Acknowledgments

This book is the outgrowth of the editors' shared conviction that the interaction of science and Christianity has been of profound importance in the shaping of Western civilization—a conviction nurtured by our respective historical apprenticeships with Edward Grant and Richard S. Westfall (Lindberg) and A. Hunter Dupree and Roger Hahn (Numbers). It is also a reflection of our belief that historians have an obligation to share the fruits of their labors with the reading public. In recent years historians of science and religion have substantially revised many of their opinions but have generally addressed themselves only to fellow professionals. It seemed time to correct this situation. As a first step in that direction we organized an international conference on the historical relations of Christianity and science, held at the University of Wisconsin—Madison on 23–25 April 1981, to which we invited several dozen church historians and historians of science. This book has grown out of that conference.

In organizing the conference and editing this book we have accumulated many debts, which we gratefully acknowledge. The entire project owes its existence to the generosity of the Carner Foundation of Dallas, Texas, and the support provided by the Anonymous Fund, the Humanistic Foundation, and the Knapp Bequest of the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Vern and Barbara Carner adopted our project in its infancy, offering financial and moral sustenance—to say nothing of the coveted "Christianity and Science" coffee mugs given to each conference participant! The Carners are in many respects the true parents of this project.

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