

Contents

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Acknowledgements | page xi |
| Abbreviations | xiii |
| Chronological Table | xvii |
| Introduction | I |

PART I. YOUTHFUL VOCATIONS (1646–1676)

| | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | The Birth of a Vision: Background, Childhood, and Education (July 1646–February 1667) | 17 |
| | War and Peace: Problems and Prospects | 17 |
| | Leibniz's Family and Leipzig's Religion | 24 |
| | Formal Schooling and Independent Learning | 30 |
| | The Rudiments of Logic and the Alphabet of Human Thoughts | 37 |
| | Scholastic Philosophy and Irenical Theology | 46 |
| | Ancient Metaphysics and Modern Physics: The Universities of Leipzig and Jena, April 1661–October 1663 | 50 |
| | The Legal Studies of an Encyclopaedist: Leipzig and Altdorf, October 1663–February 1667 | 59 |
| 2. | The Vision Broadens: Nuremberg, Frankfurt, and Mainz (March 1667–March 1672) | 79 |
| | Nuremberg, Frankfurt, and Mainz | 80 |
| | Leibniz's Great Plan: The <i>Demonstrationes Catholicae</i> and Their Prolegomena | 90 |

| | | |
|---|---|-----|
| | <i>Logic, the Characteristica Universalis, and Scientific Collaboration</i> | 92 |
| | <i>Metaphysics and Physics</i> | 100 |
| | <i>Ethics and Politics</i> | 113 |
| | <i>Theology</i> | 118 |
| | The Road to Paris | 123 |
| 3. | Old Wine in New Bottles: Paris, London, and Holland (March 1672–December 1676) | 139 |
| | First Steps in Paris (March 1672–January 1673) | 140 |
| | The First Visit to London (End January–End February 1673) | 148 |
| | Paris: The Middle Period (March 1673–October 1675) | 151 |
| | The Last Year in Paris (October 1675–October 1676) | 163 |
| | Back to Germany via London and Holland | 176 |
| PART II. DREAMS AND REALITY (1676–1716) | | |
| 4. | A Universal Genius as Librarian, Historian, and Mining Engineer: Hanover and Lower Saxony (December 1676–October 1687) | 195 |
| | Under Duke Johann Friedrich: December 1676–December 1679 | 197 |
| | Under Duke Ernst August: January 1680–October 1687 | 214 |
| | Leibniz's Great Plan: From the <i>Demonstrationes Catholicae</i> to the <i>Scientia Generalis</i> and the Demonstrative Encyclopaedia | 233 |
| | <i>Logic and Mathematics</i> | 241 |
| | <i>Metaphysics and Physics</i> | 247 |
| | <i>Theology</i> | 256 |
| | <i>Ethics and Jurisprudence</i> | 259 |
| 5. | In the Footsteps of the Guelfs: Southern Germany, Austria, and Italy (November 1687–June 1690) | 281 |
| | Central and Southern Germany (November 1687–May 1688) | 284 |
| | Vienna (May 1688–February 1689) | 290 |
| | Italy (March 1689–March 1690) | 299 |
| | Return to Hanover (March–June 1690) | 309 |

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 6. | Back under the Guelf Dukes: Hanover and Wolfenbüttel (June 1690–February 1698) | 320 |
| | At the Service of the Guelf Dukes | 323 |
| | Orthodoxy and Heresy | 338 |
| | Physics, Metaphysics, and Mathematics | 345 |
| | <i>Force, Monads, and Pre-Established Harmony: The Public Offensive of the Mid-90s</i> | 345 |
| | <i>Dark Clouds on the Mathematical Horizon</i> | 355 |
| | <i>Unus ex nihilo omnia fecit</i> | 357 |
| | Leibniz's Multiculturalism: China, Russia, and Linguistic Studies | 359 |
| | The Events of 1697 and the Protestant Cause | 365 |
| 7. | Between Brother and Sister: Hanover and Berlin (February 1698–February 1705) | 381 |
| | The Tie of Hanover and the Pull of Berlin | 383 |
| | <i>Negotium Irenicum</i> | 398 |
| | Philosophy and Mathematics | 406 |
| | <i>Reading Locke</i> | 406 |
| | <i>Clashes with Toland and Bayle</i> | 418 |
| | <i>Debating Metaphysics and the Foundations of Ethics</i> | 421 |
| | <i>The Escalation of the Calculus War</i> | 428 |
| | <i>Mathematical Facets of the Characteristica Universalis</i> | 431 |
| | Sophie Charlotte's Death | 436 |
| 8. | Light and Shadows: Hanover, Berlin, Wolfenbüttel, Vienna (February 1705–September 1714) | 458 |
| | Leibniz Networking | 460 |
| | Private and Public Debates: Mathematical, Scientific, and Philosophical | 473 |
| | <i>A Commerce of Light by Correspondence</i> | 473 |
| | <i>The "Forerunner" of Leibniz's Great Synthesis</i> | 479 |
| | <i>From Bad to Worse in the Calculus War</i> | 486 |
| | At the Court of the Emperor (December 1712–September 1714) | 488 |
| | Broadsides between Mathematicians | 495 |
| | Two Pamphlets on Monads | 498 |
| | Return to Hanover | 503 |

