

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book draws on fifteen years of research on the press during the era of the French Revolution, during which I have been fortunate to enjoy the encouragement of many friends and colleagues and support from a variety of sources. I would like to thank series editors Keith Baker and Steven Kaplan for their helpful comments on the manuscript; my friends Sarah Maza and Mark Summers also offered useful observations on the work as a whole, and Lynn Hunt critiqued the section on the *Père Duchêne*. The idea for this project grew out of an essay on the press during the Revolution that Robert Darnton invited me to prepare, and I am grateful for his encouragement. The influence Pierre Rézat's insights into the nature of the press have had on me can be seen in many places in this book. Above all, I owe special thanks to my good friend and fellow press historian Jack Censer, who continued, as he has for many years, to find the time in a busy schedule to offer me the benefit of his close reading of my work.

Over the years my research has been aided by the staffs of the Bibliothèque nationale, the Archives nationales, the Newberry Library, the Harvard College (Widener) Library, and the M. I. King Library of the University of Kentucky. I enjoyed fellowship support for my work from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Newberry Library, the American Philosophical Society, and the University of Kentucky Research Foundation, to all of whom I express my thanks. Some material in this book

appeared earlier in my book *The Right-Wing Press in France, 1792–1800* (1980), and in my contribution to Robert Darnton and Daniel Roche, eds., *Revolution in Print: The Press in France, 1775–1800* (1989): I am grateful to the University of North Carolina Press and the University of California Press, respectively, for permission to reuse it here in modified form.

This book is dedicated to my sons Gabriel and Alexander, in the hope that whatever they decide to do when they grow up, they will enjoy their work as much as I have enjoyed researching and writing about this subject.