



Contents

<i>Preface</i>	ix
I. <i>The Moral and Critical Discussion</i>	3
1. AMERICAN LITERATURE?	4
2. A NOVELIST'S PRACTICES: MRS. ROWSON	22
3. THE PERNICIOUS NOVELS EXPOSED: "FEMALE QUIXOTISM"	46
II. <i>Usable Fiction</i>	63
4. DIDACTIC FICTION	65
5. SATIRICAL AND POLEMICAL FICTION	87
III. <i>The Love Story</i>	168
6. SELF-DENIAL	169
7. CRUEL PARENTS	188
8. PERFIDIOUS RIVALRY	210
9. A RIVAL PASSION	223
10. OVERWHELMING ODDS	231
11. ILLEGITIMATE LOVE	242
12. SEDUCTION	257
IV. <i>The Novel of Adventure</i>	281
13. "FORTUNE'S FOOT-BALL"	283
14. MYSTERY AND TERROR	307
15. LOFTY CRIME	331
16. STRANDS OF HISTORY	371
<i>Conclusion</i>	397
<i>Appendix: Synopses</i>	403
<i>Bibliography</i>	465
<i>Index</i>	493