CONTENTS

Preface		page ix
Acknou	vledgments	xiii
1.	Toward a disciplinary intellectual history	1
2.	Brown's epistemology	30
	Romancing Newton	30
	The Locked closet	34
	A Cartesian plague	43
	Hume and repetition	51
	Kant and madness	61
	Coda	69
3.	Poe's methodology	70
	Is science deadly dull?	70
	Is there a life science?	82
	Undying literature	96
4.	Hawthorne's technology	121
	The anxieties of alienation	121
	The problems of preemption	135
	Treachery betrayed	150
5.	After the revolutions: Brown and Dreiser, Poe	
	and Pynchon, Hawthorne and Mailer	160
	Sister Carrie, Brother Arthur	160
	Polar similarity	169
	The celestial spacecraft	181
Notes		191
Index		210