Enlightened Absolutism
Reform and Reformers in Later Eighteenth-
Century Europe

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Later Eighteenth-Century Europe

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Preface

The editing of this volume has been a more prolonged process than anticipated, and I am deeply grateful to the publishers and to all the contributors, not only for their unfailing co-operation but for their encouragement and forbearance during this delay. The withdrawal of the scholar who was to have surveyed the Austrian Habsburgs deprived the volume of a key chapter and in the circumstances I decided to produce this article myself. I am particularly indebted to Dr Robert Evans, who agreed to become a contributor at an advanced stage and who produced his own articles to a particularly tight deadline, and to Professor Derek Beales and Dr Derek McKay for their helpful and fortifying comments on a draft of my chapter on the Habsburgs. I am also grateful to Ms Sabina Arnot-Krause for her invaluable assistance with the research for the introduction. This was paid for by the Committee on Research in Arts and Divinity at the University of St Andrews, whose support I am glad to acknowledge. The project was initially suggested by Ms Vanessa Couchman, who provided essential support, advice and encouragement in the planning stages. The completion of the volume has been facilitated by the skill and understanding of her successor at the publishers, Ms Vanessa Graham. I am grateful to Graeme Sandeman, who drew the maps, and to Dr McKay and Dr Janet Hartley for their help with the proofs.

H.M.S.