The following editions have been cited throughout this thesis for references to primary sources:


While all references to the poems of Herbert have been indicated by line number/s parenthetically, references to the prose work have been provided with the short title Works, followed by the page number/s, all in the body of the text.


While this edition has been mainly used, two other editions of Nammazhvar's works have also been consulted.

The Tamil/Sanskrit names/words have been spelt throughout following the popular simple format and not according to the phonetic notations recommended by the Lexicons, for typographical convenience. The notations have been followed only where absolutely necessary. The Tamil name Azhvar along with a number of Tamil/Sanskrit words has
Sail forth - steer for the deep waters only,
Reckless O soul, exploring, I with thee, and
thou with me,
For we will risk the ship, ourselves and all.
O my brave soul!
O farther farther sail!
O daring joy, but safe! are they not all the
seas of God?

- Walt Whitman