

Contents

Foreword, *George C. Wolfe* 9

Preface 11

Acknowledgments 13

Introduction: Two Hundred Years of Black and White
Drama, *James V. Hatch* 15

William Wells Brown 38

The Escape: or, A Leap for Freedom (1858) 42

Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins 96

Peculiar Sam, or The Underground Railroad
(1879) 100

Katherine D. Chapman Tillman 124

Aunt Betsy's Thanksgiving (c. 1914) 126

Mary Burrill 134

Aftermath (1919) 137

Butterbeans and Susie

(*Jodie and Susie Edwards*) 152

Black Vaudeville (c. 1920) 155

Willis Richardson 159

The Chip Woman's Fortune (1923) 164

Zora Neale Hurston 186

The First One (1927) 191

8 CONTENTS

<i>Joseph S. Mitchell</i>	204
Help Wanted (1929)	207
<i>Shirley Graham</i>	231
Tom-Tom (1932)	238
<i>George A. Towns</i>	287
The Sharecropper (1932)	290
<i>May Miller</i>	307
Nails and Thorns (1933)	310
<i>Owen Vincent Dodson</i>	328
The Shining Town (1937)	332
<i>Abram Hill</i>	353
On Strivers Row (1938)	359
General Bibliography	447