Contents

Sources, Abbreviations, and Reference Matter	х
Introduction	1
Modern critical legacies	7
Remapping literary-critical and generic dialogues	10
Remapping forms and knowledge	18
PART I. THINKING RELIGION(S)	25
The Egypt of St Anthony	26
Religion in the France of Flaubert	34
The Egypt of nineteenth-century France	46
1. Description of Egypt	52
Geographies	53
Hagiographies	57
Semiologies	67
2. Principalities and Powers	75
Turning the tables: 'Nebuchadnezzar's' feast	76
Gifts and knowledge: the 'Queen of Sheba'	85
3. The Master Disciple	95
De-lionizing the Vita	97
Imitations of the Life of Christ	103
4. Statements of Faith(s)	115
The universal 'Church'	119
Angles on vision	129
Remapping the holy in the land of new religions	135

viii Contents

PART II. SCIENCES OF THE GODS: GODS OF	
THE SCIENCES	139
The Alexandrian schools	143
The Muséum National	148
Ancients, antiquities, and archaeologies of knowledge	153
5. A Comédie (sur)humaine	159
Remodelling Nature's gods	161
Hilarion's Egyptian doubles	177
Matters of life and death: new generations in	
geological time	185
6. The Devil in the Detail	189
Transports of the imagination	192
Selective infinities	197
Transforming the demons: rethinking the genesis	
of Flaubert's <i>Tentation</i>	202
7. Bones of Contention	207
Family resemblances	209
Marvellous and (m)any-headed monsters	215
Revelations or analogues in dialogue	226
Conclusions	232
Unities of composition	240
Literary transformisms	246
Remapping nineteenth-century French	
literary-critical terrains	249
Endnotes	254
Appendix 1: History of the Early Christian Church; Egypt as	
Part of the Roman Empire	300
Appendix 2: History of Nineteenth-Century France:	500
State and Religion	302
Appendix 3: History of Napoleon's Egyptian Campaign,	502
1798–1901	305
• · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	JU /

Contents	ix
Appendix 4: Key Dates for Franco-Egyptian Relations, 1802–1876 Appendix 5: History of Nineteenth-Century French Sciences	308
and Scientific Institutes	311
References Index	314 337