

Preface

This is a collection of some of my talks and published articles. The topical references in these papers are, of course, out of date. In a few instances, I have "modernized" the references a bit to better fit 1988, the year in which this collection is being prepared; but for the most part they have been left as they were when they were first written.

In order to have some kind of loose organization in this collection, I have grouped the papers into specific categories: those relating to literature; those relating to language; those defending the Classics; and those that will not fit into any of the previous categories.

Some of the same material will show up in more than one piece, because the talks were prepared to be presented before different audiences, and often I felt that some of the ideas that I had presented to one group deserved to be heard by another group.

The original preparation of these pieces afforded me much pleasure; and gathering them into a collection has renewed that feeling. I hope that some of that enjoyment can be transmitted to the reader.

B.L.F.