CONTENTS

1. The reports of Columbus and their legendary and literary predecessors. II. The fusion of pessimistic values and aesthetic conventionalism in fifteenth-century Europe. m. The Mediterranean Renaissance imposes its pattern upon the reports of the new discoveries. rv. The fusion of chivalric romance and epical exploit in New World activities. v. Renaissance conventions and the pictorial

I. The New World as setting for Utopian theories. II. The Renaissance attitude towards gold brutalizes Utopia. III. The revelation of cruelty as a component of New World life, and its literary consequences, IV. Nature as vii

1

35

Preface

image.

II. The Anti-Image

I. The Image of the New World

terror in the New World, and the European response.	
I I I. Renaissance Culture and America	71
I. The transfer of late medieval culture to the New World. II. The culture of Renaissance Spain in the New World: the responses of the North Americans. III. Enduring results in architecture, the decorative arts, historical writing and imaginative literature. IV. Renaissance ceremonial and Renaissance style in North America. V. Later phases of North American interest.	
IV. Renaissance Man in America	114
1. The vogue in the United States of the Renaissance theory of the gentleman. II. Why the American experience	
:	

modified Renaissance individualism. III. The doctrine of leadership in Commines and Machiavelli. IV. Leadership in the New World: anarchy, treachery, mutiny, Machiavellianism. v. Piracy and buccaneering as facets of leadership. vi. Machiavellianism in later American history.

V. The Colonial Idea in England

162

I. Reasons for the reluctance of the English to embark on colonial enterprise. II. The "bad press" resulting from their struggle to subdue Ireland. III. Important parallels between the "wild Irish" and the wild Indians. IV. Varieties of promotion literature for making "plantations" attractive to settlers. V. Principal motives for founding English colonies in North America.

V I. The Useful and the Good

194

I. The Renaissance of the North, the Protestant Reformation, and the Protestant ethic. II. Transfer of the Protestant ethic to the English colonies in North America. III. Broadening the ethic to include the agrarian virtues and American nationalism. IV. The value system of business success in the United States of the nineteenth century and after.

VII. Roman Virtue

227

I. The wide appeal of the ancient world to all phases of American history. II. The development of classical values in colonial America: the Horatian ideal and the repudiation of luxury. III. Classical republicanism: Montesquieu, the Revolutionary leaders, and the figure of George Washington. IV. Classical interests of the nineteenth century, the Greek Revival, and the World's Columbian Exposition.

VIII. The Radical Republic

273

I. The young republic an unstable social unit. II. Radicalism in the colonial and Revolutionary periods: mobs and leaders. III. European distrust of the republic: political contamination and the attractions of emigration. IV. Conflicting reports by Europeans on republican values.

IX. Republican Culture

312

I. Cultural discontinuity in the American Revolution: the loss of a Tory elite, and physical destruction. II. The determination of the young republic to create a culture free of European corruption. III. Attempts to establish new bases for language, law, religion, and education. IV. Nationalism and cosmopolitanism in the sciences and the arts.

X. American Landscape

351

I. Eighteenth-century gentility and landscape description: the significance of Jefferson. II. The rise of the Hudson River School and of formal landscape description on the Eastern Seaboard. III. Mid-America and the terrors of the central river system. IV. The epic West: the prairies, the deserts, the mountains, and the emotional components of the response. V. The significance of space in American values.

Afterword 3 9 0 Reference Notes 3 9 7 Index 4 5 0