ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am enormously grateful to the librarians who assisted me with cheerful efficiency in the research for the book. They include Jean Davis at Brooklyn Law School Library, Moira Goff at the Garrick Club Library, Barbara Bieck at the New York Society Library, and Mary Painter of the Blackburn (UK) with Darwen Library and Information Service. I also wish to thank the librarians at the New York Public Library, British Library, J.P. Morgan Library, New York Historical Society, and Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The members of the writing group at the Lotos Club gave me helpful criticism of several chapters of the book. They are Diana Benet, Peter Friedman, Steve Greenwald, Yvonne Korshak, Rick Petersen, Paula Powell, Robert Ravitz, Ed Schiff, Gloria Shafer, and Renee Summers.

Others who gave me valuable advice and assistance include Professor Andrew Jackson O’Shaughnessy of the University of Virginia Law School; Dr Stephen Lloyd, curator of the Derby Collection at Knowsley Hall; and Jim McIntyre, editor of the Journal of the Seven Years War Association. My niece Margaret Poser helped me find illustrations for the book, and my longtime friend Jeffrey Knight gave me useful and interesting information about the clubs on St James’s Street, including Brooks’s and its betting book.

Above all, I thank my daughter, Susan Poser, and my wife, Judy Cohn, both of whom maintained a continuous and active interest in my research and writing. They both read drafts of every chapter, some of it more than once, and gave me many helpful and perceptive comments and suggestions. Our discussions of the book as it progressed were wonderfully productive. Words cannot adequately express how much I appreciate their patience and devotion to the project.