Contents

List of Illustrations vii
Preface ix
Prologue xi

1. The Divorce 1
   The Origins of the Divorce 1
   Anne Boleyn 4
   Henry’s Campaign for the Divorce 9
   Henry’s Case for the Divorce 14
   The Challenge to Papal Authority 26
   Threats against the Church 43
   1532 50
   The Reformation Statutes 68

2. Opposition 73
   Catherine of Aragon 73
   Elizabeth Barton, the Nun of Kent 87
   Bishop John Fisher 101
   Thomas More 125
   Observant Franciscans 151
   Charterhouses 160
   Syon 167
   Bishop Fisher’s Episcopal Colleagues 172
   Nobility, Parliament and People 199
   Reginald Pole 213

3. Authority and Reform 225
   The Defence of the Royal Supremacy—
      Reforming Rhetoric 225
   Henry VIII’s Religion 228
   Monasteries: Visitation and Supremacy 243
   Reform 247
   The Ten Articles of 1536 276
CONTENTS

4. Rebellion and Conspiracy  293
   Religion and the Lincolnshire Rebellion  293
   Religion and the Pilgrimage of Grace  319
   Reginald Pole’s Legation  404
   The Poles and the Marquess of Exeter  407

5. The Final Suppression of the Monasteries  433
   Attainders and Surrenders  433
   Refoundations? 442
   The Generalisation of the Policy of Voluntary Surrenders  445
   The Attack on Shrines and Friars  452
   Government Policy 1538–39  455
   Compliance, Reluctance and Resistance  462
   Glastonbury, Colchester and Reading  467

6. The Making of Religious Policy  475
   The Bishops’ Book: The Search for Unity  475
   The Proclamation of 16 November 1538  490
   John Lambert  492
   The Injunctions of 1538 and the Proclamation of 26 February 1539  494
   The Act of Six Articles  497
   Cranmer’s Religion  506
   Cromwell’s Religion  512
   Cromwell and the Bible  521
   Calais  527
   Cromwell and Diplomacy: German Alliances  533
   Cromwell and Anne of Cleves  542
   The Fall of Thomas Cromwell  556
   The Fall of Cromwell and the Defence of the Middle Way  569
   Religious Policy from 1540  579

Conclusion  595
Notes  607
Bibliography  703
Index  713