ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This slim volume has undergone a fairly long, on again off again, gestation period, and thanks are due to many people. First of all, my thanks go to some of my former students at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, then in New Rochelle, NY, who are technically responsible for the ‘discovery’ of the Armenian text edited and translated here.¹ Dr. George Kiraz, President of Gorgias Press and Editor-in-Chief of *Texts from Christian Antiquity*, was very happy to accept this volume into the series *The Metrical Homilies of Mar Jacob of Sarug* even though neither text technically qualified for inclusion as neither is found in the edition of Bedjan. Also – and more importantly – I am pleased to publicly acknowledge here his valuable support and friendship over many years. I must also acknowledge here a very great debt to Sebastian Brock for his corrections, suggestions and other helpful comments, not only for this volume but for every one of my previous contributions to this series. My very good friend Bp. Anoushavan Tanielian found time in his busy schedule, as he has so often for me in the past, to read through the entire Armenian text at several different stages; his sage counsel and advice are more appreciated than any words can express. Dr. Melonie Schmierer-Lee has exhibited heroic patience and kindness in once again doing a masterful job of making a presentable volume out of my disorganized submission fraught as it was with careless errors, omissions, oversights and seemingly endless rewrites. I offer my deepest gratitude to Ms. Tessa Mitchell who patiently tracked down for me many books and articles that were no doubt

¹ This personal account was briefly recounted in E.G. Mathews, Jr., “Jacob of Serugh, Homily on Good Friday and Other Armenian Treasures: First Glances,” 134–136.

quite beyond the normal purview of a small town public librarian. My most profound thanks must go to the Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund which has generously funded this volume, along with a number of my translations over the last few years. I offer thanks in particular to Mr. M. Haigentz, the Program Director, who has always treated me with the utmost kindness and patience. His support and encouragement over many years have always been greatly appreciated. Lastly, I offer my very deep thanks to Jennifer with whom I have come to share so much. Her encouragement and support in the concluding stages certainly helped to bring this volume to its final fruition. All of these people are due far more than these few little thanks; without them this volume, even with all my errors and omissions that still remain, would never have seen the light of day.