swift and Ireland* Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1962.


List of abbreviations


OED: *Oxford English Dictionary*.


List of abbreviations


Swift’s prose, unless otherwise noted, is cited from *PW* or, where available, from *CWJS*, and the poetry from *Poems*. Regrettably, two volumes of *CWJS, Parodics, Hoaxes, Mock Treatises*, ed. Valerie Rumboldt, and *Journal to Stella*, ed. Abigail Williams, appeared too late to be systematically cited in this book.