

PREFACE

My chief focus in this study is on the political career of Sidney Sonnino at the national, and ultimately international, level. Of course, Sonnino had other concerns, including as local politician and landowner. But these seemed to me to be of lesser importance in his efforts to breathe life into the Liberal regime. Hence I have accorded them little space in my account.

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Finally, I dedicate this book to the memory of my mother, Elizabeth Harrison Gray Haywood, who nurtured my love of history right from the start.