

C O N T E N T S

I. SOME ASPECTS OF LITERARY THEORY	7
II. THE ASPECTS OF CLASSIFYING THE PERIODS OF THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE	19
III. THE MIDDLE AGES	23
The Anglo-Saxon Period	24
The Literature of the Anglo-Saxon Period	24
The Anglo-Norman Period	26
The Literature of the Anglo-Norman Period	27
The End of the Middle Ages and Preparations of the Renaissance	28
The Literature of the Fourteenth Century	30
The Religious Movement	30
Fourteenth Century Poetry	31
IV. THE RENAISSANCE AND ITS FADING BACK	37
The Introduction of Printing in England	38
The Epoch of the Renaissance	38
The Renaissance Literature in England	40
The Renaissance Prose	40
Development of the Theatre and Drama in General	41
Elizabethan Playhouse	42
Tudor and Stuart Drama	45
The Renaissance Poetry in England	67
V. THE ENGLISH REVOLUTION AND RESTORATION	69
The King and the Parliament	70
English Literature in the Seventeenth Century	78
VI. THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT AND CLASSICISM	81
Great Social Changes	82
English Literature of the Eighteenth Century (Before the Romantic Movement)	82
Eighteenth Century Prose	85
Eighteenth Century Drama	94
Eighteenth Century Poetry	94
VII. PRE-ROMANTICISM AND ROMANTICISM	97
The Historical Background of the Romantic Movement	98
Pre-Romantic and Romantic Literature	99
The Greatest Poets of the Period	100

VIII. THE BOURGEOIS REALISM AND THE VICTORIAN LITERATURE	115
England in the Nineteenth Century	116
English Literature in the Nineteenth Century	119
Novelists of Nineteenth Century England	119
Poetry in the Second half of the Nineteenth Century	130
IX. THE ENGLISH LITERATURE OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY	135
Historical Background	136
The English Literature of the Twentieth Century	137
Twentieth Century Novel	138
Twentieth Century Playwrights	161
English Drama in the Fifties and Sixties	166
English Poetry of the Twentieth Century	167
BIBLIOGRAPHY	171