

Contents

Introduction: American Humor
Arthur Power Dudden xi

English Satire and Connecticut Wit
Peter M. Briggs 3

The Importance of Mark Twain,
Alan Gribben 24

The Record of Political Humor
Arthur Power Dudden 50

What's So Funny About the Comics?
M. Thomas Inge 76

*Standup Comedy as Social
and Cultural Mediation*
Lawrence E. Mintz 85

*Ethnic Humor:
Subversion and Survival*
Joseph Boskin and Joseph Dorinson 97

*Humor and Gender Roles:
The Funny Feminism of the
Post-World War Two Suburbs*
Nancy Walker 118

Richard Nixon as a Comic Figure
Stephen J. Whitfield 138