Acknowledgments

The critics and scholars of Tennyson and Hardy to whom I am indebted are numerous. Many of their names appear in the following pages. I wish to express my special thanks to J. Hillis Miller, who read and commented on the manuscript at various stages. I would also like to thank Martin Price, Louis Martz, and Alan Liu, whose comments on early parts of the manuscript helped me to rethink a number of points. Studying poetic influence with Harold Bloom also had a large bearing on the approach I have taken here. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to two undergraduate teachers who many years ago instilled in me an interest in literary studies: William Buckler first introduced me to the greatness of Hardy’s poetry, and Perry Meisel helped me begin to think seriously about literary theory.