

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xi
Introduction	I
PART I BEHIND THE VEIL: CHILDBIRTH AND THE NATURE OF OBSTETRIC ANXIETY IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND	13
1 “Exquisitt torment” and “infinitt grace”: maternal suffering and the rites of childbirth	15
2 When things went wrong: maternal mortality and obstetric anxiety	29
3 Religious frameworks	49
PART II “SCARCE-WELL-LIGHTED FLAME”: THE REPRESENTATION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY IN MILTON’S EARLY POETRY	77
4 “Too much conceaving”: Milton’s “On Shakespear”	79
5 “Tears of perfect moan”: Milton and the Marchioness of Winchester	91
6 “Farr above in spangled sheen”: <i>A Mask</i> and its Epilogue	141
PART III “CONSCIOUS TERROURS”: THE PROBLEM OF MATERNAL MORTALITY IN MILTON’S LATER POETRY	153
7 The wide wound and the veil: Sonnet 23 and the “birth” of Eve in <i>Paradise Lost</i>	155

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-89638-2 - Milton and Maternal Mortality
Louis Schwartz
Table of Contents
[More information](#)

viii

Contents

- | | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 8 | “Conscious terrours” and “the Promis’d Seed”:
seventeenth-century obstetrics and the allegory of Sin and
Death in <i>Paradise Lost</i> | 211 |
| 9 | The “womb of waters” and the “abortive gulph”: on the
reproductive imagery of Milton’s cosmos | 245 |
| | <i>Index</i> | 261 |