

Contents

PREFACE vii

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS xiii

ABBREVIATIONS xv

Introduction 1

Lausavísur and Other Verses 3

Excursus: The Present Historic Tense in Poetry 24

The Poems 57

Þjóðólfr Arnórsson: The Battle of the River Nissa (from *Sexstefja*) 59

'Fridgerðarflokkur': The Peace Negotiations between Haraldr and Sveinn 73

'Lidsmannaflokkur': The Campaigns of Knútr and Þorkell in England 86

'Darradarljóð': A Viking Victory over the Irish 116

Three Reconstructed Poems 157

'Torf-Einarr's Revenge' 161

'Egill's Duel with Ljótr' 173

Eiríkr Víðsjá: A Battle on the Heath 182

Conclusions 195

BIBLIOGRAPHY 199

INDEX 211

This page intentionally left blank