

## *Contents*

Abbreviations	xi
Introduction	1
PART I. BACKGROUND AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES	21
1 The Emergence of the Transcendentalist Aesthetic from American Unitarianism	23
2 Transcendentalist Literary Method: Inspiration versus Craftsmanship	55
PART II. THE LIVING WORD	75
3 From Conversation to Essay	77
4 From Sermon to Scripture	102
PART III. WORD AND WORLD: NATURE AS A MODEL FOR LITERARY FORM	141
5 Emerson and the Idea of Microcosmic Form	145
6 Catalogue Rhetoric	166
7 Thoreau and the Literary Excursion	188
8 Thoreau's <i>A Week</i>	208
9 Ellery Channing: The Major Phase of a Minor Poet	239
PART IV. THE FIRST PERSON	263
10. Transcendentalist Self-Examination and Autobiographical Tradition	265
11. Emerson and Thoreau: Soul versus Self	284
12. Transcendental Egoism in Very and Whitman	312
Index	331