Contents

- 1. An Uncommon Need: "Race" in Early American Literature 3
- 2. Economies of Morality and Power: Reading "Race" in Two Colonial Texts 22
- 3. Romancing the Border: Bird, Cooper, Simms, and the Frontier Novel 38
- 4. W/Righting History: Sympathy as Strategy in Hope Leslie and A Romance of the Republic 65
- 5. Ethnocentrism Decentered: Colonial Motives in The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym 90
- 6. "For the Gaze of the Whites": The Crisis of the Subject in "Benito Cereno" 109
- 7. "Read the Characters, Question the Motives": Harriett Jacobs's Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl 131

Notes 147

Bibliography 169

Index 185