# Table of Contents

Introduction xiii

Note on the Text xlix

The Annotations 1

Note on the Translation lii

Explanation of the Symbols liii [Summary of the Symbols repeated on p. 1284]

Appendices liv

Chronology lix

To the Reader lxiii

#### BOOK I

- 1. We reach the same end by discrepant means 3
  - 2. On sadness 7
- 3. Our emotions get carried away beyond us 11
- 4. How the soul discharges its emotions against false objects when lacking real ones 19
  - 5. Whether the governor of a besieged fortress should go out and parley 22
    - 6. The hour of parleying is dangerous 25
    - 7. That our deeds are judged by the intention 28
      - 8. On idleness 30
      - 9. On liars 32
      - 10. On a ready or hesitant delivery 38
        - 11. On prognostications 41
        - 12. On constancy 47

## 13. Ceremonial at the meeting of kings 50

- 14. That the taste of good and evil things depends in large part on the opinion we have of them 52
  - 15. One is punished for stubbornly defending a fort without a good reason 73

16. On punishing cowardice 75

17. The doings of certain ambassadors 77

18. On fear 81

- 19. That we should not be deemed happy till after our death 85
  - 20. To philosophize is to learn how to die 89
    - 21. On the power of the imagination 109
  - 22. One man's profit is another man's loss 121
- 23. On habit: and on never easily changing a traditional law 122

24. Same design: differing outcomes 140

25. On schoolmasters' learning 150

26. On educating children 163

27. That it is madness to judge the true and the false from our own capacities 200

28. On affectionate relationships 205

29. Nine-and-twenty sonnets of Estienne de La Boëtie 220

30. On moderation 222

31. On the Cannibals 228

- 32. Judgements on God's ordinances must be embarked upon with prudence 242
  - 33. On fleeing from pleasures at the cost of one's life 245
    - 34. Fortune is often found in Reason's train 247
    - 35. Something lacking in our civil administrations 251
      - 36. On the custom of wearing clothing 253
        - 37. On Cato the Younger 257
      - 38. How we weep and laugh at the same thing 262

39. On solitude 266

40. Reflections upon Cicero 279

41. On not sharing one's fame 285

42. On the inequality there is between us 288

43. On sumptuary laws 300

44. On sleep 303

45. On the Battle of Dreux 306

46. On names 308

47. On the uncertainty of our judgement 314

48. On war-horses 321

49. On ancient customs 331

50. On Democritus and Heraclitus 337

51. On the vanity of words 341

52. On the frugality of the Ancients 345

53. On one of Caesar's sayings 346

54. On vain cunning devices 348

55. On smells 352

56. On prayer 355

57. On the length of life 366

### BOOK II

- 1. On the inconstancy of our actions 373
  - 2. On drunkenness 381
  - 3. A custom of the Isle of Cea 392
  - 4. 'Work can wait till tomorrow' 408
- 5. On conscience 411

## 33. The tale of Spurina 825

- 34. Observations on Julius Caesar's methods of waging war 833
  - 35. On three good wives 842
  - 36. On the most excellent of men 850
  - 37. On the resemblance of children to their fathers 858

## BOOK III

- 1. On the useful and the honourable 891
  - 2. On repenting 907
- 3. On three kinds of social intercourse 922
  - 4. On diversion 935
  - 5. On some lines of Virgil 947
    - 6. On coaches 1017
- 7. On high rank as a disadvantage 1038
  - 8. On the art of conversation 1044
    - 9. On vanity 1070
  - 10. On restraining your will 1134
    - 11. On the lame 1160
    - 12. On physiognomy 1173
      - 13. On experience 1207

Index 1271