

SWIFT'S ANGERS

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.

CLAUDE RAWSON is Maynard Mack Professor Emeritus of English at Yale University. He is a General Editor of The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift and author of God, Gulliver and Genocide: Barbarism and the European Imagination 1492–1945 (2001). He is most recently the editor of Essential Writings of Jonathan Swift: A Norton Critical Edition (co-edited with Ian Higgins, 2010); Great Shakespeareans: Volume 1, Dryden Pope, Johnson, Malone (2010); Literature and Politics in the Age of Swift: English and Irish Perspectives (Cambridge, 2010) and The Cambridge Companion to English Poets (Cambridge, 2011).





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CLAUDE RAWSON





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- 'The Injured Lady and the Drapier', *Prose Studies*, 3 (1980), 15–43. Frank Cass & Co. (Taylor & Francis), revised and enlarged.
- 'Swift, Satire and the Novel', in Thomas Keymer, ed., Fiction in English, 1500–1750, volume 1 of The Oxford History of the Novel in English, forthcoming.
- 'Gulliver's Travels', revised and enlarged from Introduction, *Gulliver's Travels*, ed. Claude Rawson and Ian Higgins, Oxford World's Classics, Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Claude Rawson, 'Swift's "I" Narrators', revised and updated version of essay in the Norton Critical Edition of *Gulliver's Travels*, ed. Albert J. Rivero, New York: Norton, 2002, itself a revised version of a paper originally published in Rudolf Freiburg, Arno Löffler and Wolfgang Zach, eds., with the assistance of Jan Schnitker, *Swift: The Enigmatic Dean: Festschrift for Hermann Josef Real*, Tübingen, Stauffenburg-Verlag, 1998, pp. 231–46. © Claude Rawson, 1998. Reprinted by permission of the author.
- 'Rage and Raillery and Swift', revised and abridged from Donald C. Mell, ed., *Pope, Swift, and Women Writers*, University of Delaware Press, 1996, 2nd edn. 1998, pp. 179–91.
- 'Swift's Poetry: An Overview', revised and reworked from 'Jonathan Swift', in Claude Rawson, ed., *Cambridge Companion to English Poets*, Cambridge University Press, 2011, pp. 213–34; and 'Swift', in Michael O'Neill, ed., *Cambridge History of English Poetry*, Chapter 17, 2010, pp. 318–32.
- "I the Lofty Stile Decline", revised and enlarged from Robert Folkenflik, ed., *The English Hero*, 1660–1800, University of Delaware Press, 1982, pp. 79–115.
- 'Savage Indignation Revisited: Swift, Yeats, and the "Cry" of Liberty', revised and enlarged from Claude Rawson, ed., *Politics and Literature in the Age of Swift: English and Irish Perspectives*, Cambridge University Press, 2010, pp. 185–217.



Abbreviations

CE: John Dryden, The Works of John Dryden, eds.

Edward Niles Hooker, H. T. Swedenberg Jr., 20 vols., Berkeley, Los Angeles, London, University of California Press, 1956–2000.

Complete Poems: Jonathan Swift, Complete Poems, ed. Pat

Rogers, Harmondsworth, Penguin and New

Haven, Yale, 1983.

Correspondence: Jonathan Swift, Correspondence of Jonathan

Swift, ed. David Woolley, 5 vols., Frankfurt,

Peter Lang, 1999-.

CSS: Claude Rawson, ed., The Character of Swift's

Satire: A Revised Focus, Newark, DE, University of Delaware Press, 1983.

CWJS: Jonathan Swift, Cambridge Edition of the

Works of Jonathan Swift, 18 vols., Cambridge

University Press, 2008–.

Ehrenpreis: Irvin Ehrenpreis, Swift: The Man, His Works,

and the Age, 3 vols. London, Methuen,

1962-83.

EPW: Jonathan Swift, English Political Writings

1711–1714, ed. Bertrand A. Goldgar and Ian

Gadd, CWJS, 2008.

Ferguson: Oliver W. Ferguson, Jonathan Swift and

Ireland Urbana, University of Illinois Press,

1962.

GGG: Claude Rawson, God, Gulliver, and Genocide:

Barbarism and the European Imagination, 1492–1945, Oxford University Press, 2001.

GR: Claude Rawson, Gulliver and the Gentle

Reader, London, Routledge, 1973; 2nd edn.,

Humanities Press, 1991.

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List of abbreviations xiii

GT: Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels, ed. David

Womersley, CWJS, 2012.

HF: Claude Rawson, Henry Fielding and the

Augustan Ideal under Stress, London, Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1972.

Intelligencer: Jonathan Swift and Thomas Sheridan, The

Intelligencer, ed. James Woolley, Oxford,

Clarendon Press, 1992.

JSt: Jonathan Swift, Journal to Stella, ed. Harold

Williams, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 2 vols.,

1948.

Mayhew: George P. Mayhew, Rage or Raillery: The Swift

Manuscripts at the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, Huntington Library, 1967.

OCIH: S. J. Connolly, ed., Oxford Companion to Irish

History, Oxford University Press, 1998.

OED: Oxford English Dictionary.

OFCS: Claude Rawson, Order from Confusion Sprung:

Studies in Eighteenth-Century Literature from Swift to Cowper, Allen and Unwin 1985; 2nd

edn. Humanities Press, 1992.

Poems: Jonathan Swift, Poems of Jonathan Swift, ed.

Harold Williams. 3 vols., 2nd edn., Oxford,

Clarendon Press, 1958.

Politics and Literature: Claude Rawson, ed., Politics and Literature in

the Age of Swift: English and Irish Perspectives,

Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Pope *Prose*: Alexander Pope, *Prose Works of Alexander*

Pope, Volume I, ed. Norman Ault, Volume II, ed. Rosemary Cowler, Oxford, Blackwell,

1936–1986.

PW: Jonathan Swift, Prose Writings of Jonathan

Swift, ed. Herbert Davis and others, 14 vols.,

Oxford, Blackwell, 1939-68.

RES: Review of English Studies.

SCA: Denis Donoghue, ed., Jonathan Swift. A

Critical Anthology, Harmondsworth, Penguin,

1971.

Tale: Jonathan Swift, A Tale of a Tub & Other

Works, ed. Marcus Walsh, CWJS, 2010.



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TE: Alexander Pope, Twickenham Edition of the

Poems of Alexander Pope, ed. John Butt, Maynard Mack and others, 11 vols. in 12,

London, Methuen, 1939-69.

TS: Laurence Sterne, Tristram Shandy, ed. Melvyn

and Joan New, 3 vols., Gainesville, University

Presses of Florida, 1978.

VMP: T. S. Eliot, The Varieties of Metaphysical

Poetry, ed. Ronald Schuchard, San Diego,

Harcourt Brace, 1993.

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 Rumbold, and *Journal to Stella*, ed. Abigail Williams, appeared too late to be systematically cited in this book.