CONTENTS

List of Plates xvii List of Figures xviii

Introduction 1

1. FULFILMENT IN AN AGE OF LIMITED POSSIBILITIES 8 The Idea of Fulfilment 8 The Constraints of the Age 13 New Aspirations 29 Individuality 37

2. MILITARY PROWESS 44

Arms and the Man 44 The Waning of the Military Ideal 62 Appendix: Monarchs and Military Prowess 76

3. WORK AND VOCATION 78 The Primal Curse? 78 The Rewards of Labour 91

4. WEALTH AND POSSESSIONS 110

Goods and the Social Order 110 Possessions and their Meaning 119 From Hostility to Acceptance 132 Wealth as Fulfilment? 142

5. HONOUR AND REPUTATION 147 Precedence and Superiority 147 Aristocratic Honour 154 The Honour of the People 160

Credit and Shame 174 The Decline of Honour? 179

CONTENTS

6. FRIENDSHIP AND SOCIABILITY 187

The Idea of Friendship 187 Male and Female Friends 198 Marriage and Children 214 Sociability 220

7. FAME AND THE AFTERLIFE 226

Heaven and Hell 226 Posthumous Fame 235 The Quest for Immortality 252 Inexorable Oblivion? 262

Note on References 269 Abbreviations 270 Notes 273 Index 369