PREFACE

The idea of producing a Festschrift in honour of Professor Ménage had its origin in a conversation between its two present editors in the autumn of 1989. It soon became apparent that, despite the immediate and enthusiastic acceptance of the idea among a large number of potential contributors, the editors' original objective of publishing the work on the occasion of the recipient's seventieth birthday would have to be abandoned when it was discovered, by dint of delicate enquiry, that this event would already fall to be celebrated in the spring of the following year.

Since then, the undertaking has progressed to a point at which the editors can look forward with pleasure to celebrating, although a little in advance, the accomplishment of Professor Ménage's third quarter-century, and, on behalf of all the contributors, to offering him, together with their warmest good wishes and congratulations, the present volume.

The Festschrift which they now present could not have appeared without the assistance of a number of people. In the first place the editors wish to record their indebtedness to Sinan Kuneralp, who not only took on as his own contribution the full charge and responsibility of printing and publishing the work, but continually encouraged and facilitated the editors in their task and bore with stoicism and good humour the out-of-course delays which have on occasion impeded their progress. The editors' sincere thanks are also due to Dr. Caroline Finkel for assistance in the earlier stages of the work, and to her and to Dr. Andrew Finkel, and also to Dr. William Hale, for their ever-willing assistance as unofficial couriers of manuscripts, floppy discs and proofs between London and Istanbul. Finally, to his co-editor, Dr. Colin Imber, who in difficult times last year shouldered single-handed the major burden of the second proof stage of the work, the undersigned expresses his deepest thanks.

Wendover, Rūz-i Hızr 1994.

Colin HEYWOOD