Acknowledgments

To piece together the mosaic of George Ade through a selection of his letters compares with the happy difficulty of expressing gratitude to all of those who have contributed much to the completion of this edition. I am indebted to Nadine Combs who granted permission to publish the George Ade materials. I wish to thank the libraries and institutions listed in the source section for permission to print Ade correspondence in their collections. The staffs of libraries throughout the country who sent materials to be considered for inclusion have been most helpful. It is, as Ahasuerus noted, inadequate but nevertheless a delight to try to honor particular individuals: special thanks to Olive Cooper; John Funk, president, George Ade Memorial Association; Mary Gibbs, librarian, Purdue University; William Kurfess; John McCutcheon, Jr.; Dr. John Martin, director, Union League Archives; the late Franklin J. Meine; Ruth Reeve; Helen Schroyer, Purdue University Special Collections; Professor Paul Fatout; and Diane Dubiel, assistant university editor, Purdue.

I am grateful to the American Philosophical Society for providing a grant-in-aid which facilitated the completion of this project. For kindnesses, interest, and encouragement, thanks to Professor Jacob Adler, Gladys Allanson, the Harry Lawrences, the Thomas Ohlgrens, Henry Rinehart, the Lloyd Taits, and Professor John S. Tuckey.

To Barbara Mathews, who typed the manuscript, corrected many editorial inconsistencies, and labored cheerfully and efficiently, a special thank you.